



# Median Barrier



## DESCRIPTION:

Median barriers, sometimes called median diverters, involve the construction of permanent raised islands along the centerline of a street. The median islands are extended through an intersection to effectively block cross street through traffic and left turning movements. Gaps in the island can permit bicycle and pedestrian access.

## APPLICATION:

Median barriers are effective at addressing high volume, high speed, and cut through traffic. The median barrier prohibits both through traffic and left turning movements at two of the four intersection approaches. This essentially creates a right in right-in/right-out condition which can make travel through a neighborhood more circuitous.

## Advantages

- Discourages cut through traffic
- Reduces speeds and volume in immediate area
- May improve intersection safety by eliminating vehicular conflict points

## Disadvantages

- Delays emergency vehicles
- Traffic diverted to adjacent streets may create new traffic problems
- Increased travel time and out of direction travel for local residents
- May increase u-turning movements and encourage wrong way travel
- May require additional right of way and/or impact on street parking

## Effectiveness Scorecard

	Speed	
	Volume	
	Cut-through	
	Crashes	
	Emergency Vehicle	
	Pedestrian	
	Bicycle	
	Noise	
	Cost	\$\$\$\$

Very Good  
 Good  
 Fair  
 Poor  
 Not Applicable



## Quick Glance

