



Burlington County Engineer's Office



Intersection Safety Improvement Project, Riverton Rd. (CR 603) & Branch Pike (CR 606)/Parry Rd. Cinnaminson Township



What is a modern roundabout?

A modern roundabout is a circular intersection where all entering traffic yields to traffic circulating around a centralized island. The modern roundabout is used to slow the speed of vehicles, to reduce the occurrence of severe crashes and to increase intersection capacity. Since 1996, approximately 3,700 modern roundabouts have been built in the United States.

Safety:

Roundabouts create a safe environment for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists. They reduce vehicle speeds, as well as the number of conflict points with turning vehicles. Roundabouts eliminate head-on/left-turn and angle type crashes which frequently result in the most serious

injuries. Crashes that do occur tend to be of the lower severity, such as sideswipes. There are approximately 2,300 people killed each year at intersections controlled by a traffic signal. Compared to signalized intersections, roundabouts have been shown to reduce the total number of injury crashes by 76% and the total number of fatal crashes by more than 90%.

Operations:

Modern roundabouts are significantly different than the older “New Jersey style traffic circles” in how they operate and are designed:

-Many older traffic circles have two lanes of traffic flow around the central island allowing for passing and lane changes. The Riverton Rd. & Branch Pike roundabout will have a single lane of traffic.

-Many older traffic circles measure over 600 feet in diameter. The Riverton Rd. & Branch Pike roundabout will be 120 feet in diameter. The compactness of a modern roundabout helps to keep speeds below 20 mph vs. over 35 mph for a typical circle.

-Many older traffic circles do not include signs to define how they operate, leaving many motorists confused and unsure of how to navigate the circle. The Riverton Rd. & Branch Pike roundabout will include YIELD signs on all entering approaches instead of STOP signs or traffic signals. Vehicles will enter the roundabout when there are adequate gaps in traffic flow thereby reducing the time vehicles are stopped, providing increased capacity and less delay for drivers.

Roundabout vs. Traffic Signal:

The total cost of upgrading an intersection with a roundabout vs. a traffic signal is comparable. The roadway construction costs for a roundabout may be higher than those for a traffic signal, but these costs are offset by a savings of over \$200,000 through the elimination of the traffic signal hardware and electrical work. In addition, roundabouts reduce long-term operational and maintenance costs associated with traditional signalized intersections. There are no traffic signals to power and maintain, which can amount to a taxpayer savings of approximately \$5,000 per year.

Trucks:

The Riverton Rd. & Branch Pike roundabout has been designed to accommodate large vehicles which are of legal size and safe for road travel. Since trucks require more room to turn, the roundabout will include a mountable truck apron around the central island for additional space.

Construction:

Construction of the Riverton Rd. & Branch Pike roundabout is being funded by the Federal Highway Administration and the New Jersey Department of Transportation. Road work is expected to commence August 2016 and be completed before the end of the year. Traffic impacts include road closures and detours. Access to all driveways within the work area will be maintained throughout construction.

Questions/Comments:

Any questions or comments should be addressed to the Burlington County Engineer's Office at 856-642-3720 or CR603-SafetyProject@co.burlington.nj.us.

Or

Burlington County Engineer's Office
1900 Briggs Road
Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054

Additional Resources:

[Roundabouts – A Safer Choice.pdf](#)

[Safety Aspects of Roundabouts.pdf](#)

[Proven Safety Countermeasure.pdf](#)

[Rules for Driving Roundabouts.pdf](#)