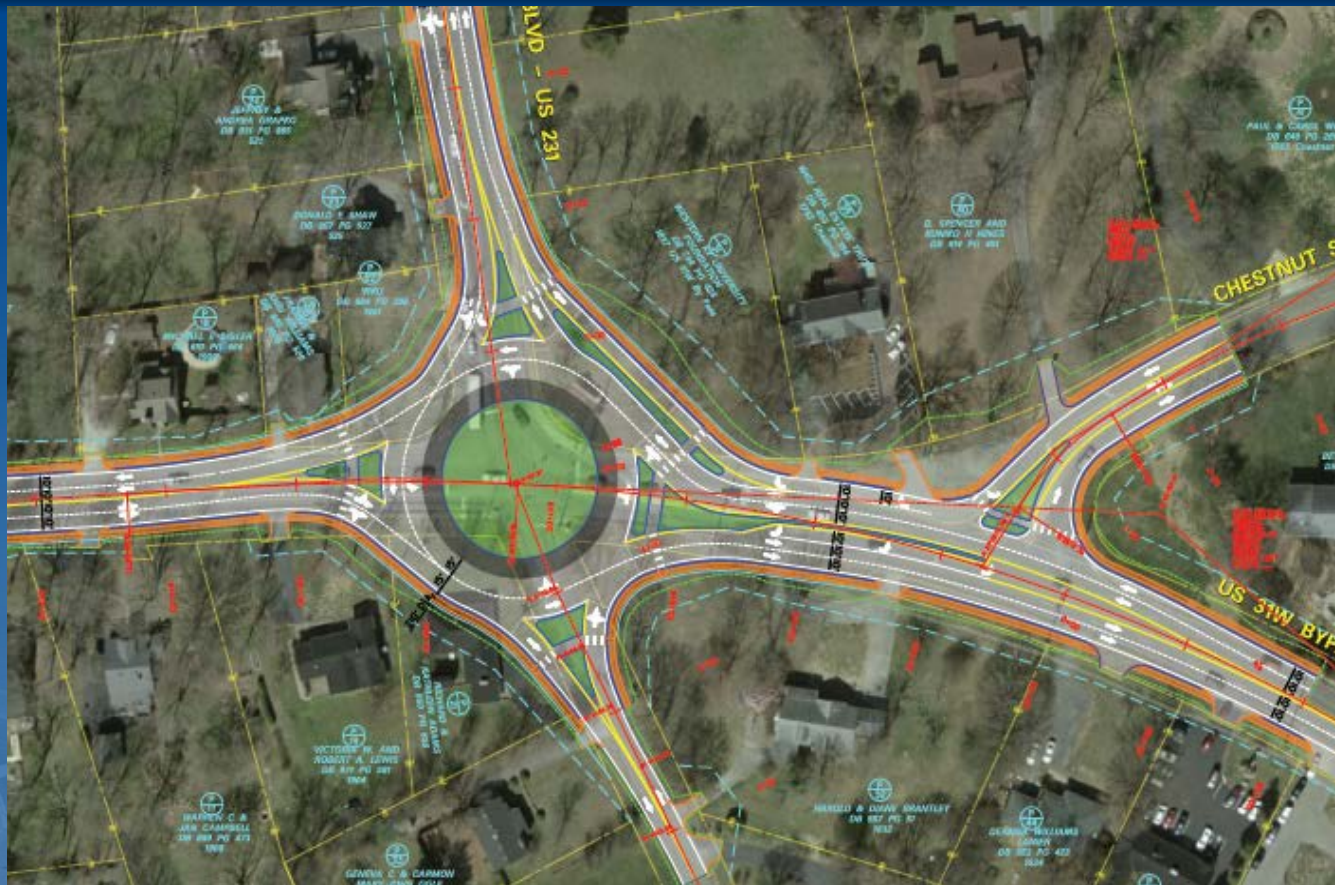


# Development of Bowling Green's First Roundabout



KENTUCKY  
TRANSPORTATION  
CABINET



BURGESS & NIPLE

Greg Meredith P.E., *District 3 Chief District Engineer*  
Arrell Thompson P.E., *Burgess & Niple*  
Joe Plunk, P.E., *District 3 Project Development Branch Mgr*

