TIPS FOR DRIVING A ROUNDABOUT

• Look to your left. Vehicles already in the roundabout have the right-of-way. If there is no traffic in the roundabout do not stop. If there is traffic present, wait until it clears, then enter the roundabout.

• Slow down—use proper judgment when determining how fast to drive around the roundabout. 15-20 mph is a safe speed.

• Keep your car in the same lane as you enter and exit the roundabout.

• Buses, trucks, and vehicles with trailers may need more than one lane on the roundabout. Use caution when next to or near a larger vehicle when entering roundabout.

CARMEL, INDIANA

Roundabout Capital of the U.S.

Roundabout Interchange at 126th and Keystone Parkway

CARMEL

Mayor Jim Brainard
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Carmel, IN 46032

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Mayor Jim Brainard

2008 Climate Protection Award Winner
**WHAT IS A ROUNDABOUT?**
A roundabout is an alternative to traditional intersections controlled by stop signs or traffic signals.

**POLLPUTION REDUCTION**
- Less idling for cars, less gas being burned into the atmosphere, better fuel economy

**SAFETY**
- All vehicles travel in same direction, never crossing paths which dramatically reduces number of serious crashes
- Slower vehicle speeds give drivers more decision making time
- Roundabouts eliminate head-on and high-speed right-angle collisions
- Accidents with injury decreased in Carmel by 78% when roundabouts replaced traditional intersections
- There are less conflict points in roundabouts than in traditional intersections (see diagram below)

**COMMUNITY BENEFITS**
- Traffic Calming
- Aesthetic landscaping and more green space
- Crosswalks included for pedestrians and bicyclists

**IMPROVED TRAFFIC FLOW**
- 30-50% increase in traffic capacity

**COST CUTTING**
- No traffic lights to install and maintain
- Gas savings average 24,000 gallons per year per roundabout based on 10 study sites with traffic counts ranging from 14,000 to 47,000 AADT*
- Roundabout Construction costs about $125,000 less than signaled intersections
- Cost of accident damages is also less for roundabout crashes (see chart below)

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**BENEFITS OF ROUNDABOUTS**

![Roundabout Ahead signs](image1)

Roundabout Ahead signs advise that you are approaching a roundabout.

![Yield signs](image2)

Yield signs along with line markings are placed at each approach road. Be prepared to stop at this point if there is not a safe gap in the traffic on the roundabout.

![Pedestrian Crossing signs](image3)

Pedestrian Crossing signs and line markings advise you of the location of pedestrian crosswalks.

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**Average Cost of Damages for Intersections Along Hazel Dell Parkway**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intersection Type</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roundabout</td>
<td>$13,561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Signal</td>
<td>$7,335</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Street</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>131st Street</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>126th Street</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>116th Street</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>96th Street</td>
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*(Statistics from Carmel Police Department 2006)*