

Intersection Design

Intersections should be carefully situated to avoid steep profile grades and to ensure adequate approach site distance. An intersection should not be situated on a short-crest vertical curve, just beyond a short-crest vertical curve, or on a sharp horizontal curve. When there is no practical alternate to such a location, the approach sight distance on each leg should be checked carefully. Where necessary, backslopes should be flattened and horizontal or vertical curves lengthened to provide additional sight distance. Sight distance should be sufficient to permit a vehicle on the minor leg of the intersection to cross the traveled way without requiring the approaching through traffic to slow down. As a general rule, there should be a minimum of 7 sec available to the driver of a passenger vehicle crossing the through lanes. On this basis, the suggested corner sight distance for each design speed would be as given in Table V-11. For further details see section on sight distance in Chapter IX.

Design Speed (mph)	Corner Intersection Sight Distance (ft) ^a
60	650 ^b
50	515
40	415
30	310
20	210

^aCorner sight distance measured from a point on the minor road at least 15 ft from the edge of the major road pavement and measured from a height of eye at 3.50 ft on the minor road to a height of object at 4.25 ft on the major road.

^bAt 60 mph stopping sight distance governs.

Table V-11. Corner sight distances at rural intersections.

Intersections should be designed with a corner radius of the pavement or surfacing that is adequate for the larger vehicles anticipated. For minimum edge radius, see Table II-2, Chapter II. Where

Local Roads and Streets

turning volumes are significant, change lanes and channels.

Intersection legs that open to be 90° if possible, but in Chapter IX.

Railroad - Local-Road Grade

Appropriate grade-crossing railroad - local-road grade crossings are given in the MUTCD (2) devices to be used may be

Sight distance is an important factor. There must be sufficient sight distance to recognize the crossing, stop if necessary.

The roadway width at all points should be the width of the approach road.

Traffic Control Devices

Signs, pavement and other traffic control devices are essential for the safe operation of roads. Refer to the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* for details of the devices to be used for their use.

Erosion Control

All slopes and drainage areas should be protected for the desired natural ground cover. Erosion control including seeding and mulching is an important part of local road design. Consideration should be given to erosion control requirements and overall economic factors.

In roadside design the presence of desirable growth of shrubs and trees is important. That such growth does not constitute a hazard to the road is a consideration.