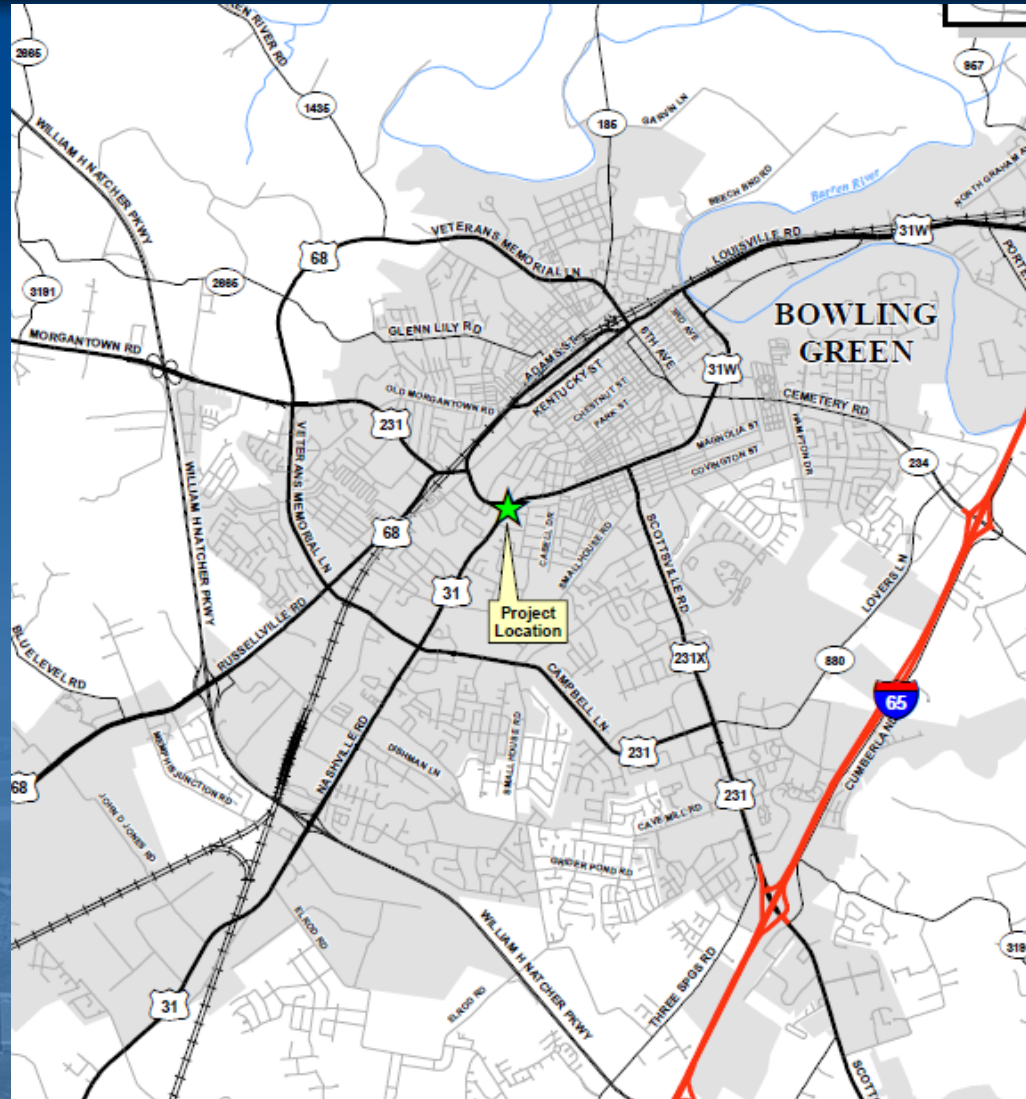
Sept. 9, 2014

# Outline

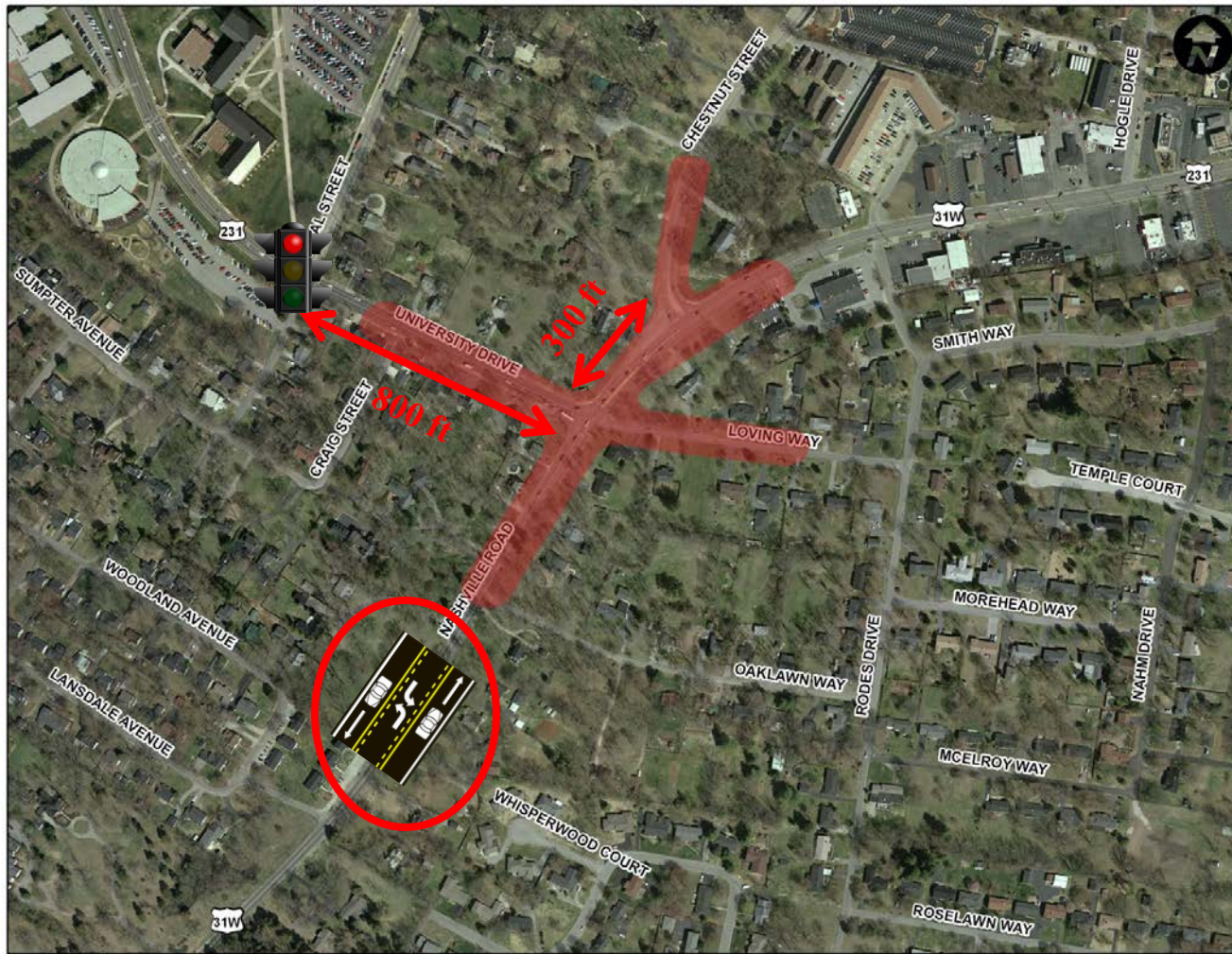
- 1. Existing Conditions**
2. Pre-design Project History
3. Benefits of Roundabouts
4. Development of Design Project
5. Getting the Project to Letting



# Project Location Map



# Constraints



# Project Orientation

- **Approximate Traffic Numbers**
  - US 31W North approx. 18,000 ADT
  - US 31W South approx. 22,000 ADT
  - University Blvd approx. 19,000 ADT
  - Chestnut Street approx. 4,500 ADT
  - Loving Way approx. 2,500 ADT





US 31W Bypass looking North, construction completed just after World War II.



Chestnut approaching US 31W



Intersection of Chestnut Street with US 31W  
Bypass.





Motorist turning left from Northbound US  
31W onto Chestnut Street.



Chestnut Street is a key route with WKU bus routes.



Utilities adjacent to University Boulevard.



University Boulevard traffic queue  
approaching US 31W.



Loving Way approach to US 31W.



Queue on Loving Way.

