

# WHAT TO DO WHEN APPROACHING A TRAFFIC CIRCLE

## VEHICLES

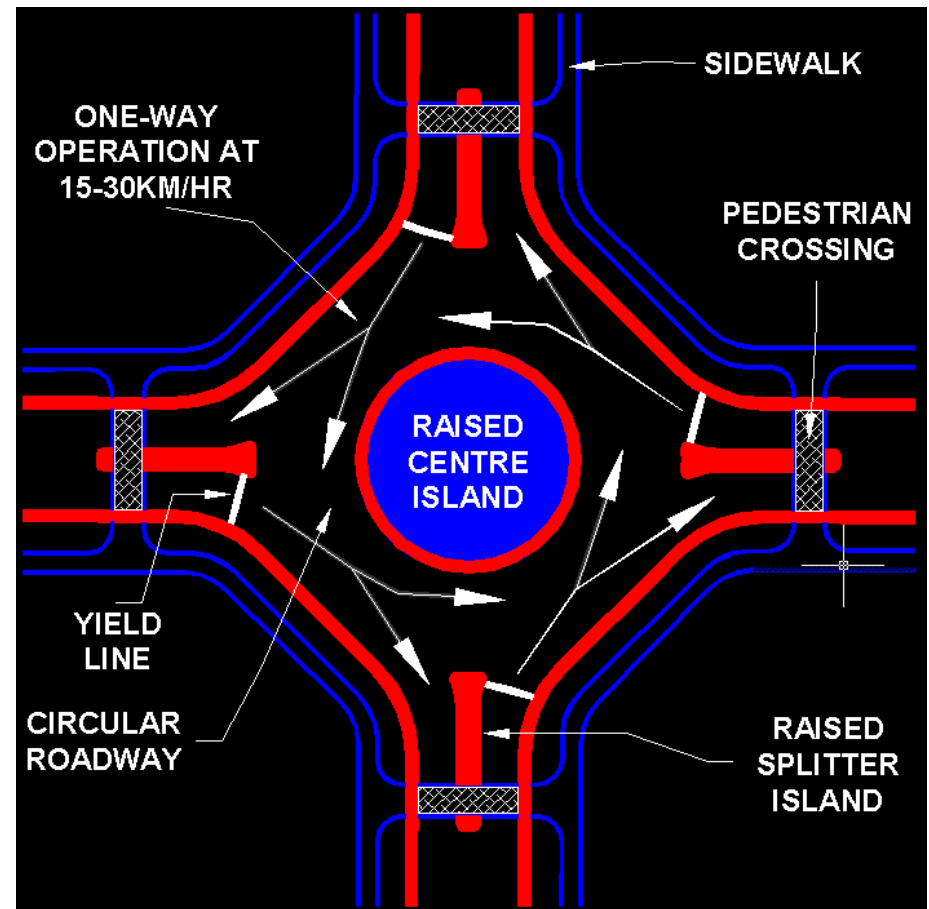
1. Slow Down! Traffic Circles are designed for speeds of 15-30 km/hr.
2. Watch for Pedestrians! Pedestrians cross at the crosswalk before the Traffic Circle.
3. When approaching the Traffic Circle, be prepared to stop and yield the right-of-way to traffic already in the circle.
4. When entering a Traffic Circle, drivers wishing to turn left must travel around the centre island in a counter-clockwise direction and are not to cut in front of the island in a clock-wise direction.
5. When exiting a Traffic Circle, watch for pedestrians crossing the crosswalk.

## PEDESTRIANS

1. When approaching a designated crosswalk area, pedestrians must watch for approaching traffic and yield the right-of-way. Remember, motorists do not need to stop to allow you to cross the road.
2. When opposing traffic is clear, pedestrians can then cross. If a vehicle is approaching in the opposite direction, pedestrians can walk to the splitter island and wait for the traffic to clear.
3. Once traffic is clear, pedestrians can then proceed to the other side.

## CYCLISTS

1. When approaching a Traffic Circle, cyclists must watch for pedestrians and yield to vehicles already in the circular roadway.
2. Once the traffic is clear, cyclists may proceed in a counter-clockwise direction and exit the Traffic Circle watching for pedestrians.



## *Things **NOT** to do at a Traffic Circle*

- When making a left turn, do **NOT** cut in front of the centre island. Drive around the island in a counter-clockwise direction.
- Pedestrians are to cross at the designated crosswalks and **NOT** through the centre island.
- Do **NOT** speed through a Traffic Circle as they are designed for low speeds.

## DEFINITIONS

**Approach:** the portion of a roadway leading into a Traffic Circle.

**Centre Island:** the raised area in the centre of a Traffic Circle around which traffic circulates.

**Circular Roadway:** the portion of the Traffic Circle where vehicles and cyclists travel in a counter clock-wise direction to make their exit.

**Pedestrian Crosswalk:** a marked pedestrian crossing at an intersection.

**Splitter Island:** a raised or painted area on an approach used to separate entering and exiting traffic, deflect and slow entering traffic, and provide a refuge for pedestrians crossing the intersection in two stages.

**Yield Line:** a pavement marking used to mark the point of entry from an approach into the circular roadway and the point where a vehicle must stop to yield for traffic already in the circular roadway.

## SIGNAGE



Indication you are approaching a Traffic Circle



Yield to vehicle in the Circular Roadway



The Circular Roadway is a One Way Street



Watch for Pedestrians at the Crosswalk

## For More Information

Contact the Traffic/Transportation Analyst at 905-727 3123 ext. 4374

or send an email to

[info@aurora.ca](mailto:info@aurora.ca)



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## TOWN OF AURORA TRAFFIC CIRCLES



A Traffic Circle is a raised island located in the centre of an intersection, which requires vehicles to travel through the intersection in a counter-clockwise direction around the island.

The Town of Aurora currently has eleven Traffic Circles.

Traffic Circles are used throughout the United States, Australia, Europe and nearby location locations such as Stoney Creek, Ancaster, Richmond Hill and Toronto.

This guide was created with the intent to educate residents, cyclists and pedestrians about the different parts of a Traffic Circle, as well as how to properly travel through a Traffic Circle.