

Effectiveness of Traffic Management Measures at Swaraj Round, Thrissur

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doi: <https://doi.org/10.21467/proceedings.179.35>

ABSTRACT

A road safety audit at Thrissur Swaraj Round identified critical concerns such as poor visibility, confusing road markings, deteriorating footpaths, and suboptimal traffic signals. Recommendations, informed by user perspectives, particularly from pedestrians, aimed to enhance safety and efficiency by adjusting signal timings, installing clearer signage, and improving pedestrian infrastructure. Anticipated benefits include reduced accident rates, smoother traffic flow, and overall enhanced safety and functionality. Furthermore, a traffic signal redesign project using the Webster technique is ongoing at Thrissur Swaraj Round to alleviate congestion and bolster pedestrian safety. Webster's method optimizes signal timings based on peak hour traffic patterns to minimize delays and queuing at intersections. This comprehensive strategy prioritizes safety, efficiency, and environmental sustainability, ultimately improving the traffic experience and mobility in the area. Continuous monitoring and evaluation are integral to ensuring the sustained effectiveness of these initiatives, which also involve a road safety audit focusing on improving road infrastructure, footpaths, and signboard installations, with a specific emphasis on pedestrian safety concerns.

Keywords: Road safety, Traffic flow, Pedestrian, Signal, Webster's method

INTRODUCTION

Road safety auditing involves a proactive assessment of potential hazards associated with road infrastructure projects, aiming to improve safety and functionality by identifying and addressing factors contributing to accidents for all road users. At Thrissur Swaraj Round, a central hub for vehicular and pedestrian activity, a thorough audit analyzed intersection geometry, signage, signalization, and overall road design. This collaborative effort between traffic engineers, urban planners, and safety experts assessed visibility, signage clarity, pedestrian facilities, and traffic signal coordination. Recommendations for the Thrissur Swaraj Round included adjusting signal timings, adding signage, and improving pedestrian infrastructure to enhance safety and efficiency, prioritizing community wellbeing. Similarly, the signal redesign at Shoranur road in Thrissur focused on improving traffic flow efficiency and pedestrian safety. The redesign addressed issues of vehicle delays and congestion linked to deficiencies in the existing timing system. By analyzing traffic patterns and flow, the redesigned signal aimed to minimize delays, optimize green and red signal times based on traffic volume, and improve overall traffic management and safety at the junction.

OBJECTIVES

Road safety auditing is aimed at identifying and mitigating potential safety hazards on roads between intersections or other major access points. It typically involves a comprehensive assessment of road infrastructure, traffic conditions and other factors to improve safety. It involves studying factors such as



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Proceedings DOI: [10.21467/proceedings.179](https://doi.org/10.21467/proceedings.179); Series: AIJR Proceedings; ISSN: 2582-3922; ISBN: 978-81-984081-7-4

traffic volume, speed, pedestrian behaviour, and road design to identify potential issues and propose improvements. The main objectives are

1. To conduct road safety audit of the selected study stretch for the safety assessment
2. To evaluate the efficiency of the traffic signal at three legged intersection
3. To suggest improvement measures

METHODOLOGY

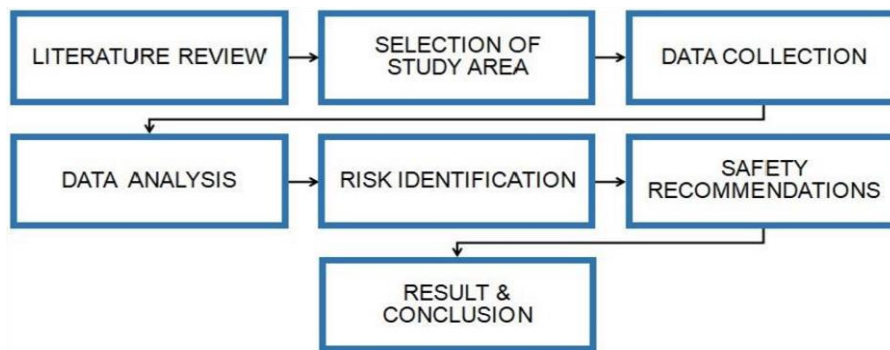


Figure 1. Methodology

STUDY AREA

Thrissur Round in Kerala, India, was chosen for road safety auditing due to its circular layout, which presents unique challenges and opportunities for assessing traffic flow, intersection design, and pedestrian safety. Being a high traffic area prone to congestion and potential accident spots made it a priority for safety evaluation. The diverse mix of road users, including vehicles, pedestrians, and cyclists, adds complexity to safety considerations. By conducting audits here, authorities can pinpoint areas for improvement and implement targeted interventions to mitigate risks and enhance overall safety. Evaluating the existing signal at Shoranur road in Thrissur reflects a proactive approach to optimizing traffic management and enhancing road safety, ensuring signals meet community needs effectively.



Figure 2. Study area (Thrissur Swaraj round from Google map)

DATA COLLECTION

Geometric Features of Swaraj Round

The accidents are more reported at Thrissur East. The East Fort Junction in Thrissur district is characterized by two lanes in the carriageway. It includes essential features such as a center line, carriageway, shoulder, footpath, traffic police presence, and a zebra crossing. It's worth noting that the footpath is uneven, and there is an absence of a kerb. Geometric data are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Geometric data collected from the study area

Sl. No.	Description	Yes/No	Specification	Values
1	Carriageway	Yes	Number of lane in carriageway	1No.
2	Centre line	Yes	-	-
3	Median	No	-	-
4	Kerb	Yes	-	-
5	Shoulder	Yes	Shoulder length	2.1m
6	Footpath	Yes	Footpath width	Not uniform
	-	-	Footpath height	0.25m
7	Zebra line	Yes	Not clearly visible	-
8	Subway	Yes	-	2 Nos.

