Roundabout Prequalification Training

March 11, 2013
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Why Roundabouts?

- Everybody else is building them?
- They look cool?
- Circles are better than squares?
- We want to be like the Europeans?
SAFETY!

- According to the Insurance Institute of Highway Safety (IIHS), more than 800 people die and over 200,000 are injured in the U.S. each year in crashes that involve red light running.

- In 2000, the IIHS found that roundabouts had 79% fewer accidents with injuries than ordinary intersections.

- Since 2000, IIHS has issued a total of five reports promoting the use of roundabouts.
Safety - Speed Reduction

Figure from FHWA Design Guide
Safety - Vehicular Conflict Points

Total Conflict Points: 8
- Crossing (0)
- Diverging (4)
- Converging (4)

Total Conflict Points: 32
- Crossing (16)
- Diverging (8)
- Converging (8)
Safety - Type of Crashes

Typical 4-leg intersection

- Angle
- Left turn

Roundabout

- Sideswipe
INDOT desires roundabouts to be considered for any intersection improvement project

Another tool in the toolbox

Not always the answer, but often you’ll be surprised!
Why Prequalification?

- Proven safety measure
- INDOT desires roundabouts to be considered in your planning process
- Sound design plays a major role in the function of a roundabout
- Understanding the important parameters of roundabouts is crucial to sound design.
Definitions

- **Splitter Island**
- **Central Island**
- **Circulatory Roadway**
- **Approach**
- **Exit**
What makes a Modern Roundabout?

- Smooth Exit
- Deflected Entry
- Diameter 100’-220’
- No Pedestrians in Center
- Yield on Entry
INDOT Roundabout Design Policy

- FHWA Guide (NCHRP 672)
- 2009 MUTCD (pavement markings and signage)
- HCM 2010 (operations)
- IDM Chapter 51-12.0 (written prior to NCHRP 672)
- Soon to be replaced by IDM 305-5.0 (supplement to NCHRP 672)
Purpose: To provide guidance to designers and reviewers on many of the major items to be considered during the design of roundabouts.
Roundabout Design Checklist

- Not a comprehensive list nor a set of hard and fast rules
- Documentation is critical for reviewers to understand the designer’s intentions
- Diverging from the ranges outside of the desirable ranges shown is acceptable but needs to be justified with design documentation
Roundabout Design Checklist

- Divided into four major categories
  - Planning
  - Design Documentation
  - Roundabout Design
  - Design Plans

- Designers should submit completed checklist and documentation with all roundabout submittals
“A comparison of roundabout practicality/feasibility vs. other intersection types should be conducted, taking into consideration safety, traffic operations, capacity, ROW impacts, and cost.”
Roundabout Planning
Evaluation Criteria

- Operations
- Safety
- R/W impacts
- Construction cost
- User costs
- Constructability
- Public input
- Maintenance of traffic
- Noise and environmental impacts
Roundabout Planning
Locations Where Roundabouts Can Be Beneficial

- High-speed rural intersections
- Locations with mediocre/poor crash history
- Locations with traffic operational problems
- Closely spaced intersections
- Near structures, including freeway interchange ramps
- Access management
- Gateway or transition locations
- Where community enhancement is desired
- Near schools
- Corridors
NCHRP currently performing research to analyze roundabout corridors.

Our experience: work very well when all roundabouts are operating under capacity.

No need to coordinate timings.

Every vehicle on every approach must slow down to enter the roundabout.

Slower speeds increase motorist and pedestrian safety.
Roundabout Planning
Location - Proceed with Caution

- Within a system of coordinated signals
- On a steep grade
- Where stopping sight distance cannot be achieved
- Near rail crossings
- Near a signalized intersection
Memo or report with the following, where applicable:

- Traffic volumes and crash history
- 20-year traffic projections
- Capacity analysis
- Conceptual geometric design
- Public involvement
- Comparison to other intersection types, including “Do Nothing”
- Crash analysis
- Selection of preferred option
Roundabout Planning
Traffic Data

