

# **In Transition: Roundabouts In Greater Vancouver, British Columbia**

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Thank you to:

**Julian Rozental, Insurance Corporation of  
BC and**

**Jerry Froese, BC Ministry of  
Transportation**

# In Transition: Roundabouts In Greater Vancouver, British Columbia

## OUTLINE

- Background
- Roundabout Examples
- Planned / Proposed Roundabouts
- The Future



# Traffic Circles



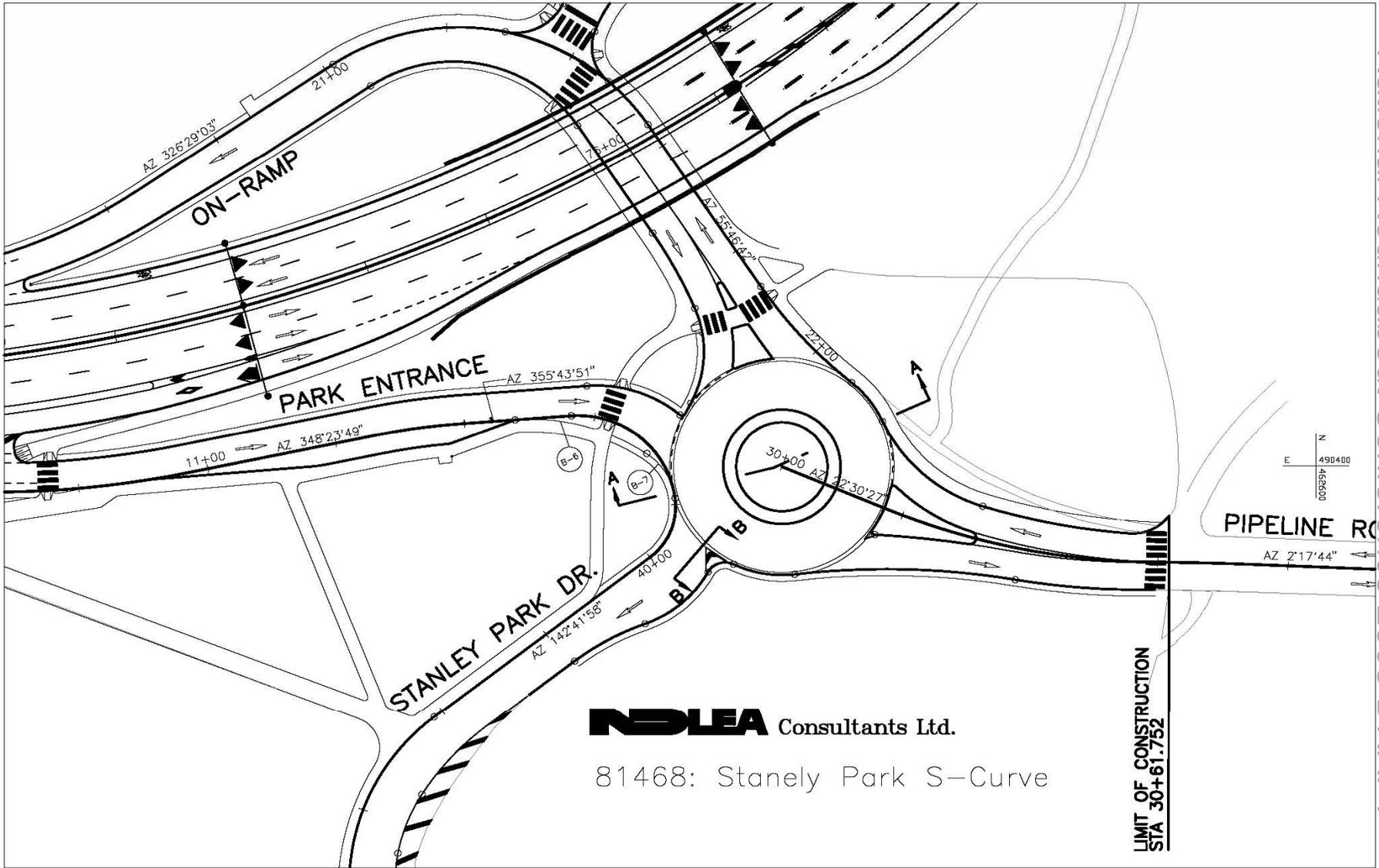
# Additional Background

- Transportation Association of Canada
- New BC Ministry of Transportation Design Guidelines (Draft) and Policies
- Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC) is a major promoter of Roundabouts



