ROADS TO RESPECT 2010 European Transport Safety Council ETSC October 11-15. 2010

Road Safety Criteria in Road Planning and Design. Road safety audit RSA

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## Basic criteria in road geometric design

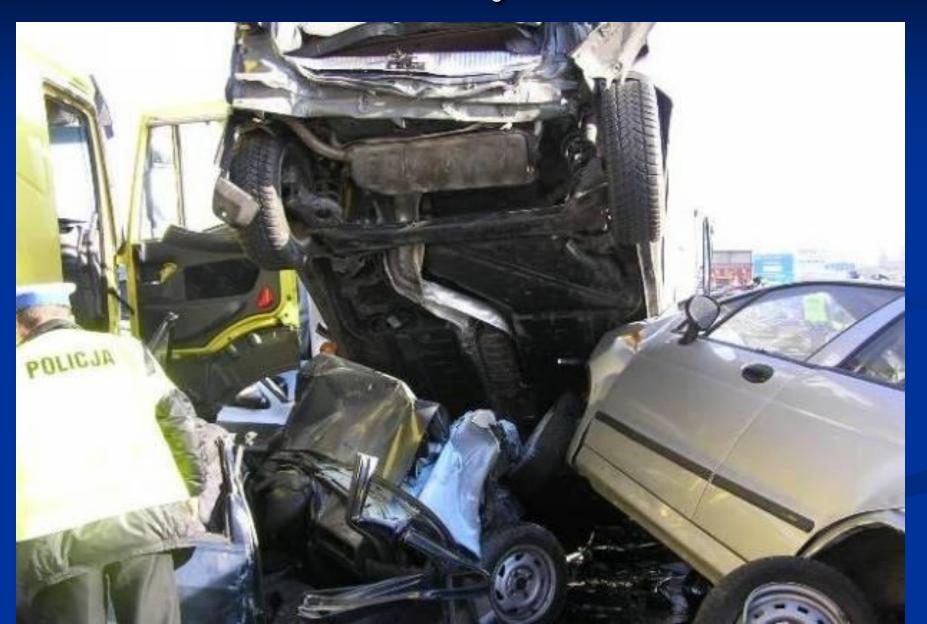
- 1. Road traffic safety
- 2. Protection of environment
- 3. Economy: investment, operation and maintenance costs
- High traffic performance: capacity and level ofd service (LOS); (based on MOEs: delay, stops, queues, etc.)
- 5. Technical and construction requirements
- Needs of disabled and vulnurable road users (pedestrian, cyclists)
- 7. Social constraints

General requirements are supplementedd in design guidelines by detailed design recommendations
 In design we always assume certain design standard

Implementation of new technmologies



## Road safety criteria



## **Road safety criteria**

Related to:

- a) Road users: psychological, psychophisical taking into account; sight, perception, time for decision, memory (RAM), reaction to monothony, impact of speed,
- b) Vehicles: vehicles' body, width, turning radius, acceleration, deceleration,
- c) Road; its geometry, cross section, pavement, drainage, roadside

In other words:

### Roads should be

- Recongnizable user should be able to recognize alignment, road should be "self-explaining"
- Readable geometry and signing should be easy to understand, and the amount of information should be limited
- Drivable paths for all, specially turning movements at intersections should be provided, as vehicles when turning occupy wider corridors,
- Having minimum number of collision points with other traffic movements, with other traffic users
- Providing visibility of road users, road and traffic control devices

# Form of these criteria depends on stage of planning/design

- Planning stage; road network, hierarchical system
- Conceptual design
- Detailed technical design
- Design of signing and marking
- Monitoring existing traffic

In all these stages designs should be **audited** Road safety audit

## What should be taken into account in planning stage?

Links of transportation/road planning with land-use planning

- Land use planning; location of traffic generators; housing estates, working places, education, shopping areas, supermarkets, culture, churches, etc.
- Transportation corridors major roads, streets, public transport lines,

RS aims:

 a) Building of the hierarchical network with roads of various functions and technical classes

#### Planning stage

Each network should consist of roads playing:

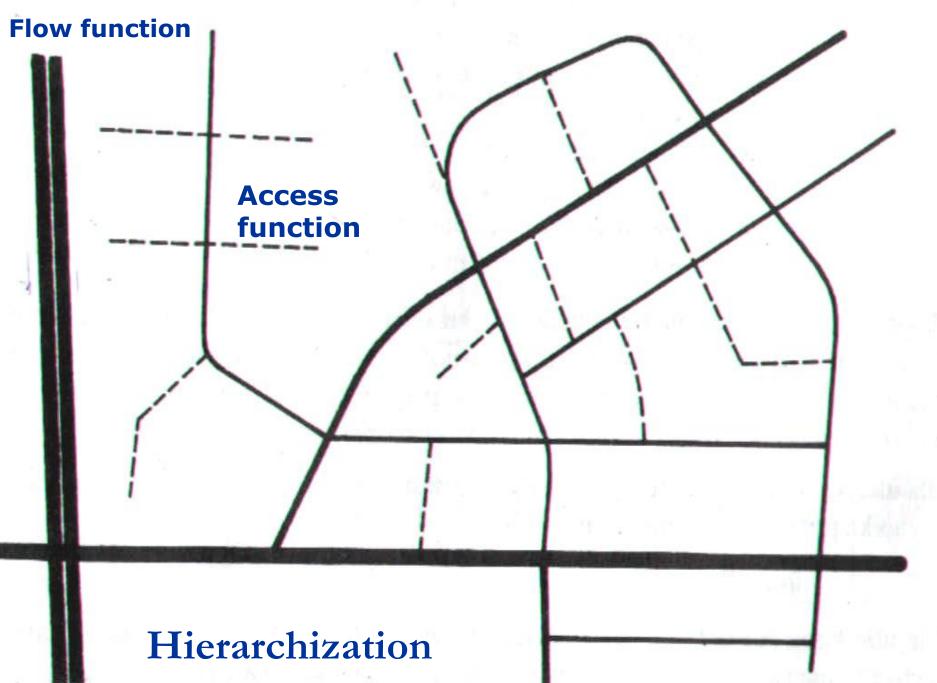
- Flow functions,
- Area distributor functions
- Access functions

