

ROMANIA
MINISTER OF ADMINISTRATION AND INTERNAL AFFAIRS
DIRECTION OF GENERAL POLICE
POLICE TRAFFIC DIVISION

Not secret
Bucharest

No: 156709 from 27.09.2011

In your petitions, dated August 25th and 26th, 2011, you solicit the invalidation of the cycle paths situated on the following routes: from Constitutiei Square to Muncii Square, from Unirii Square to Sudului Square, from Herastrau Park to Victoriei Square, from Muncii Square to I.O.R. Square, from Politehnica to Splaiul Independentei, from Opera Square to 21st December 1989 Square, from Câmpia Libertății to Nicolae Grigorescu Blvd and to Titan Park; you also solicit restraining bicycles access on the cycle paths situated on the routes from Mareșal Constantin Prezan Blvd to Aviatorilor Blvd and from Operei Square to Unirii Square, as on these cycle paths one can find multiple deficiencies which impede walking and cycling in a safe and fluent way.

As you already have been informed during your discussions with the Police Traffic Division representatives, the cycle paths are administrated, according to legal competences, by the Streets Administration. The routes and the road signs assigned to these routes have been approved by Bucharest Technical Committee for Traffic and the Police Traffic Division.

Following the examination of the cycle paths' viability on the routes mentioned in your petitions, multiple deficiencies have been identified, concerning both road signs and the way these cycle paths are separated from pedestrian traffic. Also, there have been identified areas in which bicycle crossings are missing, areas in which the curb is not properly lowered to street level, areas in which there are obstacles right on the cycle paths (kiosks, pedestrian platforms, billboards, temporary terraces (translator's note: in front of pubs and restaurants), garbage bins, etc) and areas in which the space left for pedestrians to walk is smaller than one metre in width. All these deficiencies have been sent towards the Streets Administration, District Halls 1, 3, 5, 6 and RATB (Bucharest Public Transport Company) to be mended.

Your proposal to invalidate the cycle paths mentioned before has been discussed by the Bucharest Technical Committee for Traffic during the Sept 15th, 2011 meeting, deciding that the Streets Administration will analyze the possibility of tracing cycle paths on the road surface, where these are impractical for cycling or walking (TN: the phrase is poorly written even in Romanian, basically what the Police were trying to say was that they will consider moving the badly designed cycle paths from the sidewalks onto the road surface).

For extra information, we inform you that you can attend the Bucharest Technical Committee for Traffic meetings every Thursday, starting at 10:00 in the Bucharest's City Hall building, 4th floor, room no. 5.

Respectfully yours,
Chief of Police Traffic Division,
Police chief officer
NICU DRAGOȘ