

Traffic Calming Fact Sheets

May 2018 Update

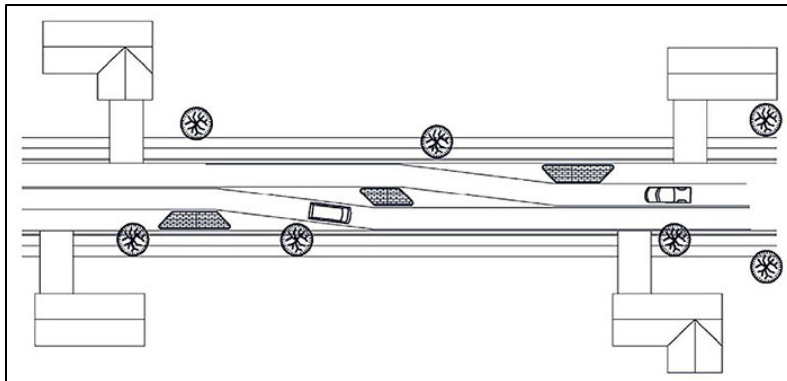
Lateral Shift

Description:

- Realignment of an otherwise straight street that causes travel lanes to shift in at least one direction
- A chicane is a variation of a lateral shift that shifts alignments more than once

Applications:

- Appropriate for local, collector, or arterial roadways
- Appropriate for one-lane one-way and two-lane two-way streets
- Appropriate on roads with or without dedicated bicycle facilities
- Maximum appropriate speed limit is typically 35 mph
- Appropriate along bus transit routes



(Source: Delaware Department of Transportation)



(Source: Google Street View)

ITE/FHWA Traffic Calming EPrimer: https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/speedmgt/traffic_calm.cfm

Design/Installation Issues:

- Typically separates opposing traffic through the shift with the aid of a raised median
- Applicable only to mid-block locations
- Can be installed on either open- or closed-section (i.e. curb and gutter) roads
- Location near streetlights preferred
- May require drainage feature relocation
- Should not require utility relocation

Potential Impacts:

- Without islands, motorists could cross the centerline to drive the straightest path possible
- No impact on access
- May require removal of some on-street parking
- Limited data available on impacts on speed, volume diversions, and crash risk
- Provides opportunities for landscaping
- Can provide locations for pedestrian crosswalks

Emergency Response Issues:

- Appropriate along primary emergency vehicle routes or on streets with access to hospitals/emergency medical services, provided vehicles can straddle the street centerline

Typical Cost (2017 dollars):

- Reported costs range between \$8,000 and \$25,000