Accident Data

This presents a compilation of diverse accidents that took place within a 2 km radius of Swaraj Round, detailing the occurrence date, time, and category head. The accident data, acquired as secondary information, was collected internally from the District Crime Record Bureau (DCRB). Subsequently, the gathered data underwent sorting and analysis to determine the overall frequency of accidents. A graphical representation highlighted major accident details for further analysis in this study. A sample screenshot of accident data is shown in Figure 3.

Sl. No.	Police Station	Date of Report	Time of Report	Section of Law	Date of Occ.	Time of Occ.	Type of Road	Place of Occurrence	Died Person	Grievous Injured Persons	Minor Injured Person
1	Thrissur East	01-01-2019	20:09	279, 338 IPC	18-12-2018	09:15	Other Road	1/o Nirmala matha, Lourdh Puzam		1	
2	Thrissur East	01-01-2019	22:18	279, 338 IPC	21-12-2018	13:30	Other Road	Nr Bala Bhavan, Chembukkav		2	
3	Thrissur West	01-01-2019	18:45	279, 338 IPC	28-12-2018	11:30	Other Road	Karyattukara		1	
4	Ollur	01-01-2019	02:51	279, 337, 338 IPC	28-12-2018	08:55	Other Road	Nr Curve, Cheerachi		1	1
5	Ollur	01-01-2019	19:26	279, 338 IPC	22-12-2018	16:45	Other Road	Kavitha Road Jn, Kuttanellur		1	
6	Peechi	01-01-2019	18:58	279, 338 IPC	30-12-2018	11:00	Other Road	Nr Milk Society, Chembosita		1	
7	Pavaratty	01-01-2019	16:59	279, 338 IPC	23-12-2018	16:00	Other Road	Mullaserry		1	
8	Gvi Temple	01-01-2019	19:01	279, 338 IPC	20-12-2018	20:00	Other Road	Nr Panthayil Temple		1	
9	Peramangalam	01-01-2019	15:20	279 IPC	19-11-2018	20:00	State Highway	1/o Petrol Pump, Manapady			
10	Peramangalam	01-01-2019	18:35	279, 338 IPC	27-12-2018	19:00	State Highway	Bus Stop, Kaipparambu		1	
11	Peramangalam	01-01-2019	19:46	279, 337, 338 IPC	29-12-2018	08:45	Other Road	Vyasapedam, Chittilapilly		1	1
12	Viyyur	01-01-2019	17:54	279, 338 IPC	29-12-2018	10:30	Other Road	Karuvankad		1	
13	Viyyur	01-01-2019	19:06	279, 338 IPC	27-12-2018	10:35	Other Road	Pambur		1	
14	Medical College	01-01-2019	17:54	279 IPC	22-12-2018	19:30	State Highway	Koncheri Road			
15	Kunnamkulam	01-01-2019	18:36	279, 338 IPC	28-12-2018	06:15	State Highway	Kechery Jn		1	
16	Wadakkancherry	01-01-2019	12:56	279, 338 IPC	30-12-2018	06:40	State Highway	Ottupara		1	
17	Wadakkancherry	01-01-2019	13:15	279 IPC	01-01-2019	04:30	State Highway	Kumazanelhur			

Figure 3. Accident data (Accident data collected from the DCRB Thrissur)

Videographic Data

Videography data from CCTV footage collected at the Thrissur Police Control Room during morning peak hours (7:30 - 9:30 AM) and evening peak hours (4:00 - 6:00 PM) is being used to determine traffic volume at Shoranur Road in Thrissur. The highest traffic volume counts identified from this data driven approach will inform the redesign of traffic signals at the junction, aiming to optimize signal timings and enhance overall efficiency and safety.



Figure 4. Videographic data collection (Screenshot of morning and evening CCTV footage collected from the Thrissur Police control room).

Questionnaire Survey

The user has created an online Google Form in Malayalam and English to survey pedestrian safety perceptions and experiences comprehensively. The questionnaire covers various aspects including pedestrian infrastructure, traffic behavior, safety measures, zebra line awareness, road crossing behaviors, usage of subways or pedestrian underpasses, and understanding of traffic rules and regulations. Through this questionnaire, the user seeks detailed insights into the safety challenges pedestrians encounter in urban areas.

