

Frequently asked questions

What are priority transit lanes?

These are specially marked lanes for transit and cyclist use only, that help transit vehicles maintain an efficient and reliable schedule in congested areas during peak travel times.

What are the benefits of priority transit lanes?

The Douglas Street Priority Transit & Cycling Lanes project is designed to shorten travel times for passengers, increase the reliability of public transit, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by limiting idling. Encouraging more transit use will also lower the number of vehicles on the road. The Douglas Street corridor currently supports as many as 1,700 vehicles per hour during peak travel times.

Where are the new priority transit lanes located?

Phase 1 focuses on the creation of shared bus and bike lanes from Fisgard Street to Hillside Avenue.

When are these lanes operating?

Priority lanes will operate Monday through Friday during peak travel times from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. southbound and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. northbound.

During hours of operation, what changes for me in these lanes?

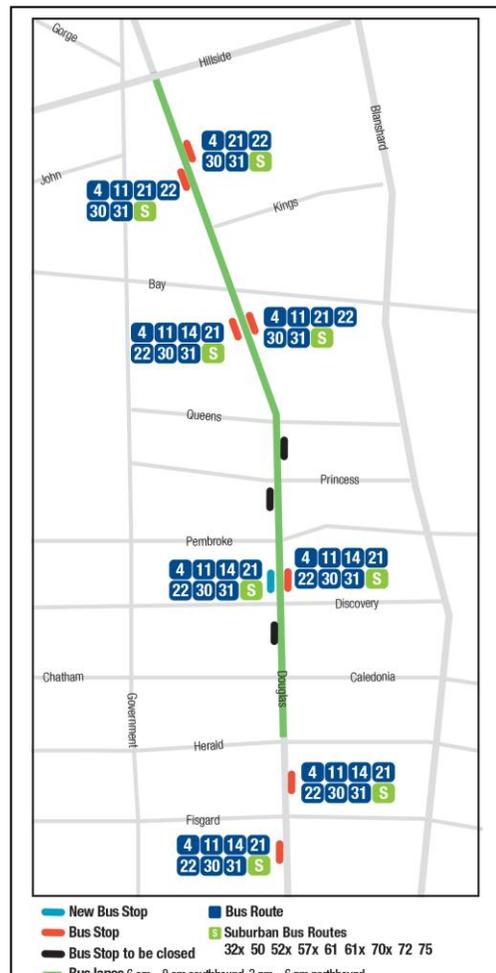
While bus lanes are in operation, you are not permitted to park, unload a vehicle or drive in the lane without the intention of turning right at the next block.

What happens during off-peak hours?

Parking will be permitted while the priority transit lanes are not in operation.

What happens if I need to turn across a bus lane?

During bus lanes operational hours, general vehicles will be allowed to enter the shared bus and bicycle only lane if they are making a right hand turn within their current block.





How can I identify a bus lane?

There will be signage at the start and end of each bus lane, as well as diamond-shape markings on the road. (see image on left)

What if I'm a cyclist?

Cyclists are allowed to use the bus lanes during operational hours. You'll be sharing the lane with buses, so normal road safety awareness and courtesy apply. BC Transit has shared the road for many years with cyclists without designated cycling lanes. Transit operators are trained to focus on safety and watch for all other types of transportation modes.

How is this being enforced?

City of Victoria staff will monitor the lanes during hours of operation and ensure that buses and cyclists have unrestricted use. There will be a courtesy enforcement period from June 9 to 15, 2014 to allow motorists time to adjust to the introduction of priority lanes.

What's next?

Phase two of the project will include the creation of a northbound bus lane from Hillside to Tolmie. Construction is expected to begin in early 2015.

For more information on the project please visit www.bctransit.com/transifuture/vrptc_latestupdates.cfm

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