



Fact sheet – Priority bus lanes

Number 1, 2012

This fact sheet, the first in the [Tranzinfo Hot Topics](#) series, offers a selection of material on priority bus lanes, which were recently introduced into the [CBD of Adelaide, South Australia](#).

[Watch a clip of the first day of introduction here.](#)

Items address issues and impacts arising from the introduction of priority bus lanes in city streets as well as broader considerations for the design and use of bus lanes.

Contents:

[Glossary of related terms](#)

[Case studies](#)

[Enforcement](#)

[Public response to introduction](#)

[Guidance for road users](#)

[Guidance for system planners](#)

[Watch priority bus lanes in action](#)

Glossary of related terms

Bus priority: Means by which buses are given an advantage over other traffic; for instance, by traffic signal pre-emption measures, or by freeway entrances or bus lanes that give priority to buses.

[Tranzinfo produced a list of resources on this topic in 2010.](#)

High-occupancy vehicle (HOV): Road vehicle carrying a driver and a number of passengers equal to or greater than a number specified by legislation for special purpose traffic lanes.

[This report was produced to assist in planning for HOV lanes in Canberra.](#)

Bus rapid transit: term used more frequently in the United States to describe dedicated busways systems that use exclusive on/off street lanes. The [O-Bahn in South Australia](#), the Northern Busway in Brisbane, Queensland, and the [Northern Busway in Auckland, New Zealand](#) are examples of bus rapid transit systems.

Case studies

[Shared-use bus priority lanes on city streets: case studies in design and management](#)

Detailed case studies of shared-use priority bus lanes currently in use in 7 cities from around the world. From the Mineta Transportation Institute in California.

[No car lanes or bus lanes: which gives public transport the better priority? An evaluation of priority lanes in Tyne and Wear](#)

A paper from the Institute of Transport and Logistics, University of Sydney, comparing no-car lanes with bus-only lanes.

[An innovative dynamic bus lane system and its simulation-based performance investigation](#)

A study from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology comparing exclusive bus lanes with dynamic bus lanes.

[Bus rapid transit, vol. 1: case studies in bus rapid transit](#)

Study from the Transportation Research Board (US) which draws on BRT systems in 26 urban areas in North America, Australia, Europe and South America.

[Bus priorities: evidence on performance](#)

Case studies from the UK and San Francisco.

[High Occupancy Vehicle Lanes – An Overall Evaluation Including Brisbane Case Studies](#)

A paper addressing the implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and overall effectiveness of HOV lanes.

Enforcement

[High occupancy vehicle lane enforcement: a successful trial in Brisbane by adding a splash of magenta](#)

Examines the outcomes of the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads trial on enforcement of transit and bus lanes.

[HOV Lanes: Issues and Options for Enforcement](#)

A report from Arizona Department of Transportation. Includes key findings, recommendations, and literature review.

[HOV lane enforcement handbook](#)

Outlines smarter, more efficient strategies for enforcing HOV lanes. Published by the US Federal Highway Administration.

Public response to introduction

[Bus Australia: Australian Transport Discussion Board on introduction in Adelaide](#)

Public comments on the introduction of priority bus lanes in Adelaide CBD.

[New Doncaster bus lanes drive anger](#)

An article on the public anger that greeted the introduction of priority bus lanes in Doncaster, a Melbourne suburb, in 2009.

[Baptism of fire for Belfast's new bus lanes](#)

Confusion and chaos followed the recent introduction of bus lanes into Belfast's city centre.

Guidance for road users

[Using bus lanes safely: a guide for motorists, motorcyclists and cyclists](#)

Advice from Auckland City Council.

[Using bus lanes](#)

Advice from NSW Roads & Maritime Services

[Bus lanes: motorists' guide to the bus lane scheme](#)

Information for motorists from Singapore's Land Transport Authority.

Guidance for system planners

[Guidelines for implementers of innovative bus systems](#)

European Commission guidelines on best practice for bus lanes.

[The use of bus lanes by motorcycles](#)

Leaflet from the UK Department for Transport on issues to consider when implementing shared use bus lanes.

[Bus priority: the way ahead: resource pack, 2nd ed.](#)

Comprehensive document from the UK Department for Transport on the design and implementation of bus priority lanes. Includes case studies.

[Bus rapid transit, vol. 2: implementation guidelines](#)

Planning and implementation guidelines from the Transportation Research Board (US). Draws on BRT systems in 26 urban areas in North America, Australia, Europe and South America.

Watch priority bus lanes in action

[Kerbside priority bus lane](#)

London, UK

[Shared bus lane](#)

Zurich, Switzerland

[Contraflow bus lane](#)

London, UK

[Bicycle and bus priority](#)

Assen, The Netherlands

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