



South Gloucestershire Council Press Release

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Work to start on new bus lane

A new bus lane will be installed on part of the A38 (Gloucester Road) to help improve bus punctuality and reliability, reduce journey times and encourage more people to use buses, helping to cut congestion.

The bus lane will be installed on the northbound part of the A38 (Gloucester Road) in two sections from the Little Stoke junction to the Aztec West roundabout, and will enable buses to avoid northbound traffic queues during the rush hour.

The first section will run from the Little Stoke junction to Hempton Lane. It will replace the service lane and run alongside the two existing lanes for motorists. The second section will run from Hempton Lane to the Aztec West roundabout. It will be an entirely new lane alongside the existing ones for motorists.

The new bus lane will be in operation Mondays – Fridays between 7.30am and 9.30am and 4pm until 7pm.

The scheme will improve the service to commuter destinations such as Aztec West and residential areas such as Bradley Stoke, Almondsbury and Thornbury.

Work is expected to start the week commencing March 29 and anticipated to conclude in the autumn (2010).

An additional lane for general traffic will be installed on the Aztec West roundabout to provide additional capacity for traffic heading right towards Bradley Stoke Way or Woodlands Lane.

Councillor Brian Allinson, executive member for planning, transportation and strategic environment, said: “The additional bus lane will help to reduce to reduce delays for bus users and improve the bus network in South Gloucestershire. I would like to thank the public in advance for their patience and understanding during this period.”

A public consultation was held on the proposed scheme during September – October 2009 and the scheme was altered to reflect the feedback received from residents, such as the introduction of the operating hours.

Taxis, motorcycles and cyclists will also be able to use the new bus lane.

Also as part of the scheme the pedestrian crossing on the approach to the Aztec West roundabout will be improved to include facilities for cyclists.

The bus stop on the northbound approach to the roundabout will be moved nearer the business park pedestrian entrance.

A new cycle lane will be installed on the southbound section of the A38 (Gloucester Road) from the Aztec West roundabout to Manor Grove, including improved cycle signage.

And the bus stop south of the Hempton Lane junction will be converted to a limited waiting layby to allow parents and carers to drop off and pick up their children at Ambourne Nursery if their car park is full. A new bus stop will be installed north of Hempton Lane junction.

The bus services which will benefit from the new lane are:

- X11 Chepstow to Bristol (First)
- 73 Cribbs Causeway to Bristol (First)
- 309 Thornbury to Bristol (First)
- 310 Dursley to Bristol (First)
- 312 Thornbury to Fishponds (Sevenside Transport)
- 483 Chipping Sodbury to Cribbs Causeway (Wessex Connect)

The scheme is part of the £70million investment to create 10 'showcase' bus routes across the West of England region.

It is one of the Travel+ initiatives which includes the £68m North Fringe to Hengrove Package and the £48million Ashton Vale to Temple Meads rapid transit route being developed by the West of England Partnership to tackle congestion and improve the quality of life in the area.

For more information visit www.southglos.gov.uk/gbbn

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