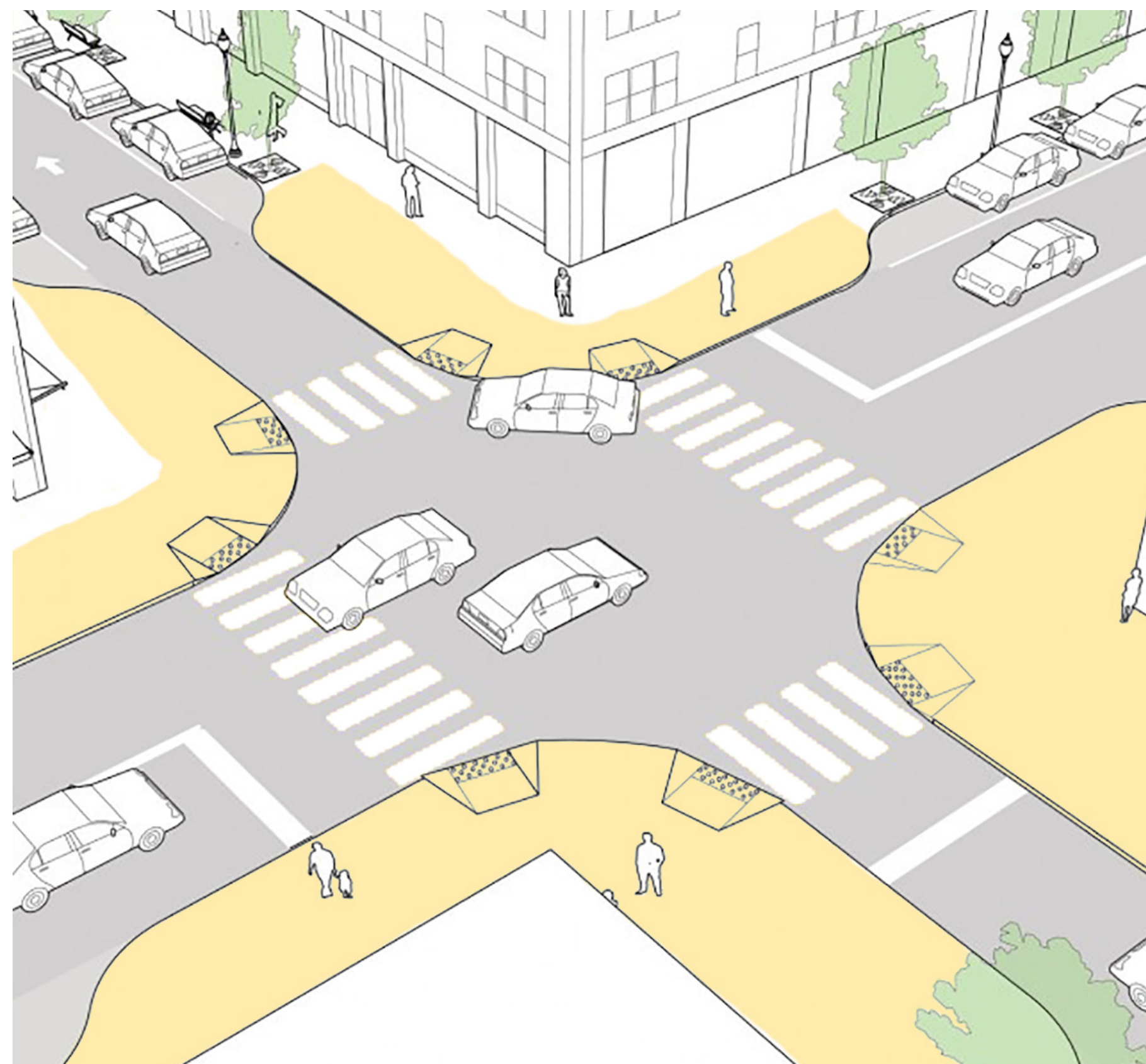


Definition

Bulb-outs, also known as curb extensions, extend the sidewalk or curb line out into the parking lane, which reduces the effective street width. Bulb-outs significantly improve pedestrian crossings by reducing the pedestrian crossing distance, visually and physically narrowing the roadway, improving the ability of pedestrians and motorists to see each other, reducing the time that pedestrians are in the street, and allowing space for the installation of ADA-compliant pedestrian ramps.

Definition adapted from Pedestrian Safety Guide and Countermeasure Selection System, pedbikesafe.org







Illustrations of bulb-outs and example photos from National Association of City Transportation Officials. (NACTO.org)



Examples



Benefits of Bulb-outs

-  Slow and calm traffic
-  Provide space to install ADA-compliant pedestrian ramps on existing sidewalks where they are otherwise too narrow
-  Provide additional visibility and protection for pedestrians when crossing the street
-  Reduce the pedestrian exposure to vehicular traffic

Challenges with Bulb-outs

-  Will require eliminating on-street parking in vicinity of intersection.
-  May be difficult for large delivery trucks to navigate.