



Signed Turn Restrictions



DESCRIPTION:

Regulatory movement prohibition signs (conforming to R3 1, R3 2, R3 3, R3 4, R3 18, or R3 27 of the MUTCD) are placed at intersections to prevent turning movements associated with cut-through traffic patterns.

APPLICATION:

On neighborhood streets where a problem of cut-through traffic has been documented, movements at intersections feeding the cut-through route may be restricted by signage so that traffic is routed to a more appropriate collector or arterial. If the problem is documented to occur mainly during a certain period, such as morning or afternoon school drop-off times, the movement prohibition can be posted to apply only during those hours.

Turn prohibitions are most effective when placed on an arterial or collector on the periphery of a neighborhood to prevent cut-through traffic from entering the neighborhood. Wherever posted, an assessment should be made of the resulting downstream route as well as alternate cut-through routes to assure that the problem is not just pushed to another location or neighborhood.

Prohibitions are most effective when limited to posted hours. For full-time movement prohibitions, physical measures are more effective and appropriate.

In other cities, violation rates have been shown to be about 50 percent in the absence of enforcement. The violation rate can be lowered 20 percent with active enforcement.

Advantages

- Effective in addressing time-of-day cut-through traffic problems.
- Movement prohibition signs are relatively easy and low cost to install.
- Movement prohibition signs do not slow or divert emergency vehicles.

Disadvantages

- Compliance is low for signs alone without enforcement.
- May increase trip length for some drivers.
- May adversely affect downstream or adjacent traffic patterns.
- Signs require regular maintenance. Signs must be replaced approximately every 8 years.

Effectiveness Scorecard

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

Very Good
 Good
 Fair
 Poor
 Not Applicable



Quick Glance

