

## Do roundabouts require more space than traditional intersections?

Roundabouts do not necessarily require more space than traditional intersections. Geometric design details vary from site to site and must take into account traffic volumes, land use, topography, and other factors. Because they can process traffic more efficiently than traffic signals and stop signs, roundabouts typically require fewer traffic lanes to accommodate the same amount of traffic. In some cases, roundabouts can require more space than stop signs or traffic signals at the actual intersection to accommodate the central island and circulating lanes, but approaches to roundabouts typically require fewer traffic lanes and less right-of-way than those at traditional intersections.

The following example from Asheville, North Carolina, illustrates that roundabout dimensions can be compatible with those of traditional intersections.



Before



After

Intersection with traffic signals converted to a roundabout in Asheville, North Carolina