

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

Not secret
Bucharest
No: 572148 from 12.10.2012

For
OPTAR (Organisation for Promoting Alternative Transport in Romania)
For the attention of Mr. Marian Ivan

Regarding your petition, sent to the Police Traffic Division, on Sept 17th, 2012, in which you point out the uncertainty felt by traffic participants, caused by inadequate cycling and walking infrastructure on Drumul Taberei, between Lt. Găină Str. and Braşov Str. and you solicit invalidating this traffic establishment and contraventional sanctioning the administrator of the public roads, we inform as follows:

Following the investigation of the issues mentioned in your inquiry regarding the cycle path situated on Drumul Taberei, between Lt. Găină Str. and Braşov Str., there have been identified multiple deficiencies regarding the road signs, as well as obstacles that render it unusable and jeopardise the safety of the cyclists and pedestrians. In the same time, it has been noticed that on big sections of this route there is not enough room for pedestrians to walk unhindered, the markings on the cycle paths are damaged or missing, the curb is not properly lowered to street level where the cycle path meets perpendicular roads that cross Drumul Taberei, the signalling through road signs is incomplete, on the cycle paths one can find bus stops, kiosks or billboards and the bollards that should border the cycle path are missing.

Considering all the above, in conformity with art. 5, paragraph (9) from the Government Ordinance no: 195/2002 regarding public roads traffic, republished, with subsequent modifications and supplements, which states: "aiming to provide safe traffic on public roads, the Police Traffic Division can solicit to the administrator of the public roads to execute or accordingly, to invalidate pieces of road infrastructure", the Police Traffic Division decided to temporary invalidate, until the remediation of the signalled deficiencies, the section of the cycle path situated on Drumul Taberei, between Lt. Găină Str. and Braşov Str., through address no. 572.148/8.10.2012, remitted to the Streets Administration.

Also, we inform you that, as we have been informed by the Streets Administration, this institution is running the procedure of signing a contract for the execution of horizontal and vertical road signalling, which renders the institution unable to install road signs or to execute markings until the procedure is over. Therefore, we solicited that in 15 days terms after the contract signing to take action, in conformity with art 33, paragraph (1) from the Government Ordinance no: 195/2002, in order to install "bicycles forbidden" road signs both at the start of this cycle path and at every crossing between the cycle path and perpendicular roads. Also, we solicited removing the "bicycle path" road signs, the "separate bicycle and pedestrians path" road signs and the "shared path for pedestrians and bicycles" road signs, until the remediation of the deficiencies, so that cyclist will not be forced to use inadequate cycle paths.

Regarding the administrator of the public roads contraventional sanction, we inform you that, as the Streets Administration has at this moment no means to purchase and install road signs or to execute markings, the responsible authority cannot be blamed on committing the offense.

The Police Traffic Division will continue to verify the cycle paths on which cycling is

inadequate, and for the approval of future cycle paths, proposed to be built on Bucharest's main roads, will consult the members of the Working Group organized within Bucharest City Hall, aiming to find and implement optimal solutions for providing safe traffic.

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