- 20-year forecasts
- Consider staged construction
  Interim year analysis required
- Turning movements critical
  Roundabout capacity dependent on approach and conflicting circulating traffic
Roundabout Planning
Traffic Data - Calculating Volumes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intersection</th>
<th>Mason Road and Hickory Woods Drive</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peak Hour</td>
<td>AM Peak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analyst</td>
<td>TcW</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>South Leg</th>
<th>North Leg</th>
<th>West Leg</th>
<th>East Leg</th>
<th>Hour Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LEFT</td>
<td>THRU</td>
<td>RIGHT</td>
<td>LEFT</td>
<td>THRU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>170</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Year 2030 Traffic Volumes
Mason Road and Hickory Woods Drive
AM Peak

Approach-Based Totals For Peak Hour

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leg</th>
<th>Direction</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Leg</td>
<td>Leaving</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Approaching</td>
<td>370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Leg</td>
<td>Leaving</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Approaching</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Leg</td>
<td>Leaving</td>
<td>440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Approaching</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Leg</td>
<td>Leaving</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Approaching</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Roundabout Planning
Capacity Analysis - Tools

Capacity Analysis (Macroscopic):
- RODEL / ARCADY
- SIDRA Intersection
- Equations from FHWA Roundabout Guide
- Equations from NCHRP Report 572 “Roundabouts in the United States” (published in 2007)
- HCM 2010 (HCS 2010, Synchro, SIDRA, etc.)

Simulations (Microscopic):
- Vissim
- Paramics
- Others
Roundabout geometric features used in design should match those in the capacity analysis if a capacity model with geometry inputs is being used (ARCADY, RODEL, SIDRA)

Learn the theory, limitations, and strengths of the software that you are using!
Roundabout Planning
Capacity - Approach vs. Circulating Flow

Figure 4-6 NCHRP 672
(Based on HCM 2010)
Roundabout Planning
Capacity - Rules of Thumb

- Single-lane roundabouts – up to 25,000 vpd
- Two-lane roundabouts – up to 40,000 vpd
- Three-lane roundabouts – in excess of 55,000 vpd
- Highly dependent upon turning movement percentages
- Rule of Thumb: Single lane approach volume = 1,100 – 1,200 vph
Roundabout level of service is similar to that of an unsignalized intersection.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Control Delay (s/veh)</th>
<th>Level of Service by Volume-to-Capacity Ratio*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>v/c ≤ 1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0–10</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;10–15</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;15–25</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;25–35</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;35–50</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;50</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>v/c &gt; 1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* For approaches and intersection-wide assessment, LOS is defined solely by control delay.

NCHRP Report 672 - Exhibit 4-9
(based on HCM)

Level of service should meet the IDM thresholds for different facility types.
(Currently Chapters 53-56)
## Roundabout Planning
### Capacity – LOS Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Design Element</th>
<th>Manual Section</th>
<th>2 Lanes</th>
<th>4 or More Lanes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Design-Year Traffic, AADT</td>
<td>40-2.01</td>
<td>400 ≤ AADT</td>
<td>≥ 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design Forecast Period</td>
<td>40-2.02</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
<td>20 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Design Speed, mph (1)</td>
<td>40-3.0</td>
<td>Level: 60 – 70; Rolling: 50 – 60</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access Control</td>
<td>40-5.0</td>
<td>Partial Control / None</td>
<td>Partial Control / None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cross-Section Elements</th>
<th>*Width</th>
<th>Typical Surface Type (2)</th>
<th>Chp. 52</th>
<th>*Width Usable</th>
<th>Typical Surface Type (2)</th>
<th>Chp. 52</th>
<th>*Width Paved</th>
<th>Typical Surface Type (2)</th>
<th>Chp. 52</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Travel Lane</td>
<td>45-1.01</td>
<td>12 ft</td>
<td>Asphalt / Concrete</td>
<td>6 ft</td>
<td>Asphalt / Concrete</td>
<td>4 ft</td>
<td>8 ft</td>
<td>Asphalt / Concrete</td>
<td>4 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoulder (3)</td>
<td>45-1.01</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>Asphalt / Concrete</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>Asphalt / Concrete</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>Asphalt / Concrete</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross Slope</td>
<td>45-1.02</td>
<td>4 ft (11)</td>
<td>6:1 (10)</td>
<td>4 ft (11)</td>
<td>6:1 (10)</td>
<td>4:1 for 20 ft; 3:1 Max. to Top (12)</td>
<td>4:1 for 20 ft; 3:1 Max. to Top (12)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Width</td>
<td>45-2.0</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>12 ft</td>
<td>11 ft (3b)</td>
<td>10 ft (3b)</td>
<td>Desirable: 12 ft; Minimum: 11 ft</td>
<td>Desirable: 12 ft; Minimum: 11 ft</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clear-Zone Width</td>
<td>49-2.0</td>
<td>(8)</td>
<td>11 ft</td>
<td>10 ft (3b)</td>
<td>9 ft (3b)</td>
<td>Right: 11 ft (3b)</td>
<td>Left: 10 ft (3e)</td>
<td>Right: 10 ft (3b)</td>
<td>Left: 8 ft (3e)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Side Slopes (9)</td>
<td>Cut</td>
<td>Ditch Width</td>
<td>Backslope</td>
<td>6:1 to Clear Zone; 3:1 Max. to Toe</td>
<td>6:1 to Clear Zone; 3:1 Max. to Toe</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Slopes</td>
<td>45-2.02</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>HL-93 (13)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>HL-93 (13)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Controlling design criterion. ** An arterial of 4 or more lanes on a new location should be designed as Divided.
*** Selection of the cross section and bridge elements is based on the design-year traffic volume irrespective of the design speed.

