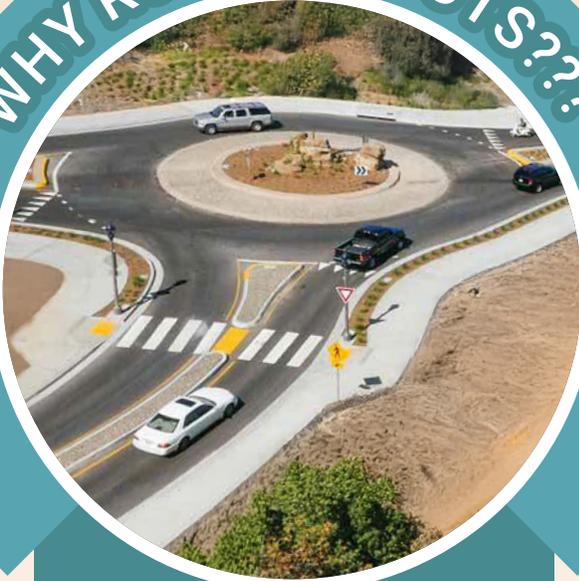




WHY ROUNDABOUTS???



Cities are increasingly using roundabouts instead of stop signs and traffic signals to manage traffic on local roads. Why?

Today's roundabouts have a number of advantages.



Improve Safety



Improve Traffic Flow



Reduce Delays



Reduce Air Pollution



Save Money



Beautify Communities

Safety First

Studies by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety and the Federal Highway Administration have shown that when replacing stop signs or signals roundabouts typically achieve:

- » **37% reduction in overall collisions**
- » **75% reduction in injury collisions**
- » **90% reduction in fatality collisions**
- » **40% reduction in pedestrian collisions.**

Fewer conflict points

Typical signalized intersections have 32 locations that could lead to an accident, compared to roundabouts that have only eight locations. Pedestrians only have to cross one direction of traffic at a time and the crosswalk lengths are much shorter.

No 'light to beat'

Roundabouts are designed to promote a continuous, circular flow of traffic. Drivers yield to traffic before entering a roundabout; if there is no traffic in the roundabout, drivers are not required to stop. Because traffic is constantly flowing through the intersection, drivers don't have the incentive to speed up to try and "beat the light," like they might at a traditional intersection.

Low travel speeds reduce severity of collisions

Drivers must slow down and yield to traffic before entering a roundabout. Speeds in a roundabout are typically between 15 and 20 miles per hour. The curved roads and one-way travel around the roundabout eliminate the possibility for T-bone and head-on collisions. The few collisions that do occur at these lower speeds are typically minor and cause few serious injuries.

Improving Traffic

- » Studies show that when roundabouts replace stop signs and signals, traffic delays go down at least 20 percent.
- » Roundabouts move traffic through an intersection more quickly and with less congestion on approaching roads.
- » Unlike signalized intersections, drivers don't have to wait for a green light at a roundabout to get through the intersection.
- » Traffic is not required to stop – only yield – so the intersection can handle more traffic in the same amount of time.

Roundabouts Can Save Money

When long-term costs are considered, roundabouts eliminate hardware, maintenance and electrical costs associated with traffic signals, which can cost between \$10,000 and \$20,000 a year.

Art & Landscaping

Roundabouts provide an opportunity to beautify a community through artwork and landscaping. These features do double duty – they help give an area character, and they help ensure drivers maintain speeds appropriate to the surroundings.

Breathe Easy

Cars in roundabouts emit remarkably fewer pollutants than cars in intersections.