

# Install Post-Mounted Delineators



These delineators help drivers stay within the travel lane and anticipate changes in roadway geometry, especially at night or in adverse weather.

## Implementation Strategy

### How and Where to Apply

- Install on curves, ramps, and tangent sections of high-speed arterials, freeways, and expressways—especially in areas prone to nighttime crashes or lacking sufficient roadway lighting.
- Delineators are reflective posts placed at intervals to guide drivers through curves and transitions. Not suitable on well-lit roads or where alignment is already clear.

### Use in a Safe System Approach

Post-mounted delineators support the Safe Roads element of the Safe System Approach by improving visual guidance, especially at night or in adverse weather. By reducing run-off-road crashes and helping drivers correct errors early, they reinforce the principle that human mistakes should not result in death or serious injury.

### Key Stakeholders

State DOTs, MPOs, engineering consultants, highway safety engineers.

### Proactive Implementation

Identify curves or segments with a history of nighttime or run-off-road crashes, particularly on unlit roads. Incorporate delineators into routine maintenance or safety improvement programs, especially during resurfacing, restriping, or signage upgrades. Use asset management systems to prioritize locations with insufficient visual guidance or minimal existing infrastructure.

## Countermeasure Overview

**Objective:** Keep vehicles from encroaching on the roadside.

**Strategy:** Provide enhanced shoulder or in-lane delineation and marking for sharp curves.

## Targeted Solution



### CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

- Reduced visibility
- Lack of visual cues



### TARGET CRASH TYPE

- Run-off Road



### ROAD FACILITY TYPE

- Principal Arterial
- Freeway
- Expressways



### AREA TYPE

- Rural

## Safety Linkage



### NCHRP 500 Series

Run-off roads



### AASHTO'S TOWARD ZERO DEATHS

Safer Infrastructures



### SAFE SYSTEM APPROACH

Safe Roads

### SAFE SYSTEM ROADWAY DESIGN

TIER 1

TIER 2

TIER 3

TIER 4

Tier 4

## Selected Related Countermeasures

CM1

Chevron signs

CM2

Enhanced edge lines

CM3

Raised pavement markers

**Cost:** \$ (Low)

**Service Life:** 5 years

Post-mounted Delineators. Source: FHWA.

15%

Reduces run-off-road crashes and all severity levels on rural two-lane undivided roads (CMF ID: 9727)

10%

Reduces run-off-road crashes across severity levels K, A, B, and C on rural two-lane undivided roads (CMF ID: 9728)



### Resources

- [Study of Flexible Delineator Post Performance and Revision of Existing Pre-Qualification Specifications](#)
- [Traffic Accident Analysis and Roadway Visibility](#)

