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National Blue Light Users Conference

Richard Auty MAIRSO
Inspector/Collision Investigator
Metropolitan Police Service

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE SERVICE

Session Supporter

Common Causes of Collisions

(And Do we Learn From Them)

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**Learn from the mistake of others.
You can't live long enough
to make them all yourself**

- Eleanor Roosevelt





Bridget Driscoll

- **17th August 1896**
- **Crystal Palace, London**



Bridget Driscoll



Arnold Benz Car - Driven by Arthur Edsel,

THE FATALITY AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

KILLED BY A MOTOR CAR.

At the inquest, opened at Penge yesterday, on the body of Bridget Driscoll, who was killed by a motor car at the Crystal Palace on Monday last, May Driscoll, a daughter of the deceased, stated that she and her mother were on the terrace when they saw the cars coming towards them. The last one was steering a zig-zag course. The witness stepped on one side to avoid it, and a moment later it knocked down her mother. She did not hear the driver call out, but she saw her mother hold up her umbrella to warn him to stop. There were no notice boards up cautioning people to look out for the cars. There was plenty of room for the car to have passed without touching her mother.

The witness, in answer to the Coroner, denied that she saw any notice posted up "beware of the horseless carriage."

Another witness, who was called, spoke to the erratic course steered by the car. Another witness declared that the car was going "as fast as a fire-engine—in fact as fast as a good horse can gallop." The driver did his best to pull up, but he sounded no warning.

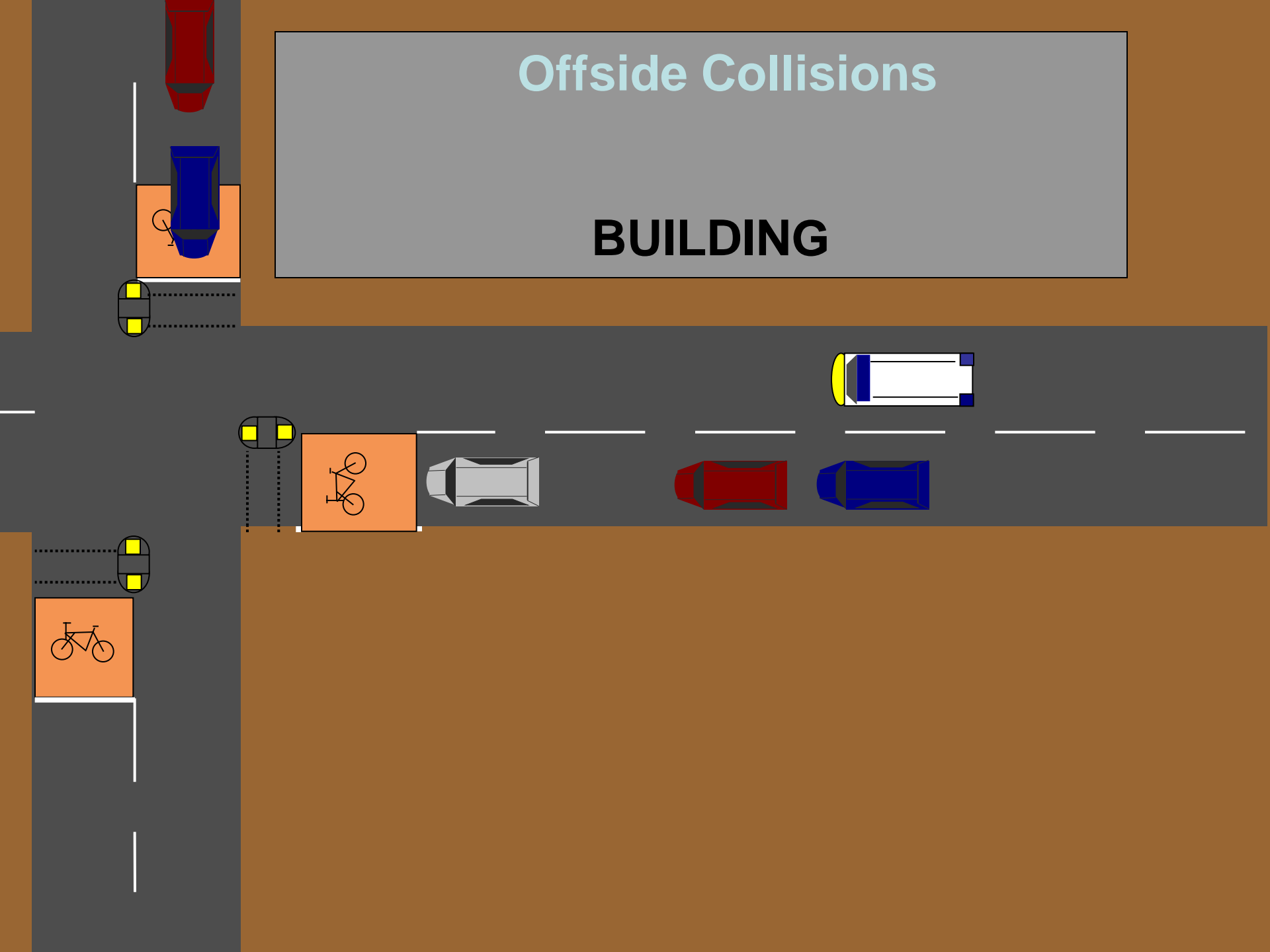
At this point the inquiry was adjourned. It was announced that the Palace Company had undertaken to defray the cost of the deceased's funeral.