**GEOMETRIC DESIGN CRITERIA FOR RURAL ARTERIAL**
(New Construction or Reconstruction)

**Figure 53-2**
Calculated queue lengths should not cause blocking of nearby drives or intersections (95th percentile queue length)
Design Documentation

Speeds Appropriate / Fastest Paths

- Definitions of paths per FHWA Guide
- Refer to NCHRP 672 Sections 6.7.1 and 6.7.2
- R1-R2-R3 movement is typically fastest path
NCHRP 672 provides illustrations of how to create these paths...

Exhibit 6-48

Exhibit 6-49
Design Documentation
Speeds Appropriate / Fastest Paths

...and how to measure the radii...

Exhibit 6-51
...and how to determine the speeds from the radii.

Exhibit 6-52
Eqn 6-1
Eqn 6-2
Use Eqn 6-4 to check $R_3$ speed.

$$V_3 = \min \left\{ \frac{V_{3\text{phase}}}{\frac{1}{1.47} \sqrt{(1.47V_2)^2 + 2a_{23}d_{23}}} \right\}$$

where

- $V_3 =$ exit speed, mph;
- $V_{3\text{phase}} =$ $V_3$ speed predicted based on path radius, mph;
- $V_2 =$ circulatory speed for through vehicles predicted based on path radius, mph;
- $a_{23} =$ acceleration between the midpoint of $V_2$ path and the point of interest along $V_3$ path = 6.9 ft/s$^2$; and
- $d_{23} =$ distance along the vehicle path between midpoint of $V_2$ path and point of interest along $V_3$ path, ft.
Design Documentation

Speeds Appropriate / Fastest Paths

\[ d_{23} \]
### Design Documentation
**Speeds Appropriate / Fastest Paths**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roundabout Type</th>
<th>Recommended Fastest Path Speed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mini Roundabout</td>
<td>20 mph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Lane Roundabout</td>
<td>25 mph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi Lane Roundabout</td>
<td>25 - 30 mph</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Speeds can exceed these recommendations
- Engineering judgment must be used
- Documentation must be provided
Design Documentation
Speed Differential / Consistency

- Desirable to have all speeds in roundabout within 10mph – 15mph of one another
- Refer to NCHRP 6.7.3.1
- Should be balanced with other roundabout needs. All variances should be explained in documentation
Design Documentation
Stopping Sight Distance

- All SSD calculations must be shown graphically
- Refer to NCHRP 6.7.3.1
- SSD is a level 1 criteria
Three locations should be checked:

- Approach sight distance
- Sight distance on circulatory roadway
- Sight distance to crosswalk on exit
All ISD calculations must be shown graphically

Refer to NCHRP 6.7.3.2

ISD is soon to be a level 1 criteria

Too much ISD can increase roundabout speeds

Use equations found in NCHRP 672
- Eye location set 50’ from yield line
- Use NCHRP 672 equation 6-6 and 6-7 with $tc = 5.0s$
- $d_1$ can be minimized to 50’ behind yield line (documentation required)

