

Introduction to NTA

Technical Standards Section

June 2025



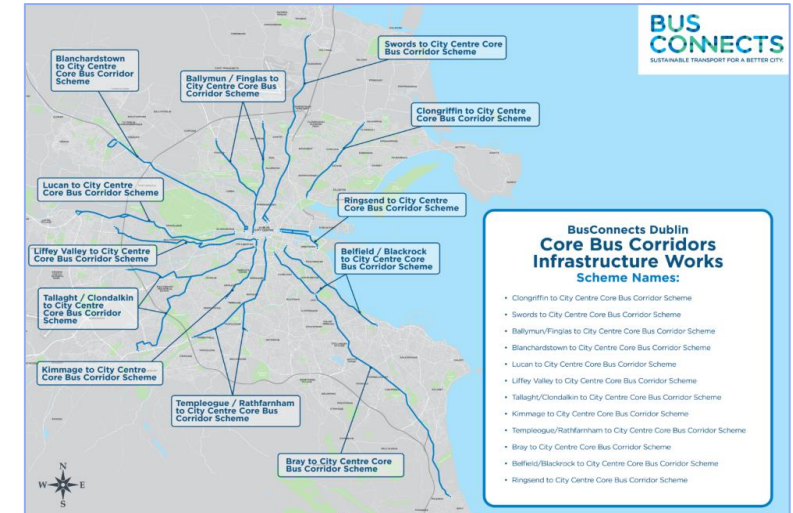
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1. NTA's role in technical standards / guidance
2. Examples of NTA's recent work on standards and guidance documents
3. Overview of NTA Technical Standards Section including current priorities etc.



1. NTA's role in technical standards / guidance

- Limited national standards in relation to sustainable transport infrastructure and universal design of transport
- Multiplicity of various documents from different agencies
- Lack of consistency in approach and application across local authorities, transport authorities and operators
- NTA now funding the active travel and bus infrastructure nationally
- Need for focus on complete journey (multimodal) experience – e.g. from getting to the bus in Dublin to arriving to your destination in Cork



1. NTA's role in technical standards / guidance

- Unlike Department of Transport and TII, NTA does not have statutory powers to set standards but has powers to publish certain guidance e.g. Traffic Management Guidelines
- NTA can publish guidance and seek its adoption into standards
- NTA can mandate the use of guidance on NTA funded projects

Dublin Transport Authority Act 2008 (as amended)

Traffic management guidelines.

66.— (1) The Authority may, in relation to the implementation of its traffic management plan F45[for the GDA] or otherwise for the purposes of traffic management F45[in the State], issue guidelines to road authorities in relation to all or any of the following:

(a) the location and provision of traffic signs (within the meaning of section 95 of the Act of 1961),

(b) the location of bus stops and bus stands,

(c) the design, provision, maintenance and operation of traffic information systems and traffic management control systems,

(d) the design, provision, maintenance and management of bus priority schemes and walking and cycling facilities,

(e) the design, provision and management of facilities for the parking of vehicles,

(f) the design and management of planned construction works which are likely to affect traffic management, and

(g) the additional works or activities, if any, within the statutory responsibilities of road authorities that the Authority deem appropriate for the effective implementation of its traffic management plan.

(2) Before issuing guidelines to a road authority under *subsection (1)*, the Authority shall consult with and consider the views of the NRA in relation to the proposed guidelines.

(3) The Authority may, until the commencement of **section 16** of the **Road Traffic Act 2002**, in relation to the implementation of its traffic management plan or otherwise for the purposes of traffic management, issue guidelines to the Commissioner in relation to the location of bus stops and bus stands.

(4) The Authority may where it deems it appropriate to do so revise or withdraw a guideline under this section.

(5) Road authorities and the Commissioner, as the case may be, shall have regard to guidelines issued by the Authority under this section.

2. Recent work on technical standards and guidance

Responding to the absence of technical guidance, the NTA has developed various guidance to date to support investment programmes such as Active Travel, Safe Routes to School & BusConnects.



