

Entrance Consolidation (Shared Use Entrances)

Shared use entrances are used to reduce the number of access points along a corridor while maintaining reasonable access to adjacent land uses. A shared use entrance generally serves only two parcels. The Access Management Regulations 24VAC30-73-120 requires shared entrances where possible.

A shared use entrance may be constructed if both property owners abutting a common property line agree. This encourages adjacent property owners to construct shared entrances in lieu of separate ones. Strategies for implementing this access control measure include closing existing entrances or authorizing joint-use ones. The feasibility of this measure should be viewed at the preliminary, site plan review and the permit-authorization stages. A shared entrance will result in a reduction in the concentration of entrances along a roadway, thus reducing the frequency and severity of conflicts.

The physical means by which access can be consolidated between two adjacent properties involves the construction of a joint-use entrance between the two properties. It is recommended that both property owners own the shared access drive. That is, the entrance should straddle the property line dividing the two establishments. The resulting joint-use parking area should be accompanied by an efficient internal circulation plan.

Interparcel Vehicular Connections

By establishing vehicular circulation connections between parcels (land uses), the driver needing to turn left across heavy volumes can usually find an access that is signalized, allowing safer left turns.

Having good cross parcel access also maximizes the number of well designed unsignalized entrances that have good visibility and are located in such a way to take advantage of sufficient gaps in traffic from a nearby signal.

Interparcel connections allow the driver to travel to an adjacent land use(s) without having to access the highway. Joint entrances and cross access especially help the small corner lots and out parcels. On small corner parcels left turn accessibility may be a problem and access to parcels may be limited to right in/right out or similarly restricted movements.