

# TRAFFIC TOOLKIT

Strategies for Calming and Diverting Traffic

# Traffic Calming Strategies

**What:** Treatments that affect roadway design and help control vehicle speeds

**Where:** All types of streets

**Why:** Slow traffic speeds  
Increase pedestrian safety



# ROUND-ABOUT

- What** Raised circular area in the middle of an intersection
- How** Limits driver's line of sight, broadening attention to sides
- Where** Main streets, collector streets
- Why** Calm traffic, slow speeds, safety, beautification, place-making, LID







WINDY HILL ST

ONE WAY



NO PARKING  
ANYTIME





# MINI CIRCLE

**What** Raised circular area in the middle of an intersection

**How** Limits driver's line of sight, broadening attention to sides

**Where** Local neighborhood streets

**Why** Calm traffic, slow speeds, safety, beautification, place-making, LID











# CHICANE

**WHAT:** An S-Shaped curve in the vehicle driving path

**HOW:** Install street features such as tree boxes or street parking alternating on either side of the street

**WHERE:** Local or collector streets, main streets

**WHY:** Slow traffic, preserve parking, LID and beautification opportunity











# MEDIAN ISLAND

**WHAT:** Vehicle prohibited area in the middle of the street

**HOW:** Raised, planted, and/or painted area in the center line of the street

**WHERE:** Any street, but valuable in high pedestrian areas

**WHY:** Narrow lanes slow traffic, provide a pedestrian haven, and can add beauty







**Sugarland, TX – Textured Ped Crossing with Planted Median**





# Choker (aka neck down)

**What** A pair of streetscape features designed to narrow the road

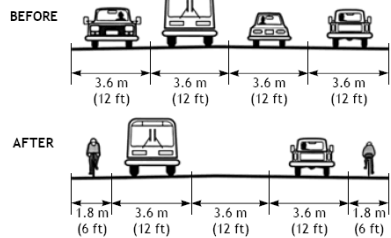
**How** Extending curbs on opposite sides of the road to visually narrow the travel lanes

**Where** Street entrances and mid block locations

**Why** Controls speed by narrowing travel space and constraining vehicles, shortens crossings







Location: Edgewater Dr.  
Orlando, FL  
Source: Complete Streets

# ROAD DIET

**WHAT:** Reducing or reusing the lanes of an existing road.

**HOW:** With a new surface and pavement markings.

**WHERE:** Major or minor streets.

**WHY:** To improve safety, slow traffic speeds, and provide more travel options (bicycle lanes, parking, or other).





# SPEED TABLE

**WHAT:** A flat topped speed hump

**HOW:** Typically rubber or asphalt, it slows traffic by introducing a change of grade for cars

**WHERE:** Modest volume streets; they are possible on streets with buses or emergency vehicles

**WHY:** To slow traffic speeds







# SPEED HUMP

**WHAT:** A rounded raised strip of material extending across the street.

**HOW:** Installation of raised asphalt or rubber

**WHERE:** Typically lower volume streets without emergency vehicles or buses

**WHY:** To slow vehicle speeds and reduce volumes.











# RADAR SPEED SIGN

**WHAT:** A dynamic display of real vehicle speed

**HOW:** Radar detecting dynamic display sign.

**WHERE:** Any street, but typically on modest to medium volume streets or in school zones

**WHY:** To increase speed compliance by making drivers aware of their travel speed





SPEED  
LIMIT  
20

YOUR SPEED

31

094V02





# Reducing Cut-through Traffic Strategies

**What:** Treatments that reduce vehicle access to select areas

**Where:** All types of streets

**Why:** Reduce cut-through traffic  
Reduce traffic volumes



# Diverging One Ways

**What** One way local streets going in opposite directions on either side of a major street

**How** Change streets to one way only in opposite directions

**Where** Local streets across major streets

**Why** Reduce cut-through traffic







# DIRECTIONAL CLOSURE

**WHAT:** A street feature that stops vehicles from entering a street (but permits exits)

**HOW:** Typically with a raised curb or barrier

**WHERE:** Generally for local streets

**WHY:** To reduce or eliminate cut-through traffic





RIGHT  
TURN  
ONLY

# Right in Right out

**What** Feature in the roadway that allows only right turns in and out

**How** Raised curbed island or barrier

**Where** Typically used on local streets and driveways

**Why** To reduce traffic volumes; minimize conflicts







# Diverter

**What** A feature in the roadway that prohibits through traffic (forces turn)

**How** With a raised curb, island or barrier

**Where** Typically used on local streets

**Why** To stop through vehicle traffic





# Strategies to Improve Pedestrian Safety and Experience

**What:** Intersection and roadway treatments that increase pedestrian visibility

**Where:** All types of streets

**Why:** Slow traffic speeds  
Provide safer crossings for pedestrians



**What** Patterns and/or texture extending throughout an intersection

**How** Highly reflective paint, unique texture and/or eye-catching patterns

**Where** Very large, extremely high activity, and/or very problematic intersections

**Why** Increases visibility and caution

# HIGH VISIBILITY INTERSECTION







**Sugarland, TX – Textured Intersection and Ped Crossings**





Fort Worth, TX – Textured Intersection





# High Visibility Crosswalk

**What** More visible pedestrian crossing area than typical single parallel lines

**How** Wider bands of highly reflective paint or marking

**Where** Higher volume streets, school zones

**Why** Increase visibility of pedestrians, safety, and awareness







THE BOW & ARROW PUB

Newbery Comics

Baskin-Robbins





**What** An area in the street where pedestrians can wait safe from traffic

**How** May be raised, planted, and/or painted area extending a few feet or a whole block

**Where** In the middle of streets or in wide turn radii

**Why** Increases pedestrian safety and channelizes vehicles safely

# PEDESTRIAN REFUGE







Pedestrian Refuge









# Curb

# Extension

(aka bulb out)

**What** Extension of the pedestrian space into the roadway

**How** Curb or protective barrier between the last legal parking space and the corner

**Where** Corners or mid block locations

**Why** Shortens pedestrian crossing distance and reduces their exposure to cars











**What** Signage that alerts drivers to the presence of pedestrians

**How** Eye catching signage

**Where** At mid-block crossings, high volume pedestrian crossings, near schools

**Why** Increases driver awareness and pedestrian safety

# PEDESTRIAN SIGNAGE





# LEADING PEDESTRIAN INTERVAL

**What** Walk signal appears several seconds before the traffic light turns green

**How** Signal timing allows pedestrians to start walking before drivers may enter intersection

**Where** At signalized intersections

**Why** Allows pedestrians more time to cross the street and drivers are more likely to see pedestrians







# Raised Intersection

**What** A gentle ramp that leads to a raised intersection

**How** With raised roadway material

**Where** Residential or minor streets

**Why** To slow traffic, puts pedestrians on the same level as vehicles







# RAISED CROSSWALK

- What** An extension of the sidewalk across the road to bring vehicles to pedestrian level
- How** With raised roadway or sidewalk material
- Where** High pedestrian areas, school zones
- Why** To prioritize pedestrians, increase their visibility, and slow vehicle speeds







# STREET TREES

**WHAT:** Trees planted along the edge of a street

**HOW:** Tree boxes and planting strips

**WHERE:** All streets

**WHY:** Canopy trees slow traffic by enclosing the street, reduce stormwater, provide shade, and make walking and shopping more enjoyable



Location: Denver, CO  
Source: Jeffery Beale