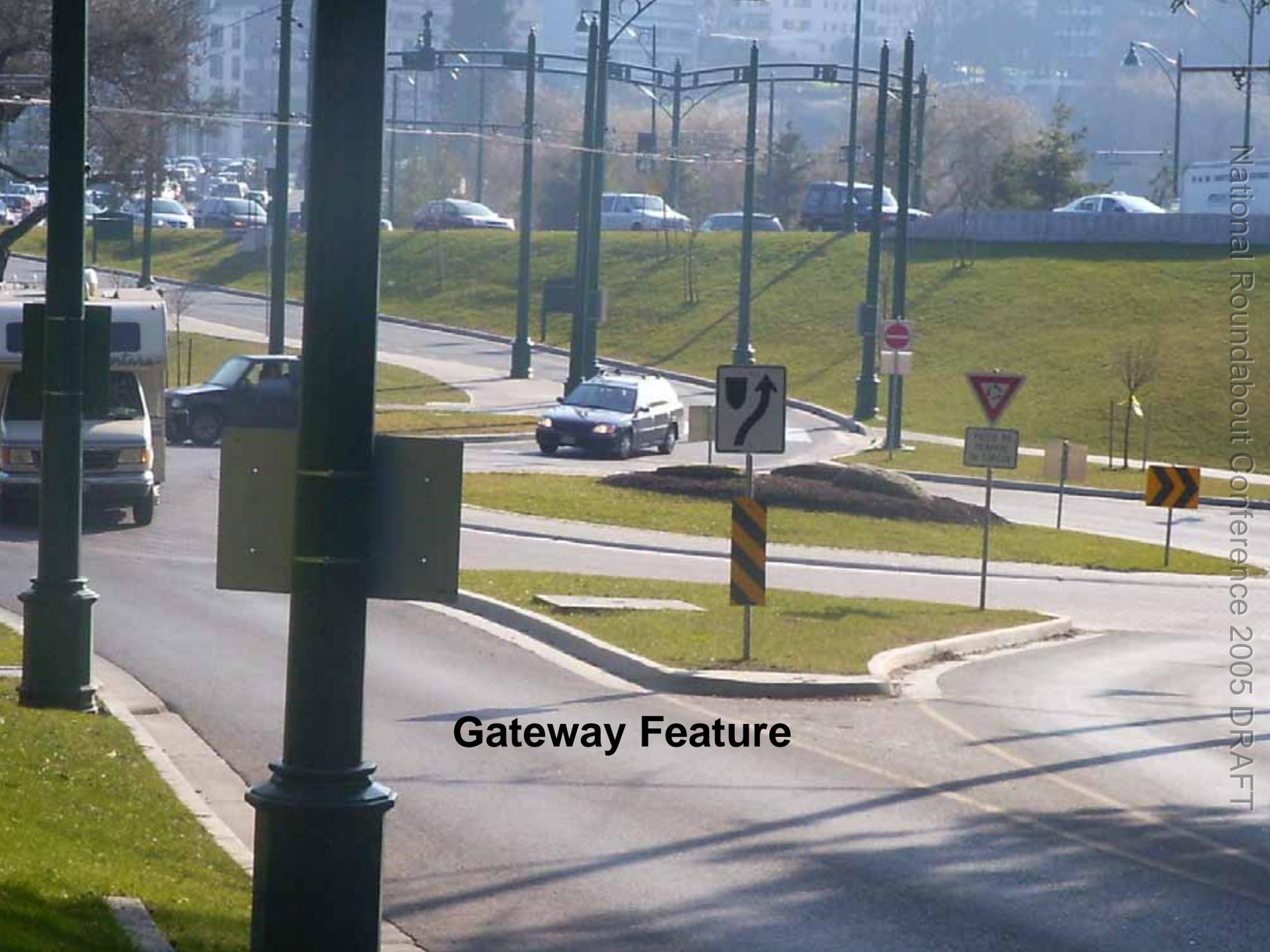
National Roundabout Conference 2005 DRAFT

**Stanley Park  
Vancouver**



**NOLIA** Consultants Ltd.

81468: Stanely Park S-Curve



**Gateway Feature**



# King George Highway / 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Surrey



# New Roundabout Intersection Opens

The Ministry of Transportation in agreement with Transport Canada and ICBC is opening a single-lane roundabout at the intersection of 8th Avenue and King George Highway on September 15, 2004. In the early spring of 2005, a second roundabout will be constructed at the 8th Avenue Interchange in Surrey.

