

# Acknowledgement

[http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle\\_pedestrian/publications/sidewalks/chap4b.cfm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/sidewalks/chap4b.cfm)

Designing Sidewalks and Trails for Access  
Part II of II: Best Practices Design Guide

Revisions to ADAAG: Chapter 4 Ramps and Curb Ramps



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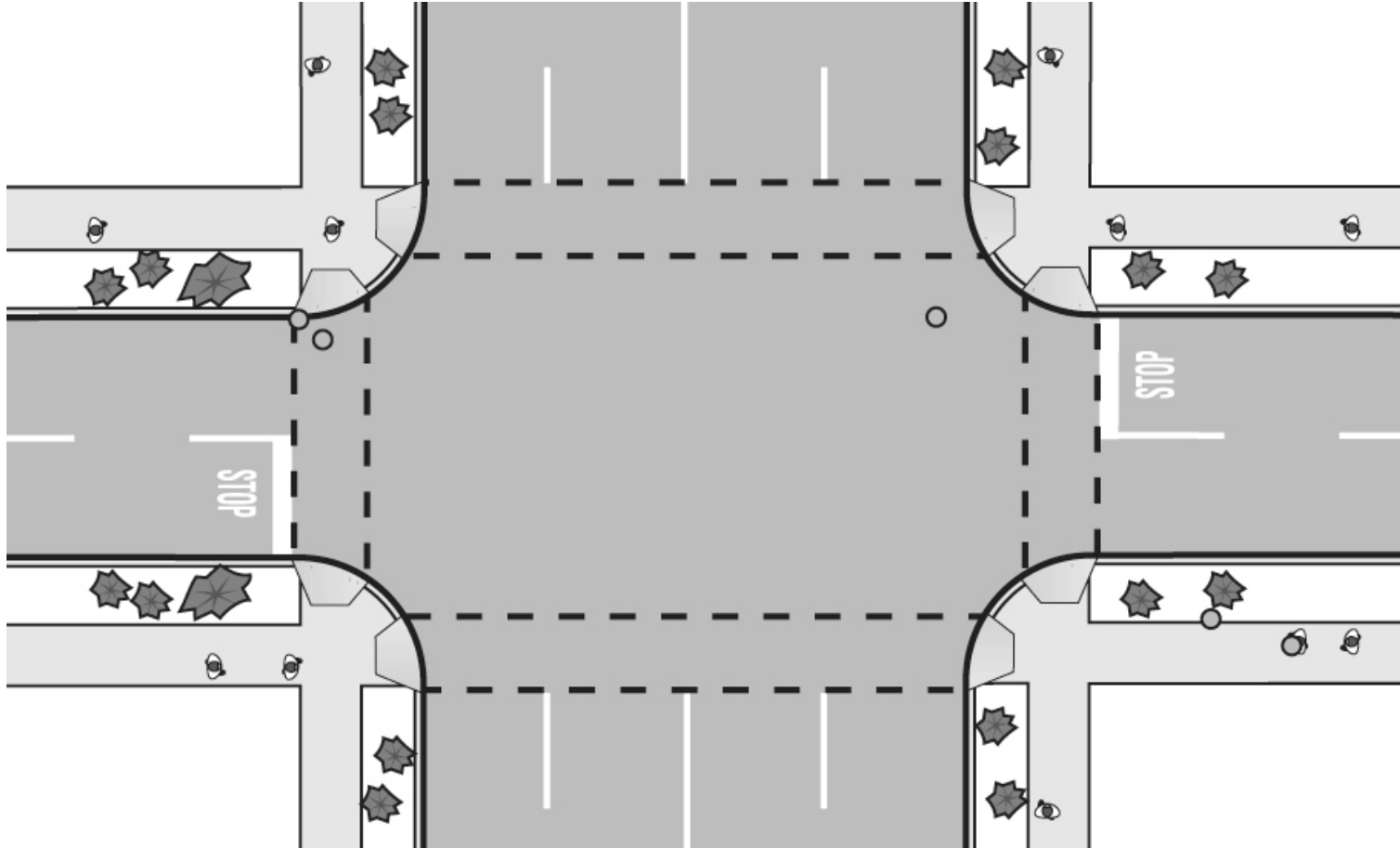
# Pedestrian Access Route

# Pedestrian Access Route

- Curb Ramps
- Sidewalks
- Crosswalks
- Signal Activation
- Work Zones
- Parking spaces
- Parking Lots
- Ingress/egress to buildings

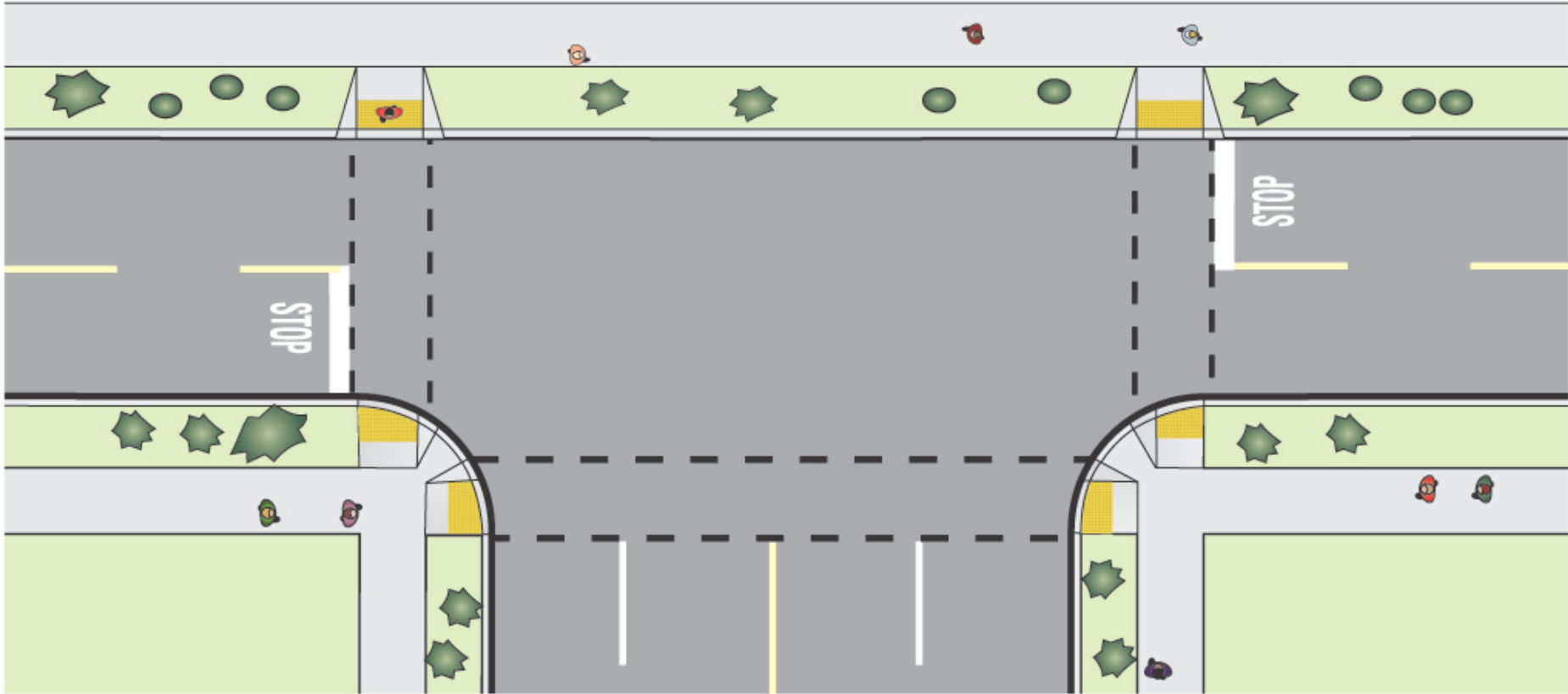


# Crosswalks Defined



**Ramps MUST be provided at every legal crosswalk (even if you think it's "unsafe")**

# Crosswalks Defined



# Curb Ramps and Transitions

Devil is in the Details

Cross Slopes

# Built Environment

- Construction Tolerances
- Cross slopes
- Ramps
- Curb Ramps
- Intersections



# Cross Slope Construction

- Portland Cement Concrete tolerance is +0.2 percent
- Training of contractors and inspectors really important!!

*Providing the least possible slope below the 1:12 (8.33%) maximum offers better usability for a wider range of users. Specifying a running slope of 7.5% maximum and a cross slope of 1.5% maximum for exterior ramps will accommodate most irregularities or variances due to construction methods or materials according to a study sponsored by the Access Board (“Dimensional Tolerances in Construction and for Surface Accessibility” by David Kent Ballast.)*





# Cross Slope

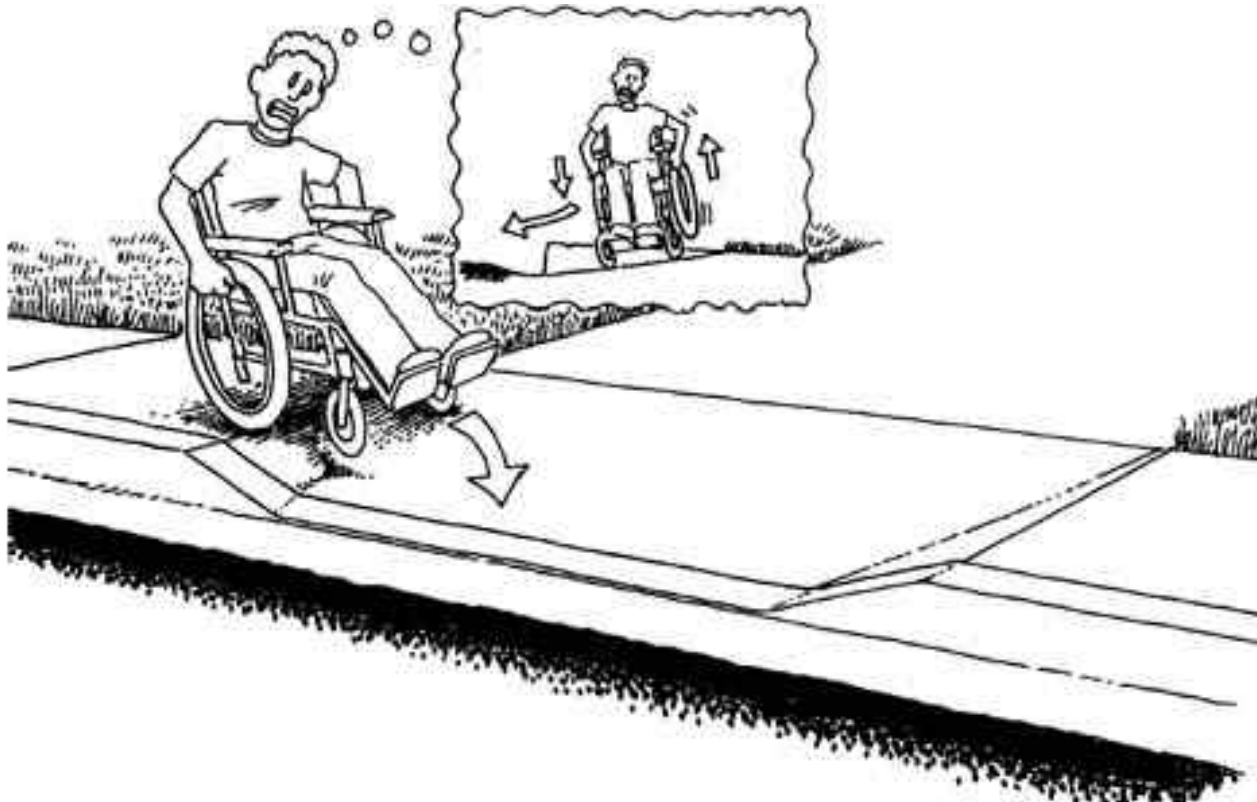
- Running cross slope is average cross slope over a distance of about 2 feet
- Rapid changes in cross slope are hazardous
- Don't need a cross slope on a ramp (it will drain!)
- 1.5 % ODOT
- 2.0% ADAAG<sup>1</sup>



1. ADA Standards for Accessible Design



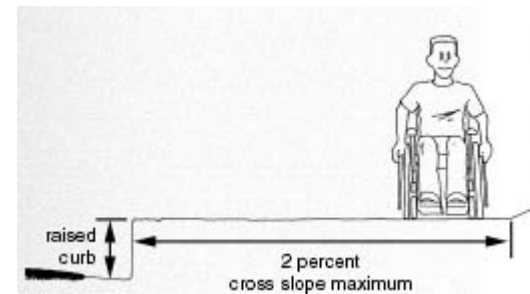
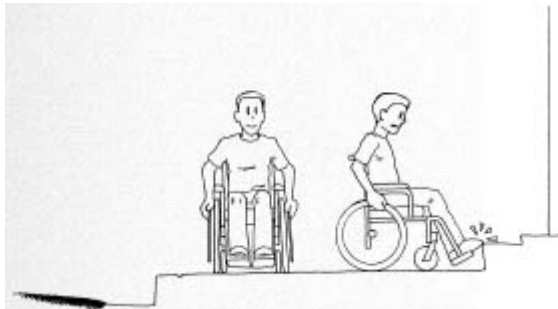
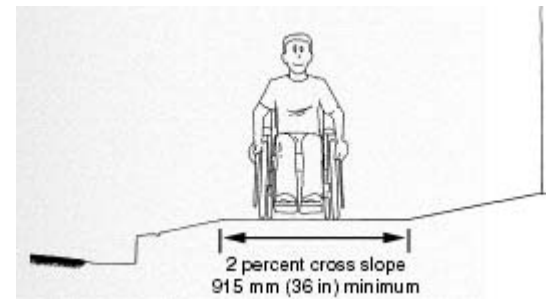
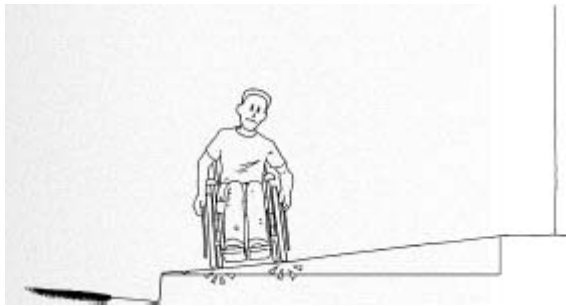
# Cross Slope Management



