DELEGATED AUTHORITY OBJECTIONS REPORT – SERIAL NO. W1-5907

TRAFFIC ORDERS – VARIOUS STREETS

MOTORCYCLES IN BUS LANES
(DRAWING NOS. 11677051-CD-01 TO 08 AND 11)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In June 2011 the City Council issued a brief to West One to carry out a feasibility study to determine whether solo motorcycles should be permitted to use dedicated with-flow bus lanes where taxis and pedal cycles are already permitted. This follows on from work in September 2005 where solo motorcycles were permitted, on an experimental basis, to use 13 bus lanes along nine streets within the City. The scheme was made permanent in 2007.

The latest study of an additional 15 bus lane sites is complete and 8 sites have been deemed suitable to allow access for solo motorcycles. These sites are in the following streets and shown on drawing Nos. 11677051-CD-01 to 08 and 11.

- Abingdon Street and Millbank (southbound);
- Buckingham Palace Road (northbound);
- Harrow Road (northbound);
- Queensway (northbound);
- Regent Street (north and southbound);
- Shaftesbury Avenue (eastbound);
- Strand (north and southbound); and
- Whitehall and Parliament Street (north and southbound).

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that solo motorcycles be permitted, on a trial basis, to use the bus lanes identified in this report.

STATEMENT OF REASONS

Westminster City Council proposes to make the above Order, the effect of which will be to introduce a scheme that will allow powered two wheelers to use the following bus lanes in the City of Westminster on a trial basis.

- Abingdon Street and Millbank (southbound);
- Buckingham Palace Road (northbound);
- Harrow Road (westbound);
- Queensway (northbound);
- Regent Street (north and southbound);
- Shaftesbury Avenue (eastbound);
- Strand (north and southbound); and
- Whitehall and Parliament Street (north and southbound).
Please note that, as part of the proposed highway improvement works in Regent Street, the existing bus lanes located in Regent Street, south of its junctions with Vigo Street and Glasshouse Street, will be removed. The section of the southbound bus lane (south of the Quadrant Arcade) has been suspended to allow works to be carried out. The northbound bus lane (between Piccadilly Circus and the Quadrant Arcade) is due to be removed in June 2012. The remaining sections of the bus lanes south of Vigo Street and Glasshouse Street will be removed as part of Phase II of the works, which will be carried out in early 2013. It is intended that motorcycles will be permitted to use each section of the bus lanes until their removal.

The intent of the Order is to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of traffic including powered two wheeler riders and pedestrians.

The Council conducted a similar trial that started in September 2005 and was made permanent in 2007 on other bus lanes. It will carefully monitor this trial as conditions can vary between bus lanes, using an Oversight Group with representations from road users including Transport for London, the Motorcycle Action Group, the London Cycling Campaign, Living Street and Sustrans.

The City Council is proceeding by way of a trial in order to confirm that this proposal will benefit road users. The Council will consider in due course whether the provisions of the experimental Orders should be continued in force indefinitely by means of Orders made under sections 6 and 124 of and Part IV of Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

I agree / do not agree to the above recommendations and statement of reasons and give the following authorisations:

(a) that procedural steps be taken with a view to a Traffic Order being made under section 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended;

(b) that subject to the outcome of the trial and no objection being received as a result of public notice and consultation, consideration be given to whether the provisions of the experimental Order should be continued in force indefinitely by means of a permanent Order;

(c) that in the event of objections being received, they be referred to me for consideration and reported to the Cabinet Members if I consider it to be necessary in accordance with the City Council’s procedures, following which I will decide whether or not the Traffic Order should be made permanent, with or without modification.

Signed

City Commissioner of Transportation – Built Environment

Date 6 March 2012
NOTES
IT IS PROPOSED TO ALLOW MOTORCYCLES IN THIS EXISTING SOUTHBOUND BUS LANE, WHICH OPERATES BETWEEN 7AM AND 7PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY.
NOTES
IT IS PROPOSED TO ALLOW MOTORCYCLES IN THIS EXISTING NORTHBOUND BUS LANE, WHICH OPERATES AT ANY TIME THROUGHOUT THE WEEK.

KEY
EXISTING BUS LANE

BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD

BELGRAVE ROAD

ECCLESTON PLACE

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KEY

EXISTING BUS LANE

NOTES:
IT IS PROPOSED TO ALLOW MOTORCYCLES IN THIS EXISTING WESTBOUND BUS LANE, WHICH OPERATES BETWEEN 7AM TO 10AM AND 4PM TO 7PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY.
NOTES
IT IS PROPOSED TO ALLOW MOTORCYCLES IN THIS EXISTING NORTHBOUND BUS LANE, WHICH OPERATES AT ANY TIME THROUGHOUT THE WEEK.
IT IS PROPOSED TO ALLOW MOTORCYCLES IN THESE BUS LANES, WHICH OPERATE:

(A) BETWEEN 7AM AND 7PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY,
(B) BETWEEN 11AM AND MIDNIGHT THROUGHOUT THE WEEK.
1. It is proposed to allow motorcycles in these bus lanes, which operate between 11 AM and midnight throughout the week.

2. Please note that, as part of the proposed highway improvement works in Regent Street, the existing bus lanes located in Regent Street, south of its junctions with Vigo Street and Glasshouse Street, will be removed. The section of the southbound bus lane (south of the Quadrant Arcade) has been suspended to allow works to be carried out. The northbound bus lane (between Piccadilly Circus and the Quadrant Arcade) is due to be removed in June 2012. The remaining sections of the bus lanes south of Vigo Street and Glasshouse Street will be removed as part of Phase II of the works, which will be carried out in early 2013. It is intended that motorcycles will be permitted to use each section of the bus lanes until their removal.
NOTES
IT IS PROPOSED TO ALLOW MOTORCYCLES IN THIS EXISTING EASTBOUND BUS LANE, WHICH OPERATES AT ANY TIME THROUGHOUT THE WEEK.
NOTES
IT IS PROPOSED TO ALLOW MOTORCYCLES IN THESE EXISTING NORTHBOUND AND SOUTHBOUND BUS LANES, WHICH OPERATE BETWEEN 7AM TO 10AM AND 4PM TO MIDNIGHT THROUGHOUT THE WEEK.
NOTES
IT IS PROPOSED TO ALLOW MOTORCYCLES
IN THESE BUS LANES, WHICH OPERATE AT
ANY TIME THROUGHOUT THE WEEK.

MOTORCYCLES IN BUS LANES
WHITEHALL AND PARLIAMENT STREET
NORTHBOUND AND SOUTHBOUND BUS LANES

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City of Westminster
SAFE STREETS
City Commissioner of Transportation

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