Pedestrians and Bicycles on Highway and Street Projects:

With an ever increasing national emphasis being placed on the need to include all modes in the transportation network, pedestrians and bicyclists shall be considered (where they are not prohibited, such as on the Interstate System) during the planning, design, construction and maintenance of highway and street facilities. Further, where pedestrian facilities are provided, they shall be accessible to people with disabilities, in accordance with requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The need for sidewalks and bicycles facilities shall be investigated early in project development during the environmental process. Input from the public, and various local officials shall be taken into consideration in the decision making process. The location of schools, churches, parks, and commercial space can influence to what extent pedestrians and bicyclists are accommodated.

Designers shall remember that practically all transportation facilities will be used by pedestrians and bicyclists to some extent. Minimum values for sidewalk width, paved shoulder width, and other roadway features shall be avoided where moderate to heavy pedestrian and bicycle volumes can be expected. Additionally, designers need to keep bicyclists in mind when determining where to place rumble strip, selecting which grates to put on drainage inlets, and designing other various roadway features. Bridge designers shall always consider pedestrians and bicycles (except where they are prohibited) when determining shoulder widths or sidewalks on bridges.

If sidewalks are disturbed during construction or maintenance activities, alternate pedestrian routes should be provided.