

56th Roundabouts



KING & CENTRAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lisa Olmsted, Public Involvement Manager, (406) 869-6392, lolmsted@dowl.com

Work Paused on 56th Roundabouts Project as Workers Respond to Flood Damaged Roads

Work on the Montana Department of Transportation's *56th Roundabouts: King and Central* project is pausing temporarily to allow construction crews from Riverside Contracting, Inc. to respond to roads and bridges recently damaged by floodwater. To prepare the site of the planned new roundabout at King Avenue and 56th Street West for this temporary pause, the gravel-filled sections of roadway will be patched to improve the travel lanes for drivers. This asphalt patchwork will occur Wednesday and Thursday of this week.

The new roundabout at the intersection of Central Avenue and 56th Street West is nearly complete and is open to the traveling public. Some remaining work to be done on this intersection includes the installation of lighting, road signs, fencing, roadway striping, and grass seed.

Traffic control measures are in place at both intersections for the safety of drivers and workers. Please drive safely around the work zone – please drive cautiously through active work zones, be respectful of closures, and be on the lookout for workers working near the roadway.

This project will improve traffic operations and safety for two intersections in west Billings. The project will be constructing single-lane roundabouts at the intersections of King Avenue and 56th Street West and Central Avenue and 56th Street West.

The intersections serve drivers traveling to and from the far west end of Billings; these roundabouts will improve the flow of traffic and reduce high severity accidents. The project is anticipated to be completed in the winter of 2022.

More information about the project can be found at the project website: <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/pubinvolve/56throundabouts/>. Comments, questions, or concerns can be directed to 56throundabouts@dowl.com or by calling Lisa Olmsted at (406) 869-6392. Sign up for weekly construction updates by texting 56th to 833-648-0322.

For many Montanans, Memorial Day weekend kicks off the start of summer travel, culminating with Labor Day weekend. Unfortunately, these summer months can also be some of the deadliest on Montana's roads due to increased motor vehicle crashes. This period is known

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nationally as the “100 Deadliest Days of Summer,” and has historically represented an increase in crashes and crash fatalities on our roadways due to greater traffic volumes and clear travel conditions that lower drivers’ guards. Before you make plans to travel this summer, commit to safe, lawful behavior and remain vigilant in sharing Montana’s roadways with all system users. Never operate a motor vehicle while impaired. If you’re driving a vehicle, buckle up before you go and insist your friends and family do the same. Using your seat belt is your best defense against serious injury or death in the event you’re in a crash. This is a Vision Zero Message from the Montana Department of Transportation. Learn more about the goal of Vision Zero here: <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero/>

Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided on request. Persons who need an alternative format should contact the Office of Civil Rights, Department of Transportation, 2701 Prospect Avenue, PO Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620. Telephone 406-444-5416 or Montana Relay Service at 711.

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