Cycle Design Manual



Greening and Nature-based Sustainable Drainage Systems for Active Travel Schemes



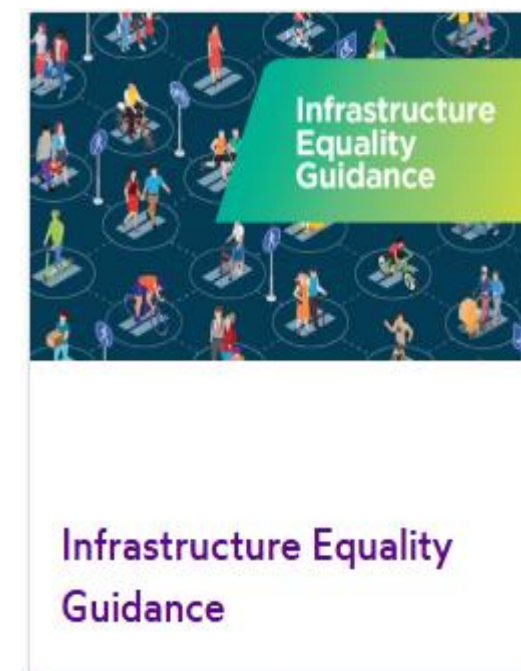
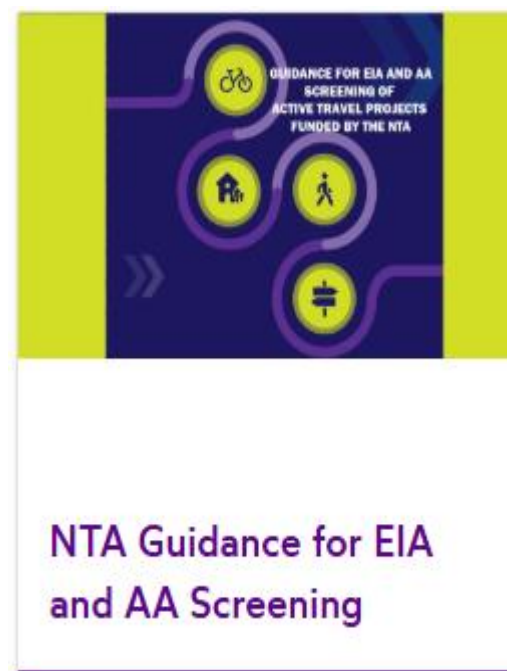
Access Control of Active Travel Facilities (Publication)



Rapid Build Active Travel Facilities NTA Advice Note

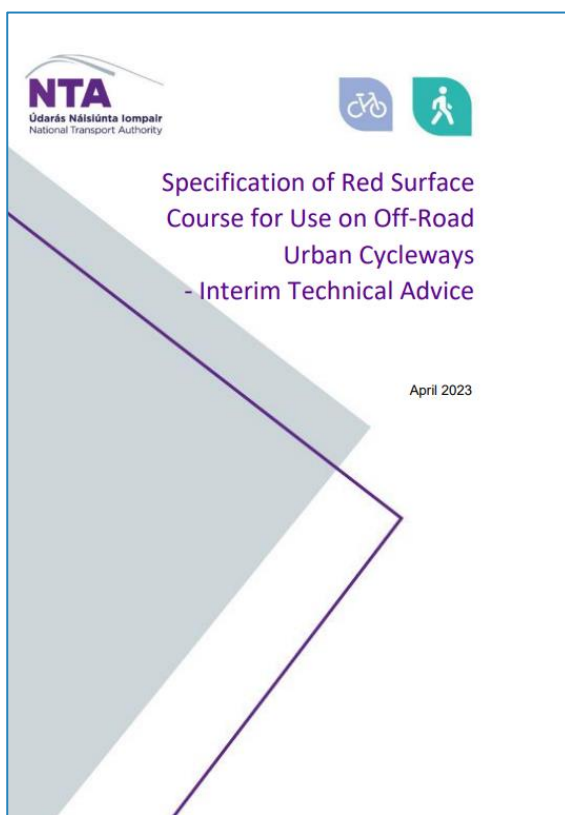
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- 6mm Stone Mastic Asphalt with red pigmentation
- Developed in conjunction with industry experts and TII
- Provides strong visual contrast
- Improves legibility and coherence i.e. red surface = cycle surface
- Mandatory use on NTA funded cycle tracks
- NB: Red surfacing not recommended on shared paths



