

## Cable Median Barriers

### Limits

Cable barrier is a barrier that is suited for use as a retrofit design in existing relatively wide and flat medians to assist in preventing potential cross-over collisions by capturing and redirecting errant vehicles that would otherwise traverse the median of a roadway. This barrier differs from concrete and from metal-beam median barrier in that it can be installed on sloped terrain (1V:6H) and still performs effectively. Though the cable barrier requires significant lateral space for deflection, it is a more "forgiving" system when struck by an errant motorist because it does deflect laterally and therefore reduces impact forces transmitted to vehicle occupants.

### Location

The cable barrier is for median use only and on medians greater than 25 ft. Median widths of 25 feet or less require the use of a more rigid barrier such as concrete median barrier.

It is recommended that a minimum clear distance of 8 to 12 feet be maintained from the edge of the travel lane, and between the barrier and any obstruction being protected.

### Standard Installations

In determining the type of barrier to be used for any project, the primary consideration is safety, both for vehicular impacts and during any maintenance activities.

TxDOT can use up to four different suppliers for the high tensioned cable median barriers systems seen across the state. Each system has a unique post design, cable placement, and end treatment.

All these cable barrier system's posts are being placed in concrete drill shafts with sockets for ease of repair and maintenance. Most districts are also placing mow strips with the cable barrier systems for maintenance considerations.