# Other Cross Slope Issues

## Street –Building Interfaces

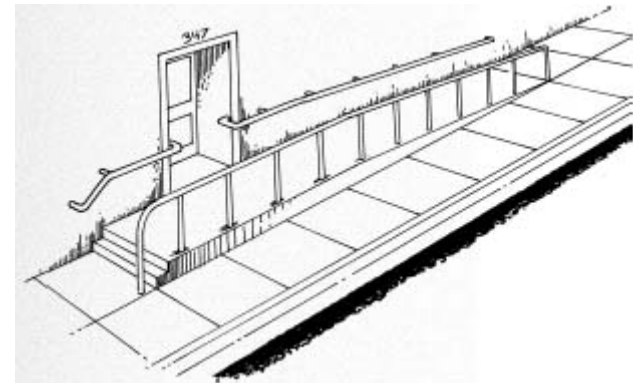
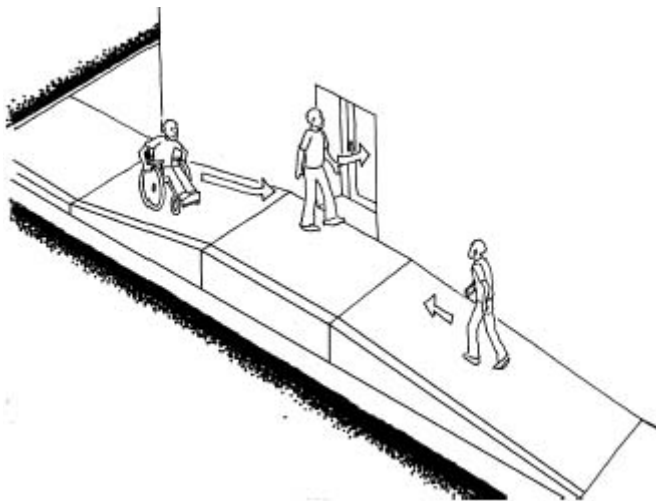
## Suggested Mitigation



# Unintended Consequences

Parked cars may not be able to open doors

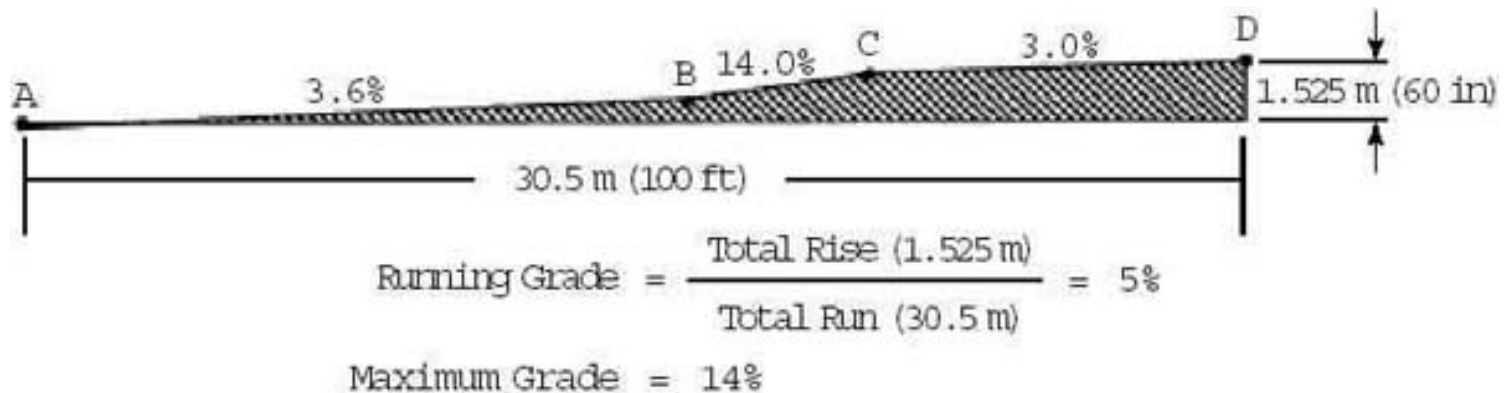
Better design



# Ramp Slopes

Maximum grades can make a sidewalk difficult to traverse, even if the overall running grade is moderate.

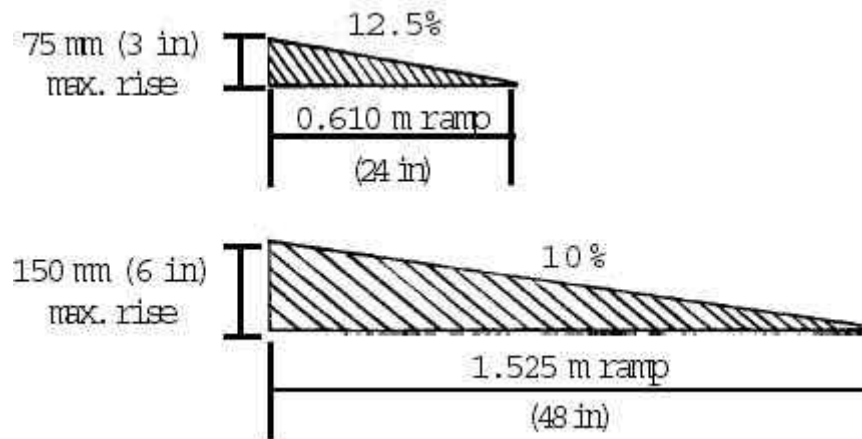
[[http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle\\_pedestrian/publications/sidewalks/chap4a.cfm#acc](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/sidewalks/chap4a.cfm#acc)]



# Ramp-Slopes

8.33% ( 1:12) max except:

- For max 6 inch rise – slope up to 10% ( 1:10)
- For 3 inch rise up to 12.5% ( 1:8)
- Maximum single run is 15 feet



# RAMPS

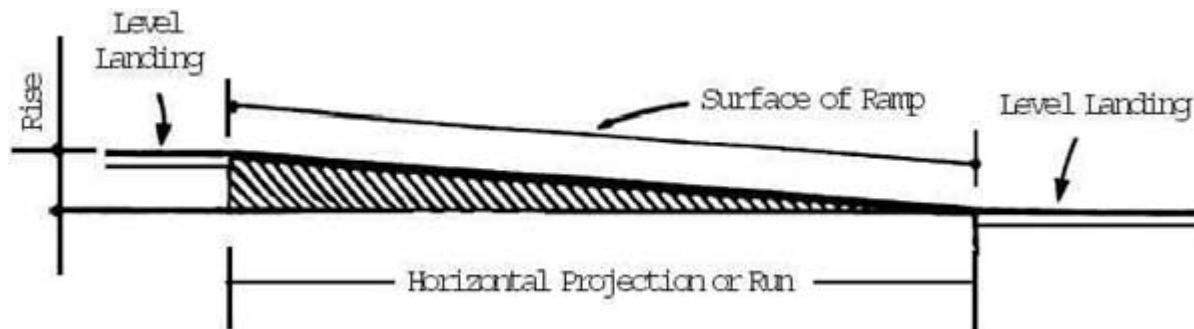
Long ramps must have LEVEL landings

( vertical rise must be 30 inches max.

that would be a horizontal distance of 360 feet!)

Must provide level rest areas-How many ?

=24





# Reality - Newport, OR





# Curb Ramps

- Landing –Level
- Approach on accessible path
- Flare: sloped transition

(Not on accessible path, but still may be hazard for low vision)

- Ramps: transition
- Gutter

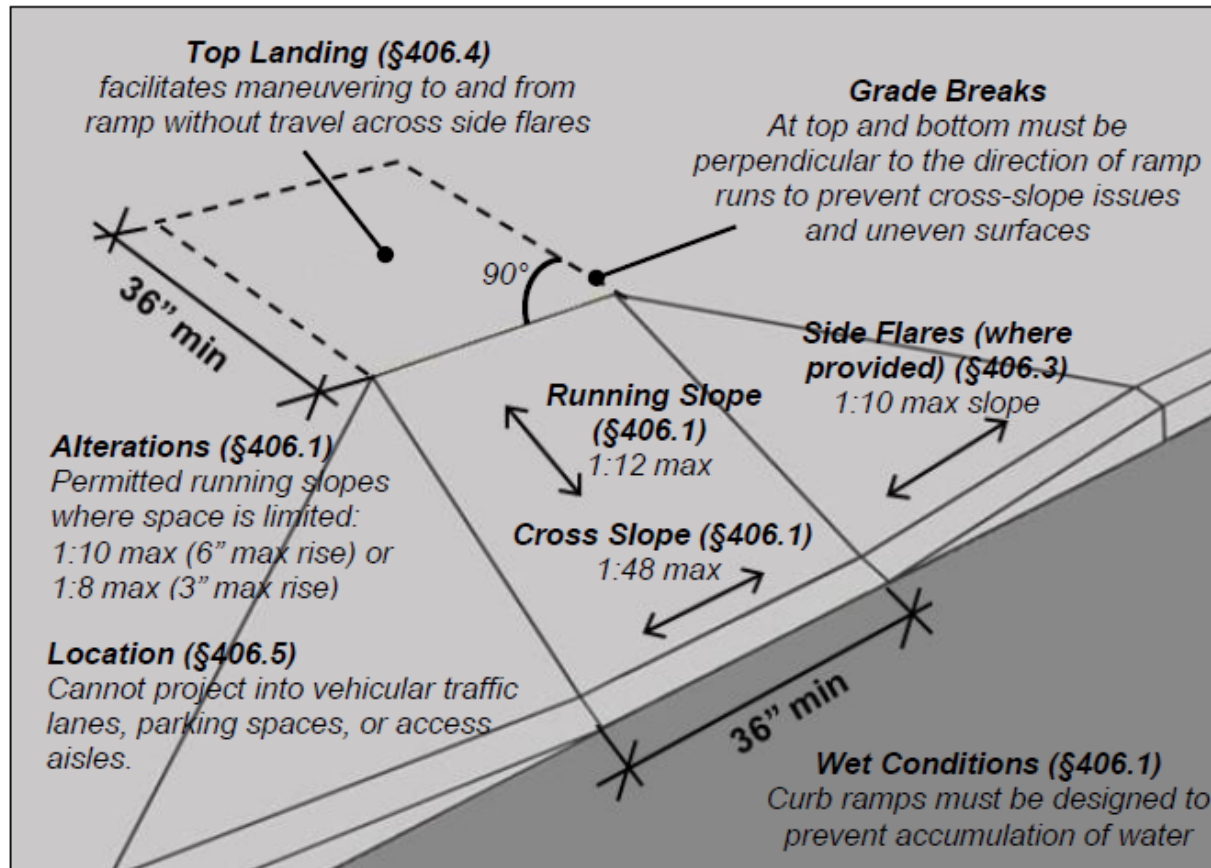


# Curb Ramps

- Size to accommodate volume (match sidewalk width)
- At least 48" wide (does not include flares)
- AASHTO: 39 inches
- Ramps that are too wide or gradual – problem for low vision
- Need 2 ft. wide detectable warning (domes) near or at bottom of ramp



# Curb Ramps



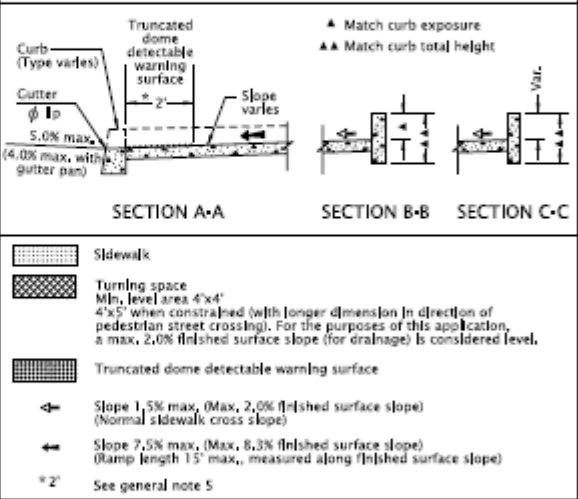
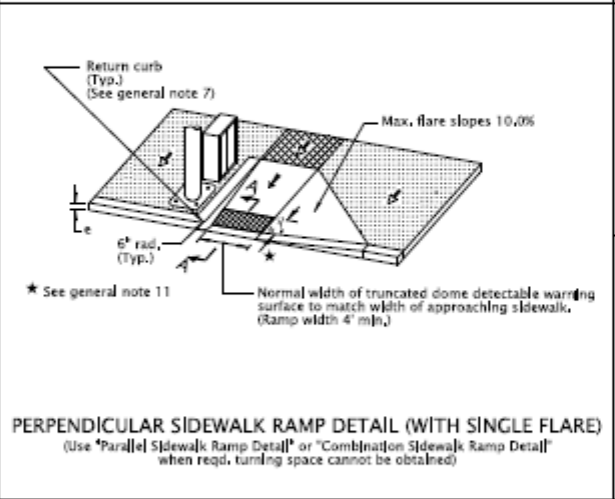
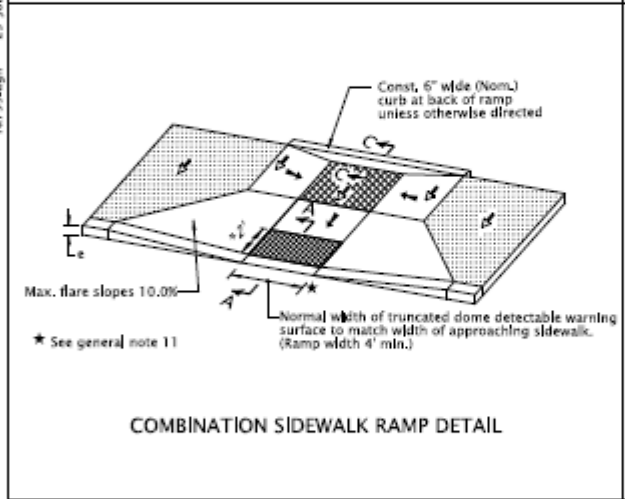
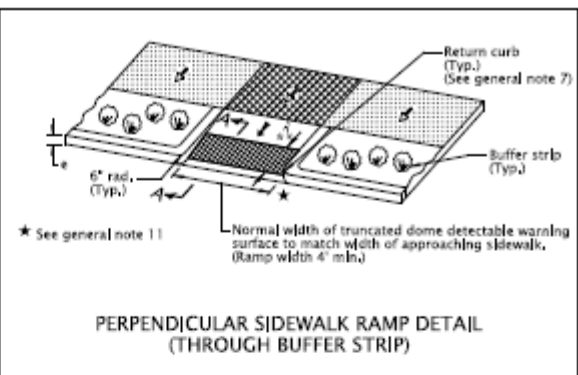
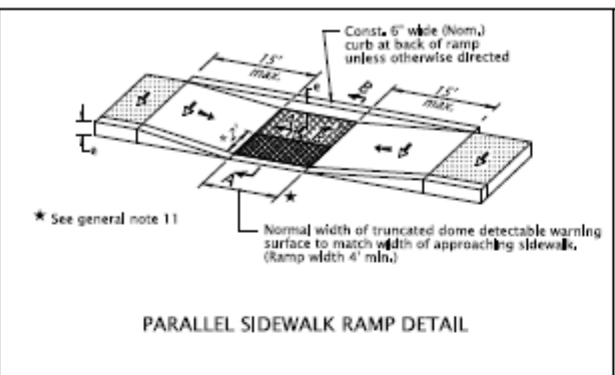
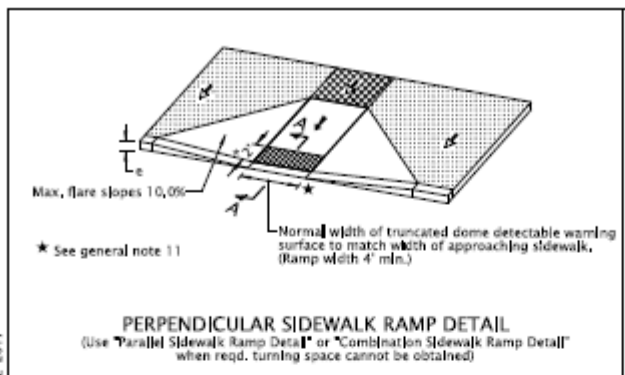
[ADAAG Chapter 4 Ramps and Curb Ramps]



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# ODOT Standard Drawing for Sidewalk Ramp Detail

RD755.dgn 25-JUL-2017



**GENERAL NOTES FOR ALL DETAILS:**

- Sidewalk ramp details are based on United States Access Board Standards.
- See Std. Dwg. RD700 & RD701 for curbs. See Std. Dwg. RD720 for sidewalks. See Std. Dwg. TMS03 & TMS30 for crosswalk markings, widths, etc.
- Tooled joints are required at all sidewalk ramp slope break lines.
- Sidewalk curb ramp slopes shown are relative to the true level horizon (Zero bubble).
- Place truncated dome detectable warning surface in the lower 2' adjacent to traffic of throat of ramp only. For details not shown, see Std. Dwg. RD759.
- Side flares that are not part of the path of travel may be any slope.
- Return curb may be provided in lieu of flared slope only if protected from cross travel by landscaping or fixed barrier.

