

OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING  
FOR  
LA 3144/SUSEK DRIVE ROUNDABOUT  
RAPIDES PARISH

State Project No. H.008263  
Federal Aid Project No. H008263



Welcome to the public meeting for the proposed roundabout at the intersection of LA 3144 and Susek Drive in Rapides Parish. This project is jointly funded by the Federal Highway Administration and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.



## Proposed Project Description

- DOTD and FHWA propose to construct a single-lane roundabout at the intersection of the LA 3144 and Susek Drive
- The roundabout will consist of one 18-foot wide continuous travel lane, replacing the existing stop signed intersection
- Approximately 0.2 acre of additional right-of-way will be required for the proposed project
- No known cultural resources or wetland resources will be impacted by the proposed project
- No relocations are anticipated as a result of this project

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## Project Purpose and Need

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## Meeting Agenda

In addition to this presentation, the following stations are available:

- A Sign-in and Handout Station
- An Exhibit Station to review layouts of the proposed roundabout and ask questions to project staff
- A Comment Station for giving written and/or verbal comments (Written comments postmarked within 10 calendar days of meeting will also be included in the transcript)
- A Real Estate Station where an agent can explain LADOTD's right of way acquisition procedures

Project team members are available to assist you.

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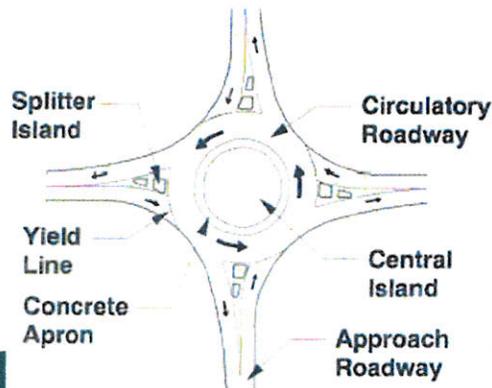


As shown on this vicinity map, the proposed roundabout is located in Rapides Parish at the intersection of LA 3144 and Susek Drive .



## What is a Roundabout?

- Roundabouts are one-way, circular intersections designed to improve safety and efficiency for motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians.
- In a roundabout, traffic flows around a center island counterclockwise.
- A roundabout redirects some of the conflicting traffic, such as left turns, which cause crashes at traditional intersections. This is because drivers enter and exit the roundabout through a series of right-hand turns.



Source: DOTD Roundabouts Fact Sheet

Let's discuss roundabout basics.

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## What are the advantages of Roundabouts?

- A well-designed roundabout can improve safety, efficiency and aesthetics of an intersection.
- Greater safety is achieved primarily by slower speeds and the elimination of more severe crashes. Efficiency is improved by smooth-flowing traffic with less stop-and-go than a signed intersection. Aesthetics are enhanced by the opportunity for more landscaping and less pavement.



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## What do statistics from FHWA say about Roundabouts?

- **Roundabouts save lives**
  - Reduce fatalities by up to 90%
  - Reduce injury crashes by up to 76%
  - Reduce pedestrian crashes by up to 30% to 40%
  - Create up to 75% fewer conflict points than a four-way intersection. Conflict points are any point where the paths of two through or turning vehicles diverge, merge, or cross

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## What do statistics from FHWA say about Roundabouts?

- **Roundabouts save money**
  - Reduces maintenance costs by an average of \$5,000/year
  - Eliminates the costs to install and repair signal equipment
  - Provides a 25-year service life when compared to the ten-year service life of signal equipment

Source: DOTD Roundabouts Fact Sheet

### **Roundabouts save money**

Roundabouts reduce road electricity and maintenance costs by an average of \$5,000/year. Roundabouts eliminate the cost to install and repair signal equipment. Also, roundabouts provide a 25-year service life, compared to the ten-year service life of signal equipment.



## What do statistics from FHWA say about Roundabouts?

- **Roundabouts provide environmental benefits**
  - Reduce vehicle delay and the number and duration of stops compared with signalized intersections, thus decreasing fuel consumption and carbon emissions. Fewer stops and hard accelerations mean less time idling.



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## What are the general principles of using a Roundabout?

