



Presentation of the projects in Chalkidiki and in Xanthi city



European Transport Safety Council



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Presentation of the site in Chalkidiki

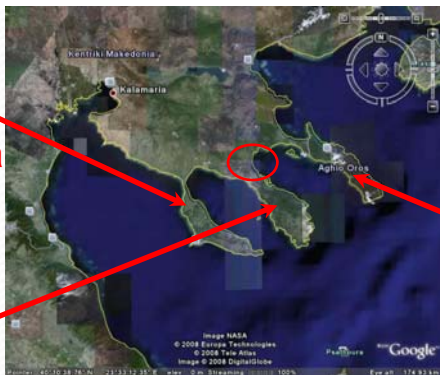
The high risk site is located in a built-up area named 'Akti Salonikiou', which tends to get very busy during the summer months as it is crossed by the main road that links the 2nd and the 3rd 'foot' (Peninsula) in Chalkidiki, the most popular summer resort in Northern Greece.



1st 'Foot'
Kassandra

2nd 'Foot'
Sithonia

3rd 'Foot' (Agio
Oros)



The junction



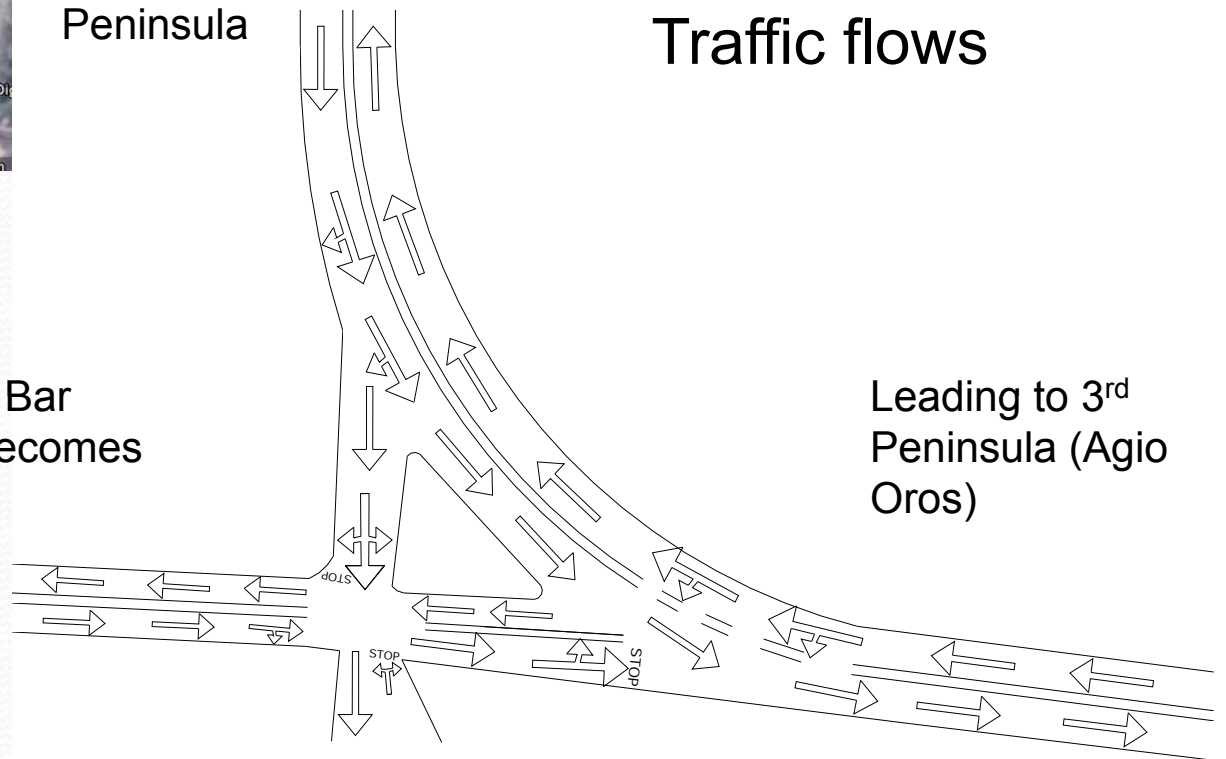
Secondary Road

Leading to 1st and 2nd Peninsula

Traffic flows

Leading to the local Bar and then the road becomes a dirt road

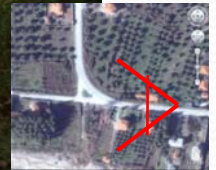
Leading to 3rd Peninsula (Agio Oros)