- For the purpose of this drawing, a curb ramp is considered 'perpendicular' if the angle between the longitudinal axis of the ramp and a line tangent to the curb at the ramp center is 75° or greater.
- Ramps for paths intersecting a roadway should be full width of path, excluding flares. When a ramp is used to provide bicycle access from a roadway to a sidewalk, the ramp should be 8' wide.
- For sidewalk ramp placement options, see Std. Dwg. RD756 & RD757.
- Check the gutter flow depth at ramp locations to assure that the design flood does not overtop the back of sidewalk at ramp. If overtopping occurs place an inlet at upstream side of ramp or perform other approved design mitigation.
- Only use details allowed by jurisdiction.
- Site conditions normally require a project specific design. See project plans for details not shown.

CALC. BOOK NO.	N/A	ISSUE REPORT DATE	23-JAN-2017
NOTE: All material and workmanship shall be in accordance with the current Oregon Standard Specifications.			
<b>OREGON STANDARD DRAWINGS</b>			
<b>SIDEWALK RAMP DETAILS</b>			
DATE	2018	DESIGN DISCIPLINE	

*The selection and use of this Standard Drawing, while designed in accordance with generally accepted engineering principles and practices, is the sole responsibility of the user and should not be used without consulting a Registered Professional Engineer.*

RD755



# ODOT Pay Limits

## Pay Limits

Pay Limits include all ramp elements including ramp runs and turn spaces, PLUS the next adjacent sidewalk transition panels and two feet out into the street in front of the ramp (red areas).



Make grade transitions outside the pay limits



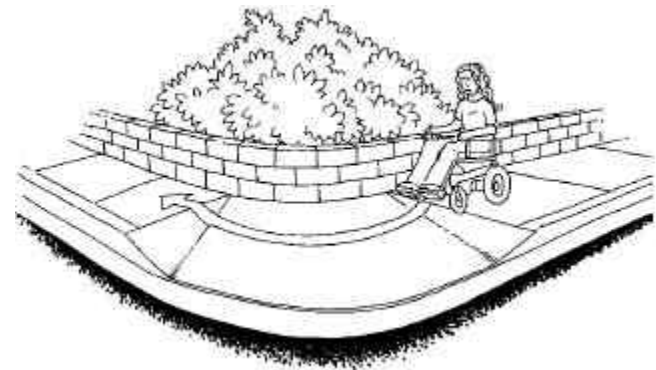
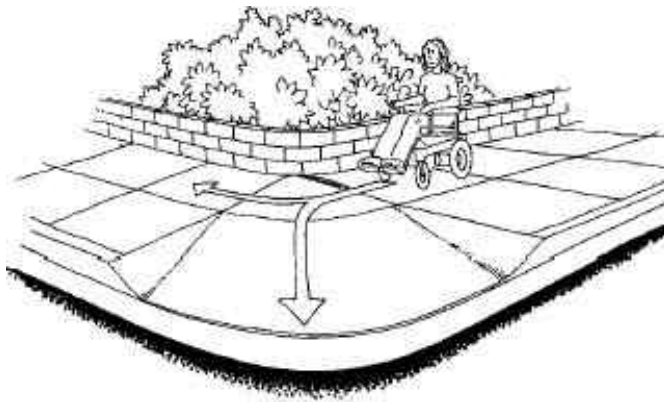
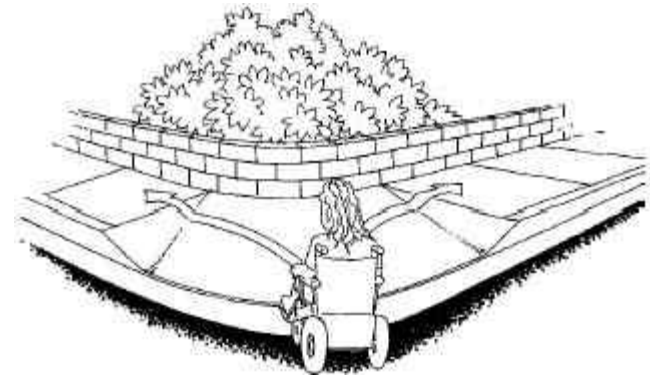
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# Landing

- Must be level
- Minimum width ~~36 inches~~  
48 inches preferred

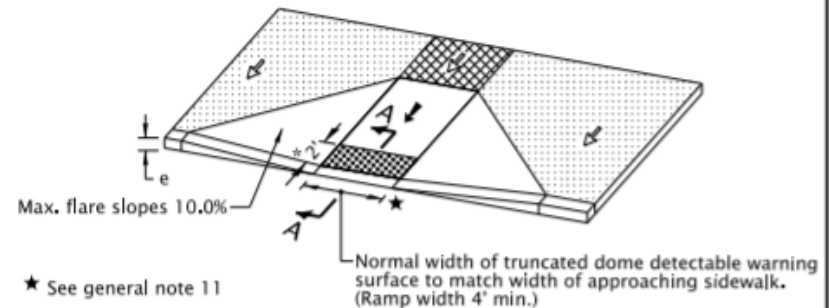
{What might be a problem here? What could be a mitigation?}

- Ooops!



# FLARES

- Problem for distracted and low vision pedestrians
- NOTE: that ODOT standard is 48 inches not 36 inches for Landing
- Best if detectable by cane



**PERPENDICULAR SIDEWALK RAMP DETAIL**  
(Use "Parallel Sidewalk Ramp Detail" or "Combination Sidewalk Ramp Detail" when reqd. turning space cannot be obtained)

[ADAAG Chapter 4 Ramps and Curb Ramps]

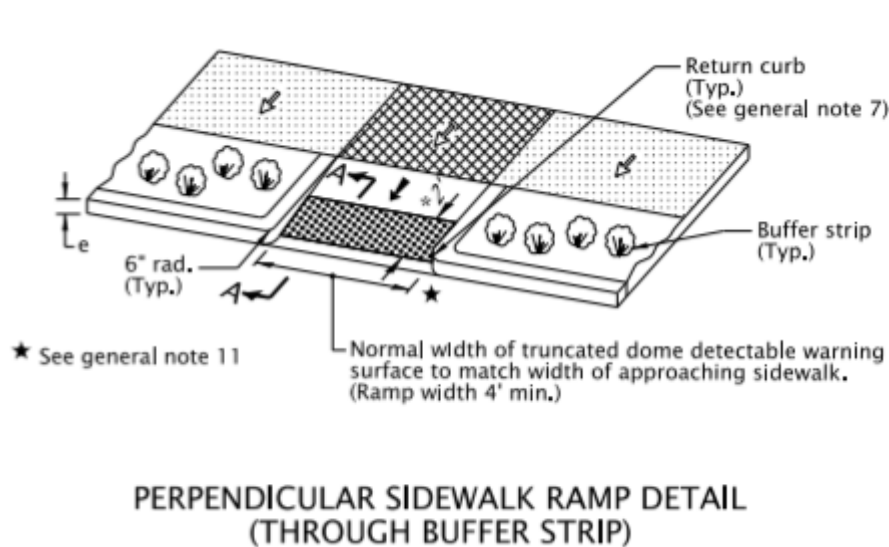


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# Good Flare Design

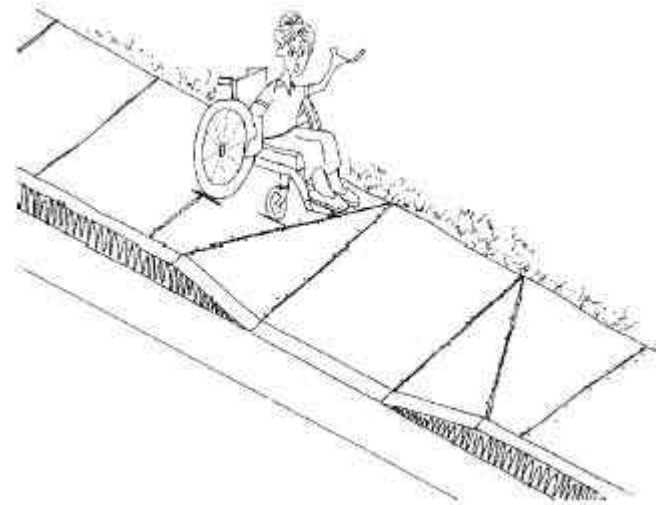
- Planting strip
- Detectable –cues and clues





# Curb Ramp Types

- Perpendicular to curb face-need level landing
- Curb extension many additional benefits
- Parallel
- Diagonal
- Perpendicular - no landing



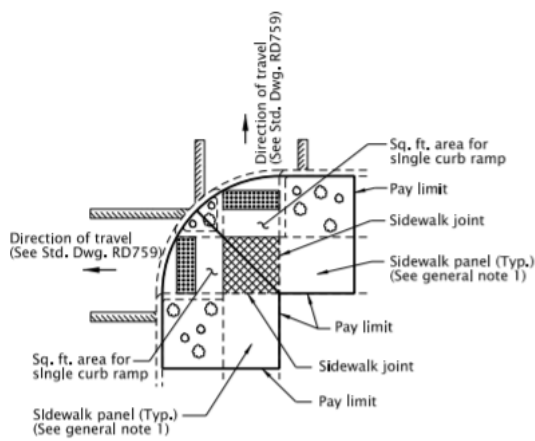


Perpendicular

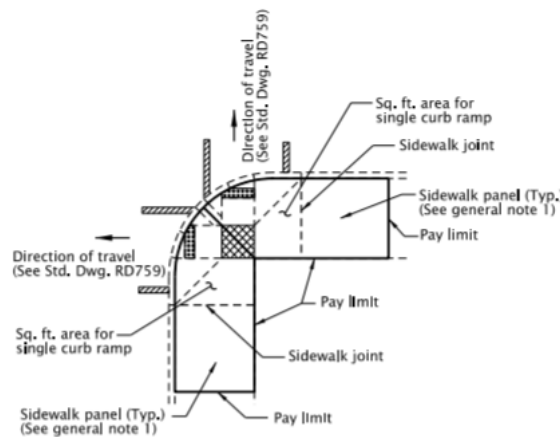


# Perpendicular

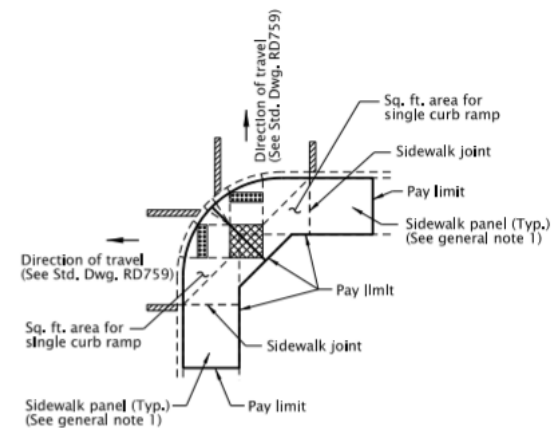
- Aligned with crosswalk
- Landings
- { What improvements do you suggest? }



OPTION A  
PERPENDICULAR RAMPS WITH LANDSCAPED BUFFER STRIP  
(Ramp width 4' min.)



OPTION B  
PERPENDICULAR RAMPS (FOR WIDE SIDEWALKS)  
(Ramp width 4' min.)



OPTION C  
PERPENDICULAR RAMPS (FOR NARROW SIDEWALKS)  
(Ramp width 4' min.)

ODOT Standard drawing RD 752.








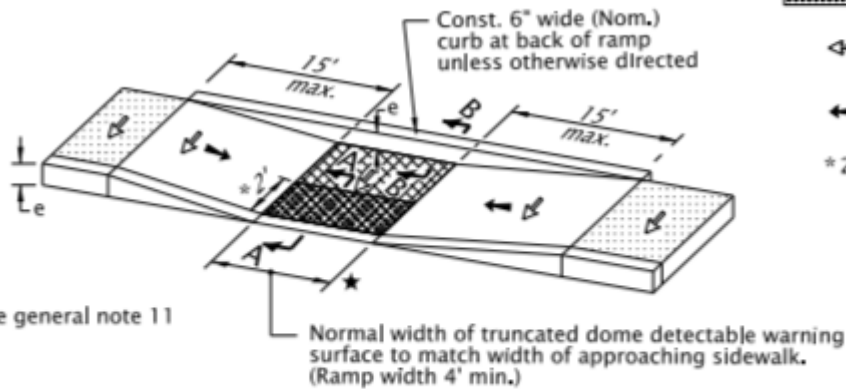


Parallel

# Parallel Curb Cuts

- May have ponding/debris problems
- Two ramp grades
- Detection

	Sidewalk
	Turning space Min. level area 4'x4' 4'x5' when constrained (with longer dimension in direction of pedestrian street crossing). For the purposes of this application, a max. 2.0% finished surface slope (for drainage) is considered level.
	Truncated dome detectable warning surface
	Slope 1.5% max. (Max. 2.0% finished surface slope) (Normal sidewalk cross slope)
	Slope 7.5% max. (Max. 8.3% finished surface slope) (Ramp length 15' max., measured along finished surface slope)
$\pm 2'$	See general note 5

