

Typical Use

- Curb extensions can be used as a gateway to minor streets known as neckdowns.
- Curb extensions can be used at bus stops known as bus bulbs.
- They are usually implemented at intersections with long crosswalks in order to shorten the crossing distance for pedestrians.
- Curb extensions can be used on roadways with any common urban speed limit.

Design Features

- Where the application of a curb extension impacts drainage, curb extensions may be designed with a 1-2 foot gap from the curb to trench drain.
- A corner curb extension is usually constructed to a width of between 6-8 feet. It should be offset from the through traffic lane by 1.5 feet.

Further Considerations

Advantages

- Decreases the overall width of the roadways and can serve as a visual cue to drivers.
- Increase overall visibility of pedestrians.
- The change in curb radii encourages slower turning speeds.

Disadvantages

- May require relocation of drainage features such as catch basins and trench drains.
- Hydraulic impacts may need to be evaluated.
- May require moving fire hydrants.

Materials & Maintenance

Curb extensions can be constructed using concrete. Additional maintenance may be required if landscaping on the curb extension is chosen.

Curb Extension/ Bulb Outs

Curb extensions visually and physically narrow the roadway, creating safer and shorter crossings for pedestrians while increasing the available space for landscaping and street trees.

