UBC and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, in collaboration with the University Neighbourhoods Association (UNA) are working together on a series of safety improvements to West 16th Avenue between SW Marine Drive and Wesbrook Mall.

Ensuring the safety of the campus community is our first priority, which is why we are improving West 16th Avenue to address safety concerns for pedestrians and cyclists. More information and images of improvements are available at planning.ubc.ca and transportation.ubc.ca.

Have more questions? Contact us!

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Information on the safe use of roundabouts and visuals courtesy of the BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, www.th.gov.bc.ca.

What is a Roundabout?

It’s simple, really.

A roundabout is a circular intersection without stop signs or electronic signals. Traffic flows counter-clockwise around a central island. Roundabouts are growing in popularity across Canada and the US as they have been found to reduce vehicle speeds and virtually eliminate severe collision types such as “t-bone” and head-on collisions. As a result, roundabouts improve safety for all road users — pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.
How do I use the roundabout as a pedestrian?
If you are unfamiliar with roundabouts, they may seem a bit intimidating at first, but don’t worry! Roundabouts are simple and safe for pedestrians to use; just follow these steps when crossing:

1. Approach: Step up to the curb and look left for traffic either entering or exiting the roundabout.
2. Enter: Enter the marked crosswalk and start to cross when you have made eye contact with the driver and you can see that vehicles are slowing to allow you to cross. Cars and cyclists in a roundabout must yield to pedestrians.
3. Cross: Stop in the island between the traffic entering and exiting the roundabout. Step up to the curb and look right for traffic either entering or exiting the roundabout. Enter the marked crosswalk and start to cross when you have made eye contact with the driver and you can see that vehicles are slowing to allow you to cross.
4. Exit: You’ve made it safely across, so keep on walking to your destination!

Tips:
- Just because you see a car doesn’t mean the car can see you. Make eye contact with the driver and watch for vehicles slowing down for you.
- If there are two lanes of traffic in one direction, make eye contact with the drivers in the second lane before leaving the first lane.
- Walk briskly and deliberately, but walk, don’t run across!
- Only cross at marked crosswalks.

How do I use the roundabout as a cyclist?
Commuting on two wheels instead of by foot? No problem! Just dismount and use the crosswalks as you would if you were a pedestrian!

1. Dismount & Approach: When you get to the crosswalk, dismount your bike, step up to the curb and look left for traffic either entering or exiting the roundabout.
2. Enter: Enter the marked crosswalk and start to cross when you have made eye contact with the driver and you can see that vehicles are slowing to allow you to cross. Cars and cyclists in a roundabout must yield to pedestrians.
3. Cross: Stop in the island between the traffic entering and exiting the roundabout. Step up to the curb and look right for traffic either entering or exiting the roundabout. Enter the marked crosswalk and start to cross when you have made eye contact with the driver and you can see that vehicles are slowing to allow you to cross.
4. Exit: You’ve made it safely across. Get on your bike and continue with your trip!

Tips:
- Remember to always signal when changing lanes, turning or stopping.
- Be visible. Have front and back lights and back reflectors.
- Watch for pedestrians.

How do I use the roundabout as a driver?
As a driver, it is important to understand how to safely navigate a roundabout, especially when interacting with pedestrians and cyclists.

1. Approach: Reduce your speed. Watch for road signs that help you find your exit and choose your lane. Watch for pedestrians at the marked crosswalks and be ready to stop.
2. Yield: Always yield to traffic in the roundabout (LOOK LEFT). Make sure you don’t block the pedestrian crosswalk. Wait for a safe gap in the traffic before entering. This is the same procedure used when approaching any yield sign. Remember: those already in the roundabout have the right-of-way.
3. Enter: Enter the roundabout to your right (a counter clockwise direction). Travel at speeds no greater than 30 km/h in the roundabout. Continue counter-clockwise until you reach your exit.
4. Exit: Use your right turn signal before exiting. Watch for pedestrians at the marked crosswalks and be ready to stop.

Tips:
- Never stop in a roundabout unless a traffic condition or pedestrians crossing at an exit point requires you to.
- Do NOT drive over the truck apron, the portion of the centre island that is typically raised and/or coloured, and is only designed for large trucks and emergency vehicles to drive over in order to maneuver through the roundabout.
- Do NOT stop inside the roundabout when approached by an emergency vehicle, but instead, pull over once you exit the roundabout and allow the emergency vehicle to pass.