

Complete Streets



March 2, 2006



Policy

SAFE and **COMFORTABLE** for all users

Source: <u>www.completethestreets.org</u>, <u>peds.org</u>

SAFE and COMFORTABLE for all users

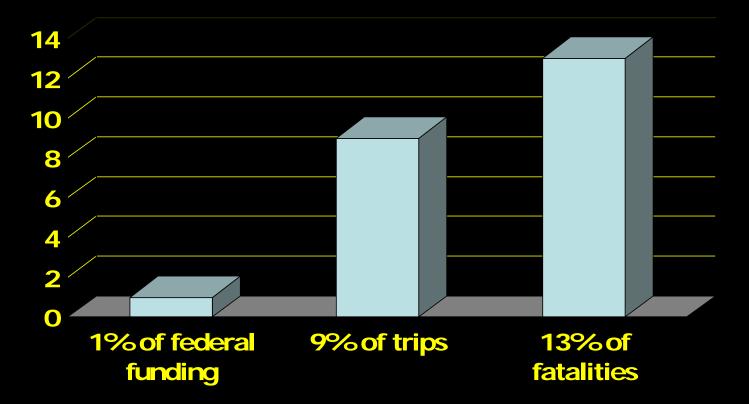
About 1/3 of Americans don't drive

•21% of people over 60
•All children under 16
•Many low income Americans cannot afford automobiles

- 9% of all trips are made by foot or bicycle
- 13% of all traffic fatalities are bicyclists or pedestrians
- Pedestrian injury is the 2nd leading cause of death for children 5-9
- More than 5,000 pedestrians and bicyclists die each year on U.S. roads
- 64 pedestrians were killed in Atlanta in 2001

Policy

Pedestrians and bicyclists...



Why aren't bicycle and pedestrian needs given equal consideration in design? A POLICY on GEOMETRIC DESIGN of HIGHWAYS and STREETS

1994



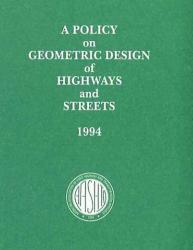
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS

The Green Book is <u>NOT</u> a design manual....

It provides guidance on geometric dimensions of roadways.

Aspects of design not directly addressed:
Problem definition
Project definition
Development of a concept
Aesthetic treatments
Design context

All of these decisions are made before the Green Book is applied.

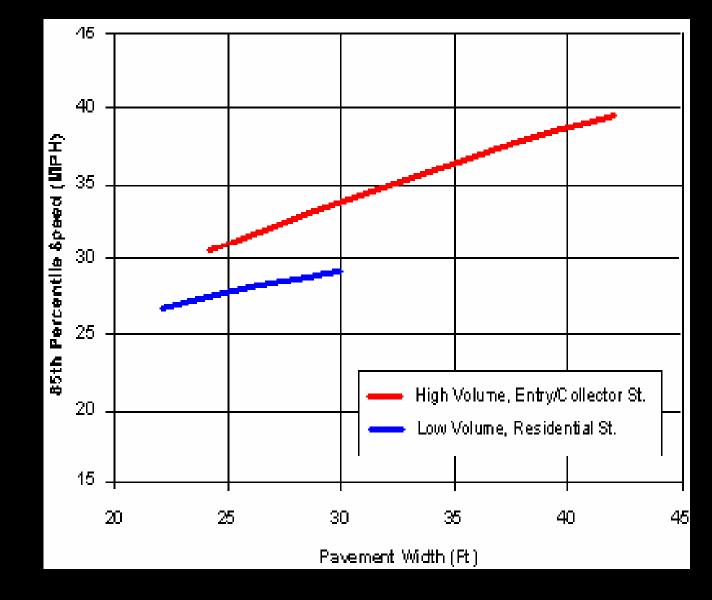


AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS

Source: Flexibility in Highway Design, USDOT

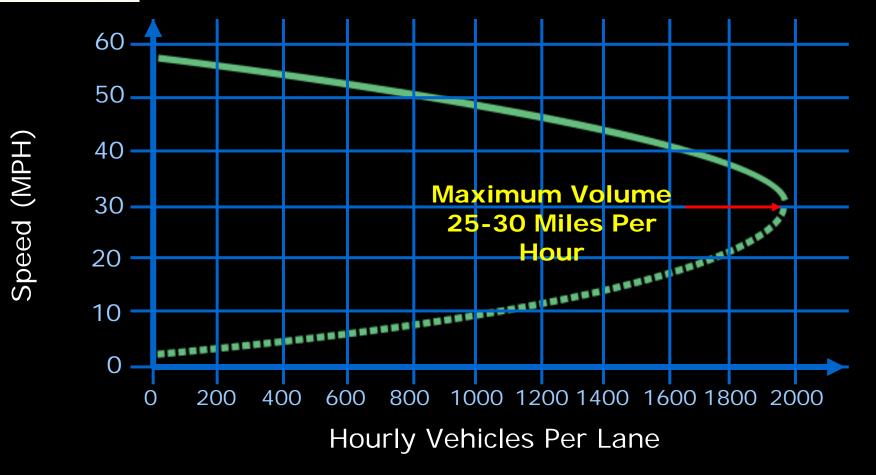
Basic Design Decisions Should Derive from the Goals Defined at the Outset of the Project