Equation 6-6: $d_1 = (1.468)(V_{\text{major, entering}})(t_c)$

Equation 6-7: $d_2 = (1.468)(V_{\text{major, circulating}})(t_c)$
Include an overlay of all graphical checks of ISD and SSD on a single sheet

Overlays will reveal areas where landscaping height is and is not restricted

Must perform checks even if landscaping is not part of original plans
Splitter Island maximum landscaping height will be 1.5’ from top of curb

Refer to NCHRP 672 Chapter 9 for additional guidance
FHWA Roundabout Guide:

“For a roundabout to operate satisfactorily, a driver must be able to enter the roundabout, move through the circulating traffic, and separate from the circulating stream in a safe and efficient manner. To accomplish this, a driver must be able to perceive the general layout and operation of the intersection in time to make the appropriate maneuvers. Adequate lighting should therefore be provided at all roundabouts.”
Present guidance and resources

- NCHRP 672, Chapter 8
- IESNA Publication DG-19-08
- AASHTO
- Proprietary methods and vendor assistance
Several studies have been completed to determine the best lighting practices at roundabouts.

- Approaches
- Circulatory Roadway
- Exits

Light placement in advance of pedestrian facilities is critical – try not to “backlight” pedestrians

Pavement markings, signs, and lighting designs go hand-in-hand
Light poles can be placed in central island if necessary but should not be placed in splitter islands.

Central Illumination Design

Perimeter Illumination Design
Important locations
- Crosswalks
- 45°, 135°, 225°, 315° quadrant points

Consider clear zone

Evaluate arm lengths
Design Documentation

Lighting Design

- All roundabouts need to be lit
- Place one light in advance of each approach crosswalk
- Additional lighting at roundabouts should be considered to better illuminate the roundabouts and eliminate dark spots
- Light pollution to neighboring residents can be a concern
- Center island landscaping can incorporate uplighting for additional visibility
Roundabout geometry plays a major role in the capacity and safety of the roundabout.

Geometry of roundabout design needs to match geometry in capacity analysis.

If geometry is different than engineer’s report, designer should re-run capacity analysis.
Inscribed Circle Diameter
### Roundabout Design

#### Inscribed Circle Diameter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roundabout Type</th>
<th>Low End</th>
<th>High End</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single Lane</td>
<td>90’</td>
<td>180’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Lane</td>
<td>150’</td>
<td>220’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Lane</td>
<td>200’</td>
<td>300’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Refer to NCHRP 6.3.1
- Exhibit 6-9 provides better detail of inscribed diameters
- Document rationale if larger or smaller sizes are used
Right offset should be avoided.

Left offset is preferred because it typically improves deflection.

Justification of right offset should be provided with documentation.

Refer to NCHRP 6.3.2
Why is left offset preferred?

- Desired deflection is easier to achieve
- Can utilize a smaller circle without reducing deflection
- Results in slower entry speeds
Roundabout Design
Circulatory Roadway Width

Circulatory Roadway Width
## Roundabout Design

**Circulatory Roadway Width**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roundabout Type</th>
<th>Low End</th>
<th>High End</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single Lane</td>
<td>16’</td>
<td>20’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Lane</td>
<td>28’</td>
<td>32’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Lane</td>
<td>42’</td>
<td>48’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Refer to NCHRP 6.4.3 and 6.5.3
- “Rule of Thumb” is that circulatory roadway is 100% to 120% of entry width
Roundabout Design
Approach Radii

Approach Radius
Roundabout Design
Approach Radii

- Design should match the geometry used in the capacity analysis
- A wide range may be appropriate depending upon the components of the design
- Refer to NCHRP 6.4.5 and 6.5.4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roundabout Type</th>
<th>Low End</th>
<th>High End</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single Lane</td>
<td>50’</td>
<td>100’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-Lane</td>
<td>65’</td>
<td>120’</td>
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</table>
Roundabout Design
Entry Width
Roundabout Design
Entry Width

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roundabout Type</th>
<th>Low End</th>
<th>High End</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single Lane</td>
<td>14’</td>
<td>18’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Lane</td>
<td>24’</td>
<td>30’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Lane</td>
<td>36’</td>
<td>45’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Measured perpendicular to left and right curb lines
- Refer to NCHRP 6.4.2 and 6.5.2
Roundabout Design
Exit Radii

