

# Traffic Calming -- Intersection Tools



## Tool Description

## Added Benefits

## Cost / Other

## Plan View

### Curb Extensions

Curb extensions are great tools for slowing speeds at intersections and midblock locations. They are often used in combination with other tools, such as refuge islands, or part of a modified intersection. They are very helpful to inset parking, meet ADA requirements and reduce pedestrian crossing times and distances.

### Main Street



Helps protect and preserve sight lines, eliminates illegal parking, helps assure emergency responder access to critical streets. Can be used for emergency responder operations area. Use to create chokers, chicanes, neckdowns.

### Neighborhood



Costs range from \$5-30,000 per corner. Costs are reduced if drainage is left open. This can increase maintenance costs, so these details must be worked out by a city/county team.



### Refuge Islands

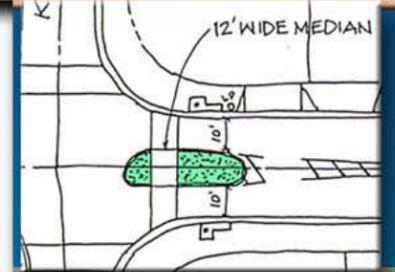
Refuge islands slow traffic in three ways. They visually tighten the road, slow turning speeds, and help create narrow channels. They separate conflicts, create 10' wide driving lane channels (when used with curb extensions), minimize pedestrian crossing conflict speeds.



Minimum preferred width 8.0 feet. Best when landscaping is used to help motorist see treatment in advance. Keep ADA ramps at grade or with light crown for drainage. Use full width ADA ramps, and create 45 degree bend, if midblock.



One of the most affordable tools. Does not affect drainage. Can be landscaped at added cost with or without irrigation. Used effectively in high pedestrian areas, such as schools, parks, stores.



### Modified Intersections

Modified intersections take back unwarranted asphalt, returning it as green space. Often motorists turn too fast when curb radii were made too wide for safety. Some intersections can be turned into small parks, greatly increasing safety, beauty and a gateway appearance.



Vastly improves sight distances. Helps many motorists get into difficult or unsafe intersections. Can serve as a small neighborhood park or gathering place, thus increasing association and security of the neighborhood.



Very popular as a gateway to a neighborhood, or any place where excessive asphalt exists. Very high return on investment, especially where pedestrian crossings are risky. Avoid ugly temporary treatments.



### Raised Intersections

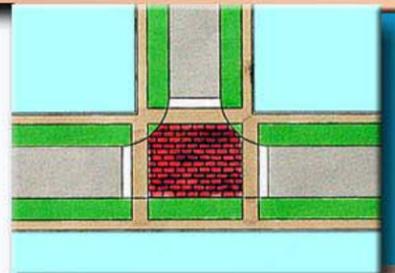
Raised intersections provide a colorful vertical intersection effect. They slow traffic in three ways. First they create an attractive, distinct shape. Second, they create a vertical deflection forcing a low speed approach. Third, they highlight the area as a pedestrian space.



Can be used with very tight and narrow intersections. Used where roundabouts cannot fit. Highly attractive. Requires good coordination with engineering, landscaping and architectural specialists.



Very popular as a gateway to a neighborhood, or any place where excessive asphalt exists. Very high return on investment, especially where pedestrian crossings are risky.



### Roundabouts, Mini- Roundabouts

Roundabouts and mini-roundabouts are the most effective and popular traffic calming feature. These horizontal deflection tools lower speeds to 15-20 mph, shorten pedestrian crossings to 12-14 feet at a time, decrease injury crashes about 90%, reduce noise and pollution, and increase area property values.



Roundabouts are excellent for entrances, intersections near schools, parks, gateways to downtowns, and many other locations. Always consider any time a signalized intersection is being funded.



Great range in costs. Mini-roundabouts can be \$10-50,000, while roundabouts can be \$50-500,000 for many sizes. Greatest safety benefit of all traffic calming tools.