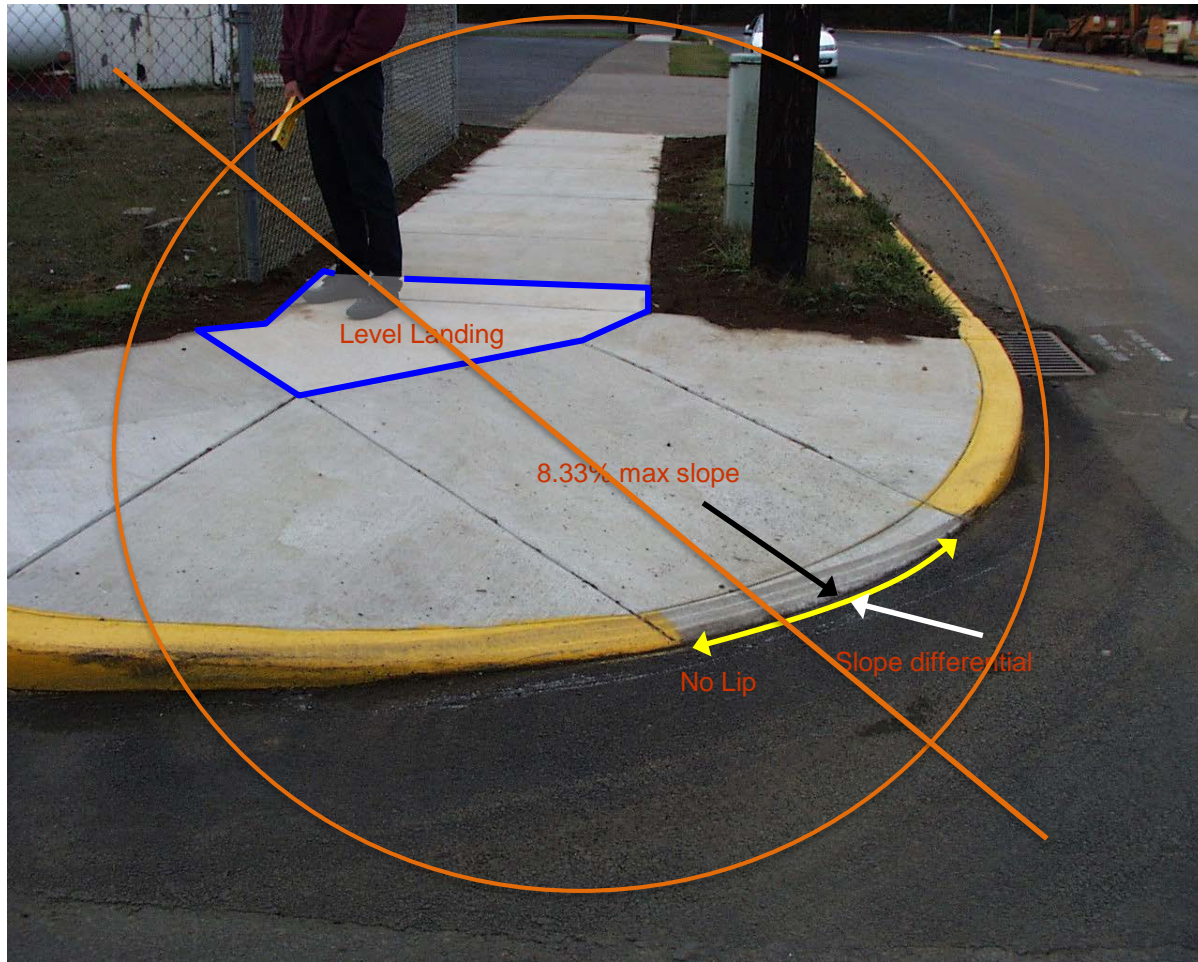


★ See general note 11

PARALLEL SIDEWALK RAMP DETAIL



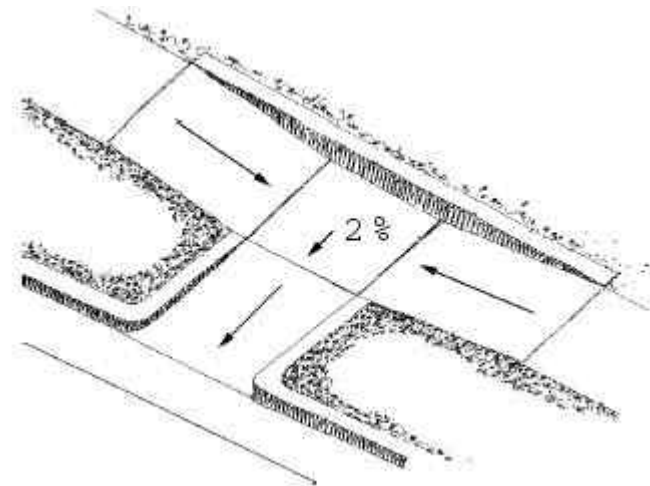




Diagonal

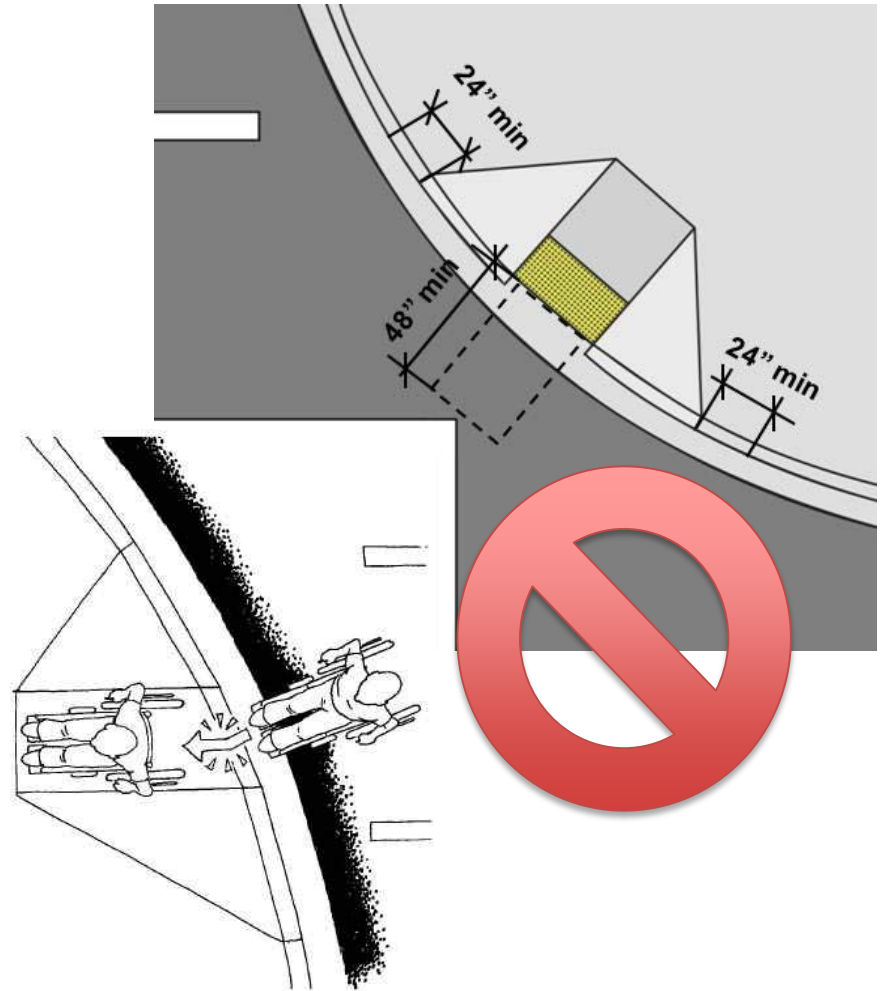
# Combination Curb Ramps

- Both perpendicular and parallel
- Reduce ramp grades on sidewalk



# Diagonal Curb Cut

- Must have clear space
- Problematic for low vision and distracted users
- Large radius curves a problem {Why?}
- Users have to turn at transition

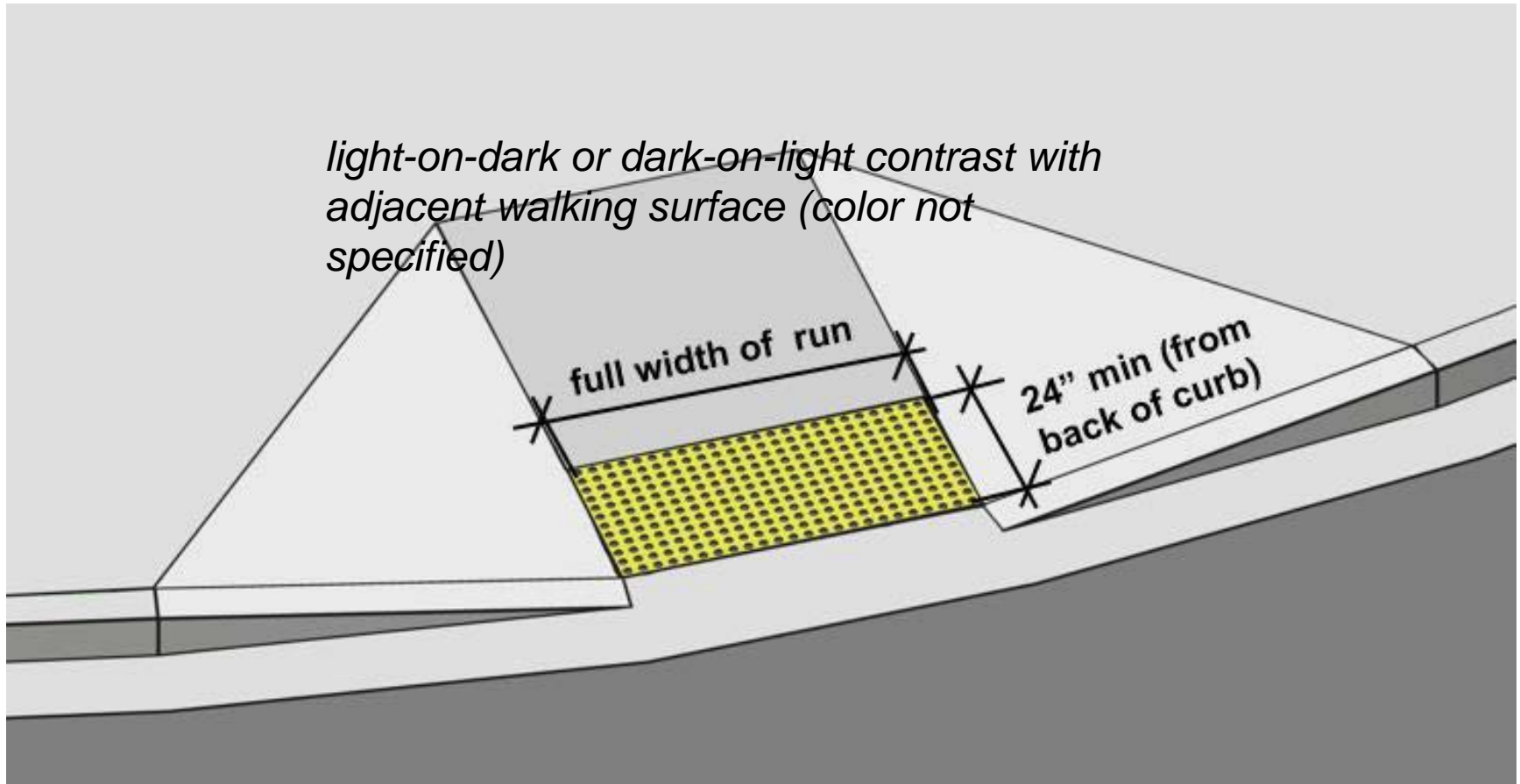






Mid-Block

# Detectable Warnings



[ADAAG Chapter 4 Ramps and Curb Ramps]



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# Lips

Preferred

0" lip

Allowable

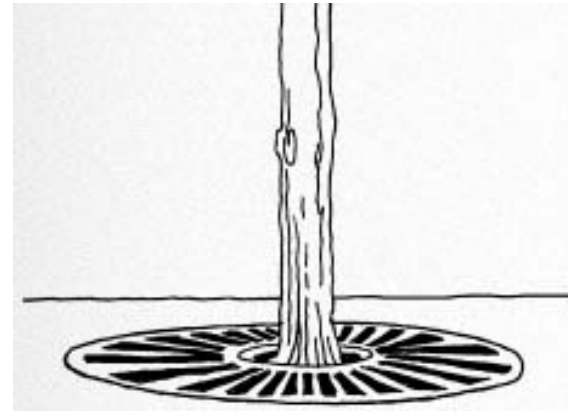
1/4" lip

Lips are more critical.  
They can catch a  
wheel, cane or walker  
tip.



# Gaps and Grates

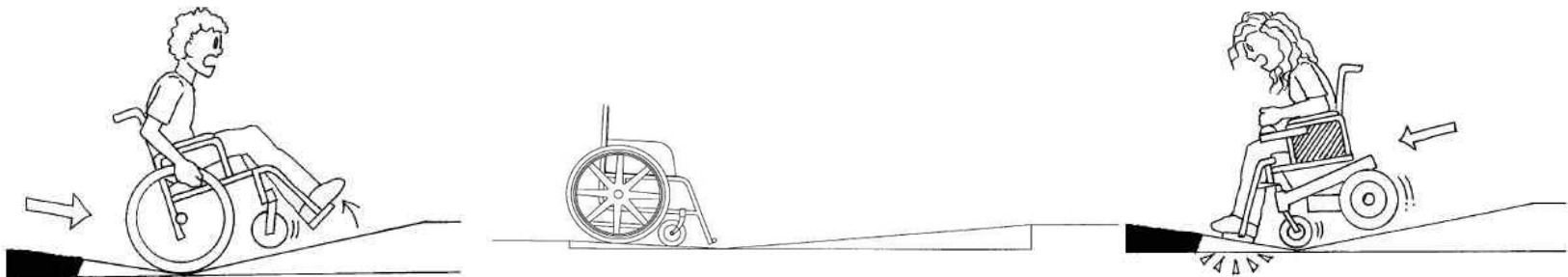
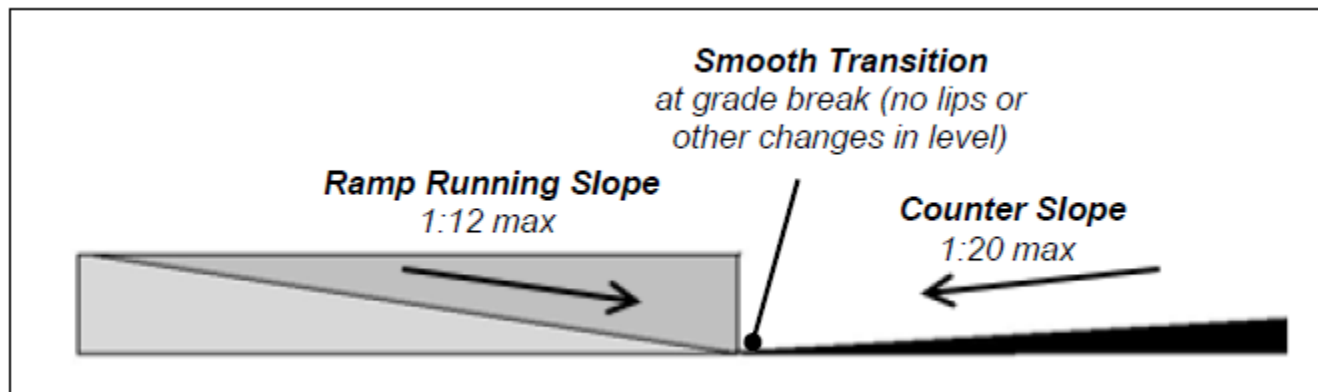
- Openings less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch sphere
- Long dimension perpendicular or diagonal to travel - may have conflict if in bikeway





