Pedestrian Improvements Glossary

IMPROVED LIGHTING

Pedestrian-Scale Lighting
Lighting specifically oriented toward pedestrians that is often lower in height and spaced closer together than traditional roadway lighting.

TREES & LANDSCAPING

Trees and Landscaping
In addition to providing shade and a more comfortable walking experience, trees and landscaping provide space between cars and pedestrians and can produce a traffic calming effect by encouraging motorists to drive at slower speeds, reducing the severity of crashes.

WIDER SIDEWALKS

Wider Sidewalks
Widening sidewalks provides a more comfortable space for pedestrians, particularly in locations with many pedestrians and provides space to accommodate street furniture such as bus benches and shelters.

MORE FREQUENT CROSSINGS

Marked Crosswalks
Marked crosswalks provide designated areas for pedestrians to cross, which concentrates pedestrians where drivers expect to see them, and may include additional enhancements such as signage.

IMPROVED CROSSWALKS

Advanced Stop Bars and Yield Lines
Horizontal stripe before a crosswalk to indicate where drivers should stop in advance of a crosswalk. Improves safety by increasing the buffer between vehicles and pedestrians in the crosswalk.

Curb Extensions / Bulb-outs
An extension of the sidewalk into the street to reduce pedestrian crossing distances and make pedestrians more visible to vehicles.

Median Refuge Island
Sections in the center of the roadway for pedestrians to wait safely mid-crossing and that shorten crossing distances across wider roadways.

Flashing Beacons
Pedestrian-activated beacons at crosswalks used to warn oncoming motorists of pedestrians using the crosswalk when there are no signals or stop signs.

Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon
Pedestrian-activated signal heads at mid-block crosswalks used to notify oncoming motorists to stop for pedestrians crossing in the crosswalk.

Raised Crosswalk

A pedestrian crosswalk that is typically elevated 3-6 inches above the road or at sidewalk level. Improves safety by increasing crosswalk and pedestrian visibility and slowing down motorists.
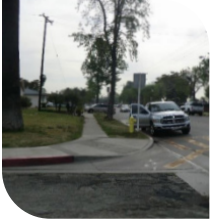
Improved Intersection Sight Distance

Removes parking at intersection approaches to provide increased visibility of motorists and pedestrians entering the intersection. a bicycle or pedestrian in a crosswalk.
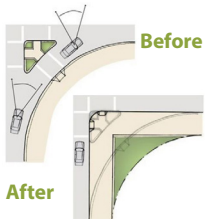
Remove Slip Lane

Modifies the corner of an intersection to remove the sweeping right turn lane for vehicles, resulting in shorter crossings for pedestrians, reduced speed for turning vehicles, better visibility, and space for landscaping and other amenities.

ENHANCED PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS AT TRAFFIC SIGNALS

Pedestrian Countdown Signals

Displays "countdown" of seconds remaining for the pedestrian to cross the street safely.

Longer Crossing Times

Increases time for pedestrians to walk across the street, especially to accommodate vulnerable populations such as children and the elderly.

Leading Pedestrian Intervals

A signal timing strategy that allows people to start crossing the street while vehicles still have a red light to give them a head start.

ACCESSIBLE PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES

Directional Curb Ramps

A separate curb ramp and landing for each direction of crosswalk that allows pedestrians with disabilities to be aligned with the crossing direction while waiting to cross the street.

Audible Push Buttons

Accessible pedestrian signals, including audible push buttons, improve access for pedestrians who are blind or have low vision.

SLOWING VEHICLES DOWN (I.E., TRAFFIC CALMING TREATMENTS)

Speed Bumps/Cushions

Rounded and raised areas placed across the road to slow vehicles down. The design includes two-wheel cutouts designed to allow emergency vehicles and buses to pass with minimal slowing.

Speed Feedback Sign

A device that utilizes radar to measure and display the speed of passing vehicles. Improves safety by providing a cue for drivers to check their speed and slow down, if necessary.

FEHR ⚘ PEERS