

BUS EXPRESS RAPID TRANSIT (BERT) NETWORK BUS-ON-SHOULDER INTERIM PROJECT FACT SHEET

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Bus Express Rapid Transit (BERT) Network is a system of eight new express bus routes that are part of the Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan. To help maintain travel time reliability, two of the BERT Network routes, f1 Beach Express North and f2 Beach Express Central, will utilize a Bus-on-Shoulder operation along the SR 112/I-195/Julia Tuttle Causeway.

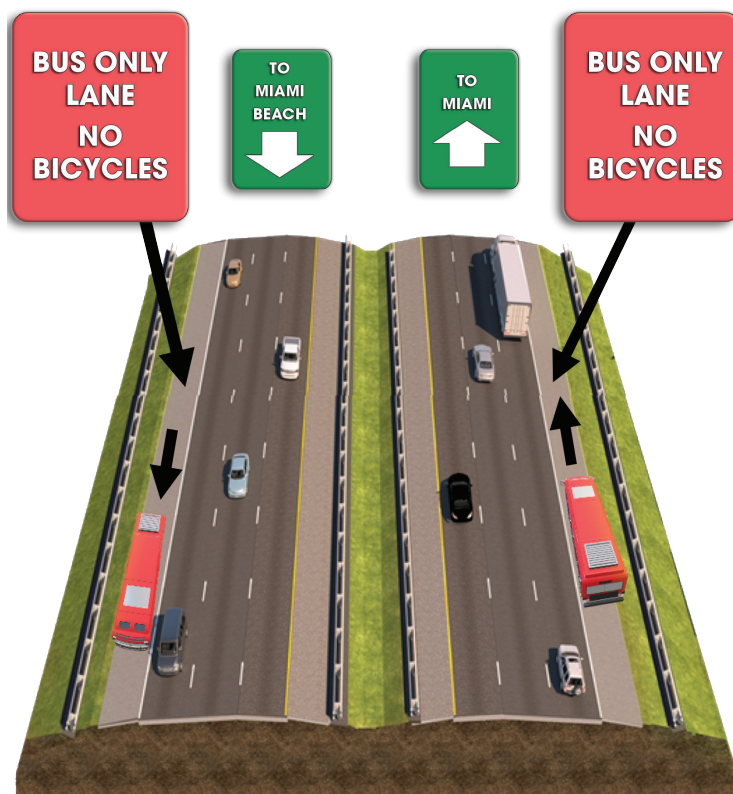
This operation will allow buses to bypass congestion when travel speeds drop below 35 mph; and use the causeway shoulder instead. The Bus-on-Shoulder operation will restrict bicycle shoulder use along the causeway.



The design and construction of the inside shoulder improvements needed to accommodate the buses is being conducted by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) beginning 2021 and is expected to be completed in 2023. While that construction is underway, the Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) will start an interim Bus-on-Shoulder service for current bus routes running on the SR 112/I-195/Julia Tuttle Causeway to bypass traffic and run on the outside shoulder of the causeway. This interim Bus-on-Shoulder service will continue until construction of the inside shoulder begins, currently scheduled to begin in Summer 2022 and completed April 2023, after which the f1 and f2 BERT routes would shift service to the inside shoulder.

IMPACT TO BICYCLISTS

While construction and the interim Bus-on-Shoulder service are underway, cyclists will not be permitted to use the shoulders of the SR 112/I-195/Julia Tuttle Causeway. The Venetian or MacArthur causeways should be used as alternates. Once construction is complete, the FDOT will reapply to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to reopen the outside shoulder for bicycle use. The shoulder will remain closed until FHWA approval is granted to reopen. Pedestrians are not permitted by State Statutes, on Limited Access transportation facilities.



ABOUT THE BERT NETWORK

2021 – BUS ON SHOULDER (OUTSIDE SHOULDER - INTERIM)

The eight BERT Network routes will provide reliable and convenient express bus service connecting commuters to and from the six SMART Plan Rapid Transit Corridors and major employment centers. The BERT Network is designed for commuters with limited stops over long distances, providing a money-saving stress-free transportation option. BERT routes are being phased in over time between 2019 and 2027 as construction of Park and Ride facilities, managed lanes and other infrastructure improvements are completed.

STAY INFORMED

For more information about the BERT Network, contact Public Information Officer Yvette Holt at 786-476-2852 or by email at BERT@miamidade.gov. For more information about SR 112/I-195/Julia Tuttle Causeway shoulder construction, contact FDOT Senior Community Outreach Specialist Consultant Rodolfo Roman at 786-519-7160. For SMART Plan information, visit: <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/transportation/corridor-plans.page>