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ANNOUNCEMENT

To: **CMAP Bicycle-Pedestrian Task Force**

Date: **7 August 2008**

From: **Staff (via Tamara Redmon, Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety Team Leader, Federal Highway Administration)**

Re: **FHWA Guidance on Pedestrian Safety Countermeasures**

A memorandum signed by FHWA Associate Administrator for Safety, Jeff Lindley, strongly encourages states to adopt nine countermeasures that are proven to increase safety and to implement them wherever it makes sense. Two of these countermeasures are aimed specifically at improving pedestrian safety. The countermeasures and associated guidance are as follows:

#8. Medians and Pedestrian Refuge Areas in Urban and Suburban Areas: Raised medians (or refuge areas) should be considered in curbed sections of multi-lane roadways in urban and suburban areas, particularly in areas where there are mixtures of a significant number of pedestrians, high volumes of traffic (more than 12,000 ADT) and intermediate or high travel speeds. Medians/refuge islands should be at least 4 feet wide (preferably 8 feet wide for accommodation of pedestrian comfort and safety) and of adequate length to allow the anticipated number of pedestrians to stand and wait for gaps in traffic before crossing the second half of the street.

#9. Walkways: Accessible sidewalks or pathways should be provided and maintained along both sides of streets and highways in urban areas, particularly near school zones and transit locations, and where there is frequent pedestrian activity. Walkable shoulders (minimum of 4 feet stabilized or paved surface) should be provided along both sides of rural highways routinely used by pedestrians.

To view the complete memo, click on this link: http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/policy/memo071008.htm