

Table 1: Road Classification Criteria

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Characteristic	Locals	Collectors	Minor Arterials	Major Arterials	Expressways
Traffic movement versus property access	Property access primary function	Traffic movement and property access of equal importance	Traffic movement primary consideration; some property access control	Traffic movement primary consideration; subject to property access control	Traffic movement primary consideration; no property access
Typical daily motor vehicle traffic volume (both directions)	< or = 2,500	2,500 - 8000	8,000 - 20,000	> 20,000	> 40,000
Minimum number of peak period lanes (excluding bicycle lanes)	One (one-way streets) or two	One (one-way streets) or two	Two	Four	Four
Desirable connections	Locals, collectors	Locals, collectors, arterials	Collectors, arterials	Collectors, arterials, expressways	Major arterials, expressways
Flow characteristics	Interrupted flow	Interrupted flow	Uninterrupted except at signals and crosswalks	Uninterrupted except at signals and crosswalks	Free-flow (grade separated)
Legal speed limit, km/h	40 - 50	40 - 50	40 - 60	50 - 60 ¹	80 – 100
Accommodation of pedestrians	Sidewalks on one or both sides	Sidewalks on both sides	Sidewalks on both sides	Sidewalks on both sides	Pedestrians prohibited
Accommodation of cyclists	Special facilities as required		Wide curb lane or special facilities desirable		Cyclists prohibited
Surface transit	Generally not provided	Permitted	Preferred	Preferred	Express buses only
Surface transit daily passengers	Not applicable	< or = 1,500	1,500 - 5,000	> 5,000	Not applicable
Heavy truck restrictions (e.g. seasonal or night time)	Restrictions preferred	Restrictions permitted	Generally no restrictions	Generally no restrictions	No restrictions
Typical spacing between traffic control devices², m	0 - 150	215 - 400	215 - 400	215 - 400	Not applicable
Typical right-of-way width, m	15 - 22	20 - 27	20 ³ – 30 ⁴	20 ³ – 45 ⁴	> 45 ⁴

Notes: Private roads and lanes (public or private) are not part of this classification system.

1. A number of major arterial roads have speed limits which fall outside this range, as noted in the report under the heading “Speed Limits”.
2. Traffic control devices means traffic control signals, pedestrian crossovers and ‘Stop’ signs.
3. 20 m rights-of-way exist on many downtown or older arterial roads. New arterial roads should have wider rights-of-way.
4. Wider rights-of-way (within the ranges given) are sometimes required to accommodate other facilities such as utilities, noise mitigation installations, bicycle facilities, and landscaping. For new streets, wider rights-of-way (upper end of ranges given) should be considered to accommodate such facilities.

This table to be used in conjunction with the report “Road Classification System – A Consolidated Report”.