Now why this site poses a high risk for road users

A secondary road conveys traffic into the main road

- Road markings are not well maintained-Practically non-existent (especially in the curve).
- Poor lighting.
- No pedestrian crossings exist.



- Due to (high) vegetation on the sides of the road the curve of the main road is not visible.

- The vertical direction markings:

- At the junction only and not before it.
- There is poor maintenance of signs (graffiti rendered the signs illegible, which urged locals to refresh the signs by hand(!) and this was done in Greek only. Consequently, foreigners have no clue which way to go).



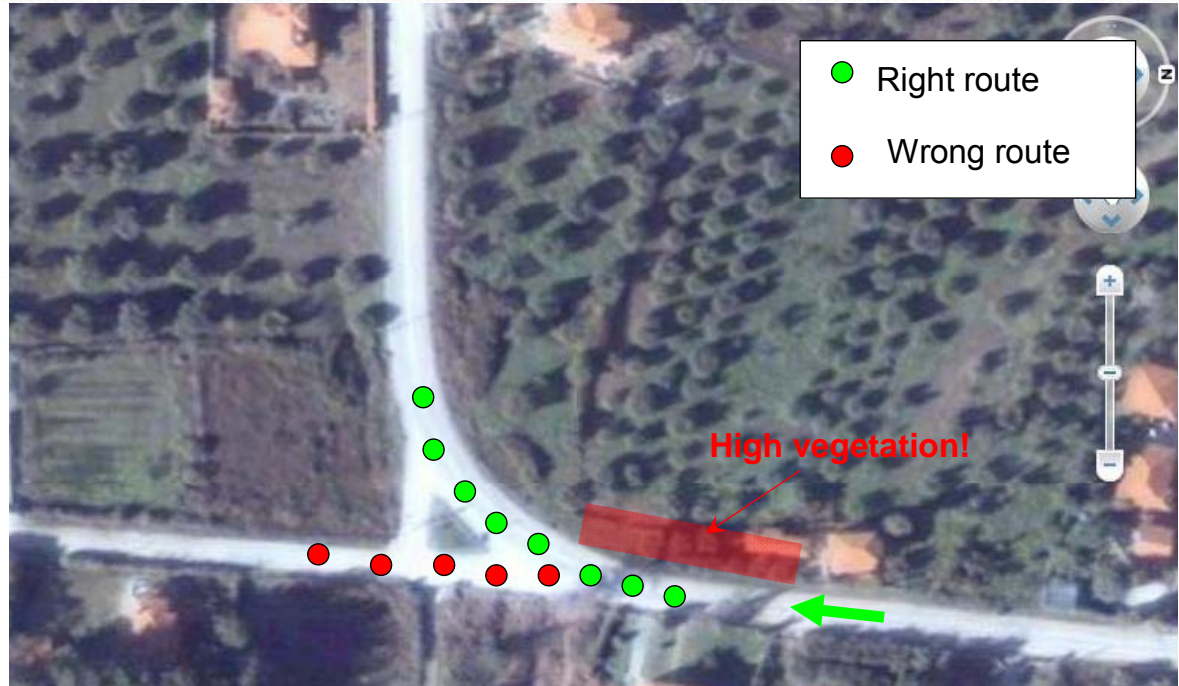
- There are 3 vertical traffic signs showing that the drivers have to pay attention, that there is a junction ahead, and the third sign showing that the main road turns right.