**Coroner William Percy
Morrison**

**'Let us hope such
nonsense will never
happen again'**

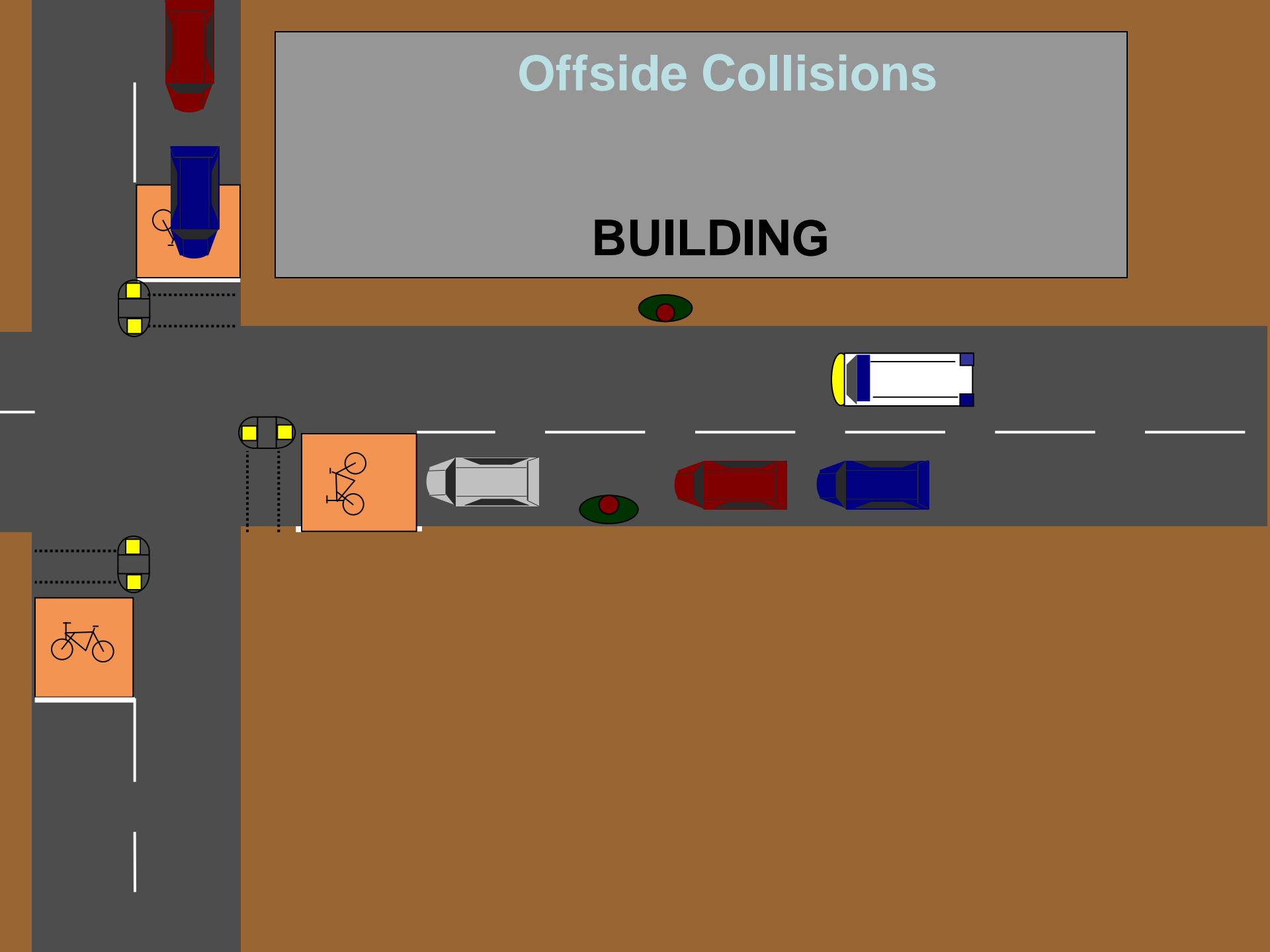
Offside Collisions

BUILDING



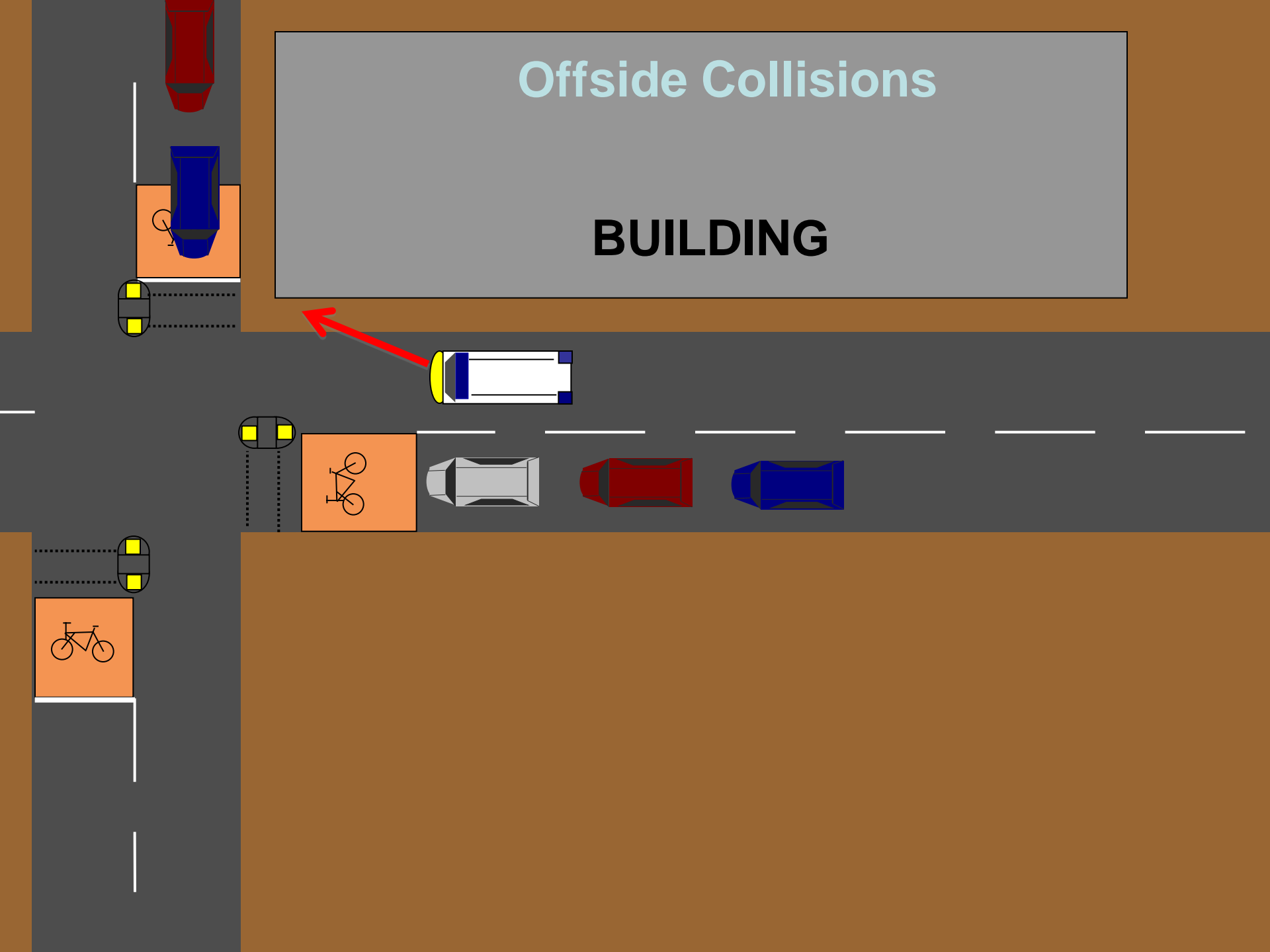
Offside Collisions

