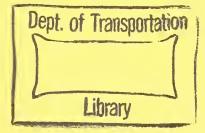
HE 18.5 .A37 no. cD0T-TSC-J UMTA-78-37

# **UMTA/TSC Project Evaluation Series**

# **Priority Treatment for High Occupancy Vehicles in the United States: a Review of Recent and Forthcoming Projects**

Final Report August 1978



Service and Methods Demonstration Program



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, Urban Mass Transportation Administration and Transportation Systems Center

# NOTICE

This document is disseminated under the sponsorship of the Department of Transportation in the interest of information exchange. The United States Government assumes no liability for its contents or use thereof.

# NOTICE

The United States Government does not endorse products or manufacturers. Trade or manufacturers' names appear herein solely because they are considered essential to the object of this report.

**Technical Report Documentation Page** 

1. Report No.	2. Government Accessian No.	3. Recipient's Cotalog No.
UMTA-MA-06-0049-78-11		
4. Title and Subtitle PRIORITY TREATMENT FOR	HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLES	5. Report Dote August 1978
	A REVIEW OF RECENT AND	6. Perfarming Organization Cade
		8. Performing Organizotian Repart Na.
7. Author's)		
Ronald J. Fisher and Ho		UMTA - 78 - 37
9. Performing Organization Name and Addres		10. Work Unit Na. (TRAIS)
U.S. Department of Tran		UM827/R8712
Research and Special Pr Transportation Systems		11. Cantract or Grant Na.
Cambridge MA 02142		13. Type of Report and Period Covered
12. Spansaring Agency Name and Address U.S. Department of Tran	sportation	Final Report
Urban Mass Transportati	on Administration	1974-1980
Urban Mass Transportati Office of Transportatio and Demonstrations	n Planning Management	14. Sponsaring Agency Cade
Washington DC 20590	Deut	
15. Supplementary Nates	Ucpt. 0	Transportation
	- 1 di -	5 : 14/8
16. Abstract This report desc	ribes recent high occupancy v	enicle (HOV) preferential
projects in the United State	s, summarizes the results of	the projects and draws
implications, and outlines p	rojects which are to be imple	emented over the next few
years. The report describe	s each of the following appro	paches to preferential treat-
	rent-flow freeway HOV lanes,	
metered ramp bypass lanes and	exclusive ramps, physically	separated priority lanes,
express bus service and par	k-and-ride lots, lanes on ar ity signal systems on arteri	als and CBD streets, transit
malls, and auto restricted		are and ODD screeces, cransic
mails, and auto restricted	201103.	

During the late 1960's and early 1970's a variety of priority treatments were attempted. Both capital intensive projects and non-capital intensive projects were implemented during this period. By the middle of the 1970's, thinking within the transportation planning community had moved away from the costly capital intensive priority treatments that require extensive new construction to the more operationally oriented traffic management schemes that use existing facilities in a more efficient manner. Except for the non-separated concurrent flow projects, other non-capital intensive priority treatments on freeways have fared well.

Nearly every HOV priority treatment on freeways has involved the use of new or expanded express bus service and the opening of new park-and-ride lots. Arterial and CBD street bus lanes have been implemented in many cities and transit malls have grown in popularity. Four auto restricted zones are to be built during the next few years.

17.	Key Words		18, Distribution Stat	ement				
	High Occupancy Vehicle, HOV, Preferential Express Bus, Reserved Lanes, Concurrent-F Contra-Flow Lanes, Metered Ramp Bypass La Exclusive Ramps, Physically Separated Lan and-Ride, Bus Priority Signal Systems, Tr Auto Restricted Zones, ARZ	low Lanes, nes, es. Park-	DOCUMENT IS AVAILABLE TO THE U.S. PUBLIC THROUGH THE NATIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION SERVICE, SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA 22161					
19.	Security Classif. (of this report)	20. Security Class	sif. (of this poge)	21. No. of Pages	22, Price			
	Unclassified	Unclass	sified	36				
-								

Form DOT F 1700.7 (8-72)

Reproduction of completed page outhorized

PREFACE

The authors wish to thank Joseph Goodman of the Urban Mass Transportation Administration, Office of Service and Methods Demonstrations and David Rubin and Grant Paul of the Transportation Systems Center, Urban and Regional Research Division for their assistance in this study. Special acknowledgement is given to the many individuals who provided information about the projects under their jurisdiction. Unfortunately, a list of these persons would be too long to include herein. The research was sponsored by UMTA's Office of Service and Methods Demonstrations. Finally, the authors wish to thank Vera Ward and Terry McTague who were invaluable in preparing the manuscript.

	Synadio	Ē	⊊ £	Ł	Ē		2	je J	2	Ē					10	4					10	£	5	lag	°۲	, P.				đ.		- <b>3</b>		80.0	
c Maesuras	To Fied	- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	inches feet	yards	Hes .		2	square inches	source Asias	square miles	BCIUS .				OUNCES	spunod	short tons				fluid cunces	Dints	querts	cue i form s	cubic feet	cubic yards			-1	Faitr amhailt Lamper ature				0	
rsiess frem Metri	Muttary by	LENGIN	9.0 E.E	1.1	0 6	AREA		0.16	1.2		e:7		MACE (mainter)		0.036	2.2	1.1		VOLIMAE	AULUME	50.0	2.1	1 06	92.0	5	1.3		are at the second	ICHITERATURE (BISCI)	3/5 (then add 32)		98.6		20 40	;
Appreximate Cenversiens from Metric Meesures	Whee Yee Kaew	and the second se	Centimeters maters	meters	k i formetor s		I	square continuations	square meters	square kilometers	Nectares (10,000 m )					tu loomams	tommes (1000 kg)				a second all second	in the second se	i fairte		cubic meters	cubic meters				Cuisrus temperature			2 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	-0-02-	
	Symbel	ĺ	δe	E	L.J			~ ع	'e Î	, L	2				c						ī	Ē			- <sup>-</sup> E	Ē				С С		чo	<b>و</b> ا	1	>
53	33	50	61	81		21   	91				• •		£ 1		2 X		 		01		6				۲ 		9		s		E	2   	120	۰ ا	· >
9	.L.L.	8	,1,1,		,  , ,	. .ı.	1.1.	6	'['	1'	' <b>i</b> '	'1		ין'ן 5	I'	.1.	<b> '</b> 1'		' ' 4	'	'l'	'1		'  3	<b>.</b> I.,	'	'['	'   	' '  2		' '	' ' ' 1	1	'  ' in ch	
	Symbol			e i	δE	5		~	le n	Έ	~ ٤.	5.	2			6	6 N					Ē	Ē	Ē				. îe	Ē		°,				
Measures	To Find			centimeters	cent imeters meters	k i lameter s			square centimeters	square meters	square meters	square hildmeners	hectares			Smans	ki i kogramis	tonnes				millilitærs	milliliters	milliliters	liters		1 teres	cubic meters	cubic meters		Celsius	terrperaturs			
Approximate Conversions to Metric Measures	Mariphy by	LENGTH	8	2.5	9°0	1.6	AREA		6.5	60.0	0.8	2.6	0.4	MASS (weight)		28	0.45	0.9		VOLUME		5	15	30	0.24	0.47	6.0 a	0.03	0.76	TEMPERATURE (exect)	5/9 (after	subtracting 32)			
ate Conv	2								square inches	feet	y and s	square miles		2		\$		tons	(qi 0002)			te a spoon s	tabiespoons	fluid ounces				iner I	cubic yards	TEMP	1.4	temparature			
Approxim	Whee Yee Knew			un ches	yaerds	n:les			square	square feet	square yards	Light	ACTIN			ounce s	spunod	short tons	K)			teasp	table	fluid	craba	pints	quarts	cubic feet	cubic		Fahranheit	terro			

