

Welcome to this years series of roundabout facts. Next Wednesday we will have a new Roundabout fact, but we wanted to start off and summarize the previous series to remind you of their many benefits.

A **Modern Roundabout** is a new form of intersection control that provides safe and efficient traffic flow. It operates with a yield traffic control at the entry points, and gives priority to vehicles within the roundabout.

SAFETY - Modern Roundabouts are the safest at-grade intersection.

They move traffic safely and efficiently through an intersection because of:

- Slower speeds
- Fewer conflict points
- Easy decision-making

Studies show that roundabouts provide a:

- 90% reduction in fatal crashes
- 75% reduction in injury crashes
- 30—40% reduction in pedestrian crashes
- 10% reduction in bicycle crashes

Slower vehicle speeds (under 25mph) mean:

- Drivers have more time to judge and react to other vehicles and pedestrians
- Easier to use for older and novice drivers
- Reduction in the severity of accidents
- Pedestrians are safer
- Provides traffic calming

Increased Capacity - Reduced Delay

- 30—50% increase in traffic capacity
- Traffic always on the move—less delay

Environmental:

- Reduction in pollution and fuel use
- Less noise due to fewer stops and starts

Low Maintenance:

- No signal equipment to install and repair – Averages savings of \$5,000 per intersection per year

Aesthetics:

- Improves visual quality and character through landscaping

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In summary, Roundabouts are a proven safe and efficient traffic control device which can be used at many intersections, but are not always the right tool. Used selectively, they are a beneficial method of improving intersection safety and operations. They should be considered on any intersection improvement project.

Free feel to write back with your comments or questions.