Relationship Between Pavement Width and Speed

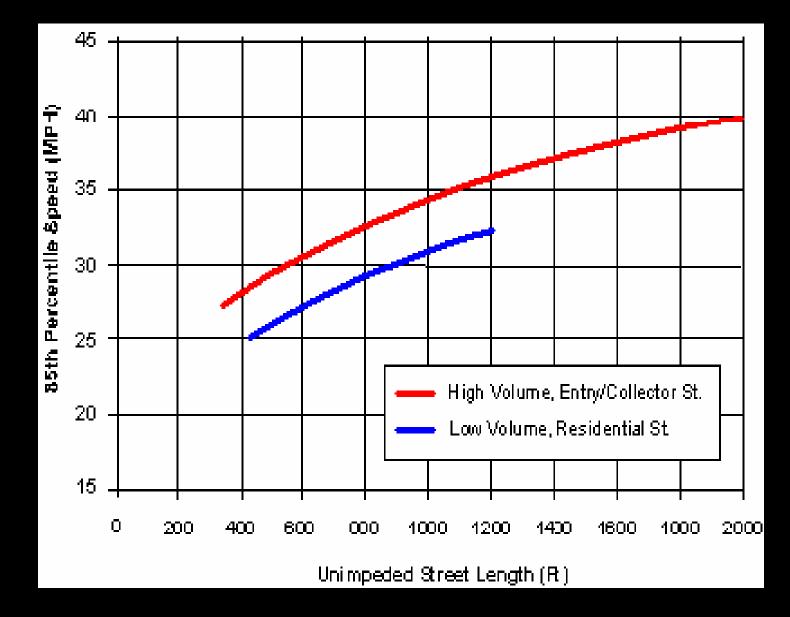


Source: City of San Antonio, TX

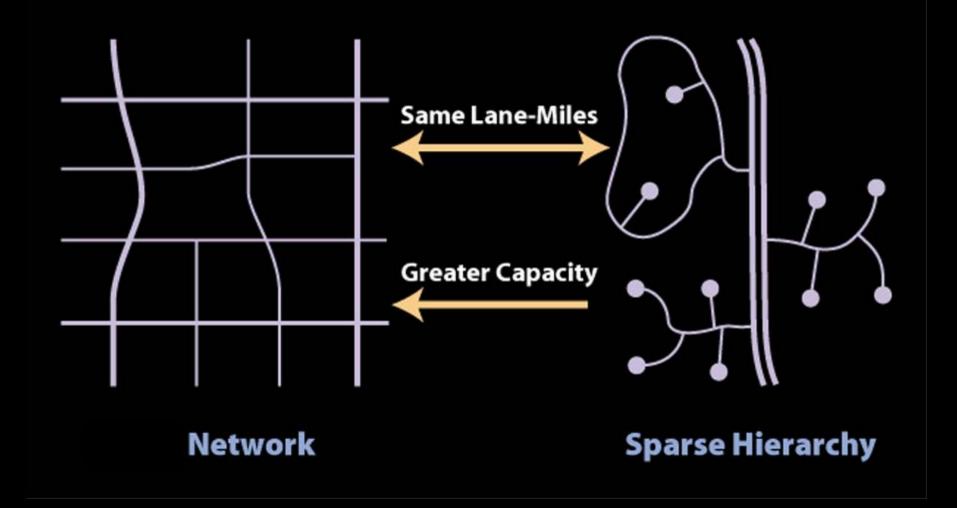




Relationship Between Unimpeded Block Length and Speed



Source: City of San Antonio, TX



The Effects of Designing for Cars

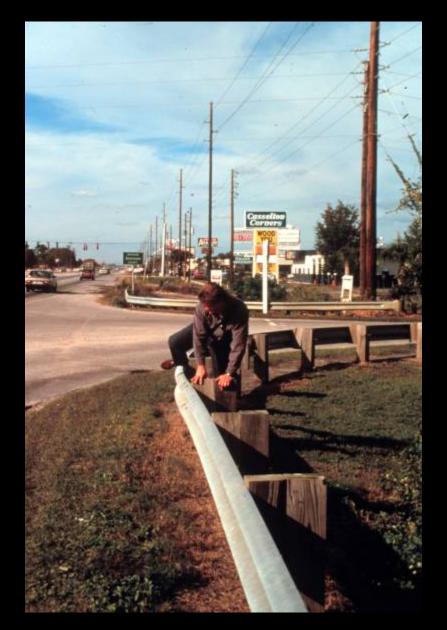


The Effects of Designing for Cars





Transportation Principles





Pedestrian Design Considerations

1.Sidewalk Capacity

2.Quality of the Environment

3. Perception of Safety (or Comfort)

Pedestrians

Factors that affect SAFETY

Motor Vehicle Speeds – Especially in crosswalks Lateral Separation Zone from Cars Buffers and Barriers from Cars – Landscaping; Parked Cars, etc. Ample and Visible Crossing Locations Driveway Frequency

