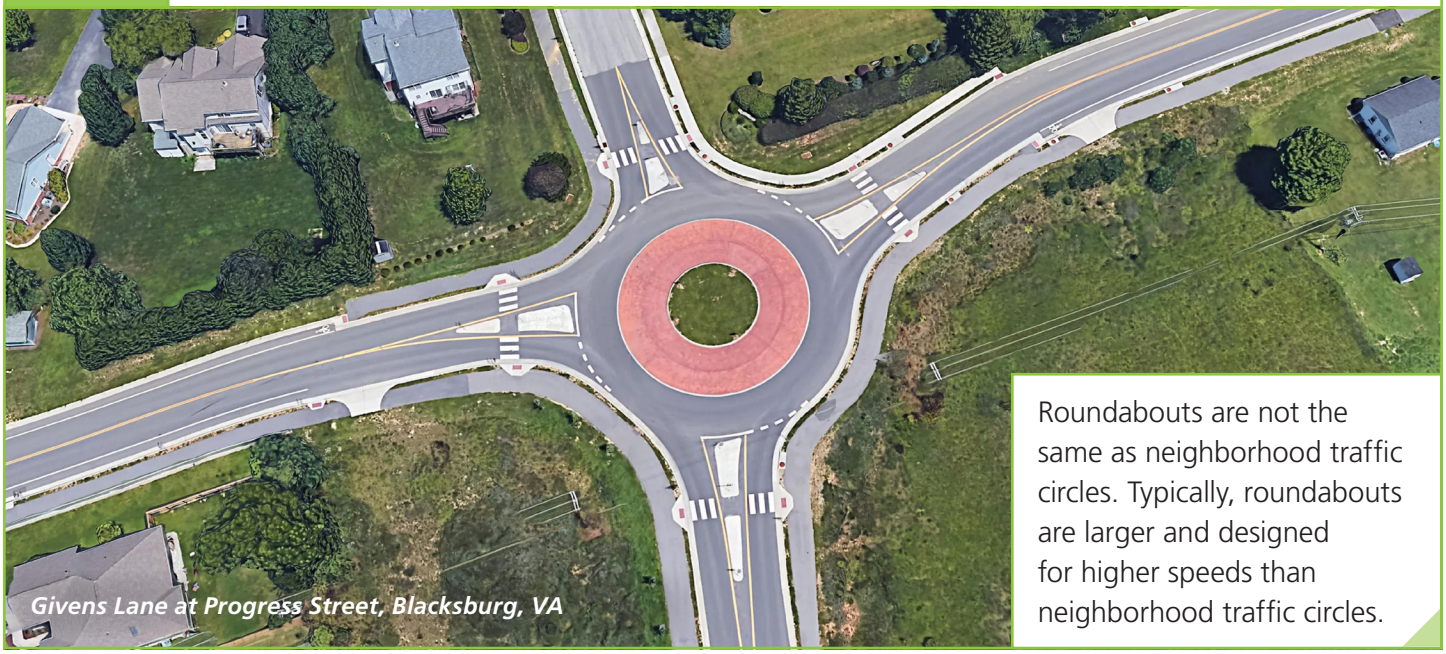
INNOVATIVE INTERSECTIONS

Roundabout



Givens Lane at Progress Street, Blacksburg, VA

Roundabouts are not the same as neighborhood traffic circles. Typically, roundabouts are larger and designed for higher speeds than neighborhood traffic circles.

What is a roundabout?

- A circular unsignalized intersection where all traffic moves in a counterclockwise direction around a central island
- Traffic entering the roundabout slows down and yields to traffic already inside the roundabout
- Roundabouts can be designed with one or more circulating lanes
- Design options allow for right turns to be channelized to bypass the circulating lanes

When should a roundabout be considered?

- At intersections with heavy left-turn traffic or with similar traffic volumes on each leg
- At intersections with crashes involving conflicting through and left-turn vehicles
- At intersections with limited room for storing vehicles
- At intersections where there are limited nearby driveways
- At locations where vehicles from adjacent intersections will not queue into the roundabout

What are the benefits of a roundabout?

- **Improved safety:** Reduces the number of points where vehicles can cross paths and eliminates the potential for right-angle and head-on crashes
- **Increased efficiency:** Yield-controlled design means fewer stops, less delay, and shorter queues for overall improved efficiency
- **Safer Speeds:** Promotes lower vehicle speeds, which gives drivers more time to react
- **Long-term cost effective:** No traffic signal equipment means lower long-term costs for operations and maintenance
- **Aesthetics:** Creates opportunities for landscaping and beautification

What are innovative intersections?