# Gutters

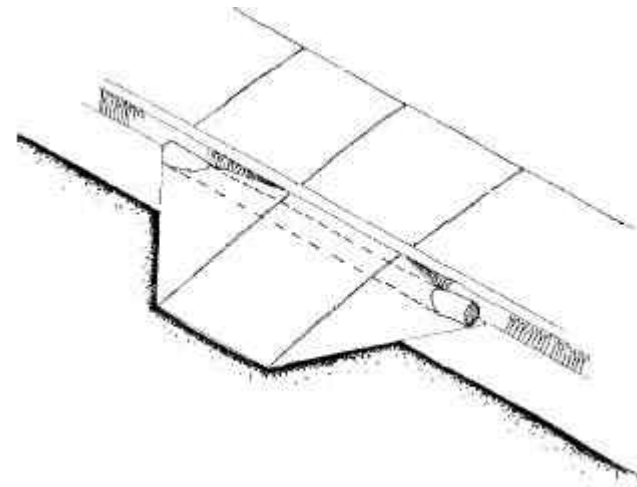
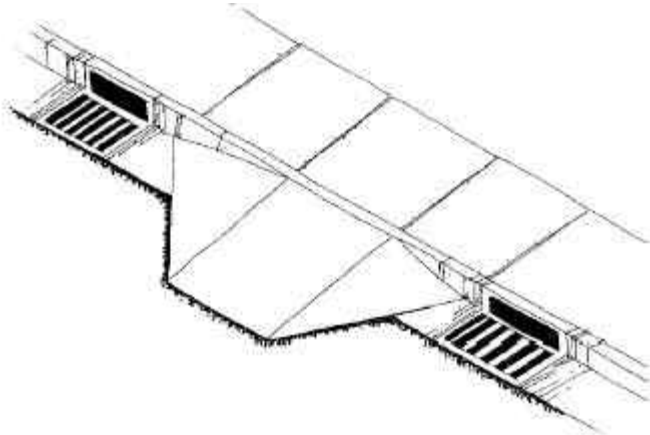
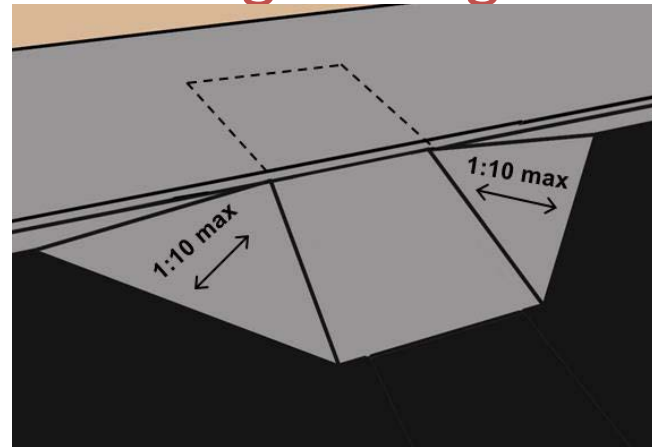
The gutter slopes counter to the slope of the curb ramp to promote drainage.



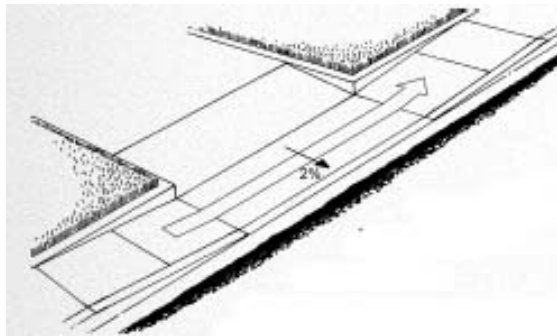
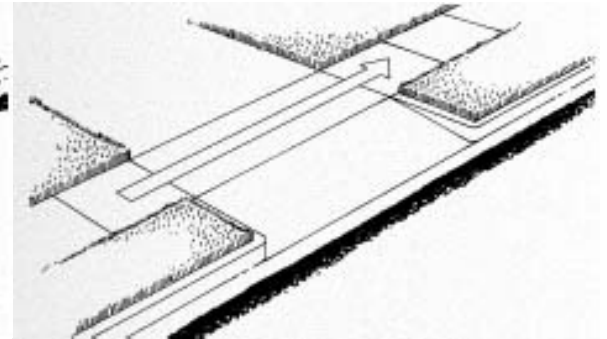
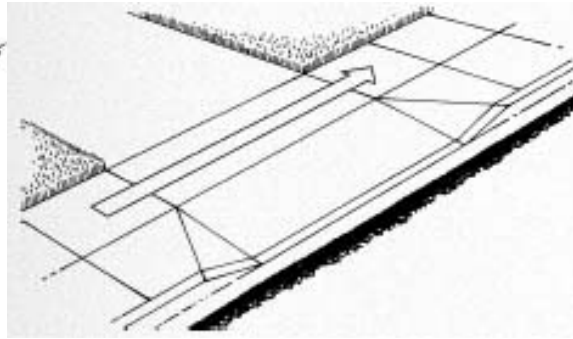
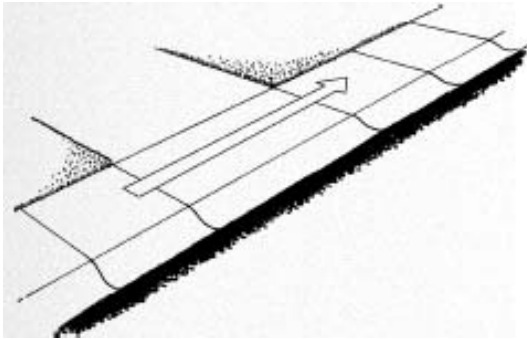
# Built Up Curb Ramps

- Perpendicular
- Narrow Sidewalks
- Low vision user challenges
- Cannot extend into vehicle or bike lanes
- Drains

Where does detectable warning belong?



# DRIVEWAYS

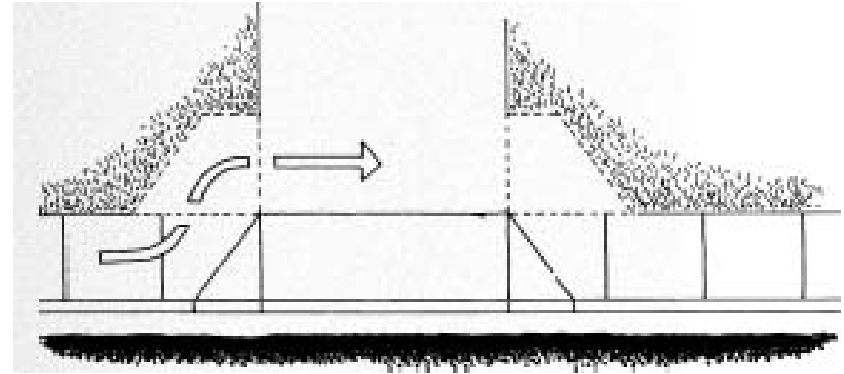
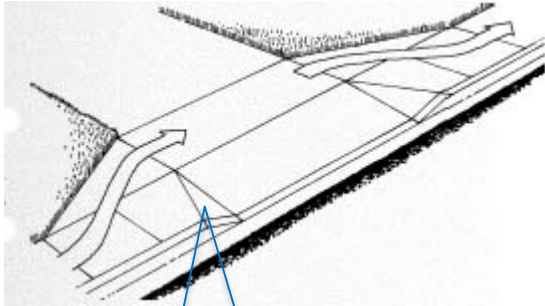


What are the challenges with these designs? Which is the better? And why?

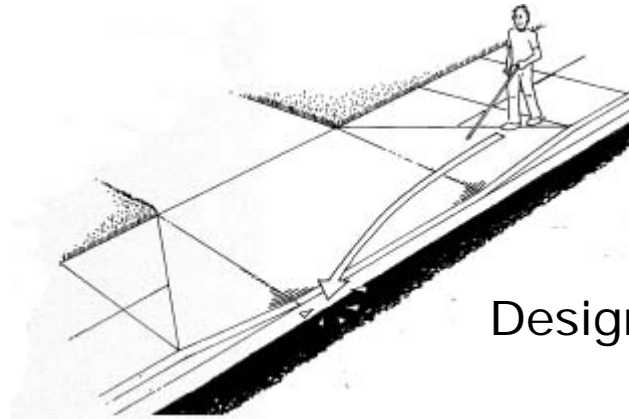


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# Driveway Challenges



I am blind! cues  
and clues?



Design Flaw



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# Intersection Questions

- Is my destination curb straight in front of me, or must I angle to the left or right to reach it?
- How many streets intersect here?
- How wide is this street?
- Should I expect to encounter any islands or medians as I cross this street?
- Am I standing within the crosswalk?
- Is there a pedestrian push button?
  - Can I find it?
  - Can I reach it?



# Intersections and the Vision Impaired

- **Use good geometry, so they can track their way across approaches & through intersections**
- **Place crosswalks where they are expected - in line with curb cuts and sidewalks**
- **Avoid locations where the crossing points may not be readily apparent to motorists, especially at corners with a large radius**
- **Provide audible pedestrian signals**
- **Use special surface texture at curb-cuts to identify crosswalk**



# Possible Solutions

- Clearly detectable crossings
- Delineated paths of travel
- Clear indication of useable gaps in traffic
  - Enforcing vehicles to stop for pedestrians
  - Traffic calming, flashing beacons
- Relocation of crossings
- Future challenges of electric vehicles



# Geometric Design Impacts on Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS)

- Large curb radii- reduced space for APS
  - Higher operating speeds
  - Longer crossing distances
  - Lack of Pedestrian visibility
- Right Turn on Red
  - Confusing cues for Pedestrians with low vision



# Tighten Curb Radii

## Traffic Calming

- Slower turning speed
- Increase space for pedestrians to wait
- Shortens street crossing distance and time
- More audible cues



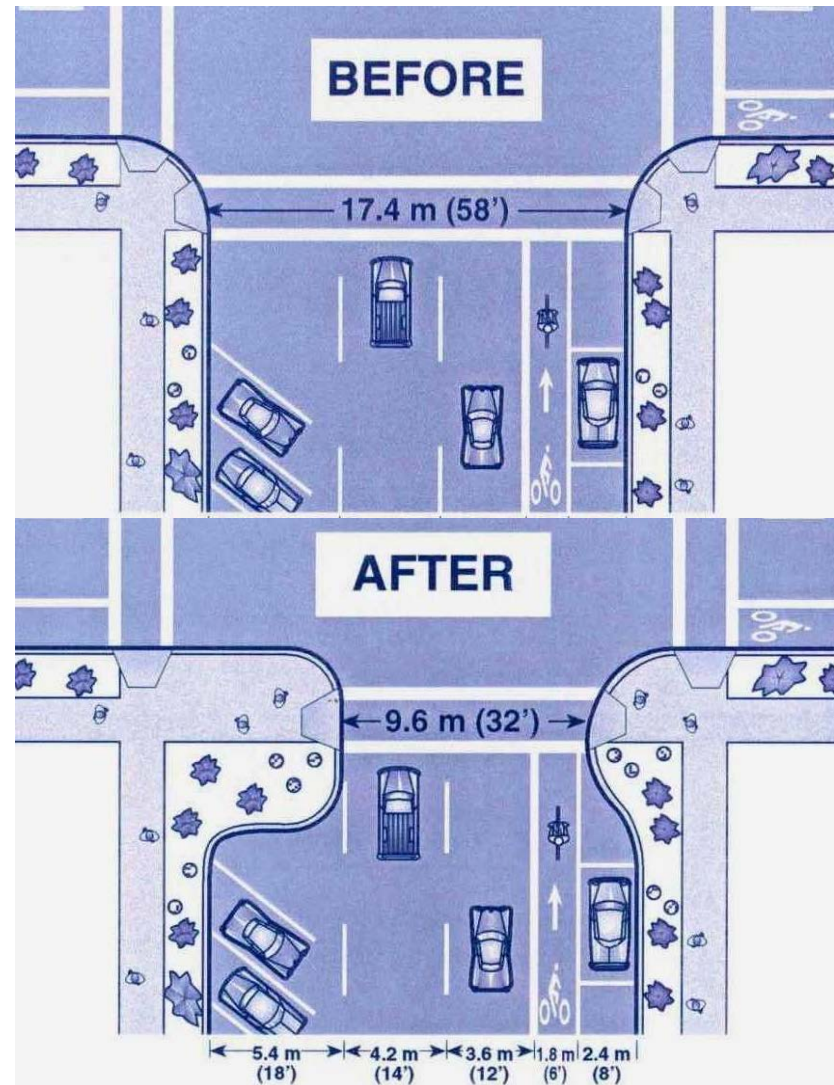
# Characteristics of a Good Intersection

- Tight
- Simple
- Slow speed
- Good visibility
- Easy to understand
- If complex, break it up
- **NO FREE-FLOW MOVES!**



# Curb Extensions

- Most focus has been on reducing crossing distance
- Other advantages
- Better visibility (both ways)
- Traffic calming
- Room for street furniture
- Additional on-street parking (huh?)







