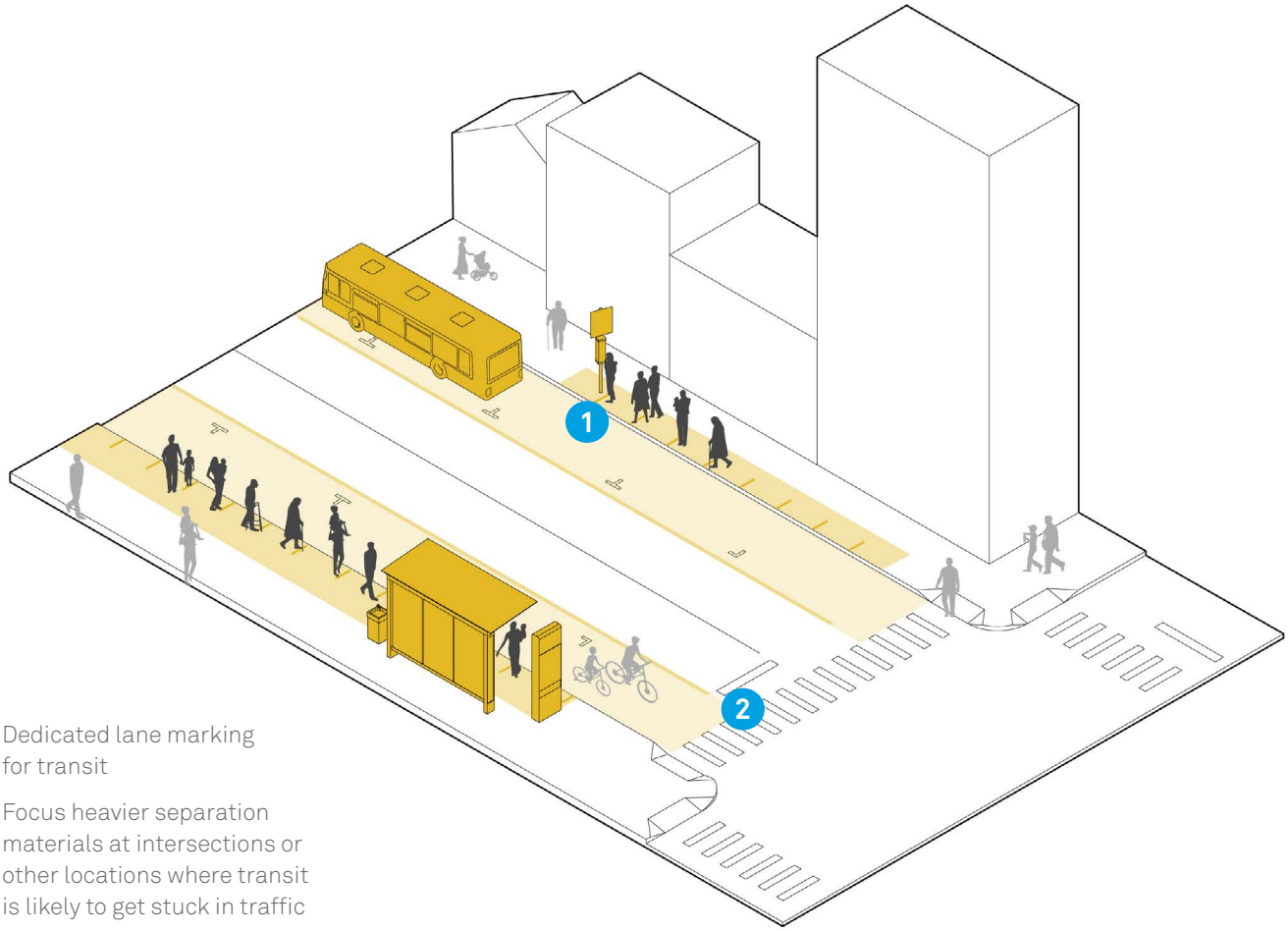
TRANSIT LANES



1. Dedicated lane marking for transit
2. Focus heavier separation materials at intersections or other locations where transit is likely to get stuck in traffic

Provide or expand transit-only/ transit-priority lanes to make on-street transit a reliable and efficient form of transportation for the people who need it most.

CONTEXT

- High-ridership transit corridors and routes that serve transit-dependent communities and essential businesses/services.

KEY STEPS

- Convert curbside parking or motor vehicle lanes to surface transit lanes.
- Designate the transit lane with lane markings, regulatory signs, electronic signs if available, and vertical elements such as cones.

TIMELINE: Weeks to plan, days/weeks to implement.

DURATION: Several months to two to three years.

Credit: City of Boston

Boston, MA, USA

MBTA installed a new permanent bus lane on Washington Street, which was preceded by a temporary lane using orange traffic cones.

Planning

- Prioritize routes and implement improvements, such as transit lanes and signal priority, in transit-dependent communities and routes leading to essential locations with higher ridership or demand.
- Focus heavier interventions around intersections known to cause transit delays, as well as new emerging pinch points based on changes in travel patterns.
- Identify locations for relief vehicles if riders are frequently passed up due to overcrowding.
- Change signs, signals, and markings to mitigate significant turning conflicts where necessary.
- Consider removing parking, curb access, or loading zones; minimize impacts on essential businesses.
- Determine most critical segments based on speed and delay; lanes can be as short as a block or as long as several miles.

Engagement

- Leverage existing communications networks and social media channels, such as transit advocacy groups, neighborhood associations, and large employers.
- Post notices in vehicles, at stops, online, and in newsletters to publicize changes and solicit feedback.
- Message goals from the outset to align with current performance and signal future changes to traffic conditions and transit ridership.

Design + Implementation

- Measure and mark locations and add signage to indicate hours of operations.
- Install cones and/or barrels, delineator posts, or paint with “Bus Only” markings.
- Signage may be static or VMS, depending on availability and resources.
- For recovery planning, upgrade from temporary to permanent materials. See Transit Street Design Guide.

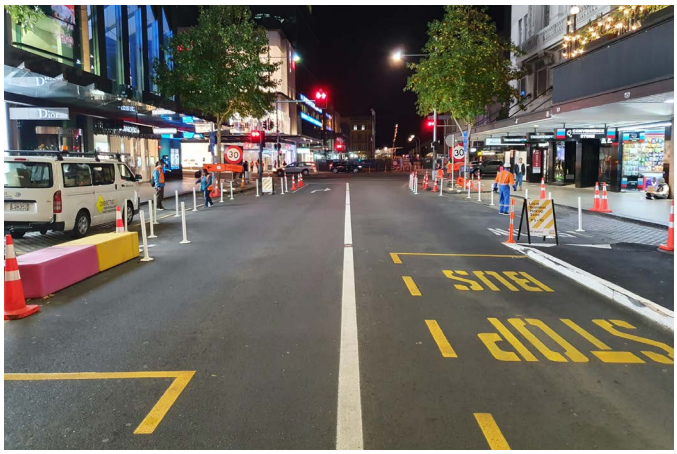
Monitoring

- Key criteria: collect ridership, crowding, and travel time data; adjust for operational performance as well as public health guidance.
- Coordinate with parking and traffic enforcement agents to prevent private vehicles from stopping, parking, or traveling in lanes; focus attention as implementation begins.

Credit: SFMTA

San Francisco, CA, USA

SFMTA prioritized a core network and began improvements to enhance transit performance for essential workers.



Credit: Auckland Transport

Auckland, New Zealand

Auckland makes space for new bus stops and transit lanes on Queen Street.