## What is a roundabout?

A roundabout is an intersection having one-way traffic circulation around a central island, where entering traffic must yield the right-of-way to circulating traffic. They are about 30 metres or more in diameter.

Roundabouts can help reduce serious crashes, particularly involving bodily injury, while also lessening vehicle speed, improving pedestrian and bicycle safety and eliminating the need for traffic signals.

## Drivers

These signs will be posted as you approach a roundabout:

Yield signs are posted to indicate that the traffic already inside the roundabout has the right-of-way.



When entering, drivers should:

- Apply the same caution used when approaching any yield sign.
- Be prepared to stop and wait for a sufficient gap in the circulating traffic before entering the roundabout.
- Stop for all pedestrians.



When exiting, you should:

- Signal a right turn in advance of your exit location.
- Yield to pedestrians that may be crossing on the exit lane.

If you encounter an emergency vehicle:

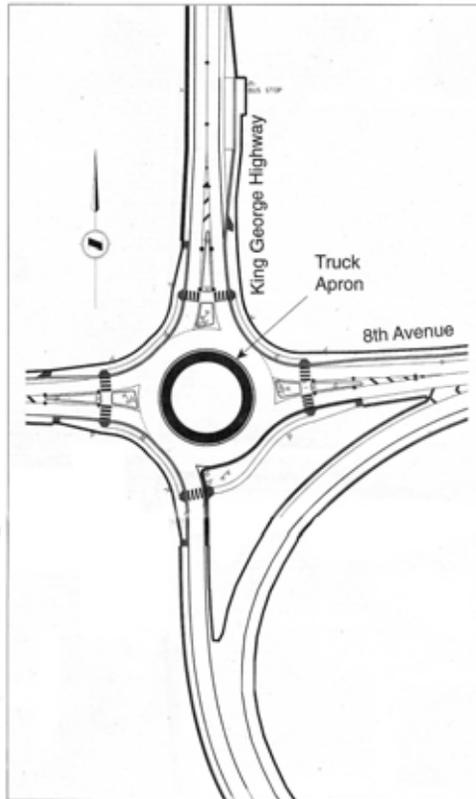
- Drive with caution but do not stop inside the roundabout.
- Once you exit the roundabout, stop and allow the emergency vehicle to pass.

## Pedestrians

At each approach to the roundabout, there is a clearly marked pedestrian crossing. There is a shared pedestrian-cycle path connecting to the crosswalks.

Although vehicles are required to yield for all pedestrians, you should:

- Cross only at these designated crosswalks.
- Use caution at all times.



## Cyclists

Cyclists can use either the shared pedestrian-cycle path or ride inside the roundabout.