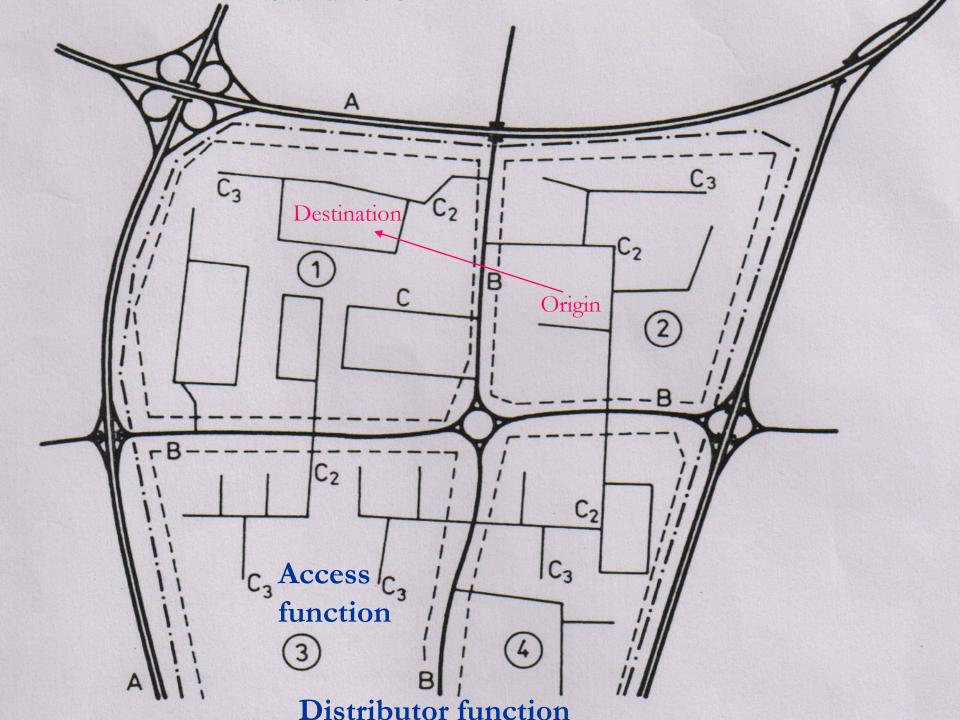
a) roads/streets should not cross links between traffic generators and destinations i.e. school – houses etc

b) minimisation of conflict points; vehicular/vehicular flows, vehicular/ pedestrain (cycle) flows

 c) Access control/access management should be taken into account – depending on function of road/street – limitation of number and density of intersections and driveways

#### **Distributor function**











#### Access management

 Access management: distances between intersections and interchanges, access points to and from properties and density of driveways

It is important in planning stage, land use planning, in conceptual design and also for noise protection

#### Conceptual project stage

- Ideas of: **"Self explaining roads", "Forgiving roads"** The Swedish concept of "safe speed"no time no time for details
- The concept of self-explaining roads on which the driver is encouraged to adopt its behaviour naturally, in consistency with design and function. Different classes of roads should be distinctive, within each class features such as width of carriageway, road markings, signing, and use of street lighting should be consistent throughout the route.
- Drivers would perceive the type of road and "instinctively" know how to behave.

**"Forgiving roads":** Errors of drivers do not lead to accidents, if so accident severity is limited

Safety barriers on both sides of the road on high embankments, bridges culverts etc avoiding "roofing"

Safety barriers at trees,

 Gentle slopes of embankments in high risk locations (intersections, horozontal curves, instead of 1:1,5; or 1:2 better and safer 1:3–1:5
 Waking marking – lines waking sleepy drivers on edges of carriageway





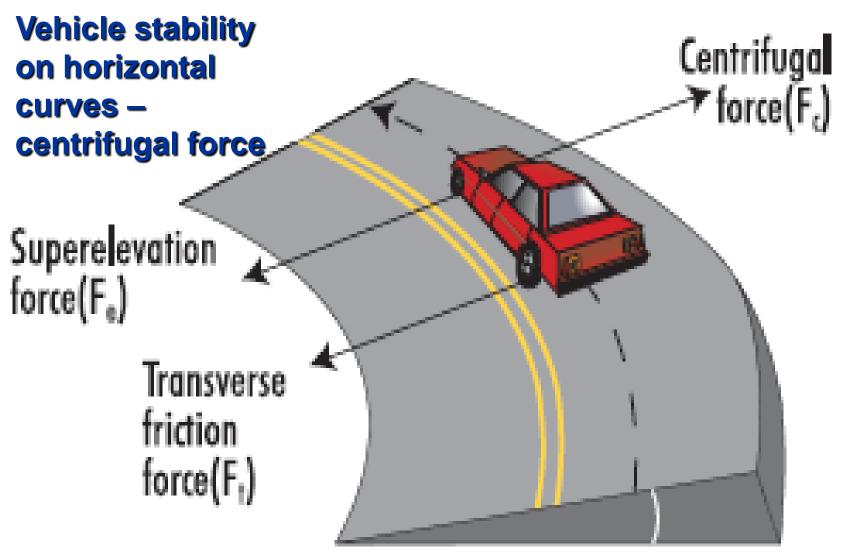
### Conceptual project stage

## **Road safety criteria:**

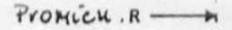
- a) Psychological users' behaviour
- **b)** Traffic dynamics
- c) Homogenity
- d) Visibility
- e) Other (drainage,....)

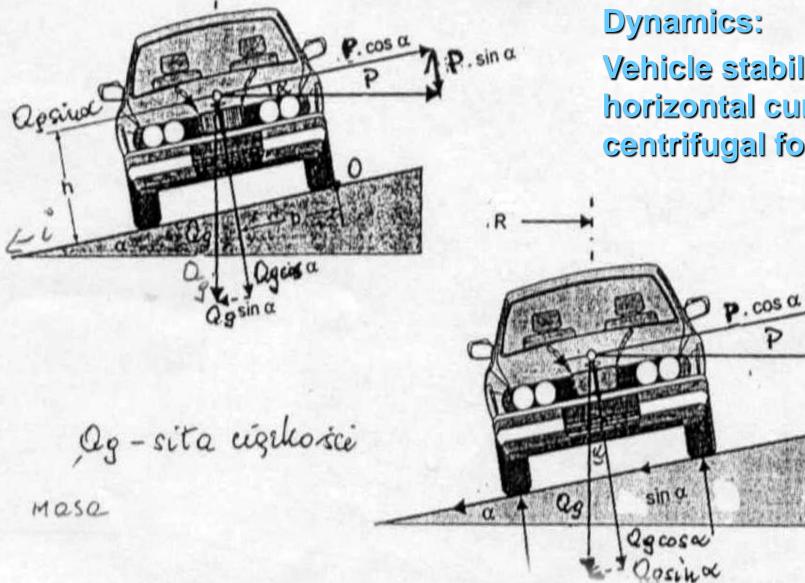
Most of these criteria are taken into account in design guidelines a. Features of road users – users' behaviour; knowledge of traffic rules, travelling speed, accepted risk, using seatbelts & running lights, reaction time, reception of information, etc. No time to present