# Curb ext + tightened radius slow cars



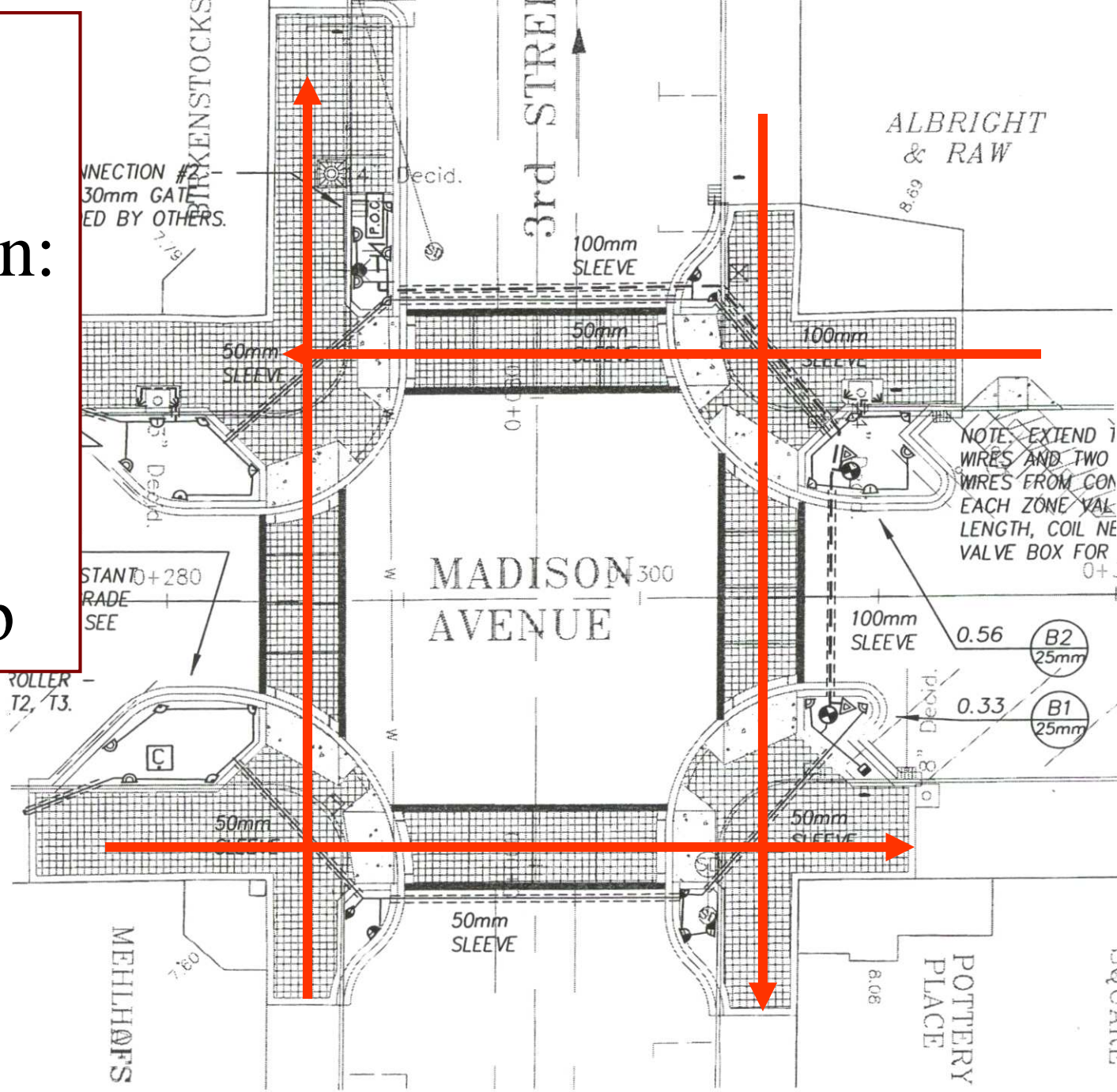


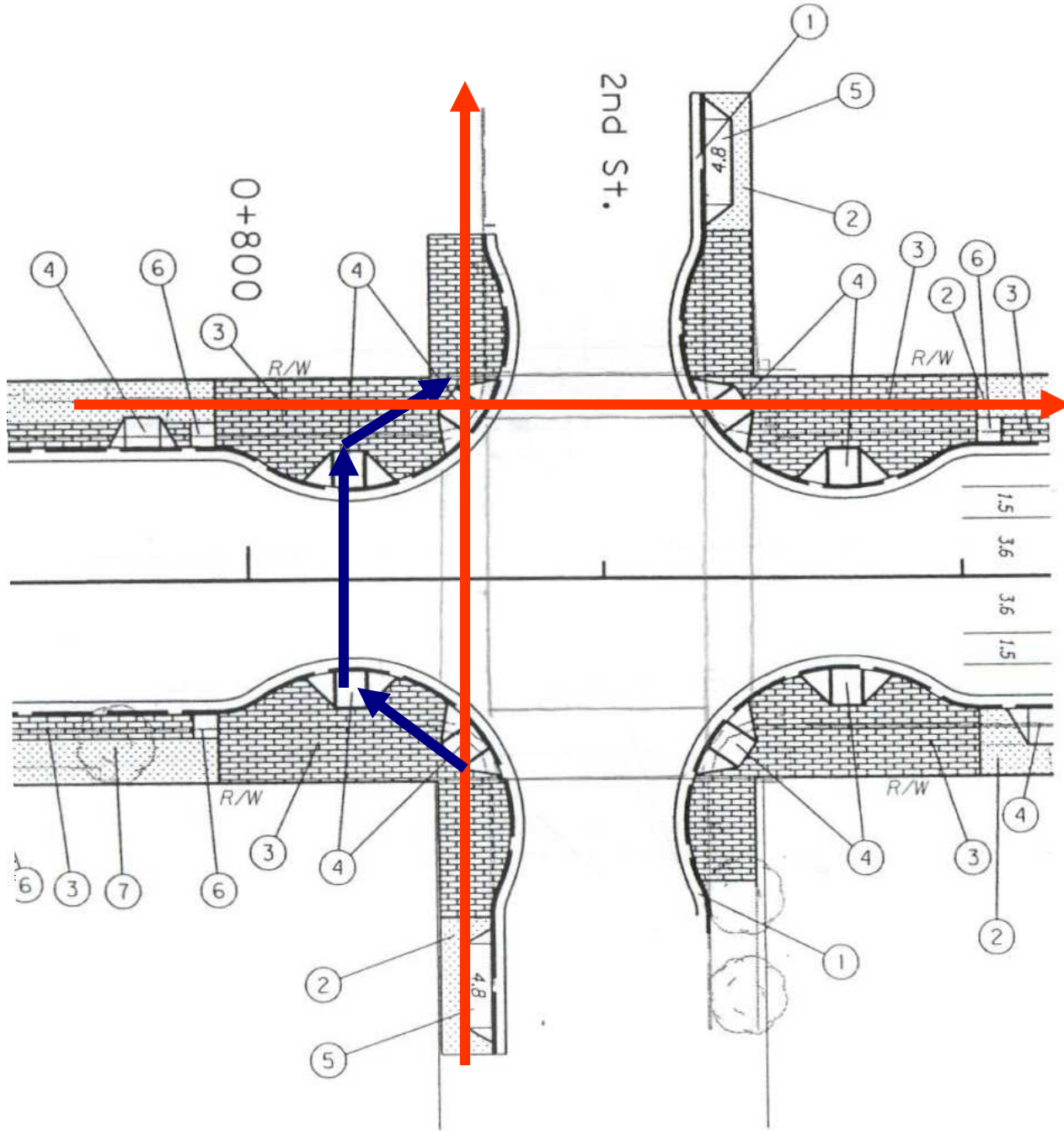
Somehow, trucks make it...





Important design consideration: crosswalks, ramps & sidewalks must line up





- ④ Const. Sidewalk Option A (For Details, See...)
- ⑤ Const. P.C. Conc Option F (Mod. (For Details, See...))
- ⑥ Const. Tree Well (For Details, See...)
- ⑦ Remove Extg. T (By Others)

HOW DO YOU FIX THIS?





PLEASE  
DON'T  
LITTER

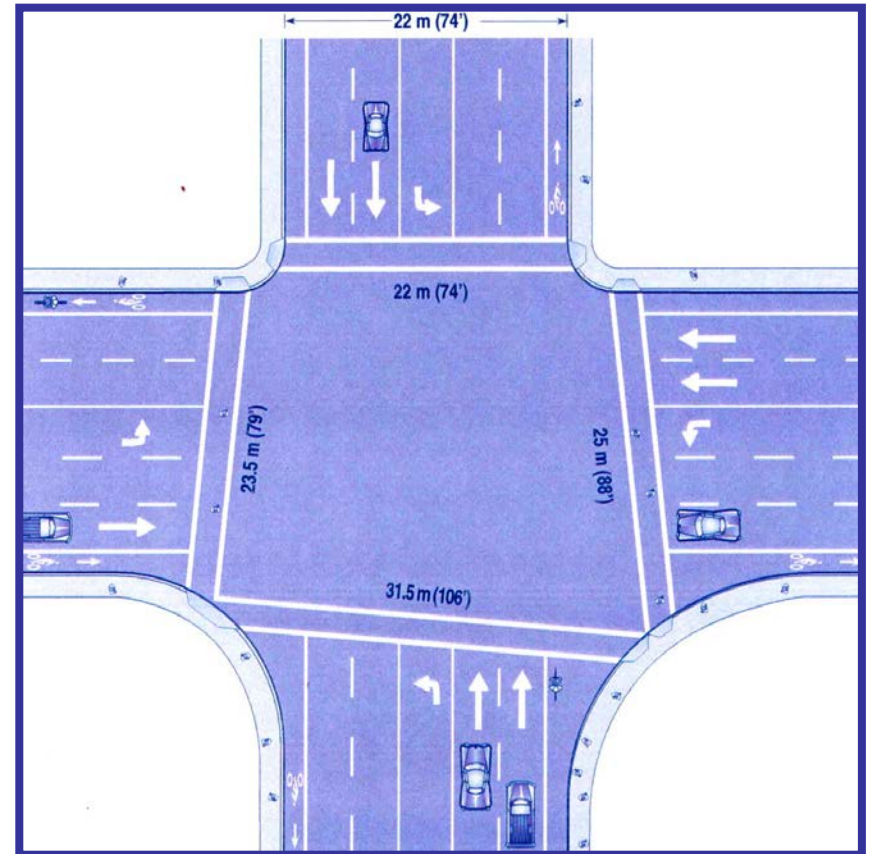
USE THE BASKETS

ORTHODONTIST

PLUMBING, HEATING & AIR  
CONDITIONING

# Effect of radius on intersection geometry

It's more than crossing distance – crosswalk & ramp placement are also affected



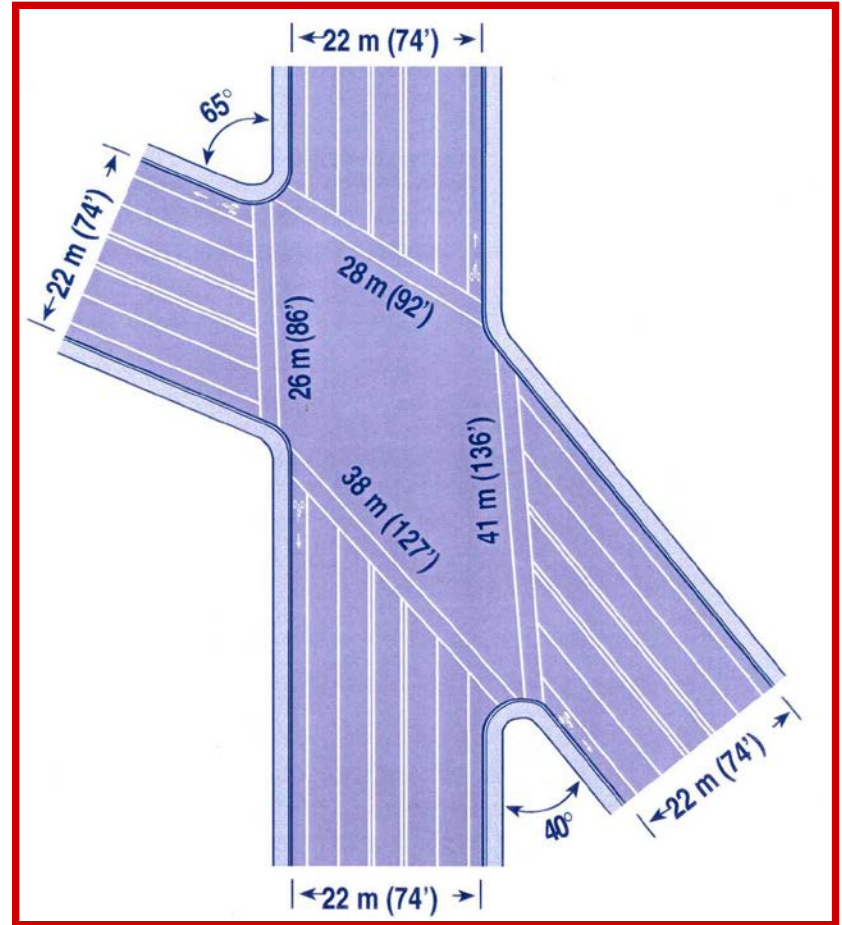


# Skewed Intersections

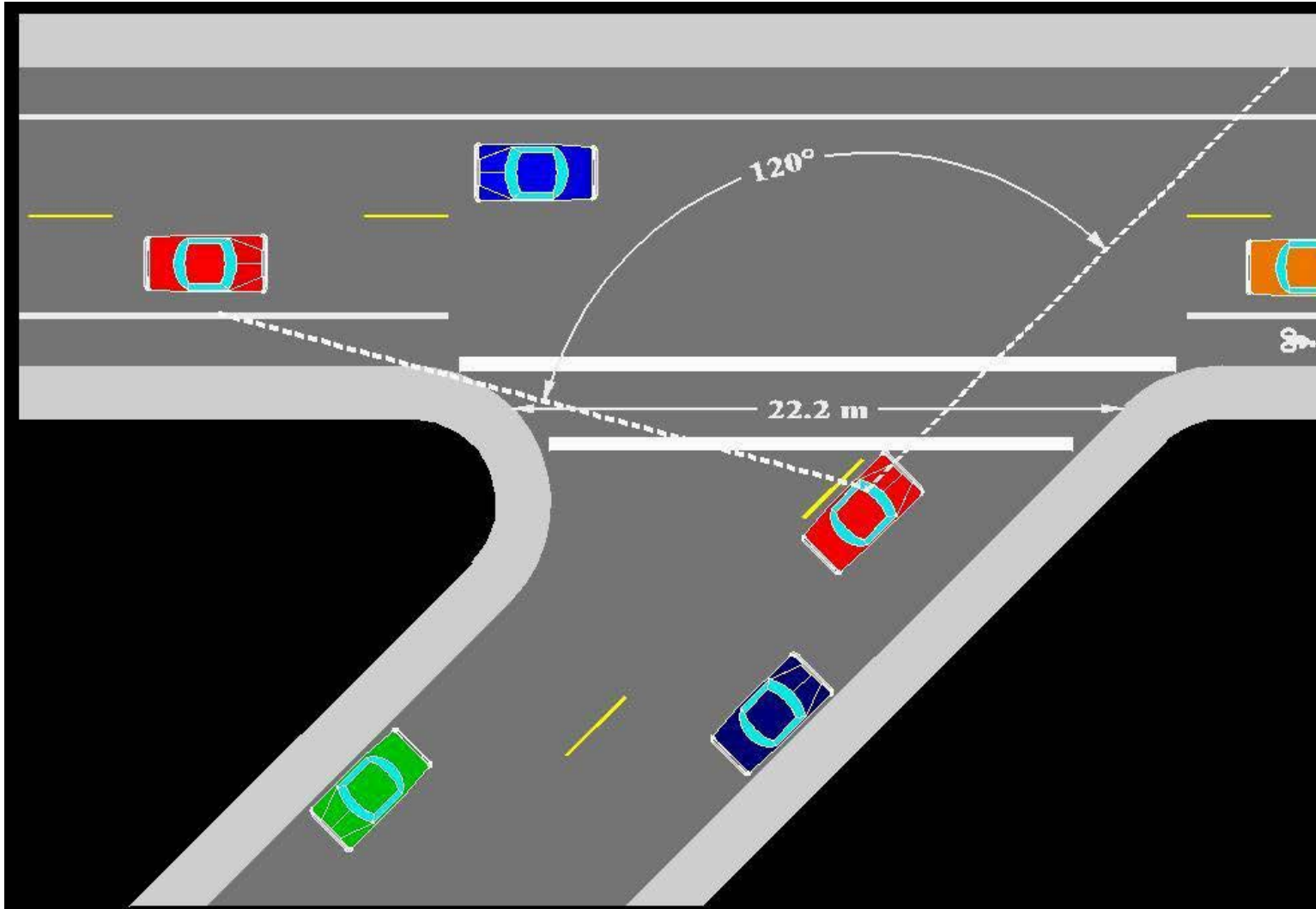
Skews increase crossing distance & time to cross intersection

How long to travel 136 feet at 3.5 ft/sec?

