

# JENSEN BEACH ROUNDABOUT

Jensen Beach, Florida



TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
INDIAN RIVER - ST. LUCIE - MARTIN - PALM BEACH

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# JENSEN BEACH ROUNDABOUTS AND PUBLIC ART WORKSHOP

## Jensen Beach Roundabouts Design

The main ideas were developed during a design workshop held on February 23, 2002. The workshop, an effort of Martin County and the Jensen Beach NAC, was held at the Civic Center in downtown Jensen Beach. This workshop brought together residents, property and business owners, County elected officials and staff and the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council's design team. This interaction was the basis to review short and long-term goals, absorb suggestions and recommendations, and represent all of the parties' plans and ideas. Above all, it was an effort to achieve physical unity and beauty within the community, by addressing the design of the roundabouts.

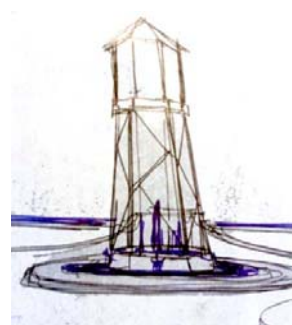




*Residents and elected officials designing the features that will complete the two roundabouts in Jensen Beach.*



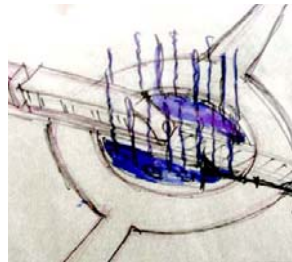
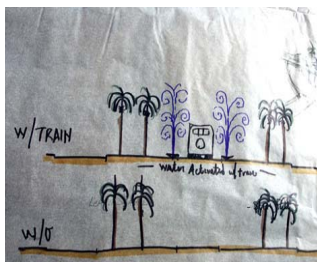
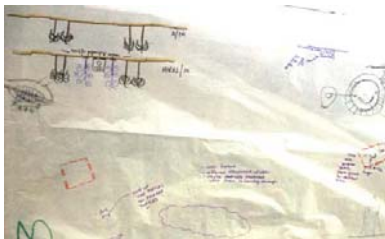
*Residents presenting their team's ideas to the community.*



During the workshop, the citizens expressed numerous ideas regarding the elements to be incorporated to the roundabouts and the surroundings areas.

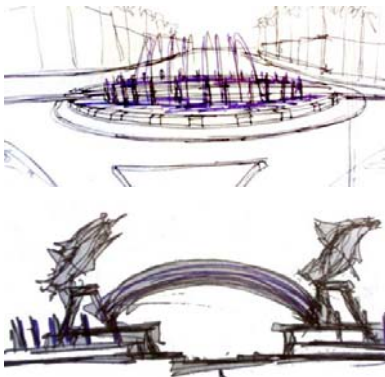
General requests:

- Name the roundabouts
- Establish a general theme throughout the town depicting life in Jensen Beach. The different elements proposed for themes were: fishermen statues, pineapples, water, and past and present personalities that contributed to the community.
- Attach sculptures of pineapples or other relevant themes to light poles.



Requests Specific to the Causeway Roundabout:

- Build Arches along Indian River Drive, North of the Causeway announcing arrival to Jensen Beach
- Build entry feature along causeway to announce arrival
- Erect a water tower or tower element surrounded by a pineapple field in the center of the roundabout
- Place benches w/sitting sculptures of historic personalities that influenced or contributed to Jensen Beach, on all four corners surrounding the roundabout
- Incorporate translucent pineapples or grass leaves on corners of blocks around roundabout.



Requests specific to the Jensen Beach Blvd. Roundabout:

- Create a general water theme
- Include Water motion and water fountains
- Reference dolphins, snooks, mackeral, sharks and other fish in the area.
- Incorporate pineapples, and light at night, around a fountain.
- Feature water shooting up creating a wall of water that is activated when train approaches.
- Add statues of dolphins "swimming" under tracks, or sailfish jumping over them.
- Create a translucent, water enhanced wall along tracks.
- Connect both sides of the roundabout at a pedestrian level by adding sidewalks and clearly defined pedestrian crossings.



**Existing Condition**

- Scarce landscaping due to lack of irrigation
- Palm trees planted following no apparent order or pattern
- Landscaping underscaled in relation to the size of the roundabout



**Phase I**

- Palm trees, such as Royal Palms or Medjoul Palms that grow taller than the existing cabbage palms are planted along the perimeter of the roundabout.
- Crown of Thorns or similar, low maintenance plants, are planted during the first phase of beautification of this roundabout.
- A central island of sago palms creates a color contrast and background that further enhances the presence of the crown of thorns.



**Option I**

- A water tower, or similar vertical element, visible from great distances, announces the arrival to Jensen Beach.
- A wall is added along the perimeter of the roundabout. This wall defines the roundabout, prevents access to its center, and is a great setting for lighting and ornamental features.
- Night lighting that enhances the vertical features as well as the perimeter wall is added.



**Ultimate Build-Out: Option 2**

- A statue or fountain occupy the center of the plaza, surrounded by the landscaping of phase I
- Benches with sculptures honoring different people that influenced life in Jensen Beach, surround the roundabout. Benches serve as elements that define and contain the area surrounding the roundabout. Other features, such as grass leaves or pineapple sculptures were proposed for these locations.
- Ultimately, buildings should occupy at least three of the four corners and define the space.



- A perimeter wall is added. As in option 1, the wall defines the roundabout preventing unwanted presence in the roundabout's center and becoming an ideal setting for lighting and ornamental features.



- Little landscaping that is dead or dying occupies this prominent location.
- Vertical elements (palm trees) for visibility and safety purposes, are scarce and not proportioned to the overall site.
- No sidewalks or pedestrian connection between one side of the roundabout and the other
- Nothing here symbolizes the importance of the community that lies ahead.
- The condition of this landscaping sends a strong message of “abandonment”.



- Planting of palm trees such as Royal Palms or Medjoul Palms with a scale appropriate to the size of the roundabout
- General landscaping with resistant vegetation like crown of thorns and sago palms



- A perimetral 5' sidewalk is incorporated. This sidewalk facilitates pedestrian access and crossings and visually defines the connection of both sides of the roundabout.





- A wall of water is activated by the train's proximity to the crossing. This wall of water is a powerful statement that serves to announce the arrival of the train (safety) as well as the importance and character of the community that lies ahead.