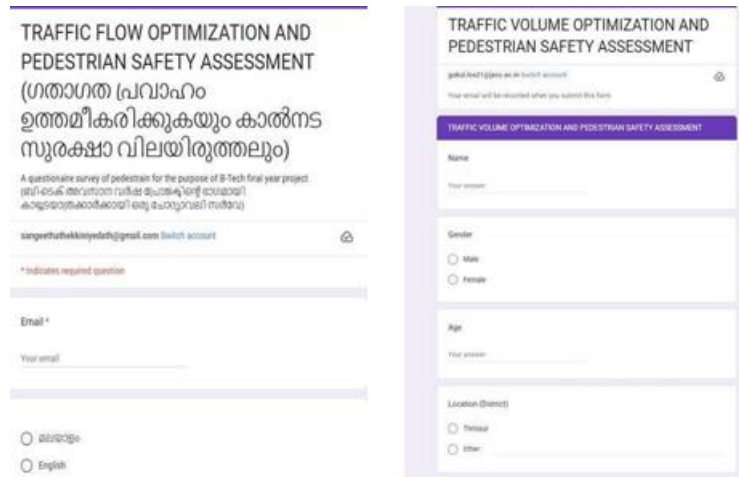


Figure 5. Google Form (Google form for the questionnaire survey conducted in English and Malayalam languages)

Road Safety Audit (RSA)

Table 2. Findings obtaining by conducting road safety auditing

Findings	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Gap between footpath and drain <input type="checkbox"/> It is not in good condition <input type="checkbox"/> Accumulation of waste
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Presence of obstacle in footpath <input type="checkbox"/> Presence of street vendors



□ The sign boards are not be clearly visible



- Improper working of Cooperation drinking water tank
- Soil over footpath
- Footpath usage by temporary shop owners

DATA ANALYSIS

Accident data analysis

Year Wise

The past 5 year's accident data analysis of the study area as shown in Figure 6. Accidents occurred in the year 2020 is 27%. Accidents reported on 2022 and 2023 22%. Then 15 percent and 14 percent on 2019 and 2021 respectively.

Reason:

Reduced Traffic Enforcement: With lockdowns and restrictions in place, there was a decrease in traffic enforcement activities such as speed checks and DUI patrols.

Changed Traffic Patterns: During lockdowns, traffic patterns changed significantly. While overall traffic volume decreased due to people staying home, there was an increase in speeding and risky driving behaviors on less congested roads.

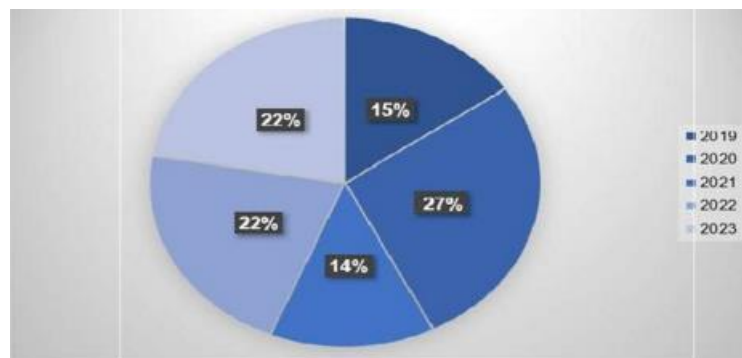


Figure 6. Year wise accident data analysis

Daily Wise

The details are depicted in Figure 7, a bar chart illustrating the fluctuating percentages of daytime and night time accidents from 2019 to 2023.

Reason:

Higher Traffic Volume: Daytime typically sees more vehicles on the road due to commuting, commercial activities, and other daily routines. With more vehicles, the probability of accidents increases.

Pedestrian Activity: Daytime is when pedestrians are more active, crossing roads, using crosswalks, and walking near traffic. This increases the complexity of driving and raises the risk of accidents involving pedestrians.

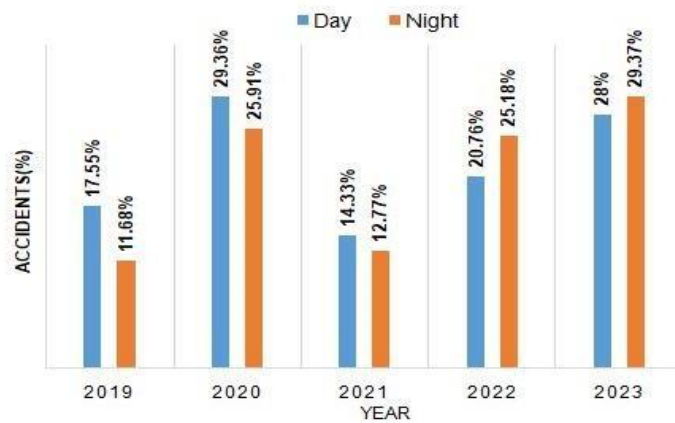


Figure 7. Daily wise data analysis. Day and night wise percentage of accidents based on the accident data collected

Age wise

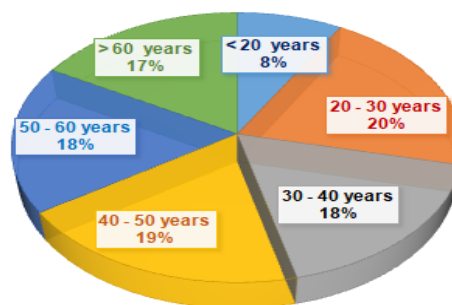
In age wise accident data analysis 20 percent of accidents occurred on 20 - 30 aged people, 19 percent on 40- 50 aged people, 50 - 60 and 30 - 40 aged people are of 18 percent and least accident occurred on above 60 aged people. All this details shown in Figure 8.

Reason:

Distractions: The use of mobile phones, social media, and other electronic devices while driving is more prevalent among younger drivers. These distractions can divert attention from the road and impair reaction times.

Inexperience: Many individuals in this age group are relatively new drivers or have limited experience compared to older drivers. Lack of experience can lead to errors in judgment, improper handling of vehicles, and difficulty in responding to unexpected situations on the road.