METRIC CONVERSION FACTORS

iv

CONTENTS

<u>Sect</u>	lon	Page
1.	Introduction	1
2.	Non-Separated Concurrent-Flow Freeway HOV Lanes	5
3.	Contra-Flow Freeway Lanes	10
4 <b>.</b>	Metered-Ramp Bypass Lanes and Exclusive Ramps	10
5.	Physically Separated Priority Lanes	11
6.	Express Bus Service and Park-and-Ride Lots	12
7.	Lanes on Arterials and CBD Streets Reserved for Buses	14
8.	Bus Priority Signal Systems on Arterials and CBD Streets	15
9.	Transit Malls	17
10.	Auto Restricted Zones	21
	References	27

# LIST OF TABLES

Table		Paq€
1.	Applications of Priority Treatments for High Occupancy Vehicles in the United States	2
2.	Comparison of Four Non-Separated Concurrent-Flow Preferential Lane Projects	6
З.	Characteristics of Four Transit Malls	18
4.	Characteristics of Four Proposed Auto Restricted Zone Demonstration Projects	23

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The purposes of this report are threefold: to describe recent high occupancy vehicle (HOV) preferential projects in the United States; to summarize the results of these projects and draw implications; and to outline projects which are to be implemented over the next few years. The report describes each of the following approaches to preferential treatment: non-separated concurrent-flow freeway HOV lanes, contra-flow freeway lanes, metered-ramp bypass lanes and exclusive ramps, physically separated priority lanes, express bus service and park-and-ride lots, lanes on arterials and central business district (CBD) streets reserved for buses, bus priority signal systems on arterials and CBD streets, transit malls, and auto restricted zones.

Table 1 lists most of the HOV preferential projects that have been implemented or are being planned. Projects in all areas are well represented, but during the past decade the thrust of the preferential program has undergone several fundamental changes.

During the late 1960's and early 1970's a variety of priority treatments were attempted. Both capital intensive projects (such as the Shirley Highway reversible bus and carpool lanes and the El Monte Busway) and non-capital intensive projects (such as the contra-flow lanes on I-495 in New York and metered ramp bypass lanes on Los Angeles freeways) were implemented during this period.

By the middle of the 1970's, thinking within the transportation planning community had moved away from the costly capital intensive priority treatments that require extensive new construction to the more operationally oriented traffic management schemes that use existing facilities in a more efficient manner. As an example, the implementation of a concurrent-flow lane utilizing an already existing freeway lane can be accomplished literally overnight compared to the time it takes to construct a new lane or a completely new facility. Boston spent a total of \$53,000 and very little time for signing, drilling holes, and purchasing plastic inserts to implement the eight mile (12.8 km) Southeast Expressway concurrent-flow reserved lane, while the eleven mile (17.6 km) Shirley Highway with reversible lane cost \$43 million to implement over a period of six years.

However, as is pointed out in Section 2, the concurrent-flow "take-a-lane-away" projects on the Southeast Expressway and Los Angeles' Santa Monica Freeway have been terminated. While the other non-separated concurrent-flow freeway projects are still operating, they are experiencing high violation rates. In summary, non-separated concurrentflow freeway HOV lanes have proven to be difficult to APPLICATIONS OF PRIORITY TREATMENTS FOR HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLES IN THE UNITED STATES TABLE 1.

Technique	Before que 1970	е 1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	After 1980
Non-Separated Conturrent- Flow Freeday Ruserved Lanes	San Franciscu, Oakland Bay Bridge					Bookon. 1-93 at 1-93 at 1-95 Junction Handlu, Manallu, Prevaw Frenker, (her in Control. San Dice. San Dice.	Portland Portland Frowary San Francisco 1-280	Los Angeles, Freeway Freeway Miant, 1-95 New York, Gaoams Expression New Lirrey 1-95	Noscon, Southoust Expressury		San Francisco San Francisco UK arin County), UK ani (Extension)	New York, Gowanyork, (Ektension)	
Contra-Flow Freevay Reserved Lones		New Yirk (New Jersey), 1-495	New York, Long Island Expresswav Bostan Southenst Fxpresswav	San Francisco Marin Counto), US 101						Hinuston, 1445 North Freeway			
Metered-Rump Bypass Lanes (number)					Lus Anerles. 1-405 (1)	Minnespielis, 1-350 (8) Lus Angeles, Lus Angeles, 1-405 (1) 1-10 (4)	Minuespoils, 1 1-3% (1) 1- Milauskee, 1- F-W Freewer (1) 5- Las Angeles, 1- 1-0 (5) (2) 0.11as, 8.7. Expressant(1)	Les Angeles, Les Angeles, 1-10 (1) 5-11 (5) 5-12 (1) 1-280 (1)	Lus Angeles, 1-9 (65)(10) 1-10 (1) 1-10 (1) 1-60 (2) 1-5 (5A, (5)	Lus Angeles, Los (2) 1-605 (12) Pl.mmed (47)	Luns Angeles, (111) Dallas, 1-30 (1)	Los Angeles (; San Diego, Route 94 (4)	Lus Angeles (21) Lus Angeles (22) San Diego, Roure 94 (4)
Exclusive Access Ramp		Seattle, I-5	Pittsburg, Braddock Ave./ Parkwiv East			San Dirgo. Route 163	Cblcago, 0'llare		Miami. 1-95			Seattle, I-5 (Extension)	(u
Separated Rights-of-Hay	Washington DC. Shirley Highway (1969-1975)				Los Angeles. San Bernardino Freevav El Monte Busuav				"Ittsburgh. 5. PARbay San Francisto. Ponte I-580			San Francisco. 1-580 (Extension)	<pre>Vev York, Vev York, Vev York, Jand Expressing (ong 15,10, 4, Bartford, F. FayTany, 1-91 (1981) Vashington DC, 169(1)(1981) Baston, Baston, Baston, Southesst Expressing (1982) Los Angeles (possible do-100 miles) Portland Portland Portland</pre>

	After 1980			Boston (pre)	Cleveland, Euclid Avenue					
FOR HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLES	A 1980 19		(9)	Boston (pre)	St. Louis, Locust St. Buffalo,	Main Street Denver, 16th Street Brooklyn,	Fulton Street			New York, Broadway Plaza
ANCY V	1979		lus Angeles (c) Boston (w + c)		venues.	nue con	Mall			Providence
I OCCUP	1978	Portland (r)	Chicago (c) ch Portland (w)	re) Dallas (pre) Houston (pre) Homphis (pre) Santa Ciara (pre) Portland (pre)	Portland, 5th & 6th Avenues Madison,	State Street Detroit, Woodward Avenue and Washington Boulevard	Chicago, State Street Mall Merconalis	Minneapolls, Nlcollet (Extension)	Los Angeles, Broadway	Memphis Boston
OR HIG	1977		NJ Lincoin Tumei Approach (w)	Santa Cruz (pre) Concord (pre)						
TREATMENTS FO	1976		San Francisco (w) St. Luuis (w) Washington, bC (w)	Sacramento (pre)	Phíladelphía, Chestnut St.					
	1975	Wilami, WW 7th Ave. (r)	San Franclaco (	Miami, NN 7th Ave. (pro)						-
F PRIORITY STATES	1974	Miami, NW 7th Ave. (w) Miami, US 1 (w + c) Seattle, SR-222 (w) Arlington (w)	Minneapolis (c) Denver (w) Los Angeles (c)	Miami, MW Zth Ave. (pre) Miami, US 1 (pro)						
0	1973	Konolulu (c)		re)						
APPLICATIONS ( IN THE UNITED	1972			Louisville (pre) Washington DC, (pre)						
. APP IN	1971	Honolulu (c) Philadelphia (w) San Juan (c)	Houston (w)							
l (continued)	Before ue 1970 1970	Balthore (w) Mudison (c) Buffalo (w) Indianopolis (c) Rew Orleans (m) Mashington (w) Seattle (w)	Balt more (w) Scattle (c) Birnham (w) Birnham (w) Chicago (w.c.m) Anlas (w) Ballas (s) Ballas (s) Ballas (s) Barriaburg (c) Scart (c) Scart (c) Scart (c) Filladelphis (c) Filla		Minneapolis, Nicollet Mail (1967)					
TABLE	Technique	Reserved Bus Lances Arterials Vmaith-flow cacontra-flow mredian	Reserved Bus Streets on CBD Streets wwith-flow eventra-flow memodian	Bus Priority Signal Systems on Arterials and CBD Streets premption promprogression	Transit Malls					Auto Restricted Zones

enforce, subject to accidents, and, when an already existing lane is re-dedicated for HOV's, unacceptable to the public.

