



Exchange

April 9, 2015

EDC Exchange for Local and Tribal Agencies Road Diets (Roadway Reconfiguration)

Four-lane undivided highways experience relatively high crash frequencies--especially between high-speed through traffic, left-turning vehicles and other road users. One option for addressing this safety concern is a Road Diet, which typically involves converting an existing four-lane undivided roadway segment to a three-lane segment consisting of two through lanes and a center two-way left-turn lane. This reconfiguration has many benefits:

Safety. Road Diets can make the roadway environment safer for all users. Studies indicate a 19 to 47 percent reduction in overall crashes when a Road Diet is installed. For pedestrians, Road Diets result in fewer lanes to cross and provide an opportunity to install refuge islands.

Low Cost. Road Diets make efficient use of limited roadway area. When planned in conjunction with reconstruction or simple overlay projects, the safety and operational benefits of Road Diets are achieved essentially for the cost of restriping pavement lanes.

Quality of Life. Road Diets can make shared spaces more livable and contribute to a community-focused, "Complete Streets" environment. On-street parking and bike lanes can also bring increased foot traffic to business districts.

As part of the safety focus area of the Every Day Counts (EDC) initiative, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is promoting Road Diets. This EDC Exchange will highlight how local agencies are using this low cost safety countermeasure to improve safety, operations, and livability in their communities. This Exchange will be of interest to Safety Engineers, Transportation Planners, Pedestrian and Bicycle Coordinators, Safe Routes to School Coordinators, Local Public Agency Coordinators, and Transportation Alternatives Program Managers.

Please join FHWA, the Lone Star Local Technical Assistance Program Center and the Texas Department of Transportation for a presentation on Road Diets via a live webinar on April 9, 2015 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm Central Time.

The following are locations for your participation:

Austin: TxDOT Cedar Park Campus, Conf. Room C109, 9500 N. Lake Creek Parkway, Austin 78717 (Phone: 512/506-5971)

Dallas area: TxDOT District Office, VTC1, 4777 E. Highway 80, Mesquite 75150 (Phone: 214/320-6280)

Fort Worth: TxDOT District Office, Trinity Room, 2501 SW Loop 820, Fort Worth 76133 (Phone: 817/370-6500)

Houston: TxDOT District Office, Room 105, 7600 Washington Street, Houston 77007 (Phone: 713/802-5018)

Lubbock: TxDOT District Office, ROW-Brazos Rm., 135 Slaton Highway, Lubbock, TX 79404 (Phone: 806/748-4424)

San Antonio: TxDOT District Office, Bldg. 11, 4615 NW Loop 410, San Antonio 78229 (Phone: 210/615-5960)

Please use photocopy or electronic means to share this announcement with anyone that might have interest.