Factors that affect COMFORT

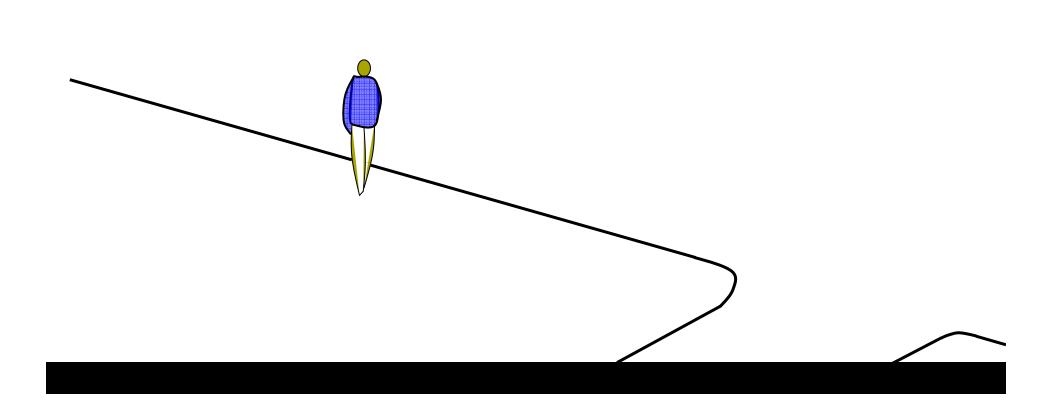
Adequate width - Between 5 and 20ft. free of obstructions