By contrast, the Shirley Highway (which was opened to four or more person carpools in 1973) and the El Monte Busway (which was opened to three or more person carpools in 1975) have been highly successful in attracting bus riders and carpoolers, while experiencing none of the enforcement and safety problems encountered by the non-separated treatments. Several activities indicate a resurgence of interest in physically separated priority lanes: planners in both Boston and Los Angeles are investigating designs similar to Shirley and El Monte for their troubled corridors; new physically separated facilities were opened during 1977 in San Francisco and Pittsburg, and both are scheduled to be expanded; and a Virginia freeway (I-66) reserved for buses and four or more person HoV's during peak periods is scheduled to open in the early 1980's.

Fortunately, except for the non-separated concurrent flow projects, other non-capital intensive priority treatments on freeways have fared well. Metered ramps have proven to be an effective device for reducing freeway congestion and increasing vehicle speed. However, some of the time saving is lost waiting in the queue at the metered ramp. As a result, bypass lanes for HOV's have been installed in several locations and have proven to be an effective, safe, relatively inexpensive, and publicly acceptable way to provide HOV priority treatment on ireeways. However, California has recently been experiencing an increasing and potentially serious problem with enforcement. The only major installations of bypass lanes have been in Minneapolis (nine pypasses) and in Los Angeles (53 bypasses as of March 1978, with an additional 211 scheduled to go into operation by the end of 1979). San Francisco opened one in 1976 and plans to have a total of seven in operation by the end of 1980.

Several very successful contra-flow bus lanes have been in operation for many years, and a new one will open in douston in late 1978 or early 1979. Contra-flow lanes have probably not been more prevalent since they require a major directional flow imbalance. They are typically only used (for safety reasons) by buses and other large, specially licensed vehicles, and there is a significant daily cost to insert and remove the lane separators.

Nearly every HOV priority treatment on freeways has involved the use of new or expanded express bus service and the opening of new park-and-ride lots. Express bus service has proven to be popular but costly to provide due to extensive deadheading. The expansion of the express bus coverage, and not the priority treatment itself, seems to have been the primary reason for increases in ridership. The performance of park-and-ride lots has been mixed, being dependent on the placement and design of the facility and the quality of the bus service provided. For example, the success of Miami's Golden Glades park-and-ride lot was due, in part, to the placement of a large, guarded and well lit lot eleven miles (17.6 km) from the CBD at the confluence of several major highways. Buses travelled to four central city destinations, and headways were short.

At least 27 cities had implemented reserved bus lanes on arterials and/or CBD streets by the beginning 1971. Since then several additional cities have begun similar treatments, while many of those with existing concurrentflow, contra-flow, reversible, or median lanes have expanded their systems. Bus priority signal systems (preemption and progression) are operating in several cities, and four new preemption systems will become operational in 1978 and 1979. All of these treatments have led to decreases in bus travel time and increases in schedule reliability.

Transit malls have become a popular method for improving transit reliability and revitalizing CBD shopping areas. A successful transit mall was opened in Philadelphia in 1976 and several new transit malls will be completed in 1978. Finally, four auto restricted zones, which will result in an increase in pedestrian amenities and a broad reorganization of traffic in the downtown areas, are to be built during the next few years in Boston, Providence, Memphis, and New York.

#### 2. NON-SEPARATED CONCURRENT-FLOW FREEWAY HOV LANES

Four major non-separated concurrent-flow reserved lane on freeway projects were initiated during the past several years: on the Santa Monica Freeway in Los Angeles, I-95 in Miami, the Southeast Expressway in Boston, and the Banfield Freeway in Portland, Oregon (see Table 2 for a description of these projects). These projects have met with differing degrees of success and failure. The two projects that involved the taking away of an existing lane from general traffic and re-dedicating it to HOV's ended amid much controversy and public dispute. The voluntary reserved lane on the Southeast Expressway survived for six months only to be cancelled suddenly two and a-half weeks after the lane restrictions became mandatory. A Federal judge shut down the Santa Monica project after 21 weeks of operation because an appropriate environmental impact report had not been The other two projects, which involved the creation filed. of a new lane for HOV use, are still in operation, but the restrictions have been modified. In Miami, the underutilization of the HOV lane, a high violation rate, the lack of police commitment to the project and difficulty of enforcement led to a lowering of the lane qualification to two or more persons per car and a decrease in the hours of operation. In Portland, the hours of lane operation were

5

SPECIAL FACILITIES	Plastic inserts space 20-40 feet, freeway "metering" for 3 months	Flyover connecting major park and ride iot to I-95 after one year	Ramp metering, some with preferential bypass	
HOURS OF OPERATION	6:30-9:30 a.m. inbound only	<pre>6-10 a.m. (changed to 7-9 a.m.) inbound; 3-7 p.m. (changed to 4-6 p.m.) outbound</pre>	<pre>6-10 a.m. (changed to 6:30-9:30 a.m.) 3-7 p.m. inbound and outbound</pre>	24 hours/day changed to 6:30-9:30 a.m. inbound and 3:30-6:30 p.m. outbound
LANE ORIGIN	l exist- ing lane reserved (inbound)	2 lanes built in median area	2 exist- ing lanes reserved	resur- faced, removed shoulder, narrowed lanes
LANE RESTRICTIONS	Buses and carpools (3 or more occupants)	Buses and carpools (3 or more occupants, changed to 2 or more)	Buses and carpools (3 or more occupants)	Buses and carpools (3 or more occupants) and taxis as of June 1978)
OPERATING DATES	5/04/77- 11/02/77	3/15/76- present	3/15/76- 8/09/76	12/15/75 present
LENGTH (miles)	ω	7.5	12.9	е. С
FACILITY	Freeway, 3 or 4 lanes each direction, including use of shoulder in peak direction during peak period	Freeway, 4 or 5 lanes each direction	Freeway, 4 or 5 lanes each direction	Freeway, 3 or 4 lanes each direction
PROJECT	Boston: Southeast Expressway	Miami: I-95	Los Angeles: Santa Monica Freeway	Portland Oregon: Banfield Freeway

COMPARISON OF FOUR NON-SEPARATED CONCURRENT-FLOW PREFERENTIAL LANE PROJECTS TABLE 2.

EXPRESS BUS AVERAGE FARE(one-wav)	( ADM DIID TOWN I HOWATAN	\$1.25	• 60	. 61	
TRANSIT	TTCNICATT	Minor changes to existing express and feeder bus, rapid rail, commuter rail, and commuter boat; new park and ride route	Park and ride and feeder/express bus service increased from 18 to 52 trips per day; new large park and ride lot	Four existing feeder, express bus routes increased to 9; 3 new park and ride routes and lots	Ten express buses added
ENFORCEMENT	ENFORCEMENT	Voluntary for first 5 months, enforced last 2-1/2 weeks; increase in police surveillance	Little enforcement; no increase in police surveillance	Fifty percent increase in police, reduced to normal by 12th week	High level of enforcement
SSTRTADTA ACCESS	ACCESS/EGRESS	Only at beginning and end	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
ш Сас	PROJECT	Boston: Southeast Expressway	Miami: I-95	Los Angeles: Santa Monica Freeway	Portland Oregon: Banfield Freeway

7

COMPARISON OF FOUR NON-SEPARATED CONCURRENT-FLOW PREFERENTIAL LANE PROJECTS

TABLE 2 (continued).

reduced from 24 hours per day to three hours in-bound in the morning and three hours out-bound in the evening.