Black

VS

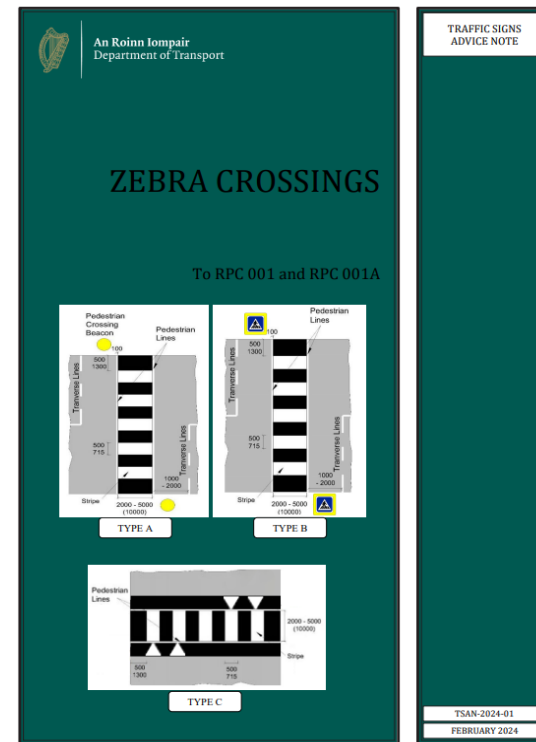
Red



<https://maps.app.goo.gl/dKNcc1TSwC35wpKq7>

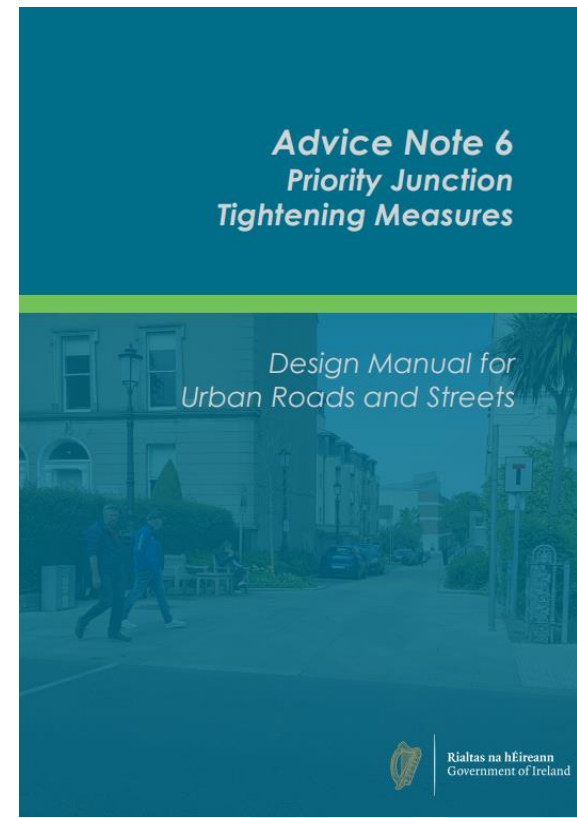
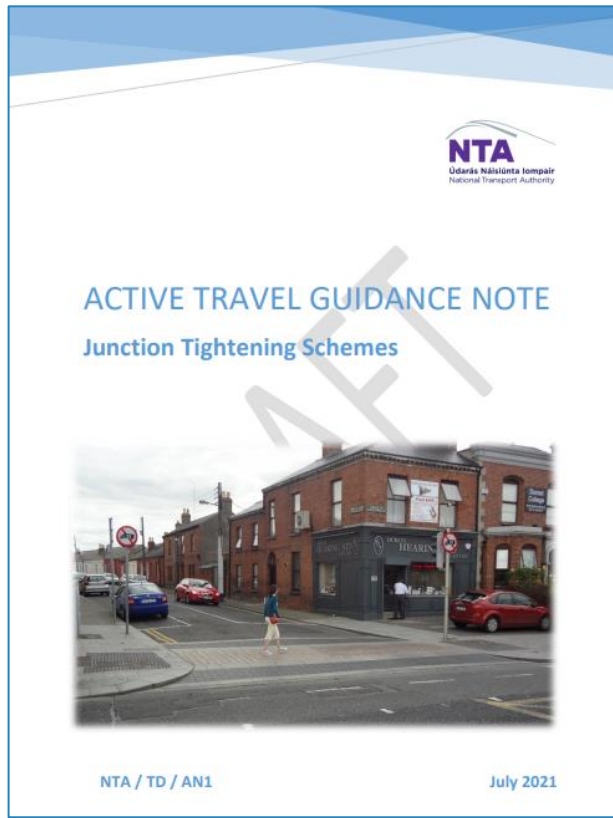
2. Recent work on technical standards and guidance

