

UPDATE ON ROUNDABOUT PROJECT
AUGUST 27, 2024

Monmouth County has long been planning to transform the five-point intersection by the Church entrance into a roundabout, and the work is set to begin on or around September 3rd. We have met with the County engineers, project manager, and construction firm to go over the plans for this project, particularly concerning construction phases and time lines, possible road closures, traffic issues, and the like.

Here is what we have so far:

- **The first phase is for storm drainage, and this work is slated to begin soon.** Within a few weeks, it is planned that there will be contractors clearing the trees and brush across the road from the church entrance, as that will be where the bulk of the roundabout will be constructed.
- **While roads and access to the church will remain open, traffic will often be alternating, so please plan for delays into your time line when traveling in this area during the week.**
- Along with this, access to the intersection via Monmouth Avenue will be limited. The overall plans push Monmouth Avenue traffic into Valley Road via a to-be-built access road right before the present intersection. This traffic change will happen relatively early on in this project.
- At some point, the entrance of Hartshorne Road to Navesink Avenue will also be realigned. We will keep you posted as much as possible.
- Most of the roundabout construction will happen in what is now the wooded area across the street. Present roads will remain open, though there may be traffic delays during the week.
- Access to Oakdale Run (the road that runs behind the carriage sheds) will become limited, and at some point, it will be closed for several days. We will keep you informed re: dates.
- **The County's goal is to finish all major work, except for utility work, by the end of the year. The last major construction phase will be opening the roundabout and realigning the traffic pattern.** We will keep you updated along the way.
- At this point, our entrance (which will be an exit off of the roundabout) will be widened. This involves moving one of the stone pillars and part of the wall and rebuilding it. The distance between pillars will go from its present distance of approximately 16 feet to about 21 feet, ideally allowing for two cars to pass through at the same time. This work is being paid for by the County.
- **Utility work will happen after the roundabout is open** and is on the utility company's schedule, and likely will happen over later fall and into the winter. We will keep you as updated as possible.
- Final work, such as plantings, etc. will happen after this.
- The County's goal is to finish everything by early to mid spring at the latest.
- **All of the above is not only weather dependent but also dependent on personnel availability, utility company schedules, etc.** If you've ever done major construction, you know to plan for delays!

Most of, if not all, work will happen during weekdays, so it should not affect access to the church for evenings or weekends. Please, however, build extra travel time into your schedule if planning to be in this area over the next few months. Of course, the church will be sitting adjacent to this construction site, so it will affect the visual appearance of the area.

We thank you in advance for your patience, and will keep you as updated as possible. Please check here for regular updates.