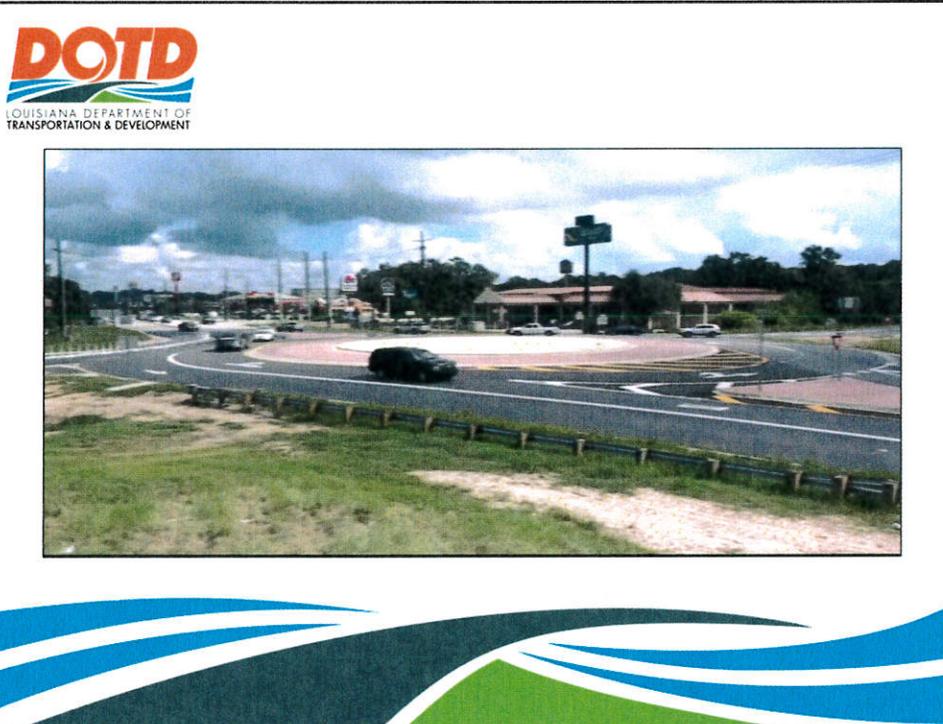
- Think of roundabouts as a series of “T” intersections, where entering vehicles yield to one-way traffic coming from the left. A driver approaching a roundabout must slow down, stop or yield to traffic already in the roundabout, and yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk.
- Then, it’s a simple matter of making a right-hand turn onto a one-way street.
- Once in the roundabout, the driver proceeds around the central island, then takes the necessary right-hand turn to exit.



Source: DOTD Roundabouts Fact Sheet

For those of you who have never driven through a roundabout intersection, let’s discuss the general principles of using a Roundabout.

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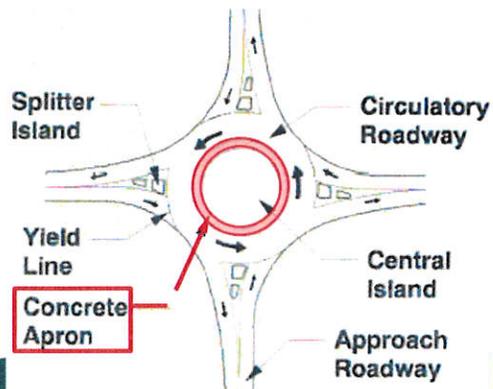


This video gives the definition of a roundabout and a quick tutorial on how to use a roundabout.



## Can roundabouts accommodate larger vehicles?

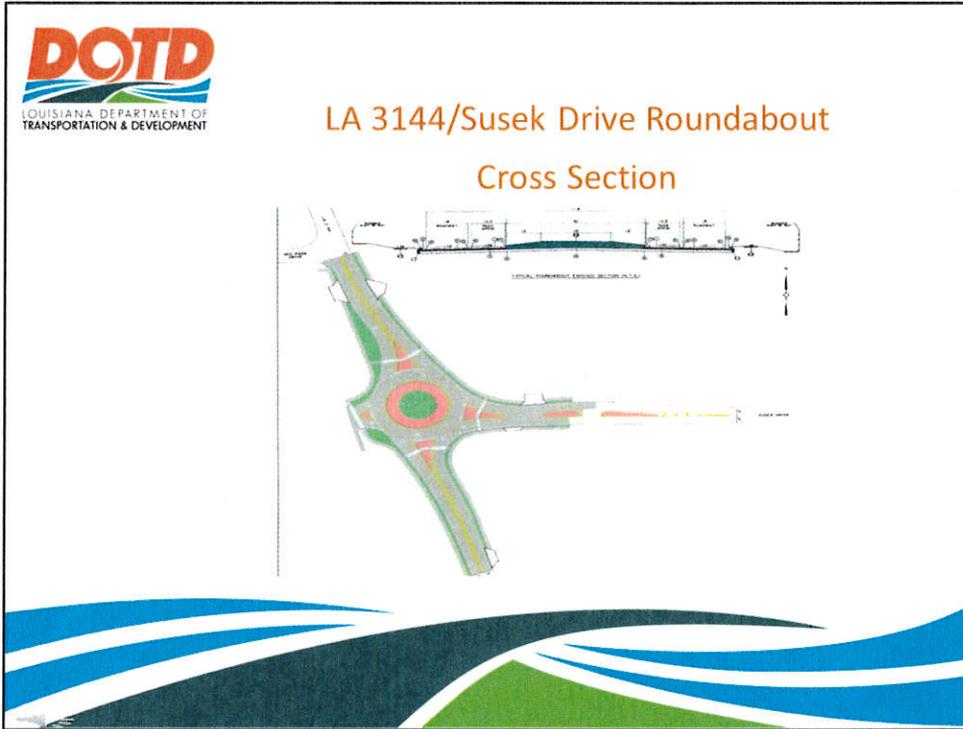
- Yes. Roundabouts are designed to accommodate vehicles with a large turning radius such as buses, fire trucks and eighteen wheelers.
- Roundabouts provide an area between the circulatory roadway and the central island, known as a truck apron, over which the rear wheels of these vehicles can safely track if necessary.



