

## Darbytown Road & Turner Road Intersection Proposed Modular Roundabout - Public Involvement Summary

After a series of crashes, including a fatality, the Henrico County Department of Public Works and an engineering consultant conducted a study of the intersection of Darbytown Road and Turner Road. The review found that vehicle speeds on Darbytown Road and left-turning movements were a major contributor to crashes. After the consideration of several potential solutions, a roundabout was determined to be the best option to enhance safety at the intersection.

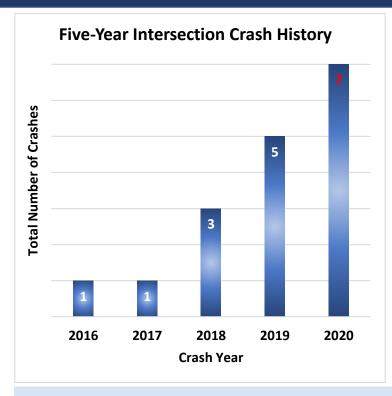
Across the United States, roundabouts have been found to reduce 80% of crashes when installed at stop-controlled intersections. A roundabout at Darbytown and Turner also was determined to provide acceptable levels of service for all traffic movements.

Public Works is proposing a modular roundabout, which offers lower costs and faster installation but the same safety and operational benefits as a conventional roundabout. Modular roundabouts installed by the Virginia Department of Transportation in Chesterfield County have proven effective.

**Public Outreach:** As part of this project, a presentation on Henrico's website provided an overview of the intersection; safety concerns, including the fatal crash in 2020; and the proposal to install a modular roundabout. An online survey gave residents and commuters an opportunity to provide input on the safety concerns and the proposed roundabout solution. A total of 103 respondents completed the survey, with 83% reporting that they drive through the intersection at least weekly. They also confirmed that vehicle speed and difficult turning movements were top safety concerns. About 52% of respondents noted that "speeding" was an issue. Fifty-one percent reported that "speeding" contributes to difficulty making turns, while 40% reported "difficult turn movements" as a factor. A total of 16% reported "no issues observed," while 33% gave favorable reviews of the existing intersection and expressed support for no changes.

The survey offered mixed opinions on the proposed roundabout, with 49% in support and 47% in opposition. However, in their comments, 26% of respondents questioned whether a roundabout was the best solution and 13% indicated no problems with the current intersection. Additional feedback included concerns about planned development at the intersection (12%) and a desire for a conventional roundabout, rather than a modular roundabout (6%).

**Conclusions:** Overall, the survey and other public feedback support a roundabout as a viable solution to reduce vehicle speeds on Darbytown Road and to provide safer turning movements from Turner Road. While opinions were split on it as a solution, a roundabout was viewed more favorably than the existing (do nothing) condition. Due to crashes at the intersection and public input, the Department of Public Works will proceed with the modular roundabout solution. The comments received will be incorporated into the design phase of the project.





## **Examples of Modular Roundabouts in the Area**



Harpers Mill Parkway and Otterdale Road Chesterfield County, VA



Bailey Bridge Road and Springford Parkway
Chesterfield County, VA

## Project Schedule

Public Involvement: October 2021 Roundabout Installation: May 2022

**Design and Analysis:** Begins January 2022 **Installation time:** approximately 1-2 months