



# Sara Road & Sara / Meadowlark Intersection Improvements Project (PW2480)

## Public Information Meeting

October 8, 2025  
6:00 pm



# Introductions

## City of Rio Rancho Public Works

BJ Gottlieb, City Engineer / Director

Jamie Marrufo, Deputy Director

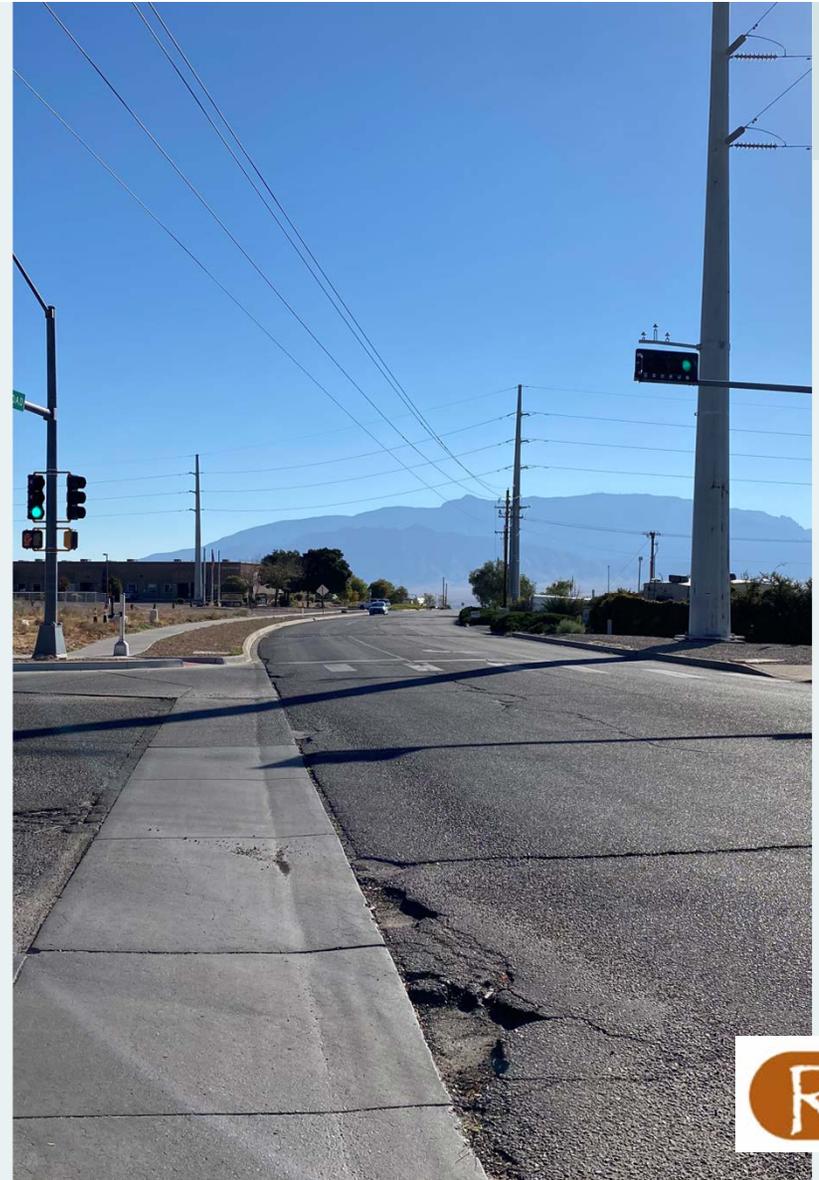
Minerva Chavez, Deputy Director

Arnell Friedt, Section Manager

Alex Clay, Project Manager

## Huitt-Zollars, Inc.

Savina Garcia, Project Engineer



# Meeting Instructions

- Please turn off your video/camera and mute your microphone to prevent any lagging during the presentation.
- The virtual meeting will be recorded and the slides will be available on the City of Rio Rancho project website.
- Following the virtual presentation we will be taking comments and questions. Type your question in the chat box at any time and we will include those questions in our discussion.



