



FIGURE A-2-1

URBAN CLEAR ZONE WIDTH GUIDELINES

CLEAR ZONE COST-EFFECTIVENESS ANALYSIS

For projects where the clear zone widths from the AASHTO Roadside Design Guide are under consideration, Freeways; Rural and Urban Arterials (with shoulders); and Rural and Urban Collectors (with shoulders) with design speeds of 50 mph or greater and with a design year ADT greater than 2000, an early cost-effectiveness analysis is required to determine the feasibility of providing the **recoverable areas** to meet the clear zone requirements shown in TABLE A-2-1. This analysis should be done during the preliminary plan development process and should involve determining the additional construction and R/W costs to provide the desired clear zone.

Prior to establishing the additional **construction and R/W cost estimate**, the developed areas that would involve heavy R/W damages and/or relocations or environmental restrictions such as park properties, historic areas or wetlands should be noted and where practicable horizontal and vertical alignment adjustments are to be made to provide the desired recoverable areas and clear zones. In these situations alternate designs may include elimination of ditches and/or median width reductions with possible incorporation of raised medians or median barrier to reduce required R/W.

A suggested procedure is shown in FIGURE A-2-2 to develop the difference in cost between the typical section based on the project's functional classification and proper Geometric Design Standards and the typical section with the desired recoverable areas.