# Outline

1. Existing Conditions
2. Pre-design Project History
3. Benefits of Roundabouts
4. Development of Design Project
5. Getting the Project to Letting



# Scoping Study in 2007-2008

## SCOPING STUDY REPORT

### US 31W at University Blvd. / Chestnut St.

Study of Proposed Intersection Improvements

Warren County, Kentucky  
Item No.: 3-131.00

*Prepared for:*

KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET  
DISTRICT #3

*Prepared by:*



December 03, 2008

- QK4 was tasked on their statewide design contract to look at possible solutions to include both intersections
- They developed several alternatives:



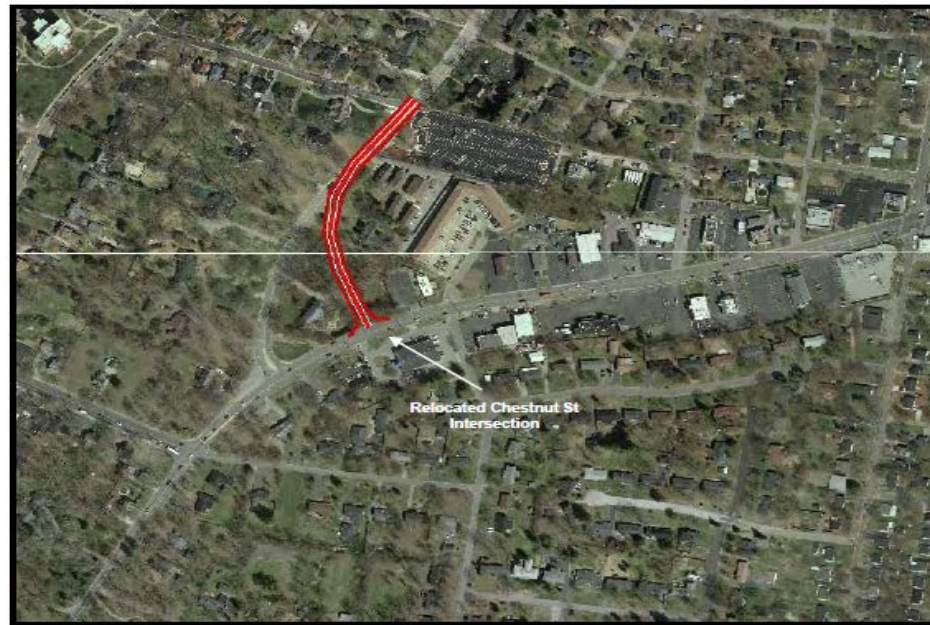
# Alternative 1: Widen for turn lanes



Alternative 1 Summary of Delays

| From                 | To                   | AM Peak | PM Peak |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------|---------|
| Northbound US 31     | Eastbound Loving     | 17      | 31      |
| Northbound US 31     | Northbound US 31     | 18      | 30      |
| Northbound US 31     | Northbound Chestnut  | 35      | 48      |
| Northbound US 31     | Westbound University | 38      | 109     |
| Westbound Loving     | Northbound US 31     | 21      | 25      |
| Westbound Loving     | Northbound Chestnut  | 29      | 28      |
| Westbound Loving     | Westbound University | 20      | 21      |
| Westbound Loving     | Southbound US 31     | 17      | 5       |
| Southbound US 31     | Northbound Chestnut  | 1       | 5       |
| Southbound US 31     | Westbound University | 7       | 41      |
| Southbound US 31     | Southbound US 31     | 21      | 20      |
| Southbound US 31     | Eastbound Loving     | 34      | 64      |
| Southbound Chestnut  | Westbound University | 13      | 184     |
| Southbound Chestnut  | Southbound US 31     | 18      | 175     |
| Southbound Chestnut  | Eastbound Loving     | 17      | 186     |
| Southbound Chestnut  | Northbound US 31     | 19      | 26      |
| Eastbound University | Southbound US 31     | 20      | 5       |
| Eastbound University | Eastbound Loving     | 18      | 136     |
| Eastbound University | Northbound US 31     | 32      | 157     |
| Eastbound University | Northbound Chestnut  | 45      | 184     |