# Agenda

- Introduction
- Project Overview
- Proposed Improvements – Sara Road
- Proposed Improvements – Sara & Meadowlark Intersection
- Roundabout – How to Navigate
- Funding & Schedule
- Questions & Answers





## Project Overview

NM 528 to Meadowlark Lane:

- Approximately 0.48 miles
- Existing roadway alignment, signals and access point to remain

Intersection of Sara Rd & Meadowlark Lane:

- Currently all-way Stop control intersection
- Proposed Single Lane Roundabout



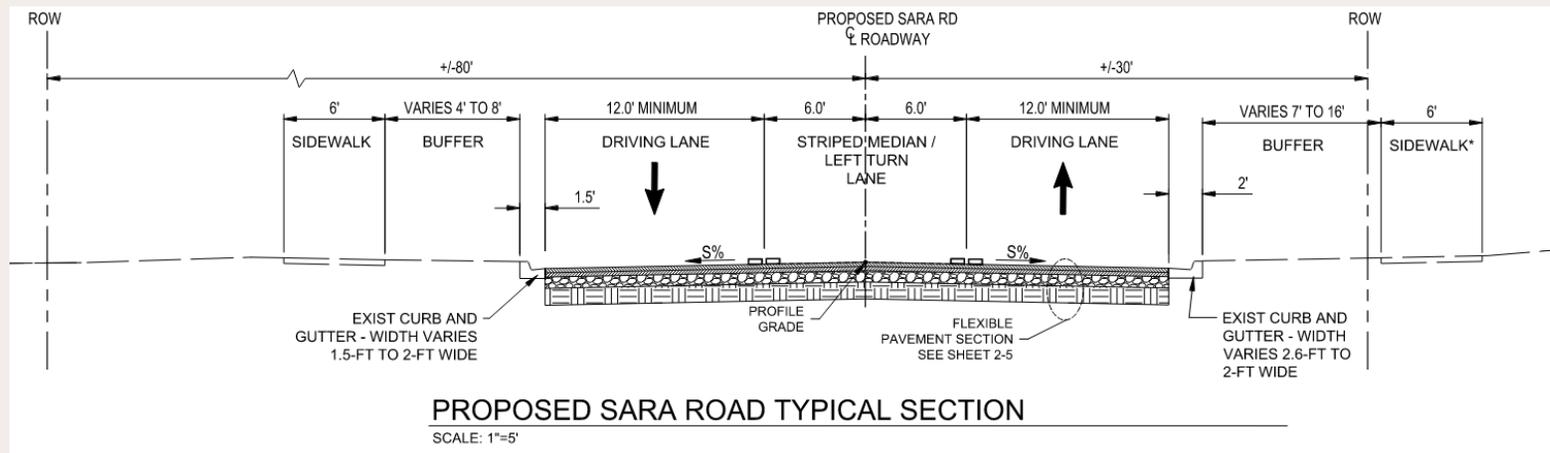
# Project Overview – Planning & Design

- ADA Infrastructure Evaluation
  - Replace/upgrade
- Roundabout Analysis & Layout
  - Traffic analysis, layout options
- Lighting Analysis
  - Coordination with power poles
- Drainage Infrastructure Review
  - Clean/maintain
- Environmental Study & Analysis
  - Archaeological Survey & Biological Evaluation
  - Initial Site Assessment & Preliminary Site Investigation
- Design / Construction Documents
  - Currently at 90% complete plans



