Type: Curb Extensions

Definition

Curb extensions are horizontal speed control elements that visually and physically narrow the roadway, creating safer and shorter crossings for pedestrians while increasing the available space for street furniture, benches, plantings, and street trees. Curb extension is an umbrella term that encompasses several different treatments and applications, including Gateways, Pinchpoints, Bus Bulbs and Chicanes.

Purpose

Curb extensions serve as a visual cue to drivers that they are entering a neighborhood street or area.

Additional Guidance

- Reference: NACTO's Urban Bikeway Design Guide.
- Gateways, or Bulb-outs, are curb extensions installed at the entrance to a residential or low-speed street.
- Pinchpoints, or Chokers, are applied midblock to slow traffic speeds and add public space.
- Bus Bulbs are curb extensions that align the bus stop with the parking lane.
- Chicanes are offset curb extensions that slow traffic speeds considerably.

Local Examples

- N 41st St and Stone Way N in Seattle.
- Colby Ave at Hewitt Ave in Everett, WA.

Type: Vertical Speed Control Elements

Definition

Vertical speed control elements manage traffic speeds and reinforce pedestrian-friendly, safe speeds through grade separation treatments. These include Speed Humps, Speed Tables, Speed Cushions, and Raised Crossings and Intersections.

Purpose

Vertical speed control has been shown to slow traffic speeds, creating a safer and more attractive environment.

Additional Guidance

- Reference: NACTO's Urban Bikeway Design Guide.
- Streets with speed limits of 30 mph and under are good candidates for vertical speed control.
- Vertical speed control elements should be applied where the target speed of the roadway cannot be achieved with conventional traffic calming elements.
- Vertical speed control elements are most effectively implemented at a neighborhood level, rather than by request on a single street.

Local Examples

- 9th Ave SW between SW Portland St and SW Henderson St in Seattle.

Type: Bicycle Parking[9]

Definition

The wide variety of bicycle parking devices available is generally grouped into two classes, long-term and short-term. The needs for each differ in terms of their design and level of protection. In many locations, a combination of short- and long-term options may be appropriate.

Purpose

Providing bicycle parking facilities is an essential element in a multi-modal transportation system. Unlike motor vehicles, most bicycles are not equipped with locks or anti-theft devices and do not require a key to operate. In addition to helping prevent theft, installing well-designed bicycle parking facilities in appropriate locations can contribute to a more orderly and aesthetic appearance of sidewalks and building sites.

Additional Guidance

- Reference: Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities.(page 6-1 of the linked guide.)
- Bicycle parking should be provided at all public facilities, should be incorporated into roadway and streetscape projects, and should be an integral aspect of land development and redevelopment processes.
- Bicycle parking should, therefore, be conveniently placed in a location that is highly visible and as close to the building entrance as practical.
- Bicycle parking should be easy to locate, simple to use, and able to accommodate different types of bikes.

Local Examples

- Everett Station.
- University of Washington, Seattle.

[9] Definitions for these are sourced from the Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities (AASHTO, 2012) and the image was sourced from the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP) Bicycle Parking Guidelines (APBP, 2010).