

Traffic Calming Fact Sheets

March 2019 Update

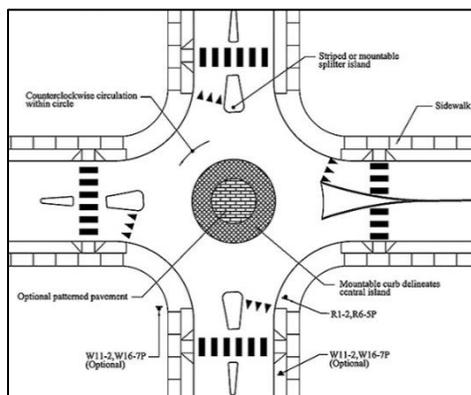
Mini Roundabout

Description:

- Raised islands, placed in unsignalized intersections, around which traffic circulates
- Motorists yield to motorists already in the intersection
- Require drivers to slow to a speed that allows them to comfortably maneuver around them
- Center island of mini roundabout is fully traversable, splitter islands may be fully traversable

Applications:

- Intersections of local and/or collector streets
- One lane each direction entering intersection
- Not typically used at intersections with high volume of large trucks or buses turning left
- Appropriate for low-speed settings



(Source: Delaware DOT)



(Source: Gary Schatz)

ITE/FHWA Traffic Calming EPrimer: https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/speedmgt/traffic_calm.cfm

Design/Installation:

- See NCHRP Report 672 for design details
- Typically circular in shape, but may be an oval shape
- Controlled by YIELD signs on all approaches with pedestrian crosswalks, if included, one car-length upstream of YIELD bar
- Preferable for roadway to have urban cross section (i.e., curb and gutter)
- Can be applied to road with on-street parking
- Can be applied to roads both with and without a bicycle facility. Bicycle facilities, if provided, must be separated from the circulatory roadway with physical barriers; cyclists using the circulatory roadway must merge with vehicles. Bicycle facilities are prohibited in the circulatory roadway to prevent right-hook crashes.
- Key design features are the fastest paths and path alignment.

Potential Impacts:

- Slight speed reduction
- Little diversion of traffic
- Bicycle and motorist will share lanes at intersections because of narrowed roadway
- Large vehicles/buses usually drive over the center island for left turns

Emergency Response:

- Emergency vehicles maneuver using the center island at slow speeds

Typical Cost

- Cost is similar to bulb-outs because pedestrian ramps and outside curb lines usually have to be relocated