George Washington Memorial Parkway

National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior





Diagram shows a CGT intersection at the Belle Haven Road intersection along the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP).

New Traffic Pattern for Belle Haven and Belle View Intersections

Intersections within roadway systems create points of conflict for motorists. Improvements to turning movements, through channelization or even physically preventing turns, can result in reductions in certain types of crashes.

To address this safety issue and to improve traffic flow, some highway designers have replaced conventional intersections with low-cost, alternative geometric strategies, including the Continuous Green T-Intersection (CGT).

A 2016 FHWA study showed that the safety of CGTs compares favorably with that of conventional T-intersections.



What Is A CGT?

Intersection design where one major street direction of travel (the top side of the "T") can pass through the intersection without stopping.

Left-turn vehicles from the side street use a channelized receiving lane on the major street to merge onto the major street. This improves safety by reducing the potential for angle crashes.

CGT intersections are characterized by a channelized left-turn movement from the minor street approach onto the mainline (major street).



Diagram shows the CGT intersection at the Belle Haven Road intersection along the GWMP.

In April of 2021, the National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) completed a traffic and safety assessment on the southern section of the George Washington Memorial Parkway. After engaging with subject matter experts and the public, the study identified context sensitive solutions that make the road safer and protect the scenic and historic values of the parkway. The study made recommendations for the parkway based on the 3E's (Enforcement, Education, and Engineering) model for improved traffic safety. In addition, to other engineering recommendations the study identified conceptual designs for Belle Haven and Belle View intersections. These conceptual designs included the CGT which were adopted and implemented to guide motorists through intersections, providing clear delineation for traffic movements, reducing the frequency and severity of accidents.