# Alternative 2: Realign Chestnut Street



**Alternative 2 Summary of Delays**

| From                 | To                   | AM Peak | PM Peak |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------|---------|
| Northbound US 31     | Eastbound Loving     | 20      | 36      |
| Northbound US 31     | Northbound US 31     | 21      | 36      |
| Northbound US 31     | Northbound Chestnut  | 24      | 52      |
| Northbound US 31     | Westbound University | 57      | 120     |
| Westbound Loving     | Northbound US 31     | 26      | 19      |
| Westbound Loving     | Northbound Chestnut  | 32      | 20      |
| Westbound Loving     | Westbound University | 23      | 23      |
| Westbound Loving     | Southbound US 31     | 17      | 6       |
| Southbound US 31     | Northbound Chestnut  | 1       | 170     |
| Southbound US 31     | Westbound University | 8       | 273     |
| Southbound US 31     | Southbound US 31     | 25      | 257     |
| Southbound US 31     | Eastbound Loving     | 38      | 246     |
| Southbound Chestnut  | Westbound University | 15      | 161     |
| Southbound Chestnut  | Southbound US 31     | 40      | 160     |
| Southbound Chestnut  | Eastbound Loving     | 22      | 138     |
| Southbound Chestnut  | Northbound US 31     | 12      | 15      |
| Eastbound University | Southbound US 31     | 22      | 136     |
| Eastbound University | Eastbound Loving     | 22      | 143     |
| Eastbound University | Northbound US 31     | 32      | 161     |
| Eastbound University | Northbound Chestnut  | 36      | 182     |

# Alternative 5: Dual Roundabouts



**Alternative 5 Summary of Delays**

| From                 | To                   | AM Peak | PM Peak |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------|---------|
| Northbound US 31     | Eastbound Loving     | 22      | 103     |
| Northbound US 31     | Northbound US 31     | 22      | 168     |
| Northbound US 31     | Northbound Chestnut  | 64      | 240     |
| Northbound US 31     | Westbound University | 63      | 111     |
| Westbound Loving     | Northbound US 31     | 29      | 4       |
| Westbound Loving     | Northbound Chestnut  | 54      | 12      |
| Westbound Loving     | Westbound University | 48      | 11      |
| Westbound Loving     | Southbound US 31     | 38      | 9       |
| Southbound US 31     | Northbound Chestnut  | 6       | 9       |
| Southbound US 31     | Westbound University | 10      | 24      |
| Southbound US 31     | Southbound US 31     | 42      | 18      |
| Southbound US 31     | Eastbound Loving     | 21      | 18      |
| Southbound Chestnut  | Westbound University | 8       | 60      |
| Southbound Chestnut  | Southbound US 31     | 11      | 66      |
| Southbound Chestnut  | Eastbound Loving     | 20      | 52      |
| Southbound Chestnut  | Northbound US 31     | 5       | 18      |
| Eastbound University | Southbound US 31     | 1       | 16      |
| Eastbound University | Eastbound Loving     | 1       | 17      |
| Eastbound University | Northbound US 31     | 3       | 40      |
| Eastbound University | Northbound Chestnut  | 6       | 64      |

# Alternative 6: Single Roundabout



Alternative 6 Summary of Delays

| From                 | To                   | AM Peak | PM Peak |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------|---------|
| Northbound US 31     | Eastbound Loving     | 17      | 44      |
| Northbound US 31     | Northbound US 31     | 17      | 37      |
| Northbound US 31     | Northbound Chestnut  | 12      | 39      |
| Northbound US 31     | Westbound University | 51      | 123     |
| Westbound Loving     | Northbound US 31     | 29      | 30      |
| Westbound Loving     | Northbound Chestnut  | 15      | 35      |
| Westbound Loving     | Westbound University | 23      | 28      |
| Westbound Loving     | Southbound US 31     | 8       | 11      |
| Southbound US 31     | Northbound Chestnut  | 1       | 149     |
| Southbound US 31     | Westbound University | 26      | 189     |
| Southbound US 31     | Southbound US 31     | 52      | 268     |
| Southbound US 31     | Eastbound Loving     | 88      | 267     |
| Southbound Chestnut  | Westbound University | 18      | 57      |
| Southbound Chestnut  | Southbound US 31     | 19      | 250     |
| Southbound Chestnut  | Eastbound Loving     | 23      | 227     |
| Southbound Chestnut  | Northbound US 31     | 4       | 215     |
| Eastbound University | Southbound US 31     | 24      | 132     |
| Eastbound University | Eastbound Loving     | 24      | 134     |
| Eastbound University | Northbound US 31     | 44      | 155     |
| Eastbound University | Northbound Chestnut  | 35      | 166     |

