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## **Media Release**

### **State Route 341 – Veterans Parkway Roundabout and Traffic Safety Reminders**

One of northern Nevada's newest roundabouts was recently constructed on State Route 341 and Veterans Parkway in southeast Reno. Additionally, our agency received several phone calls from motorists who were unsure of how traffic was supposed to flow at that particular intersection. To help educate those unfamiliar with roundabouts in general, the following paragraph explains how motorists should navigate their vehicles when roundabouts are encountered.

Vehicles entering a roundabout negotiate a curve sharp enough to slow speeds to about 15-20 mph. Within the roundabout and as vehicles exit, slow speeds are maintained by the deflection of traffic around the center island and the relatively tight radius of the roundabout and exit lanes. Slow speeds aid in the smooth movement of vehicles into, around, and out of a roundabout. Drivers approaching a roundabout must reduce their speeds, look for potential conflicts with vehicles already in the circle, and be prepared to stop for pedestrians and bicyclists. Once in the roundabout, drivers proceed to the appropriate exit, following the guidance provided by traffic signs and pavement markings.

By their design, roundabouts allow traffic to keep moving at slow speeds thus in turn reducing the probability and frequency of crashes often seen at conventional intersection where 2 roadways meet. In an effort to help guide motorists unfamiliar with roundabouts, the following safety tips should help eliminate the confusion and unfamiliarity of such intersections:

- Reduce your vehicle's speed as directed by the signs posted prior to entering the roundabout
- All traffic in the roundabout flows in a counter-clockwise direction
- Vehicles in the roundabout always have the right-of-way and traffic entering the traffic circle must yield
- Be prepared to stop for bicyclists and pedestrians utilizing the roundabout
- Be attentive when making lane changes in the multiple-lane roundabouts

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