

Game Day Mobility Lane

WHAT IT IS

The Game Day Mobility Lane is a one-day test with the goal of trying different ways to improve mobility in Columbus by getting visitors to The Ohio State University - Penn State football game. Starting at 10 a.m. on Saturday, November 23, the southbound curb lane along North High Street from Dodridge Street to Lane Avenue will be dedicated to bus, bike and scooter traffic only. Cones will mark off the area. Immediately after the start of the football game at noon, the cones will move to the northbound flow of traffic. At that time the northbound curb lane of North High Street will be dedicated to bus, bike and scooter traffic. The northbound traffic flow change will be in place during the game and for two hours after the game is over. The public is encouraged to pledge to ride via bus, bike or scooter during the test at COTA.com/Pledge.

WHY

The Game Day Mobility Lane test is the second in a series of [Mobility Innovation Tests \(MIT\)](#). Also called [tactical urbanism](#) projects, these temporary, low-cost improvements to streets are used to try out new traffic patterns, gather feedback and collect data.

These tests will help COTA and the city evaluate new ways to meet the transportation needs of our growing city. The first test was on Third Street downtown. By dedicating the curb lane to buses, bikes and scooters, COTA saw a 25% time savings and reduced the travel time in the corridor from 3-24 minutes to 2-10 minutes.

BENEFITING COTA LINES

1, 2, 31, 102

RED = Frequent Service

BLUE = Standard Service



NOVEMBER 23, 2019
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Southbound Only

12 p.m. - During and After Game
Northbound Only

WHAT TO EXPECT



PEOPLE RIDING BUSES

The test will help free buses from pre- and post-game traffic congestion on North High Street. COTA customers can expect buses that are more likely to stay on schedule, and will experience shorter average travel times on High Street before and after the game. Note that bus operators will be instructed not to pass people riding bicycles or scooters. COTA customers can use the COTA Connector app, available in the Apple Store and Google Play for cash-free payment on all buses. See bus line schedules at [COTA/trip-planner](https://www.cota.com/trip-planner).



PEOPLE RIDING BIKES AND SCOOTERS

During test hours, the lane width will measure 10 feet and be separated from regular traffic by orange cones. Regular motor vehicle traffic will be prohibited in the shared lane. Buses will share the lane, but bike and scooter riders will often have the shared lane to themselves. Bus drivers are being instructed not to crowd or pass people riding bikes or scooters. Bike and scooter riders are encouraged to:

- ▶ Use the full shared lane and move at a comfortable speed
- ▶ Pass stopped buses if there is a safe opening to do so (COTA buses flash their hazard lights when picking up passengers and turn on their left turn signal when the bus is about to move)
- ▶ Allow a minimum of three feet when passing other vehicles. Never pass transit buses on the right because this presents a danger to yourself and to people exiting or boarding the bus



PEOPLE DRIVING

Drivers will be prohibited from merging or entering the test lane prematurely when turning right. Right turns will still be permitted at most streets and alleys. Orange cones will separate the lanes and parking will be prohibited from 10 a.m. until two hours after the game on Saturday during the test period. COTA has hired extra patrols to enforce these restrictions. Buses will not merge into and out of travel lanes with cars.



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MOBILITY INNOVATION TESTS

ENFORCEMENT AND SAFETY

COTA will provide additional operator training in advance of the test. Bus operators are being advised to travel with bicyclists at an average speed of 9-10 mph and instructed not to crowd or pass bicyclists or scooter riders. Temporary signage will notify riders how to use the lane, orange cones will separate the pop-up mobility lane from car traffic, and special duty parking and traffic enforcement will be onsite for the entirety of the test.

MOBILITY INNOVATION TESTS OVERVIEW

This series of tests involves low-cost, temporary changes using the principles of tactical urbanism. In May 2019, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) released results of its insight2050 Corridor Concepts study, an analysis undertaken to equip Central Ohio communities with tools to prepare for the region's growth over the next several decades. In concert with the study results and following proposals from community members at the Purple Aisle Transportation Innovation Weekend held November 2018, the city and COTA are pursuing this series of iterative, evidence-based tests to develop an even better transportation system to meet future mobility needs. Project partners are looking at innovative ways to move more people safer, faster and efficiently.

These tests will allow the city, COTA and their partners to collect and analyze data and feedback from all types of roadway users to understand what permanent solutions may be possible and what further tests may be appropriate.



Visit columbus.gov/mobilityinnovation for more information