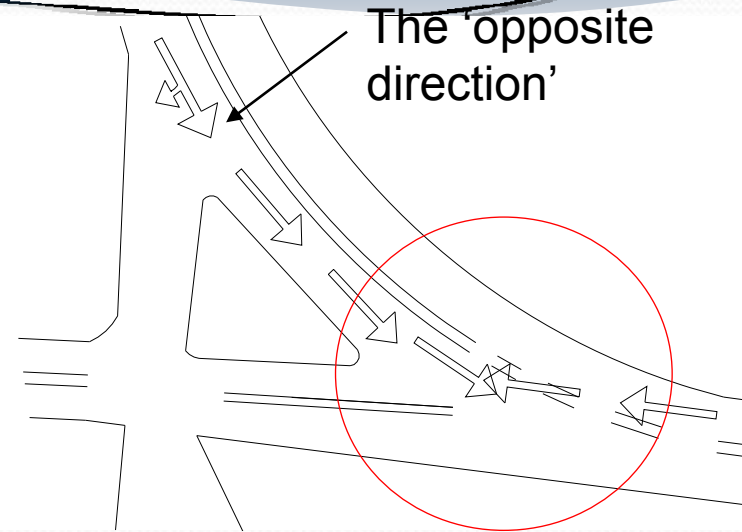
The Location



However, road users disregard these traffic signs and use their common sense, which says that:
The main road continues straight ahead and it is the secondary (subordinate) road that curves.



- Also drivers going the opposite direction are unsuspecting as they are on the main road, have no reason to pay attention or reduce speed in the junction and as a result collide with drivers who mistakenly continue straight ahead instead of turning right to continue to the main road.



- No provision has been made for drivers coming out of the subordinate road intending to turn left.



Results

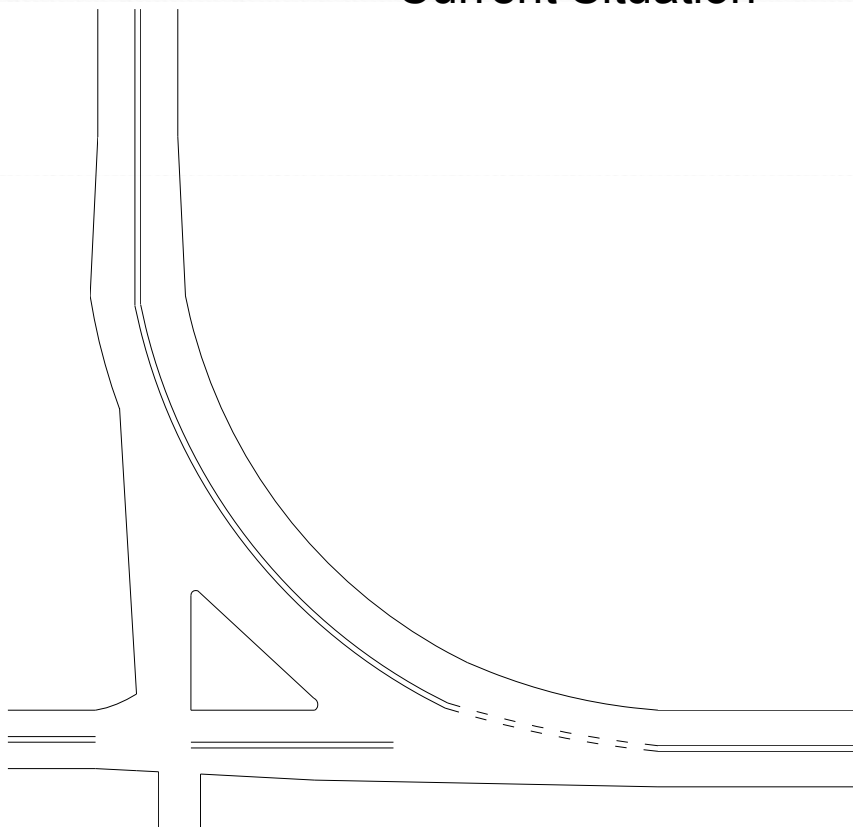
Very frequent collisions (the majority of accidents occur during the summer months, July, August, when the volume of traffic increases dramatically) resulting in injuries (more serious or less serious) but also fatal accidents when drivers exceed the speed limit (50Kph) allowed in the area.



