



LAVACA STREET

Between Cesar Chavez Street and Eighth Street

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project proposes shifting the existing transit priority lane one lane to the left between Fifth Street and Seventh Street, improving bicycle facilities, and resolving conflicts between buses and bikes at bus stops. All proposed improvements along Lavaca Street may be impacted by [Project Connect](#) light rail. Coordination with the Austin Transit Partnership will be required prior to implementation.

BENEFITS AND ISSUES ADDRESSED

This segment of Lavaca Street serves multiple bus routes through downtown including MetroRapid, Frequent Local, Local, Flyer and Express routes. It is a one-way street northbound with three general purpose lanes between Cesar Chavez Street and Third Street, and three general purpose lanes and one transit priority lane between Third Street and Eighth Street. Buses experience high levels of delay throughout the segment.

Shifting the bus lanes between Fifth Street and Seventh Street one lane to the left is expected to optimize traffic operations for both buses traveling straight and right-turning vehicles. This will also help simplify lane merging behavior coming out of the parking garage at Fifth Street.

Bicycle facility upgrades, accomplished through improved separation between bike lanes and motorized vehicles, will make biking along this portion of Lavaca Street more comfortable and safe. Resolving conflicts between bikes and buses at transit stops, such as through the use of shared cycle track stops, will further improve safety for cyclists.

BEST PRACTICES

Red paint can improve the visibility of bus lanes and clarify that general purpose traffic should not drive in the transit lane.



Source: City of Austin

PROJECT SCORE

- Speed/Reliability Needs:
- Access Needs:
- Equity Needs:

PROJECT LOCATION



IMPLEMENTATION

- **Approximate Cost:** \$0.6M for design and construction
- **Potential Funding Sources:** 2020 Austin Mobility Bond funds, CapMetro ILA funds, development mitigation funds
- **Project Duration from Conceptual Design through Construction:** Short (0-2 years)

PUBLIC FEEDBACK

“Cars park in the bus lane on Lavaca all of the time.”