

Traffic Circle

Traffic circles are very similar to mini roundabouts in that they are used on local and collector streets, however, they do not have splitter islands

Typical Use

Traffic circles or neighborhood traffic circles are typically built at the intersections of local streets for traffic calming and/or aesthetics.

Design Features

- A typical traffic circle has a horizontal clearance that is too small for a left-turning truck, emergency vehicle, or bus to circulate counterclockwise even with a partially mountable center island.
- Traffic circles should be designed for a maximum entry design speed of 15 mph or less.

Further Considerations

Advantages

- Traffic circles have fewer conflict points compared to traditional 4-way intersections.
- Require less space and right-of-way compared to roundabouts and mini roundabouts.

Disadvantages

- Cyclists would need to share the lane with vehicles around the traffic circle.
- Additional right of way may be required compared to a traditional 4-way intersection.

Materials & Maintenance

Traffic circles can be constructed with a combination of asphalt, concrete, and pavers. Signage and pavement markings shall be designed per local standards. Traffic circles may require landscape maintenance if landscaping is provided.