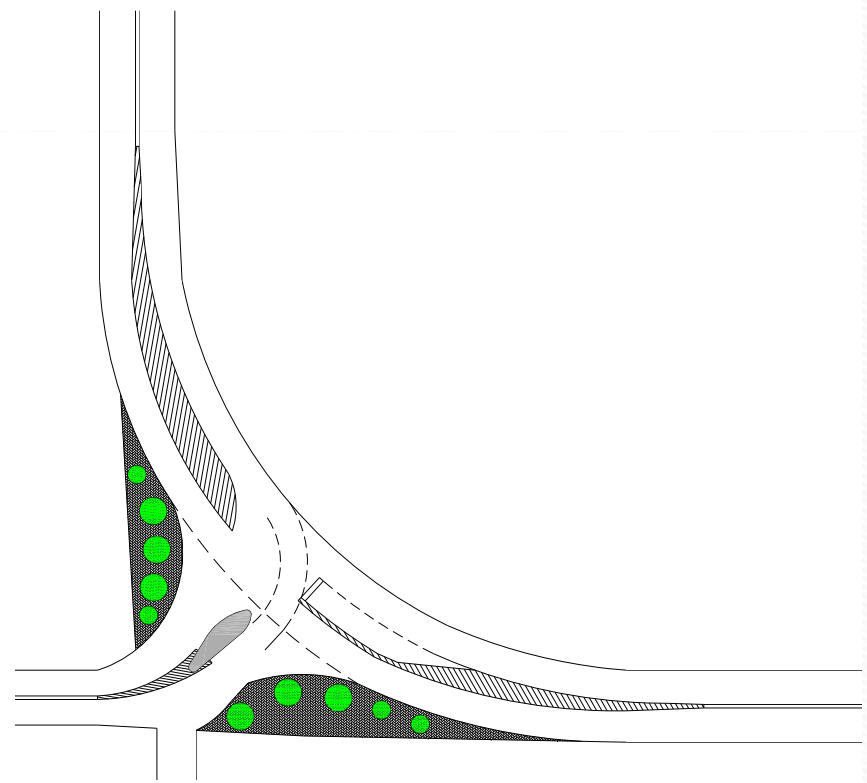
Final Proposal in order to fix the problem:

Our target is to make the junction 'clear' to all the users of the road.

