



INNOVATIVE INTERCHANGES

# Displaced Left Turn (DLT)



I-35 at E Hopkins Street, San Marcos, TX

**A DISPLACED LEFT TURN (DLT)  
IS ALSO KNOWN AS:**

- Continuous Flow Interchange

## What is a DLT?

- Interchange design where left-turn vehicles cross to the other side of the opposing through traffic in advance of the freeway ramps
- Protected left turns and opposing through movements occur simultaneously at the two ramp intersections
- Ramp intersections and crossovers are signalized and timed to work together to minimize stops
- Interchange can be designed as an overpass or an underpass

## When should a DLT be considered?

- At interchanges with heavy through traffic volumes in both directions of the arterial roadway
- At interchanges with moderate to heavy left-turn traffic volumes onto the freeway ramps
- At interchanges with low to moderate left-turn traffic volumes onto the arterial from the freeway
- At interchanges with limited bridge width, but with right-of-way available approaching the bridge

## What are the benefits of a DLT?

- **Improved safety:** Spreads out the number of potential conflict points where vehicles may cross paths
- **Increased efficiency:** Simultaneous movement of protected left turns and opposing through movements allows for only two traffic signal phases rather than the typical four phases, which reduces delay
- **Better synchronization:** Corridor travel times are improved through elimination of left-turn traffic signal phases and synchronization of the ramp intersections and crossover traffic signals, allowing through traffic to spend less time stopped

## What are innovative interchanges?

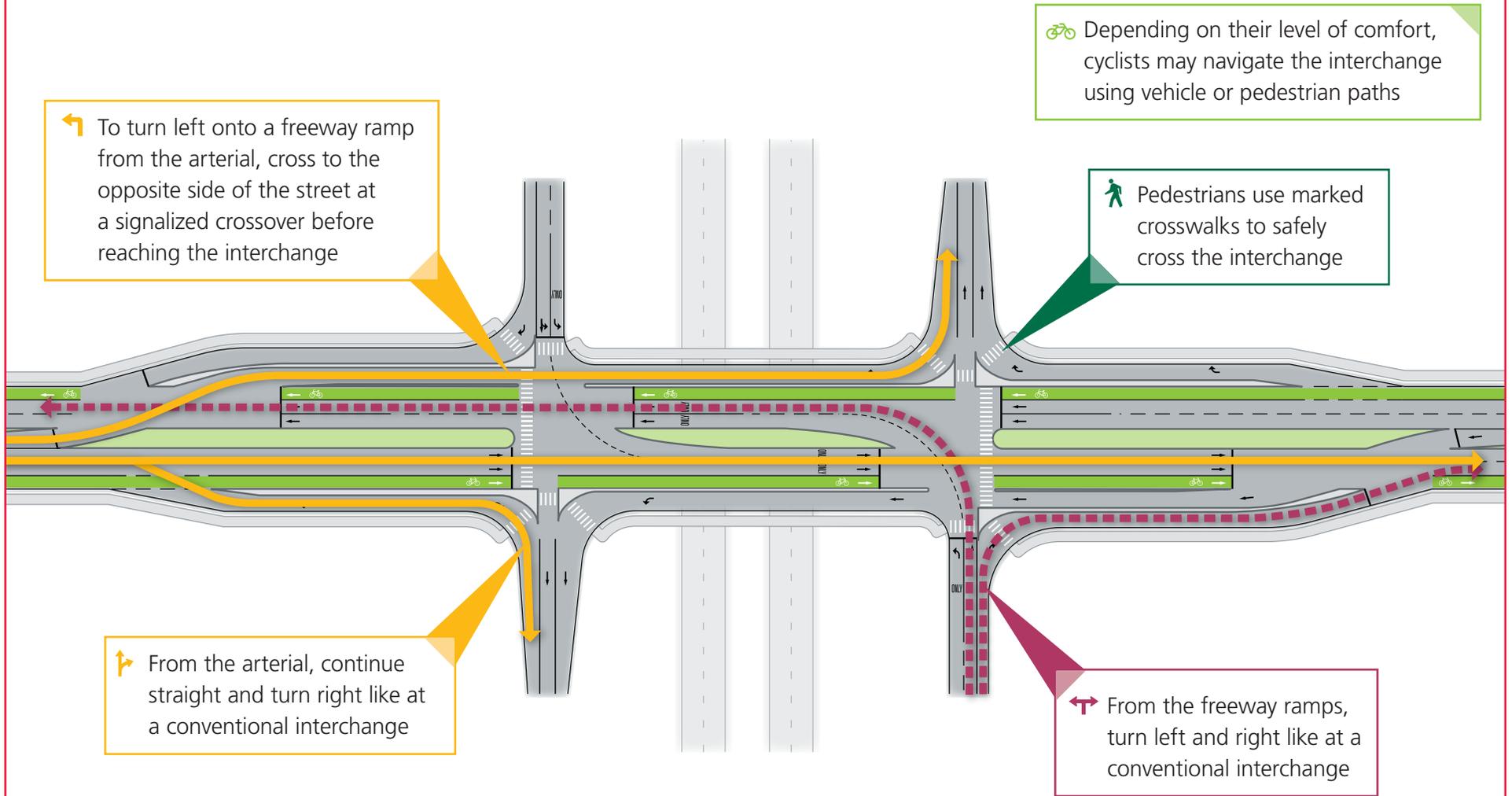
Interchange designs where traffic movements are modified to improve safety, reduce delay, and increase efficiency.

Visit [www.virginiaodt.org/innovativeintersections](http://www.virginiaodt.org/innovativeintersections) to learn more.





# Navigating a Displaced Left Turn (DLT)



NOT TO SCALE

Note: For simplicity, only two directions of traffic are shown. Opposing traffic follows similar routes.