

## MINI-CIRCLES

**Definition:** Mini-circles are raised circular islands constructed in the center of residential street intersections. They reduce vehicle speeds by forcing motorists to maneuver around them and are sometimes used instead of stop signs.



ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduces crashes by 50 to 90 percent when compared to 2-way stop, 4-way stop, and traffic signals by reducing the number of conflict points at intersections.</li> <li>• Reduces speed at intersection approach.</li> <li>• Longer speed reduction influence zones.</li> <li>• Provides space for landscaping.</li> <li>• Cheaper to maintain than a traffic signal.</li> <li>• Effective at multi-leg intersections.</li> <li>• Provides equal access to intersections for all drivers.</li> <li>• Provides a good environment for all cyclists.</li> <li>• Does not restrict movements, but makes them more difficult.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May be restrictive for larger vehicles if designed to a low speed. Providing a mountable apron minimizes this limitation.</li> <li>• May require additional lighting and signage.</li> <li>• If left turns by large vehicles are to be accommodated then right of way may have to be purchased.</li> <li>• Initial safety issues as drivers adjust.</li> <li>• May increase volumes on adjacent streets</li> <li>• Maintenance responsibility if landscaped.</li> </ul>

### EVALUATION CONSIDERATIONS

SAFETY	←-----→	IMPROVED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING
SPEED REDUCTION	←-----→	YES AT INTERSECTION
TRAFFIC REDUCTION	←-----→	POSSIBLE
FUEL CONSUMPTION	←-----→	NO EFFECT
POLLUTION	←-----→	SLIGHT INCREASE
COST EFFECTIVENESS	←-----→	MEDIUM
EMERGENCY SERVICES	←-----→	POSSIBLE PROBLEMS