Attachment F
Landscaping and Gateway Feature Design Submittal Guidelines

Landscaping, beautification, special signing and other aesthetic treatments on KDOT right-of-way or within the proximity of an interstate, national or state route interchange or intersection will comply with the following guidelines.

Designs must adhere to those set forth in the AASHTO Geometric Design of Highways and Streets (Greenbook) and The AASHTO Roadside Design Guide (RDG).

**Sight Distance Triangle:** The length of the legs of this triangular area, along both intersecting roadways, should be such that the driver can see any potentially conflicting vehicles in sufficient time to slow, stop, or avoid other vehicles. See Greenbook for further information.

**Clear Zone:** The clear zone is the unobstructed, traversable area provided beyond the edge of the through traveled way for the recovery of errant vehicles. It is based on speed, average daily traffic count (ADT) and roadside slope. See RDG for further information. Clear Zone is not the same as the city or county mandated setback.

**Plantings**
No trees or plants with a mature trunk diameter of 4-inches or greater will be located within the Clear Zone of the traveled way.

The attached diagrams show clear Sight Distance Triangles at typical intersections. No shrubs, ground cover, or decorative grasses that reach a mature height of more than 36 inches above the roadway will be planted within the clear Sight Distance Triangles of an intersection, interchange, ramp terminal or gore area.

Landscaping at roundabouts should additionally follow Chapter 9 of the Kansas Roundabout Guide, 2nd Edition. Refer to this chapter for additional Sight Distance Triangles and clearances regarding center island landscaping.

A clear vision window from 36 inches to 10-feet measured above the roadway will be present along all streets in KDOT right-of-way and within the functional area of all highway or ramp intersections.

The attached “Interchange Area Diagrams” depict what KDOT considers to be Median, Island, and Gore areas, for the purpose of this Policy, for various types of interchanges.

**Plantings in Medians**
For medians between opposing traffic within city limits:

- With speeds 45 mph or greater:
  
  No trees.

  No bushes, decorative grasses, flowers or ground cover within the Clear Zone. Outside of Clear Zone, no plants taller than 36 inches above crown grade of roadway.

  No hardscape.

  Landscaping cannot interfere with highway function, safety, or drainage.

- With speeds less than 45 mph:
Trees must comply to guidelines set forth in this policy. Trees must be placed a minimum of 6-feet from back of curb or, if no curb is present, outside Clear Zone. Trees must not be placed within Sight Distances Triangles of intersections or entrances.

B Bushes or decorative grasses must be placed a minimum of 6-feet from back of curb or, if no curb is present, outside Clear Zone. Bushes or decorative grasses taller than 36 inches above road grade must not be placed within Sight Distance Triangles of intersections or entrances.

No hardscape within Clear Zone unless flush with top of curb and incorporated into a raised median, i.e. pavers. Hardscape protruding above top of curb must be a minimum of 6-feet from back of curb. Landscaping cannot interfere with highway function, safety, or drainage.

**Gateway Features**

Structural Gateway Features and/or community identification signs will be located outside the horizontal roadway Clear Zone, and not exceed 36 inches above grade if within the Sight Distance Triangles of an intersection, interchange, or ramp terminal. No Gateway Features will be located within medians or islands.

**For more information:**


[KDOT Advertising Signs in Kansas Brochure](https://www.ksdot.org/Assets/wwwksdotorg/bureaus/burRow/beaut/WebsiteOutdoorAdvBrochure%20revised%2017.pdf)

Attachment F

TYPICAL INTERSECTION SIGHT TRIANGLES

Approach Sight Triangles (Uncontrolled or Yield-Controlled)

Departure Sight Triangles (Stop-Controlled)

Maintain clear vision window within clear sight triangle.
TYPICAL INTERSECTION SIGHT TRIANGLES

Approach Sight Triangles (Skewed)

Maintain Clear Vision Window within Clear Sight Triangle
Interchange Area Diagrams

- Median
- Island
- Gore

Diamond Interchange
Interchange Area Diagrams

- Median
- Island
- Gore

Single Point Interchange
Interchange Area Diagrams

- Median
- Island
- Gore

Cloverleaf Interchange