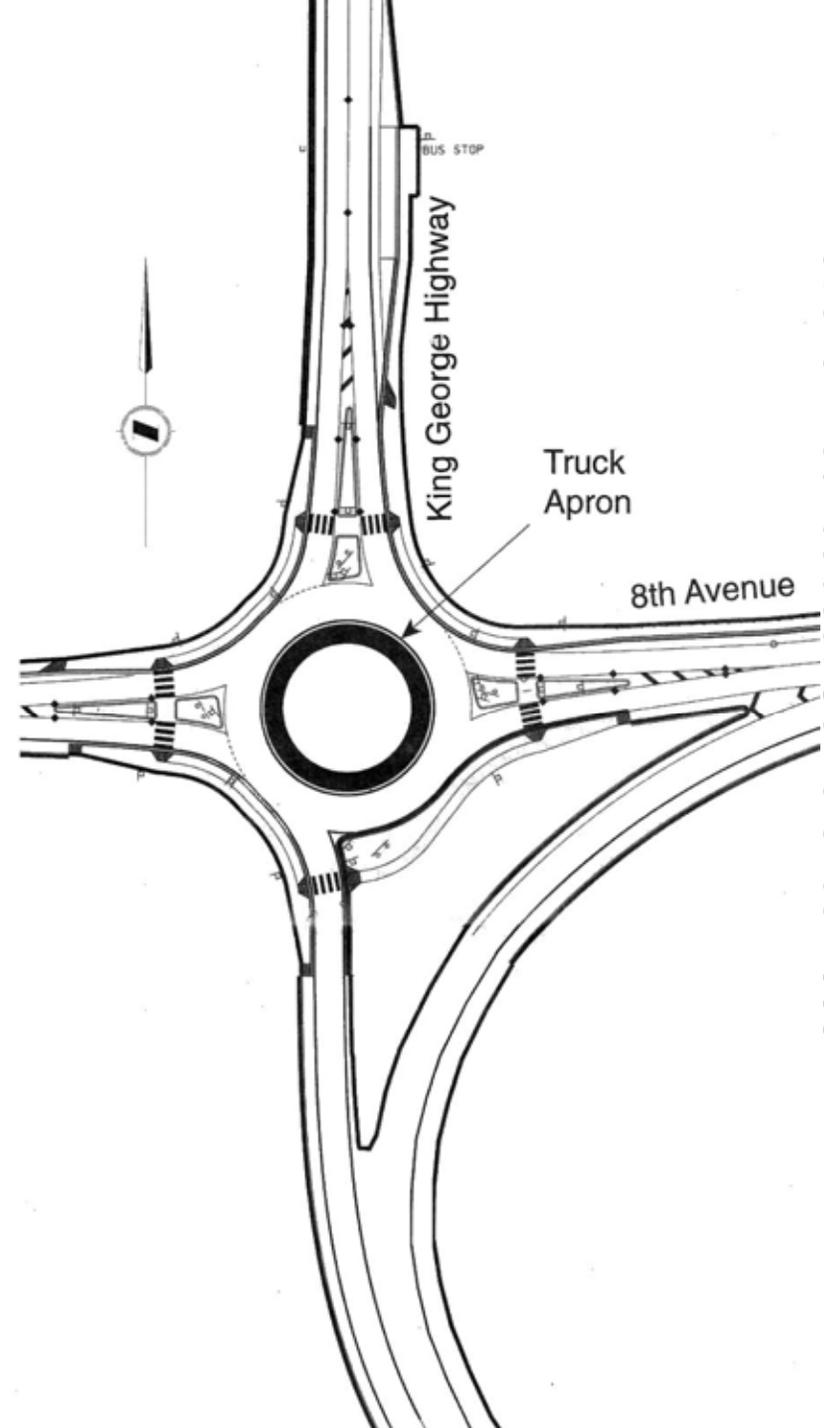
When approaching the roundabout in the bicycle lane:

- You have the option to merge left into the traffic or move onto the shared path.
- If you ride with the traffic, remain centered in the traffic lane.
- As with vehicular traffic, you must wait at the yield line for a sufficient gap in the circulating traffic before entering the roundabout.

## Trucks

There is a "truck apron" provided as an outer mountable portion of the central island of the roundabout. It is designed to allow large and emergency vehicles to manoeuvre around the circulating roadway. No other vehicles should drive in this area.

For driving instructions on how to safely navigate roundabouts, go to [www.icbc.com/Road\\_Safety/](http://www.icbc.com/Road_Safety/)