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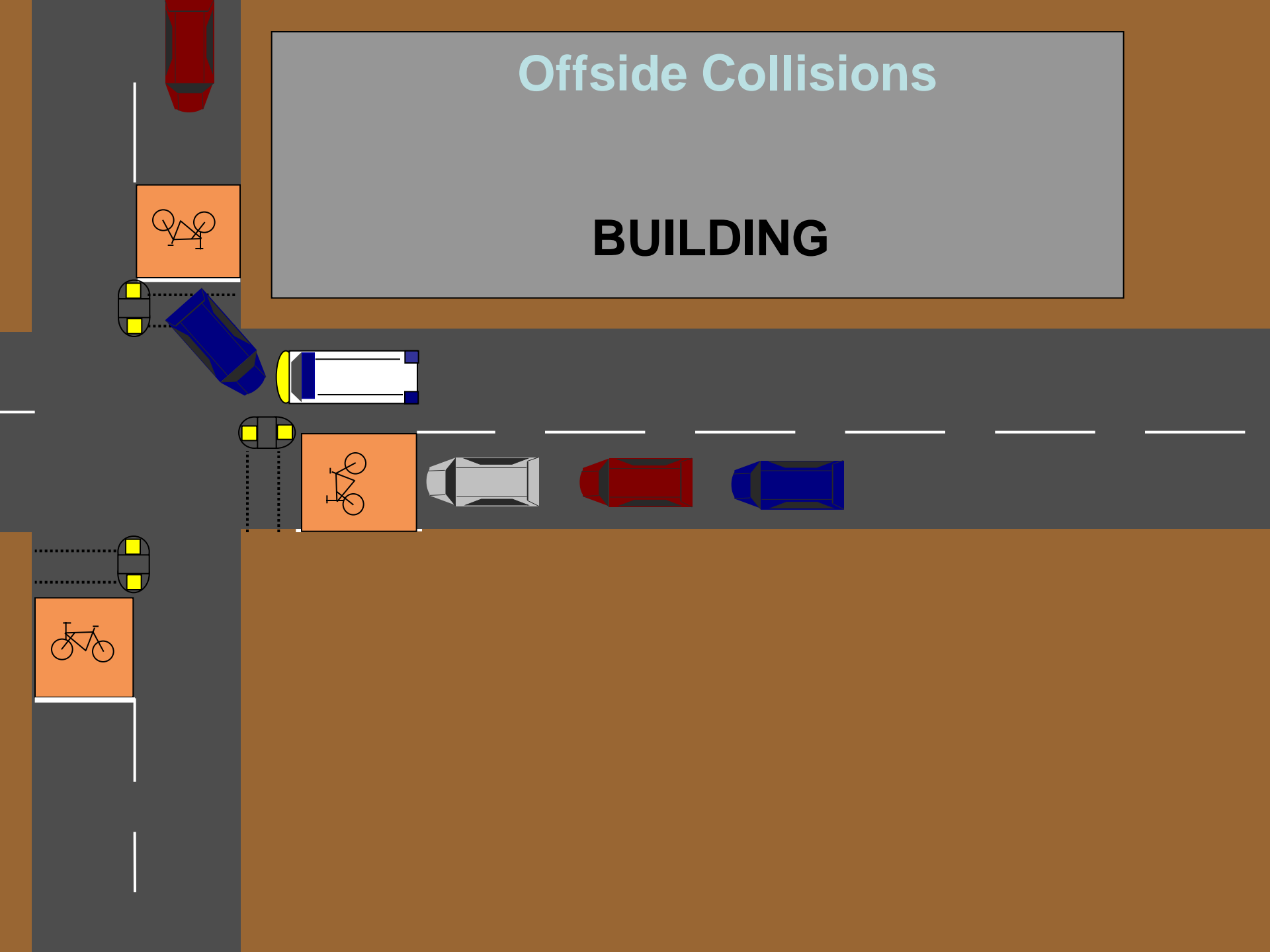
Offside Collisions

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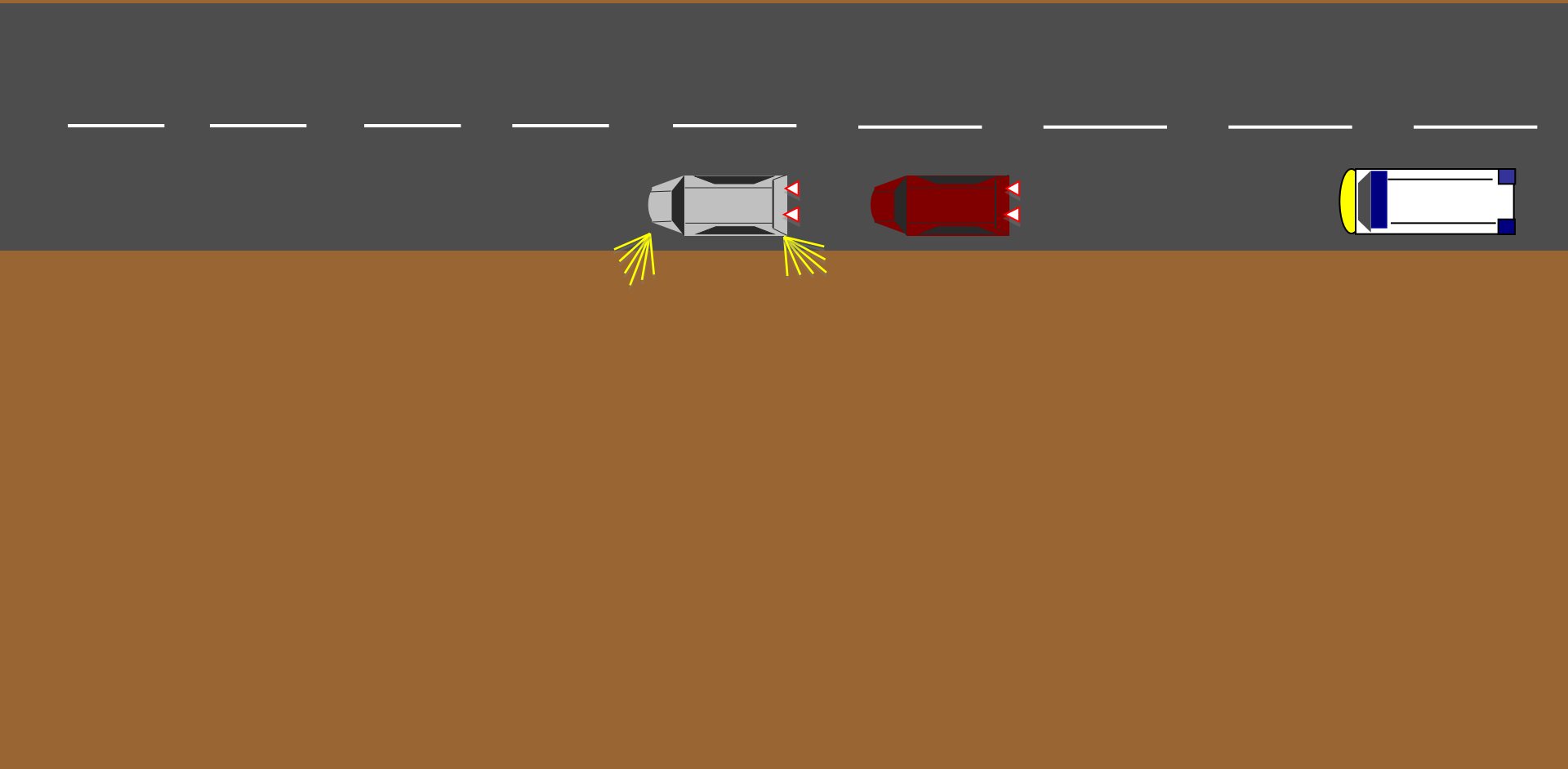


