

Frequently Asked Questions - For Project Website

1. Why are intersection improvements needed?

Safety concerns exist at the Madison Avenue (County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 17)/Haefner Drive intersection which has experienced 61 crashes, including 12 injury crashes, over the past 10 years. An increase in development and traffic volumes on Madison Avenue (CSAH 17) and Haefner Drive, coupled with the proximity of this intersection to adjacent roundabouts at Highway 22 and Carver Road, has led to reduced gaps for traffic. This results in delays and crashes. Without improvements to this intersection, the safety of the intersection will likely continue to degrade in this growing area.

2. Why a roundabout?

The addition of a roundabout will improve safety, minimize delay, and improve access into and out of the surrounding business area. The roundabout will also accommodate future projected traffic volumes and support the growth in this area.

Compared to a signalized intersection, roundabouts have $\frac{1}{2}$ the motorist delay, $\frac{1}{3}$ less vehicle emissions and fuel consumption, $\frac{1}{4}$ fewer crashes, and $\frac{1}{3}$ fewer vehicles stopping.

3. What will this roundabout look like?

The proposed roundabout will be similar in size to the roundabout on Madison Avenue (CSAH 17) at Carver Road. A layout of the proposed roundabout is available for viewing on the project website.

4. When will construction take place? How long will it take?

Construction is planned for the spring/summer of 2019. The project team is currently working on design details and right-of-way acquisition needs. The construction start date and duration will be defined through this process and additional construction details will be shared with the public and businesses in early 2019.

5. Will the road be closed to traffic during construction?

It is highly likely that the intersection will be closed during construction. However, a final decision has not yet been made. The project team is working with business and property owners in this area to identify construction staging options and potential detour routes. Additional information will be shared in early 2019 when these decisions are finalized.

6. How will I access adjacent businesses during construction?

Clear business access signs will be placed during construction so you can still get to all of your favorite businesses. Additional business access routes and any detour information will be shared in early 2019 once these decisions are finalized.



7. How can I stay involved?

Stay tuned to the project website, <u>www.haefnerroundabout.com</u> for upcoming meeting info and updated project information!

8. Who can I contact with additional questions?

Feel free to reach out to either of the following: Ryan Thilges, Blue Earth County Public Works Director Ryan.Thilges@blueearthcountymn.gov 507-304-4025

Jeff Johnson, City of Mankato City Engineer <u>jjohnson@mankatomn.gov</u> 507-387-8640.