Parking lot safety can be improved by providing drivers and pedestrians reasonable access pathways, and signs and pavement markings similar to those they normally encounter on public roads. The parking lot below shows a few of the issues that should be considered in parking lot design. This lot is representative of a lot involved in a hit-pedestrian case. As with many parking lots, there are good features and bad – some add to safety and some create hazards for drivers and pedestrians.

**Positive Parking Lot Features**
- Pedestrian signing & crosswalk markings alert drivers
- Curvilinear roadway aids traffic calming (speed control)
- Raised/curbed end islands provide clear sight lines & pedestrian refuge
- Ped aisle provides refuge for PEDS/HDCP
- Parallel HDCP space allows HDCP passenger unloading away from active vehicle lane
- Ped sidewalk permits pedestrians to cross vehicle lanes at 90º to proceed to entrance
- Caps island on parking aisles keeps high-speed traffic, from entry road, out of aisles

**Negative Parking Lot Features**
- Speed bumps create pedestrian tripping hazards and shopping cart overturning, not recommended
- Two-way aisles with angled parking can result in improper & dangerous movements
- No divisor between parking rows permits traffic to cross through and go the wrong way (improper parking angle)
- Long aisles encourage speeding
- Painted end islands encourage illegal parking which can obstruct sight lines
- Improper parking angle requires traffic to cross

**PARKING LOT INVESTIGATIONS**: The experts involved in parking lot investigations vary from case to case, but often include civil engineers, architects, premises security professionals, or retail operations experts. For help determining which of our experts is best suited to address the technical aspects of your case, please contact a Robson Forensic office to discuss your case.