

New Design Road Protected Bike Lane

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: What is a protected bike lane?

A: A protected bike lane is a portion of the public road that is reserved for bicycle and motor scooter use and separated from motor vehicle lanes by a buffer area. A protected bike lane exists on New Design Road between English Muffin Way and Crestwood Boulevard. The buffer area in this case is 2 to 3 feet wide and marked with white lines and delineator posts or similar devices.

Q: What rules apply to cyclists?

A: Cyclists and motor scooter operators must obey the rules of the road as if they were driving a motor vehicle. Cyclists and motor scooter operators are required by Maryland Law to ride in a bike lane when a bike lane is provided. There are bike lanes on both sides of New Design Road, travelling in the same direction as the adjacent vehicular lanes. The cyclist or motor scooter operator is allowed to leave the bike lane when reasonably safe to do so after giving the appropriate signal when necessary to pass a slower cyclists or other bike lane user, execute a left turn, avoid debris or other hazardous conditions in the bike lane, or in locations where a right turn lane or other condition breaks the continuity of the bike lane. 21-1205.1(b)

Q: What rules apply to motorists?

A: A motor vehicle operator may not travel or park in the bike lane, and a motor vehicle must yield to a cyclist or motor scooter operator in the bike lane before crossing it to access a right turn lane or execute a turn into a driveway, entrance, or intersecting street. A motor vehicle attempting to leave a driveway, entrance, or intersecting street must yield to a cyclist or motor scooter in the bike lane before entering the roadway. 21-404(b)

Q: How will it be maintained?

A: The protected bike lane will be maintained by the Division of Public Works. Maintenance will include replacement of pavement markings and delineators as needed, repair of the road surface, maintenance of curb, gutter, and drainage features, periodic removal of debris, and snow and ice control.

Q: Will it be plowed in the winter?

A: The protected bike lane will be pre-treated with salt prior to a snow event. Clearing snow and ice from vehicular lanes will be the first priority, and the protected bike lane will be cleared after all snow and ice removal on vehicular lanes has been completed.

Q: How can I request maintenance?

A: Please contact the Department of Highway Operations at (301) 600-1564 or use the "FCG Fixit" app to request road maintenance. FCG Fixit can be accessed here:

<https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/8235/FCG-FixIt>