

Wickford Roundabout Public Meeting Questions

5/29/25

Questions	Answers
Is public parking along the sidewalk on Phillips Street being removed?	No, parking on Phillips Street will not be removed.
Is any sidewalk going away?	No.
Is this the smallest roundabout in the state?	No, however it is among one of our smaller roundabouts and as such is designated as a "mini roundabout".
Have we thought of ways to encourage yielding and discourage speeding through the intersection/roundabout?	A roundabout promotes lower speeds as a result of its curved path and right-of-way rules, thus enhancing safety. In addition, roundabout approaches include yield signs supplemented by yield pavement markings.
Will it back up during rush hour/peak times?	The traffic flow should be improved but it will not eliminate all traffic, especially during peak seasonal times.
How will emergency services get through if traffic is backed up?	The roundabout is designed to allow emergency vehicles, trucks, and large vehicles to drive over the center island and splitters if required.
Will having three crosswalks backup traffic?	There are three existing crosswalks at the intersection, which will be maintained as part of the new roundabout.
Can speed bumps be installed before the crosswalks?	No, the state is not in the practice of installing speed bumps on state roads as they are higher classification roads designed to efficiently move people and goods. They also become a hindrance to emergency response times.
Are we losing parking on Brown St?	To maintain safety and traffic flow two parking spots will be removed nearest to the roundabout.
Can real brick be used instead of stamped asphalt for authenticity?	Not in this case. Bricks are not durable for traffic loading, thus requiring more frequent maintenance.
Why couldn't we just fix the wrong marking on Boston Neck Rd?	Our traffic safety investigation indicates the sign is accurately situated for the existing intersection.
Will the parking lot at the intersection be open during construction?	Yes.
Will residents be alerted if the parking lot at the intersection needs to be closed?	Yes, 24 hours notice will be provided.

How do we address construction vehicles and materials using their property and parking lots?	Construction vehicles are not allowed to use private property. Please contact james.pratt@dot.ri.gov should this occur.
Are the new crosswalks more dangerous than what is there now?	The new crosswalks are safer compared to existing conditions, as they allow pedestrians to cross behind the vehicle entering the roundabout. In addition, pedestrian crossing signs will be provided at each crossing to enhance pedestrian safety.
How much is this project costing?	\$2,498,175
Is there any way to make the construction quieter?	Unfortunately, noise impacts are inevitable during road construction.
Can the louder work be done either earlier in the night or morning rather than in the middle of the night?	Contract work has been scheduled for overnight to lessen the impact to the public during the day and compress the work schedule.
Can we stop trucks from using driveways to turn around?	Contractor vehicles will do their work within the state right of way. If there is a concern that a construction vehicle is entering or using a private driveway, please contact james.pratt@dot.ri.gov .
How will driveways on/adjacent to the roundabout get in and out safely?	The roundabout consultants have incorporated traffic flow from Wickford streets and driveways into their design.
Will there be detours during night work?	There will be overnight detours. These will be communicated through email via RIDOT press releases, travel advisories and biweekly project updates.
Can we have police detail control where the construction workers park?	That is not planned. If problems occur with construction parking, please contact james.pratt@dot.ri.gov .
Can there be blinking lights at the crosswalks?	The town will have to make a formal request to the State Traffic Commission.
Why can't other means of traffic calming be used instead, such as road maintenance and restriping?	Ironically, road maintenance can have the opposite effect to traffic calming. Often times when roads are repaved, the speeds tend to go up due to the smooth riding surface. Some forms of restriping can help traffic calming, but this is a more effective method that is appropriate at this location.
What is the line between traffic and pedestrian safety?	Roundabouts are one of the few traffic engineering tools that typically increase both mobility and safety. (installing a traffic signal typically increases safety but decreases mobility).

Will residents be able to access their homes during night construction?	Residents will always be able to access their property during construction.
Will we offer stipends or hotels for residents most impacted by night construction?	No.
What is the height of the splitter islands?	3 inches.
Is there a plan for a bus stop/shelter?	There is an existing RIPTA bus stop sign on the northerly side of Phillips Street, just west of the intersection. As part of the project, the bus stop sign will be relocated closer to the intersection and a bus stop landing area will be provided.
Has there been any thought to roundabout education to discourage people trying to beat other traffic to the roundabout/a camera should be input to make sure people are using it right.	There is a YouTube video that we will send to the Town. - https://www.dot.ri.gov/Safety/roundabout_safety.php
Boston Neck Rd has been improperly marked for years with a yield sign...can't we just change that?	The yield sign is not improper. A roundabout is a better alternative for safety and mobility.
Will the roundabout be in 2 colors?...the photo appears to show that	The roadway and center/splitter islands will be asphalt, although the center/splitter islands will be stamped (brick pattern) and colored (brick red) to provide visual contrast.