Leadership by Example, Canyon County

Co-Winners: Canyon Highway District No. 4, City of Middleton, Middleton School

District

Project: Emmett Road Dual Roundabouts

Description:

When concern was expressed for traffic safety at the Emmett Road and Willis Road intersection with the construction of the new Middleton High School, the Middleton School District suggested a roundabout. The city and highway district agreed with the roundabout concept and the city adjusted their requirements to provide a workable approach. This solution addressed intersection safety for vehicles and pedestrians, provided a means of accessing the new high school, and calmed traffic along the road.

As the project developed, the highway district decided to pursue dual-lane roundabouts. This was driven by the need to provide large enough roundabouts to accommodate the large trucks and equipment that use rural roads and the need to provide for future growth. The school district was supportive and willing to partner with the highway district to make this happen, even though the school district had the most to lose if the project was not completed on time.

Working together toward the common goal of providing the best solution for the community, the Middleton School District, Canyon Highway District No. 4, and the City of Middleton were able to overcome the many challenges presented by implementing a relatively new traffic control approach, working with multiple project owners and jurisdictions, relocating irrigation and utility infrastructure, acquiring right-of-way, and working under a tight timeline.