# Roundabout Moratorium



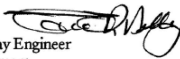
**Steven L. Beshear**  
Governor

**TRANSPORTATION CABINET**  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40622  
www.transportation.ky.gov/

**Joseph W. Prather**  
Secretary

## PROJECT DEVELOPMENT MEMORANDUM NO. 1-2008

**TO:** Chief District Engineers  
Pre-Construction Engineers  
Director, Division of Highway Design  
Director, Division of Professional Services  
Roundabout Review Committee

**FROM:** Ernest R. Polly, P.E.   
Deputy State Highway Engineer  
for Project Development

**DATE:** July 9, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of Roundabouts for Intersections

In July of 2006 Interim Roundabout Guidelines were established, and subsequently a Roundabout Review Committee was formed to ensure consistency of feasibility studies for the application and design of roundabouts. Since that time, the Cabinet has two roundabouts either completed or nearing completion of construction, two are scheduled for construction, and several others are in various stages of project development.

While other states may have accepted roundabouts as an alternative solution for controlling traffic at intersections, roundabout operational analysis methodology, limitations, costs, and functionality are relatively new concepts for the Cabinet. Communities and highway users within Kentucky are likewise unfamiliar with the operational aspects, and therefore some of the potentially negative consequences that may result from driving through roundabouts.

In order to allow the Cabinet sufficient time to assess the success, including costs, application and public acceptance of the roundabouts currently approved for design and installation, roundabouts are no longer to be pursued or considered as an alternative solution for intersection design. Only those projects for which alternative feasibility studies for roundabouts were completed, submitted through the Roundabout Review Committee, and approved by the State Highway Engineer's Office are to advance to final design or be included in the project plans. Consultants with contracts that were negotiated to include roundabouts as an alternative consideration should be notified to not pursue development of those alternative studies.

Any questions regarding this memo should be directed to this office.



# Roundabouts again an alternative




TRANSPORTATION CABINET  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40622  
www.transportation.ky.gov/

Steven L. Beshear  
Governor

Michael W. Hancock, P.E.  
Acting Secretary

## DESIGN MEMORANDUM NO. 03-10

**TO:** Chief District Engineers  
Design Engineers  
Active Consultants

**FROM:** Jeff D. Jasper, P.E., Director  
Division of Highway Design 

**DATE:** July 20, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Design Guidance for Roundabout Intersections

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet continues to support the modern roundabout as a viable alternative for intersection design. To ensure successful operation, roundabouts must be placed at appropriate locations and be designed properly for the conditions. Effective with this memorandum, the attached design guidance should be used when considering a roundabout as an intersection alternative. Both single and multi-lane designs may be pursued at this time.

### Roundabout Review and Approval

**Conceptual Design Approval.** In order for a roundabout to be identified as a preferred alternative, a concept report shall be submitted to, and approved by, the Division of Highway Design. Districts may submit this report through their respective Location Engineers for approval by the Director. This submittal should occur prior to public involvement activities and no later than the preliminary line and grade meeting. The concept report shall include at a minimum:

- Operational analysis and determination of lane configuration
- Identification of design vehicle(s)
- Preliminary layout including identification of inscribed circle diameter (see Tables 3 & 4 in the policy guidance attached)

**Final Design Approval.** The following information shall be submitted for approval as an appendix to the Design Executive Summary. This information should be submitted in graphical format.

- Design vehicle turning paths



Design Memorandum  
July 20, 2010  
Page 2 of 2

- Fastest path determination
- Entry Angle
- Sight Distance Analysis

**Traffic Operations Approval.** Lighting, Signing and Pavement Markings shall be presented at the Joint Inspection Meeting for approval by the Division of Traffic Operations.

Any questions regarding this memorandum should be directed to this office.

