

# Channelization

**Channelization is one of three approach permit approval standards.**

## Points of Interest

What is channelization?

What factors may lead to a need for channelization?

Why is ODOT concerned about channelization?

## Factors that may lead to a need for channelization:

- ✓ Number of daily vehicle trips on the highway.
- ✓ Number of daily vehicle trips for an existing or proposed land development.
- ✓ Traffic speed.
- ✓ Number of through travel lanes.

## What is Channelization?

Channelization means the roadway lane configuration necessary to safely move traffic on and off the highway. It allows motorists to move at different speeds and in potentially conflicting directions without colliding. Channelization is used on high volume highways and at high volume approaches.

Channelization takes the form of left turn lanes and right turn lanes that define travel paths.



Left turn lanes create a refuge for motorists to move out of the through travel lanes while waiting to turn left across oncoming traffic.



Right turn lanes allow motorists to move out of the through travel lanes and slow before turning from right the highway.

## Why is ODOT concerned about channelization ?

Turning lanes help reduce crashes in the vicinity of driveways where vehicles are moving at lower speeds to enter or exit the highway.

Turning lanes allow through traffic on the highway to maintain travel speeds instead of slowing to allow turning traffic to enter or exit from the highway.