YIELD TO TRAFFIC  
IN ROUNDABOUT



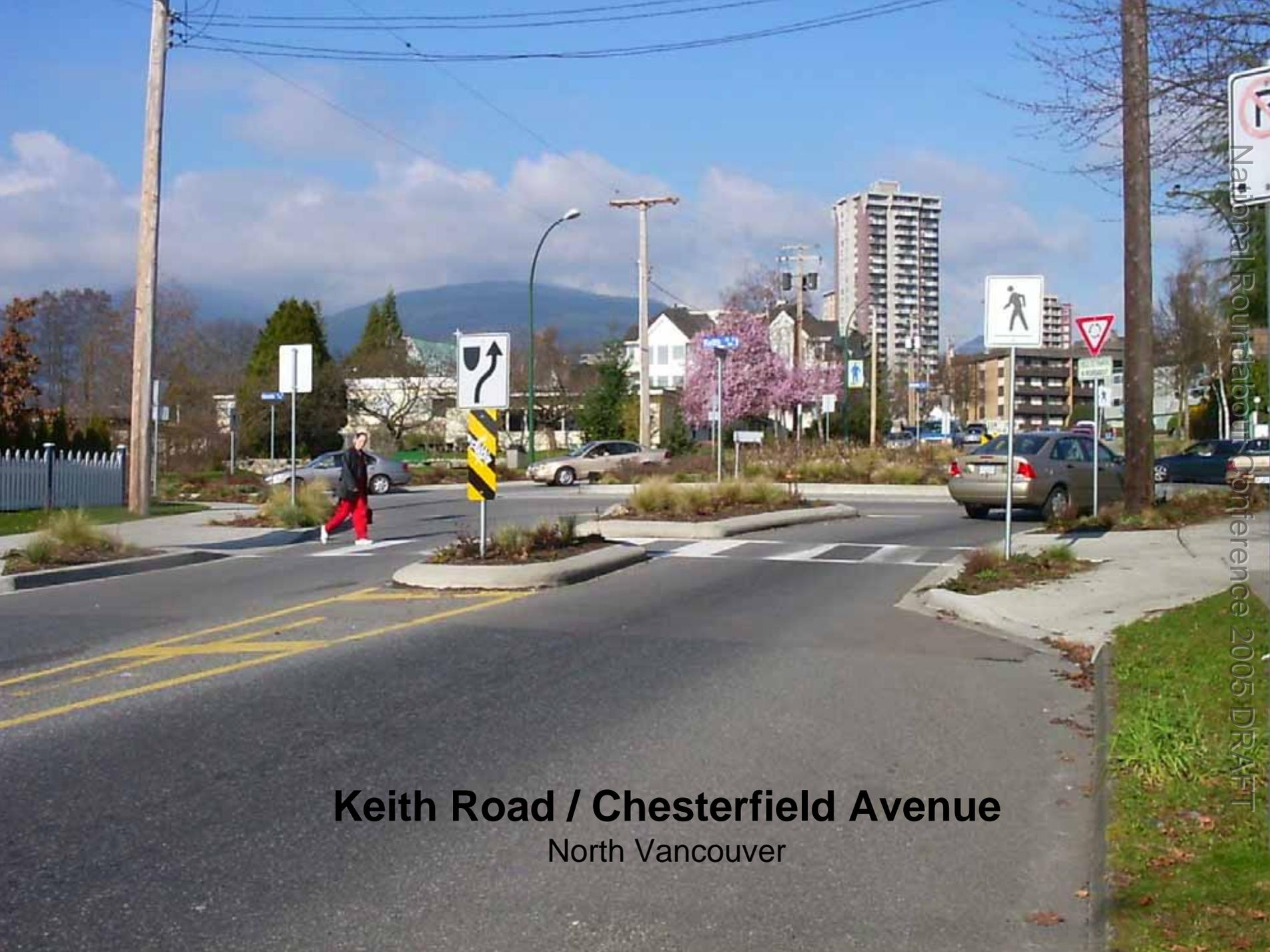


# Marine Drive / Nelson Avenue

Horseshoe Bay, West Vancouver







**Keith Road / Chesterfield Avenue**  
North Vancouver



# Planned Roundabouts

- 2- lane roundabout is planned as part of the interchange at 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue/ King George Highway in Surrey (Delcan)
- ICBC participated in numerous roundabouts planned in Greater Vancouver and BC
- Roundabout interchange is planned at Mount Lehman Road / Highway 1, Abbotsford



# Proposed Roundabouts

- Highway projects in BC are subject to Value Engineering Reviews and Road Safety Audits
- Roundabouts are often proposed to save money and improve safety
- Roundabouts have been proposed solutions as part of highway projects but not always implemented

# Future of Roundabouts in Greater Vancouver

- Positive experiences with existing roundabouts
- ICBC has played a major role
- BC Ministry of Transportation is promoting roundabouts as an alternate to traffic signals