

Award Winning!



After



Before

Summer 2006 • No. 1

In February, the Unionville roundabout won the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers Southeast PA Region's Notable Engineering Achievement Award for the project engineer Traffic Planning and Design, Inc. Then, in late April East Marlborough Township received the top award in the 24th Annual Road and Bridge Safety

Improvement category from the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS). The PSATS awards program, done in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Highway Information Association and PennDOT, recognizes townships for their contributions in making roads and bridges safer.



Local Roundabout Operates Like Clockwork

East Marlborough's roundabout on Route 82 - only the second in Pennsylvania - functions "like clockwork" according to township manager, Jane Laslo. Plans for a traffic light were underway when the township grew concerned that a signal would exacerbate morning backups and alter the historic community character.

S.A.V.E.'s outreach program on roundabouts influenced the Township leaders who directed their engineers to explore a roundabout as an alternative.

The proposed Unionville roundabout had its early detractors, based largely on unfamiliarity and confusion with traffic circles. "It was a bold and courageous move to go forward," Laslo says, and the roundabout has been a "resounding success" with reduced congestion, enhanced safety, and maintenance cost savings. "There was a bit of a learning curve," Laslo says, "but it turned out to be a win-win prospect for the township and its motorists."

S.A.V.E. has integrated roundabouts in the proposed PA41 Two Lane Alternative, and has promoted their use in other locations in the County, because roundabouts vastly improve safety, enhance capacity, reduce impact on the environment, reduce right-of-way impacts, improve fuel economy and air quality, and they provide an aesthetic focal point on the highway. Roundabouts reduce congestion where it occurs - at the intersections - instead of unnecessarily widening a whole highway. With rising gas prices and poor air

quality, roundabouts make even more sense by virtually eliminating idling time common at



Excerpts from the May 2006 PSATS Township News. See more at <http://www.psats.org/0506news.html>.

For more on roundabouts, traffic calming and other S.A.V.E. initiatives, see www.save41.org.

traffic signals and thus reduce fuel consumption and emissions.

In other signs that S.A.V.E.'s message is having an impact, PennDOT hired the nationally recognized Kittelson engineering firm to provide training and guidance on roundabout projects proposed across the Commonwealth and run a round-

about workshop for PennDOT District 6-0 here in Chester County. PennDOT and the DVRPC are partnering to initiate a roundabout pilot program in the region in Fall 2006. East Marlborough led the way for Chester County and the Commonwealth with their award-winning installation. Not far behind are Pocopson, London Grove and Londonderry Townships who are proposing roundabouts in a wide variety of locations.

"Because of S.A.V.E.'s outreach efforts, Chester County is leading the way in Pennsylvania for instituting the coming wave of modern roundabouts."

*—Kevin Johnson,
Traffic Planning & Design, Inc.*

**S.A.V.E. THE DATE
FOR THE 4TH ANNUAL
SHINDIG @ SPRINGDELL
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14TH**



For a sneak preview, check out
www.save41.org/calendar/index.htm

S.A.V.E.

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