



Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Why a roundabout? **SAFETY!**

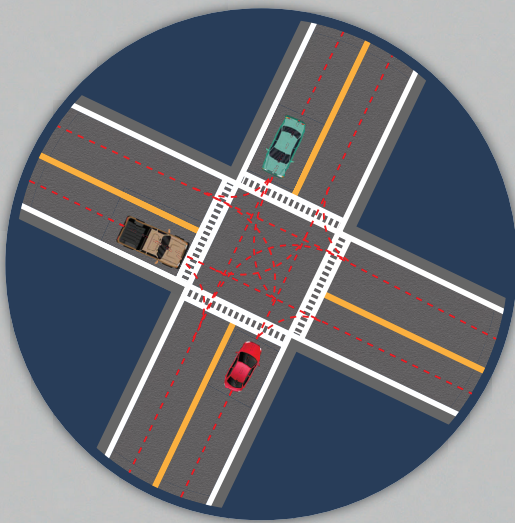
For intersections like this one, a roundabout is a safer solution than a four-way stop or a traffic signal.

SIGNALIZED OR FOUR-WAY STOP INTERSECTION

More conflict points for vehicles since traffic is moving in opposite directions (32 points total)
Crashes are **more likely to be severe** due to higher speeds and the types of crashes (head-on and t-bone)

ROUNDAOUBTS

Fewer conflict points for vehicles since traffic is moving in the same direction (8 points total)
Crashes are **less likely to be severe** due to slower speeds and the types of crashes (side-angle)



HOW MUCH SAFER?

According to national studies, intersections that were converted from a traffic signal to a roundabout had:

- 90% reduction in fatalities
- 76% reduction in injuries
- 35% reduction in crashes overall

MORE BENEFITS

- **Reduce congestion:** Roundabouts move vehicles through the intersection faster because vehicles don't have to stop when there's no other traffic.
- **Lower long-term costs:** Roundabouts cost about the same to build as a signalized intersection, but maintenance costs are lower.
- **Reduces fuel usage and pollution:** There are fewer stops and hard accelerations, and less idling at a roundabout.

THE HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (HSIP)

This project is being funded by the Federal HSIP. The purpose of all projects funded by the HSIP is to improve safety. That's why we're not considering building a signal or four-way stop here. Roundabouts do a better job improving safety than those options.

ROUNDAOUBTS FIRST

The Federal Highway Administration (the agency funding this project) and Alaska DOT&PF have a "roundabouts first" policy. This means we always consider whether a roundabout is appropriate when reconstructing an intersection before looking at any other solutions. That's because roundabouts do such a good job improving safety and keeping traffic flowing.

MORE QUESTIONS?

Check out our website:
dot.alaska.gov/roundabouts

