Town Hall for Installation of Roundabout at Lakeshore Drive East and 106th Street (February 24, 2026)

Board Member Attendance

President	Mike Simmons	P	**Activities**	John Buckingham & Sherri Zimmer	P/P
Vice President	Jason Minor	A	**Grounds**	Neil Metzger	A
Treasurer	David O'Halloran	A	**Membership**	Gina Mencias	P
Secretary	Sara Cummins	P	**Pool**	Nick Oreshan	A
Clubhouse	Jeff Bugher	A	**Tennis**	Catherine Taylor	P

Summary of the HOA Town Hall

Topic: Proposed roundabout at **Lakeshore Drive East and 106th Street**, City of Carmel

Purpose of meeting: City of Carmel council members and engineering staff met with the HOA to explain the proposed roundabout project, address neighborhood concerns, and answer questions.

Who attended from the City?

- **Adam Aasen** – City Council Member (6 years on council)
- **Jared Huff** – City Staff Engineer
- **Neil Van Treese** – City Staff Engineer
- **Joshua Kirsch** – Engineering Administrator/Utility Coordinator (offered to take calls via City Hall)

Community Member Attendance

- Approximately **70-80** community members

Background and Project Overview

- The proposed roundabout has been discussed for **many years** and was previously **paused due to neighborhood feedback**.
- Per the city engineering team, the intersection currently uses a **stop sign configuration that does not meet federal standards**, with an estimated **12% compliance rate**.
- The neighborhood spans **both north and south of 106th Street**, and residents are concerned the roundabout could further divide it.
- The City emphasized they are trying to **address safety proactively**, rather than waiting for a serious injury or fatality.

Design Details of the Proposed Roundabout

- The roundabout would be:
    - **Smaller than** the one at **116th Street & Gray Road**
    - **Similar in design** to **126th Street & Kinser Road** (near Gramercy Apartments)
- Key safety features:
    - **Raised pedestrian crosswalks**
    - **Flashing pedestrian beacons**
    - Designed to slow vehicle speeds to about **23 mph**
- The design uses a **modern tangential roundabout** (not older symmetrical "Dutch" designs), which better controls entry speeds.

Construction and Property Impacts

- **Construction duration:** Approximately **90 days** (typical for a roundabout).
- **Cost:** Not finalized; early estimate is **around $2 million**, pending final design and bids.
- **Property impacts:**
    - The City purchased some homes near the intersection **because they were already for sale**.
    - The City expects to take **some yard space**, but **no houses will be demolished**.
    - Homes will be **resold after construction**.

Traffic and Safety Discussion

City's Position (Benefits of the Roundabout)

The Engineering Administrator/Utility Coordinator presented the city's perspective on roundabouts vs. stop signs.

- **Safety improvements:**
    - **~85% reduction** in personal-injury accidents
    - **90–95% reduction** in fatal crashes
    - If a pedestrian is hit at **20 mph or less**, survival rates exceed **90%**
- **Traffic efficiency:**
    - Fewer severe accidents and lower accident costs (typically under $2,000)
    - Reduced idling saves approximately **5,000 gallons of fuel per roundabout per year**
- **Traffic growth context:**
    - Some increase in traffic on 106th Street is attributed to **population growth** and **development in Fishers**
    - The City does **not expect 106th Street to become a major east–west thoroughfare**, since it remains a **single-lane road**
    - A bridge crossing the river at 106th street is **NOT planned**. There is now a pedestrian crossing bridge.

Neighborhood Concerns Raised

Residents raised a wide range of concerns, including:

- **Pedestrian safety**, especially for runners and walkers
- **Construction duration and detours**, with a specific request **not to route detours toward 116th Street**
- **School traffic** during drop-off and pick-up times
- **Cut-through traffic** and whether drivers might avoid busier roads like 116th
- **East–west traffic flow** and difficulty backing out of driveways on 106th during peak hours
- **Truck speeds**, particularly from quarry traffic
- **Bus navigation** through the roundabout
- **Bike safety and difficulty navigating**, especially crossing angles at the raised crosswalks
- **Future development**, including possible condominium growth
- **Skepticism and trust**, with some residents citing past assurances that traffic would not increase (e.g., quarry traffic discussions from ~15 years ago)
- **Concern that the roundabout may prioritize business traffic flow** (e.g., quarry operations) rather than neighborhood safety
- **Concern the 3-way stop at 106th and Haverstick** would be removed.

