

Road safety:



Walking & cycling:



Community value:





Modal filters prevent motor vehicles from travelling through a given point, while giving access to walking and cycling.

Advantages:

A modal filter is a cost-effective way to reduce traffic on a single street or – if designed holistically – across an entire neighbourhood.

Disadvantages:

Modal filters are more effective when implemented holistically across a neighbourhood. When installed in isolation modal filters could displace traffic onto neighbouring streets.

Trial:

Modal filters can be trialled using low-cost materials such as wooden planters.

Contact the project team

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Diagonal filter



Road safety:



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Community value:





A diagonal modal filter can be introduced at a crossroad. This prevents motor vehicles from travelling straight across the junction but allows vehicles to turn.

Advantages:

Diagonal modal filters take away the need to reverse, helping larger vehicles to get through the new road system.

Disadvantages:

Diagonal filters don't deliver the same placemaking outcomes of a full modal filter, because some traffic flow is retained.

Trial:

Diagonal modal filters can be trialled using low-cost materials such as wooden planters.

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Pocket park

Local streets



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Community value:





Modal filters could be extended to become pocket parks. Two rows of planters are used to create a central area where no motor vehicles are allowed, which can be turned into a pocket park. The size of pocket parks depends on the need for vehicles to access the area.

Advantages:

Pocket parks can give the most community value by introducing placemaking features, such as planting and benches.

Disadvantages:

Pocket parks use more street space and may mean some car parking spaces are lost.

Trial:

Pocket parks can be trialled using temporary features such as, street art, planting and benches.

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A bus gate is a camera-enforced modal filter which allows buses to travel through. Bus gates improve bus journey times and reliability as most private vehicle traffic will no longer be using the road.

Advantages:

Bus gates improve bus journey times and reliability as most private vehicle traffic will no longer be able to pass through. Exemptions can also be granted to taxis and private hire vehicles.

Disadvantages:

Bus gates do not entirely remove traffic from a street and so there are fewer opportunities for placemaking.

Trial:

Bus gates can be trialled using low-cost temporary materials such as wooden planters. Cameras will need to be installed to make sure that the bus gate is enforceable.

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Local streets

One ways/banned movements



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Community value:





Changes to how traffic accesses a neighbourhood can be made through making certain streets one-way or no entry. This can be useful in particularly narrow streets.

Advantages:

Using one-ways in conjunction with modal filters or banned turns can be an effective way to prevent through traffic from using a certain route.

Disadvantages:

One-way streets would need to be designed to enable cycling in both directions and would potentially need to include traffic calming measures, as traffic can speed up when streets are one-way. As vehicles would still be using the street, the benefits of placemaking and traffic reduction would not be realised.

Trial:

Changes to traffic movements can be trialled. Signage would be needed in advance to let people know about the change in direction of traffic.

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School Streets



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Community value:





School Streets turn streets around schools into priority zones for people to walk and cycle and restricts car use at the start and end of the school day. Residents can be exempted from the restrictions, which can be enforced by collapsible bollards or movable barriers often operated by school staff or volunteers.

Advantages:

School Streets can be a low-cost way of improving the walking and cycling environment at key times. They can relieve parking pressures, improve road safety for children, and discourage unnecessary car journeys.

Disadvantages:

School Streets can be quite resource intensive due to the need to move the barriers at drop off and pick up times. The improvements to walking and cycling are only experienced temporarily during peak times and there are limited opportunities for placemaking improvements.

Trial:

School Streets can be easily trialled by using low-cost temporary materials.

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