



MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

Fact Sheet

Bus priority

This fact sheet forms part of series of fact sheets about the NSW Government's Bus Reform strategy. Bus Reform will result in private and government bus operators developing routes, timetables and passenger services that meet the changing demands of our cities and suburbs.

What is Bus Reform?

The Bus Reform strategy is the NSW Government's response to the recommendations of the Review of Bus Services in New South Wales, which was carried out in 2003. The aim of the Review was to create a bus transport system with common standards of fares and service levels.

There are six parts of the Bus Reform strategy:

1. New bus regions – creating a robust contract with fewer bus operators
- 2. Bus priority – better travel times for buses**
3. Integrated network planning – fast, frequent and direct bus services
4. Fairer fares – standard ticket prices across Sydney
5. Integrated ticketing – one ticket for all buses, regardless of the operator
6. Bus fleet upgrade – new buses with air-conditioning and low floors.

What is bus priority?

Giving buses priority on major roads helps to create more efficient bus services and more reliable bus travel times. Improving bus travel times helps to:

- increase bus use
- reduce dependency on cars
- reduce traffic congestion, and
- improve air quality.

There are 43 strategic bus corridors identified across Sydney (see map overleaf) linking Major Centres and Town Centres across the entire metropolitan area. These corridors will be used to increase the priority of buses on our roads. \$235 million has been allocated for expenditure between 2005 and 2012 to improve bus priority on roads in these corridors. An additional \$100 million has been allocated to improve bus time travel on Victoria Road.

Initiatives for increasing priority for buses include:

- bus and bus-only lanes and bus 'B' signals
- colouring all bus lanes red (except M2 motorway and T-ways bus routes)
- installing bus lane cameras to reduce illegal use by private motorists
- introducing more transit lanes, and
- installing a public transport priority traffic signal system that uses satellite technology.

FAST BUS FACT

Buses will use satellite technology to get priority on our roads. PTIPS – Public Transport Information Priority System – identifies late running buses, communicates with the RTA's traffic management system and then gives extra "green time" to buses at traffic lights.

This fact sheet has been prepared for community consultation on bus planning.
For further information please visit the Ministry of Transport's web site at www.transport.nsw.gov.au