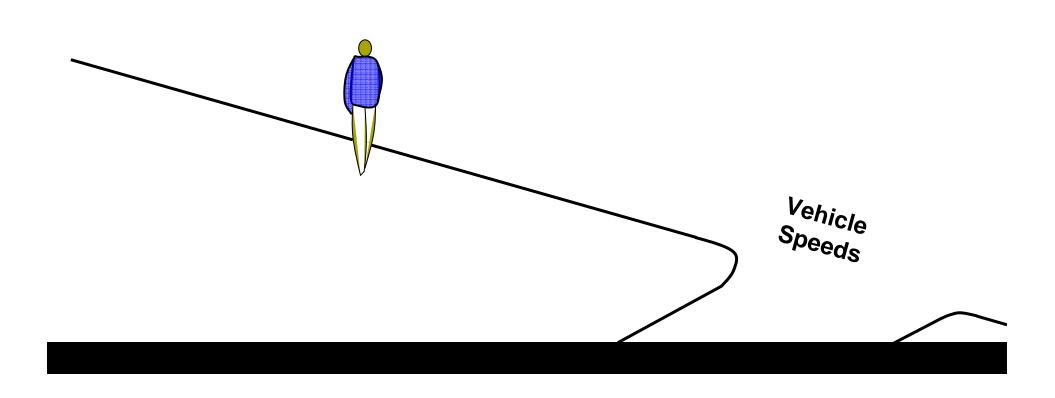
Effective lighting

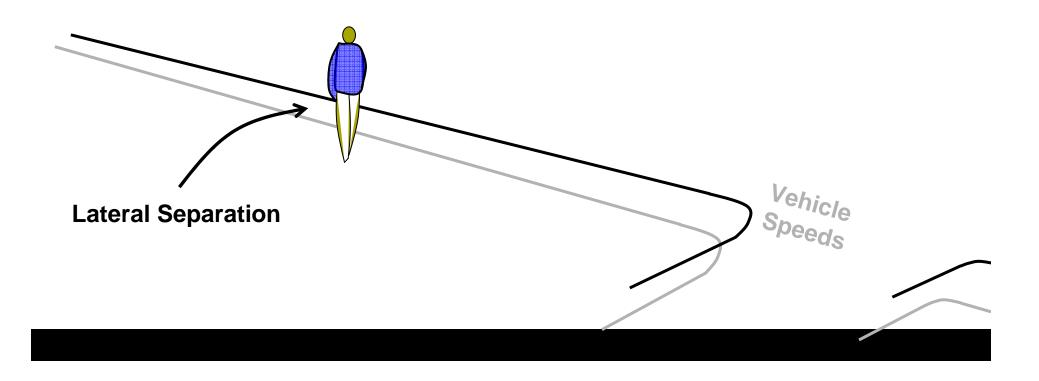
Ground level uses and activities

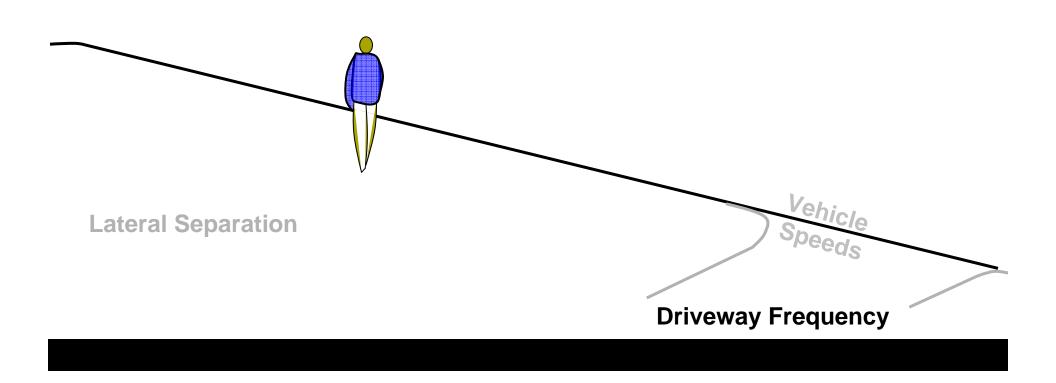
Shade – Either from trees or buildings

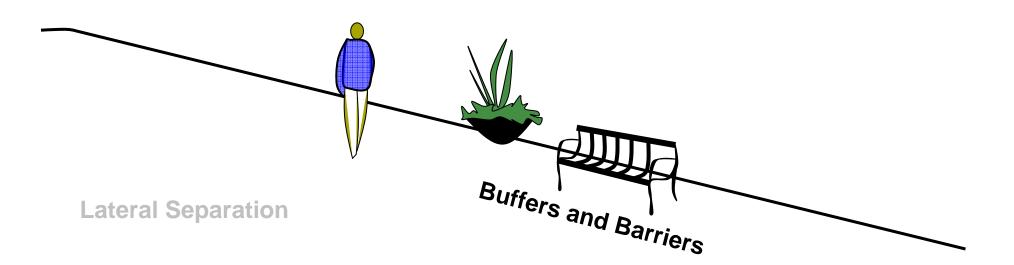
Surface – Smooth, dry, level



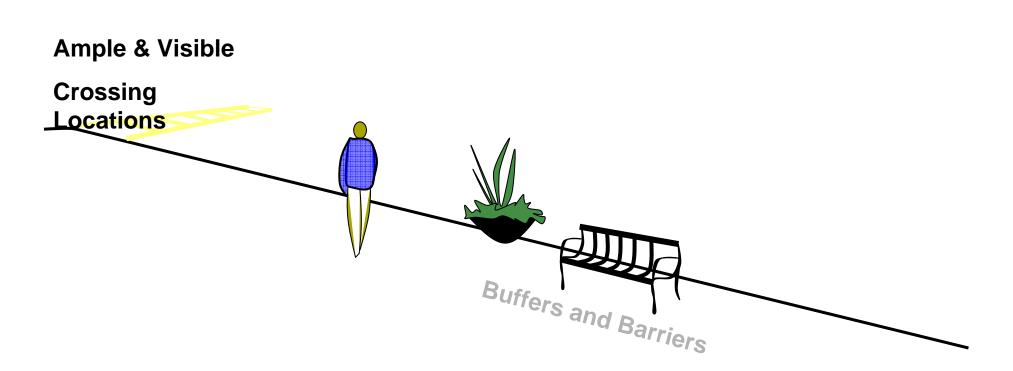




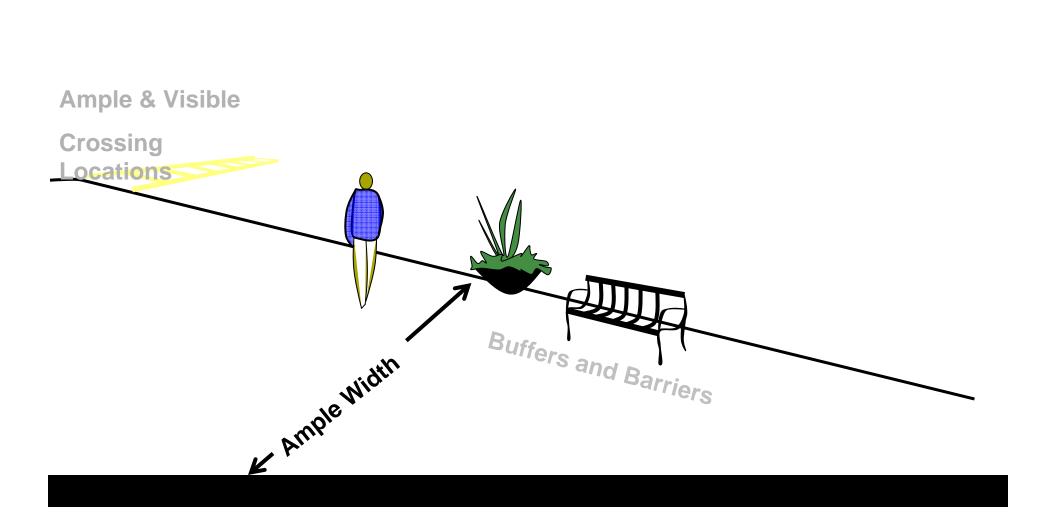


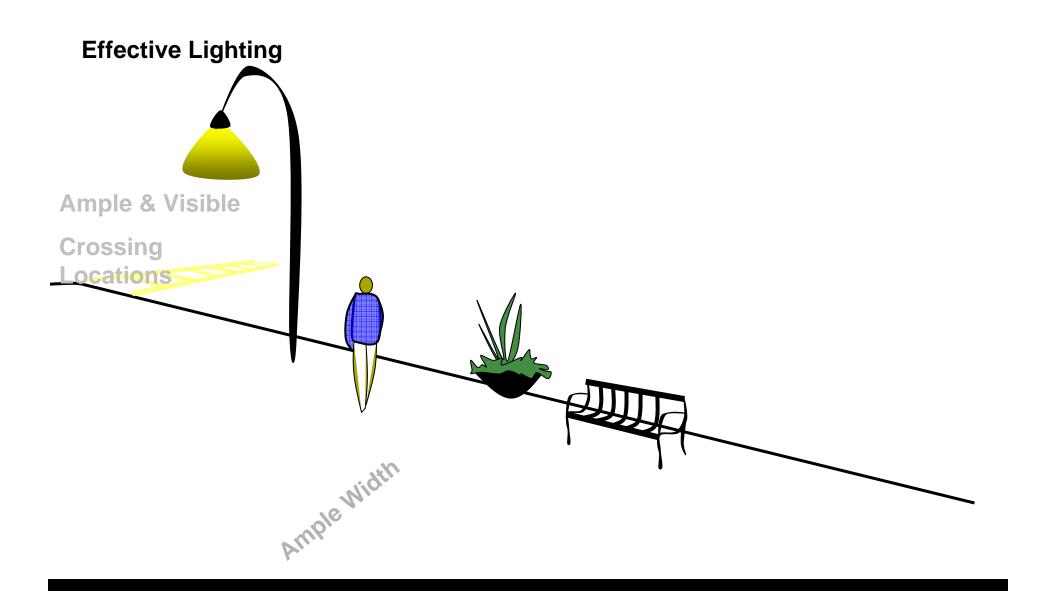


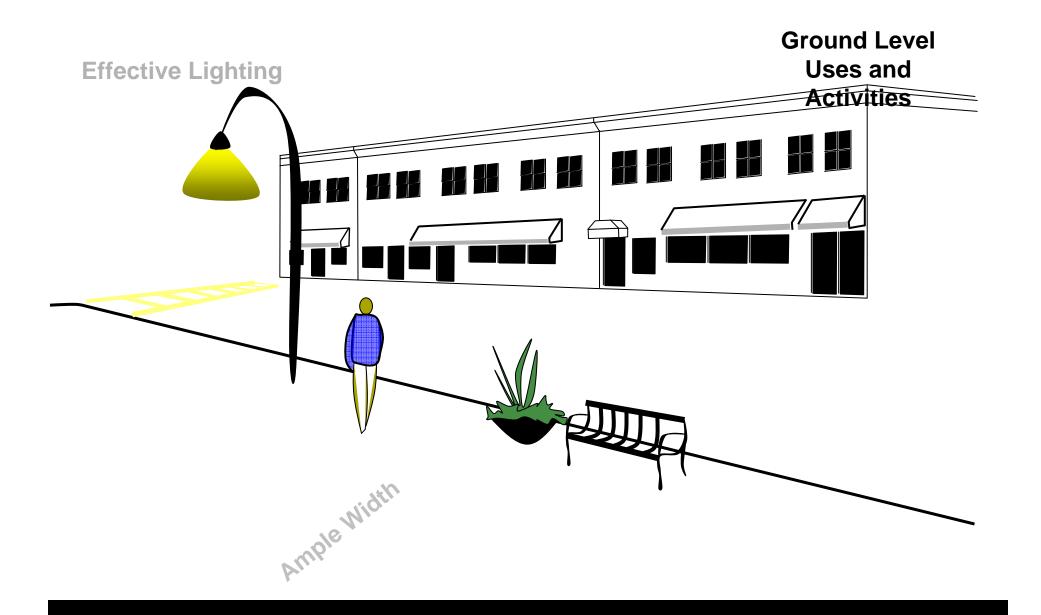
Driveway Frequency

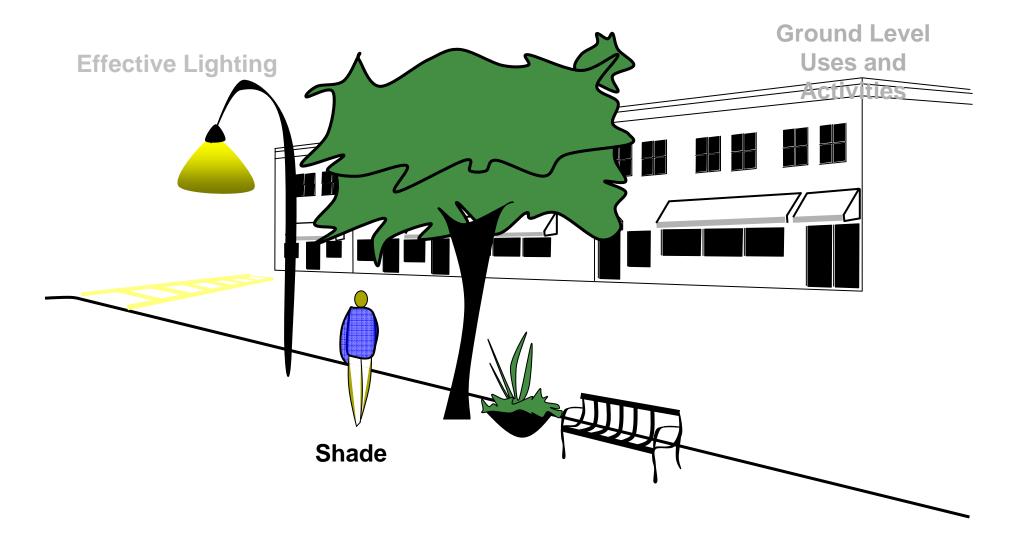


Driveway Frequency









Factors that affect SAFETY

Motor Vehicle Speeds Presence of Dedicated Facilities



Factors that affect COMFORT

Traffic volume- Higher traffic volumes /greater potential risk for bicycles

Traffic mix- Trucks, buses, etc. can increase risk

On-street parking- Additional width is needed

Sight distance- Allow motor vehicle to change lane position or slow down; primarily on rural highways

Number of intersections- Intersections may require special treatments

Bicycles

1. What type of bicyclist is the route most likely to serve?

Advanced bicyclists -

Sufficient space on the roadway shoulder Treated as vehicles Bike lanes on arterial and collector streets