Figure 8. Age wise data analysis. It is the age wise percentage of accidents reported based on the accident data collected



Mode Wise

The data, illustrated in Figure 6.4, shows cars as the most involved vehicle type in accidents, followed by two-wheelers, heavy vehicles, LMVs (Light Motor Vehicles), and auto rickshaws in decreasing order of accident frequency.

Reason:

Popularity and Exposure: Light motor vehicles are often the most common vehicles on the road, which means they have higher exposure to potential accidents simply because there are more of them.

Road Design and Infrastructure: Road designs and infrastructure may not always accommodate light motor vehicles effectively, leading to challenges such as narrow lanes, inadequate signage, and insufficient separation between different types of vehicles.

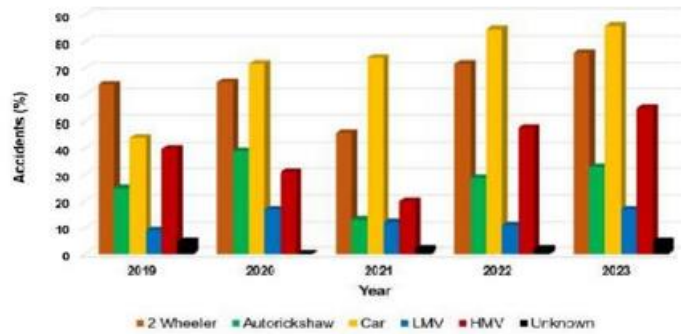


Figure 9. Mode wise data analysis (Percentage of mode of vehicles involved in the accidents)

Videographic data analysis

A videographic survey is conducted by collecting CCTV data from the traffic police control room in Thrissur. The CCTV data is collected during morning peak hours from 7:30 to 9:30 and evening peak hours from 4:00 to 6:00. It is shown in Figure 6.9 and Figure 6.10. The objective is to determine peak traffic hours by analyzing CCTV footage for vehicle counts and movements, optimizing traffic management in Thrissur.

TIME	Bicycle		Two wheeler		Auto		Car		LMV		Bus		HMV		Phase 1 Total		Phase 2 Total		TIME	Bicycle		Two wheeler		Auto		Car		LMV		Bus		HMV		Phase 1 Total		Phase 2 Total	
	P1	P2	P1	P2	P1	P2	P1	P2	P1	P2	P1	P2	P1	P2	A,B	C	P1	P2		P1	P2	P1	P2	P1	P2	P1	P2	P1	P2	P1	P2	A,B	C				
7:30 AM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4:00 PM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7:35 AM	0	0	82	11	32	10	37	11	5	0	27	0	0	0	383	32	4:05 PM	0	0	238	26	79	9	90	14	4	0	21	0	0	0	0	432	49			
7:40 AM	0	0	91	16	32	6	32	2	6	2	22	0	0	0	183	26	4:10 PM	0	0	141	25	80	2	100	8	5	2	15	0	0	0	0	341	37			
7:45 AM	0	2	66	12	32	7	45	4	6	0	24	0	0	0	173	25	4:15 PM	0	0	225	24	64	10	78	8	5	0	14	0	0	0	0	386	42			
7:50 AM	0	0	60	19	45	11	38	9	4	1	20	1	0	0	167	41	4:20 PM	0	0	174	23	86	1	103	5	3	0	30	0	0	0	0	396	29			
7:55 AM	6	1	118	34	37	5	45	5	5	1	25	0	0	0	236	26	4:25 PM	0	0	207	24	81	17	81	4	4	0	13	0	0	0	0	386	45			
8:00 AM	0	0	85	6	35	9	57	7	6	0	25	1	0	0	188	23	4:30 PM	0	0	213	25	39	8	89	8	6	0	25	0	0	0	0	432	41			
8:05 AM	4	0	111	9	29	8	50	3	5	0	31	1	0	0	230	21	4:35 PM	0	0	151	14	81	7	94	7	4	0	17	0	0	0	0	347	28			
8:10 AM	1	0	94	15	35	5	40	4	7	1	26	0	0	0	203	25	4:40 PM	2	2	149	14	60	10	83	7	5	2	15	0	0	0	0	314	35			
8:15 AM	2	0	106	9	40	6	41	8	5	0	31	1	0	0	225	24	4:45 PM	1	0	151	15	79	16	92	11	4	0	19	1	0	0	0	346	43			
8:20 AM	0	0	91	10	51	9	48	7	8	0	22	1	0	0	220	27	4:50 PM	0	0	249	31	83	18	68	9	5	0	22	0	0	0	0	0	427	58		
8:25 AM	2	0	101	11	37	7	47	6	7	0	23	1	0	0	217	25	4:55 PM	1	0	198	32	72	9	82	7	5	0	23	0	0	0	0	381	48			
8:30 AM	0	0	102	16	35	8	81	3	3	0	22	0	0	0	243	27	5:00 PM	2	0	201	19	80	14	94	7	7	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	398	40		
8:35 AM	0	0	139	28	55	5	64	11	6	0	23	0	0	0	287	44	5:05 PM	3	1	220	41	80	11	100	8	6	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	433	61		
8:40 AM	0	0	123	7	50	6	54	7	8	0	21	0	0	0	256	20	5:10 PM	0	0	230	21	95	10	78	9	8	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	427	40		
8:45 AM	1	0	123	15	62	8	64	5	2	0	29	0	0	0	281	28	5:15 PM	0	0	228	52	68	13	91	9	3	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	408	74		
8:50 AM	1	0	143	18	68	12	43	7	7	1	19	0	0	0	281	38	5:20 PM	0	0	235	29	114	11	102	7	6	1	17	0	0	0	0	0	474	48		
8:55 AM	1	0	159	14	61	13	75	5	13	0	31	0	0	0	338	32	5:25 PM	0	0	231	33	88	22	94	10	15	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	445	65		
9:00 AM	0	0	174	14	64	13	63	8	8	3	24	0	0	0	333	38	5:30 PM	5	3	234	37	122	22	86	10	9	3	18	0	0	0	0	0	474	75		
9:05 AM	2	0	192	20	78	2	104	11	6	0	21	0	0	0	403	33	5:35 PM	0	0	245	33	89	8	116	11	5	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	476	52		
9:10 AM	1	0	172	26	65	14	70	10	6	0	30	0	0	0	344	50	5:40 PM	3	0	336	30	96	10	105	11	6	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	562	51		
9:15 AM	0	0	186	17	72	10	62	4	5	0	30	0	0	0	355	31	5:45 PM	1	0	240	29	87	16	104	6	4	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	455	51		
9:20 AM	0	0	177	16	76	14	68	7	6	1	29	0	0	0	356	38	5:50 PM	5	0	259	30	85	8	99	14	5	1	24	0	0	0	0	0	511	53		
9:25 AM	2	0	252	31	80	11	87	10	3	0	31	0	0	0	455	52	5:55 PM	3	2	263	42	66	16	110	8	2	0	22	0	0	0	0	0	466	68		
9:30 AM	1	0	173	15	88	11	60	5	6	0	29	0	0	0	357	31	6:00 PM	3	1	234	30	78	15	114	9	9	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	463	55		
	24	3	3100	369	1259	210	1373	159	148	10	615	6	0	0	6514	757		29	9	5288	679	2012	283	2253	207	135	9	468	1	0	0	0	10180	1188			