Vehicle stability on horizontal curves – centrifugal force



## Supere evation





**Dynamics:** Vehicle stability on horizontal curves centrifugal force

P. sin a

 $P = Q \frac{V^2}{R}$ 

## **Design factors**

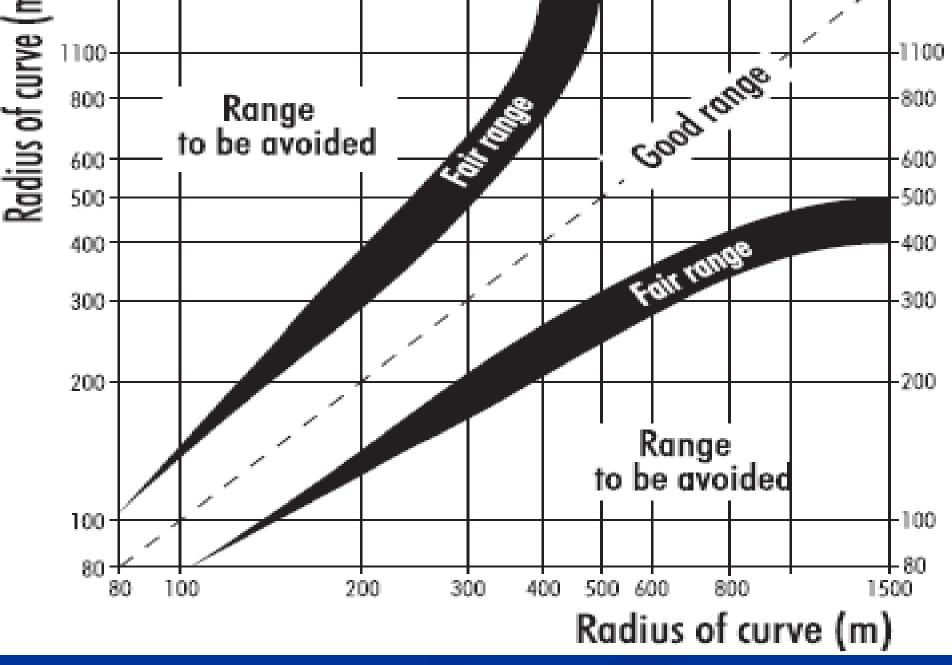
Centrifugal force depends on speed V and radius R (horizontal and vertical curves). Important for road safety on horizontal curves are:

Superelevation e 2-7%

Side friction coefficient fs

Radius R

 Length of tangent (perception of curve)
 Design values are given in standards
 Problems of loosing stability control i.e. understeering, oversteering, were presented yesterday by Toyota



Homogenity of neighbouring curves and road sections R1:R2

## **Transition curves**

Curves between straigth section and circular curve giving smooth change of centrifugal force

No time to present and discuss

## Visibility

Required sight distances on horizontal and vertical curves based on real speed V85:

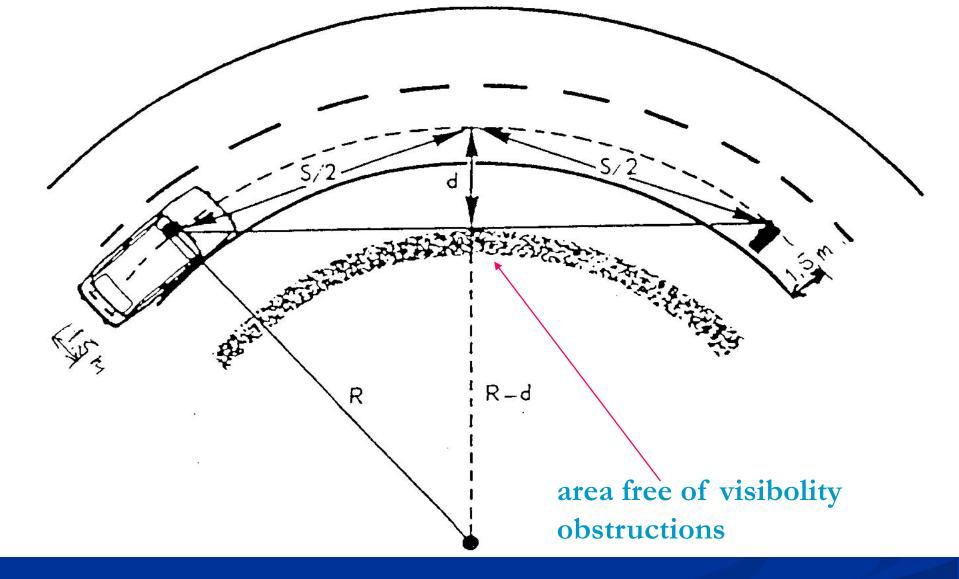
- a. stopping sight distance if not provided speed reduction, improve skid resistance
- passing (overtaking) sight distance, should be provided on recommended percentage of a road length in order to allow overtaking on straight sections to avoid creation long platoons

Problems with that criterion; overtaking lanes, slow traffic lanes or 2+1 sections can be considered

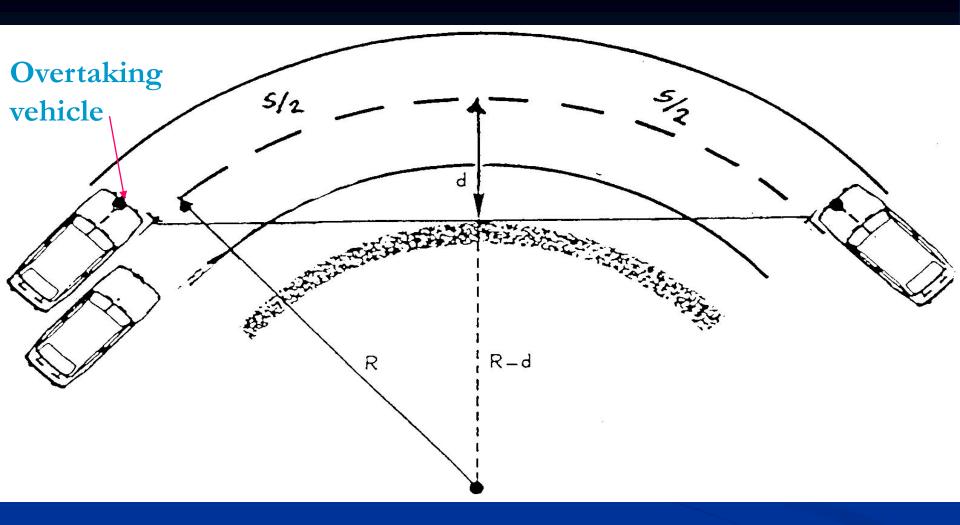
## Visibility

- Stopping distance: grade, skid resistance of pavement no time to discuss
- Overtaking requirements No time to present and discuss
- Percentage of road with allowed overtaking – some sections should give possibility of overtaking - % of section must give such possibilities