Exit Radius
Roundabout Design

Exit Radii

- Typically 100’ to 800’
- 300’ to 600’ is desirable
- Refer to NCHRP 6.4.6 and 6.5.6
- Exit radii as small as 50’ can be used if necessary to control speeds at crosswalk
- Smaller exit radii can affect natural flow of traffic through roundabout and reduce capacity
Roundabout Design
Entry Path or Exit Overlap

- Only affects multi-lane roundabouts
- Refer to NCHRP 6.2.3
- Figure 51-22NN in current IDM illustrates how to avoid overlap
Roundabout Design
Entry Path or Exit Overlap

Desired Path of Vehicles

Entry Path Overlap

Speed & Trajectory of vehicle at yield point determines natural path

Striping and proper geometric design is crucial to achieving proper lane use!
Roundabout Design
Entry Path or Exit Overlap

Case Study - Entry Path Overlap
Roundabout Design
Truck Apron

Truck Apron
Roundabout Design
Truck Apron Width

- Truck apron allows large vehicles to track to the inside of the roundabout
- Minimum effective/constructible width is 3’, minimum width of 5’ is desirable
- No maximum width – based on turning templates
- Refer to NCHRP 6.4.7.1 and 6.8.7.4
- Documentation for proper design vehicle and illustrating adequate width should be included with design submittals
Roundabout Design

Pedestrian Crossing

- Crosswalk should be placed 20’-40’ behind Yield Line (one to two car lengths)
- Refer to NCHRP 6.4.1 and 6.8.1.2
- Ample length and width of splitter island should be designed to provide a safe refuge for pedestrians
- Placement should coincide with a vehicle’s slowest speed on approach
- Pay attention to cross-slope
Roundabout Design
Pavement Markings & Signs

- Pavement markings and signs are critical to the function of roundabouts
- Pavement marking schematics should be submitted with Stage 1 plans to illustrate design intent
- Pavement markings should be designed in accordance with MUTCD 3C and NCHRP 7.3
- Signs should be designed in accordance with MUTCD 2B.43-45 and NCHRP 7.4
Roundabout Design
Entry Grade Profile
• Entry grade profile should be leveled out so as not to exceed 3%
• Entry grade profile is defined as the area approximately two car lengths from the outer edge of the circle
• Refer to NCHRP 6.8.7.5
Roundabout Design

Drainage Structures

- Avoid drainage structures within circulatory roadway
- Desirable location is between circulatory roadway and curb ramps
- Primary reason for concern is maintenance difficulties
- Refer to NCHRP 6.8.7.6
- In some situations, this can not be avoided to meet spread/encroachment requirements
Design Plans

- Spot elevations and/or grading plans should be clear and concise
- Sign types and locations should be clearly defined
- Specialty pavement markings must be clearly detailed
Design Plans

- Radii should be clearly labeled
- For early plan submittals – Provide the reviewer ample information to identify the critical elements (ICD, Approach & Exit Radii, etc.)
- For Stage 3 plans - Can a contractor build the roundabout with the information provided?
Future Policy Updates

- Indiana Design Manual Updates – Soon!
  - Significantly reduced
  - Largely relies on NCHRP 672
  - Incorporated into intersections chapter 305
  - May be organized per checklist
Future Policy Updates

- Checklist modifications
- All roundabouts will now be considered 4R
- Adding lane drop taper requirements
- High speed approach detail modifications
Future Policy Updates

- Clear zone definition
  - Curb offset + 4’ for interior
  - Curb offset + 6’ for perimeter
  - Clear zone transition zone on approach

- Pedestrian signal recommendations
Common Questions

- How important is public education?
- How do you maintain traffic during construction?
- What about visually impaired pedestrians?
- Are roundabouts safe on high speed facilities?
- What about bicyclists?
Single Lane Roundabout Layout
Single Lane Roundabout Layout

Getting Started

- 5 step process with a foundation of designing pavement marking alignments
- Multiple iterations of these 5 steps will need to be completed to achieve the optimum geometric design
- Curbs and edges of pavement are derived by the pavement markings in accordance with the FHWA Roundabout Guide.