JDJ

Attachment

# Approved Highway Plan Funding:

2008 Highway Plan Project Allotments: (Item No. 3-131)

| Right of Way | Utilities | Construction | Total       |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| \$470,000    | \$760,000 | \$1,130,000  | \$2,360,000 |

2010 Highway Plan Project Allotments:

| Right of Way | Utilities | Construction | Total       |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| \$470,000    | \$760,000 | \$2,200,000  | \$3,430,000 |

-all State Bond Funds- i.e. secure funds

2012 Highway Plan Project Allotments:

| Right of Way | Utilities | Construction | Total       |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| \$1,050,000  | \$760,000 | \$1,170,000  | \$2,980,000 |

-all "SPP" and State Bond Funds- i.e. still secure

# Feasibility Study by KTC (Adam Kirk)

**ROUNDBOUT FEASIBILITY REVIEW AND ANALYSIS  
US 31W AT UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD AND CHESTNUT STREET**

Bowling Green, Warren County, Kentucky  
Item No. 3-131.00

**Prepared for**

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet  
District 3

**Prepared by**

Adam Kirk  
  
Kentucky Transportation Center

September 10, 2010

## **CONCLUSION**

This report analyzed the feasibility of a single roundabout alternative to alleviate congestion at University Boulevard and Chestnut Street. The analysis presented above has identified the modified roundabout as feasible at US31W and University Boulevard and found that it provides improved performance over the other alternatives initially considered at this location. The conceptual schematic of the design presented in **Attachment A** should be further evaluated to refine the roundabout geometrics and to identify potential methods for reducing impacts on residences and businesses on US 31W.



# Outline

1. Existing Conditions
2. Pre-design Project History
- 3. Benefits of Roundabouts**
4. Development of Design Project
5. Getting the Project to Letting



# Benefits of Roundabouts

1. Conflict points are reduced
2. Geometrics encourage speed reduction
3. Lower operating speeds reduce crash severity
4. Continuous flow reduces delay
5. Reduced fuel consumption (noise & air quality impacts)
6. Operation/maintenance costs can be less than signalized

# Outline

1. Existing Conditions
2. Pre-design Project History
3. Benefits of Roundabouts
4. Development of Design Project
5. Getting the Project to Letting



# Project Purpose & Need



*The purpose of this project is to improve safety and mobility for motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians along US 31W through the intersections with University Boulevard/Loving Way and with Chestnut Street.*

# Project Development Milestones

Nov. 2010

- KYTC issues Request for Proposals (RFP)

June 2011

- Consultant receives Notice to Proceed for Preliminary Engineering

Sept. 2011

- Project Team Meeting reviews Traffic Micro-simulation Analysis (VISSIM)

Nov. 2011

- Line & Grade Inspection to select recommended alternative

June 2012

- Consultant receives Notice to Proceed for Final Design

Jan. 2013

- Joint Inspection & Utility Coordination Meeting

Feb. 2013

- Public Meeting & ROW and Utility Funds authorized

# Unique Project Challenges

## 1. WKU

Transit route



Minimizing property impacts

Younger driving population

# Unique Project Challenges

## 2. Residences on two of four quadrants

- Limited existing ROW
- Entrances
- 23 parcels



# Unique Project Challenges

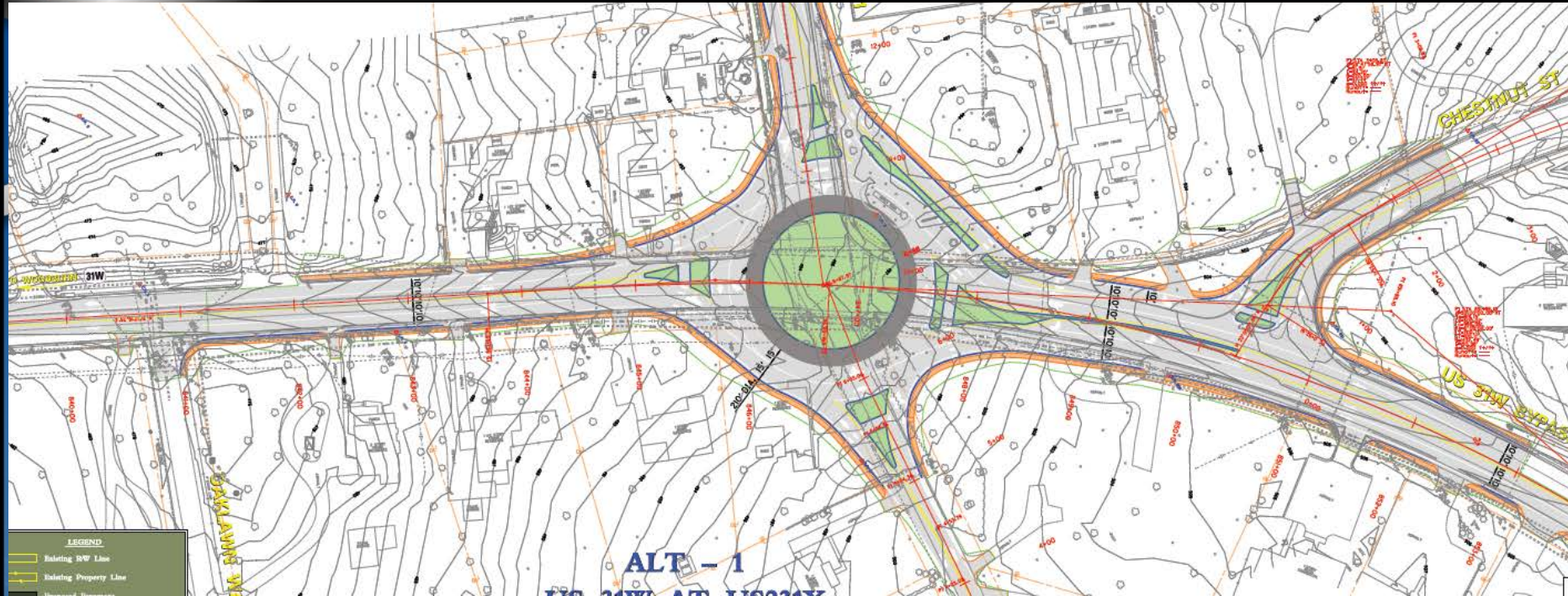
## 3. Profile grade and cross slopes into intersection



