

Darwin Shared Path & Bicycle Lane Technical Notes

15. Regulatory and Advisory Signage for Shared Paths

Objective

The objective of the *Darwin Shared Path & Bicycle Lane Technical Notes* is to provide direction and guidance for the planning and delivery of cycling facilities within the City of Darwin area. These technical notes are also intended to provide information for other stakeholders including the NT Government, cycling groups and the community.

References

Throughout this document, references have been made to the following technical standards and guidelines:

- AS 1742.9-2000 *Manual of Uniform Traffic Devices Part 9: Bicycle Facilities*
- Department of Transport and Main Roads *A guide to signing cycle networks* (2009)
- Main Roads WA *Pavement Marking Messages for PSP's' (Drawing No. 200731-0072-2)*
- Road and Traffic Authority *NSW Bicycle Guidelines* (2005)
- VicRoads *Cycle Notes 12 Design Standards for Bicycle Facilities* (2002)

The technical note should be read in conjunction to these documents.

Introduction

This technical note provides direction and guidance on bicycle regulatory and advisory signage. The information is compiled from multiple sources detailing good design practices and appropriate signage location and installation processes adopted throughout Australia.

Bicycle regulatory signage provides information on what users can and cannot do while advisory signage provide advanced warning on any potential hazards. Appropriate usage of these signs help encourage safe behaviour for all path users.

It should be noted that regulatory signs generally do not apply to pedestrians however they may still be useful to convey an advisory message (e.g. Keep Left, Give Way).

All signage installed on paths in the City of Darwin should be consistent with the requirements of AS1742, particularly AS1742.9.

Regulatory Signage

Regulatory signs typically used on shared paths are summarised below. Many of these signs can be more effectively installed as pavement decals rather than upstand signs as pavement decals are more likely to be seen and recognised by cyclists.

For details of sign sizes and designs, refer to AS1742.9 and AS1743.

- Shared Path (R8-2) – these signs are used for formally designate a path as a shared path. In the Northern Territory cyclists may ride on any shared path or footpath so there is no need to use these signs on all paths, however they are useful as reminders to path users that they should anticipate cyclists on a path.

- Give Way (R1-2) – these signs should be used where two paths intersect and it is desirable to reinforce which path has priority or where a long straight approach may encourage undesirably high approach speeds. These signs may also be used at road crossings where additional warning of the crossing is desirable. In this case they should be accompanied by ‘Road Ahead’ (W6-8) warning signs.
- No Bicycles (R6-10-3) – this sign is used to prohibit persons from riding a bicycle on a section of path. As this sign also prohibits parents and children from riding slowly along a path it should be used only in extreme circumstances. Other soft or hard physical treatments should instead be used for discourage faster cyclists from using these paths.



SOURCE: AS1742.9 MANUAL OF UNIFORM TRAFFIC DEVICES PART 9: BICYCLE FACILITIES

Advisory signage

Advisory or warning signs are required in areas where cyclist speeds are expected to be above 20km/h on good conditions and an unexpected change in traffic conditions occurs. Examples of such changes in traffic conditions include:

- Road crossings – Road Ahead W6-8 signs should be used.
- Steep grades – Steep Descent (W6-210) and Steep Climb (W6-211) signs should be used.
- Pedestrian conflict zone – Pedestrians Ahead (W6-1) signs should be used, possibly in conjunction with pavement decals.



SOURCE: AS1742.9 MANUAL OF UNIFORM TRAFFIC DEVICES PART 9: BICYCLE FACILITIES

Placement of signage

In regards to bicycle signage location and alignment at intersections and paths including installation, AS 1742.9 Appendix B provides general principles for the uniform installation and location of these signs.