Grade-separated crossing

Definition
Structure built to provide a pedestrian way across high-speed, high volume roadways by means of either an overpass (bridge) or underpass (tunnel).

Objective
To provide complete separation of pedestrians and cyclists from motor vehicle traffic.

Advantage
Improves pedestrian and bicyclist safety by eliminating conflicts with vehicular traffic.
Eliminates the potential for vehicular delay.

Challenge
Some travelers may still try to cross the roadway at-grade.
High design, materials, and construction costs; in addition, grade separations often require extensive ROW acquisition and modifications to adjacent properties.
May raise security concerns/issues.

Resources
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center — Pedestrian Overpasses/Underpasses
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center — Pedestrian Grade Separation Locations: A Priority Ranking System
- PEDSAFE Case Studies: Medians—Overpass/Underpass
- FHWA Pedestrian Safety Improvements — Countermeasures (Overpasses/Underpasses)
- FHWA: Signalized Intersections: Informational Guide
- Safe Routes to School Guide—Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridges and Tunnels

Images (clockwise from main image):
- Example of a grade-separated crossing.
  Source: Dan Burden, pedbikeimages.org.
- Additional examples:
  Sources: Dan Burden, pedbikeimages.org; Kathy Eisenman, pedbikeimages.org; Laura Sandt, pedbikeimages.org; Julia Diana, pedbikeimages.org; Dan Burden, pedbikeimages.org.