

Study suggests Princeton add roundabouts to Route 206

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TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — Princeton Borough and Princeton Township could get as many as 10 traffic roundabouts in the coming years if the towns adopt the recommendations made in a study funded by the state Department of Transportation.

The municipalities and a local advocacy group, Citizens for a Safer Route 206, initiated the \$130,000 study about a year ago.

Last month the Princeton Regional Planning Board voted to endorse the report that came about from the study, which suggests roundabouts at busy intersections as some of the changes that should be made to Route 206 from Nassau Street in Princeton Borough north toward Princeton Township.

"We expect to have modifications and changes in it, but the general concept is one that we endorse," Princeton Township Mayor Phyllis Marchand, told The Times of Trenton for Sunday's newspapers.

DOT embraces roundabouts, which are not to be confused with the traffic circles New Jersey is trying to get rid of, and the department is "considering converting many of the state's intersections to roundabouts," spokeswoman Erin Phalon said.

According to Phalon, a typical roundabout costs between \$1 and \$2 million without right of way acquisition, which usually bumps up the price significantly.

The Princeton area project would cost \$8 million, said former Princeton Borough Mayor Marvin Reed, who is a member of the planning board.

Reed said both towns need to let DOT know that they are in favor of roundabouts for Route 206 and not worry about their specific locations until later.