

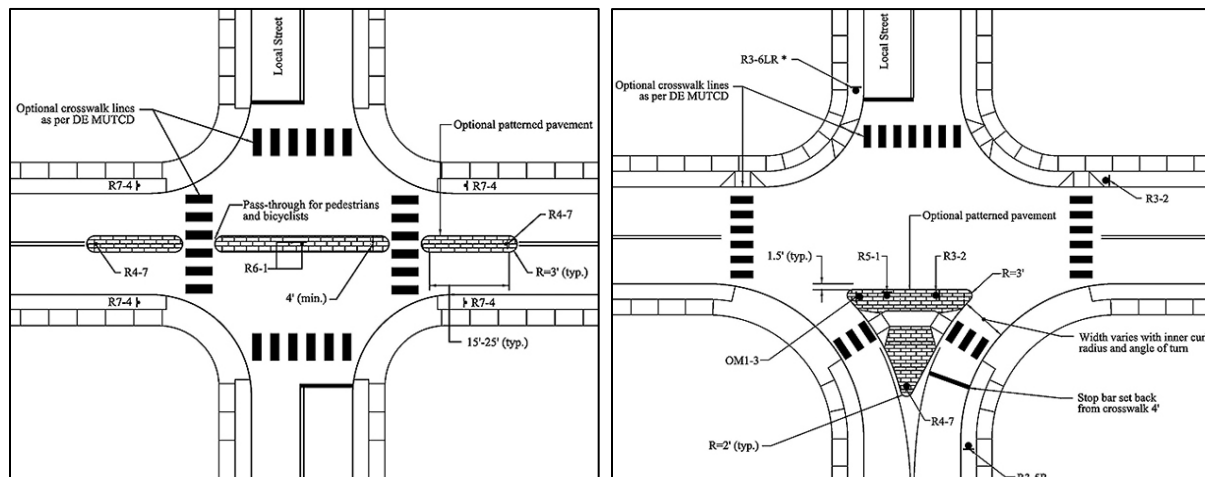
Median Barrier/Forced Turn Island

Description:

- Raised islands along the centerline of a street and continuing through an intersection that block the left-turn movement from all intersection approaches and the through movement from the cross street; also called median diverter, intersection barrier, intersection diverter, and island diverter
- Raised island that forces a right turn is called a forced turn island

Applications:

- For use on arterial or collector roadways to restrict access to minor roads or local streets and/or to narrow lane widths
- Typically applied only after other measures have failed or been deemed inappropriate/ineffective
- Barriers are made passable for pedestrians and bicyclists
- Often used in sets to make travel to/through neighborhoods more circuitous



(Source: Delaware Department of Transportation)

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

Design/Installation Issues:

- Potential legal issues associated with blocking a public street (e.g., business/emergency access)
- Placed on major roads on approaches to and across intersections with minor roads
- Should extend beyond the intersection to discourage improper/illegal turn movements
- Barriers may consist of landscaped islands, mountable features, walls, gates, side-by-side bollards, or any other obstruction that leave an opening smaller than the width of a passenger car

Potential Impacts:

- May divert traffic volumes to other parallel and/or crossing streets
- May require removal or shortening of on-street parking zones on approaches/departures
- May impact access to properties adjacent to intersection
- No significant impacts on vehicle speeds beyond the approaches to intersection

Emergency Response Issues:

- Restricts emergency vehicle access using minor street
- Can be designed to allow emergency vehicle access

Typical Cost (2017 dollars):

- Cost between \$1,500 and \$20,000, depending on length and width of barriers