Current Situation

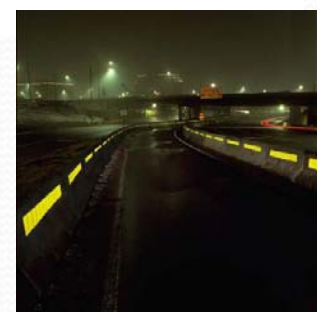
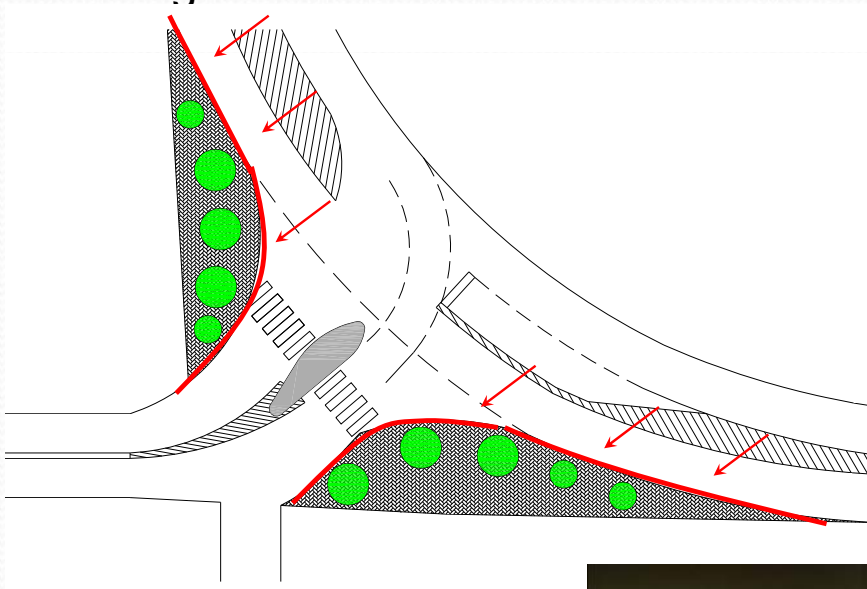
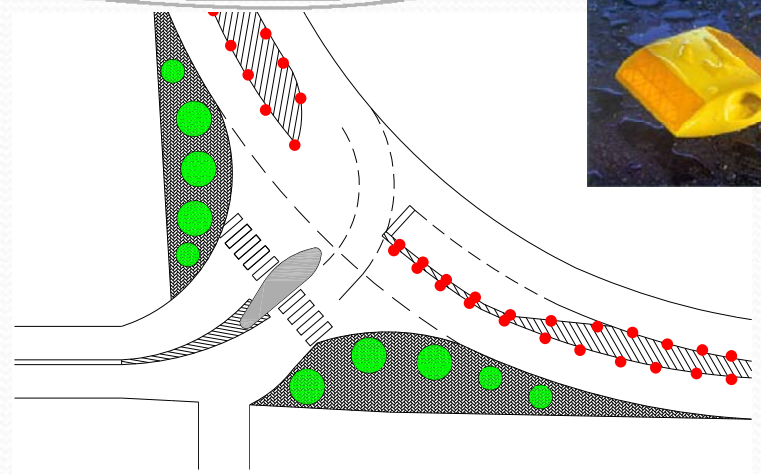


After the treatment



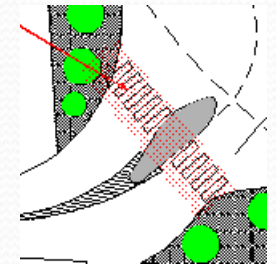
In Order to upgrade the safety levels, there should be installed:

- Reflective road marks-studs
- Barriers or Cones or PVC triangle-Posts



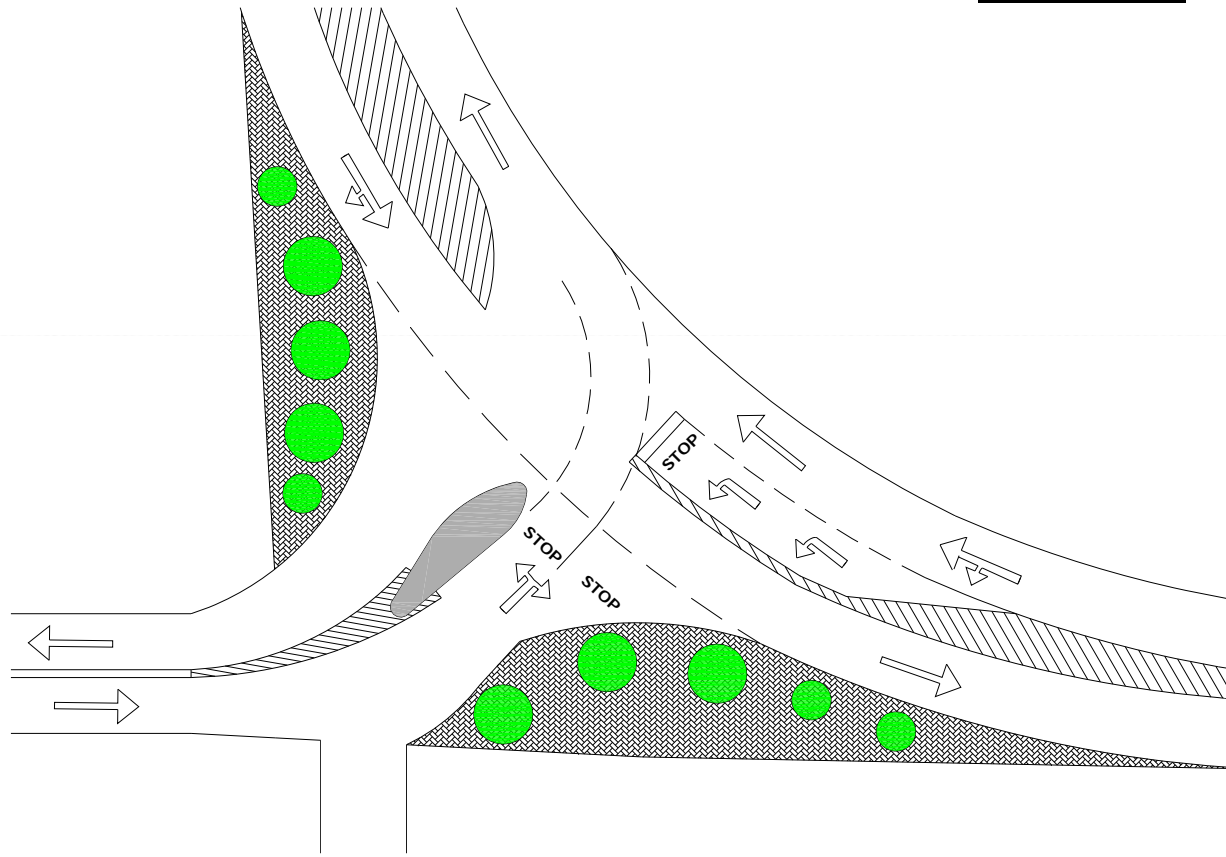
Benefits of the design:

- There is no direct connection between the main and the subordinate road.
→ Drivers can not be confused or see the subordinate road as a continuation of the main road and the opposite (This is the main reason for the accidents at this junction).
- Creation of a safe passage for pedestrians-locals and for tourists



- Clear delineation of the road with no room for misinterpretation. Also we canalize the flow of cars.

Traffic flows



Target result: reduction in the number of accidents and eventually elimination especially the severe and fatal ones.

Campaign and strategy followed in convincing the Local Authorities to act

Gained the support of

- local residents of the community including the President of the local community
- local businesses-hotels
- local Church

→ Having gained the required support, I presented the problem to the competent authority : The Prefecture of Chalkidiki, which committed itself to implementing the project by the end of 2009.



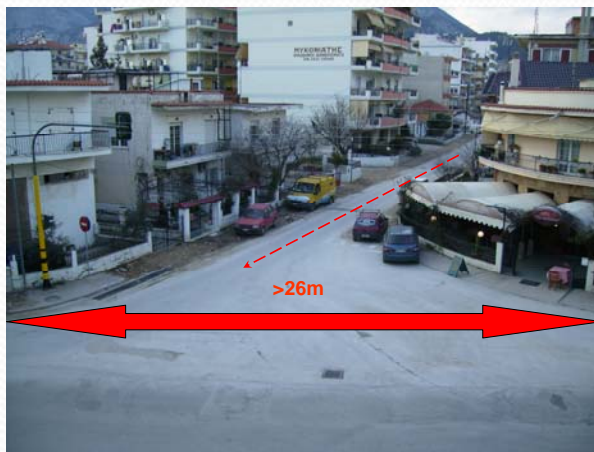
Presentation of the site in Xanthi City

Clemenceau Street is a very busy and crucial subordinate road. It is one way street leading into Leoforos Stratou street. We can locate a high risk site at the end of the street where it meets 'Leoforos Stratou', a very important and busy main road.



