

“We Have
Tomorrow —
Bright Before
Us, Like A
Flame.”

Langston Hughes



City of Lawrence

The Flame | October 2018

Roundabout Rules

Roundabouts have been proven to reduce crashes, injuries, traffic delays and fuel consumption.

Each year the City of Lawrence receives numerous requests from citizens to improve roadway safety – for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians. In an effort to find appropriate ways to deal with these concerns and make our residential areas more livable, the city uses roundabouts in situations where they can be successful to mitigate traffic concerns.

Roundabouts are used to reduce crashes, injuries, traffic delays, fuel consumption, air pollution and construction costs, while increasing capacity and enhancing intersection aesthetics. They have also successfully been used to control traffic speeds in residential neighborhoods and are accepted as the safest type of intersection design.

“At a roundabout, with two through lanes like those at Wakarusa and Harvard, choosing your lane based on the direction you wish to go with a roundabout is no different than when approaching a traditional four-way stop,” said David Cronin, city engineer. “If you want to make a right turn, move into the right lane. If you want to go left, move to the left lane and continue around the roundabout. If you want to go straight, you can stay in either lane and proceed through the roundabout without changing lanes.”

A roundabout is a circular intersection. The major distinction between a roundabout and a traditional intersection is yielding to traffic already circulating in the roundabout. Traffic always travels in a counter-clockwise direction through a roundabout and only allows right-in/right-out access.

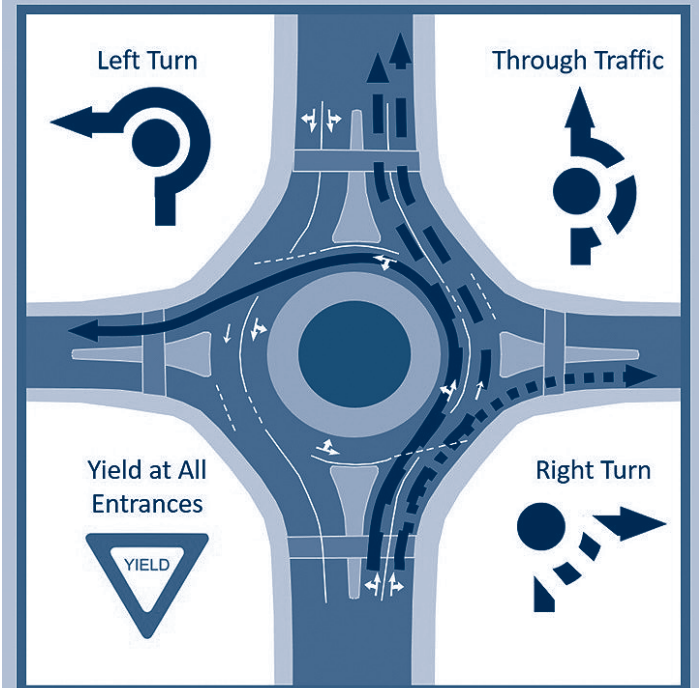
Additionally, the purpose of the central island is not only to define the circulatory roadway, but it also must deflect vehicles from a straight path, causing them to slow their speed, thereby reducing the severity of potential crashes.

Pedestrians and bicyclists have far less risk navigating roundabouts than the typical intersections primarily because of lower speeds. A pedestrian has an 85% chance of being killed by a vehicle traveling at 45 MPH. That drops to 15% when the vehicle is traveling at 20 MPH (source: Federal Highway Administration).

“The next time you approach a roundabout, remember 3 things: 1) Look for pedestrians and yield to them if present, 2) Before entering roundabout, look to your left and yield to traffic already in roundabout and 3) After entering a roundabout do not stop and continue to your exit,” said Cronin. “Once you’ve travelled through the area a few times, you’ll get comfortable travelling in the roundabout and you just might find it safer for you and others.”

How to Navigate a Roundabout

1. Look for pedestrians and yield to them if present
2. Before proceeding into roundabout, look to your left and yield to traffic already in roundabout
3. After entering a roundabout *do not stop* — continue to your exit



RECYCLING REMINDER



Apartment Recycling

Do you live in a multi-family unit or a apartment complex? If you live in an apartment that has signed up for recycling collection



service, you may have a large recycling bin (pictured above) or a cluster of blue recycling carts. If there are no recycling containers at your apartment complex, please contact your property owner/manager. The city must receive approval from the property owner before placing recycling containers on their site.

Remember non-acceptable materials such as electronics, clothing, and yard waste should not be placed into the recycling containers. Plastic bags are also not accepted. All recyclables should be placed loosely into a recycling bin or cart. Rather than using plastic bags to transport recyclables to your shared recycling containers, we suggest using a reusable tote or box that material can easily be discarded from and taken back to your apartment.

For a complete list of items accepted or not accepted in the city's single-stream recycling program, and alternate recycling locations for items not accepted (i.e. plastic bags), visit www.LawrenceRecycles.org.

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Volunteers Needed for 2018-19 Sidewalk Snow Shoveling Program

The City of Lawrence and the Senior Resource Center for Douglas County need your help! **The Safe Winter Walkways** program kicks off in October and volunteers are needed to help elderly or disabled individuals clear public sidewalks during snow events.

Able-bodied Lawrence residents with a passion for helping others and who enjoy winter weather are needed to volunteer for the Safe Winter Walkways program. The goal of the Safe Winter Walkways program is to create safer and more accessible pedestrian walkways. This is a joint effort of the City of Lawrence and the Senior Resource Center for Douglas County. Volunteers will be matched with residents needing assistance with snow removal for the winter season.

This year, the city is again offering online registration for participants and volunteers. Visit www.lawrenceks.org/safe_winter_walkways to sign up for the program. The program will close participant sign up on November 16, 2018. This date has been selected so that participants and volunteers can be matched prior to the holiday season, and hopefully, prior to snow season.

The Safe Winter Walkways program is an excellent resource for members of our community who are physically unable to keep their sidewalks clear during snow events. This program is a structured version of what happens in many neighborhoods - neighbors helping neighbors.

Volunteer groups, civic organizations and youth groups are encouraged to consider volunteering as a team. Please contact Larry Woydziak with the Senior Resource Center for Douglas County to find out how to sign up as a group and requirements for volunteering.

This program is for public sidewalks only. We give priority to homes with public sidewalks and volunteers are not required to provide snow removal for private driveways, sidewalks or walkways.

Volunteers can sign up by calling (785) 832-3338 or registering online at www.lawrenceks.org/safe_winter_walkways.

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