

In light of the high cost of fuel, I thought this fact would be of timely interest. It is from a NPR program called “KickingTires”, and I found it using Google News Alerts.

Gas-Saving Moment of the Day: Designing Local Roads



The power to save consumers fuel lies not only with drivers, but also with local governments. We've written before about how lowering the speed limit on highways can save gas, but you can also support simple changes in your own neighborhood that will save fuel.

For instance, removing unnecessary stop signs saves gas. Every time a car has to stop and accelerate it wastes fuel. Also, stop lights are particularly notorious gas-chuggers because they force a line of traffic to sit in a perpetual idle.

The solution? Become an advocate for roundabouts. Replacing traffic lights with large roundabouts not only reduces gas use, because fewer vehicles are coming to a stop, but also reduces traffic accidents.