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Leathersich/DOT/Monroe

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To Jim McIntosh
cc Terry Rice/DOT/Monroe@Monroe, Brent
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Pond/DOT/Monroe@Monroe, Karen
bcc

Subject Shared Lane Markings - "Sharrows"

Jim,

This is a follow-up to our previous discussion regarding "sharrows" on City streets. Per that discussion, we would like to confirm the criteria we agreed to for their installation and use:

- This criteria would apply primarily to arterial or collector streets where pavement markings would typically be installed.
- In order to minimize confusion by motorists, we recommend that sharrows only be installed on shared use travel lanes of 14' or wider that are adjacent to a curb or marked parking lane. In most cases, there aren't likely to be any lanes wider than 14' or 15' however, I would refer you to the installation guidelines identified in the updated MUTCD, providing these on lanes narrower than 14' would cause them to be more in the middle of a travel lane and will likely be confusing to motorists as to where they should be driving within the lane.
- Wherever a striped shoulder is being provided (4', 5', 6', 7' or 8' wide with unrestricted parking) adjacent to a travel lane that is less than 14', we recommend that sharrows NOT be installed. The shoulder would suffice as the appropriate bicycle space. This would not preclude bicyclists, particularly the Class A rider, from riding in the travel lane should they so choose but space would be provided for other riders, Class B or C, who prefer space out of the travel lane.
- We understand that the City will be undertaking a citywide bicycle study that will investigate bike routes and possible designated bike lanes that would be provided on certain city streets. We look forward to being included on that to assist in developing the proper criteria for their installation and use. In the meantime, we have reached out to Bob Torzynski of GTC for any information he may have pertaining to the proper installation and maintenance of designated bike lanes. Bob could be a valuable resource for this type of information.

Much of the above can eventually be documented in the form of a matrix for easier use and reference, we can work with you further on developing one if you would like.

Let me know if you have any questions or would like to discuss any of this further. Thanks.

Scott

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