The problems of the site

- Pedestrians have to cross an enormous distance in order to go from one pavement to the other.

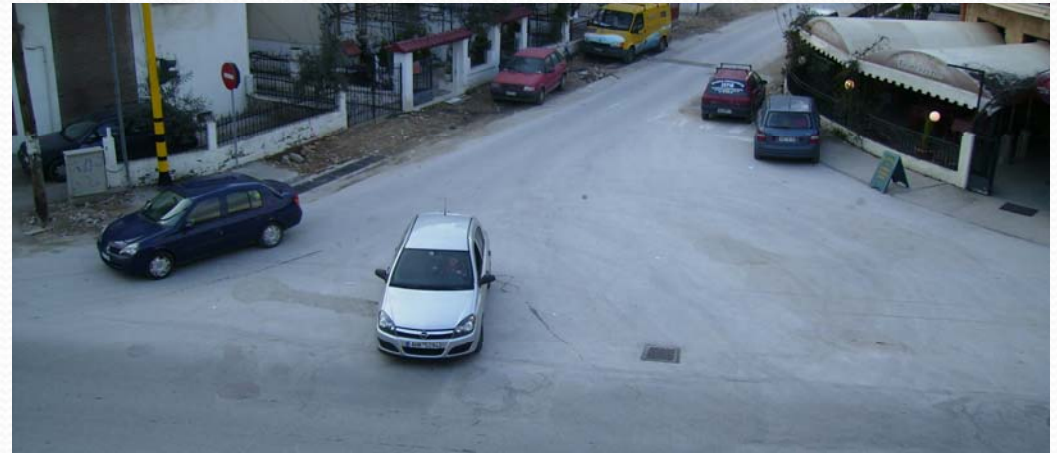


The woman with the baby in the push-chair has to cross all this distance!!

- The movements of the vehicles are not patterned and the drivers stop wherever they want.



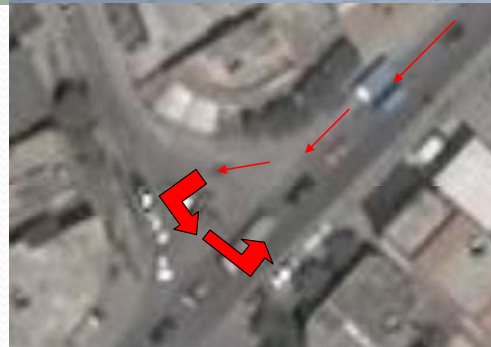
As a result, sometimes in the day we can see pictures like that. Simultaneously 3 cars are trying to turn left. This can cause accidents. One can imagine the danger when pedestrians need to cross the spot.



Both cars are trying simultaneously to turn into the same direction



- Some other traffic violations which can cause accidents. (U-Turn)