Figure 10. Traffic volume count (Morning and evening traffic count from the CCTV)

Questionnaire survey analysis

The pedestrian safety questionnaire survey is conducted to comprehensively address various aspects of pedestrian safety. The key areas focus on Zebra line awareness, road crossing behaviours and usage of subway & pedestrian underpasses. The primary goal of this questionnaire is to gain in-depth insights into the challenges pedestrian face in urban settings. By collecting detailed responses, the user aims to identify key issues and area for improvement.

1. Do you use pedestrian subway in Thrissur?

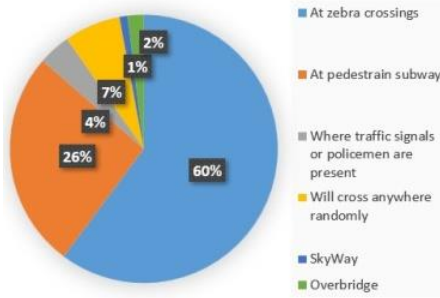


Figure 5. Pedestrian’s response through google form

2. Do you use pedestrian subway in Thrissur?

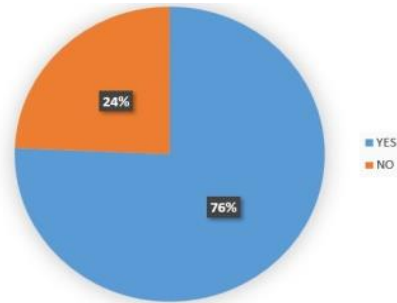


Figure 6. Pedestrian’s response through google form

3. Do you think that people of all ages can use the pedestrian subway?

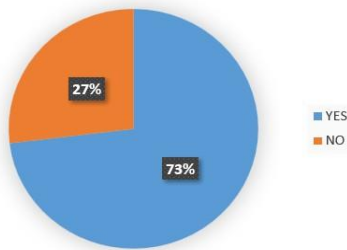


Figure 7. Pedestrian’s response through google form

4. Do you think that the pedestrian subways in Thrissur are located at suitable place?

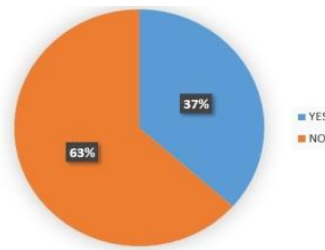


Figure 8. Pedestrian’s response through google form

5. Do you think that the pedestrian Skyway in Thrissur are located at

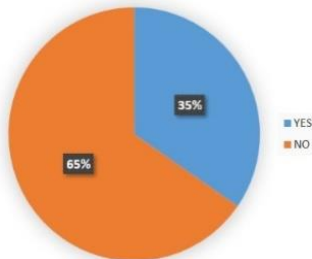


Figure 9. Pedestrian’s response through google form

6. Do you use pedestrian Skyway in Thrissur?

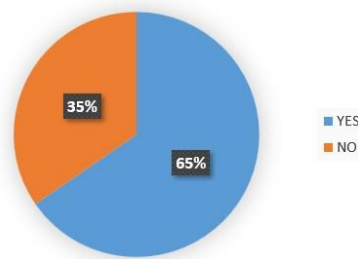


Figure 10. Pedestrian’s response through google form.