Visibility	Visibility	
	horizontal alignment	vertical alignment
stopping sight distance	driver obstracle visibility radius obstracle median line driver	ATT R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R R
passing sight distance	driver visibility radius obstracle	HR R th3

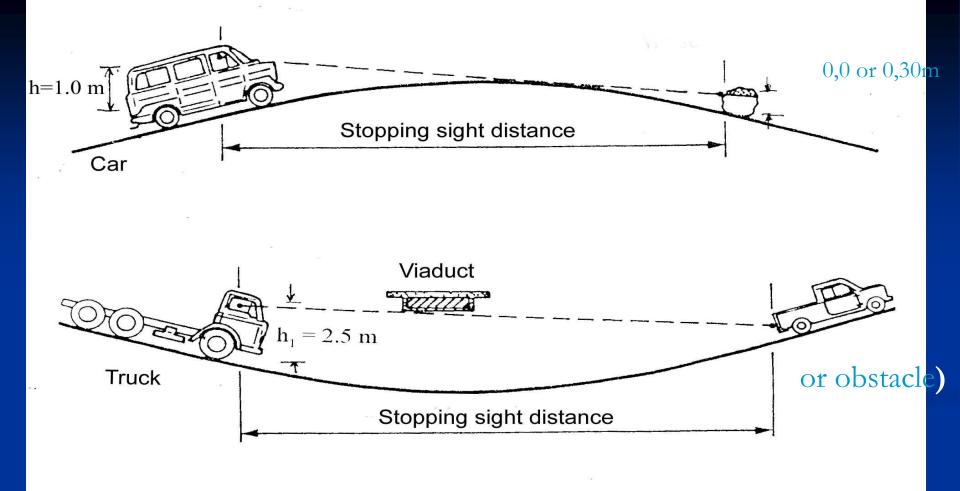


Horizontal curve radius R should provide stopping visibility (and visibility allowing overtaking - recommended). Area on internal side of a roadside should be free of visibility obstructions



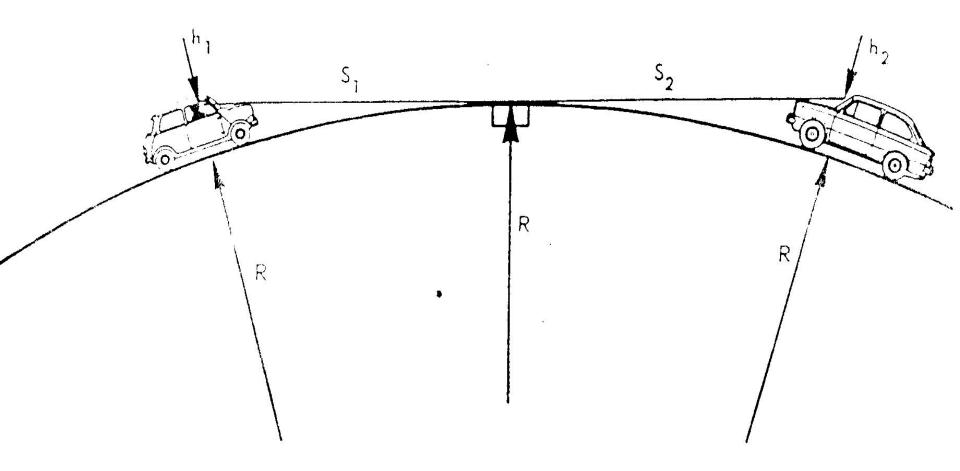
Checking possibility of passing depending on the distance d – depending on and V85 speed





 b) Vertical alignment (vertical curve radius R should provide stopping visibility (and visibility allowing overtaking - recommended) Checked are: crest and sag vertical curves

#### Overtaking min. distance (s1+s2)





# Road safety criteria in choice and design of intersections. They should be:

- Recongnizable user should recognize that he is approaching intersection,
- Readable geometry and signing should be easy to understand
- Drivable paths for all, specially turning movements should be provided, as vehicles when turning occupy wider corridors,
- Reducing speed
- Having minimum number of collision points
- Providing visibility of road users, road and traffic control devices

#### Recongnizable

User should recognize that he is approaching intersection,

 Besides of good location, there are some measures to make intersection location recognizable to drivers (including signing and marking)





Intersection should be recognizable Combination of crest curve with intersection

Inulli

Readable – geometry, signing and marking should be easy to understand
typical layouts
avoiding unecxpected designs
avoiding too much informatioon









Trentino special; where is a central island? Path deflection . Nice view instead!

DA EVITARE



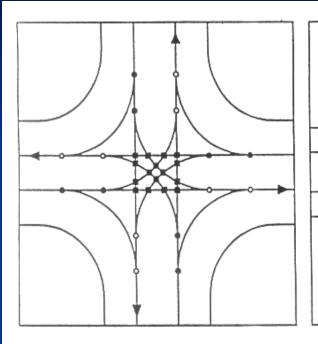
s it self-explaining roundabout? (Closer to an island)

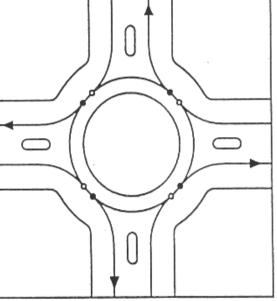


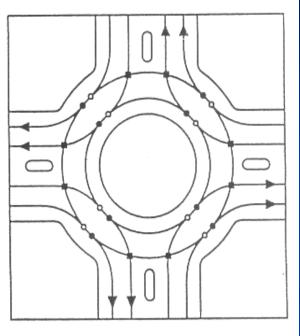
Minimum number of collision points
Reduction by use:

- traffic signals, two-phase or multiphase
- roundabouts, particularly one lane roundabouts