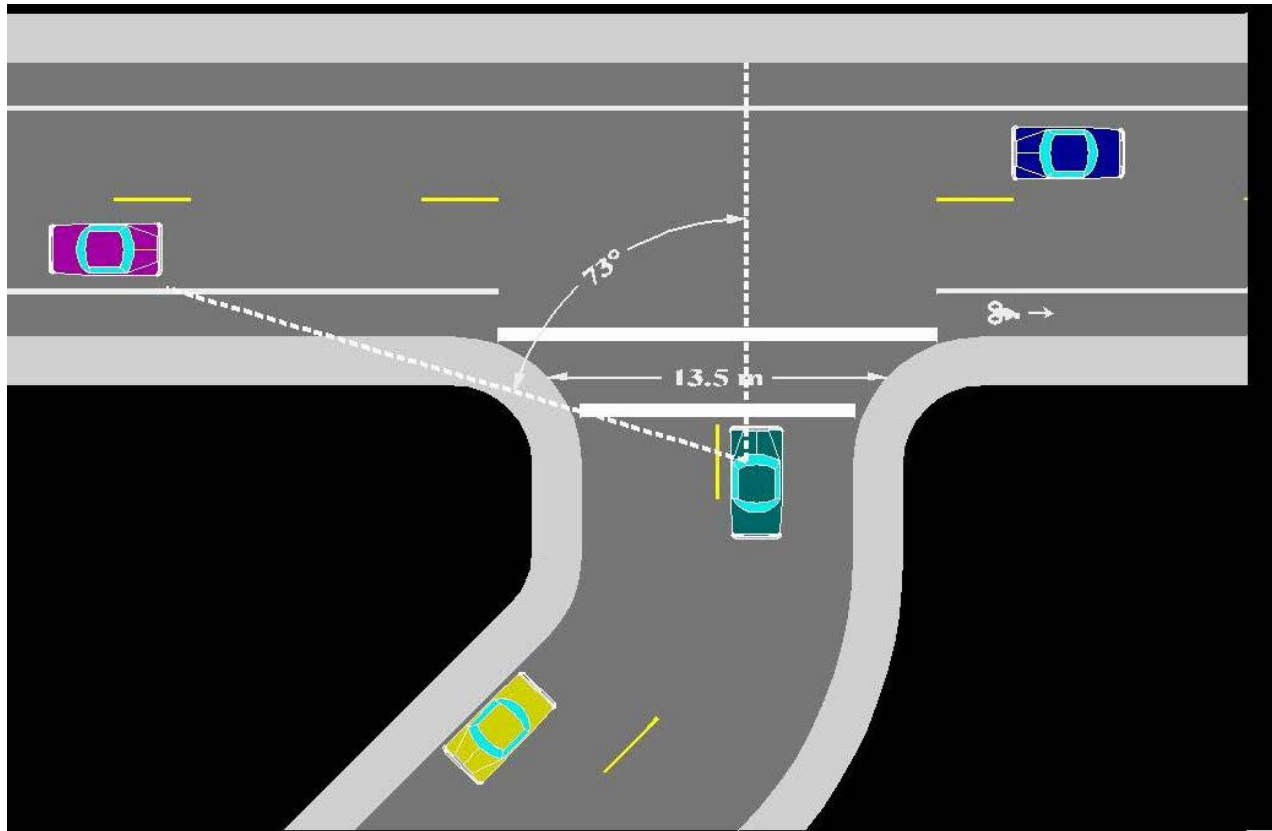
39 seconds!



# Skewed Intersection



Right angle decreases crosswalk length,  
increases visibility

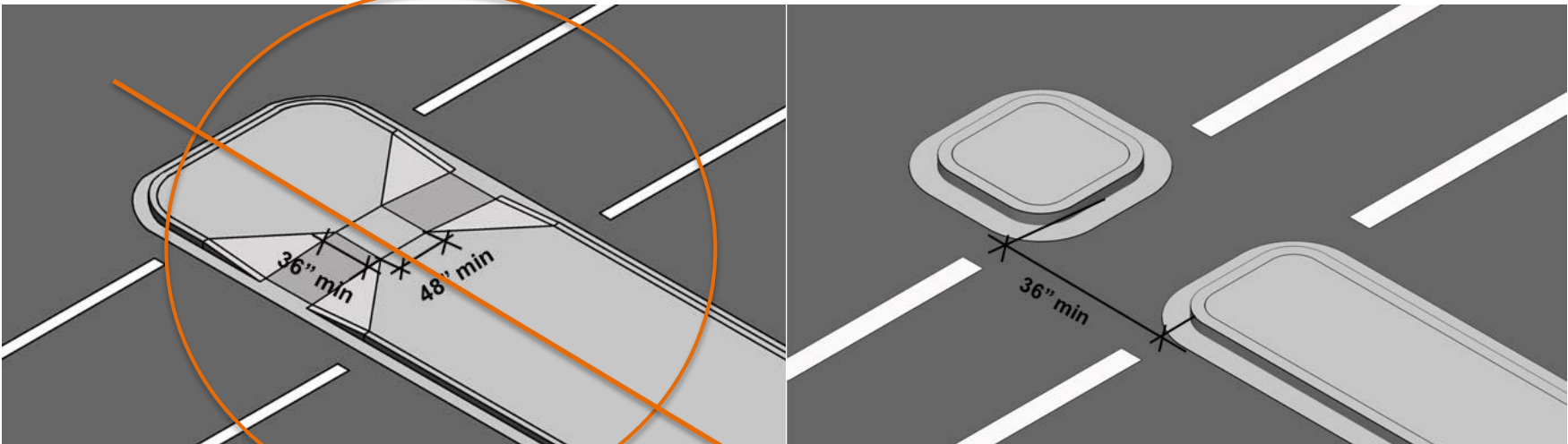


# Not everywhere is flat



West Blankenship Road in West Linn

# Islands and Medians



[ADAAG Chapter 4 Ramps and Curb Ramps]

# Islands

Raised Islands should be cut through

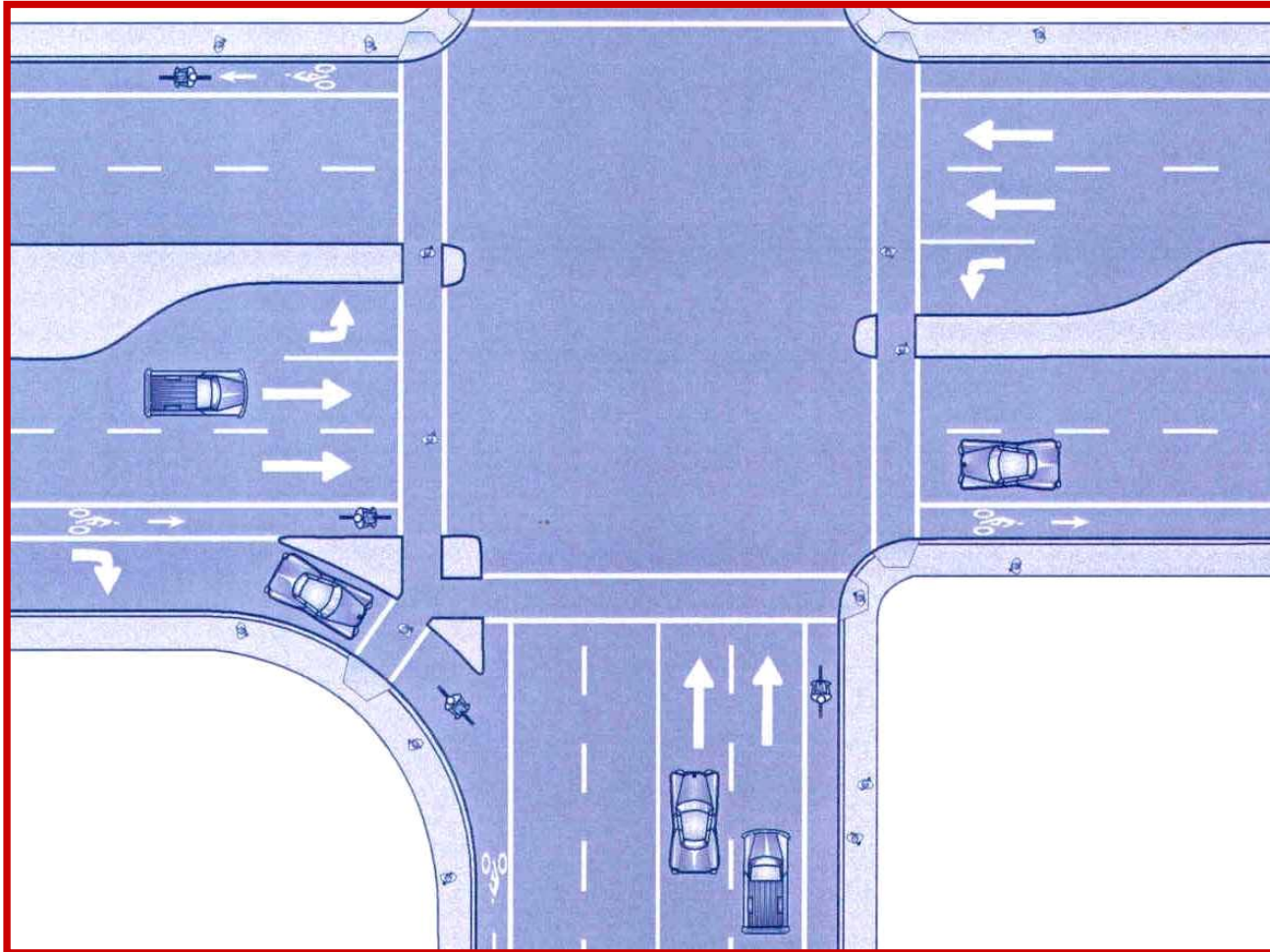
- Max crowning 1:20
- Provide sufficient protection/storage
  - 1.22 m-1.525 m (4 – 5 feet) length
  - May limit number of wheelchair crossings per phase
- Need Accessible Pedestrian Signal at median/island  
it 2 cycles required to cross street

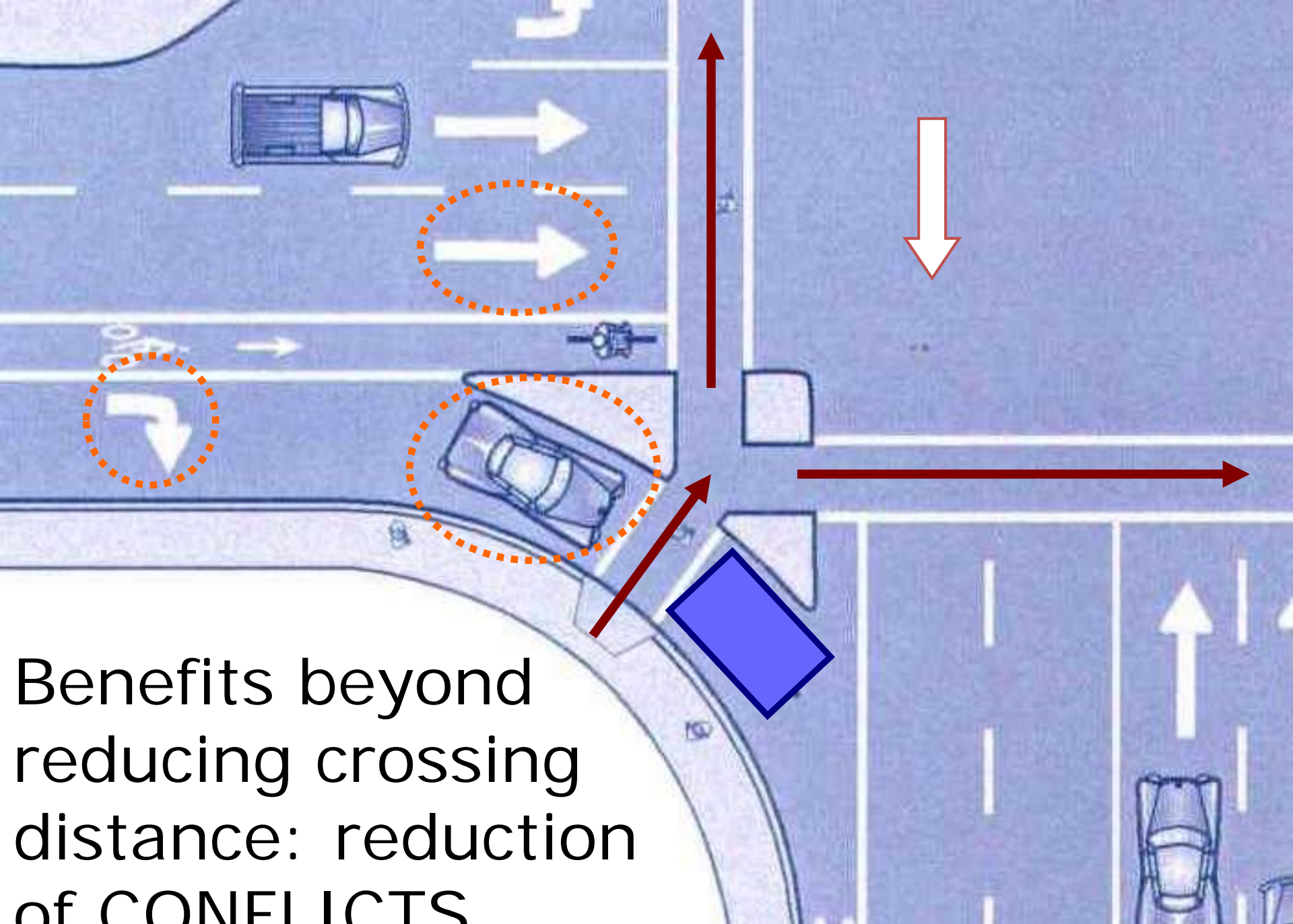




## Islands at intersection

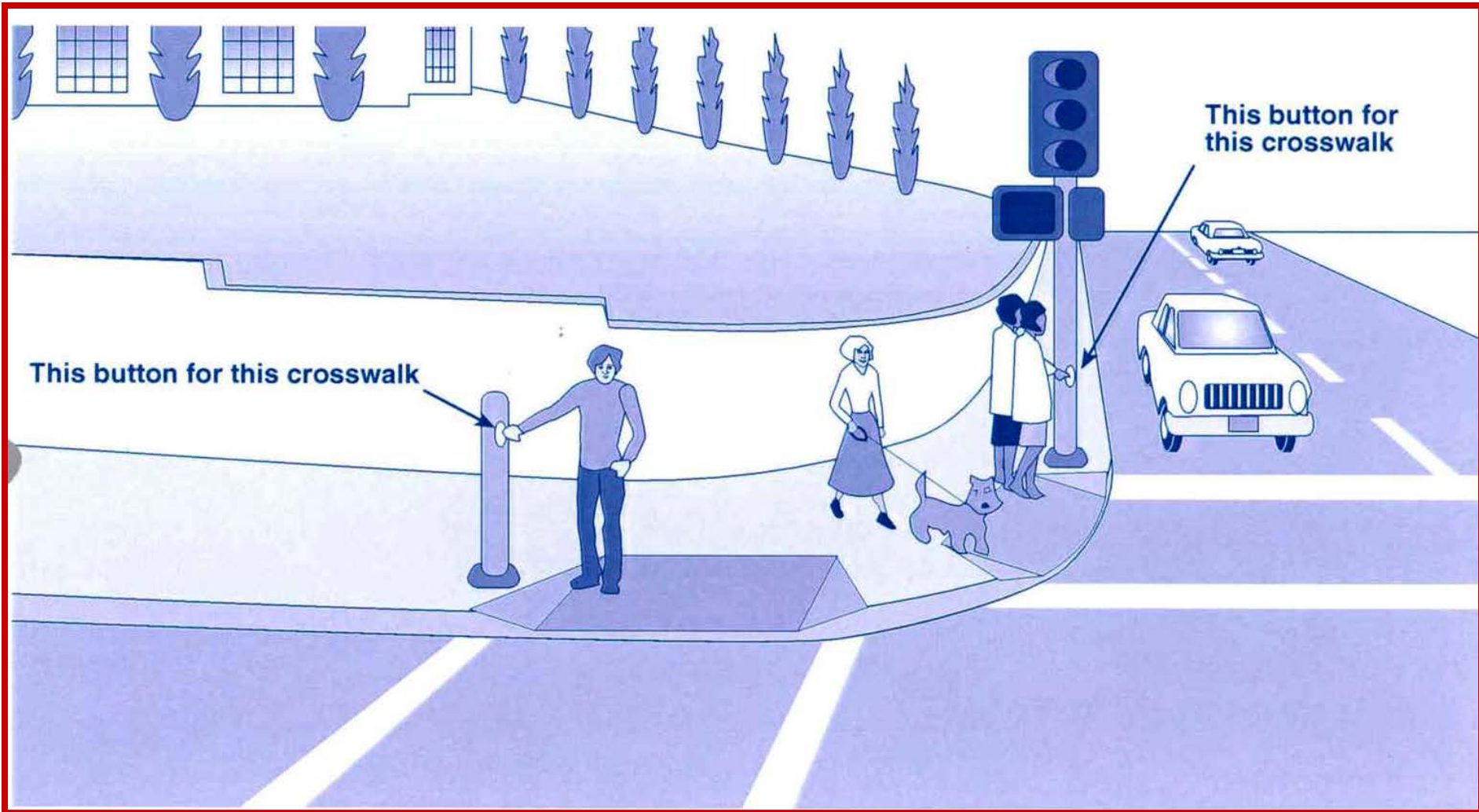
- Islands reduce crossing distance and separate conflicts