Intersection designs where traffic movements are modified to improve safety, reduce delay, and increase efficiency.

Visit www.virginiadot.org/innovativeintersections to learn more.

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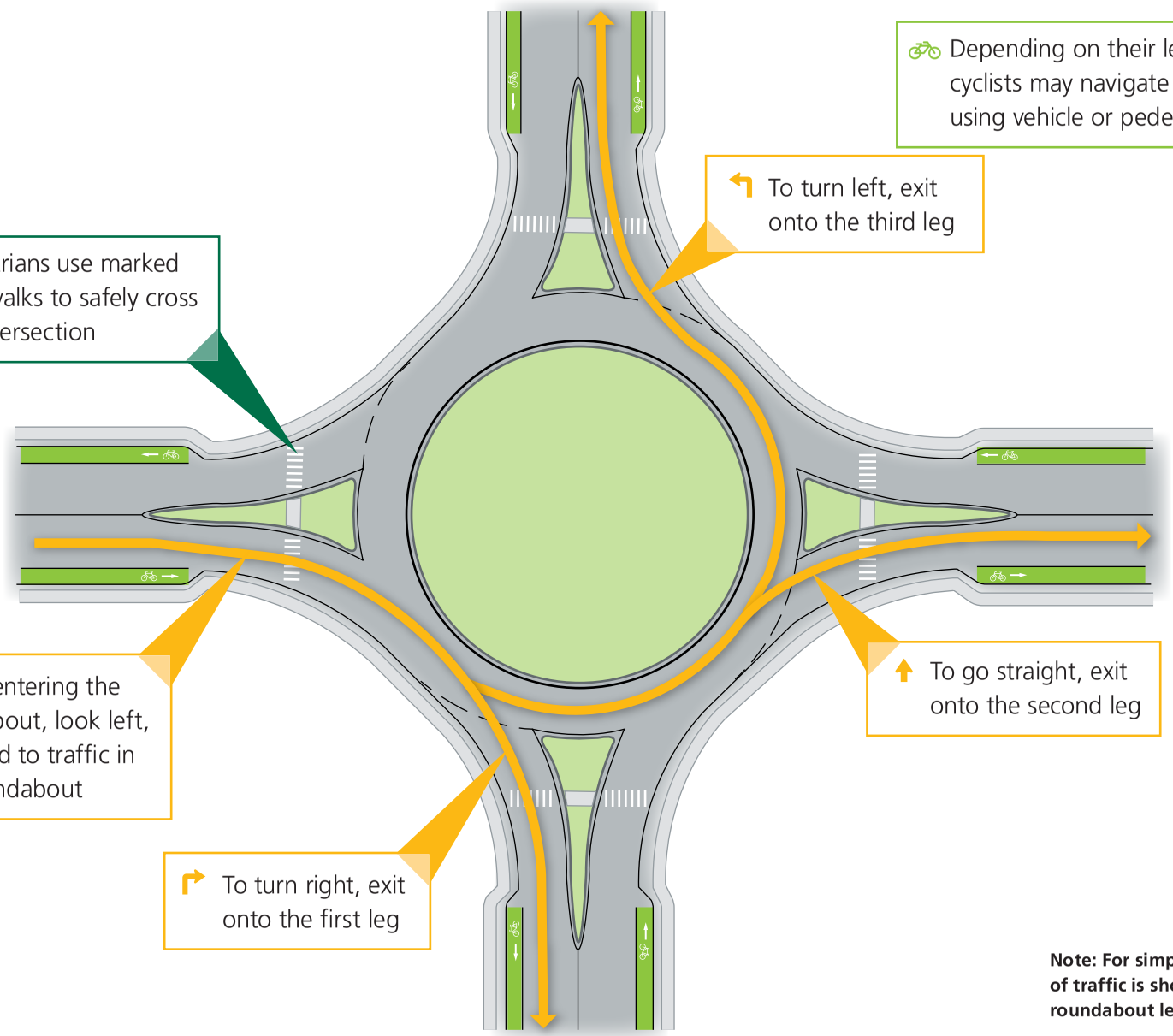
INNOVATIVE INTERSECTIONS

Navigating a Roundabout



NOT TO SCALE

Note: For simplicity, only one direction of traffic is shown. Traffic on other roundabout legs follow similar routes.

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