#### Reduction of the number of collision points







Legenda: - krzyżowanie - wyłączanie

- włączanie

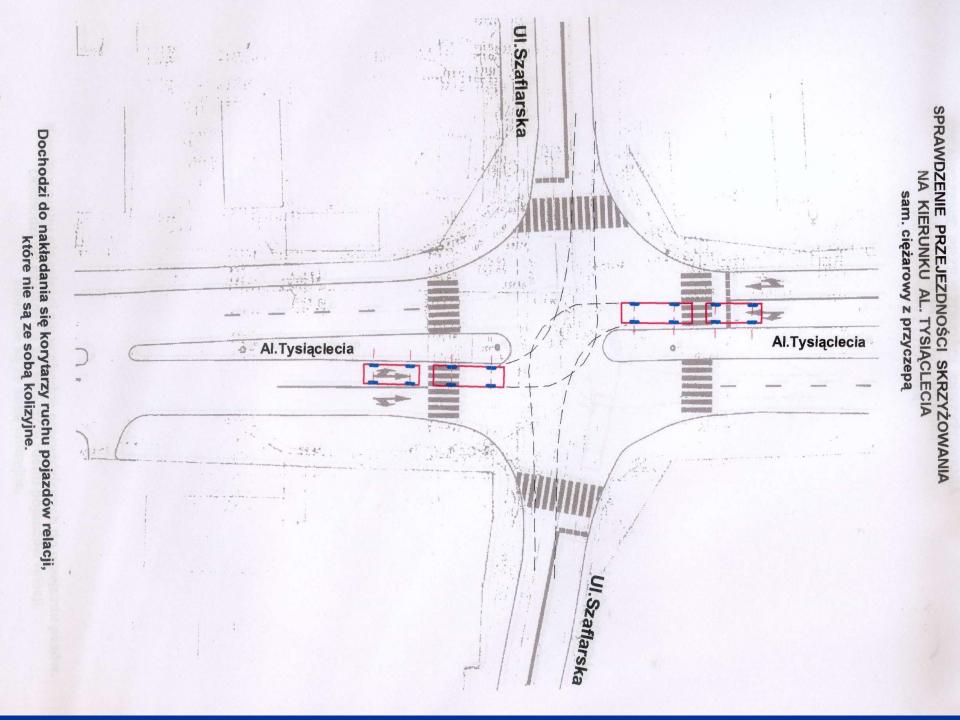
diverging

 Drivable – vehicles when turning occupy wider corridors,

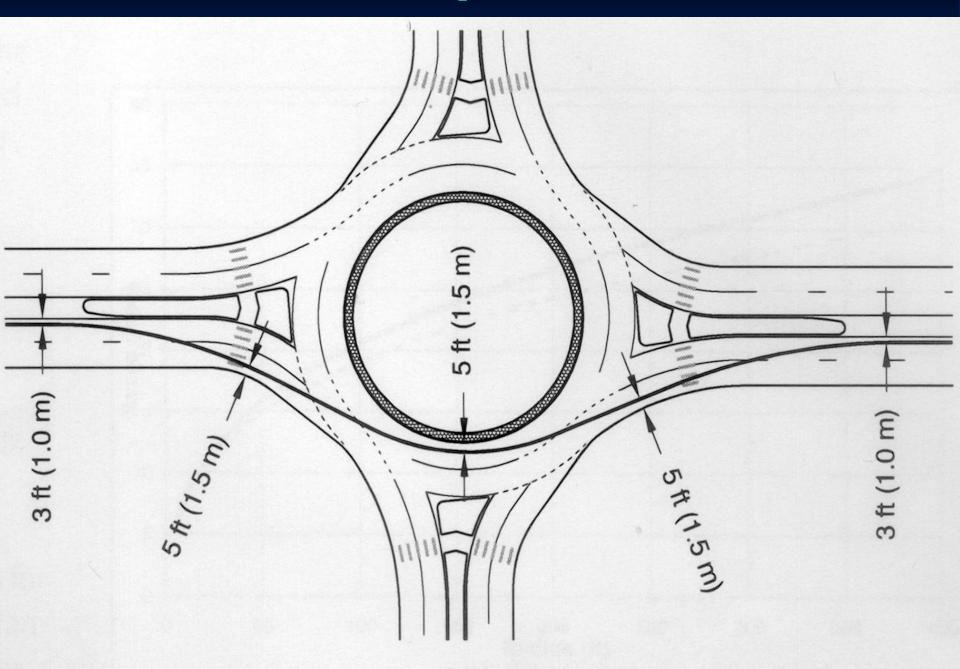
paths with proper width specially widened for turning movements, at small roundabouts should be provided

An intersection should be drivable in all weather conditions for each vehicle admitted to traffic

