INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

Description
Intersections are crucial to a street’s performance; they control a road’s speed, safety, cost, and efficiency. Accommodation of turning movements directly affects safety and efficiency, making left turns the key design factor in intersection improvement and operation. As such, intersection turn lanes are discussed as a separate strategy. However, other improvements can also be made to increase safety and capacity, reducing congestion on the road. The most common strategies include improving signal timing, removing elements that hinder sight distance, making drivers aware that they are approaching an intersection, and improving bicycle or pedestrian facilities at the intersection.

There are potential applications for intersections of many types: urban or rural, signalized or unsignalized, and major or minor streets. Raised medians, bicycle lanes, improved skew angles, reconfigured signal timing, and advance warning devices are all possible treatments to improve intersection safety and/or capacity.

How Will This Help?
- Maximizes capacity and decrease delay by allowing a smoother flow of traffic.
- Increases safety through fewer collisions, including those involving pedestrians and bicyclists.
- Saves money compared to intersection widening or reconstruction.

Implementation Issues
Intersection improvements can be costly if additional right-of-way is needed for the project. Space restrictions must be considered when choosing appropriate treatments that will meet future traffic needs.

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

SUCCESS STORIES
Advance Warning of End of Green System (AWEGS) resulted in...

45-50%
Red-light-running reductions in College Station.

25-38%
CRASH REDUCTIONS

The Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) cites two studies that showed...