



NEWS RELEASE

215 SYCAMORE STREET
MUSCATINE, IA 52761
PH. (563) 264-1550

For more information contact:

Kevin Jenison
Communication Manager
Public Information Officer
Muscatine City Hall
(563) 264-1550
kjenison@muscataineiowa.gov

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MULBERRY ROUNDABOUT PROJECT IS RECOGNIZED

Design work earns City and Bolton & Menk ACEC Engineering Achievement Award

MUSCATINE, Iowa - The City of Muscatine's Mulberry Avenue Roundabout and 2nd Street One-Way to Two-Way Conversion project received an **American Council of Engineering Companies of Iowa** Engineering Achievement Award at their Engineering Excellence Banquet on Wednesday, August 18, 2021.

The project was designed by **Bolton & Menk** as part of the Mississippi Drive Corridor Project, and completed in July 2020.

This award recognizes engineering firms for projects that demonstrate an exceptional degree of innovation, complexity, achievement, and value. Projects from across the State of Iowa are rated on uniqueness and/or innovative application of new or existing techniques; future value to the engineering profession and public perception; social, economic, and sustainable development considerations; complexity; and successful fulfillment of client/owner needs.

Completion of the Mulberry Avenue roundabout and 2nd Street one-way to two-way conversion marks a significant milestone in the City of Muscatine's effort to reconnect the downtown with the Mississippi River. The roundabout stands as the eastern gateway to the downtown business



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district. The design incorporates salvaged historic brick pavers alongside new streetscape elements to merge the city's past with its future.

The elegant function and traffic safety inherent to the Mulberry Avenue roundabout design replaced an awkward stop-controlled intersection. The center circle is sized large enough to accommodate truck traffic from adjacent industrial businesses while providing space for public art to celebrate Muscatine's rich culture. Conversion of 2nd Street on the west leg of the roundabout from one-way to two-way allows westbound traffic on Business Highway 61 to directly enter the 2nd Street business corridor.

As both an efficient traffic element and an aesthetic improvement, the Mulberry Avenue roundabout physically and symbolically links major industrial businesses in its southeast quadrant with the city library in the southwest quadrant and local businesses in the northwest and northeast quadrants, providing connectivity and access for all.