What is a pedestrian refuge island?
>> A concrete median designed for a person walking across a street to pause between directions of traffic with protection from moving vehicles.

What are its purpose and benefits?
>> Allows people walking to cross only one direction of traffic at a time.¹
>> Reduces the distance in which people crossing are exposed to traffic.
>> Gives people a place to stand in the middle of wide crossings.²

Where should this safety tool be applied?
>> Recommended where people walking must cross at least two lanes of traffic in one direction (on a 1-way or 2-way street), but may be implemented on smaller streets where space permits.²
>> At uncontrolled marked crosswalks (no traffic signals or stop signs to control crossing traffic).
>> Near transit stops or other sites with large volumes of people walking.³
>> Areas with crash history or observed conflicts between and people driving and walking.⁴

What else should I know about pedestrian refuge islands?
>> Can only be installed on a street where there is sufficient space, such as a center left turn lane or painted island.
>> May require elimination of an existing left-turn lane or modification of existing medians.

CRASH REDUCTION FACTOR
Pedestrian Refuge Islands have been shown to reduce crashes by an average of 46% at marked crossings.⁵