



Interstate 205 **BUS ON SHOULDER** Project between Tualatin and Clackamas

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Bus on Shoulder?

Bus on Shoulder is a low-cost multi-modal transportation solution where authorized buses may use the shoulder along designated stretches of highway when traffic drops below 35 mph. With small adjustments to road striping and signage, Bus on Shoulder supports more efficient travel on Oregon's highways.

When can buses use the shoulder?

Authorized transit providers may use the shoulder in clearly marked areas along this stretch of highway when traffic speed drops below 35 mph. Bus operators will merge back into traffic lanes at the end of the designated Bus on Shoulder segments. Buses may drive no more than 15 miles per hour faster than the adjacent lane of traffic, up to 35 mph assuming traffic is slower.

Where is Bus on Shoulder allowed on I-205?

Bus on Shoulder will be permitted in the northbound and southbound directions of I-205 between Stafford Road and OR43 (Willamette Drive) and will also be permitted in the southbound direction of I-205 between the OR 212 interchange and 82nd Drive. The permitted length is approximately six miles.

When does Bus on Shoulder begin?

Transit service is expected to start in Winter 2025 after signing and striping in the designated corridor is complete.

Who is authorized to use the shoulder?

Buses operated by South Metro Area Regional Transit (SMART) may use the shoulder. Emergency, law enforcement, highway maintenance and other pre-authorized vehicles may use shoulders at any time. Bicyclists and pedestrians may use the shoulder between Stafford Road and OR43 (Willamette Drive) at any time.





Interstate 205 **BUS ON SHOULDER** Project between Tualatin and Clackamas

What happens if I need to move my car over because of a breakdown or emergency?

Emergency use of the shoulder due to collisions or adhering to emergency vehicles is allowed. Priority for shoulder use is always given to emergency vehicles or vehicle breakdowns. If you are involved in a traffic accident, you are expected to move your vehicle to the shoulder.

Are personal or freight vehicles allowed to use shoulders?

No. Personal or freight vehicles are not authorized to use shoulders except in the case of avoiding debris or during emergencies. These vehicles must return to the travel lane immediately, if able. Non-authorized vehicles must also avoid buses in the shoulder.

How does Bus on Shoulder help my transit commute?

Bus on Shoulder projects in other states have demonstrated effectiveness by getting transit vehicles through congestion points faster, safely, and cost-effectively. Not only does this support more efficient traffic patterns, transit riders also benefit from a more reliable commute.

How is the Bus on Shoulder project funded?

ODOT received a federal Carbon Reduction Program grant to complete minor adjustments to the I-205 shoulder. This includes signing, striping and replacing rumble strips. SMART will be responsible for operating transit services along the corridor using existing funding.

