

# ACCESS MANAGEMENT

IL Route 31 is a Strategic Regional Arterial. Strategic Regional Arterials supplement the expressway system and move high volumes of traffic over long distances. Access to roads like this must be carefully managed to improve safety and reduce traffic congestion. The raised median along IL Route 31 provides this management. Breaks in the raised median are provided at most cross streets and at 1/4 mile intervals to ensure adequate spacing of left turns and u-turns.

## Raised Median Safety Benefits:

- Reduce potential for head-on collisions
- Facilitates efficient operations for drivers
- Refuge is provided for left-turn vehicles - making access safer for vehicles turning left from IL Route 31
- Provides opportunities for improved corridor aesthetics

## Safety Benefits of U-Turns

U-turn movements have fewer conflict points between vehicles compared with left turning movements.

Studies have shown that providing u-turns versus left turns in or out of driveways and side streets can result in a crash reduction of 25%.

