

## **Section 4**

# **U.S. DOT and FHWA Policies and Funding Opportunities**

## **What Will Be Covered**

- U.S. DOT role and policies
- FHWA role and policies
- Funding opportunities

## **U.S. DOT's Role**

- Section 504 Rehabilitation Act of 1973 requires Federally-funded programs, services, and facilities be accessible

## **U.S. DOT's Role**

- ADA, Title II, requires:
  - U.S. DOT to oversee State and local government transportation services and facilities
  - Title II oversight role is irrespective of funding source

## **FHWA Role**

- Federal Highway Administration is responsible to:
  - Ensure all highway and pedestrian facilities in the public right-of-way are accessible, whether Federal funds are used or not
  - Investigate complaints against public entities

## **FHWA Policies**

- **TEA-21, Section 1201(b), Develop Design Guidance, *US DOT Policy Statement- Integrating Bicycle and Walking into Transportation Infrastructure (2000)***
  - **Requires incorporation of pedestrian facilities into all transportation projects (with rare exceptions)**
  - **Encourages commitment on part of entities to integrate walking into transportation infrastructure**

## **FHWA Policies**

- Design Guidance highlights:
  - Congressional support for pedestrian safety and convenience
  - Presumption that pedestrian and bicyclists will be accommodated in new & improved transportation facilities

# Funding Opportunities

Federal transportation legislation:

- Authorizes Federal-aid funds for implementing pedestrian accessibility in almost all funding categories



## Funding Opportunities

Federal transportation legislation:

- Federal matching is generally 80/20
- Consideration of accessible pedestrian signals (APS) and signs
  - Traffic signals eligible for 100% Federal funding (Title 23 - USC - 120(c) - increased federal share for certain safety projects)

## Funding Opportunities

Fundable areas:

- Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan
- Shared-use path/trail
- Spot improvement program
- Trail/highway intersection
- Sidewalks, new or retrofit

## Funding Opportunities

Fundable areas:

- Signal improvement
- Curb cuts and ramps
- Traffic calming
- Bicycle and pedestrian coordinator position
- Transit enhancements