

and a driver making a left turn has to deal with three conflicting movements. Decision making is easier because there's only one decision to make—is there a large enough space to enter the roundabout?

Some advice

Ring says that a consulting firm was hired for the business park roundabout project. He says that using a consulting firm is a good idea for cities planning to build their first roundabout because there are some unique design elements that city engineers might not be aware of.

For more information

For more information about Des Moines' experience with roundabouts, contact Gary Fox or Mike Ring at 515-283-4973.

Additional information about roundabouts, including the video mentioned in the article, is available for loan from the LTAP library at the Center for Transportation Research and Education. Contact Jim Hogan, library coordinator, 515-294-9481, hoganj@iastate.edu. •



Signing and divider islands encourage appropriate turning movements around a roundabout.

Web sites

www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/wz/workzone.htm

The Federal Highway Administration's *Best Practices Guidebook* can be accessed at this site. The guidebook briefly describes best practices, specifies locations where they will be most effective, and gives contact information for each practice.

www.pavement.com/UTW/UTWCalc.asp

This site provides a calculator that helps users decide whether or not ultra-thin whitetopping (UTW) pavement is an option for their roadway rehabilitation projects.

www.naco.org/affils/nace/

The National Association of County Engineers offers a new online listserv that makes it possible for users to share information with county engineers across the country. To take advantage of this service, just click the registration button and complete the brief form.

www.iceasb.org/

The Iowa County Engineers Association Service Bureau web site provides a roster of county engineers, news about county road departments, online surveys, and contact information for suppliers and contractors.

www.roadcommerce.com/

This American Traffic Safety Services Association web site can help users find a wide variety of roadway safety products and services. Searches by product, service, or supplier name are possible. Links to the vendors' web sites are also provided.

www.ctre.iastate.edu/

The Center for Transportation Research and Education's web site provides links to the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP), the Iowa Traffic Safety Data Service, and the Center for Portland Cement Concrete Pavement Technology. Transportation-related publications and research reports, schedules for safety training workshops, and access to the LTAP lending library are also available.