



Center Turn Overpass



Conceptual rendering of a center turn overpass

What is a center turn overpass?

- An intersection that elevates all left-turn movements from the main intersection using ramps within the median
- Left-turn vehicles use an acceleration lane to merge with through traffic
- Both the elevated and at-grade intersections are controlled by a two-phase signal
- Uses the same operating principals as a conventional intersection
- All pedestrian sidewalks and crosswalks are at-grade

When should a center turn overpass be considered?

- At intersections with heavy left-turn traffic volumes
- At intersections where the major and side streets have similar left-turn traffic volumes
- At intersections where the major street is six lanes or wider
- At intersections where there is limited right-of-way to expand

What are the benefits of a center turn overpass?

- **Improved safety:** Reduces the number of points where vehicles cross paths and decreases the potential for angle crashes. Eliminates points where pedestrians and left-turn vehicles cross paths
- **Increased efficiency:** Separates left-turn movements from through traffic—allowing for fewer traffic signal phases, which reduces delay and increases capacity
- **Better synchronization:** Synchronization of the two signalized intersections improves corridor travel times on both the major and side streets

What are innovative intersections?

Intersection designs where traffic movements are modified to improve safety, reduce delay, and increase efficiency.

Visit www.virginiadot.org/innovativeintersections to learn more.





Navigating a Center Turn Overpass

