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Edens Expressway Bus on Shoulder Study Chicago, IL

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Edens Expressway Bus on Shoulders Presentation Overview

- Location and context of the study area
- History of Bus on Shoulders in Illinois
- Edens Expressway (Interstate 94) Study

Project Location Typical Traffic Conditions



Source: google maps

Chicagoland Transit services

- Regional Transit Authority (RTA)
 - Chicago Transit Authority (CTA)
 - Metra Rail
 - Pace Bus Suburban service



Source: Illinois DOT



Source: Regional Transit Authority

Managed Lanes in Chicagoland

- Bus on Shoulders (BOS) on I-55
- Shoulder riding allowed on I-190
- Reversible Express Lanes on I-90/I-94
- No HOV/HOT/ETL lanes
- Ongoing managed lane studies



Bus on Shoulders

 Bus on Shoulder (BOS) current operations on Interstate 55



 Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Study Edens Expressway



History of Bus on Shoulders Interstate 55 Corridor

Bus on Shoulder (BOS) on Interstate 55

- Only pace buses are allowed
- Left side shoulder operations
- 18 miles implemented in 2011
- 4 additional miles of operation in 2014





History of Bus on Shoulders Interstate 55 Corridor (cont'd)





Source: Google earth

Edens Expressway Bus on Shoulder Study

- 14 miles of study on Interstate 94
 - Foster Avenue to Lake Cook Road
- Six-lane cross-section with ADTs up to 160,000
- Significant daily traffic congestions
- Buses operate currently on this corridor



Bus on Shoulder Study Transit Choices



Source: google maps

Source: Chicago Regional Transit Authority

Transit Map – Rail & Bus

Bus on Shoulder Study Project Purpose

- Improve Reliability
 - Unreliable travel times
 - On-time performance (63%)



More Detail | Custom Query

Existing Conditions Physical Constraints – Roadway Engineering





Source: google maps

Bridges

- Guardrails
- Shoulder widths
- Vertical clearance

Shoulder condition and widths

- Left side
- Right side

Existing Constraints Traffic Operations, Enforcement



Traffic Operations:

- Weaving operations at interchanges
- Limited sight distance at interchanges
- Ramp metering compliance
- Existing "five percent" crash locations
- System Interchanges



Only right side shoulder is effectively useable



Edens Expressway Design Criteria

- BOS Lane Width
 - Over the bridges
 - Under the bridges
- Superelevation
- Vertical Clearance
- Operating Speeds
- Rumble Strip

Field Trip – Test Drive



- Field Observations
- Stakeholders
 - Pace, the local suburban transit bus service
 - Illinois State Police
 - FHWA
 - IDOT Central office, District's Bureau of Traffic, Bureau of Maintenance

Proposed Improvements

- Proposed Bus operations on right side shoulder
 - Resurfacing all the outside shoulders
 - Relocate rumble strips
 - Resurface and relocate mainline travel lanes at some locations





Study Summary

- Preliminary Engineering & Environmental study
- Approved to be a demonstration project
- 10-mile section proposed
- Cost Estimate \$10.7M
- CMAQ grant approval

Thank You

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