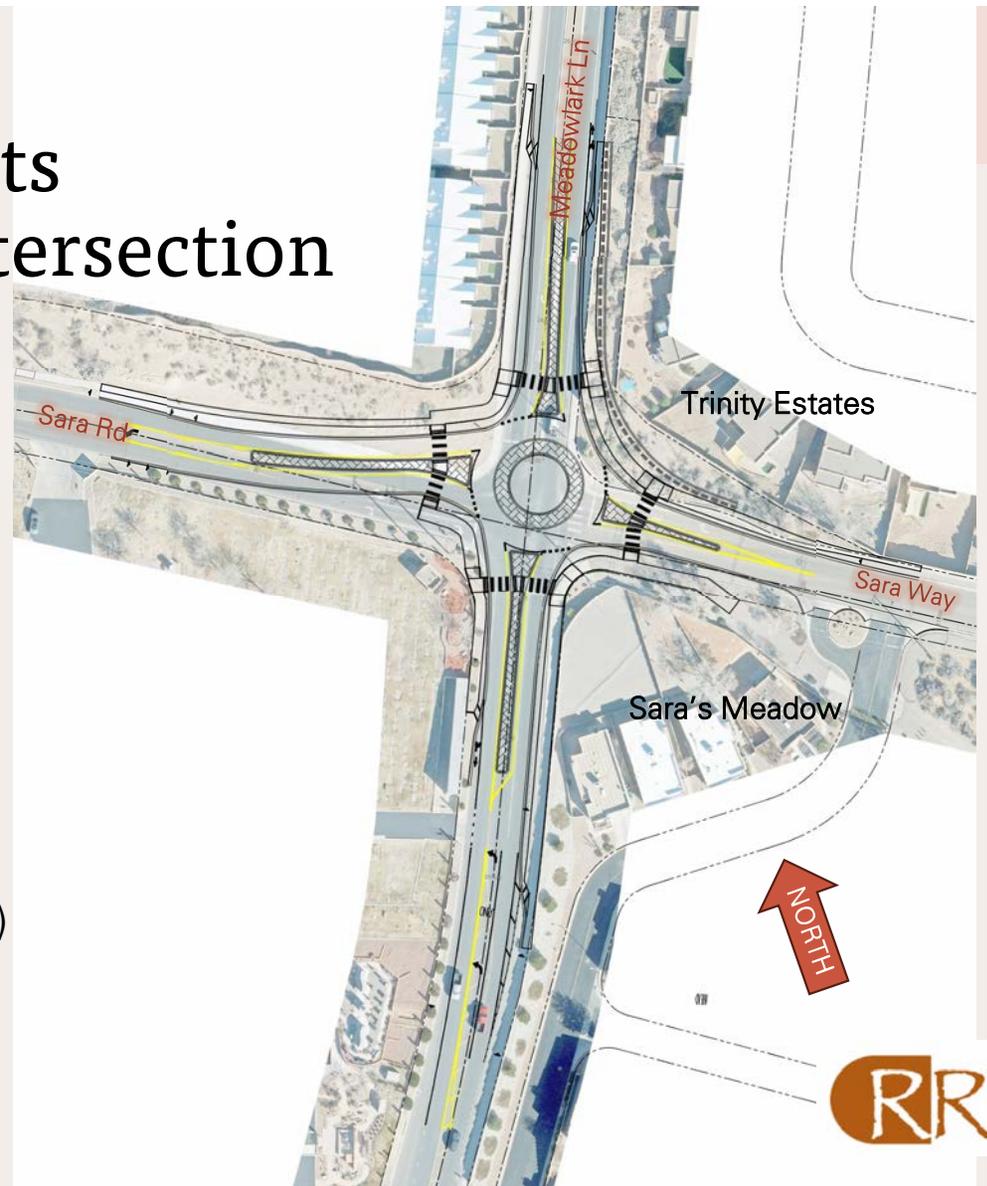
# Proposed Improvements – Sara Road

- Reconstruction of Sara Road pavement section
- New 12" water line installation
- Improvements to existing 18" SAS line and manholes
- Roadway lighting & ITS infrastructure
- Various curb & gutter, sidewalk, ADA ramps, driveway & median curb
- Signing & striping