Basic bicyclists and children -

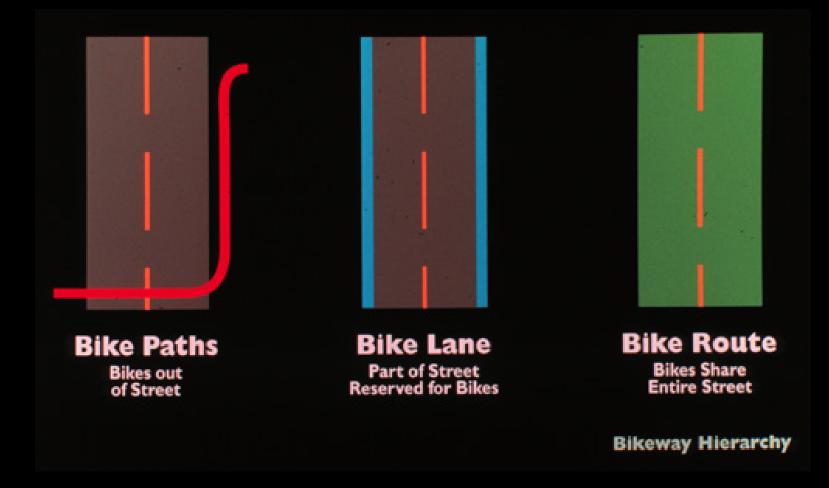
Low-speed, low-volume streets or multiuse path

2. What type of roadway project is involved, i.e., new construction, major reconstruction rehabilitation?

Even on rehab projects, steps such as widening the pavement area 1 to 2 ft. will enhance the roadway for bicycle use.



Bicycle Facilities



Bicycle Facility Types

Shared lane- a "standard-width" travel lane that both bicycles and motor vehicles share

Wide outside lane- an outside travel lane with a width of at least 4.2 m (14 ft) to accommodate both bicyclists and motorized vehicles

Shoulder- a paved portion of the roadway to the right of the traveled way designed to serve bicyclists

Bicycle lane- a portion of the roadway designated by striping, signing, and/or pavement markings for preferential or exclusive use by bicycles and/or other nonmotorized vehicles

Multiuse path- a facility that is physically separated from the roadway and intended for use by bicyclists, pedestrians, and others