### Path of a design vehicle



#### Drivable, but also to decrease speed

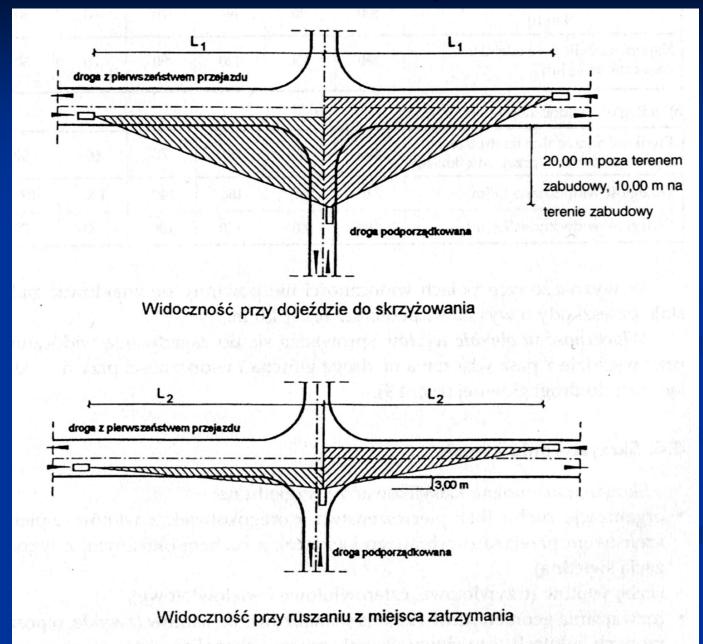


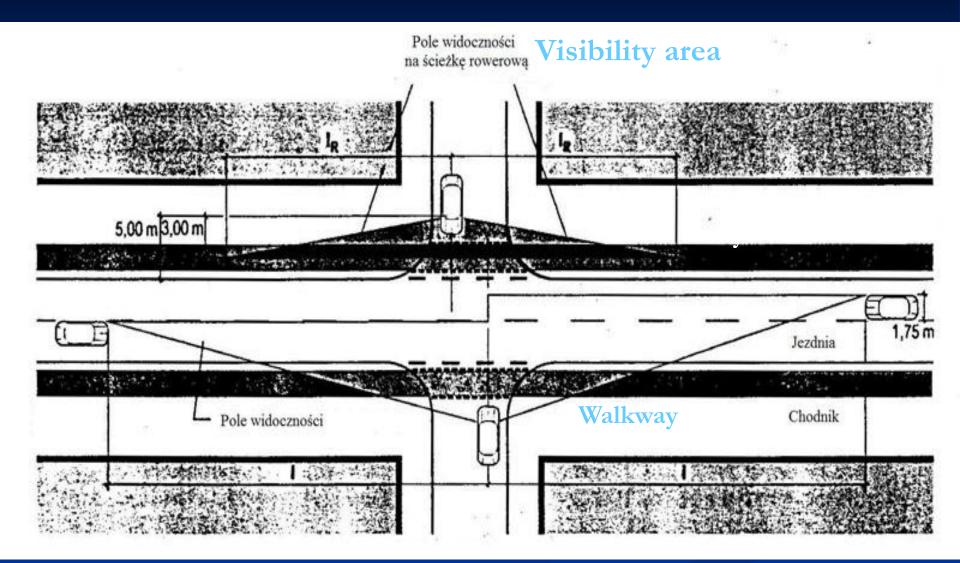
Provide visibility of road users, road and traffic control devices
on horizontal and vertical curves,
at intersections (including rounedabouts) and pedestrian crossings,

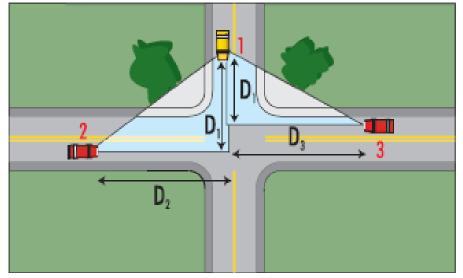
when locating various road and traffic control devices, etc.



## Intersections. Visibility from minor entry

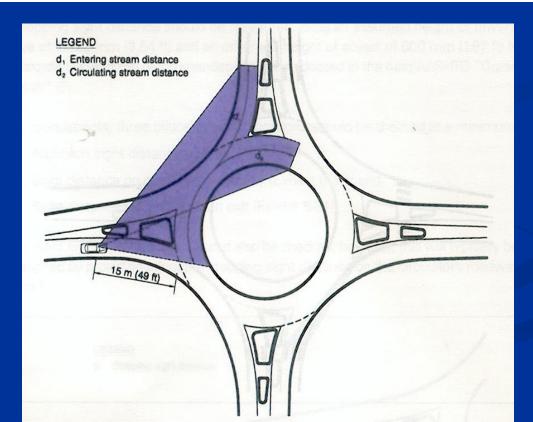


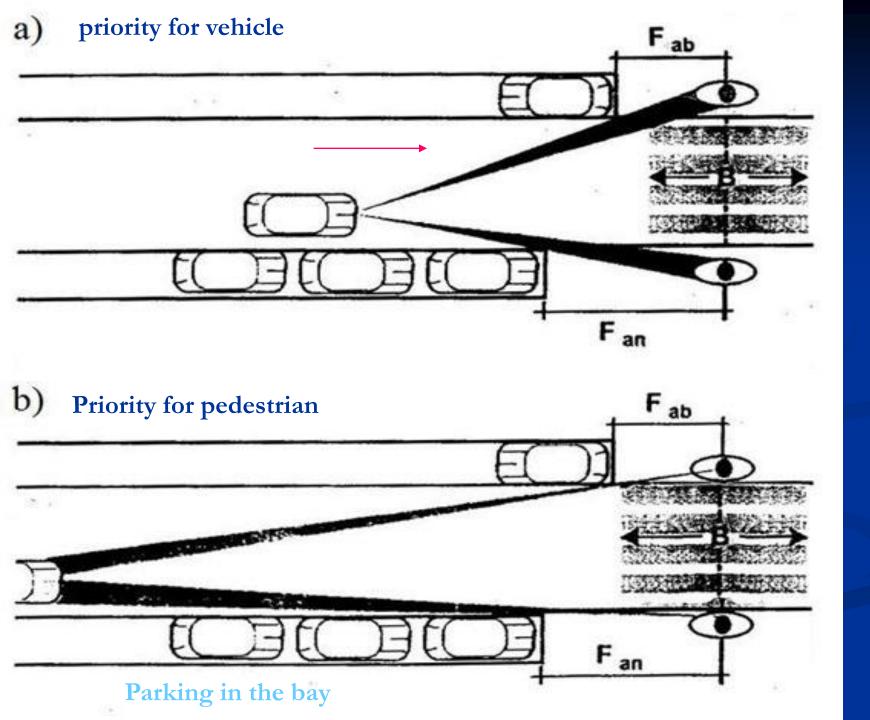




Conventional intersection:

