

# Move Rolla Transportation Development District

## FAQs – Relocated University Drive with Roundabout

September 18, 2020

**1. Question: Why relocate University Drive?**

Answer: This new alignment supports both the Hospital and University in achieving their long-term vision of providing direct access from I-44 to their front doors. Partnering with both the Hospital and University, the Move Rolla Transportation District is achieving its goals by providing a safe and convenient transportation facility that will promote economic opportunity, provide corridor traffic, safety and visual enhancements to US 63, as well as improve the safety of pedestrians crossing US 63.

**2. Question: Why was a roundabout selected over a stoplight intersection?**

Answer: After much research, it was determined that the roundabout intersection would be safer and more efficient at all times of the day compared to a traffic signal intersection. The roundabout will also help slow and calm traffic through Rolla.

**3. Question: Where will the pedestrians cross the street?**

Answer: There will be a number of safety protocols to help pedestrians safely cross US 63, relocated University Drive and Miner Circle. There will be pedestrian crossings on all four sides of the roundabout. These will include pedestrian crossing beacon signs to clearly warn drivers to stop for pedestrians in the crosswalk. In addition to the crossings at the roundabout, there will be additional crosswalks on University Drive at Spring Avenue, and realigned 13<sup>th</sup> street that will serve as the new connection to Phelps Health. We have been working with the Federal Highway Administration resource center to ensure the roundabout is as safe as possible by using national best practices in this high pedestrian environment.

**4. Question: What safety components will be added to the roundabout?**

Answer: In addition to multiple crosswalks on University Drive and at the roundabout, pedestrian beacon lights will be used at all crosswalks to warn drivers to stop for pedestrians. Offset crosswalks are used at the roundabout exits to US 63 to allow drivers more reaction time to pedestrians crossing the street.

**5. Question: When will construction start?**

Answer: Construction is anticipated to start in the Spring of 2021

**6. Question: When will the new University Drive and roundabout be open to traffic?**

Answer: The tentative date for the new University Drive and roundabout to open to traffic is Spring of 2022.

**7. Question: What will happen to old University Drive?**

Answer: It will be converted to pedestrian use with a new and expanded tunnel beneath US 63/Bishop Avenue. This will open the area up for further community development.

**8. Question: Is there an impact to any of the area properties? What about Taco Bell?**

Answer: There will be impacts to a total of 17 properties and the TDD has successfully acquired 16 of those properties to date. Taco Bell will remain where it is. Two other commercial properties will be acquired as a result of the roundabout; Huddle House and Hardees, both located on the west side of US 63/Bishop.

**9. Question: Roundabouts are confusing, how do they work?**

Answer: The key is for drivers and bicyclists to be in the proper lane prior to entering the roundabout, slow down, and yield to pedestrians and drivers in the roundabout. Once you have entered the roundabout follow the striping and do not change lanes. As we approach the completion of construction, the City and University will provide instructional materials of how to use the roundabout. However overall, a roundabout will provide less motorist delay than a traffic signal at this intersection. For more information on roundabouts check out MoDOT's "All About a Roundabout" video at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X0RcTWEBtYM>.

**10. Question: Do bicycles use the roundabout the same as a car?**

Answer: People on bicycles can choose to ride through the roundabout with traffic or walk their bicycles through the pedestrian crosswalks, similar to traditional intersections. Like people driving, riders must obey the rules of the roundabout as they proceed through the intersection.

**11. Question: What is the cost of the relocated University Drive and roundabout?**

Answer: The relocated University Drive and roundabout's construction cost is anticipated to be approximately \$7.750M. These costs are being funded through the Rolla TDD program and the University.

**12. Question: Where can I get additional information?**

Answer: For a complete listing and update of all transportation projects funded by the MoveRolla TDD please go to [www.moverollatdd.com](http://www.moverollatdd.com).