Several smaller non-separated concurrent-flow projects were instituted during the past several years. A lane reserved for buses and carpools of three or more occupants began operating on I-280 in San Francisco in late 1975. The lane, which is two miles (3.2 km) long, operates southbound only, 24 hours per day.

In October 1976, a reserved lane for buses and taxis with passengers was opened on New York's Gowanus (Brooklyn-Queens) Expressway for a distance of 1.2 miles (1.9 km). The purpose of the facility is to give buses and taxis a travel time advantage at a major merge area. The lane operates from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on weekdays, and the restrictions are currently not being enforced.

Also in 1976, the right hand shoulder of the I-95 approach to the George Washington Bridge on the New Jersey side was physically separated by plastic inserts for a quarter of a mile (.4 km) during the morning peak period to expedite the movement of puses to the toll plaza. Some existing automobile traffic was also permitted use of the lane; however, current plans call for a reduction in non-HOV traffic and the inclusion of carpools.

The following summarizes the results of the Los Angeles, Boston, and Miami projects:

- Auto occupancy rates increased (in Los Angeles, from 1.22 to 1.31; in Boston, from 1.31 to 1.38; in Miami, from 1.23 to 1.28).
- Carpooling increased by about 70 percent at the three sites.
- Travel time for users of the reserved lanes decreased.
- Projects provided a focal point for transit marketing.
- Projects created a perceived, as well as real, time advantage in the minds of bus passengers.
- Violation rates were high (15 percent in Los Angeles where enforcement was strict; 80 percent in Boston during the voluntary period; 75 percent in Miami during the three person carpool phase).
- Restrictions were difficult to enforce without a median shoulder in Boston and Miami.

- In Boston, plastic inserts separating the reserved lane did not prevent illegal weaving.
- Accidents increased by 150 percent in Los Angeles; Boston unclear; no statistical change in accidents in Miami.

Several general statements can be made about this concept:

- Re-dedication of an existing lane for concurrent flow priority use is not recommended. The two major projects (Boston, Los Angeles) which implemented this approach were terminated due to a strong negative reaction from the media and the public and lack of political consensus.
- Concurrent-flow lanes should be separated from normal lanes by closely spaced plastic inserts to prevent weaving and by a concrete barrier or a safety lane to minimize problems of accidents and violations (see Section 5).
- A left shoulder is desirable for vehicles in distress and necessary for enforcement.

In Los Angeles, the controversy over the Santa Monica reserved lane was so intense that no additional "take-away" lanes are planned, and a newly constructed lane on another Los Angeles freeway that was originally planned to be dedicated for exclusive HOV use was opened to general traffic. In Boston, the current plan is to re-build the Southeast Expressway in a 3-2-3 configuration with the center two lanes being reversible, separated from the rest of the roadway and reserved for HOV's.

In Florida, non-separated concurrent-flow reserved lanes are still being considered for other locations, but not without a median area. Some members of the Florida Department of Transportation would like to see Miami's I-95 re-striped with narrower lanes so that a median area can be created for use as an area for enforcement and distressed motorists. The Oregon Department of Transportation is currently studying three options for the Banfield Freeway: extension of the reserved lane, construction of a separated busway, and construction of a light rail vehicle right-ofway.

A feasibility study is underway to extend New York's Gowanus concurrent-flow bus and taxi lane as far as the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel. The project would involve offsetting the concrete median barrier and using the former median breakdown lane for the preferential lane. If approved, implementation would be in 1980. The California Department of Transportation is planning to extend the concurrent-flow bus and carpool lane on U.S. 101 north of San Francisco in 1979.

#### 3. CONTRA-FLOW FREEWAY LANES

Several successful contra-flow freeway lanes reserved for buses have been operating for many years in the United States: U.S. 101 in Marin County, California; I-495 approaching New York City's Lincoln Tunnel; and the Long Island Expressway approaching New York City's Queens-Midtown Tunnel. Taxis with passengers were first permitted to use the Long Island Expressway facility in September 1977.

While there have been no new contra-flow freeway projects during the past several years, one will be implemented in Houston in the tall of 1978. Construction began in early 1978 to develop an exclusive contra-flow lane for about ten miles (16 km) on the IH45 North Freeway between the CBD and the Houston city limits. Initially, the lane will carry only buses, airport limousines and registered commuter vans. Most of the buses will run between the CBD and a 750 space park-and-ride lot at the northern terminus of the contra-flow lane.

#### 4. METERED-RAMP BYPASS LANES AND EXCLUSIVE RAMPS

In 1973, the first metered freeway ramp in Los Angeles was equipped with bypasses for buses and carpools with two or more occupants. The number of ramps with bypasses in the Los Angeles area grew to seven by the end of 1975. As of March 1978, 53 bypasses were in operation. Early California installations proved to be effective, safe, easily enforceable, relatively inexpensive, and publicly acceptable. However, recently there has been an increasing and potentially serious problem with violations.

Forty-seven additional bypasses are scheduled to go into operation by the end of 1978 if sufficient California Highway Patrol manpower are provided for enforcement purposes. The total number of bypasses is expected to reach 264 by the end of 1979 and 350 by the end of 1983. Los Angeles officials would like to increase the number of bypasses at this rate but they have not as yet received a commitment from the State for an adequate number of police to enforce a greatly expanded system.

The only other city that currently has a major commitment to ramp meter bypass lanes is Minneapolis. A bypass ramp was opened to carpools of three or more occupants at the Grant Street entrance to I-35W in November 1975, bringing the number of bypasses on that freeway to nine. A bus-only ramp was implemented in Milwaukee in late 1975. This project allows buses to bypass a metered ramp which other vehicles use to access the westbound "East-West Freeway" from the downtown CBD of Milwaukee. An exclusive lane allows buses to go around the metered ramp. While using this exclusive lane, a red-signal is triggered at the metered ramp thereby allowing the bus safe access to the Freeway.

A preferential bypass lane was implemented in Dallas in late 1975 on the North Central Expressway, and one will be implemented on I-30 in 1979. A bypass lane on I-280 in San Francisco was opened in 1976, and plans call for six bypasses on U.S. 101 by 1980 and several more on I-280 after 1982.

During the next five years metering will be installed on eight ramps on Route 94 in San Diego. Four of these ramps will have HOV bypass lanes.

Ramps for the exclusive use of HOV's have been built in several locations, typically to avoid bottlenecks or to provide more direct access from a major traffic generator. A bus-only ramp was opened at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport in September 1975. The ramp saves .9 miles (1.4 km) and five minutes running time for the express buses. A flyover connecting carpools and buses at a major parking lot to the Miami I-95 reserved lanes was opened in 1977, reducing travel time by several minutes.

An on-ramp and an off-ramp reserved for buses and carpools are planned for the north terminus of I-5 in Seattle's CBD. Implementation is scheduled for 1980. These will complement the two ramps at the southern terminus which were implemented in 1968.

### 5. PHYSICALLY SEPARATED PRIORITY LANES

Physically separated priority lanes result in savings in travel time as well as improvements in travel time reliability compared to regular lanes. There have been two new physically separated priority lane projects opened during the past two years. In 1977, a four mile (6.4 km) reserved lane for buses and three or more occupant carpools was opened on Route 580 east of San Francisco in Livermore. The road configuration is similar to the El Monte Busway and consists of two regular lanes, a buffer lane, and the preferential lane. Plastic inserts are used to separate the reserved lane from the regular lanes.

