Roundabouts 101 - A Bookends Approach to Public Understanding of Roundabouts

Craig M. Parks,
Vice President, American Structurepoint

Travis Mankin,
Project Manager, INDOT
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!!