Recent work on standards & guidance with DoT



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Recent work on standards & guidance with DoT

- Cycle Design Manual – TSM & Legislation Update



Necessitated updates to:

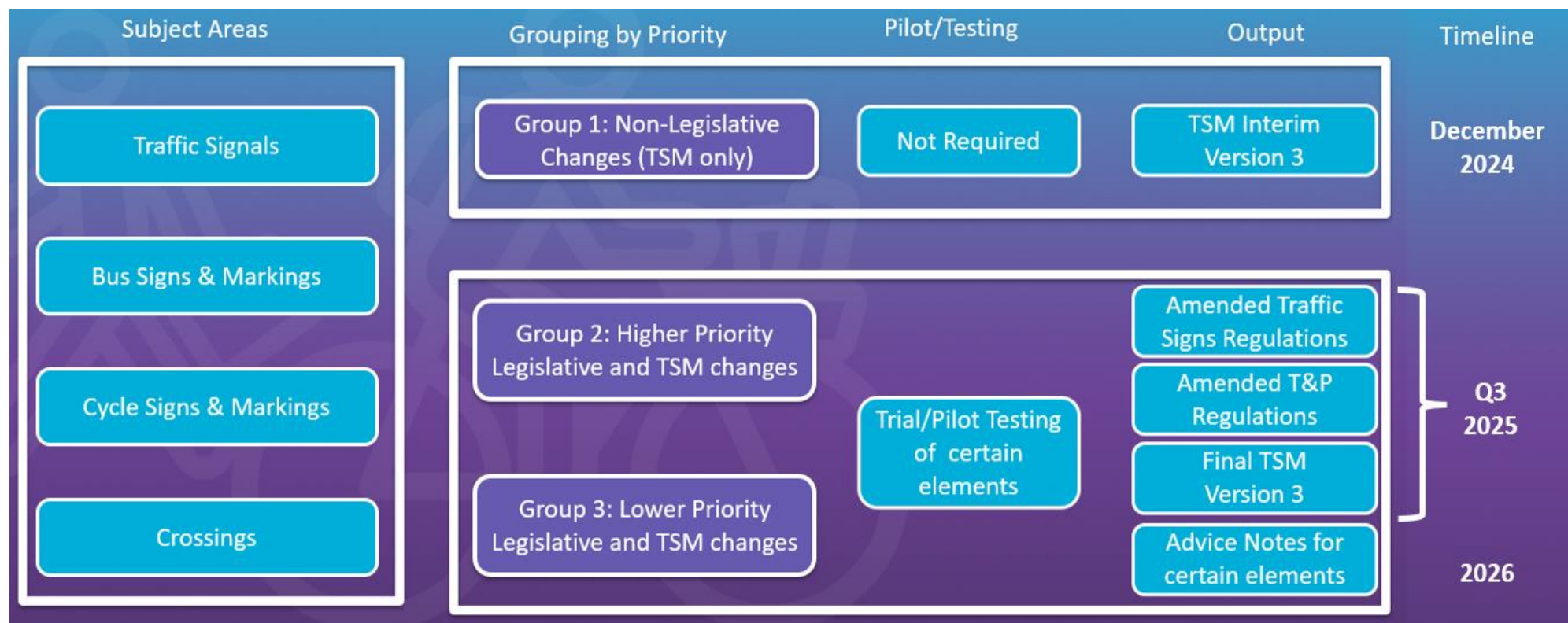
- Road Traffic (Signs) Regulations 2024
- Road Traffic (Traffic & Parking) Regulations 1997 (as amended)
- Traffic Signs Manual