7. Do you think that people of all ages can use pedestrian Sky Way?

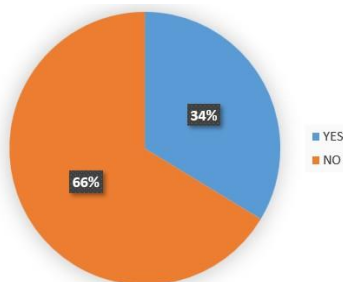


Figure 11. Pedestrian’s response through google form.

8. Do you use pedestrian over bridge in Thrissur, Vadakkestand?

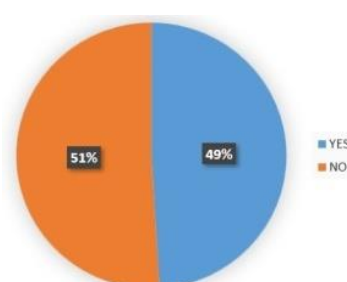


Figure 12. Pedestrian’s response through google form.

9. Do you think that people of all ages can use pedestrian over bridge?

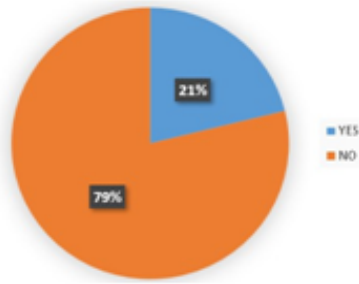


Figure 13. Pedestrian’s response through google form.

10. Do you think that the pedestrian over bridge in Thrissur are located at suitable place?

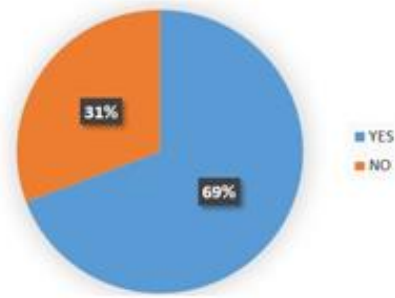


Figure 14. Pedestrian’s response through google form.

SIGNAL DESIGN

Designed a signal for comparative study at Shoranur Road intersection where an existing signal is located. Identified peak hours (8:30-9:30am, 5:00-6:00pm) using volume data retrieving method. Webster’s method is used for signal designing in Thrissur round to optimize traffic flow by analyzing traffic volume and movement patterns, aiming to reduce congestion and improve intersection performance.

In Webster’s method, normal flow value and saturated flow value on different roads are used for design of signal cycle time. Normal flow is highest traffic volume in PCU/hour and is denoted as “q”. Saturation flow can be determined on the basis of width of road denoted as “s”, w is the width from central line of road to kerb,

If the width, w is in between 5.5m -13m, then the saturation flow can be calculated by the equation

$$S=525w, \text{ PCU/hour}$$

If the width w is in between 3-5.5m, then the saturation flow can be obtained from the Table 3. PCU value as per IRC for signal design as shown in Table 4.

Table 3. Saturation flow for 3 - 5.5m for signal design

Width , w (m)	Saturation flow, S (PCU/hour)
3.0	1850
3.5	1890
4.0	1950
4.5	2250
5.0	2550
5.5	2900

Table 4. PCU value as per IRC road width

Types of vehicles	PCU
Heavy or medium goods	1.75
Light goods vehicles	1.00
Bus	2.25
Motor cycle or scooter	0.33
Pedal cycle	0.20