Several residents shared **personal safety experiences**, including near-misses with vehicles while walking or running at the intersection.

City Responses to Key Concerns

- **Traffic backing out of driveways:**
  The City acknowledged it could be **slightly more difficult during peak times**, but cited **126th & Kinser** as a comparable location where no complaints have been reported.
- **Neighborhood division:**
  A question was asked whether Carmel had previously split neighborhoods with similar projects; City staff could not answer definitively on the spot.
- **Cut-through traffic:**
  The City does not anticipate significant diversion from 116th Street due to road configuration.

- **Sidewalks:**
  Priority is being given to **installing sidewalks where none exist first**, with longer-term plans to improve sidewalk functionality where needed.

Follow-Ups, Open Items, and Next Steps

City Follow-Ups / Open Items

- Finalize **design details**, **construction timeline**, and **bid costs**
- Confirm **detour routing**, particularly avoiding 116th Street during construction
- Continue evaluating **pedestrian, bicycle, and truck safety** features
- Remain available for resident questions (Joshua Kirsch (jkirsh@carmel.in.gov) via City Hall; Engineering via Brad Pease (engineering@carmel.in.gov))

HOA / Community Follow-Ups

- HOA will establish a committee to address resident concerns with the City Engineering team
- Residents may:
  - Submit **additional questions or concerns** to the City Engineering team
  - Request more precise documentation on **traffic projections**, especially related to quarry and future development
  - Ask for **construction-phase communication plans** (detours, timing, school traffic mitigation)
- The HOA Board will:

The President of the HOA took an action item to establish a Committee in accordance with the neighborhood bylaws. The planned purpose of this committee will be to gather information, solicit homeowner input, and provide organized, fact-based feedback to the Board and the City.

Bottom Line

The City of Carmel promoted the roundabout as a safety-focused project with strong data showing fewer injuries and deaths. Although the City believes traffic impacts will be manageable, many residents still worry about neighborhood character, truck traffic, trust issues stemming from past experiences, and daily livability during and after construction. No final decisions or schedules were confirmed at this meeting.

Townhall Priority Follow-Up Questions

Proposed Roundabout: Lakeshore Drive East & 106th Street

Top Priority: Safety & Need

1. What **specific safety data** (crashes, near-misses, pedestrian incidents) support the need for a roundabout at this intersection now?
2. Can the City share **before-and-after safety results** from comparable roundabouts (e.g., 126th & Kinser), including **pedestrian and cyclist outcomes**?
3. How will **truck speeds**, particularly quarry trucks, be controlled and enforced through the roundabout?

Traffic Impacts & Neighborhood Effects

1. What are the **current and projected traffic volumes** on 106th Street (E/W and N/S), and what assumptions were used?
2. Has the City modeled potential **cut-through traffic** from 116th Street or Keystone, especially during peak hours?
3. How will the City **monitor traffic changes post-construction**, and what actions would be taken if volumes or speeds exceed expectations?

Pedestrian, Runner, and Bike Safety

1. Can the City provide **design drawings or simulations** showing pedestrian, runner, and cyclist movements through the raised crosswalks?
2. How does the design address **bike safety and approach angles**, particularly at crosswalks?
3. Will pedestrian beacons be **high-visibility and usable at night and in poor weather**, and will they be automatic or push-button?

Daily Living Impacts

1. What analysis has been done regarding **residents backing out of driveways** on 106th Street during peak E/W traffic?
2. If driveway access becomes problematic, what **mitigation options** would the City consider after installation?

Construction & Detours

1. Can the City confirm the **construction phasing and access impacts**, and whether the ~90-day timeline involves full or partial closures?
2. What detour routes are planned, and can the City **commit to avoiding detours toward 116th Street**?

3. How will residents receive **timely construction updates** (detours, schedule changes, school traffic coordination)?

Cost, Alternatives, and Accountability

1. What **alternatives** were evaluated (signals, enhanced enforcement, flashing stop signs), and why were they not selected?
2. If final bids exceed the ~$2M estimate, what is the City's **threshold to revisit the project**?
3. What are the **next decision milestones**, how can HOA input be formally recorded, and who is the **single point of contact** from now ongoing forward