Offside Collisions

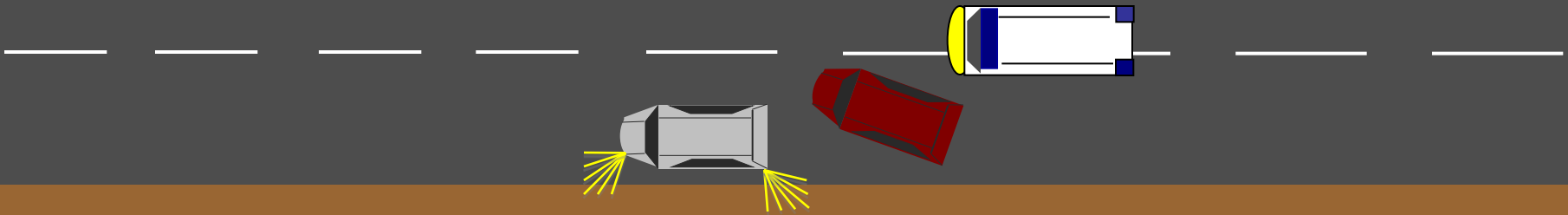
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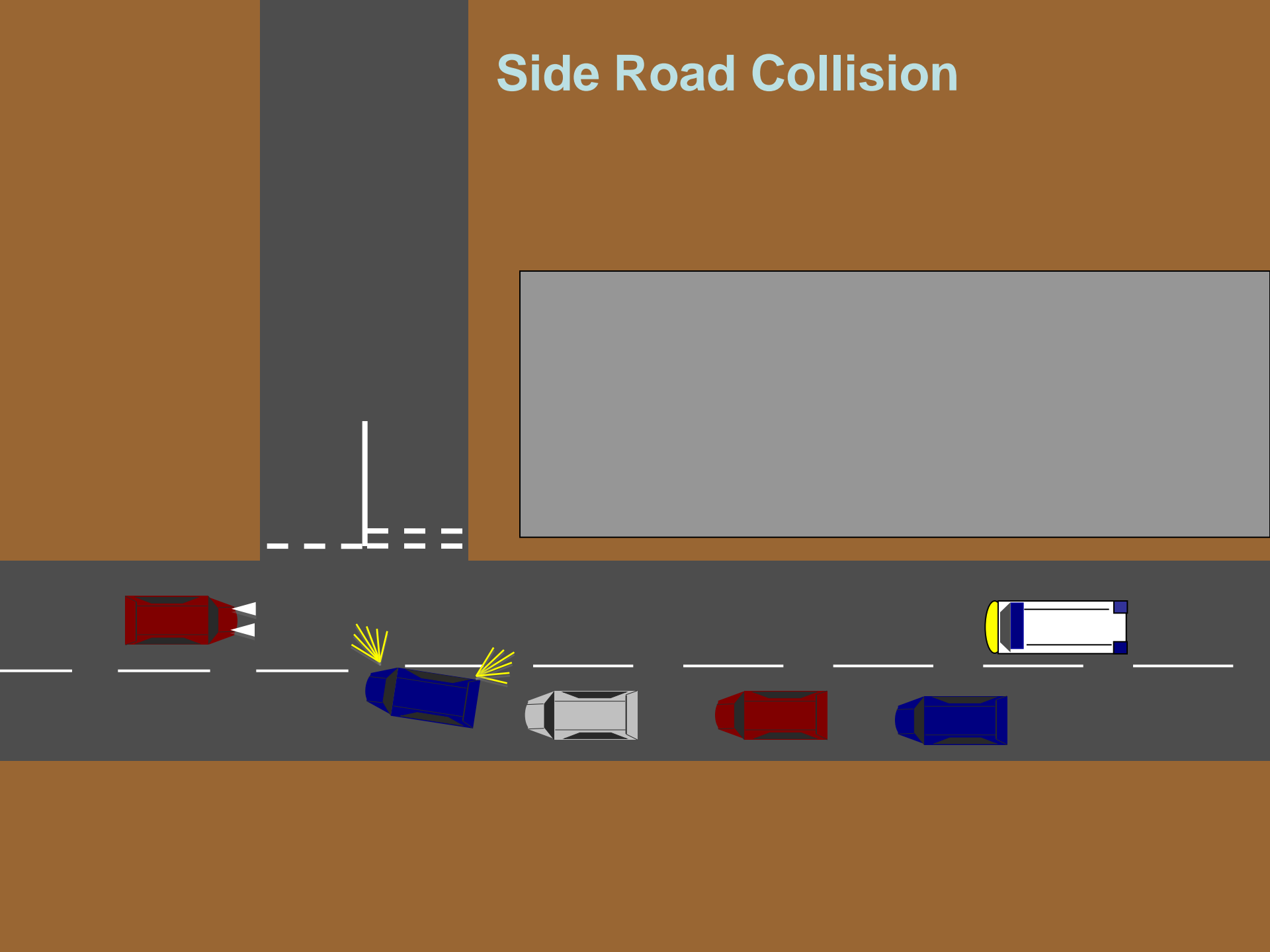
In-Line Collision