# Proposed Improvements Sara & Meadowlark Intersection

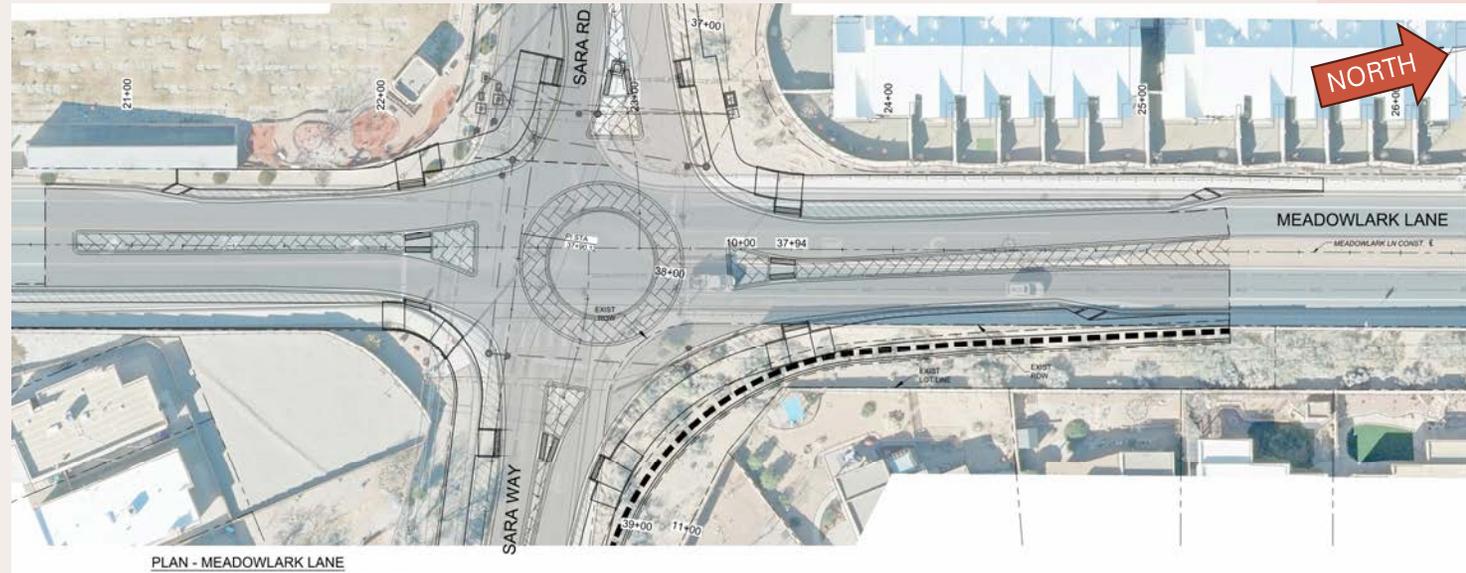
- Single Lane Roundabout
- ADA ramps
- Sidewalk
- Lighting
- Retaining wall construction
- Signing & striping
- Bicycle lane continuation (Meadowlark)



