Proven Safety Solutions

ROUNDABOUTS

Safer Intersections Save Lives

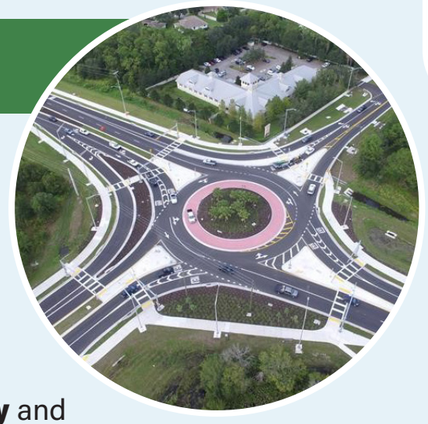
On Florida's roadways, crashes at intersections represent:

More than 1 in 4 (28%) fatalities

More than 1 in every 3 (36%) serious injuries

(Source: SHSP, 2020-2024 data)

What is a roundabout?



A roundabout is a **proven, modern solution** to make our roads **safer, smoother, and more cost-effective**. Vehicles flow in a counterclockwise direction around a central island, with drivers yielding on entry. Roundabouts can be an **attractive community focal point that lowers long-term maintenance costs, enhances safety** and **cuts congestion and delays**.

When are roundabouts good solutions?

At dangerous intersections where they can significantly reduce crashes that result in fatalities and serious injuries.

On roads where drivers speed, they can naturally slow traffic.

When there is enough room to safely reach nearby driveways or buildings.

Where they can function as landmarks/gateways to create a sense of identity for a community.

In locations with moderate, balanced traffic flow.

Where intersections are close together, they keep traffic moving and can reduce the need for extra lanes or road widening.

Office of POLICY PLANNING
Florida Department of Transportation

Are roundabouts safe for **drivers**?

Yes!

90% fewer fatalities
75% fewer injuries

Compared to traditional four-way signalized intersections

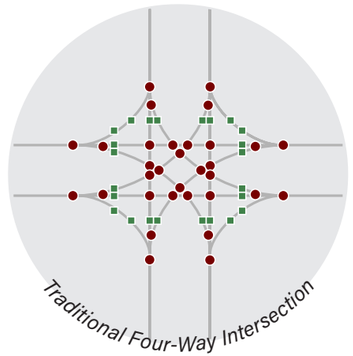
(Source: FDOT)

Cars can have **potential conflicts in 32 spots** at **traditional four-way intersections** and crashes can be more severe.

16 *Angle Conflict Points*

32 *Vehicle-to-Vehicle Conflict Points*

24 *Vehicle-to-Pedestrian Conflict Points*



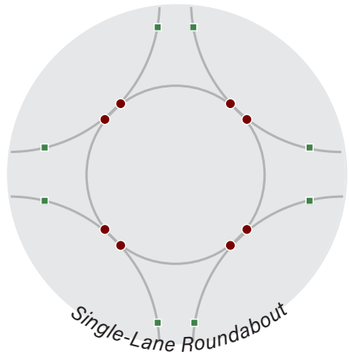
Traditional Four-Way Intersection

Cars can have potential **conflicts in 8 spots** at **single-lane modern roundabouts** and crashes are typically less severe.

0 *Angle Conflict Points*

8 *Vehicle-to-Vehicle Conflict Points*

8 *Vehicle-to-Pedestrian Conflict Points*



Single-Lane Roundabout

Are roundabouts safe for **pedestrians**?

Yes!

Both drivers and pedestrians have improved views of one another, and islands provide safe waiting areas for people crossing one direction of traffic at a time.

Because roundabouts slow vehicles, crashes that do occur are less severe.

(Source: Florida LTAP Center)

*If hit at **40 mph**, pedestrians have a chance* **20%** *of survival of*

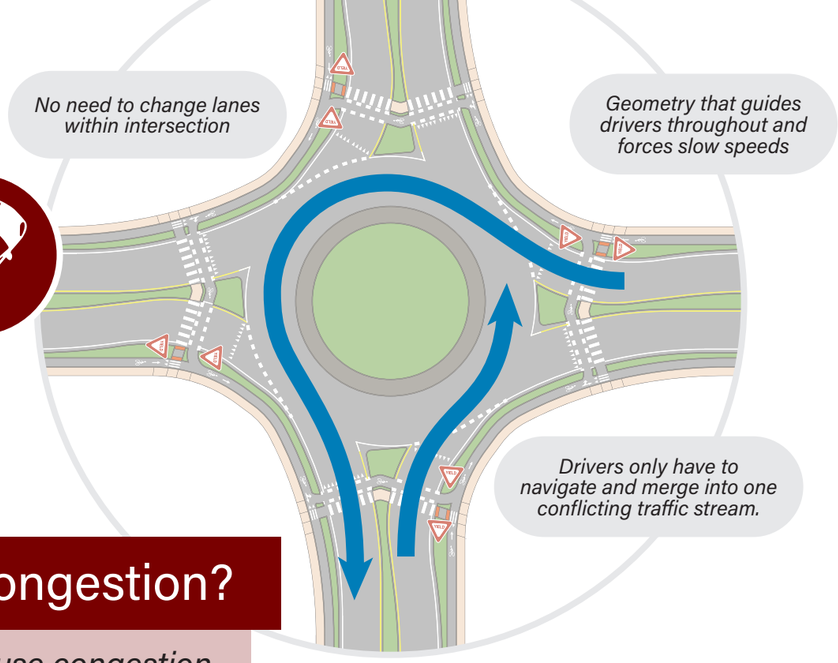
*But at **20 mph**, this chance increases to* **95%**

Roundabouts

Are roundabouts difficult to drive in?

Not at all!

Once you know the rules, roundabouts make driving safer and smoother.



Do roundabouts cause congestion?

Well-designed roundabouts do not cause congestion.

All directions of traffic are kept open, rather than stopping two or more at a time like at a traditional intersection.

This **increases traffic capacity by 30-50%** compared to a signalized intersection.
(Source: FDOT)

Roundabouts are particularly beneficial at intersections with **similar cross traffic** and **lots of left turns**.

Are roundabouts more expensive?

It depends!

Roundabouts often end up being less expensive over a 2-year period than traffic signals. Here's why:

Factor	Roundabouts	Traffic Signal
Construction Cost	Sometimes higher, depending on site conditions and design features.	Can be high if turn lanes or signal are needed.
Maintenance Cost	Very low for single-lane roundabouts; no electronics or signal timing to maintain.	Ongoing costs for electricity, repairs, and updates.
Land Acquisition	Roundabouts may need more space at corners, but they can reduce the need for extra lanes, helping limit property impacts between intersections.	Depends on size, turn lanes, signal poles, and equipment.
Societal Costs	Lower due to minimal upkeep and fewer crashes.*	Higher due to maintenance and crash severity.*

** Indirectly, the cost associated with a fatal crash ($10,670,000), more common in traditional signalized intersections, is over 100 times higher than one associated with a minor injury crash ($106,600).*

Floridians already use roundabouts everyday.

Florida leads the nation in number of roundabouts.

Rural Roundabout:

SR 17 and Hunt Brothers Rd in Polk County

Scan to explore online

Urban Roundabout:

Ponce de Leon Blvd, Greco Ave, and Ruiz Ave in Coral Gables

Scan to explore online

Suburban Roundabout:

40th St and Riverhills Dr in Tampa

Scan to explore online

Scan to learn more about roundabouts and their benefits