

Urban Road Safety Program

Mid-block Treatments

What are mid-block treatments?

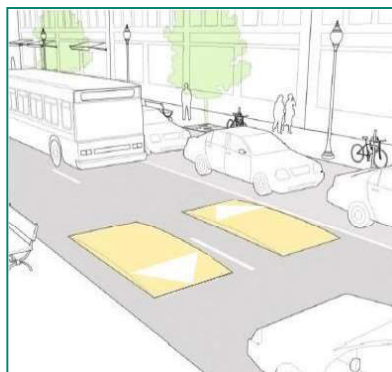
Mid-block treatments take a variety of forms but commonly aim to reduce vehicle speed and discourage non-local through traffic, while improving amenity. Mid-block treatments require adequate sight distance along a roadway to provide time for road users to modify their behaviour, such as slowing down on approach.

Mid-block treatments are most effective when applied in sets, as the repetition along a road corridor reinforces their traffic calming impact.

These treatments may incorporate pedestrian crossings or refuges, and carefully considered design and appropriate signage is essential to ensure road users understand who has priority in each situation.

What do they look like?

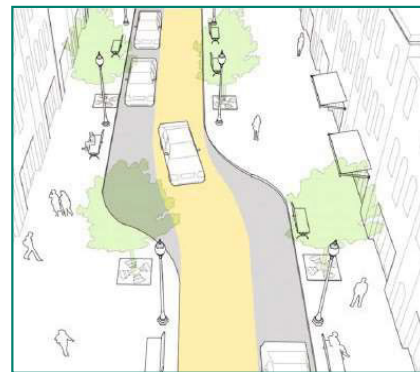
Speed cushions



Speed humps



Chicanes



Deviation islands



Centre blister islands



Median islands



Images source: NACTO Global Street Design Guide

What impact do they have?

Mid-block treatments are typically of medium to higher cost than other low-cost road treatments but they can have a high positive impact on crash and speed reduction, as well as local amenity.



What design features need to be considered?

The spacing of treatments is critical to minimise speed fluctuations along a street. This is achieved by delivering a series of treatments at regular intervals, with the closer the treatments the lower the speed profile achieved, thereby reducing the likelihood of a severe crash outcome.

Mid-block treatments must also be designed to allow for either the safe passage of a cyclist and a vehicle side-by-side (3.7 metres or more) or the passage of a vehicle or cyclists only (3.0 metres or less). Widths in between these two levels create squeeze points and result in conflict between road users.

Where can I find further information?

This is just one of the treatments being constructed on local government-managed roads as part of the Low Cost Urban Road Safety Program, funded by the State Government.

For further information on the program, visit Main Roads website at:

<https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/technical-commercial/local-government-funding/road-safety-programs/>