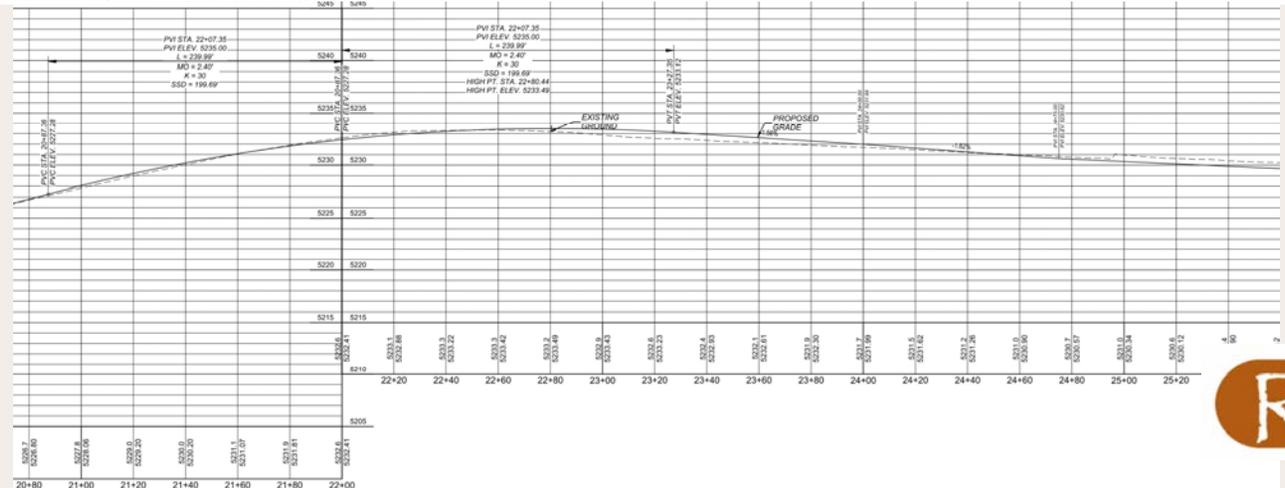


# Proposed Improvements: Sara & Meadowlark Intersection

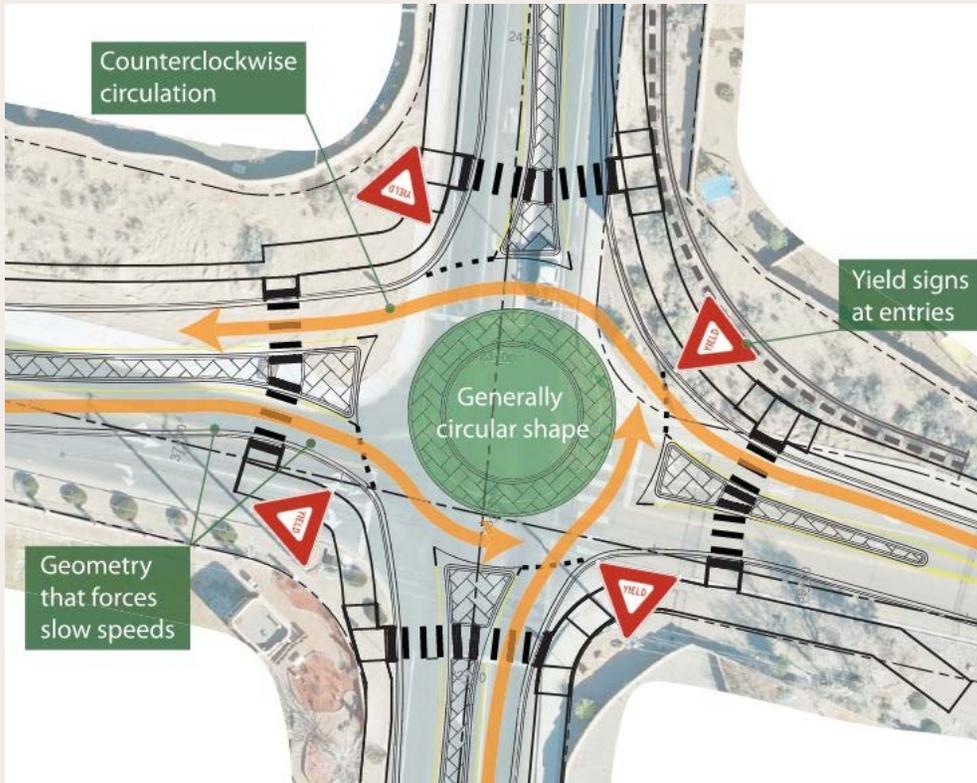
- Horizontal Location
  - Shift to the north
  - ROW needs – NE quadrant
  - Retaining wall construction – NE quadrant
- Vertical Profile & Grades
  - Flattening of existing grades



