



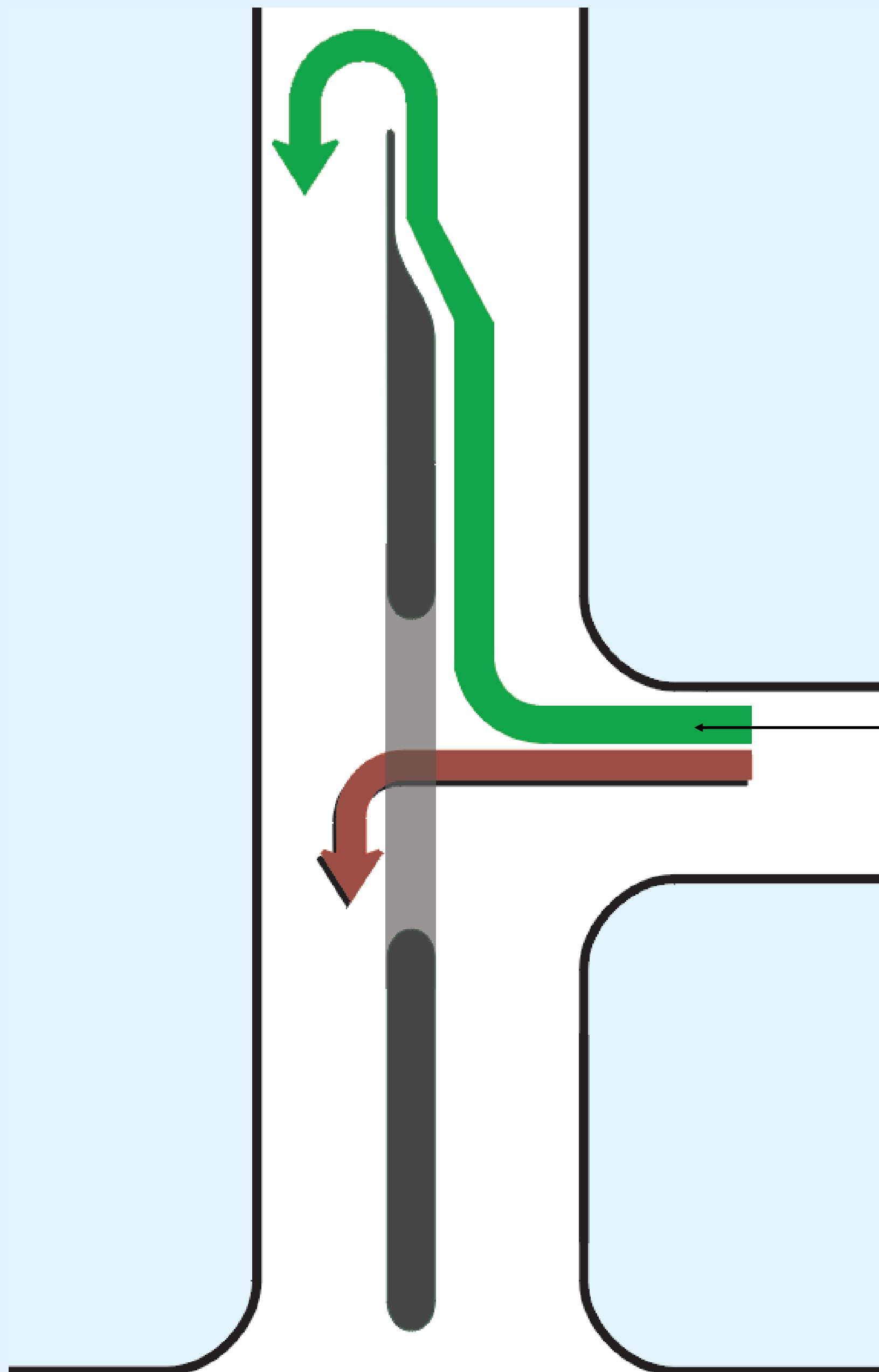
# U-TURNS ARE SAFER

**Will customers make U-turns to access businesses?**

Yes, and the latest studies show U-turns are a safe alternative to direct left turns.

A study in Orlando shows most customers do not find U-turns an inconvenience

The answer to this question is an overwhelming yes. The most recent research on the safety of U-turns reveals that crashes causing injuries are reduced by more than 25% through encouraging right turns followed by U-turns, compared to direct left turns. Surveys of motorists have shown that a vast majority of them have no problem making U-turns to access businesses. In fact, most felt that access management improvements make roads safer and approve of the changes, despite minor inconveniences associated with U-turns. FDOT carefully evaluates U-turn locations and makes minor roadway improvements where needed to accommodate U-turning traffic. Some large vehicles, of course, may need to take alternate routes as U-turns can be very difficult for some larger trucks.



**18%**  
 total crash rate  
 reduction

**27%**  
 Injury fatality  
 crash rate

John Lu, Ph.D., P.E. University of South Florida 2001

Right turn followed by U-turns are often much safer than direct left turns, especially on high volume, high speed, or congested roadways.