













Chokers

Definition

Chokers are curb extensions or "bulb outs" (see "Curb extensions" treatment discussed above), located mid-block, which narrow a street by extending the sidewalk or widening the planting strip.

Objective

Chokers are curb extensions or "bulb outs" (see "Curb extensions" treatment discussed above), located mid-block, which narrow a street by extending the sidewalk or widening the planting strip.

Advantage

Reduce speeds.

Provide a good location for a mid-block crossing (when such a crossing is needed).

Will not generally cause delays or difficulties for emergency response and other large vehicles.

Provide opportunity for aesthetic enhancements (landscaping, signage, furnishings, etc.)

Challenge

Effect on vehicle speeds may be limited due to the absence of any vertical or horizontal deflection.

May require the elimination of some on-street parking.

May require additional effort or measures for effective snow removal.

Resources

ITE Traffic Calming Measures — Choker http://www.ite.org/traffic/choker.asp.

PedSafe—Chokers http://www.pedbikesafe.org/ PEDSAFE/countermeasures_detail.cfm?CM_NUM=32.

Fehr & Peers Trafficcalming.org—Chokers http://trafficcalming.org/measures/chokers/.

Safe Routes to School Online Guide:
Slowing Down Traffic — Chokers and Chicanes
http://guide.saferoutesinfo.org/engineering/chokers_
and_chicanes.cfm.

Images (clockwise from main image):

Example of a choker/traffic calming, Boulder, Colorado. Source: Dan Burden.

Additional examples

Sources: Dan Burden, pedbikeimages.org; Dan Burden, pedbikeimages.org; Dan Burden; Dan Burden, pedbikeimages.org; Dan Burden; City of Charlotte.