



# Mini Roundabout



Park and Locust Streets in Vienna, VA

Mini roundabouts are not the same as larger roundabouts. They are smaller with a paved central island that larger vehicles like trucks and buses can drive over.

## What is a mini roundabout?

- A circular, unsignalized intersection where all traffic moves in a counter clockwise direction around a central island
- Traffic entering the mini roundabout slows down and yields to traffic already inside the mini roundabout
- The defining feature of this intersection is a fully traversable central island and splitter islands that larger vehicles can drive over
- Flush central islands may be appropriate for mini roundabouts frequently used by buses
- Uses the same operating principles of modern roundabouts

## When should a mini roundabout be considered?

- At intersections with heavy left-turn traffic or with similar traffic volumes on each leg
- At intersections with low truck and bus volumes
- At intersections with crashes involving through and left-turn vehicles
- At locations with a posted speed of 35 miles per hour or less
- At locations where vehicles from adjacent intersections will not queue into the roundabout

## What are the benefits of a mini roundabout?

- **Improved safety:** Reduces the number of points where vehicles can cross paths and eliminates the potential for right-angle and head-on crashes
- **Increased efficiency:** Yield-controlled design means fewer stops, less delay, and shorter queues for overall improved efficiency
- **Safer speeds:** Promotes lower vehicle speeds, which gives drivers more time to react
- **Long-term cost-effective:** No traffic signal equipment means lower long-term costs for operations and maintenance

## What are innovative intersections?

Intersection designs where traffic movements are modified to improve safety, reduce delay, and increase efficiency.

Visit [www.virginiadot.org/innovativeintersections](http://www.virginiadot.org/innovativeintersections) to learn more.





# Navigating a Mini Roundabout

 Depending on their level of comfort, cyclists may navigate the intersection using vehicle or pedestrian paths

Larger vehicles like trucks and buses can drive over the paved center island as needed

 To turn left, exit onto the third leg

 Pedestrians use marked crosswalks to safely cross the intersection

Before entering the roundabout, look left, and yield to traffic in the roundabout

 To go straight, exit onto the second leg

 To turn right, exit onto the first leg

Splitter islands may be flush to accommodate larger vehicles

**Note:** For simplicity, only one direction of traffic is shown. Traffic on other mini roundabout legs follow similar routes.

NOT TO SCALE