In December 1977, a 4.5 mile (7.2 km) busway (the South PATway) was opened to connect the southwestern suburbs of Pittsburg to the CBD. The two auto-free lanes reduce travel time from 15 to 30 minutes by permitting buses to bypass

critical points of traffic congestion. The South PATway is the first busway built entirely on its own right-of-way and not in connection with or part of a highway project. (Busways functioning or being developed elsewhere occupy a reserved lane or the median strip of an existing expressway.) Plans are to extend the South PATway another mile and to connect it to a light rail transit right-of-way. In addition, a new 6.8 mile East PATway will open in 1981.

Several other new projects are under construction or planned for the early 1980's. The entire width in the peak direction of a portion of I-66 from Virginia to Washington will be reserved for buses and carpools during the morning and evening peak hours. The only exception will be traffic to and from the Dulles Airport via the Dulles access road (which intersects I-66 and provides services only to the airport). The exclusive roadway is ten miles (16 km) long and extends from the Capital Beltway to the Potomac River. The road is scheduled to be completed in 1981.

Portland, Oregon is building a 28 foot wide, seven mile (11.2 km) long busway in a right-of-way parallel to I-205, a circumferential freeway currently under construction. At present, only the roadbed of the busway is being built: paving will be subject to the type of HOV treatment decided on for the Banfield Freeway, which connects I-205 to the Portland CBD. The Banfield currently operates a nonseparated concurrent-flow lane (see Section 2) over half of its distance. The options being considered for the Banfield include extending the present HOV lane the full length of the roadway, building a separated busway or constructing a light rail vehicle right-of-way in the center of the Work on both the Banfield modifications and the I-Freeway. 205 busway is expected to be completed by 1983.

The State of Massachusetts is considering rebuilding Boston's Southeast Expressway as a 3-2-3 configuration. Similar to the Shirley Highway, the center two lanes will be reserved for buses and carpools of two or more occupants. The project is in the preliminary design phase and, if approved, will be built within the next five years.

During the next three years the California Department of Transportation is planning to build a five mile (8 km) extension to the I-580 busway in San Francisco. A study to assess the feasibility of constructing 40 to 100 miles (64-160 km) of new busways is underway in Los Angeles (see Section 12).

#### 6. EXPRESS BUS SERVICE AND PARK-AND-RIDE LOTS

Nearly every HOV priority treatment on freeways has involved the use of new or expanded express bus service and the opening of new park-and-ride lots. In many cases, brand new buses with greater than average passenger amenities have been used for this high quality service. Two German Neoplan double-deck buses have been providing feeder/express and park-and-ride/express service on the El Monte busway in Los Angeles since 1976, and 20 more double-deck vehicles will be added to the fleet in 1979. Major impacts of express bus service are as follows:

- Long haul suburban to CBD transit service for commuters is very expensive; such service typically gets only one scheduled revenue trip per peak period, and deadhead mileage is high
- Fare increases for high quality priority transit service have not had a significant negative impact on transit patronage; many of these services are underpriced considering how much they cost to provide
- Increased transit patronage is highly correlated with increased transit level-of-service in the form of expanded coverage and reduced headways as well as to the reduced travel time of a priority facility
- Priority treatment techniques increase vehicle productivities and reduce resources required to move people in major urban corridors.

The success or failure of park-and-ride lots is highly dependent on their location, the amenities they offer, and the type of bus service provided. Guidelines for park-andride lots are that:

- Lots should be distant enough from the CBD to make transferring modes worthwhile
- Lots should be located so as not to require any backtracking
- Lots should have good transit and highway access
- Lots should be adjacent to the freeway offering the priority treatment
- Lots should be large enough to support low headway service to several major destinations
- Lots should be guarded, well lit, highly visible to the motorists and contain amenities such as sheltered waiting areas and telephones.

#### 7. LANES ON ARTERIALS AND CBD STREETS RESERVED FOR BUSES

Concurrent-flow, contra-flow, reversible and median bus lanes on both major arterials and CBD streets may be found in at least thirty American cities. Table 1 contains a list of these cities and the date the first lanes were implemented. Since then, many of these cities have expanded and will continue to expand their reserved lane networks. The reduction in travel time has been found to depend on the length and the number of stops along the restricted portion of the route and the level of enforcement. Thus, express buses running on contra-flow arterial lanes realize greater time savings than local buses operating on concurrent-flow curb lanes within the CBD. Section 8 discusses the use of bus priority signal systems which can be used by buses travelling in reserved lanes to further decrease travel time. All of these options lead to improved scheduling adherence and reliability. The remainder of this section discusses important recent and upcoming preferential street projects.

San Francisco began a transit preferential street program in 1974. In 1975, exclusive transit lanes were installed on 1.02 miles (1.63 km) of Sutter Street and 0.74 miles (1.18 km) of Post Street. In 1976, both all-day and peak-hour bus lanes were instituted on 0.65 miles (1.04 km) of Mission Street. In 1977, reserved transit lanes were installed on 0.68 miles (1.09 km) of Geary Street and 0.41 miles (.66 km) of O'Farrell Street. The extension of the already existing lanes and the implementation of reserved lanes (both with-flow and contra-flow) and transit-only streets on other streets is contemplated for 1978 and 1979. In an attempt to make the lanes self-enforcing, the use of thermo-plastic striping (which is more permanent than paint), better signing (including overhead signs) and plastic lane buttons is planned for 1978. The City plans to establish an office with responsibility for the coordination, refinement, standardization and expansion of the transit preferential streets program.

In 1976, Washington, DC began implementing a system of reserved lanes. Reserved curb lanes are provided for both local and express buses running on nine different arterial streets from outside the CBD to the CBD during peak morning and in the opposite direction for evening periods. In the off-peak these lanes are used mostly for parking. Future plans call for providing reserved lanes at certain "key" areas within the CBD by the end of 1978.

Reserved bus lanes on Olive and Lindall Streets were implemented in St. Louis in 1976. A curb lane is reserved for both express and local buses running between Kingshighway Boulevard and the downtown CBD. The restrictions are in effect eastbound between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. and westbound between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. In

14

addition, a curb lane is reserved for buses on Locust Street between 4th and 12th Streets in the downtown area from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

In Portland, Oregon a reversible bus lane has been constructed in the center of Barbur Boulevard by removing the parking on both sides and narrowing the existing lanes. The project, which includes bus preemption, began operating in the spring of 1978. Express buses travel between a parkand-ride lot and the downtown core area, a distance of approximately six miles (9.6 km), during the morning and evening peak hours. During the off-peak this lane is used by other vehicles for left turns only.

In the fall of 1978, Chicago will implement contra-flow bus lanes on four consecutive east-west streets. The project cost is \$300,000. Bus time savings are expected to be from five to seven minutes on the .8 mile (1.3 km) length of each street. The average number of buses per street during the peak period is 74. These four streets cross the State Street Transit Mall, which is scheduled for completion in December 1978. Los Angeles is planning a .7 mile (1.12 km) contra-flow express bus lane on Glendale Boulevard. The two contra-flow lanes in Minneapolis, which were installed in 1974, are to be made permanent in the near future with the installation of a mountable concrete barrier.

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority has begun a feasibility study of reserved bus lanes in Boston and the neighboring towns. With-flow, contra-flow, and reserved median treatments are being considered. Implementation is expected to begin in 1979.

#### 8. BUS PRIORITY SIGNAL SYSTEMS ON ARTERIALS AND CBD STREETS

Bus priority signal systems may be either progression (fixed signal cycles where the green phase is sequenced at adjacent signalized intersections) or preemption (signal cycle controlled by the presence of a bus). Preemption may be active (an optical or radio emitter on the bus and a detector at the intersection; a transponder on the bus and a loop detector embedded in the roadway) or passive (a detector embedded in the roadway) or passive (a detector embedded in the roadway that recognizes the "signature" of a bus; a sensing device on a trolley wire). In general, the presence of the bus is noted at a single signalized intersection. However, it is possible to enter the position of the bus into a computerized traffic control system that can be programmed to give the bus a "green window" through a portion of the system.

