

## Why Build Roundabouts?

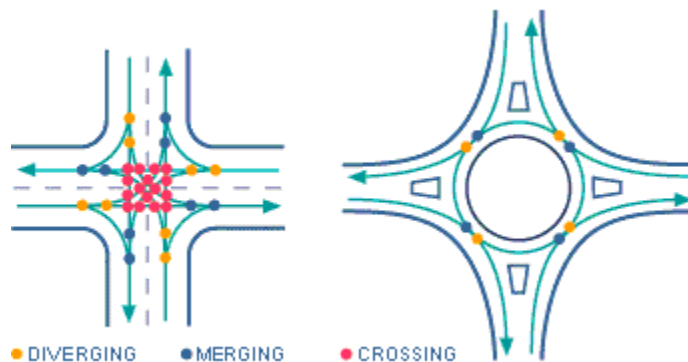
Roundabouts offer a sensible solution to safety and capacity problems at some intersections. Here's a list of some of the benefits associated with modern roundabouts:

### Safety

According to the Federal Highway Administration, installing a roundabout may result in:

- A 76 percent reduction in injury-accidents
- A 90 percent reduction in fatalities
- 75 percent fewer "conflict points" compared to standard intersections (see diagram below)
- A reduction in pedestrian injuries

### Conflict Point Diagram



### Less delay

Roundabouts are designed to handle traffic more efficiently than signalized intersections. With traffic constantly moving and vehicles entering the intersection at lower speeds, more vehicles are able to move through the intersection at any given time.

### An Improved Environment

With more vehicles able to move through the intersection at any given time, there will be fewer vehicles idling for shorter periods of time. Because idling vehicles cause the most air pollution, roundabouts result in reduced air pollution.

### Why do roundabouts have such a good safety record?

1. Conflicts are reduced. With fewer conflict points, roundabouts eliminate the potential for hazardous conflicts, such as right angle and left-turn head-on crashes.
2. Speeds are reduced and are more consistent. Low speeds driven in roundabouts allow drivers more time to react to potential conflicts, thus helping to improve the safety of roundabouts. Since most drivers travel at similar speeds through roundabouts, crash severity is reduced compared to traditional intersections.
3. Pedestrians cross one direction of traffic at a time. Pedestrians need only cross one direction of traffic at a time at each roundabout approach, as compared with signalized intersections.