Disclaimer: There are many approaches to achieve a sound geometric roundabout design. This approach is just one relatively simple method we have found to work.
Example 1
Single Lane

Scale 1" = 30'
Geometric Basics

- Inscribed diameter
  - Typically start with 130’ and adjust based on existing conditions
  - Dependent on your design vehicle
- Circulatory roadway width
  - Dependent on your design vehicle
  - Typically start with 15’-16’ for a single lane roundabout
- Truck apron width
  - Dependent on your design vehicle tracking
  - Typically start with 5’
Single Lane Roundabout Layout

**Geometric Basics**

- **Approach Radius**
  - Typically start with 100’
  - Affects roundabout capacity and speeds

- **Exit Radius**
  - Typically start with 600’
  - Affects roundabout capacity and speeds
Single Lane Roundabout Layout

**Situation**

- Simple 90 degree intersection
- Both roadways are 2 lane roads
Single Lane Roundabout Layout

**Step 1**
- Draw center circle
- Offset for circulatory roadway width
- Draw exits
Step 2
Fillet centerline to inside of circulatory roadway for exits
Step 3

Fillet inside of exit lane with inside circle to create inside approach lane
Step 4
Offset inside of exit lane to match approaching lane width
**Step 5**

Fillet with outside edge of circulatory roadway
Single Lane Roundabout Layout

Step 6
Trim & review your geometrics
**Single Lane Roundabout Layout**

**Deflection Check**

Tangent to outside edge of approach should line up close to point where inside edge of approach intersects circulatory roadway.
Single Lane Roundabout Layout

**Situation 2**
- Offset intersection
- Higher speed on east-west road
**Step 1**

- Draw center circle to maximize deflection on higher speed approach
- Offset for circulatory roadway width
- Draw exits
Step 2
Fillet centerline to inside of circulatory roadway for exits
Step 3
Fillet inside of exit lane with inside circle to create inside approach lane
Step 4
Offset inside of exit lane to match approaching lane width
Step 5

Fillet with outside edge of circulatory roadway
Step 6

Trim & review your geometrics
Splitter Islands

Once layout is complete, create splitter islands as illustrated in Exhibit 6-13 of NCHRP 672.
**Splitter Islands**

- Where pedestrian facilities exist, the splitter island should be at least 50’
- Additional modifications to geometry may be necessary to develop required splitter island length
Single Lane Roundabout Layout

**Alterations to Geometric Layout**

- Can decrease exit radii to avoid R/W impacts or slow exiting traffic due to crosswalk
- Be careful not to reduce exit radii too much
- Can offset centerline in Step 4 additionally to create a longer splitter island
- When a median is involved, in Step 4 you can offset the line to match the inside approach edge of the existing median
Multi-Lane Roundabout Layout
Multi-Lane Roundabout Layout

Geometric Basics

- Inscribed diameter
  - Typically start with 160’ and adjust based on existing conditions
  - Dependent on your design vehicle

- Circulatory roadway width
  - Dependent on your design vehicle
  - Typically start with 30’-31’ for a 2 lane roundabout

- Truck apron width
  - Dependent on your design vehicle tracking
  - Typically start with 5’
Example 3
Multi-Lane

Scale 1" = 30'
Multi-Lane Roundabout Layout

**Situation**

- Skewed intersection
- East-west roadway is a 4 lane facility
- North-south roadway is a 2 lane facility
**Step 1**
- Draw Center Circle
- Offset for Circulatory Roadway Width
- Draw Exits
Multi-Lane Roundabout Layout

**Step 2**
Fillet inside of exit Lanes to inside of circulatory roadway
**Step 3**

- Fillet inside of exit lane with inside circle to create inside approach lane.
- Only do this for single lane entries!
Multi-Lane Roundabout Layout

**Step 4**

- Offset inside of exit lane to match approaching lane width
- Only do this for the single lane entries!
Multi-Lane Roundabout Layout

**Step 5**

- Fillet with outside edge of circulatory roadway
- Only do this for the single lane entries!
Multi-Lane Roundabout Layout

Desired Path of Vehicles

Entry Path Overlap

Speed & Trajectory of vehicle at yield point determines natural path

Striping and proper geometric design is crucial to achieving proper lane use!
Step 6
Create tangents on two-lane approaches to prevent entry path overlap.
Multi-Lane Roundabout Layout

Step 7
Trim and review geometry