

Counting down to better bus information

TRANSPORT for London has launched a new digital Countdown service providing tailored, live bus information cheaply and effectively to a range of public locations including hospital waiting rooms, schools and shopping centres.

The introduction of the service follows a successful trial earlier this year in four London schools.

Simon Reed, head of technical services group at London Buses, said: 'We hope the new digital sign service will help passengers make the most of London's extensive bus service. It will help our passengers access real-time bus information away from their local stop, which is especially helpful for those who may not have access to the internet or a smartphone.'



The technology is self-installed using existing equipment and shows clear accessible information tailored for the local area. The business or organisation is provided with a unique web link that provides live information for bus stops in the immediate vicinity. An electronic map detailing the local area can also be displayed.

■ Businesses and organisations interested in learning more about the service should email digisign.countdown@tfl.gov.uk for more information



Cycle safety steps up

WORK to extend Barclays Cycle Superhighway 2 to Stratford will begin this month.

The extension, from Bow roundabout to Stratford town centre, will include around 3km of new segregated cycle lanes as well as a number of bus stop bypasses along the route to improve safety for cyclists.

The changes will contribute towards Transport for London's (TfL's) work to make cycling safer and more accessible. It aims to help double the number of people who cycle in London over the next 10 years.

The new cycle lanes will be in place by the autumn. Other

improvements include:

- Changes to junctions to help cyclists get ahead of traffic
- Improved road surfaces and less street clutter to make cycling more comfortable
- New road markings and signs showing journey times and links to other cycle routes
- Improvements for cyclists on the Stratford Gyratory

There will also be an 'early start' traffic signal system introduced at a junction at Bow roundabout. This will improve cycle safety by reducing the chance of collision between cyclists and vehicles turning left.

Andrew Gilligan, the Mayor's cycling commissioner, said: 'In line with the Mayor's pledge to 'go Dutch,' this will

be the first of several new segregated bikeways in London, along with improved non-segregated routes. It's not going to transform life for cyclists on its own, because it will only form part of most people's journeys, but it's a very important start.'

In a recent consultation, 83 per cent of respondents supported the proposals and 11 per cent partially supporting the proposed design.

■ For more information about the scheme, visit tfl.gov.uk/barclayscyclesuperhighways

TfL figures show cycle journeys on Barclays Cycle Superhighway route 2 increased by 28 per cent between September 2010 and June 2012. This includes a 55 per cent increase on Bow Road alone.

Tube improvement plan – post weekend update



Weekend closures enabled the following improvements to be carried out:

District line: 190 metres of drainage improved at West Kensington.

Jubilee line: Points replaced between West Ham and Stratford.

Northern line: New signalling tested on the High Barnet branch.

In addition, improvement work continued at Farringdon station. This included installing a cover over parts of the station which will protect the area from any falling rubble or debris while work to prepare for Crossrail takes place.

■ For details about how closures may affect your journey this weekend, see Friday's MetroTravel page

Keep up with the improvement plan and how it might affect you at tfl.gov.uk

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London Travelwatch

London's transport watchdog
call 020 3176 2999, or visit
www.londontravelwatch.org.uk

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