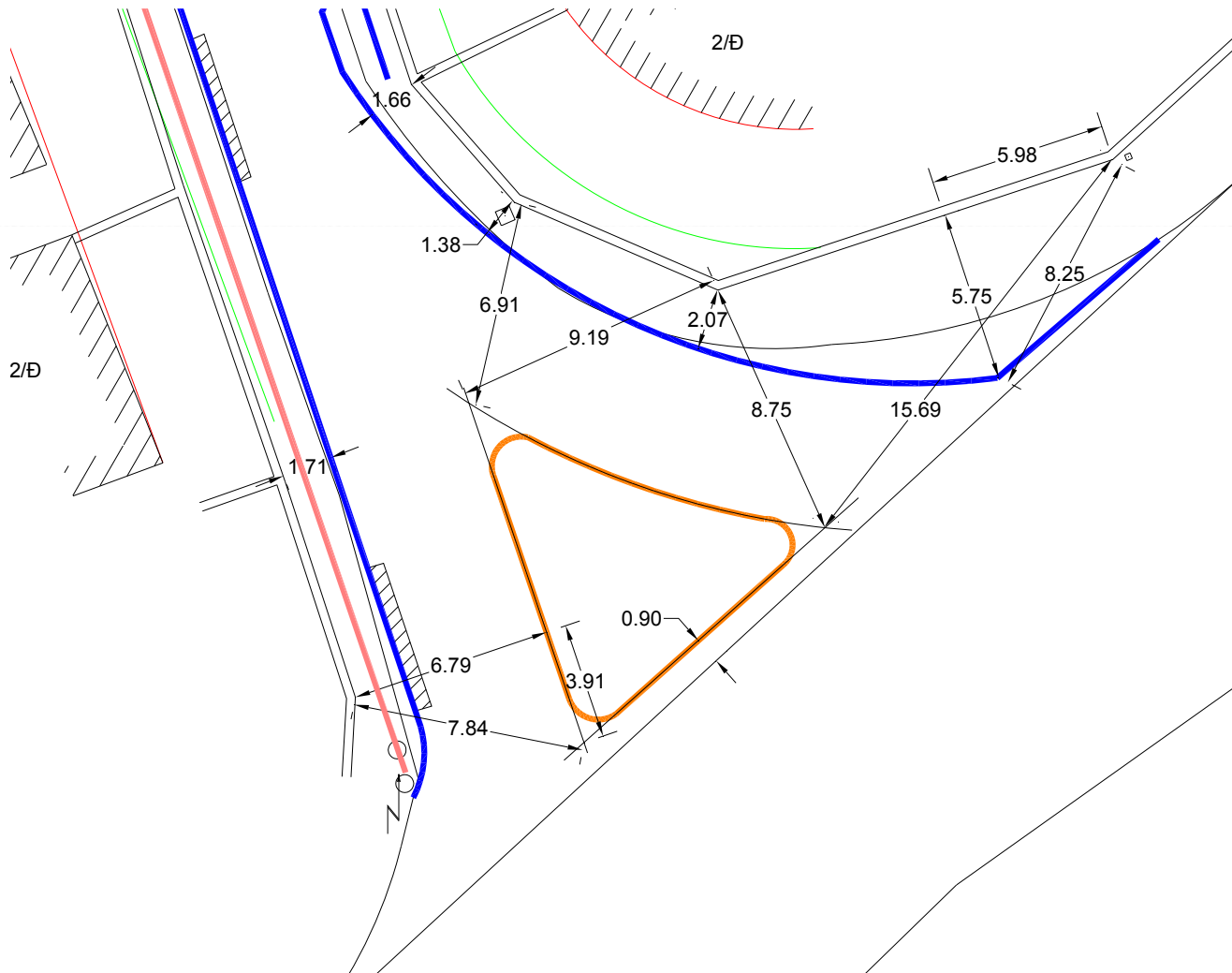
Campaign for the treatment of the problem

- Raising awareness of the local community and local shop keepers proved most important.
- Also the support I had from my university was instrumental in the best collaboration with the Technical Department of the Municipality of Xanthi.



The final solution

The final proposal approved by the Technical Department of the Municipality of Xanthi, which was eventually implemented.






Before

**Current
Situation**





I would like to thank ETSC for giving me the opportunity through the R2R programme to work on such an interesting project and to be able to contribute to the road safety of my community in Chalkidiki and Xanthi and help within my power to improve quality and safety of streets in towns and the road network in my country and ultimately Europe.

I would also like to thank sponsors Toyota and 3M whose contribution gives young people opportunities. I hope they will continue supporting such endeavours in the future.



Thank You for Your
attention.

Iwona Sulowska
Piotr Paloczny

Petros Sekeris