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October 22, 2013

Ms. Nancy Alexander

NYSDOT Landscape Architecture Bureau

50 Wolf Road

Albany, NY 12205

Dear Ms. Alexander,

CDTC staff has reviewed the proposed revisions to the **HIGHWAY DESIGN MANUAL REVISION NO. XX - CHAPTER 17 BICYCLE FACILITY DESIGN AND CHAPTER 18 - PEDESTRIAN FACILITY DESIGN - COMPLETE STREETS PLANNING CHECKLIST** and appreciates the opportunity to comment on these items. Our comments are attached in a separate Word document.

We are encouraged to see questions in the checklist, the checklist notes, and proposed text encouraging project designers to reach out to municipalities and MPOs for more information on planned improvements and input on existing and needed infrastructure. Communication and coordination between NYSDOT and local and regional entities typically results in better projects. NYSDOT should be commended for inclusion of these features.

However, we strongly feel project designers should be required to conduct such outreach during project scoping and throughout the project development process. Toward that end it is important that each NYSDOT Region has trained and supported staffing resources, specifically the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, to assist with this outreach and provide knowledge on best practices related to complete streets design and implementation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this important approach to ensure New York State's roadways are designed to consider and balance the needs of all users.

Sincerely,

David P. Jukins

Deputy Director