Why Does The Intersection Need To Be Closed Temporarily For 12 Weeks?
Closing the intersection completely for 12 weeks will allow for the construction crews to safely access the area and be able to complete the project in a much faster timeframe. If the intersection was to be left open throughout construction, it would require crews to phase the improvements and could take up to an additional 40 weeks to complete.

What Are The Resulting Improvements Residents and Property Owners Can Expect From This Construction Project?
The addition of the roundabout at Scripture Street improves traffic flow, travel times within the corridor between IH 35E and US 380, and safety by reducing the points of conflict with motorists and pedestrians.

What Is A Roundabout?
A roundabout is a one-way circular intersection engineered to reduce congestion and maximize safety. The “yield at entry” rule reduces delay by eliminating unnecessary stopping. Vehicles yield to traffic in the roundabout and enter only when there is a safe gap in traffic.

Modern roundabouts have design features that improve traffic flow and reduce delay, fuel consumption, and air pollution. That’s why roundabouts are often a better solution at sites where we typically see traffic signals or stop signs.

Are Roundabouts Safe?
Yes. Roundabouts can carry more traffic than a traffic signal, but with one fourth as many injuries, and one tenth as many fatalities. This is because vehicles in a roundabout are moving slowly, in the same direction. So, instead of high speed head-on and broadside crashes, crashes that do occur are mostly low speed sideswipes. Injuries are rare. That is why roundabouts are important.

Each year, about 7,500 Americans are killed at intersections and many more are injured or disabled. To put it simply, roundabouts save lives.

Are Roundabouts Safe Near Schools?
As of January 2016, more than fifty roundabouts had been built near U.S. schools. Speeding is reduced in the school zone, and safety reports are favorable.

Are Traffic Signals Safer For Pedestrians?
No. Pedestrians are safer at roundabouts, because a roundabout crosswalk is split into two shorter crossings of low speed, one-way traffic. At traffic signals, pedestrians can spend more than twice as much time in the road, and they need to look in four different directions: for high-speed traffic turning right or left on green, or right on red - or running the red light. With roundabouts, traffic is slower, crosswalks are shorter, and there’s a safety refuge half way across the street. Roundabouts have about one fourth as many pedestrian injuries as a typical ‘crossroad’ type intersection.

Why Are So Many Communities Building Roundabouts?
Roundabouts are an economical way to solve serious safety and congestion problems. They can reduce congestion without the high cost of adding a signal and widening the intersection for additional left-turn lanes and right-turn lanes.

Roundabouts reduce fuel consumption, and air and noise pollution, and many people think landscaped roundabouts are more attractive than signals.

Will Trucks Be Able To Safely Pass Through A Roundabout?
Roundabouts are designed for the largest anticipated vehicle. Trucks proceed slowly and sometimes use the paved “truck apron” around the central island. As at other intersections, trucks make wide turns; therefore, other drivers should give them plenty of space.

How Will Bicycles Travel Through A Roundabout?
Depending on their experience riding in traffic, cyclists can circulate as a vehicle or use the sidewalk as a pedestrian. As always, make sure drivers see you.

How Will The City Communicate Updates For This Project?
Throughout the duration of the project, the City will proactively provide residents and property owners with status and timeline updates through social media and on the City’s website. For general project information, status updates, and weekly project progress on the Bonnie Brae capital project, visit improvingdenton.com.