

US Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration's Equestrian Trails Policy

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) receives occasional inquiries about equestrian and other nonmotorized use of facilities funded with Federal-aid highway program funds under [Section 217 of title 23, United States Code](#), especially for projects using Transportation Enhancement funds.

Equestrian and other nonmotorized recreational use may be allowed on shared use paths and trails that use Federal-aid transportation funds. Federal transportation laws and regulations do not prohibit equestrians, in-line skaters, skateboarders, cross country skiers, snowshoe users, or other nonmotorized users on shared use paths or trails. States or local managers may choose to prohibit these uses; but it is a State or local determination, and not a Federal requirement. Various design options may allow equestrian use, such as providing both a paved path and an unpaved path within the same right-of-way.

US Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration's Equestrian Trails Policy can be viewed at

http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/allow_uses_eqnm.htm

This information is also related to the Recreational Trails Program and associated funding.