Clark County Public Works, as part of its commitment to multimodal transportation and walkable communities, has developed a detailed policy for pedestrian crossings on county roads.

The Clark County Pedestrian Crossing Treatment Policy provides guidelines to recommend the type of pedestrian crossing treatment most suitable for a particular location. The policy defines "trigger points" to determine appropriate crossing features and how the crossing would best enhance pedestrian safety and mobility.

The policy helps guide county engineers, along with private developers, in selecting the appropriate pedestrian crossing treatment. Guidelines cover crosswalks, flashing beacons and standards for traffic control devices, such as signs, striping and pavement markings, at and near pedestrian crossings, along with lighting.

The policy defines marked crosswalks, where pavement stripes or other markings delineate the crossing at intersections or mid-block locations, and unmarked crosswalks, where there is a legal crossing at an intersection without a pavement marking. Public road intersections are legal crossings under Washington law, even if there is no pavement striping or signage.

The policy also covers pedestrian crossings at controlled locations, where there is a stop sign, traffic signal or pedestrian beacon.

The policy outlines a three-step process for assessment, selection, and provides guidance for pedestrian crossings:

1. A decision tree to assess the potential for a pedestrian crossing based on a variety of factors for locations that are controlled, uncontrolled or near a school.

2. A table to select the appropriate crossing treatments, including marked crosswalks, flashing beacons, pedestrian refuge islands, pedestrian hybrid beacons, traffic signals or a combination of these treatments, based on road type, traffic volumes and vehicle speeds.

3. A toolbox to consider the appropriate signing, striping and other features for each pedestrian crossing treatment.

The Clark County Pedestrian Crossing Treatment Policy is available at: www.clark.wa.gov/public-works/traffic