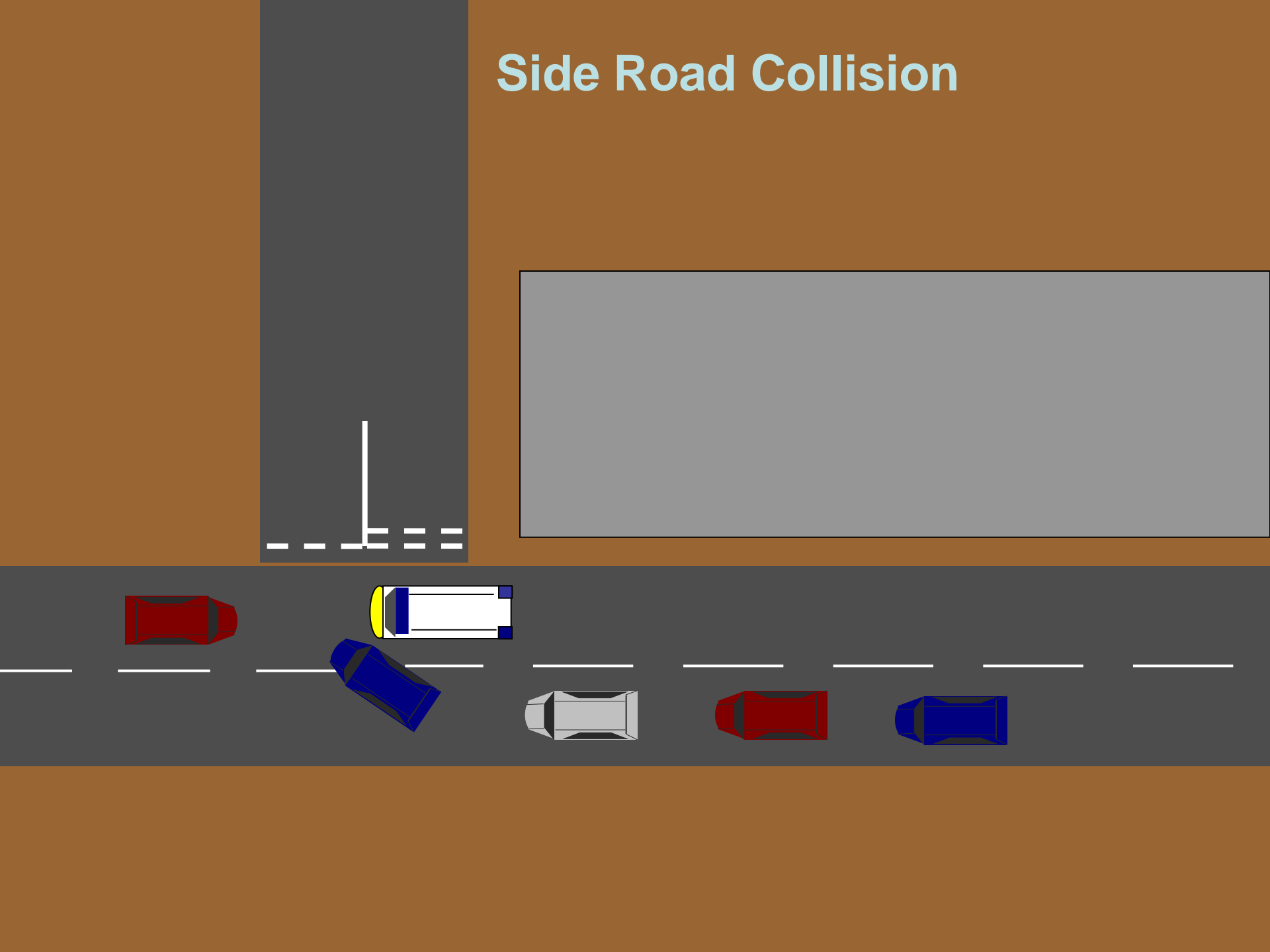
In-Line Collision



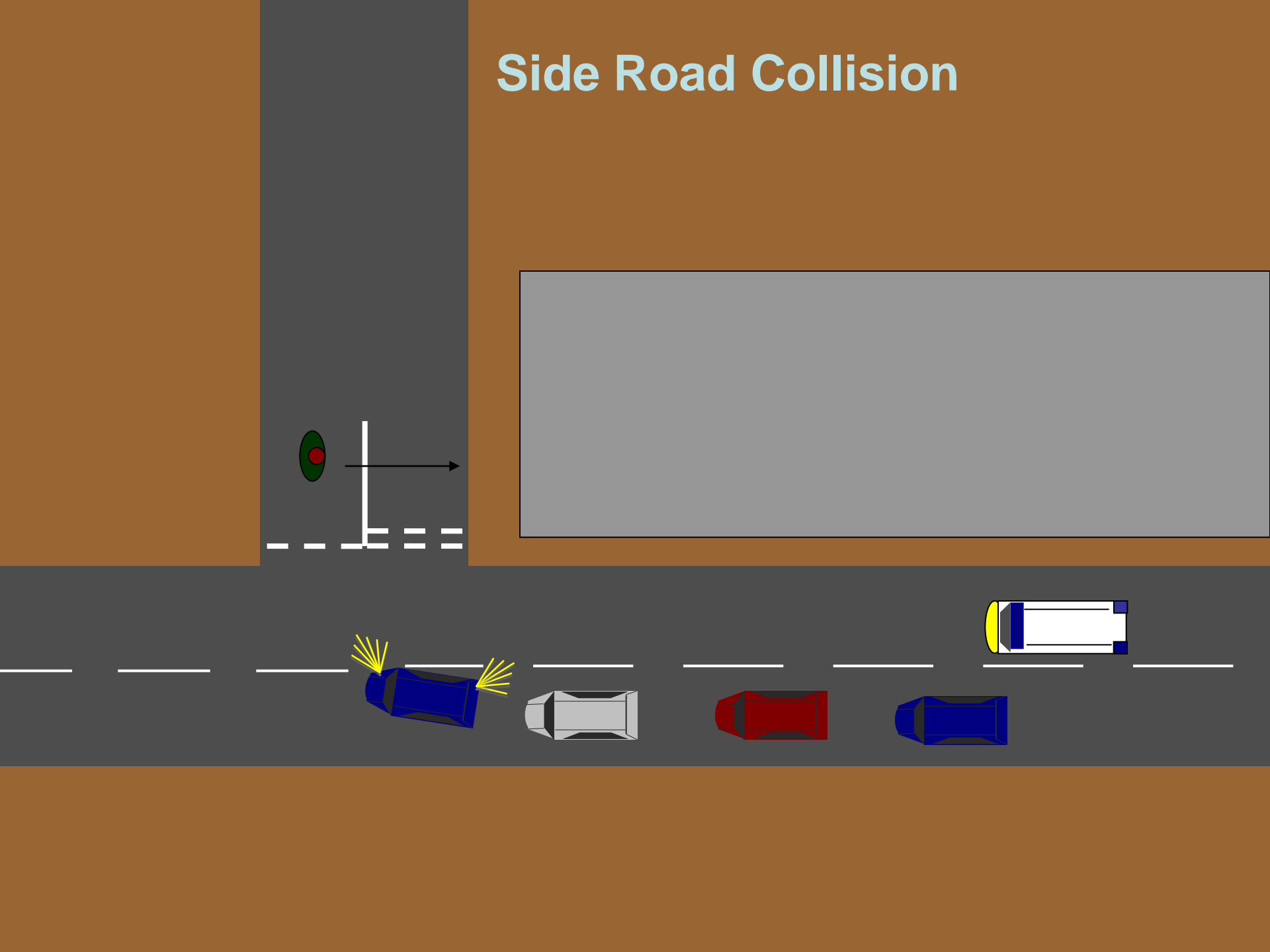
Side Road Collision



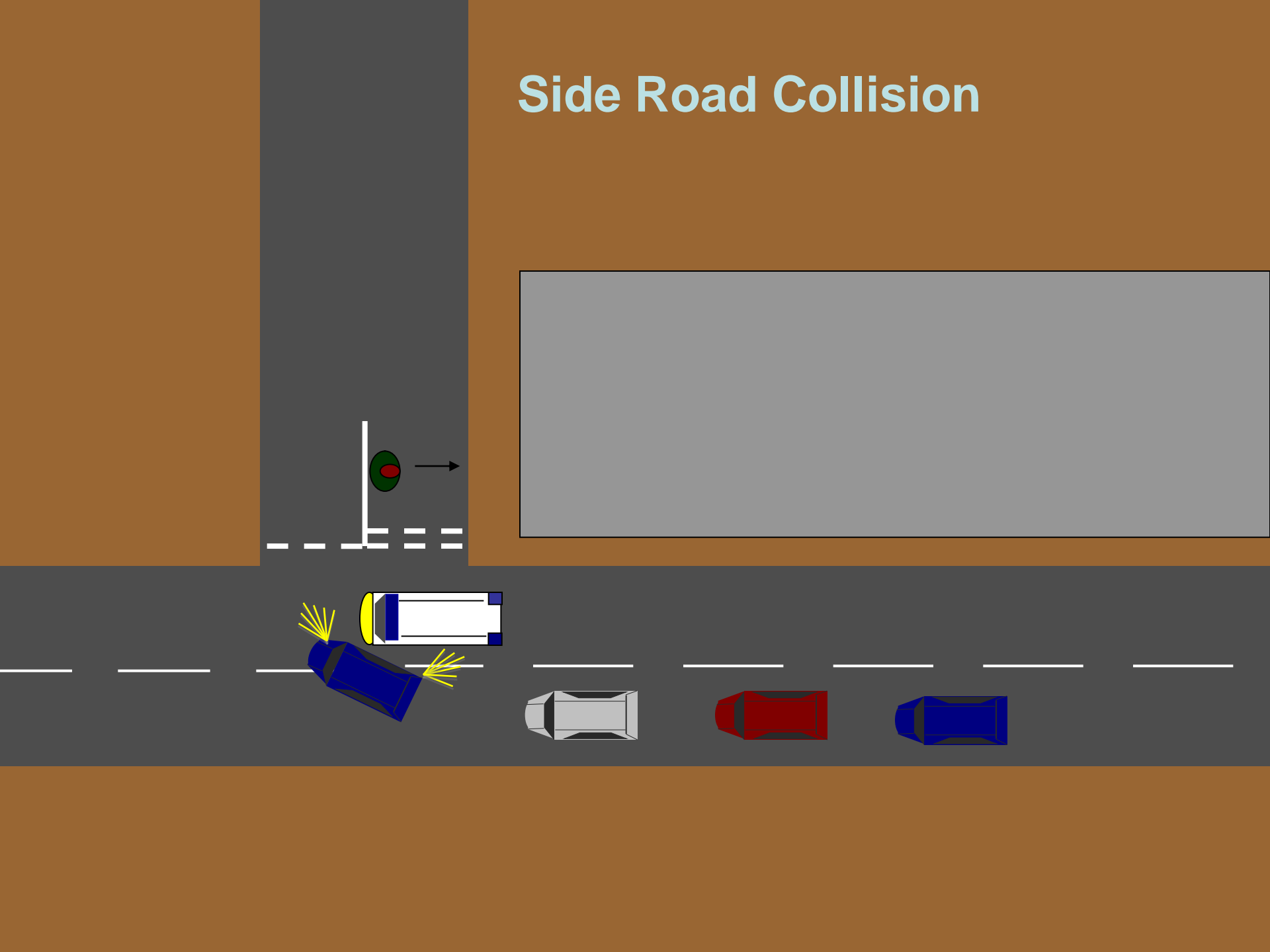
Side Road Collision



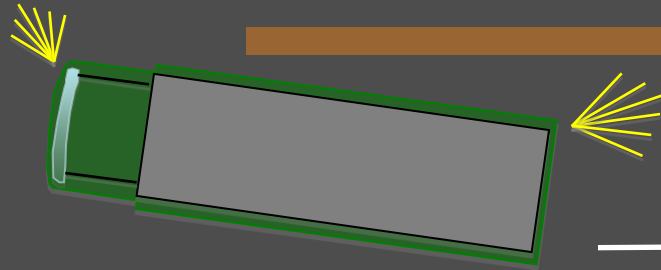
Side Road Collision



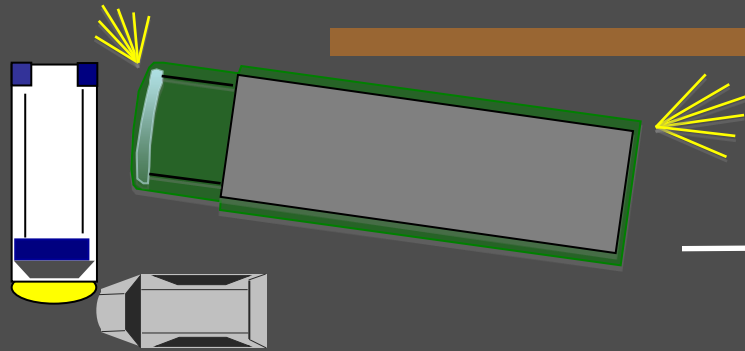