PLAN - MEADOWLARK LANE



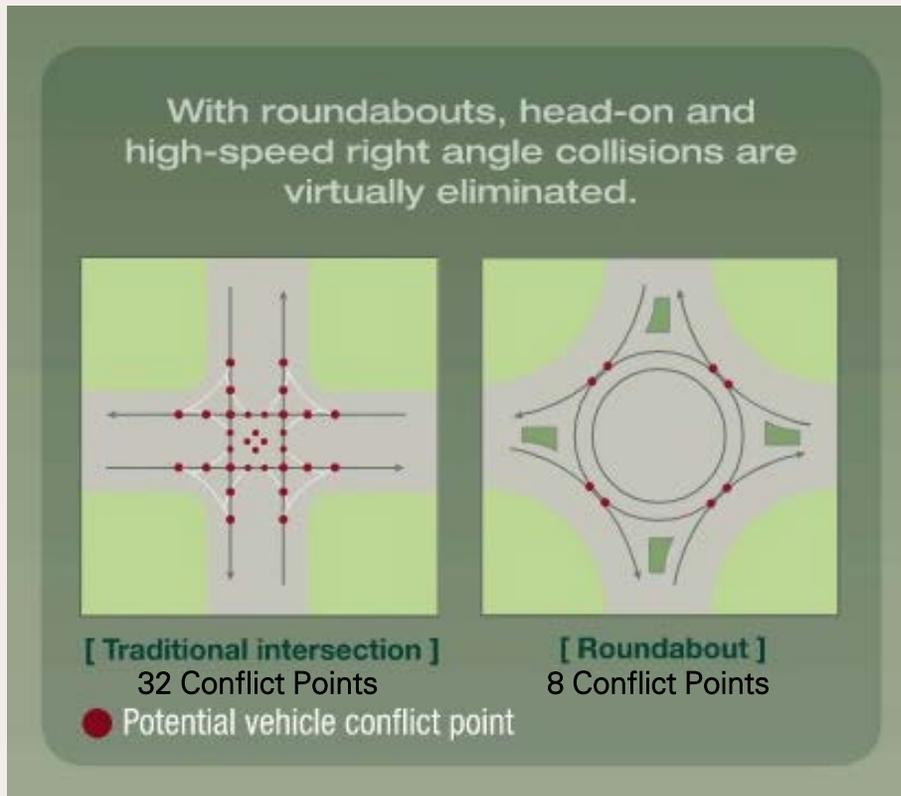
# What is a roundabout?



- Circular Intersection
- Yield Control for entering traffic
- Islands on the approaches
- Roadway curvature to reduce vehicle speed

Source: Roundabouts: An Informational Guide (FHWA)