2. Recent work on technical standards and guidance

Recent work on standards & guidance with DoT

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New Regulatory signage including:

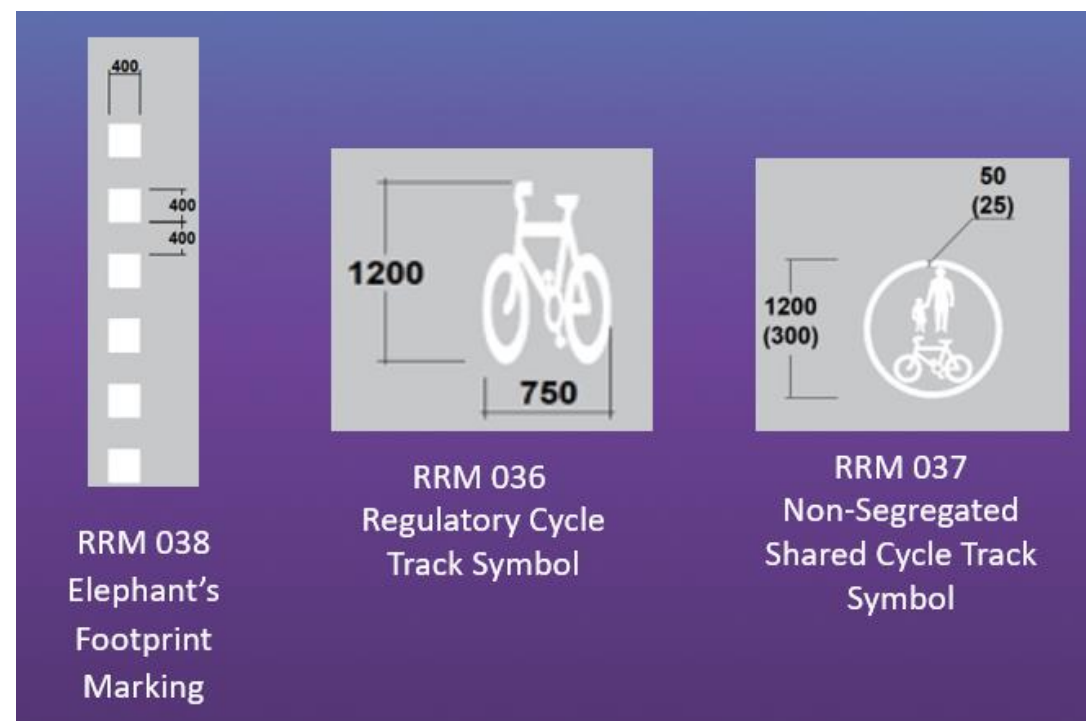


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New Regulatory road markings including:





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Update of cycle track formation



An upright sign (RUS 009/058/059)

