

Appendix 15 – Offset Treatments for Left Turn Lanes

Left-turn offset treatments have been evaluated in research (Harwood et al., 1995; Tarawneh and McCoy, 1997) and are included in the current edition of the AASHTO Policy on Geometric Design of Highway and Street (AASHTO, 2001). Tarawneh and McCoy observed driver behavior over a wide range of offset conditions and, based on their observations, developed guidelines for offsetting opposing left-turn lanes (see Table __).

Opposing left-turn vehicle		Minimum offset (m)							Desirable offset (m)
		Design speed (km/h)							
Type	Location	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	
Passenger car	Unpositioned	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3
	Positioned	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6
Truck	Unpositioned	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7
	Positioned	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1

Table __. Guidelines for Offset Left-Turn Lanes (Tarawneh and McCoy, 1997)