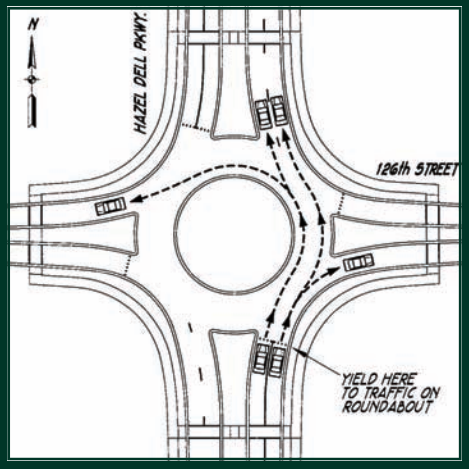
TIPS FOR DRIVING A ROUNDABOUT

- 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.



Roundabout at Clay Terrace

CITY OF CARMEL

Mayor Jim Brainard
City of Carmel
One Civic Square
Carmel, IN 46032

Phone: 317-571-2401
Fax: 317-844-3498
E-mail: jbrainard@carmel.in.gov

CITY OF CARMEL

ROUNDABOUTS

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE

Roundabout at Main and 4th Ave. W.

MAYOR JIM BRAINARD
(317)571-2401

2008 Climate Protection Award Winner

BENEFITS OF ROUNDABOUTS

WHAT IS A ROUNDABOUT?

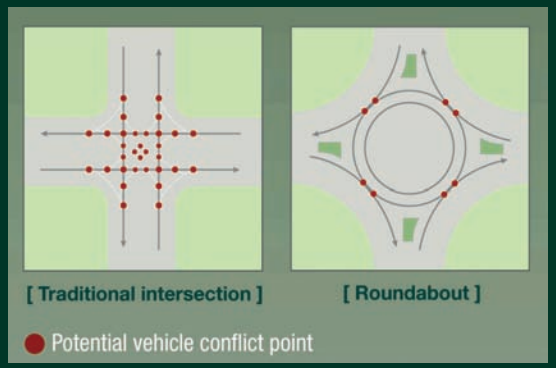
A roundabout is an alternative to traditional intersections controlled by stop signs or traffic signals.

POLLUTION 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 round-abouts 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

Roundabout Ahead signs advise that you are approaching a roundabout.

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 and line markings advise you of the location of pedestrian cross walks.

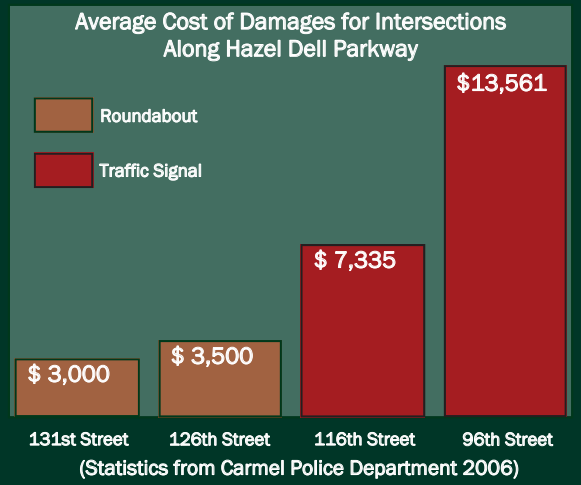
Information from FHWA Roundabouts: An Informational Guide & Insurance Institute for Highway Safety Study
*IIHS 'Status Report' Col. 40, No. 9, Nov. 19, 2005

Arial view of roundabout at 126th St. and Hazel Dell

Roundabout at 131st and Illinois

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)



(Statistics from Carmel Police Department 2006)