+



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Cycle Track

*At least one regulatory marking
(RRM 036/RRM 022/RRM 023/RRM 038)*

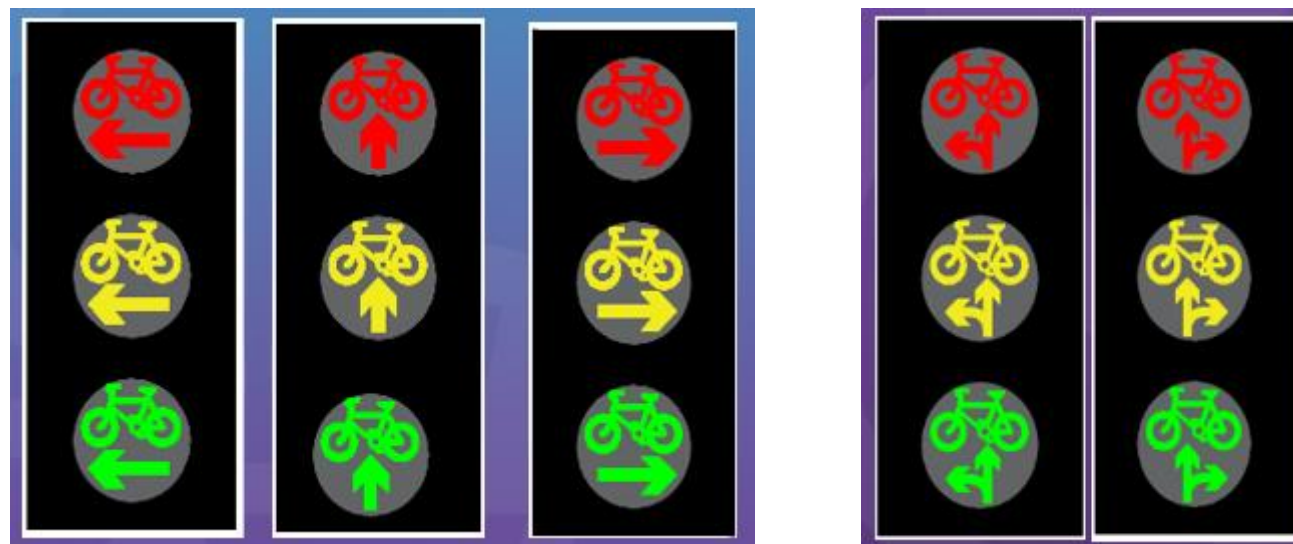
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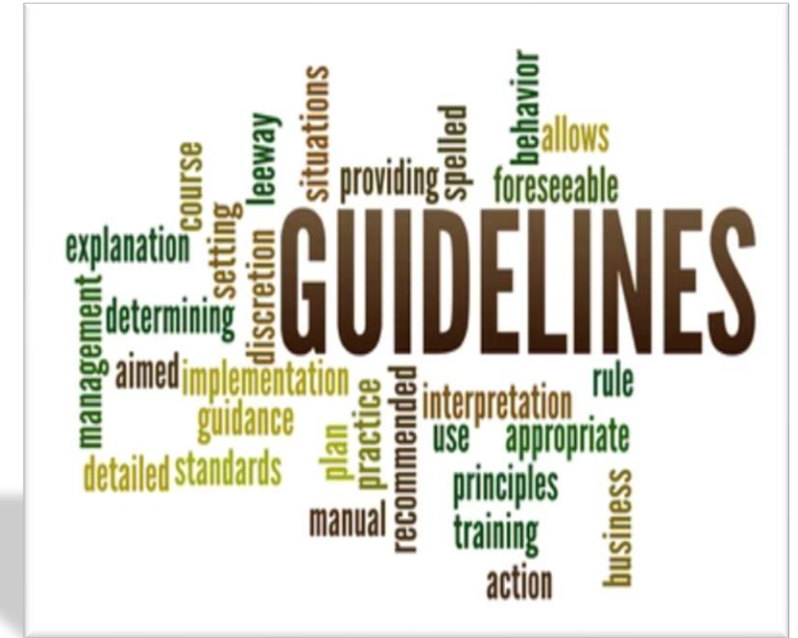
Low Level Directional Cycle Signals:

- *RTS 007(L) Left*
- *RTS 007(S) Straight*
- *RTS 007(R) Right*
- *RTS 007(SL) Straight + Left*
- *RTS 007(SR) Straight + Right*



3. Overview of NTA Technical Standards Section

- Recently established
- Strategy and implementation framework in development
- NTA Technical Standards section will, inter alia:
 - ✓ Identify areas where guidance and standards are required for sustainable transport investment
 - ✓ Create a framework for guidance and standard development
 - ✓ Engage with other agencies in development of standards
 - ✓ Participate in the DoT National Guidelines and Standards Group
 - ✓ Review best practice internationally
 - ✓ Undertake trials and research



3. Overview of NTA Technical Standards Section

Current areas of focus include:

- Bus Stop Design Guide (Draft complete)
- Update Cycle Design Manual (Q4 2025)
- Typical Construction Details (Q3/4 2025)
- Deviation from guidance process (Q3 2025)
- Traffic calming guidance (Draft complete)
- Wayfinding Strategy (on-going)
- Equality Impact Assessment Guidance (Q4 2025)
- Accessibility Guidance (on-going)
- Public Transport Design Guide (2026)
- Auditing of compliance (on-going)
- Training (on-going)



Thank You

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