The first preemption system (optical emitter) was installed at 12 intersections in Louisville, Kentucky in 1972 and is still in operation. In 1972, Washington, DC added a preemption capability to its computerized traffic control system, but this has been discontinued due to high information transmission costs, competing calls from the large number of buses and insufficient time savings. Miami installed an optical emitter system for express buses on NW 7th Avenue in 1974 on an experimental basis. In the same experiment, progression was also tested. Since then, the buses have been rerouted to a parallel freeway (see Section 2) and the preemption system has been removed.

Optical preemption systems have been implemented in California in Sacramento (three intersections), Santa Cruz (ten intersections), Santa Clara (twelve intersections), and Concord (twelve intersections). A bus preemption system has been installed on a reversible center lane on Barbur Boulevard in Portland, Oregon (see Section 7.). Detectors embedded in the pavement automatically trigger the traffic signals when a bus is approaching.

Impacts due to signal priority treatments are difficult to summarize since they are a function of many system parameters such as bus headways, whether buses are express or local, physical spacing of the intersections and detection distance, preemption strategy employed, sophistication of the signal controller, amount of cross traffic, presence of a reserved lane and constraints by the operating authority. The following general statements should, therefore, be treated in this context:

- Simulation studies and actual street tests show about a ten percent reduction in bus travel time in CBD grids with preemption. These savings can be very cost effective when considering bus operating costs and travel time savings for all bus passengers.
- Local buses or buses in non-reserved lanes have to stop frequently for passenger service or because of traffic congestion and, therefore, signal priority techniques, whether preemption or progression, are not as effective as in the case of express buses or buses in a reserved lane.
- The most effective application is for express buses travelling in a reserved lane. Travel time reductions of 30 percent have been observed.
- For express bus operation on reserved arterial lanes, signal progression appears to be nearly as effective as preemption at a significantly lower cost since many cities already have interconnected traffic signals.

Several new projects are planned. Dallas has installed a signal preemption system at 61 intersections on the service roads and major arterials paralleling the North Central Expressway. These will become operational in the fall of 1978 and will be used by buses travelling to and from the CBD.

The City of Houston is planning to implement a bus priority signal system at 24 intersections on a major transit arterial in November 1978. Twenty local and express buses will be equipped with control devices.

A study to design an express bus preemption system on the Poplar Avenue corridor in Memphis will be completed in May 1978. Approximately 22 intersections outside the CBD (alength of nine miles) will be included in the preemption system. About 20 express buses (ten in-bound and ten outbound) use this corridor during each peak period. Implementation is scheduled for late 1978.

Minneapolis plans to install a bus priority system on their two contra-flow bus streets and on the Nicollet Mall in 1979. Bus priority will be in effect for 25 blocks on each street and for eight blocks on the Mall. Loop vehicle detectors will be used to detect the bus "signature" and extend the amount of green time. In addition, buses will be able to preempt traffic signals at 21 other intersections.

St. Louis is studying signal timing changes to improve the performance of buses within the CBD. Philadelphia is considering installing signal pre-emption detectors on trolley wires on four lines in West Philadelphia in 1979.

Boston is developing priority signal systems along the surface sections of two light rail lines. Full implementation is expected in 1980. Boston is also considering a bus priority control of traffic signals to be implemented after 1980.

# 9. TRANSIT MALLS

A transit mall is a street on which standard transit vehicles are given exclusive or near-exclusive use, sidewalks are widened, and amenities are added for pedestrians and waiting transit patrons. As a compromise between preferential treatment for transit vehicles and a full pedestrian mall, transit malls may have an impact on transit service and economic conditions. Since the late 1960's, over a dozen transit malls have been built or are in some stage of development in the United States. During the past several years transit malls have been built in Philadelphia, Madison (Wisconsin), and Portland (Oregon). Table 3 summarizes these transit mall projects, as well as the widely acclaimed Nicollet Mall that was constructed in Minneapolis in 1967.

	1			
AMENITIES	Extensive, including electric snow-melting mats, sign ordinance, bus shelters	Typical, with mid- block crossing area.	Extensive, including bus shelters and concession booths, CRT information display.	Typical
MOVEMENT OF GOODS	Alley loading; mall loading by special permit.	Cross st. loading; on mall by special permit in off-hours	Cross st. loading; on mall by special permit in off-hours	Loading on alleys, cross streets, some curbside during restricted hours.
TRAFFIC SIGNAL TREATMENT	Re-set for cross traffic flow (computerized traffic control system scheduled).	Bus-triggered mid- block warning light. Signal timings set for expected bus speed. Timings on nearby street reset.	Computer controlled with progression to be adjusted for buses.	On Capitol Square set to make leaving concourse difficult.
PEDESTRIAN VOLUME	Before: 1,068/block side/hr., 12-hour period After 1,114/block side/hr., 12-hour period	After: 3,016/block side/hr., peak periods on major blocks	Before: 444 6th Ave./ 686 5th Ave./ block side/hr., off-peak periods.	
BUS VOLUME	Peak hr.: Before: 20/ea. way Atter: 60/ea. way	Peak hr.: Before: 43 (one way) After: 41(eastbound 11/westbound	Peak hr.: Before: 32 6th Ave. 85 5th Ave. Expected After: 207 6th Ave. 211 5th Ave.	Peak hr.: Before: 60 (2-way on State St., 1-way on Capitol Square)
NON-TRANSIT USES	Taxis Emergency vehicles Bicycles	Taxis at night, one block only day Emergency vehicles General traffic (1 block only)	General traffic on one lane for 3/4ths of blocks	General traffic on Capitol Concourse
SITE	MINNEAPOLIS – Nicollet Mall	PHILADELPHIA – Chestnut Street Transitway	PORTLAND – Fifth & Sixth Streets Mail	MADISON State Street Mail/ Capitol Concourse

TABLE 3. CHARACTERISTICS OF FOUR TRANSIT MALLS

Transit malls have been found to have the following impacts:

- Transit travel time remains nearly the same since a large portion of bus delay is due to loading/unloading and traffic signals.
- Schedule reliability is improved.
- The bus system is better understood and better regarded by the public.
- Traffic diversion does not cause significant congestion on alternate streets.
- Malls with exclusive transit use of the roadway encourage motorists to obey the traffic restrictions, compared to transit malls with partial auto access.
- Malls create an attractive and popular environment for pedestrians, although malls with large numbers of buses have problems of air and noise pollution.
- Non-pedestrian accidents decrease sharply, but pedestrian injuries and fatalities do not. Factors leading to accidents include increased jaywalking encouraged by low bus volumes and narrow roadways, the conversion of a one-way street to a two-way busway and the location of sidewalk amenities too close to the curb.
- Malls are generally favorable to retail business and help foster a cooperative spirit between business and government.
- Some businesses may be hurt by inconvenient access for delivery vehicles and motorists.
- Minimal relocation of utilities, special walkways and careful phasing of work limits the negative economic impact due to construction.

Transit malls are popular in the United States and many are currently under construction or are in the final planning stages. These are summarized below:

Fulton Street, the center of downtown Brooklyn's retail district, is being converted into a two lane, 2500 feet long transit mall. Sidewalks are being widened and pedestrain amenities installed. Five bus lines, emergency vehicles and, during specified hours, delivery trucks will be able to use the roadway. The cost is approximately \$4.5 million and construction is scheduled to be completed in 1979. A four block transit mall is currently being built on Detroit's Woodward Avenue. The roadway will have two lanes in each direction and the sidewalks widened. New plantings, bus shelters, kiosks, special paving treatment and a block long canopy are elements of the project. The mall will cost \$10 million. Also in Detroit, a \$4.4 million pedestrian mall is being constructed for four blocks along Washington Boulevard. This consists of a 120 foot wide pedestrian area and an 80 foot wide roadway. At one edge of the roadway is a trolley line with cars of vintage 1890 purchased from Lisbon, Portugal.