DESIGN STEPS

$$\text{Optimum cycle length, } C_o = (1.5L+5)/(1-Y)$$

1. Critical flow ratio, Y

$$Y = y_1 + y_2 + y_3 + \dots + y_n$$

where,

$$y = \frac{q}{s}$$

2. Total lost time, L

$$L = 2n + R$$

OR

$$L = \varepsilon(I - a) + \varepsilon l$$

Where,

n = no. of phases

R = All red time

I = Minimum intergreen period

a = Amber time

l = Lost time per phase

3. Optimum cycle length, Co

$$C_o = \frac{1.5L + 5}{1 - Y}$$

4. Green time, G

$$G = \frac{y}{Y} (C_o - L)$$

5. Red time, R

$$R = C_o - G - 2a$$

Where,

Co = Optimum Cycle Time

G = Green time required

a = Amber time

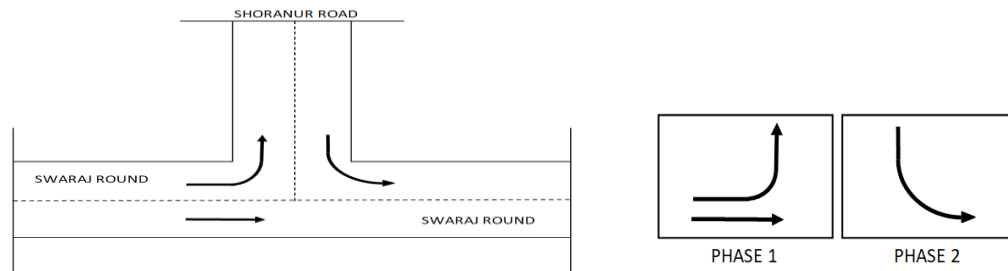


Figure 15. Phase diagram

PRACTICAL CALCULATION

MORNING PEAK HOUR

1. Critical flow ratio, Y

$$Y = y_1 + y_2$$

$$y_1 = \frac{q_1}{s_1}$$

$$y_2 = \frac{q_2}{s_2}$$

Where,

$$q_1 = 3121 \text{ PCU/hr}$$

$$q_2 = 304 \text{ PCU/hr}$$

$$S_1 = 5775 \text{ PCU/hr}$$

$$S_2 = 3150 \text{ PCU/hr}$$

$$y_1 = \frac{3121}{5775}$$

$$y_2 = \frac{304}{3150}$$

$$= 0.54$$

$$= 0.1$$

$$Y = 0.54 + 0.1$$

$$= \mathbf{0.64}$$

2. Total lost time, L

$$L = \epsilon(l - a) + \epsilon l$$

Where,

$$I = 4 \text{ sec,}$$

$$a = 2 \text{ sec,}$$

$$l = 2 \text{ sec}$$

$$\text{No. of phases} = 2$$

$$L = 2 \times (4 - 2) + 2 \times 2$$

$$= \mathbf{8 \text{ sec}}$$

3. Optimum cycle length, Co

$$C_o = \frac{1.5 L + 5}{1 - Y}$$

$$C_o = \frac{1.5 \times 8 + 5}{1 - 0.64} = 48 \text{ sec}$$

Optimum cycle length for morning peak hour = 48sec

4. Green time, G

For Phase 1,

$$G_1 = \frac{y_1}{Y} (C_o - L)$$

$$G_1 = \frac{0.54}{0.64} (48 - 8) = \mathbf{34 \text{ sec}}$$

For Phase 2,

$$G_2 = \frac{y_2}{Y} (C_o - L)$$

$$G_2 = \frac{0.1}{0.64} (48 - 8) = \mathbf{6 \text{ sec}}$$

5. Red time, R

For Phase1,

$$R_1 = C_o - G_1 - 2a$$

$$R_1 = 48 - 34 - 2 \times 2 = \mathbf{10 \text{ Sec}}$$

For Phase2,

$$R_2 = C_o - G_2 - 2a$$

$$R_2 = 48 - 6 - 2 \times 2 = \mathbf{38 \text{ sec}}$$

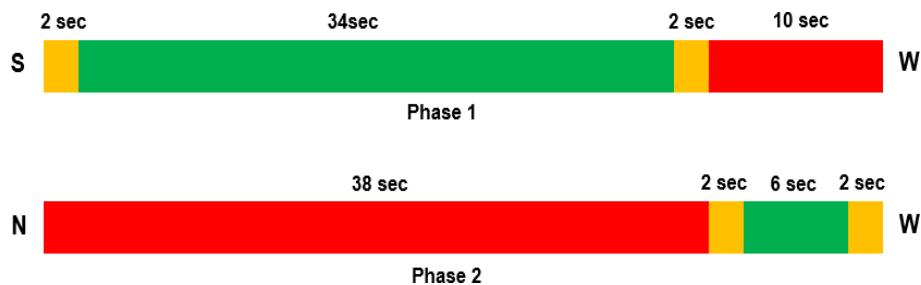


Figure 16. Timing Diagram (Morning Peak Hour)

EVENING PEAK HOUR

1. Critical flow ratio, Y

$$Y = y_1 + y_2$$

$$y_1 = \frac{q_1}{s_1} \qquad y_2 = \frac{q_2}{s_2}$$

Where,

$$q_1 = 4015 \text{ PCU/hr}$$

$$q_2 = 388 \text{ PCU/hr} \qquad y_1 = \frac{4015}{5775} \qquad y_2 = \frac{388}{3150}$$

