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Issue 33



*Photo credit: [PedBikeSafe.org](http://PedBikeSafe.org)*

## **Bicycles, Pedestrians & Single Lane Roundabouts – Oh My!**

Roundabouts are growing in popularity across Ohio because they are safer and more efficient than conventional intersections. Roundabouts reduce conflict points by eliminating left turns. In fact, *roundabouts* are one of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) proven safety countermeasures.

This issue of GroundWork highlights the benefits of single lane roundabouts for pedestrians and bicyclists. There are several different types of roundabouts in use around the state.

### **Overview**

When designed correctly, the geometric features of single lane roundabouts create a low speed environment that reduces injury and fatality risks for all users, including people walking and bicycling.

When there are low existing traffic volumes, single-lane roundabouts should be used because they are safer and easier for bicyclists, pedestrians and people with visual impairments to navigate. Single-lane roundabouts can be designed so that more lanes could be added in the future if traffic volumes increase.

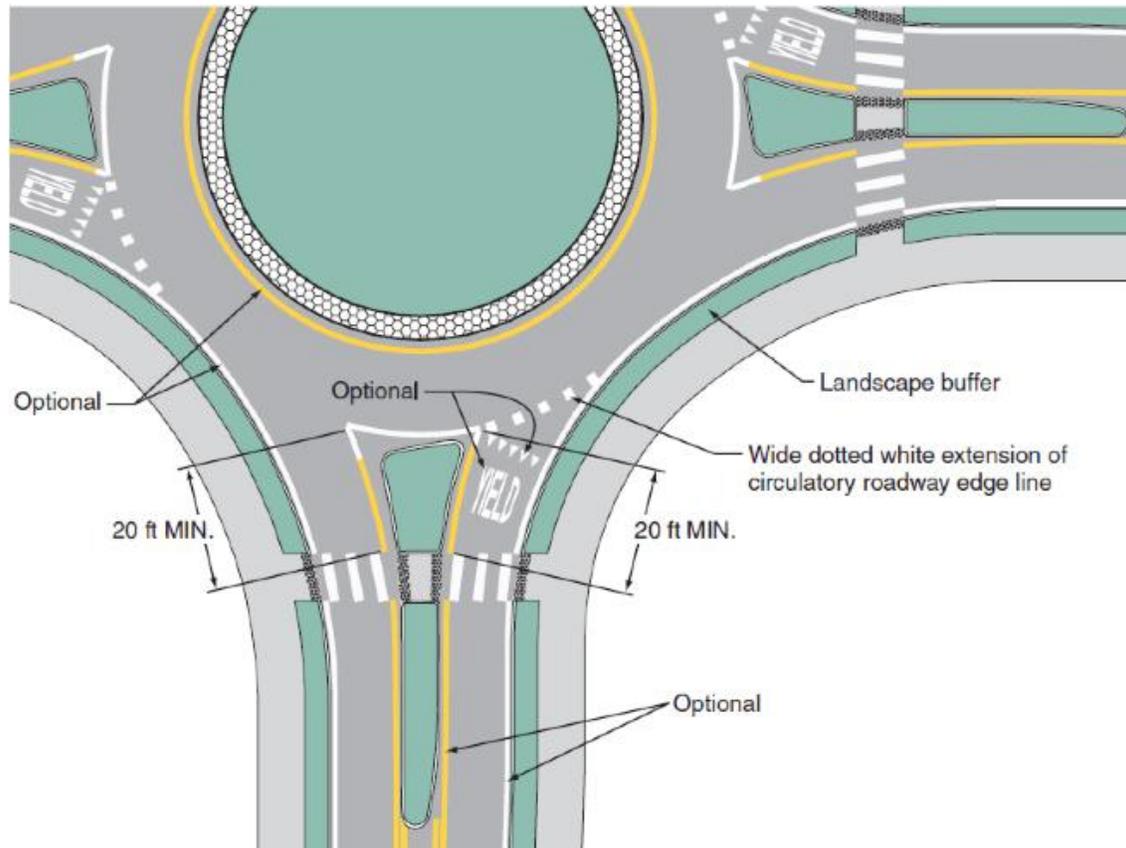


Image credit: [PedBikeSafe.org](http://PedBikeSafe.org)

## Designing Single Lane Roundabouts

Approaches to roundabouts should always include splitter islands, which allow pedestrians and bicyclists using separated facilities to cross one direction of traffic at a time. Pavement markings and signs remind motorists to yield to pedestrians and bicyclists at designated crossings.

At roundabouts with high volumes of people walking and bicycling, *Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB)* or *Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons* give priority to people walking and bicycling. PHBs are another FHWA proven safety countermeasure.

## Bicycling in Single Lane Roundabouts

Bicyclists have two options for navigating a roundabout. They can ride through one like a car or use separated bicycle facilities, if available. Separated bike lanes or shared use paths allow bicyclists to cross traffic in stages, reducing possible conflicts with motor vehicles.



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## Check Out These Resources to Learn More

- [\*PEDSAFE – Roundabouts\*](#)

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## Questions? Feedback?

Drop us a line, [\*bikeohio@dot.ohio.gov\*](mailto:bikeohio@dot.ohio.gov)

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