



Martin O'Malley, Governor
Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor

Beverley K. Swaim-Staley, Secretary
Neil J. Pedersen, Administrator

Maryland Department of Transportation

13 May 2011

Mr. Henry Wixon
Glenn Dale Citizens Association
Post Office Box 235
Glenn Dale, Maryland 20769

Subject: Use of ~~the~~ **MAY USE FULL LANE** sign (R4-11)

Dear Mr. Wixon:

Some time ago you contacted the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) regarding the use of the ~~the~~ **MAY USE FULL LANE** (R4-11), sign that was added to the 2009 Edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). As you may be aware, the MUTCD is a national standard that must then be individually adopted by all of the States and Territories with whatever modification that jurisdiction deems appropriate. The SHA is currently in the process of developing the latest Maryland Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MdMUTCD) in conjunction with the issuance of the 2009 MUTCD.

We have decided not to include the R4-11 sign in the MdMUTCD. A number of other states have made this same decision. We think New York has stated the reason to not use this sign best:

"The R11-4 sign shall not be used in New York, as its message is not an accurate reflection of Section 1234 of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law, and could mislead inexperienced bicyclists into occupying inappropriate, and unsafe, positions within a roadway. On roadways where space is limited and interactions between motorists and bicyclists have proven problematic, it is preferable to either provide positive guidance to bicyclists in the form of Shared Lane Markings (see Section 9C.07) and/or warning to the motorists in the form of the SHARE THE ROAD (W16-1P) plaque (see Section 2b.19)."

My telephone number/toll-free number is _____

Fax: ___ 410-787-4082, ___ 410-553-6399, ___ 410-582-9469, ___ 410-787-5823, ___ 410-787-2863, ___ 410-787-3798

Maryland Relay Service for Impaired Hearing or Speech: 1.800.735.2258 Statewide Toll Free

Street Address: 7491 Connelley Drive • Hanover, Maryland 21076 • Phone: 410.787.5800 • www.marylandroads.com



We would be glad to work with your organization to develop signing and marking plans that accommodate bicyclists without using R4-11 signs. Please feel free to contact me at (410) 787-5867, rherstein@sha.state.md.us, or at the address on our letterhead if we can be of any further assistance.



Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Herstein'.

Robert J. Herstein, Team Leader
Statewide Studies Team

cc: Ms. Felicia Murphy
Mr. Dustin Kuzan



R4-11