# Benefits of Roundabouts

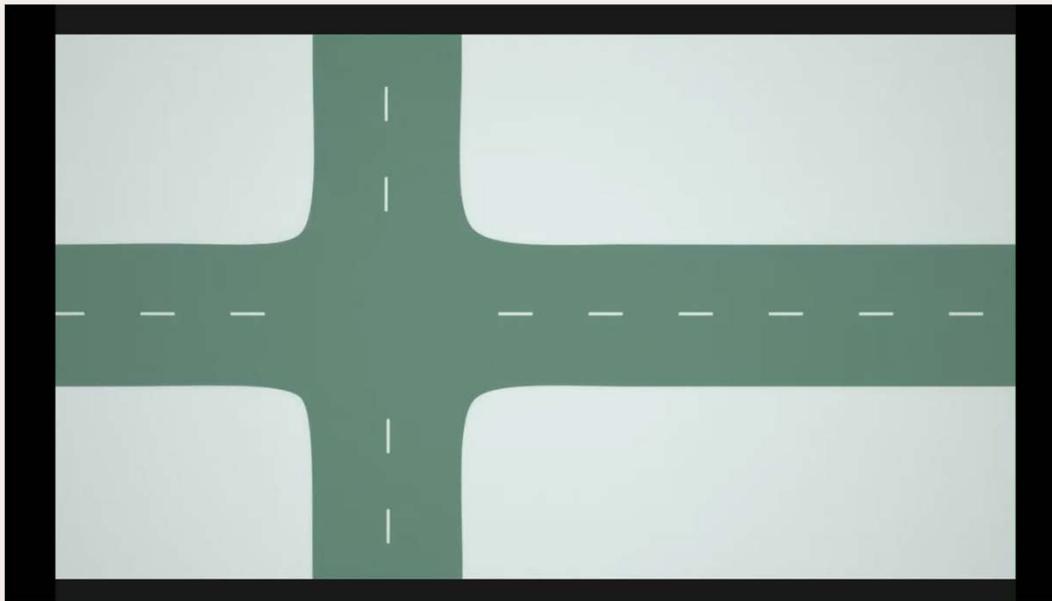


## Safety Improvements:

- Fewer crashes (35% reduction in overall collisions)
- 90% fewer fatality collisions
- 76% fewer injury collisions
- Fewer severe crashes
- 10 to 40% fewer pedestrian/bicycle crashes
- Roundabouts are safer for beginner and elderly drivers

Source: NCHRP Report 572: Roundabouts in the United States. National Cooperative Highway Research Program, TRB, NAS, Washington, DC, 2007

# Benefits of Roundabouts



Source: Utah Department of Transportation, Roundabout Safety Benefits

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# Benefits of Roundabouts

## Reduce Congestion:

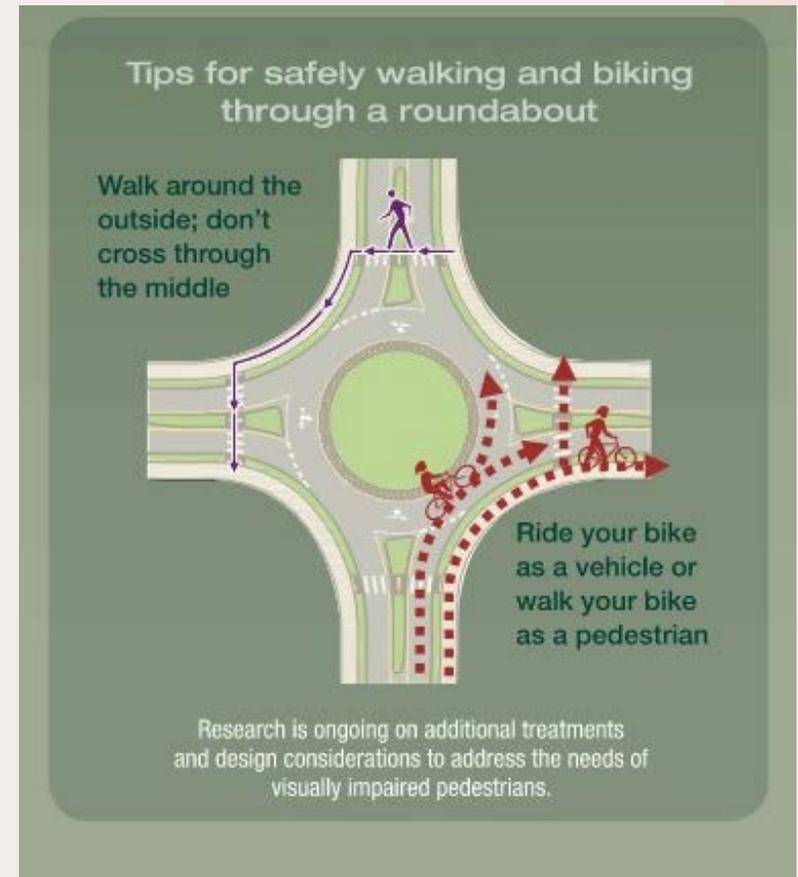
- Efficient during both peak hours and other times
- 30 to 50% increase in traffic capacity for intersection, less delay waiting

