



ACCESS MANAGEMENT



More Information: tti.tamu.edu/policy/how-to-fix-congestion

Description

Access management is a set of street design techniques that control where vehicles may enter and leave the road. Examples include the spacing, design, and operation of driveways, turns, medians, and intersections. Properly designed access management reduces stop-and-go situations that lead to collisions.

Effective access management involves balancing the traffic movement and access to the properties along the road. When driveways are too close to intersections, traffic backups affect cross-street traffic flow and safety. In retrofit situations, public agencies must work with property owners to implement access management.

Target Market

Access management can be applied at any scale but focuses on the following:

- Driveways to developments (spacing, removing, and sharing).
- Turning movements on streets (restricting left turns, installing raised medians, and regulating frequency).
- Intersections (spacing).

TxDOT's *Access Management Manual* provides spacing standards for state facilities.

How Will This Help?

- **Maximizes efficiency** by increasing traffic flow and reducing congestion.
- **Increases safety** for drivers and pedestrians by reducing collisions caused by frequent speed changes and blind spots.
- **Preserves public investment** because roads operate as designed.
- **Improves the corridor's appearance** by providing landscaping opportunities and adding visual appeal.

Implementation Issues

Good access management begins early in development when techniques can be more easily included in the design. Retrofitting is difficult and costly, but possible. Business owners may have concerns about treatments hindering customers from reaching their location. Practitioners should work closely with business owners to address these concerns.

COST



TIME



SHORT

IMPACT



WHO



CITY/STATE

HURDLES



RETROFIT,
BUSINESS PERCEPTIONS

SUCCESS STORIES

Houston, Texas

Improvements to Westheimer Road, FM 518, and FM 1960, including **limiting left-turn movements, reduced crashes**



by up to **50%**

and traffic delay

by **13%**

Arlington, Texas

Raised median installation on FM 157 (Cooper Street) resulted in a nearly **50% lower crash rate.**

