

56th Roundabouts

KING & CENTRAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Work Resumes on 56th Roundabouts Project at King Avenue Intersection after Temporary Pause

Work on the Montana Department of Transportation's *56th Roundabouts: King and Central* project has resumed after construction crews from Riverside Contracting, Inc. were temporarily diverted to repair efforts on roads and bridges recently damaged by floodwater.

Construction at the intersection of King Avenue and 56th Street West will begin on July 25 with partial closures alternating between each leg of the intersection and a full closure, anticipated to last approximately 30 days, will begin in mid-August.

The new roundabout at the intersection of Central Avenue and 56th Street West is nearly complete and is open to the traveling public. Some minor remaining work to be done on this intersection includes the roadway striping, and grass seeding which will happen this fall.

Traffic control measures are in place at both intersections for the safety of drivers and workers. Please drive cautiously through active work zones, be respectful of closures, and be on the lookout for crew members 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 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

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from the Montana Department of Transportation. Learn more about the goal of Vision Zero here:
<https://www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero/>

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