

Benefits of a Roundabout:

Lives saved

- Up to a 90% reduction in fatalities
- 76% reduction in injury crashes
- 30-40% reduction in pedestrian crashes
- 75% fewer conflict points than four-way intersections

Slower vehicle speeds (under 30 mph)

- Drivers have more time to judge and react to other cars or pedestrians
- Advantageous to older and novice drivers
- Reduces severity of crashes
- Keeps pedestrians safer

Efficient traffic flow

- 30-50% increase in traffic capacity

Reduction in pollution and fuel use

- Improved traffic flow for intersections that handle a high number of left turns

Lower Costs

- No signal equipment to install or repair
- Savings estimated at an average of \$5,000 per year in electricity and maintenance costs
- Service life of a roundabout is 25 years (vs. the 10-year service life of signal equipment)

Community Benefits

- Traffic calming
- Aesthetically-pleasing landscaping

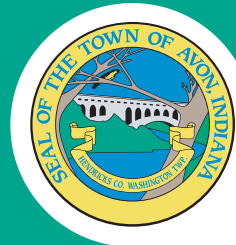
* Information taken from Roundabouts: An Informational Guide, FHWA Publication No. FHWA-RD-00-067.



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ALL ABOUT ROUNDABOUTS



Managing high-traffic volume and reducing the risk of collisions at major intersections is a priority to the Town of Avon. To address these issues, the Town will construct its first “roundabout” in 2007 at the intersection of Dan Jones Road and County Road 100 South.

A second roundabout, two miles north on Dan Jones Road at County Road 100 North, is being planned to be constructed in the next few years to replace the existing intersection.

What is a Roundabout?

A roundabout is a one-way circular intersection in which traffic flows around a center island. There is no traffic signal equipment so traffic moves constantly in a counter-clockwise manner. Roundabouts are currently used throughout Australia, Europe and Canada. They are becoming a popular traffic management tool in the United States because of their many benefits as well as their visual appeal.

Roundabouts are proven to reduce traffic delays, energy consumption, maintenance costs and air pollution. The occurrence of accidents is also reduced. Head-on and tbone collisions, the most destructive and costly types, are rare in roundabouts due to the design of the intersection and the one-way flow of traffic.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I know when it is my turn to go?

As you approach the roundabout, yield to traffic currently in the circle. Wait until there is an opening in traffic and slowly move into the circle.

What do I do if an emergency vehicle is approaching the roundabout?

Roundabouts are designed to properly accommodate emergency vehicles. If you are in the roundabout when an emergency vehicle is approaching, you should move your vehicle as far right as possible and, if necessary, stop until the emergency vehicle has passed. If you are approaching a roundabout when you see an emergency vehicle, you should move your vehicle as far to the right as possible and wait to enter the roundabout until the emergency vehicle has passed.

How fast should I travel while I am in the circle?

