

LOCAL ROAD DESIGN GUIDELINES

WHAT ARE LOCAL ROAD DESIGN GUIDELINES?

Local road design guidelines can assist communities in developing infrastructure that meets their vision, feel, and sense of place. These guidelines are used to develop a consistent, uniform aesthetic and functionality to the community's public infrastructure.

Additional benefits may include:

- Safety improvements
- Increased livability
- Balance of modes
- Environmental enhancements

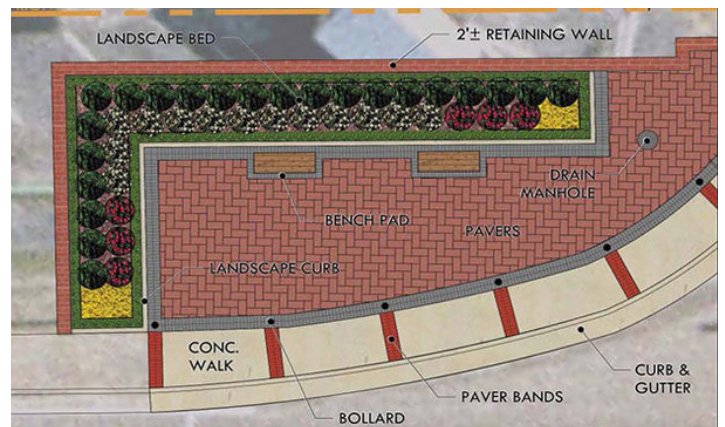


Columbia Avenue, Franklin, TN

WHY HAVE LOCAL ROAD DESIGN GUIDELINES?

Local design guidelines can assist communities in better managing their transportation system by requiring additional amenities be included in new projects. This can assist communities by:

- **Strengthening local economies:** Providing a vibrant network encourages private investment and personal interaction.
- **Safety Improvements:** Accommodating all modes and considering uses beyond the roadway assist in developing a safer system.
- **Promotion of Active and Healthy Living:** Providing safe, attractive places to walk and bicycle encourages the public to meet recommended activity levels.
- **Consistent design:** Ensures that public infrastructure projects integrate modal options and aesthetics into the initial design and helps avoid costly retrofits.





TENNESSEE EXAMPLE OF LOCAL ROAD DESIGN GUIDELINES: FRANKLIN

The City of Franklin developed a Roadway Enhancement Master Plan in 2001 to guide the design and construction of local roadways. The design guidelines establish a citywide theme and design character highlights the gateways to the city, and provides a sense of place.

The local road design guidelines established a framework that is creatively applied to the design of roadways in Franklin. Rather than just developing a street, Franklin’s Roadway Enhancement Master Plan requires design teams to consider the role of the street within the broader context of the community.

The design guidelines are used mainly in the preliminary engineering phase of a roadway to identify potential aesthetic and functional improvements. This includes specifying traffic control poles and other types of street furnishings.



Columbia Avenue Streetscape Schematic,
Franklin, TN

HOW TO CREATE LOCAL ROAD DESIGN GUIDELINES

STEP 1: PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Leadership Commitment Community leaders must demonstrate a clear commitment to support the project.

Visioning and Consensus Establishing a shared vision and consensus allows the community to set project goals and objectives. Understanding needs and developing support from the community is vital to start the planning, design, and implementation processes.

Planning and Design Communities should leverage local resources and knowledge to assist in guiding project activities to best meet the needs of their community. Tailoring best practices to meet local conditions and desires will assist in developing an implementable, successful planning study.

STEP 2: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Funding for Implementation Communities should seek diverse funding sources to implement their design guidelines. Partnering with private industry as well as seeking funding from other state and federal sources.

TDOT offers the following competitive programs to assist with implementation:

- **Surface Transportation Program:** Funding for roadway construction and improvements, operational improvement, transportation systems, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, transit, ridesharing programs and facilities and transportation planning and studies
- **Transportation Alternatives:** The Transportation Alternatives Program, functions as the main funding source for general pedestrian and bicycling infrastructure projects.
- **Safety:** Program that implements projects that reduce fatalities and serious injuries on all public roadways.

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