



Looking South

# Acacia Roundabout

Clearwater Beach

City of Clearwater

Looking North



Photos by Ken Sides

Buy in:  
Beach residents and businesses gave the City \$3,000 to encourage construction of this project



A Few of the 50 at the Opening Day Party

# Acacia Roundabout

## Problem

- ❖ The Clearwater Beach Association, which represents both residents and businesses, asked the City of Clearwater to recommend a solution that provided:
    - An attractive **gateway** to demarcate the transition from the tourist (commercial) district to the residential district to the north
    - Safe **U-turns** for tourists to turn back to the tourist district
    - **Traffic calming** to benefit child, elderly and handicapped pedestrians, cyclists and skaters
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- The City Engineering Department recommended a modern roundabout to meet these 3 criteria
  - The Beach Association donated \$3,000 to encourage the City to construct the roundabout
  - On opening day, residents threw a party to celebrate their new intersection. About 50 residents & staff enjoyed hot dogs and sodas.

## Solution

- ✓ Modern roundabout geometrics
  - Horizontal deflection controls entering, circulating and exit speed
  - 2° negative superelevation controls circulating speed
  - 75% fewer car/car conflicts
  - 2/3 fewer car/ped conflicts
- ✓ Landscaping in central island
  - Terminated vista lowers approach speeds
  - Vertical element (trees) extends traffic calming effect 1-2 blocks
- ✓ 6500-8500 vpd on N-S street (varies seasonally); much less on E-W street. LOS=A
- ✓ Ped/bike/elder/child/disabled-friendly
  - Typical speeds at ped crossings 14-16 mph
  - Typical circulating speeds 12-14 mph
  - Attractive crosswalks tie into sidewalk system
  - Sidewalks buffered with grass, trees and lamp posts
  - Splitter islands are comfortable ped refuges
  - Short distance/duration ped crossings: 1 lane only
  - Peds cross only one direction of traffic at a time
  - LOS=A for non-motorized traffic
- ✓ Accommodates WB-50 U-turns
  - Truck apron
  - 106' from outer curb to outer curb
- ✓ Simple driver decisions – the only rule is *entering vehicles yield to circulating traffic*