Construction of Chicago's State Street Transit Mall is scheduled to begin in the spring of 1978 and be completed by December 1978. The mall will extend for nine blocks, a distance of .75 miles (1.21 km). The sidewalks will be widened, and buses will travel in both directions on the two lane roadway. There will be bays at each corner capable of accommodating 3 buses. Three-hundred buses will use the facility during the peak hour periods. A subway line passes under eight blocks of the project, and the existing subway entrances will be remodeled. The project is expected to cost \$12.5 million. Nicollet Mall in Minneapolis will be extended three blocks to Grant Street during the summer of 1978.

Los Angeles plans to assess the effects of a two-way transit mall along Broadway between 2nd and 9th Streets through a 90 day demonstration in 1978. Temporary barriers and potted plants will be installed, and bus lines will be rerouted onto the transitway. Broadway is a major CBD shopping street. Present plans call for the transit mall to function 24 hours a day.

In St. Louis, a transit mall has been proposed on eight blocks (2700 feet, 810 meters) of Locust Street in the downtown office core. The Transitway would be one-way with two lanes open only to buses. Two center loading platforms per block would permit bus loading from the left lane. Sidewalk widths would be approximately doubled, to about 16 feet (5 meters). The mall is expected to carry 177 buses in the evening peak hours. The project is expected to cost \$4 million.

As part of a proposed 6.4 mile (10.2 km) light rail system for the Buffalo CBD, one mile (1.6 km) of the system running along Main Street in the retail section is to be a transit mall. Construction is scheduled to begin in the fall of 1978.

Denver is planning to build an 11 block transit mall on 16th Street, the main commercial street. Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 1979 and be completed in 1980. The mall will include transfer facilities at each end, where bus passengers will change to the electric vehicles used exclusively on the mall. Sidewalks will be widened, and there will be vehicle paths in each direction and a pedestrian promenade in the center.

#### 10. AUTO RESTRICTED ZONES

An auto restricted zone (ARZ) is an area created in a congested portion of the city, such as the central business district or a shopping district, where automobile traffic is prohibited or restricted. At its core is a pedestrian and transit enhancement zone, a space set aside for predestrians and improved transit access. To this core a host of elements can be added: linear transit malls that extend or connect the core to other pedestrian activity centers, reserved bus lanes, transit and taxi facilities, peripheral parking garages, internal or feeder shuttle service, ring roads for the rerouting of through traffic, underground rapid or light rail facilities, congestion pricing for entry into the ARZ and priority treatment on highways providing access to the area.

An ARZ has several essential elements:

- It is, in general, two dimensional and not the linear pedestrian shopping streets that can be found in over seventy American cities.
- It has a core area where the automobile has been completely prohibited such as a transit or pedestrian plaza.
- Through traffic has been diverted around the area.
- Pedestrian amenities have been enhanced.
- Transit service to (and within) the ARZ has been improved.
- It is linked to other urban activity centers by transit or pedestrian ways.
- There is an internal circulation system for transit, delivery, and emergency vehicles.

Unlike the transit mall concept which has been growing in popularity throughout the United States without the need for encouragement from the Federal Government, the ARZ, with its broader reorganization of traffic in the downtown is the subject of a major developmental effort by the Department of Transportation. A two year study to evaluate the feasibility of the auto restricted zone concept and to develop initial demonstration designs in several selected cities has been completed. The following conclusions about ARZ planning and implementation have been reached: there are substantial opportunities for ARZ's in American cities; city size is not critical to ARZ success; a strong activity base is required; a wide range of techniques is available; the complete prohibition of auto traffic is not the only option; ARZ size is a key determinant of transportation impacts; and the key transportation factor is maintaining accessibility.

Results from this study have been used to select prospective ARZ sites and to develop initial plans for demonstrations. The four potential ARZ demonstration projects (New York, Memphis, Providence and Boston) are summarized in Table 4. They offer considerable variation to the ARZ theme and provide an opportunity to test the ARZ concept in different types of environments and with different designs. Demonstrations at these sites are expected to be funded, implemented and evaluated over the next several years.

The Boston ARZ, which will be implemented in early fall, 1978, includes a transit mall, several street closings, pedestrian amenities and rerouting of buses to provide improved CBD access. It will serve to link the Washington Street shopping area to the other major pedestrian activity centers: the Boston Common, the Waterfront, and Government Center.

The Providence ARZ will provide an important pedestrian and transit link between the other major CBD activity centers: the retail district that already has a pedestrian mall, the financial district and the refurbished Union Station. Limited right-of-way space is to be reallocated to pedestrian and transit while major through circulation for automobiles has been moved to the periphery. The plan, which will be implemented in the fall, 1979, calls for a main transit terminal, two busways, a bus lane, and a pedestrian plaza in front of City Hall. Through-routing of transit vehicles and a fare free zone is also planned.

New York's Broadway Plaza will consist of an auto free area on Broadway betwen 45th and 48th Streets in the heart of the Theater District and a transit mall from 48th to 49th streets. Sidewalk widenings will occur as far north on Broadway as 54th Street. Traffic currently using this section of Broadway will be rerouted onto parallel 7th Avenue. Bus and taxi loading areas, a transit information center and pedestrian amenities are included in the plan which will be implemented in Spring 1980. It is anticipated that Broadway Plaza will revitalize the area economically and provide a pleasant environment for workers, shoppers, tourists and theatergoers.

DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS	New York	Broadway, between 45th & 59th Streets.	Theater district, offices, service & light retail uses (including pornogra- phy stores).	Times Square is a major subway terminus for the three lines: it is served by 5 bus routes operating up to 120 buses/hour; it is also the focus for special bus operations ("Culture Bus Loop," "Midtown Shopper's Loop," and "A Night on the Town").	Most north-south blocks in the project area carry several thousand pedes- trians at midday and eve- ning peaks.
ZONE	Providence	Various parts of Providence CBD.	Financial district, retail center, Kennedy Plaza & Union Station.	Within statewide transit system, 32 routes serve CBD & carry 30,000 passen- gers/day.	Pedestrian activity peaks during lunch time; a 2nd high period is between 4 & 6 p.m. Westminster Mall & section of Wybosset St. adjacent to Mall carry high
PROPOSED AUTO RESTRI	Memphis	Existing special taxing district in the Memphis CBD & Medical Center area, 1.25 miles out-side CBD.	Office, Banking & retail- ing uses.	CBD is served by 51 tran- sit routes, which serve areas to north, south, & east. 23 are peak hour routes.	Mid-America Mall is a major pedestrian area, linking 2 important areas, Court Square & Civic Center Plaza,
CHARACTERISTICS OF FOUR PROPOSED AUTO RESTRICTED	Boston	Core retail & financial districts of Boston CBD.	Retail (principally) & office uses.	CBD is hub of regional transit network that offers a broad array of services (rapid transit, local bus, express bus, shuttle bus, rail & taxi)	At peak, pedestrian vol- umes on Washington, Tre- mont, Summer & Franklin are in 5,000-9,000/hour range; facilities to accommodate these vol- umes lacking.
TABLE 4. CHARP	Characteristics	Project Area	Area Land Use	Transit Availability	Pedestrian Activity