#### Roundabout:



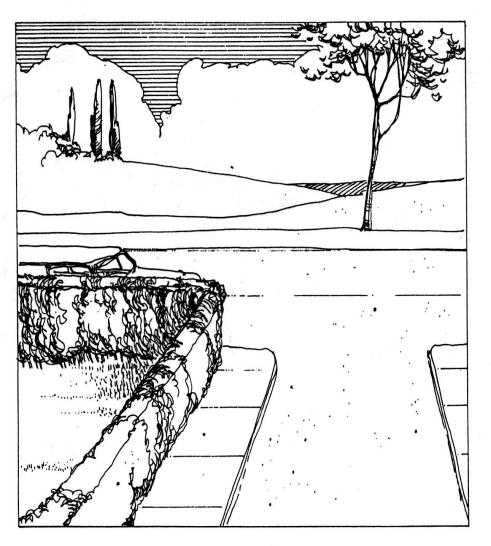


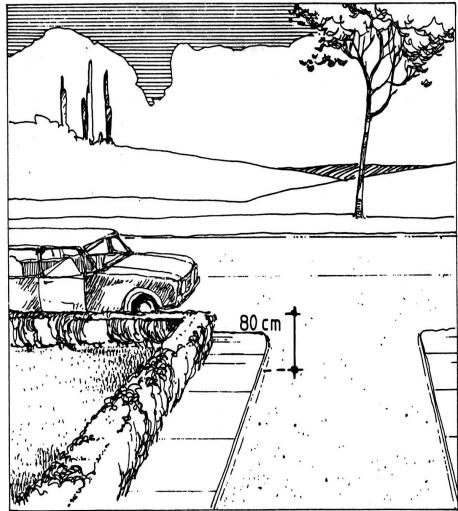




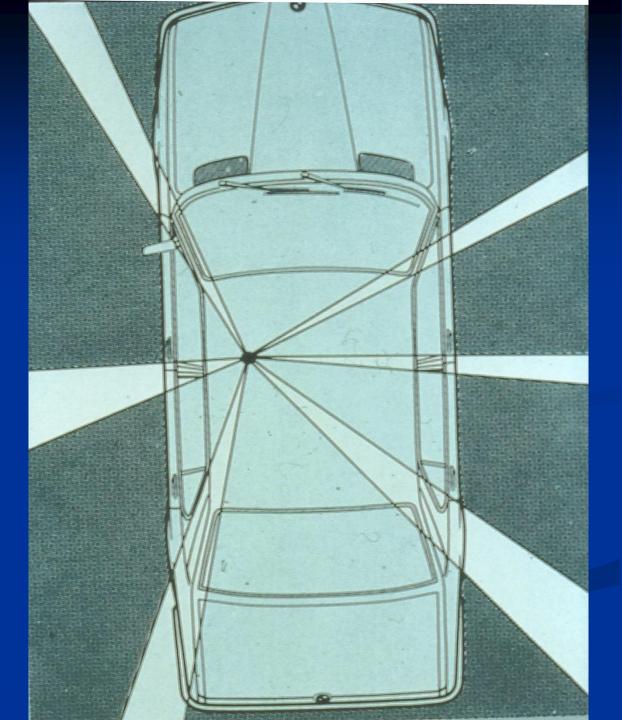








# Ergonomy of visibility

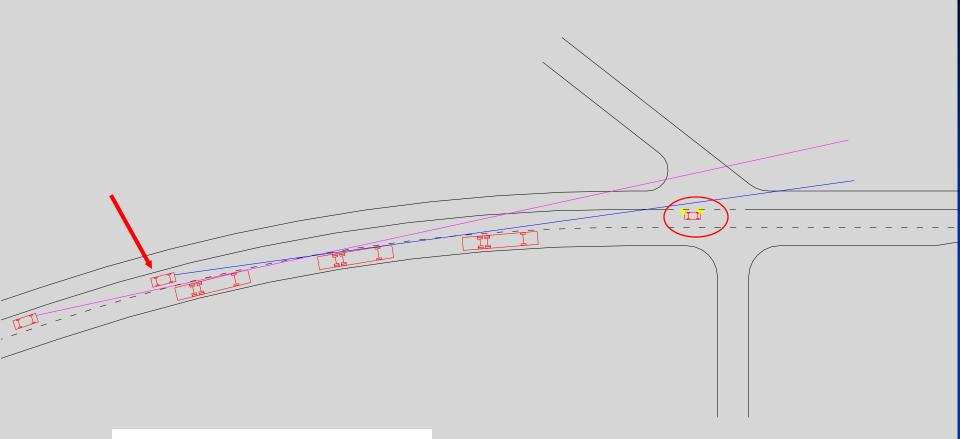








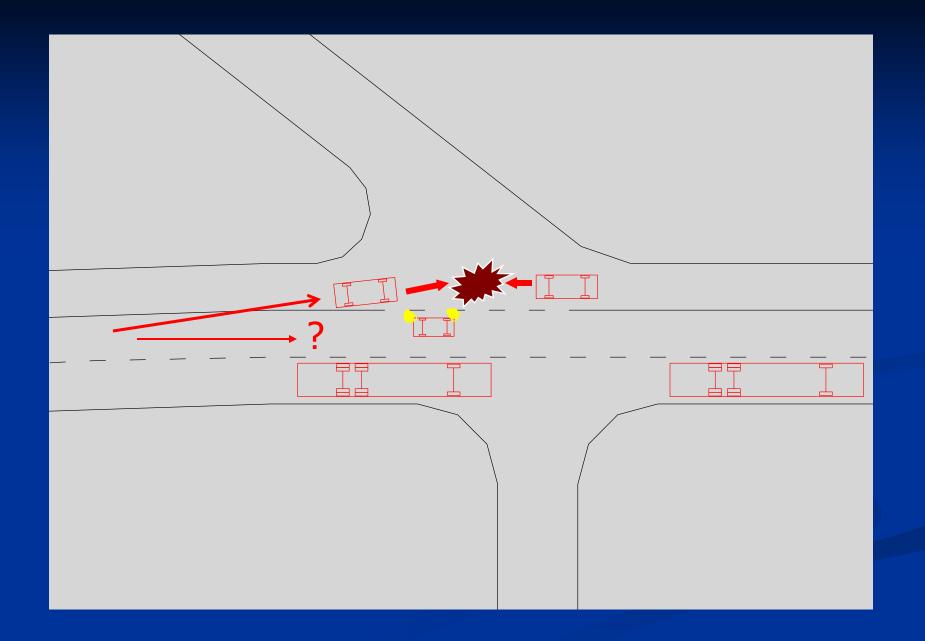


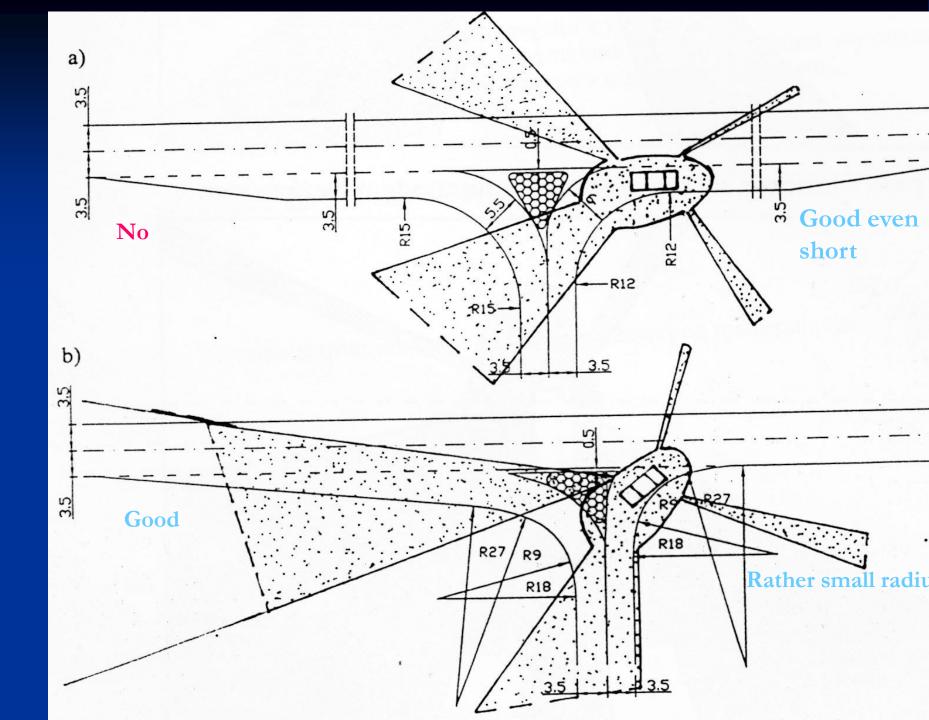


$$L_{ZMIN} = t_r \cdot V + L_h$$

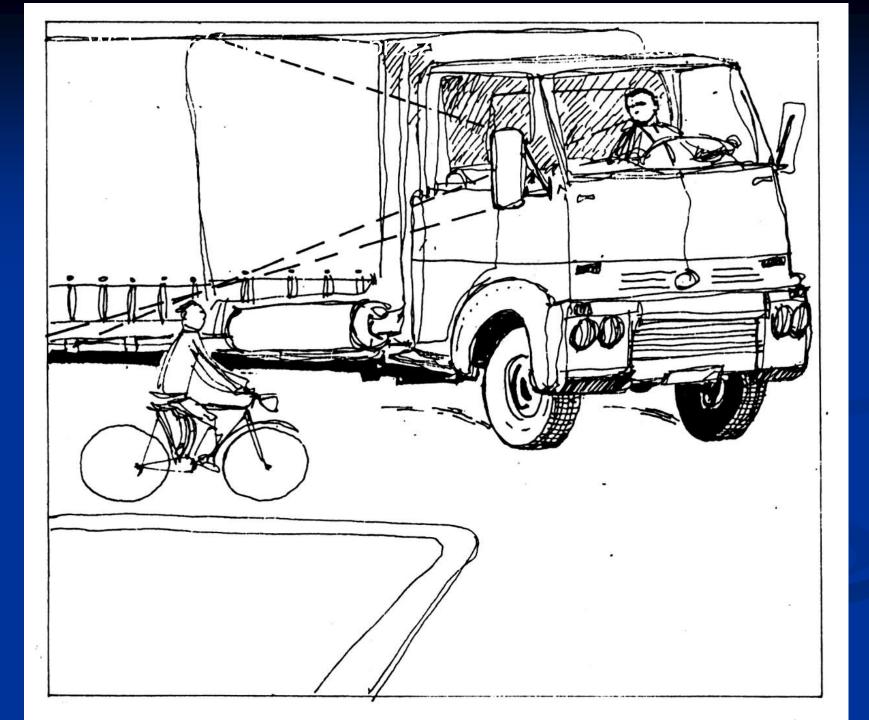
 $V = 90 \text{ km/h} - L_{ZMIN} = 80.6 \text{ m (117,2)}$  $V = 110 \text{ km/h} - L_{ZMIN} = 110,2 \text{ m (164,9)}$ 



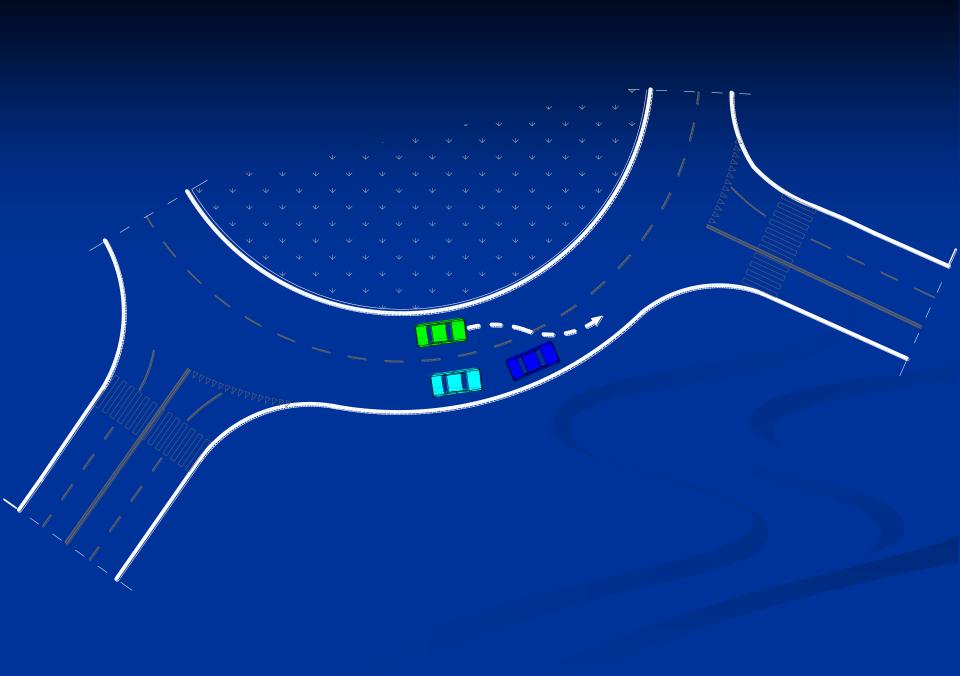












## Road safety audit

- The European Parliament and the Council of the European Union have adopted the Directive on Road Infrastructure Safety Management (19 Nov. 2008) in order to guarantee high level of road safety.
- These EU institutions came to conclusion that setting -up of appropriate procedures is an essential tool for improving a safety of road infrastructure.
- Two procedures: road safety impact assessment RSIA and road safety audit RSA

- Road safety impact assessment **RSIA** means a strategic comparative analysis of an impact of a new road (or substantial modification of the existing network) on safety performance of the network
- Road safety audit RSA means an independent detailed systematic and technical safety check relating to the design characteristics of road infrastructure project and covering all stages from planning to early operation
- The directive shall apply to roads which are part of the trans-European road network (usually national roads)

Why do people involved in the design and construction process make errors resulting in accidents as they should follow design guides?

- a. Road accident is a result of errors made by road users in circumstances ,,helping" to make these errors.
- b. These "helping circumswtances" are created by road factors, traffic control factors and varying traffic-road-weather conditions
- c. Good design and construction make a road ,,forgiving"; for example sharp braking on slip or skid resistance surface.

- Designing of road consists of a set of decisions related to vertical and horizontal alignment etc. . These decisions have an impact on accident risk, on frequency and severity of accidents. These decisions are usually made without knowledge on their impact on safety.
- For example how students select a radius for their horizontal curve in student's projects?
- Applying rules from guidelines in automatic way, beeing convinced that taking values from tables one produces safe project
- Short time used for real design as most of its time designer spends on environmental, economical, implementation and coordination issues.



Arriving to pedestrian crossing "in the shadow"



Vehicle can come in the shadow of other vehicle – not visible to pedestrian



Pedestrian crossing sign is not well seen, some signs are too small



## **Technical inspection issue**