Side Road Collision



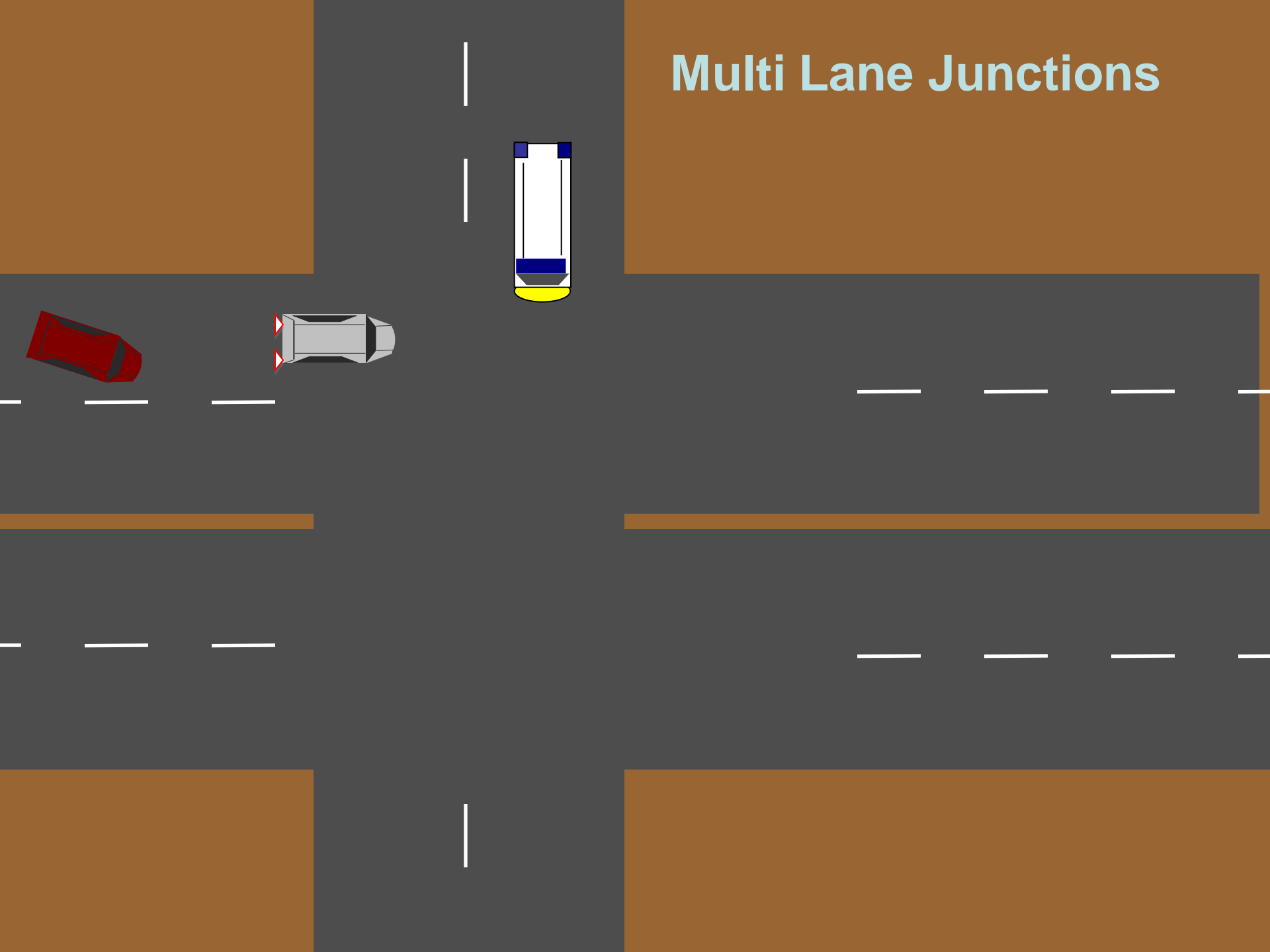
Large Vehicle Overtake



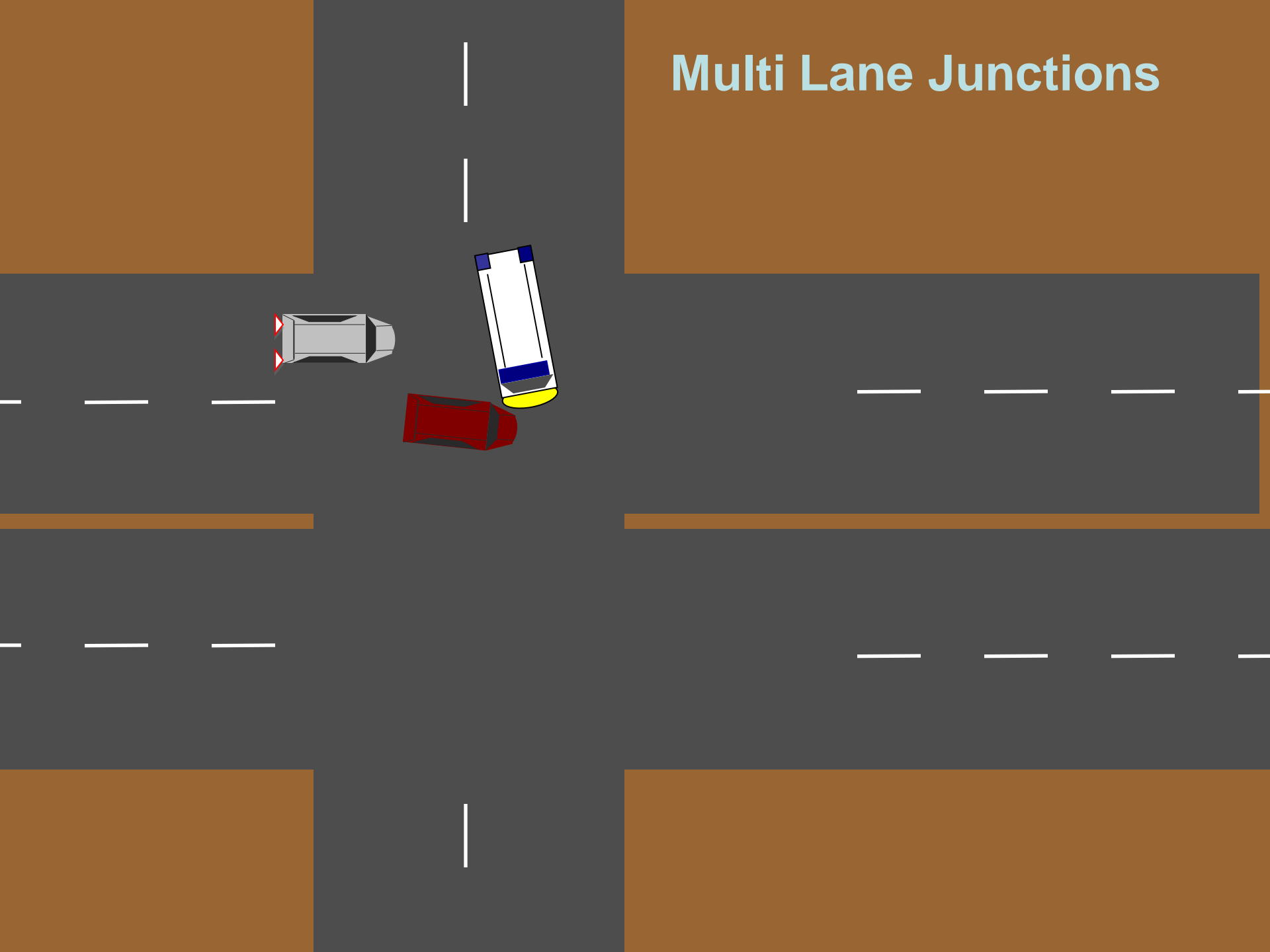
Large Vehicle Obstruction



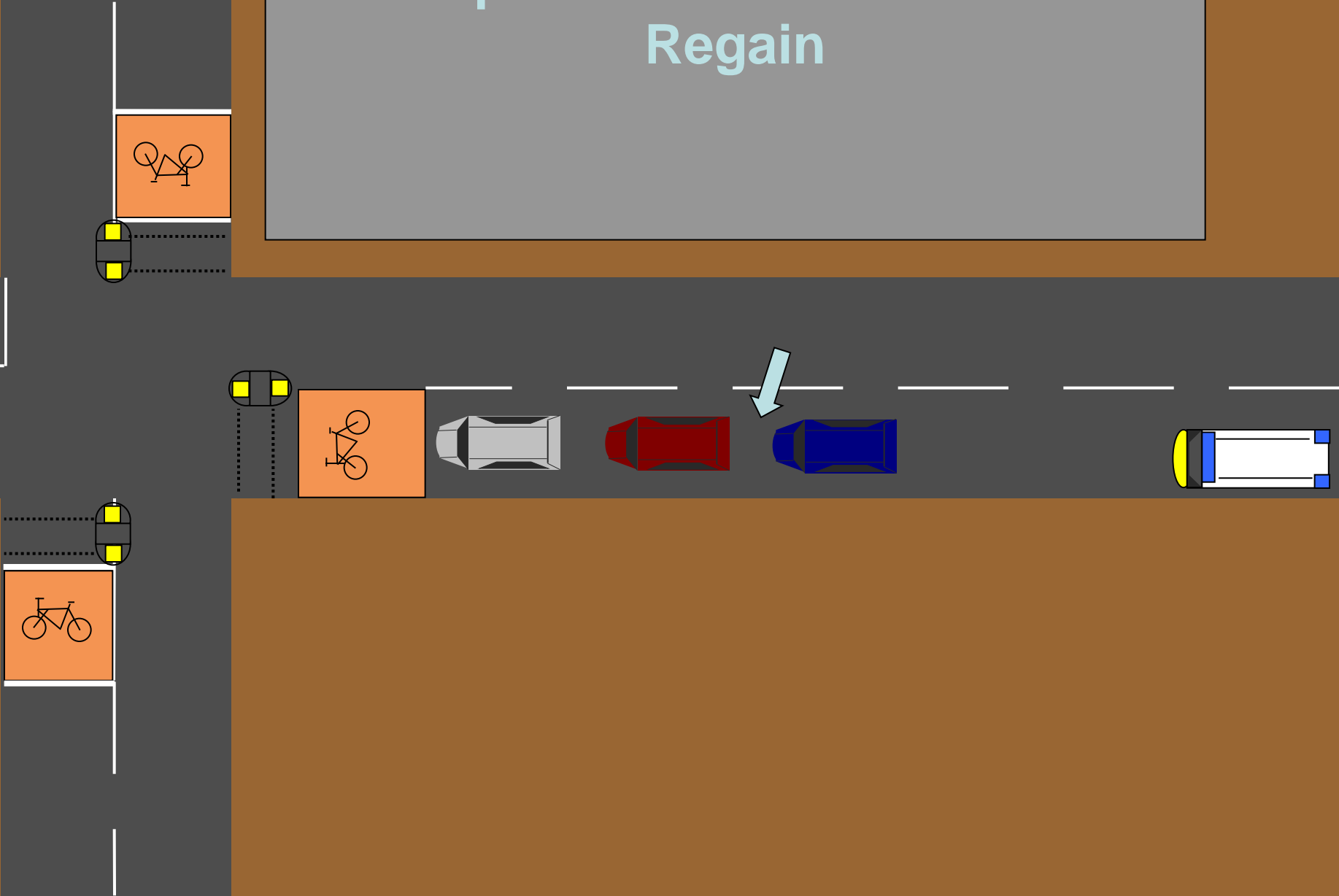
Multi Lane Junctions

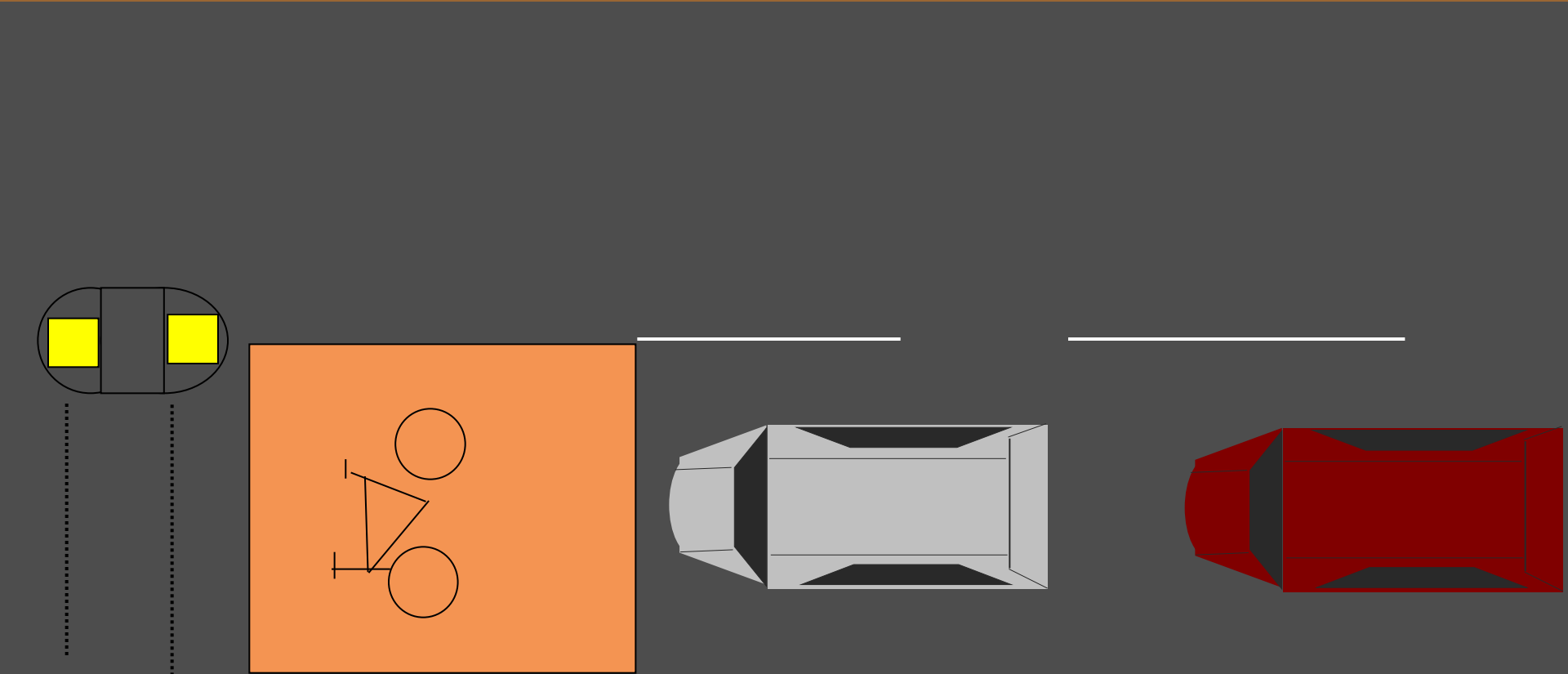