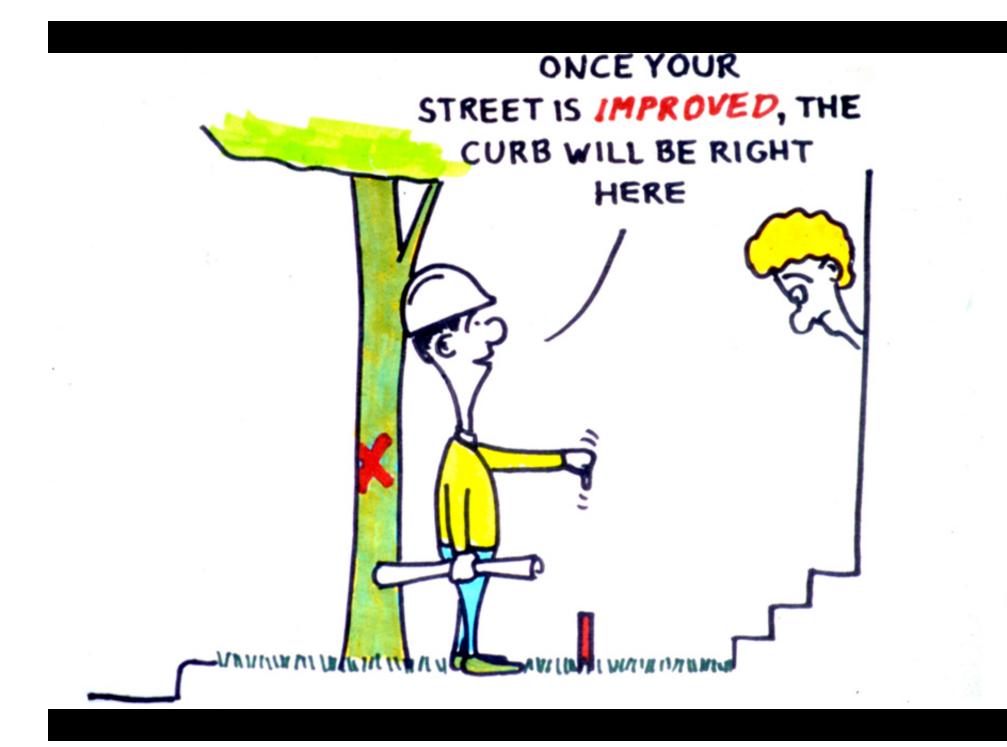
It's the Law! - SAFETEA-LU

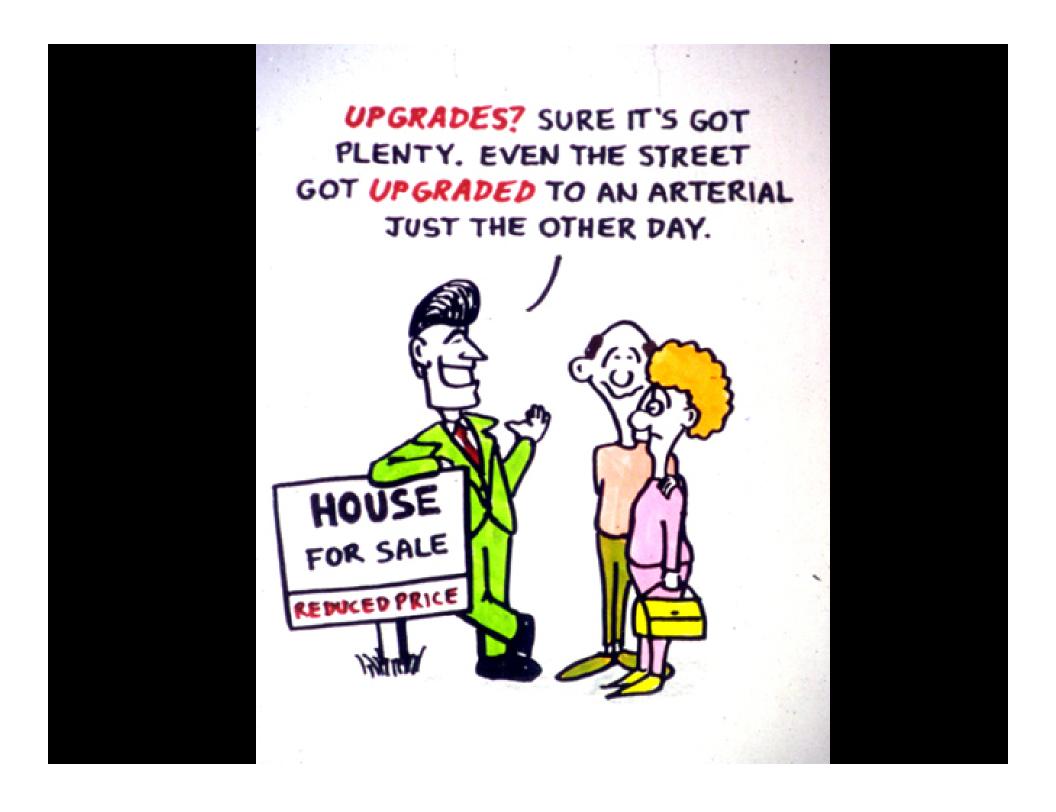
(Safe, Accountable, Flexible & Efficient Transportation Equity Act - a Legacy for Users)

- Safe Routes to School Program
- Transportation Enhancements
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ)

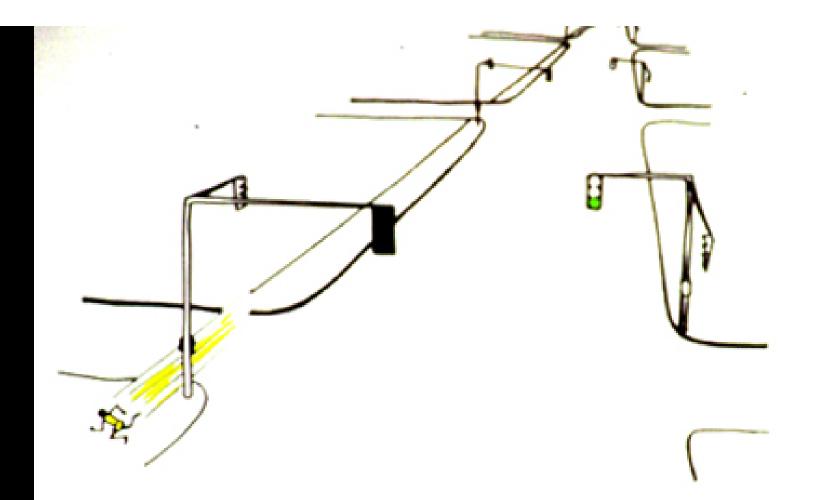
Implementation

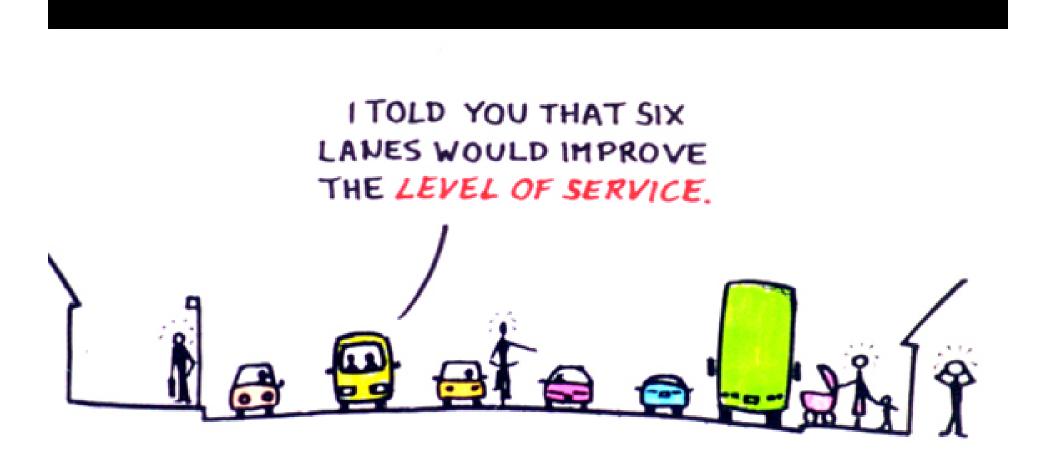
- Procedures should accommodate all users on every project
- Design manuals should encompass the safety of all users
- Planners and engineers should be trained to balance the needs of diverse users
- Create new data collection procedures to track how well the streets are serving all users