US 31W ~ 4% profile grade  
Chestnut St. ~ 5% profile grade  
US 31W horizontal curve creates superelevated  
pavement slopes



# Recommended Alternative



# Outline

1. Existing Conditions
2. Pre-design Project History
3. Benefits of Roundabouts
4. Development of Design Project
5. Getting the Project to Letting



# Utility Coordination

- KYTC acquired utility easements
- KYTC paid 100% for private if dates met



- 7 utilities
- BGMU 69 kV trans. line
- AT&T duct bank

# Project Development Milestones

Mar. 2013

- Coordination begins on Lighting Plans (Div. of Traffic, BGMU, B&N)

Apr. 2013

- NTP for Statewide ROW Services (HMB)

Aug. 2013

- Geotech drilling for self supporting steel poles

Sep. 2013

- Coordination begins w/ WKU on Landscaping

Dec. 2013

- ROW Clear (only 1 condemnation)

Dec. 2013

- First utility agreement executed

# Project Development Milestones

Jan. 2014

- Utility relocations begin (to clear by May 15)

Mar. 2014

- Final plans submitted (+addendums)

Apr. 25, 2014

- Letting

Apr. 28, 2014

- Contract awarded

May 2, 2014

- Preconstruction Meeting

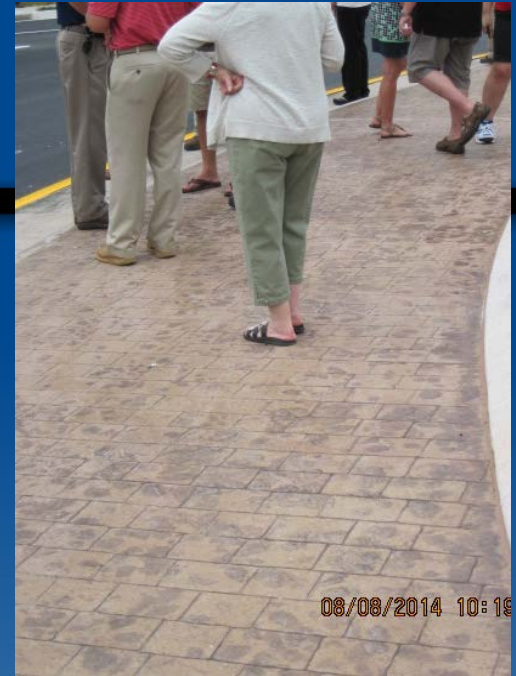
May 4, 2014

- Construction begins

Aug. 8, 2014

- Ribbon Cutting / Open to Traffic (96 days)

# Finished Product



Top Left: Ribbon cutting.  
Top Right: Stamped concrete  
truck apron.  
Bottom Right: WKU Gateway  
Wall in Central Island.

# Time Lapse Video

<http://www.scottyscontracting.com/TimeLapse.wmv>



# Development of Bowling Green's First Roundabout

Thank you

