

**Project Location**

Golden, CO

Client

City of Golden
911 Tenth Avenue
Golden, CO 80401

References

Steve Glueck, Planning Director—303-384-8095
Dan Hartman, Public Works Director—303-384-8150

Project Manager

Alex J. Ariniello, P.E., PTOE

Time Frame

1996—1998

Description

South Golden Road between Ulysses Street and Johnson Road in Golden was an 84-foot wide arterial with dozens of driveways producing numerous vehicle and pedestrian conflict points within a short one-mile segment of city street. Several fast-food restaurants, two shopping centers, a post office, animal hospital, gas/ convenience store, and several free-standing businesses generate a large amount of traffic with almost non-existent access control. The City of Golden desired to reduce vehicle/vehicle and vehicle/pedestrian conflicts, to reduce speeding and to improve the overall aesthetics of the area through reconstruction of the street, access control and streetscape improvements.

LSC served on the urban design team retained by the City of Golden to develop a street reconstruction and access control plan. In 1996, LSC conducted turning movement counts at every access point and developed turning movement projections for various access control strategies. A preliminary access control plan was also developed.

In 1998, as a result of a shopping center proposal in the area, LSC developed three additional access control plans to accommodate the center, improve traffic flow and reduce vehicle conflicts. Two of these plans involved roundabouts at several locations. LSC analyzed the capacity and Level of Service of the roundabouts in comparison with signalized intersections.

The City chose the roundabout concept due to its aesthetic design and traffic calming characteristics. LSC assisted the City in presenting the roundabout concept and access control plan to the business community. The first roundabout was constructed in late 1998 at the Ulysses/South Golden Road intersection, where a traffic signal was removed and a fourth leg added to the intersection. Delays were significantly reduced when this roundabout opened. LSC developed the conceptual design of the roundabout and assisted the firm of TST, Inc. with preparation of construction drawings.

LSC has prepared the conceptual design of three more roundabouts to complete the South Golden Road project. These roundabouts were constructed in 1999. An interesting result of this project is that average speeds have decreased along the corridor, but travel times have gone down due to reduced delay at the intersections. In addition, accidents along the corridor have been reduced slightly, with injury accidents reduced substantially.