## Reduce Pollution and Fuel Use:

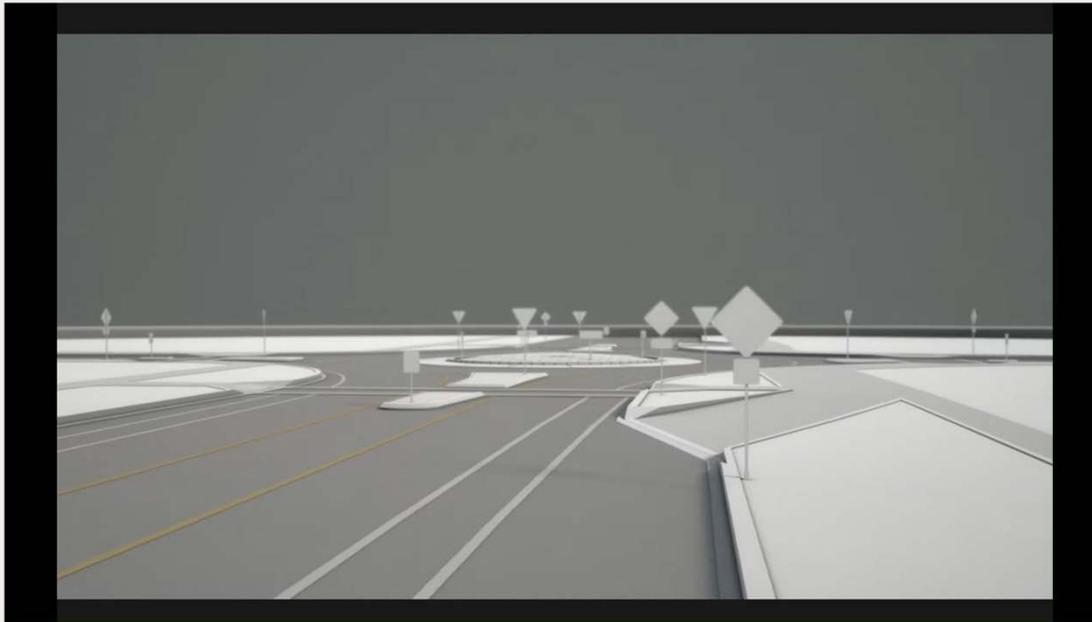
- Fewer stops and hard accelerations
- Less time idling

## Pedestrian and Bicycle Connections:

- Shorter distance to cross roadways
- ADA improvements



# How to Use a Roundabouts



- Approach intersection and follow signs – slow down
- Yield to approaching vehicles from your left
- Go when there is an opening

Source: Utah Department of Transportation, Roundabout Safety Benefits

# City Roundabouts:

- Loma Colorado Blvd (Broadmoor to Northern)
    - Three (3) roundabouts along corridor
  - Iris Road & Idalia Road
  - King Boulevard at Wilpett Road
  - King Boulevard (Unser to Civic Center Circle)
    - Two (2) roundabouts along corridor
  - Arena Drive & HP Way
- **Future Roundabouts:**
    - Idalia Road & Broadmoor Blvd
    - Idalia Road & Loma Colorado Blvd
    - Loma Colorado Blvd & Chessman Dr



# Project Funding



Current Funding:

US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development     \$1.4 million

Current estimate for project:

Sara Road Improvements     \$7 million



# Project Schedule

## Design & Construction Drawings:

- Currently at 90% complete
- Final Design – Finalize design and drawings anticipated to be completed in Spring of 2026.
- Construction – TBD based on securing future funding (State & Federal funding opportunities).

## ROW Acquisition:

- City working on acquisition of property for roundabout

## Additional Public Meetings/Comment:

- Based on securing future construction funding.



# Questions & Answers

- If you have a question about the project, please raise your virtual hand and you will be called on.
- Or you can type your question or comment in the chat box for discussion.
- If you have additional questions or comments following the meeting please send to contact listed on this slide.
- Send written comments by October 28, 2025.

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Project page website:  
<https://rrnm.gov/4947/Sara-Rd-Meadowlark-Ln-Reconstruction>





Thank you!

