



West 70th Street Roundabouts Edina, MN

The primary objective of the West 70th Street project, from France Avenue to York Avenue, was to improve safety for both vehicles and pedestrians in the corridor, while ensuring the satisfactory traffic operations now and in the future. WSB was called upon to prepare a corridor plan which reduced crashes, provided for pedestrian flow in the corridor, maintained access to businesses, and maintained vehicle operation, all in an aesthetically pleasing environment.

The City had two development projects proceeding adjacent to West 70th Street which accelerated the need for the study. The Westin Development, a 21-story, mixed-use (hotel, office, residential) project adjacent to the Galleria, and the new SuperTarget located south of West 70th Street and York Avenue.

West 70th Street was a four-lane, undivided roadway with an Annual Average Daily Traffic of approximately 10,000 vehicles per day. In addition, a crash investigation showed that over the past three years there had been 29 crashes within the corridor translating to a rate of 7.2 crashes per million vehicle miles traveled. This included a pedestrian crash at one of the driveway entrances.

The ultimate result was the construction of three single-lane roundabouts along the corridor between France Ave and York Ave. The roundabouts replaced the uncontrolled major entrances to the retail facilities. These roundabouts give West 70th Street a boulevard type feel providing slower traffic speeds and a shorter crossing for pedestrians, while not degrading the level of service.

The project included:

- Preliminary traffic study
- Feasibility study
- Right of way
- Public and agency involvement
- Detail design
- Construction of roundabout
- Public education

Client: City of Edina

Total project cost: \$1.67 million

Completion: November 2007

Project Awards

2009 ACEC/MN Engineering Excellence Grand Award

2009 MSPE Seven Wonders of Engineering Award

2008 CEAM Municipal Project of the Year

2008 MPWA Project of the Year



The completed 70th Street Roundabout Project provides enhanced safety and capacity for ingress and egress to the commercial properties adjacent to the street. The project also provides multi-modal access for buses, bikes, and pedestrians along the corridor.