

For Immediate Release
April 15, 2015

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Construction to Begin on Carlton Street Roundabout

Harrisonburg, VA – The City’s Public Works Department will begin overseeing the construction of the Carlton Street Improvement Project.

This project is located at the intersection of Carlton and Reservoir streets and extends approximately 300 feet in each direction. While the primary improvement is the roundabout itself, the project incorporates improvements such as sidewalks, better drainage, utility relocations, signage and pavement markings and pedestrian crossings.

The roundabout will improve safety over the existing at-grade intersection because of fewer conflict points and reduced speeds. It will also allow more traffic to flow through and reduce congestion at this intersection and improve pedestrian safety.

Bids for this project were received in mid-February and Partners Excavating Company of Harrisonburg was awarded the contract.

For the past several weeks, utility companies were relocating underground utilities, which must be done before the actual construction begins. While this project has been planned for some time, the public will begin to see the most visible side with construction starting on Monday, April 20.

Once school is out in June until mid-August, South Carlton Street, from Reservoir Street to the tennis courts, will be closed to all traffic. The public will still be able to access the businesses and tennis courts along Carlton Street but will not be able to travel through the intersection. Access to the tennis courts and the new parking lot entrance will be available from Mountain View Drive.

How do you maneuver through a roundabout?

Vehicular traffic approaching the roundabout should yield to circulating traffic. As vehicles circulate through the roundabout and approach the exit use the right turn signal, yield to pedestrians and bicyclists at the crosswalk, then exit the roundabout.

Bicyclists entering the roundabout on the roadway are considered vehicular traffic and should maneuver through just as such. Those riding a bicycle on the sidewalk should dismount before entering the appropriate marked crosswalk and walk across the street.

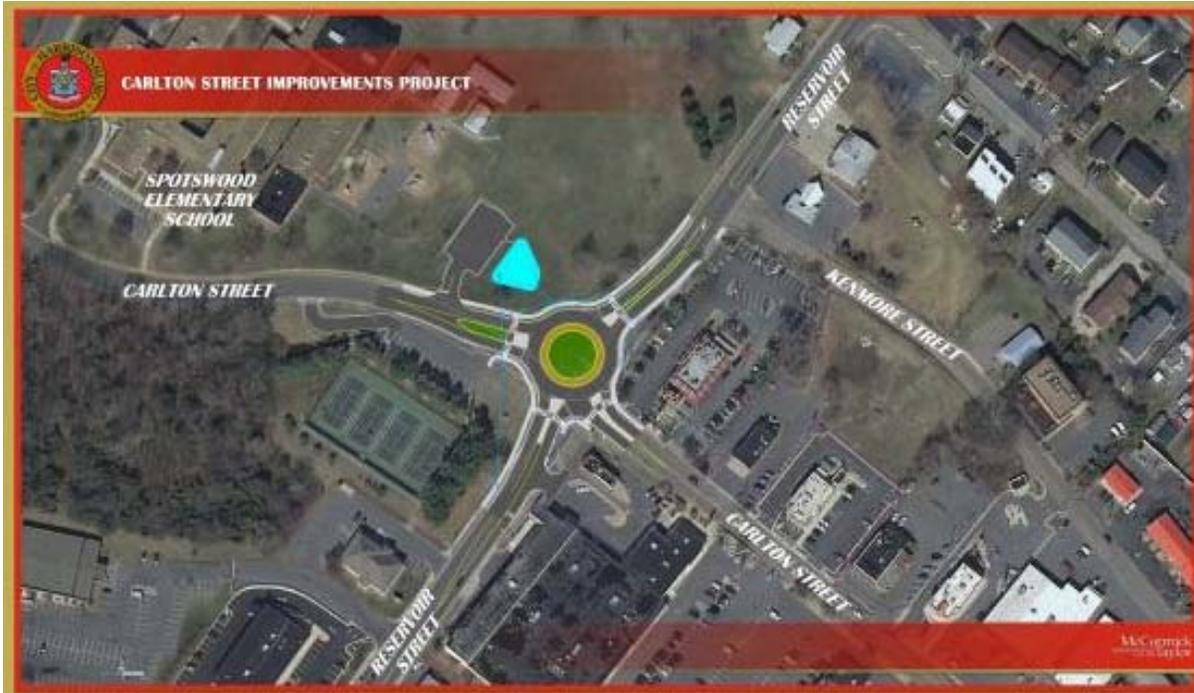
Pedestrians should follow the sidewalk and cross the road only at the marked crosswalk then wait for a safe gap in traffic before crossing to the island and wait for another safe gap in traffic before making the final cross to the other side. Pedestrians should not cross into the center of the roundabout.

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An interactive animation map to better understand how roundabouts work by car, bike, and walking is available at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/carlton-street.

It is anticipated that the project will be completed by the end of November.



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