



CITY OF BALDWIN PARK

Press Release

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Baldwin Park Demonstration Modern Roundabout Aims to Promote Safer Streets, Healthier Residents and Efficient Movement

BALDWIN PARK, CA - The “Reimagine Olive/Maine” demonstration roundabout this week will be the newest addition to the street network in the city of Baldwin Park. The City’s Public Works Department started one week of construction on the temporary, street safety project on July 5 at the intersection of Maine Avenue and Olive Street.

The Baldwin Park City Council will hold a demonstration event at that intersection on Saturday, July 15 starting at 9 a.m. to present the street improvements to the community and the media. The demonstration will include remarks by Mayor Emmanuel J. Estrada and Councilmember Alejandra Avila, as well as numerous vehicles passing through the modern roundabout.

“As a City, we must strive to make our city streets safe places for all people who use them, whether they’re walking, rolling, cycling or driving,” said Baldwin Park Mayor Emmanuel J. Estrada. “I’m excited for the community to engage with this roundabout at one of our busiest intersections to better understand the impact it may have on street safety and mobility.”

The City secured \$45,000 in grant funding for this roundabout through the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments’ slow streets program, which seeks to encourage sustainable modes of transportation and provide an opportunity for civic engagement that can foster the development of the City’s multimodal policies. The City will also partner with ActiveSGV and Metro to implement the project.

The installation of the temporary roundabout was completed Wednesday, July 12. The area will also be closed during the demonstration event on Saturday, July 15 between 7:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Before the modern roundabout, traffic signals—one of the traditional methods of intersection traffic control in the United States—regulate movement through the intersection of Maine Avenue and Olive Street. Following the completion of the roundabout demonstration period, the City will review community feedback and other data collected during the project to determine whether to make the roundabout a permanent fixture. Residents can provide feedback through [this online survey](#).

Roundabouts are known for their ability to enhance traffic flow compared to traffic signals. Their circular design eliminates the need for traffic signals, allowing vehicles to efficiently merge into circulating traffic and continuously flow without the interruption caused by signal phasing. This results in reduced travel

times, improved fuel efficiency, decreased traffic congestion and reduced dangerous behaviors by drivers, such as running red lights or stop signs.

Roundabouts have been shown to reduce injury crashes by 75 percent and fatality crashes by 90 percent at intersections where stop signs or signals were previously used for traffic control, according to the Federal Highway Administration. Roundabouts also reduce the severity of crashes that do occur because they are designed to reduce the speed of vehicles. Roundabouts are especially effective during peak traffic hours when congestion is a concern.

Roundabouts also generate health benefits through the reduced pollution and traffic noise resulting from slower speeds and eliminating the wait for a traffic light to change. Without traffic lights, residents will save on the around-the-clock cost of powering traffic signals and the periodic cost of maintaining them. Residents also don't have to worry about traffic signals at this intersection failing during a disaster, ensuring smooth traffic flow around a landscaped roundabout even during an emergency.

Coffee and pastries will be available for all demonstration attendees. To learn more about the roundabout demonstration project, [read the City's staff report](#). Residents who would like to provide input on the project may do so using [this online survey](#).

About the City of Baldwin Park

Baldwin Park is a nearly seven-square-mile, suburban community of 72,000 residents in the heart of the San Gabriel Valley. As the hub of the San Gabriel Valley, Baldwin Park is known for its ease of access and mobility, young and diverse residents, and vibrant, growing business community. For more information, visit baldwinpark.com or follow Baldwin Park on Facebook (@BaldwinParkCAGov), Instagram (BaldwinPark_CAGov), and Twitter (BaldwinParkCA_)

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