Source: DOTD Roundabouts Fact Sheet

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The answer: Yes. Roundabouts are designed to accommodate vehicles with a large turning radius such as buses, fire trucks and eighteen wheelers. Roundabouts provide an area between the circulatory roadway and the central island, known as a truck apron, over which the rear wheels of these vehicles can safely track.



The proposed roundabout cross section consists of one 18' wide travel lane and a 15.5 wide traversable apron between the travel lane and center island. The center island is approximately 42' in diameter.



## Right of Way Acquisition Information

- A Real Estate representative is here to explain DOTD's right of way acquisition procedures.
- The DOTD Brochure explaining the Acquisition of Right of Way is available at Station 4.
- If you have property affected by this project, we suggest you read the brochure carefully. If you have any questions regarding your individual situation, consult with the agent when he or she contacts you or call the Region Real Estate Office.



A real estate representative is here at the meeting to explain LADOTD's right of way acquisition procedures.

The DOTD Brochure explaining Acquisition of Right-of-Way is available tonight at Station 4 or can be obtained later by contacting the DOTD Real Estate Section at the address and telephone number listed in your handout.

If you have property affected by this project, we suggest you read the brochure carefully. If you have any questions regarding your individual situation, consult with the agent when she or he meets with you, or contact the Region Real Estate Office.



## Steps in the Acquisition Process

DOTD's objective is to pay **Just Compensation** for all properties required for the project.

- Owners may be contacted by an appraiser(s) to evaluate their property
- All evaluations will be approved by DOTD
- After approval a Real Estate agent will contact each property owner with a letter detailing DOTD's offer for the purchase of the property
- Owners will be given a set timeframe to accept or counter DOTD's offer

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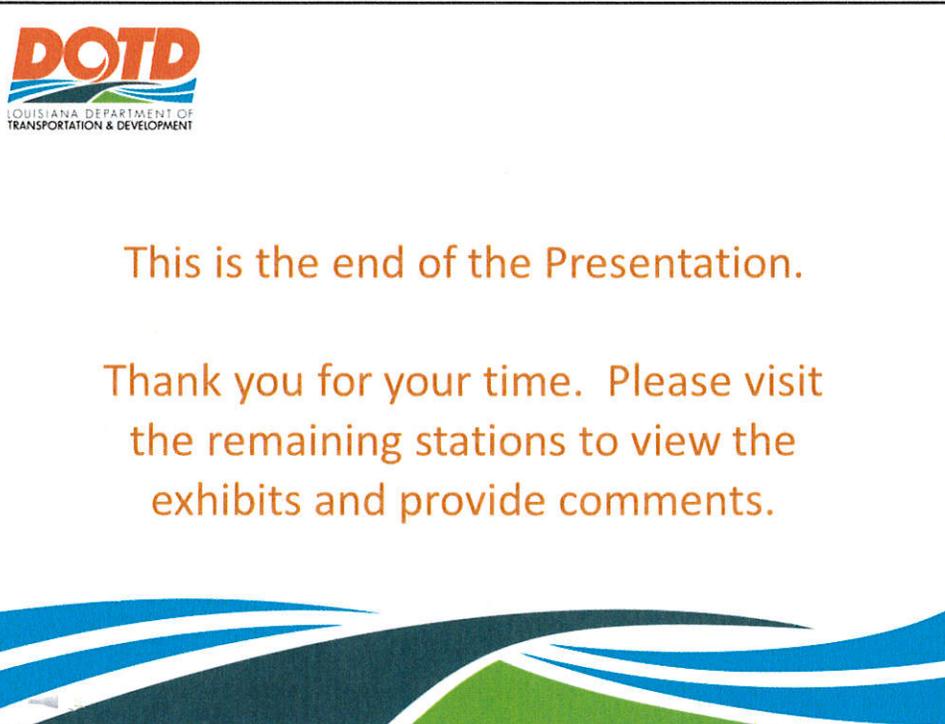


## How Can You Help?

1. Sign-in tonight and review all materials.
2. Provide us with your written or recorded comment at Station 5.

There are two ways you can help tonight.

1. Sign-in and review all materials.
2. Provide us with your written or recorded comment.



This is the end of the Presentation. Thank you for your time. Please visit the remaining stations to view the exhibits and provide comments.



The presentation will begin  
shortly.

