Roundabouts 101 - A Bookends Approach to Public Understanding of Roundabouts

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Knowledge is Key!

- Know your Project
- Know the local concerns
- Roundabout statistics & benefits
- Know where to get important tools
Know Your Project

- **Existing conditions**
  - Crash / Safety Statistics
  - Truck percentage
  - Pedestrians
  - Unique situations (unusual vehicle types, etc.)
  - AADT
Know Your Project

- **Proposed Improvements**
  - Specific elements to address specific issues
  - Basic geometry (ICD, Truck Apron width, etc.)
  - LOS / Delay
  - Design vehicle
  - Project cost (comparison is good)
Know the Local Concerns

- How to drive a roundabout?
- Trucks?
- Speeds?
- Roundabouts are “dangerous”?
- Access?
- Lighting?
- Pedestrians?
Meeting Preparation

- Know your audience
- Meet with Public officials prior to meeting
- Identify primary concerns from public
- Determine major opposition
- Identify largest allies
Public Meeting Content

- Customize your meeting to address the local concerns!
- Use statistics and facts to address opposition
- Provide education material if needed
- Get help from allies
- Use similar projects already constructed
Public Meeting Media

- Boards
- Stations
- FHWA video & pamphlets
- Microsimulation Models
- Renderings

Fit the media to meet the needs of your project
Recommendations

- Listen to the residents
- Always remain non-confrontational
- Address their issues with facts
- Use tools highlighted today
- Call upon allies - grass roots
- Strive to make opposition your friend
Effects on Project

- Plan Early
  - Budget/Time
    - When programming this type of project make sure to account for meetings and education in schedule and budget.
  - Meeting Preparation
    - The life or death of your project could hinge on this!!
Case Study 1 - US 421 & SR 62

Jefferson County, IN
US 421 & SR 62 Intersection
Roundabout Schematic
Case Study 2 - US 31 & CR 400

US 31 at CR 400 South
Proposed Roundabout