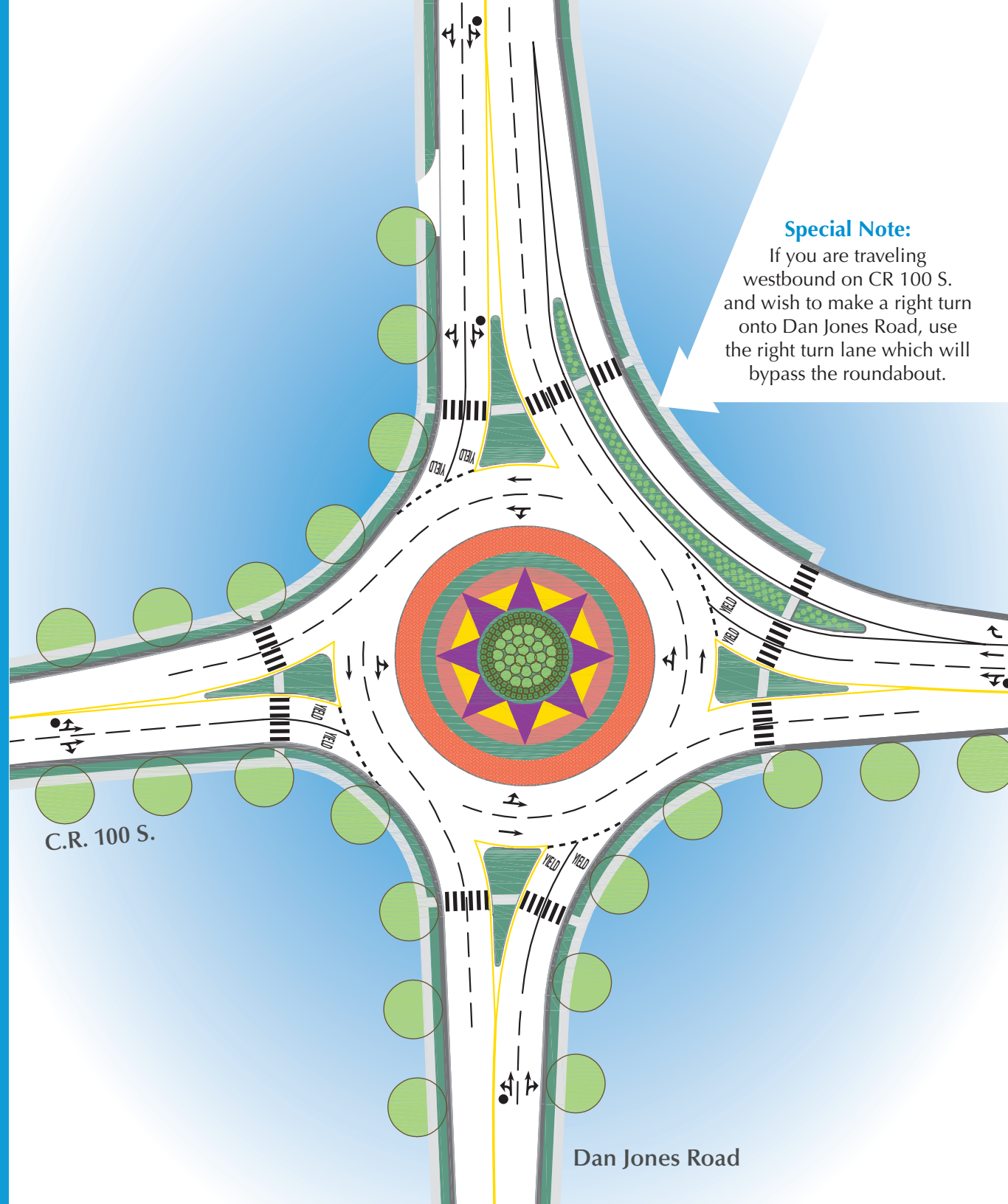
Roundabouts are designed to slow the speed of traffic through the intersection, giving drivers more time to judge and react to other motorists and pedestrians. Most vehicles will travel approximately 20-30 mph through a roundabout.

If there are no other cars and I am turning left, can I travel clockwise through the roundabout?

Absolutely not. Roundabouts are set up for one-way (counter-clockwise) traffic at all times. Traveling the wrong way through a roundabout is a moving violation and you can receive a ticket.

What should I do if I am in an accident inside of the roundabout?

If your vehicle is drivable and there are no injuries you should proceed to move the vehicles as far to the side of the road as possible and away from flow of traffic to avoid further damage or injury. However, if your vehicle is not drivable or there is an injured person involved, wait for emergency personnel to arrive at the scene to assist you.



How to Navigate a Roundabout

The Approach



When approaching a roundabout decide which direction you will be turning and move into the appropriate lane based on pavement markings and signs. Reduce your speed as you near the roundabout. Watch out for and yield to pedestrians and bicyclists at crosswalks.

Entry

As you reach the yield line, yield to traffic already circulating. Do not attempt to enter the roundabout next to a vehicle that is already circulating; a vehicle near the central island may be preparing to exit the roundabout soon. Do not forget to keep an eye out for smaller vehicles such as motorcycles and bicycles. When you notice an opening in traffic, you may make your way into the circle.

Lane Selection

The rules for lane selection are identified using the following symbols:

-  Select the left lane with this symbol if you want to turn left or proceed through the intersection. Proceed around the circle as indicated maintaining your lane.
-  Select the right lane with this symbol if you want to turn right or proceed thru the intersection.

- Do not overtake vehicles in the inside lane as they may be preparing to exit the roundabout.
- Always maintain your lane in the roundabout.

Exiting

Always use your right turn signal to indicate that you are ready to exit the roundabout.

Reduce your speed as you approach the exit and watch for pedestrians and bicyclists as you leave the roundabout. If you are in the inside lane and plan to exit, watch for vehicles to your right as you exit.