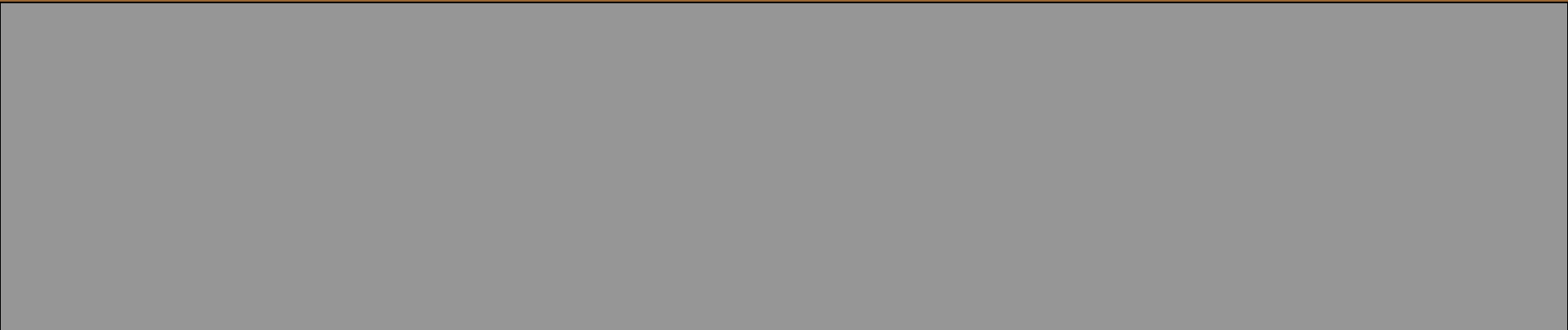


Multi Lane Junctions

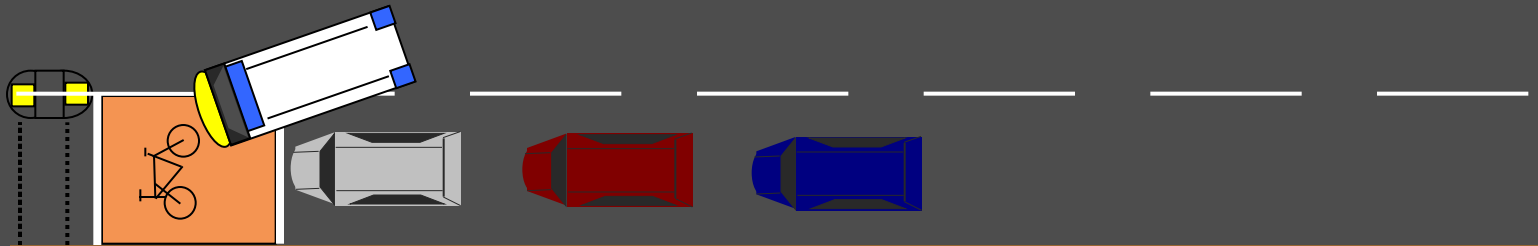
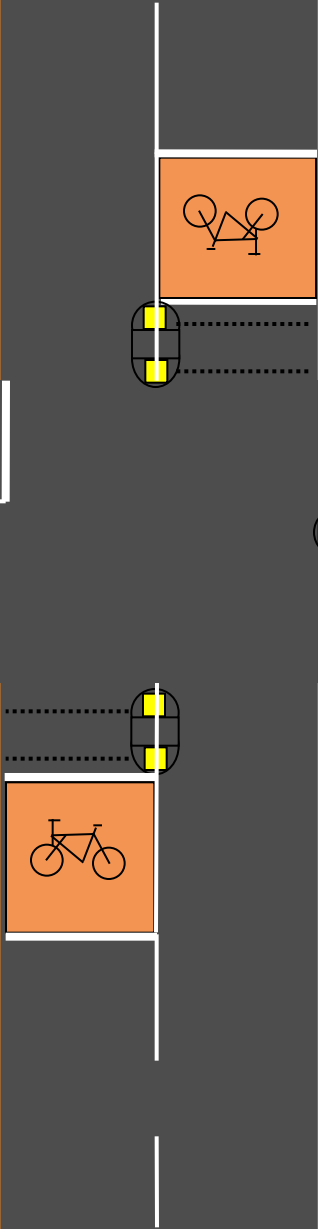


Simple Junction – Offside & Regain

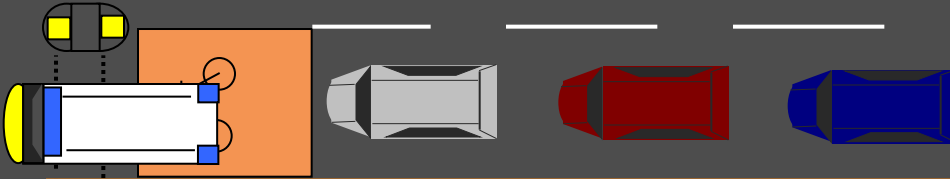




Simple Junction – Offside & Regain



Simple Junction – Offside & Regain





85% of fleet damage is caused by
7% of drivers

Conclusions

- Proper Investigation of Collisions – Not a paper exercise
- Train the people investigating what to do
- Feedback the outcome of the collisions to the trainers
- Update and review what is taught to improve safety