



Traffic crisscrosses at either end of the bridge, so instead of making hard left turns, drivers veer to the left for access.

Diverging Diamond Interchange

Interstate 64 at Route 15
Exit 136
Zion Crossroads

Virginia's first diverging diamond interchange, or DDI, is under construction on Route 15 at Zion Crossroads and will open in early 2014. This innovative interchange design crosses traffic to the left side of the road, increasing safety and moving a higher volume of vehicles without increasing the number of lanes.

Benefits

A DDI reduces congestion by allowing traffic to keep moving through an intersection. It also improves safety by allowing free flowing turns when entering or exiting the roadway, eliminating left turns against oncoming traffic and reducing the number of traffic signal phases.

The DDI provides better sight distance at turns and fewer chances to conflict with other vehicles, which results in fewer crashes.

Did you know?

The DDI roadway design originated in France and may reduce traffic delays up to 60 percent!

Maneuvering a Diverging Diamond Interchange

If you look at an aerial picture of a DDI, you may think it would be a challenge to navigate. But in reality, a DDI has pavement markings and traffic signals just like an intersection.

When driving a DDI, motorists proceed through a traffic signal at the entrance to the interchange, and simply follow their lane to the opposite side of the roadway. Motorists needing to access the highway turn left at the on ramp without having to stop or wait for oncoming traffic to pass. Through traffic proceeds to a second traffic signal and follows their lane back to the right side of the roadway.

Pavement markings, signs and signals direct motorists through the intersections.

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For more information go onto the web at:
www.virginiadot.org/projects/culpeper/zioncrossroads.asp

