



# NC 218 Corridor Improvement Projects

Proposed Roundabouts

STIP Project Numbers W-5710H, W-5710I and W-5710Q

## Public Input

Thank you for attending today's meeting.

This meeting is being held to share information about the proposed projects along the NC 218 corridor and to request your comments on the projects.

Public involvement is an important part of the planning process and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) encourages your participation and feedback.

Public input will be used to identify community resources near the projects, evaluate transportation needs/concerns, develop/refine design details, and address potential impacts.

## Questions? Comments?

### Project Contact

**Mr. Sean Epperson, PE**  
 NCDOT-Division 10  
 Division Project Team Lead  
 716 W. Main St.  
 Albemarle, NC 28001  
 (704) 983-4400  
[smepperson@ncdot.gov](mailto:smepperson@ncdot.gov)

Please provide comments by **August 2, 2018**.

## About the Projects

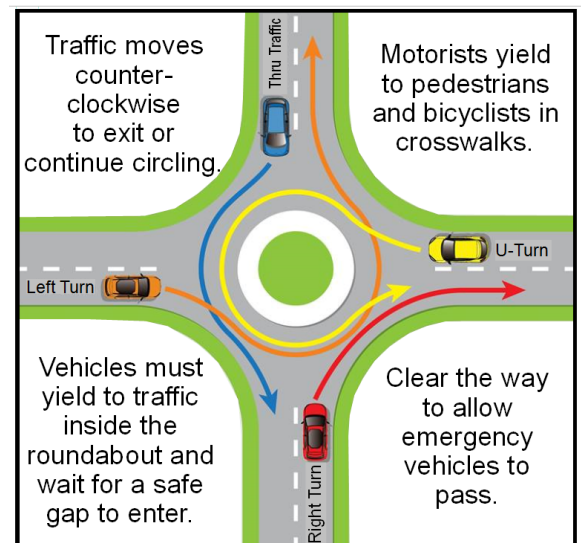
The proposed projects involve improving the safety and traffic operations at four intersections (listed below) by providing new roundabouts at their locations. The projects are included in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

As illustrated on the display maps, the projects are in various stages of design. While one project has final construction plans, others have not yet started the design phase. The status of purchasing land to construct the project (also known as right of way acquisition) and the schedules for construction are listed below.

STIP Project Number	Intersection Location	Right of Way Acquisition	Construction
W-5710H	NC 218 and Mill Grove Road	Begins Summer 2018	Begins Summer 2019
W-5710I	NC 218 and NC 200 (Morgan Mill Road)	Begins Spring 2019	Begins Summer 2020
W-5710Q	NC 218 and NC 205	Begins Summer 2018	Begins Summer 2019

## How to Participate

- ❖ Visit the Sign-In Table to provide your contact information and read the project handouts.
- ❖ Review the roundabout posters and aerial maps.
- ❖ Discuss existing roadway and traffic problems along NC 218 with the project team.
- ❖ Identify study area features, topics and resources that are important to you.
- ❖ Discuss any concerns and ask questions.
- ❖ Complete the attached comment form today or send your comments to Mr. Sean Epperson, PE.



**Thank you for your participation and for providing feedback!**

## Your Guide to Understanding Roundabouts

### What is a roundabout?

A roundabout is an intersection requiring entering traffic to yield the right of way to traffic already in the roundabout. This keeps the traffic in the roundabout flowing and prevents traffic backups and delays.

### How is a roundabout different from a traffic circle?

Modern roundabouts are generally much smaller than older traffic circles, and require vehicles to travel at a lower speed. Because of the higher speeds in traffic circles, generally they operate less efficiently and have higher crash rates than roundabouts.

### What is the size of a roundabout?

The size of a roundabout is determined by the amount of vehicles, the size of the largest vehicle using the roundabout, the need to achieve appropriate speeds throughout the roundabout, and the layout of the existing intersection. A roundabout is usually constructed to accommodate a tractor trailer. The size of a single-lane roundabout is typically 120 feet across. This is about one third the length of a football field.

### Who makes the decision to install a roundabout?

If the road under consideration is a state road, then NCDOT will make the decision after consulting with local governments. If the road is a local road, then the local government makes the decision.

### Does a roundabout cost more to install than a traffic signal?

The initial construction cost of a roundabout is more expensive than a traffic signal; however, maintenance and utility costs of a roundabout are less than a traffic signal over time.

### Will a roundabout inconvenience me and add travel time to my drive?

When operating within their capacity, roundabout intersections typically operate with shorter vehicle delays than other intersections, especially during non-peak traffic times.

### Are roundabouts appropriate everywhere?

No. The choice of using a roundabout is made on a case-by-case basis. NCDOT evaluates traffic volumes and crashes at each candidate intersection individually to determine if a roundabout would be the most effective solution.

### How does a pedestrian navigate a roundabout?

A pedestrian should walk around the outside, not through the middle of a roundabout. Roundabouts usually have marked sidewalks or striped crossings to help pedestrians navigate.

### How does a bicyclist navigate a roundabout?

A bicyclist should follow the same rules as a vehicle or walk along the outside of a roundabout like a pedestrian.

### How do you drive in a roundabout?

- ❖ Yield to vehicles already in the roundabout;
- ❖ Once in the roundabout, you have the right of way;
- ❖ Use your turn signal when exiting the roundabout; and
- ❖ Always be cautious and look for unexpected vehicles, pedestrians or bicycles.

### How do you drive in a two-lane roundabout?

Prior to entering the roundabout, move into the appropriate lane as you would when approaching a traffic signal. The left lane circles the roundabout and the right lane turns right. Advance signing will provide guidance. Do not cross from the left lane in the roundabout to the right lane as you exit the roundabout.

### Why install a roundabout?

Roundabouts help address safety and congestion concerns at intersections. They are designed to enhance traffic efficiency, safety and aesthetics, and minimize delay and cost for all users including motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.

### How do roundabouts affect safety?

At traditional intersections with stop signs or traffic signals, the most serious types of crashes are t-bone, left-turn, and head-on collisions. With roundabouts, these types of crashes are reduced because vehicles travel in the same direction at a lower speed. In North Carolina, crashes of all types have been reduced by almost half where roundabouts have been installed at existing intersection locations.



Comment Sheet Union County July 2018  
NC218 Corridor Improvement Projects - Proposed Roundabouts

STIP Project Numbers STIP Project Numbers W-5710H, W-5710I and W-5710Q

**-Please Print-**

**Name:**

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**Address (including zip code):**

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**Email:**

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Public involvement is an important part of Project Development and NCDOT encourages your involvement on transportation projects. Please consider answering the questions below and feel free to attach additional pages if more space is needed to fully explain your thoughts.

- 1) Do you have comments or questions that were not answered tonight?**
- 2) What are the features or resources in the project area that are important to you?**
- 3) Do you have any concerns or suggestions for improving any of the proposed projects?**

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Please complete this comment form tonight or mail it by August 2, 2018 to Mr. Sean Epperson, PE at [smepperson@ncdot.gov](mailto:smepperson@ncdot.gov) (NCDOT-Division 10, 716 W. Main St., Albemarle, NC 28001). Thank you!

**Sean Epperson, PE**  
Division Project Team Lead  
NCDOT-Division 10 Project Development  
716 W. Main Street  
Albemarle, NC 28001

Please  
Add  
Postage  
if Mailed

**Sean Epperson, PE**  
Division Project Team Lead  
NCDOT-Division 10 Project Development  
716 W. Main Street  
Albemarle, NC 28001

Please fold this paper in half and seal at the top if a separate envelope is not used for mailing. Thank you.