Navigating Roundabouts

Freight Traffic

- For multi-lane roundabouts, as with any intersection, follow guide signs to get into the appropriate lane prior to entering a roundabout.
- Yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk. It is the law.
- Yield to vehicles already in the roundabout.
- Continue through the roundabout until you reach your exit. Do not stop/pass, or change lanes after entering in a roundabout. Exit the roundabout immediately if an emergency vehicle approaches, and then pull over.
- Do not stop in the roundabout.
- Use truck aprons as needed to traverse the roundabout.

Cyclists

- Either use the trail bypass or take the lane and follow the same rules as a vehicle.

Pedestrians

- Cross only at crosswalks and always stay on the designated walkways.
- Never cross to the central island.

Roundabout Improvements

- New curb and gutter and flatter truck aprons help to decrease load shifting in freight vehicles.
- Improved entry geometry makes drivers slow down when approaching a roundabout.
- For multi-lane roundabouts, overhead guide signs are required.

Resources

Minnesota Department of Transportation
www.mndot.gov/roundabouts

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How About a Roundabout?

A modern roundabout is a circular intersection where traffic flows around a central island. Roundabouts are an alternative to traffic signals and stop signs. In many situations, they have several advantages over signals and stop signs, including:

- Fewer injury crashes and fatalities
- Less vehicle delay
- Reduced fuel consumption

Roundabouts undergo thorough analysis prior to implementation to determine if it is the appropriate solution.

Safety

Roundabouts can dramatically improve safety when compared to conventional intersections. A study of 144 intersections converted to roundabouts in Minnesota shows a decrease in total crashes by 42%, a decrease in injury crashes of 83%, and a dramatic 86% decrease in fatal crashes.

Reduction in crashes after conversion to roundabouts (144 intersections)

Since the 1st roundabout was installed, MnDOT has continued to respond to public input and freight needs, and develop new standards to make roundabouts easier to drive.