



# Provide Offset to a Right-Turn Lane

*Separation of the right-turn lane from adjacent through lane via a parallel or tapered offset to improve the sight distance for drivers stopped at the minor road approach.*



Source: Unknown

An offset right-turn lane can help improve poor sight distance for drivers stopped on the minor road approach.

## Targeted Crash Types

- Right-angle
- Rear-end (major road)

## Problems Addressed

- Inadequate intersection sight distance
- Excessive intersection conflicts

## Conditions Addressed

- Poor sight distance of oncoming traffic from minor road approach due to presence of right-turning vehicles.
- History of crashes involving minor road drivers whose vantage was blocked by right-turning vehicles on the major road.

## Considerations

- The width of the intersection may increase with the addition of the offset, resulting in a longer crossing distance for pedestrians.
- Ensure that the sight triangle remains clear. The lane should be moved far enough to the right so as not to obstruct the view of oncoming traffic for the minor road driver.
- Through lane widths may be narrowed to provide accommodate right-turn offset.
- Should not be needed where on-street bike lanes exist.

## Industry Standard

*MUTCD*

[Section 3B.04 White Lane Line Pavement Markings and Warrants](#)

*AASHTO Green Book*

Section 9.3: Types and Examples of Intersections

## Other Resources

[NCHRP 500 Volume 5: A Guide for Addressing Unsignalized Intersections](#)

## Select Examples

[US 18 & US 218, Floyd, IA](#)

[US 218 & C57, Cedar Falls, IA](#)

[US 54 & Rte. D, Jefferson City, MO](#)