DEMONSTRATION	New York	Area considered "weak" although census figures show Manhattan CBD, includ- ing Times Square, faring better than most CBD's as retail center.	Construction beginning summer 1978; completed after 12-14 months.	\$6,250,000.	UMTA (Sec.3) \$2,368,000 UMTA (Sec.6) 500,000 Urban Systems 1,498,000 State & Local 1,234,000 HUD Community 650,000	To promote economic deve- lopment of area and create focal point to improve identity of Times Square.	Broadway between 45th & 48th closed to all traffic, between 48th & 49th a one- block transitway; between 49th & 54th widened side- walks and priority treat- ment for buses; between 54th and 59th priority treatment for buses.
AUTO RESTRICTED ZONE	Providence	After construction of Westminster Mall, retail sales in CBD increased by 1.5%, compared to 20% de- cline in rest of city.	Construction during summer 1979; com - pleted winter 1979- 80.	\$5,866,000.	UMTA(Sec.3)\$3,925,000 UMTA(Sec.6) 960,000 Local 981,000	Promote economic vi- tality of CBD, en- hance pedestrian en- vironment, and im- prove transit service	Auto traffic elimi- nated from Dorrance & Francis (transit malls), Kennedy Plaza/Union Station & 1-block extension of Westminster Mall.
FOUR PROPOSED	Memphis	CBD retail position declining in face of competition from sub- urban retail outlets.	Construction during late summer and fall 1978; completed winter 1978.	\$1,241,820.	UMTA (Sec. 6) \$960,000 State 100,000 Local 181,822	To connect independent elements of downtown & to coordinate their op- eration for short-range downtown improvement.	No major changes.
(Cont'd).CHARACTERISTICS OF PROJECTS	Boston	Since 1972, a 14% con- stant dollar decline in retail sales; however, vacant retail floor space is minimal & major retail establishments are showing commitment to CBD	Construction during summer 1978; completed fall 1978.	\$3,217,955.	UMTA (Sec. 3)\$ 795,000 UMTA (Sec. 6) 1,516,955 Urban Systems 906,000	To increase retail sales, bus ridership & pedes- trian volumes.	Auto traffic eliminated from all of Winter, Haw- ley, Temple Place & por- tions of 4 other streets; circulation pattern sim- plified.
TABLE 4 (Cont'd	Characteristics	Economic Viability	Project Status	Project Cost	Funding Sources	Primary Objectives	Vehicle Restrictions/Road System Changes

TABLE 4 (Cont'd). CHARACTFRISTICS OF FOUR PROPOSED AUTO RESTRICTED ZONE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS	New York	Revised bus routes due to detour caused by Broadway Plaza; special taxi and transit loading areas; transit information center.	Deliveries before ll am.	On-street parking elimi- nated.	Pedestrian plazas & side- walk improvements.
	Providence	Through bus routing & free fare zone downtown; new tran- sit terminal berths, busway & terminals.	Re-routing, creation of loading areas, & loading restrictions.	Elimination of 242 spaces.	Exclusive pedestrian areas; sidewalk im- provements.
	Memphis	Shuttle bus service to Medical Center area; new downtown bus terminal; 2 Medical Center bus shelters; transit market- ing.	No changes.	No changes.	Sidewalk improvements.
	Boston	Bus route changes ex- clusive transitways & contraflow bus lanes; 5 new taxi stands.	Deliveries before ll am except for certain time dependent deliveries permitted after 2 pm.	Elimination of 600 spaces.	Full pedestrianization of some streets. In- creased space on others.
TABLE 4 (Cont	Characteristics	Transit Modifications	Goods Movement Changes	Parking Changes	Changes in Pedestrian System

Since Memphis has already implemented a major component of an ARZ, an eight block pedestrian mall, the current project has been designed to build on this initiative. The demonstration will be focused in and between the downtown area and the Medical Center one and a-half miles to the east. The demonstration includes the development of a dcwntown transit terminal, sidewalk improvements, Medical Center shelters and shuttle bus service between the CBD and the Medical Center. There will be no street closures or traffic reroutings and no changes in goods delivery access. These changes occurred with the initiation of construction of the Mid-America Mall in 1975.

#### REFERENCES

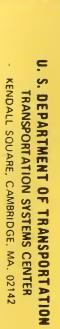
- 1. N.D. Lea Transportation Research Corporation, Lea Transit Compendium, Vol. III, No. 7, 1976-1977.
- 2. M.J. Rothenberg, <u>Priority Treatment for High Occupancy</u> <u>Vehicles: Project Status Report</u>, Report No. FHWA-RD-77-56, March 1977.
- 3. Herbert S. Levinson, <u>Bus Priorities Revisited</u>, presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Engineers, San Diego, April 1976.
- 4. <u>Preferential</u> <u>Facilities for Carpools and Buses:</u> <u>Seven</u> <u>Reports</u>, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Washington DC, May 1976.
- 5. Andrews and Clark, Inc., <u>Cn Expressway Treatments for</u> <u>Priority Vehicles, State-of-the-Art</u>, New York State Department of Transportation, December 1977.
- 6. Andrews and Clark, Inc., <u>Implications</u> for the <u>LIE</u> <u>Project</u>, New York State Department of Transportation, December 1977.
- 7. John W. Billheimer, et al., <u>The Santa Monica Freeway</u> <u>Diamond Lanes</u>, Report No. UMTA-MA-06-0049-77-12/13, September 1977.
- 8. Howard J. Simkowitz, <u>A Comparative Analysis of Results</u> from <u>Three Recent Ncn-Separated Concurrent-Flow High</u> <u>Occupancy Freeway Lane Projects: Boston, Santa Monica,</u> <u>and Miami</u>, U.S. Department of Transportation, Report No. UMTA-MA-06-0049-78-2, July 1978.
- Howard J. Simkowitz, <u>Southeast Expressway High</u> <u>Occupancy Vehicle Lane Evaluation Report</u>, U.S. Department of Transportation, Report No. UMTA-MA-06-0049-78-4, July 1978.
- 10. <u>Service and Methods Demonstration Program Annual</u> <u>Report</u>, U.S. Department of Transportation, Report No. UMTA-MA-06-0049-78-6, May 1978.
- 11. <u>Center City Environment and Transportation: Local</u> <u>Government Solution</u>, prepared by Public Technology, Inc. for the Urban Consortium for Technology Initiatives, December 1977.
- 12. Joseph Wattleworth, et al., <u>Evaluation of the N.W. 7th</u> <u>Avenue Express Bus and Bus Priority Systems</u>, prepared for the Florida Department of Transportation, September 1977.

- 13. Charles Kalauskas, et al., <u>Southeast Expressway-</u> <u>Evaluation of the Downtown Express Lane</u>, Central Transportation Planning Staff, December 1977.
- 14. John Crain, <u>Third Year Report Evaluation of Express</u> <u>Busway on San Bernardino Freeway</u>, prepared for Southern California Association of Governments, 1976.
- 15. <u>HOV Lane Project Quarterly Report</u>, Oregon Department of Transportation, April 1977.
- 16. Jon Twicnell, <u>A Report on the Status of the Transit</u> <u>Preferential Streets Frogram as of July 1, 1977</u>, Transportation Folicy Group, City of San Francisco.
- 17. David Koffman and Richard Edminster, <u>Streets</u> for <u>Pedestrian</u> and <u>Transit:</u> <u>Examples</u> of <u>Transit</u> <u>Malls</u> in <u>the United</u> <u>States</u>, keport No. UMTA-MA-06-0049-77-11, August 1977.
- Robert C. Lassiter, <u>Preferential Treatment for High</u> <u>Occupancy Vehicles in Florida</u>, presented at the Institute of Transportation Engineers Conference, Atlanta, August 1978.
- Status of the Urban Corridor Demonstration Program, U.S. Department of Transportation, DOT P 6500.2, August 1977.

1000 Copies







00352091

OFFICIAL BUSINESS PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300



POSTAGE AND FEES PAID U. S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

518