



Darrell Sapp/PG

Safety of roundabouts touted in new PennDOT study



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In a newly released data report, PennDOT declared roundabouts cause less fatalities and crashes in comparison to intersections.



PennDOT released their department data Monday showing that the 36 roundabouts added into the state's roadway system over three years ago have statistically proven to decrease the number of fatalities, injuries and crashes compared to intersections.



The data showed that when a roundabout was installed, the number of crashes decreased by 9% and suspected serious injuries were reduced by 76%.

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injuries were reduced by 70%.

According to PennDOT, roundabouts are frequently installed to address intersections with safety issues, but may also be installed to improve traffic flow and to facilitate pedestrian mobility.

However, this won't be the end of intersections in Pennsylvania. Yassmin Gramian, the PennDOT secretary, said while roundabouts are safer, they are not suitable for every intersection, due to topography and capacity issues.

“We continue to see that Pennsylvania’s roundabouts save lives and reduce crash severity,” Ms. Gramian said. “While they aren’t the right option in every intersection, we’re pleased that they help to make our roadways safer.”

PennDOT does plan to build more roundabouts with 38 other roundabouts already built on state routes, 16 more under construction and 15 in final design.

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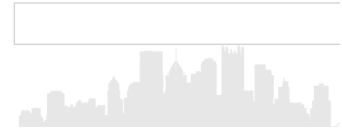
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