

Traffic Advisory Notice

New Southbound Transit Lane on Aurora Avenue Starting June 25, 2012



To help move more people through the area during upcoming construction, the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) will convert the southbound curb lane on Aurora Avenue North between the Dexter Avenue exit and Mercer Street into a Business Access and Transit (BAT) lane.

The BAT lane will be reserved for buses and right-turning vehicles effective 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The lane designation will go into effect on June 25, 2012. King County Metro requested the lane modification and the change is supported by the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT).

King County Metro Transit will be starting RapidRide E Line service on Aurora Avenue North in 2013, but the lane will be designated earlier to keep buses moving during several ongoing construction projects. Metro carries almost 30,000 passengers a day on the Aurora corridor, which helps significantly reduce the number of cars on the road.

Two upcoming projects are the City's Mercer West Project and the WSDOT's Route 99 Tunnel Project. Traffic congestion is expected to increase on southbound Aurora when lanes are temporarily closed for these projects and optimizing transit travel will provide commuters with a better option for avoiding possible delays.

Utility relocation work associated with the SR 99 project will temporarily close the curb lane on Aurora Avenue North, south of the bridge over Mercer Street. This work will start on June 25 and last for eight to ten weeks.

For more information, or if you would like to receive regular project updates, please visit SDOT's website at:

http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/transit_projects.htm#3

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