$$S_1 = 5775 \text{ PCU/hr}$$

$$S_2 = 3150 \text{ PCU/hr} \qquad = 0.7 \qquad = 0.12$$

$$Y = 0.7 + 0.12$$

$$= \mathbf{0.82}$$

2. Total lost time, L

$$L = \varepsilon(I - a) + \varepsilon l$$

Where,

$$I = 4 \text{ sec}$$

$$a = 2 \text{ sec,}$$

$$l = 2 \text{ sec}$$

$$\text{No. of phases} = 2$$

$$L = 2 \times (4 - 2) + 2 \times 2$$

$$= \mathbf{8 \text{ sec}}$$

3. Optimum cycle length, Co

$$C_o = \frac{1.5L + 5}{1 - Y}$$

$$C_o = \frac{1.5 \times 8 + 5}{1 - 0.82} = \mathbf{95 \text{ sec}}$$

Optimum cycle length for morning peak hour = 95sec

4. Green time, G

For Phase 1,

$$G_1 = \frac{y_1}{Y} (C_o - L)$$

$$G_1 = \frac{0.7}{0.82} (95 - 8) = \mathbf{74 \text{ sec}}$$

For Phase 2,

$$G_2 = \frac{y_2}{Y} (C_0 - L)$$

$$G_2 = \frac{0.12}{0.82} (95 - 8) = \mathbf{13 \text{ sec}}$$

5. Red time, R

For Phase1,

$$R_1 = C_0 - G_1 - 2a$$

$$R_1 = 95 - 74 - 2 \times 2 = \mathbf{17 \text{ Sec}}$$

For Phase2,

$$R_2 = C_0 - G_2 - 2a$$

$$R_2 = 95 - 13 - 2 \times 2 = \mathbf{78 \text{ sec}}$$

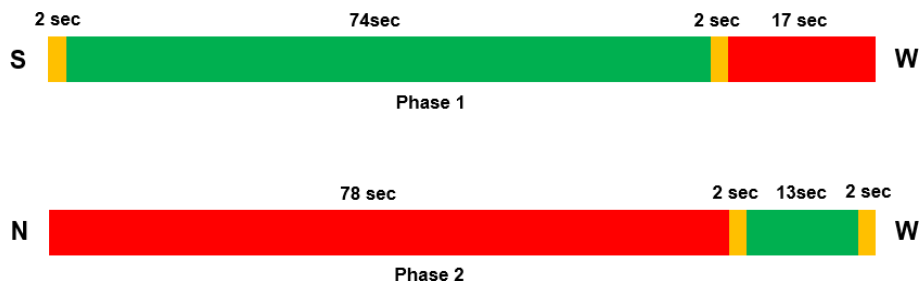


Figure 17. Timing Diagram (Evening Peak Hour).

COMPARISON STUDY

The comparison between the existing and proposed signal design at Shoranur Road in Thrissur highlights potential improvements in traffic flow and safety. Currently, the existing design may suffer from congestion, inefficient signal timing, and inadequate pedestrian facilities, leading to delays and safety concerns. The proposed design aims to address these issues by introducing optimized signal timing, dedicated pedestrian crossings, and advanced traffic management systems. Phase 1 prioritizes south to east (S-E) and south to north (S-N) traffic, with synchronized pedestrian facilities, aiming to improve smooth movement and safety during both morning and evening hours. Proposed adjustments include reducing green times to 34 seconds and red times to 10 seconds in the morning, and increasing green times to 74 seconds and decreasing red times to 17 seconds in the evening. Phase 2 focuses on north to east (N-E) traffic, aiming to facilitate movement from the northern direction to the east, with proposed adjustments to green times and red times aiming to balance traffic flow and safety. Overall, these enhancements aim to result in smoother traffic flow, reduced congestion, shorter travel times, and improved safety for all road users.

Table 5. Existing and proposed signal designs in Shoranur road, Swaraj Round, Thrissur

Time	Existing Signal		Proposed Signal	
	Phase1	Phase2	Phase1	Phase2
Morning(7:30-9:30a m)				
Amber time	3sec	3sec	2sec	2sec
Green time	49sec	10sec	34sec	6sec
Red time	37sec	70sec	10sec	38sec
Evening(4:00-5:00p m)				
Amber time	3sec	3sec	2sec	2sec
Green time	46sec	12sec	74sec	13sec
Red time	32sec	66sec	17sec	78sec

RESULTS & DISCUSSIONS

The accident data analysis for Thrissur reveals concerning trends. Thrissur East side stands out as a hotspot for accidents, emphasizing the need for targeted interventions in infrastructure and traffic management in that area. The year wise analysis underscores the urgency, with a notable surge in accidents reported in 2020, necessitating a closer examination of contributing factors during that period. Daytime emerges as a critical period for accidents, indicating the importance of visibility and heightened awareness during daylight hours. The age group of 20 to 30 years faces a higher risk, highlighting the significance of targeted awareness campaigns and safety measures for this demographic. Moreover, the data points to a gender discrepancy, with men being more susceptible to accidents, emphasizing the need for gender-specific safety strategies. The prevalence of accidents involving Light Motor Vehicles raises questions about driver behaviour, road conditions, and enforcement. Addressing the specific challenges faced by this category of road users is crucial for overall safety improvements. The concerning rise in grievous injuries from 2019 to 2023 underscores the urgency of implementing measures to reduce the severity of accidents.

CONCLUSIONS

The comprehensive road safety audit conducted at Thrissur Swaraj Round has brought to light critical issues impacting the safety and efficiency of transportation in the area. By incorporating user perspectives, especially from pedestrians, recommendations have been devised to address key concerns such as poor visibility, confusing road markings, and deteriorating footpaths, alongside suboptimal traffic signal conditions. These recommendations, encompassing signal timings adjustments, clearer signage installations, and pedestrian infrastructure enhancements, are anticipated to yield significant benefits, including reduced accident rates, smoother traffic flow, and overall enhanced safety and functionality. In addition, the ongoing traffic signal redesign project at Shoranur road within Thrissur Swaraj Round, employing the Webster technique, aims to tackle traffic congestion and bolster pedestrian safety by optimizing signal timings based on peak hour traffic volume patterns. This initiative underscores a commitment to safety, efficiency, and environmental sustainability. Continuous monitoring and evaluation will play a crucial role in ensuring the sustained effectiveness of these initiatives. Moreover, the project's focus on conducting a road safety audit

to improve road infrastructure, footpath conditions, and proper signboard installations, specifically emphasizing pedestrian safety concerns, highlights a holistic approach towards fostering a safer and more efficient transportation environment. The inclusion of feedback from Swaraj Round users through a pedestrian questionnaire survey has provided invaluable insights for targeted improvements. Overall, this project demonstrates a dedicated effort to enhance the quality of life in the area by creating a safer, more efficient, and pedestrian-friendly transportation environment. Through collaborative efforts and ongoing evaluation, we aim to realize our vision of a thriving community with improved road safety and enhanced mobility.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that this manuscript has not been published previously and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere. Furthermore, all authors have read, reviewed, and approved the final version of the manuscript submitted to the journal, and there are no conflicts of interest or ethical concerns associated with this submission.

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