

Is a Reversible Lane a Potential Solution?

As a typical four-lane arterial roadway requires a significant Right-of-Way, a possible measure to minimize land acquisitions and construction costs, while increasing capacity can be through the use of a reversible lane.

What is a reversible lane? A reversible lane is a traffic lane where the traffic flow is reversed to the opposing direction for a set period of time, taking advantage of underutilized capacity in the off-peak direction.

There are many factors to consider with respect to implementation of a reversible lane within the corridor

Demand for Turning Movements: The number of existing driveways, the presence of minor intersections, and the current demand for turning movements is significant and expected to increase in the future. If accesses are restricted to facilitate a reversible lane, future development/intensification along the corridor may be negatively impacted.

Intersection Control: Based on projected traffic volumes, additional intersection control will be needed at the Carp/Rothbourne intersection. A series of traffic controls within a corridor, be it traffic signals or round-a-bouts, poses significant design challenges and an increased workload for the driver.

Visual Impact: Overhead signals would be required approximately every 200 m, as well as, additional signage, which may make the corridor not visually acceptable to local residents and businesses.

On this basis of these considerations, a reversible lane has been screened out as a solution for Carp Road.