Benefits beyond  
reducing crossing  
distance: reduction  
of CONFLICTS

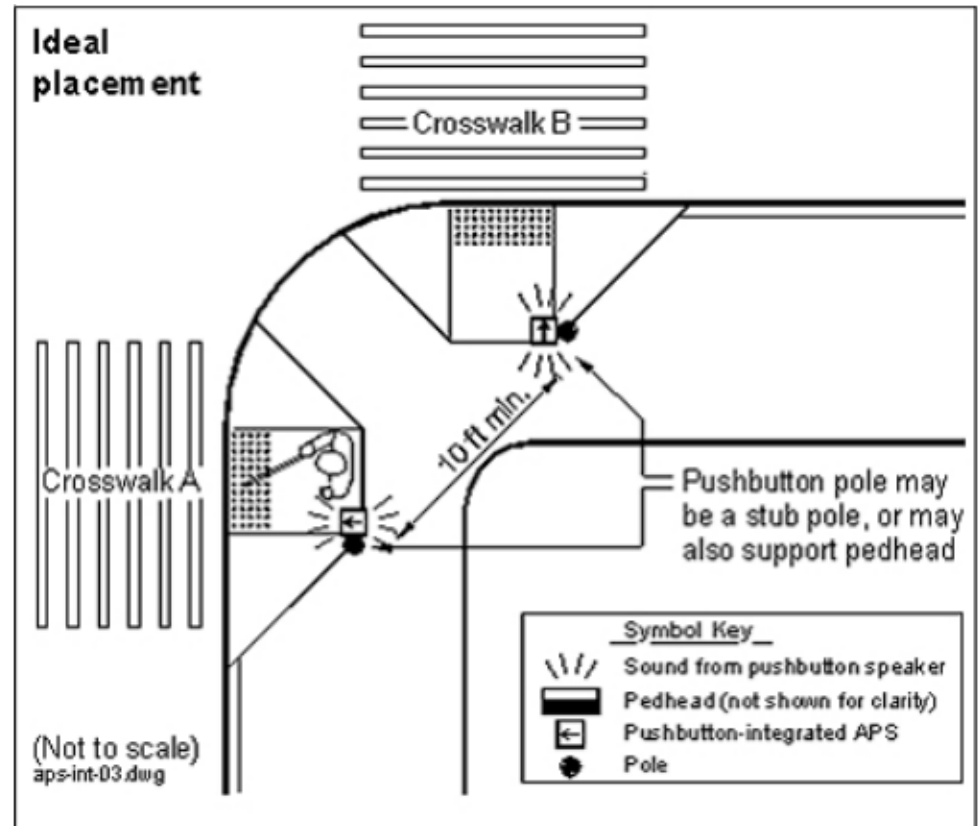
# Proper placement of ped push buttons








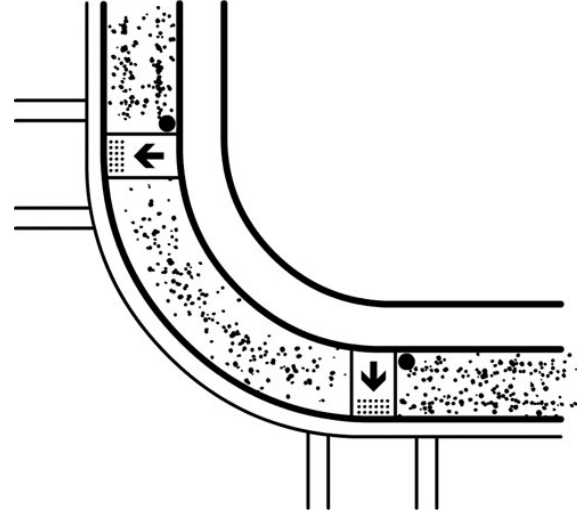
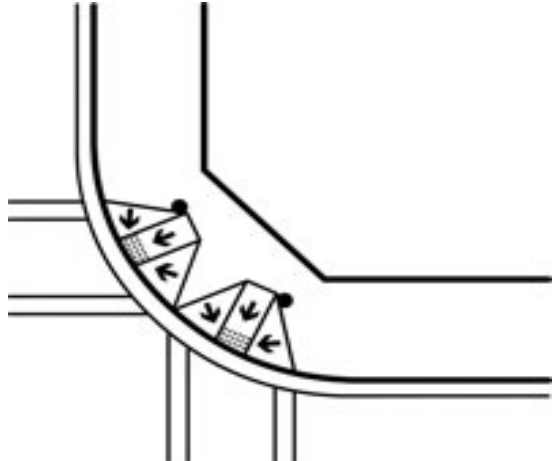
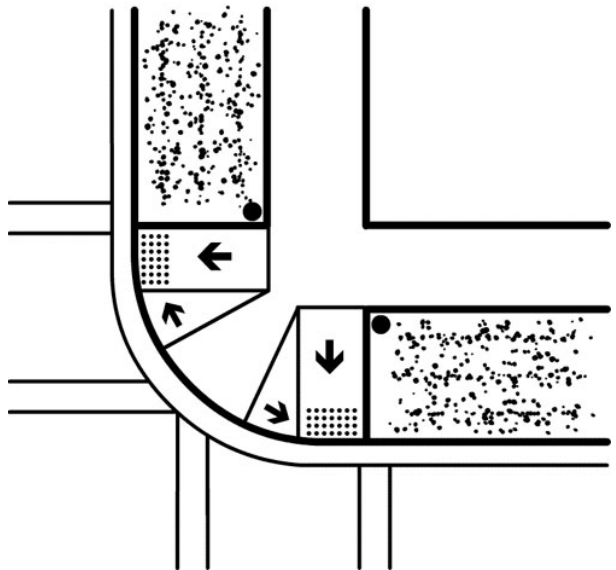
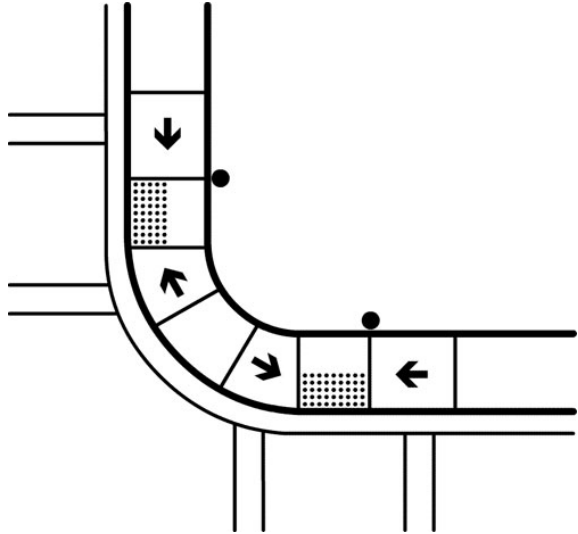


# Ideal Placement

- Place 10 ft apart
- Rapid tick WALK indication
- Rapid Tick is 8-10 repetitions per second

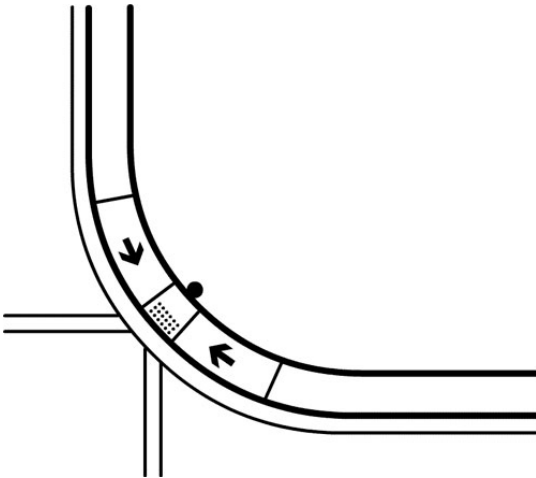


-  Level space
-  APS pole
-  Detectable warning
-  Parkway
-  Ramp indication



# Single Installation

- Use when two cannot be used
- Speech WALK must include “[street name], walk sign is on to cross [street name]”
- a pushbutton information message:
  - needed on the device to provide street name information
  - provides the name of the street controlled by the pushbutton, when the button is pushed and held for more than one second during the flashing or steady don't walk interval



What is good? What is not so well thought out?



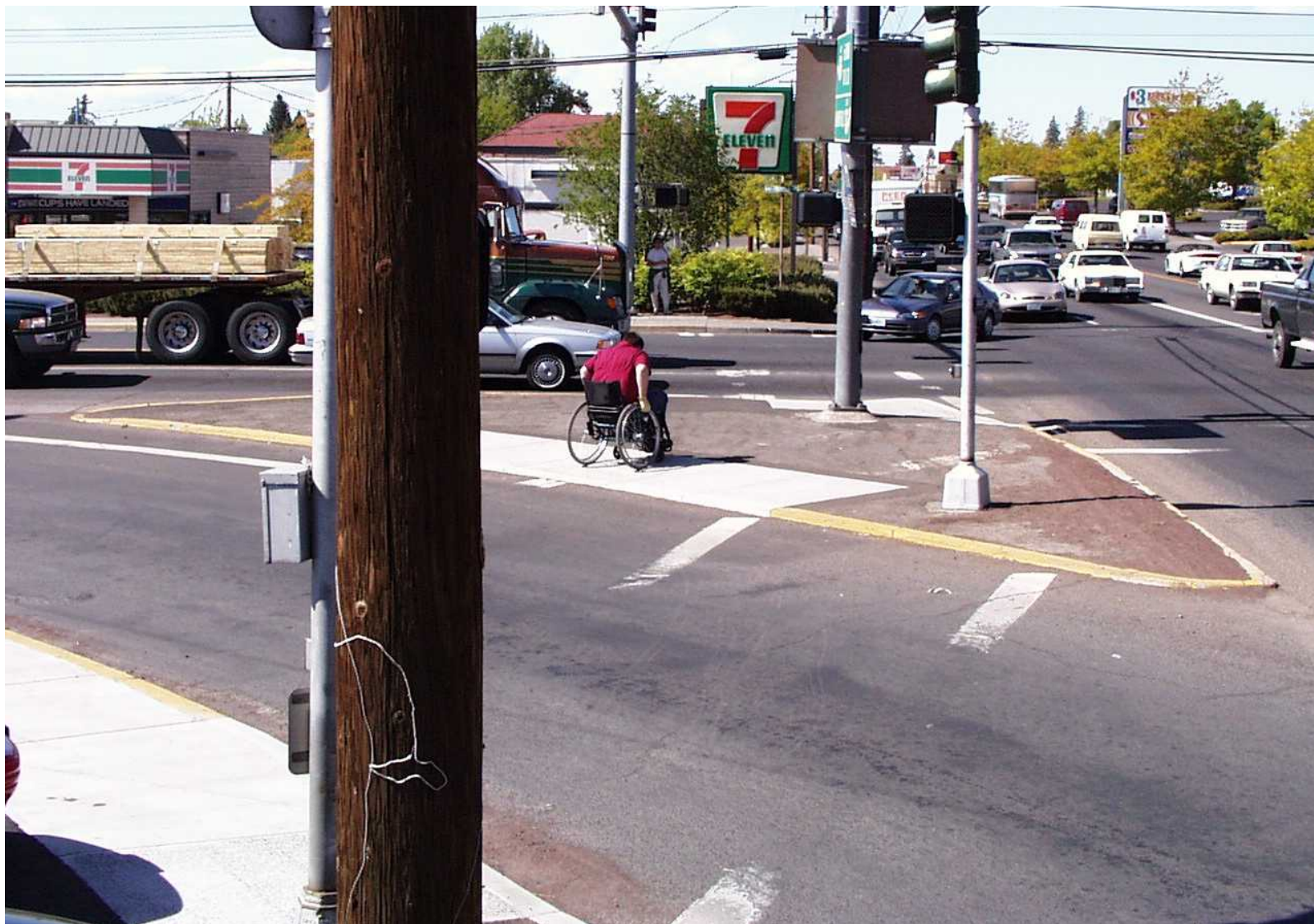


# What are the oops?





# What is missing?



# Better but who is impacted here? Why?





How about here?



# Crosswalk Placement: observe pedestrians





# People instinctively know where to cross



# Crosswalk Placement: observe pedestrians!



Are there any other problems with this crossing?



# Accessible Bus Stops



Not this (sources intentionally omitted)



Oregon State University  
College of Engineering



# Or This (sources intentionally omitted)



Oregon State University  
College of Engineering

# What about Protected Intersections ?

- Bi directional, separated and protected bike lane



- <http://www.streetsblog.org/2014/09/25/hobokens-main-drag-will-set-a-new-standard-for-complete-streets/>
- <http://www.hobokennj.org/washingtonstreet/>

[Davidsuzuki.org, Toronto, ON, Canada]



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# Dutch Intersection- [something to consider for Bike and Pedestrian Facilities]





# LESSONS LEARNED Evolution of the Protected Intersection December 2015

- [https://altaplanning.com/wp-content/uploads/Evolution-of-the-Protected-Intersection\\_ALTA-2015.pdf](https://altaplanning.com/wp-content/uploads/Evolution-of-the-Protected-Intersection_ALTA-2015.pdf)
- PREPARED BY: Alta Planning + Design 711 SE Grand Ave  
Portland, OR 97214

Salt Lake City: Alta  
Planning and Design



# Resources

- US Access Board <https://www.access-board.gov/>
- FHWA Office of Civil Rights  
<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/civilrights/programs/ada.cfm>
- Oregon DOT  
<http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Engineering/Pages/Accessibility.aspx>



# Discussion



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