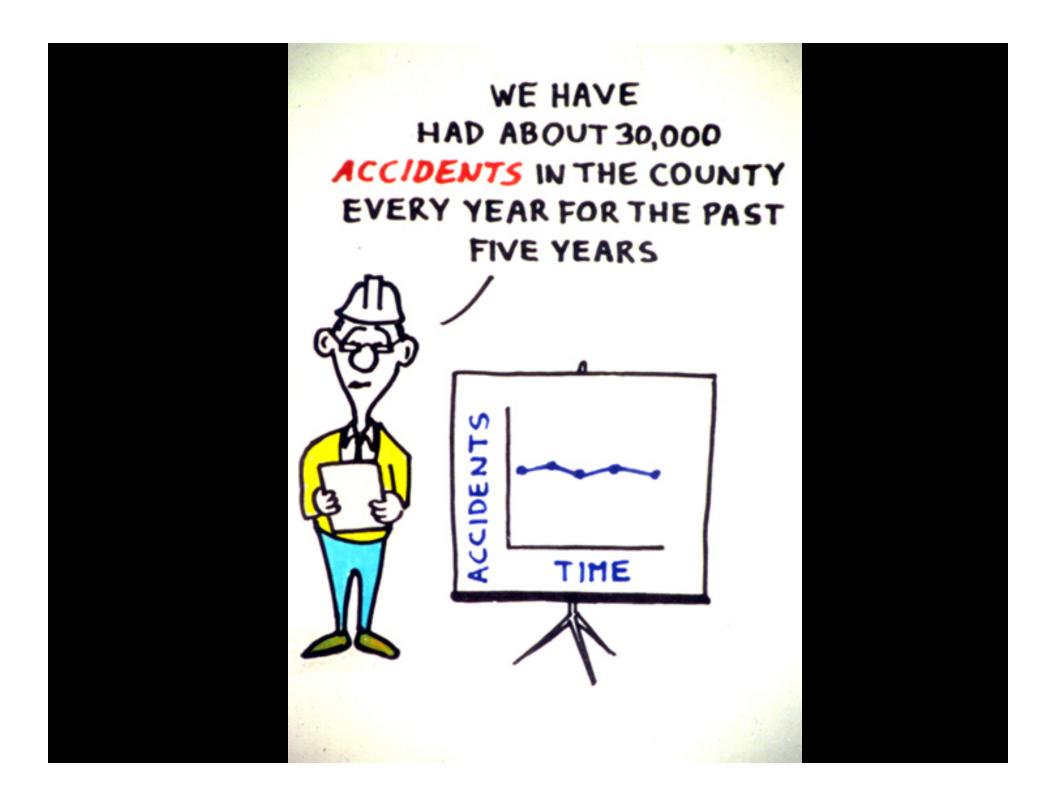
SCOTT KNEW THAT THE SIGNALS WERE TIMED TO ALLOW FOR THE SMOOTH FLOW OF TRAFFIC MOVING AT 25 MPH (40 km/h)

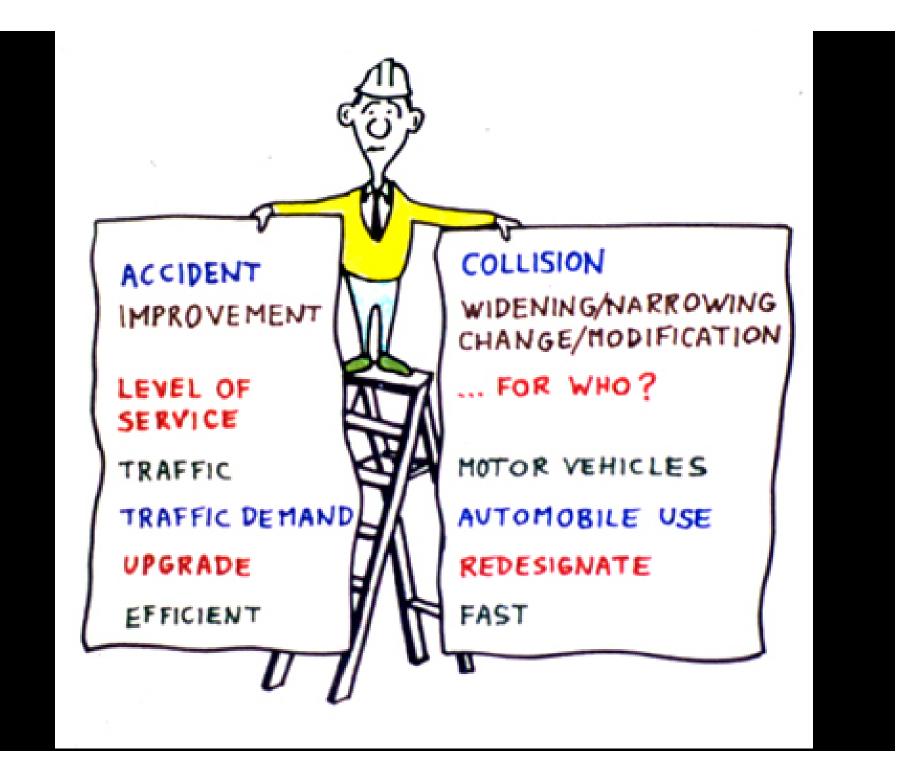




... AND THEY AGREED THAT PROTECTING THE RIGHT OF WAY NEXT TO JOE'S HOUSE WAS A GOOD IDEA

0.





A Good Complete Streets Policy

- Specifies that 'all users' includes pedestrians, bicyclists, transit vehicles and users, and motorists, of all ages and abilities.
- Aims to create a comprehensive, integrated, connected network.
- Recognizes the need for flexibility: that all streets are different and user needs will be balanced.
- Is adoptable by all agencies to cover all roads.
- Applies to both new and retrofit projects, including design, planning, maintenance, and operations, for the entire right of way.
- Makes any exceptions specific and sets a clear procedure that requires high-level approval of exceptions.
- Directs the use of the latest and best design standards.
- Directs that complete streets solutions fit in with context of the community.
- Establishes performance standards with measurable outcomes.