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JAMAICA PLAIN, ROXBURY, WEST ROXBURY

## New bike lanes on Centre Street to connect JP, West Roxbury

Posted by Matt Rocheleau July 27, 2011 12:26 PM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

The city plans to connect a pair of existing bike lanes next month when it installs new lanes along one-and-a-half miles of Centre Street running south from Monument Square in Jamaica Plain to where the roadway meets with the VFW Parkway in West Roxbury and near both JP and Roslindale.

The lanes, however, will not be installed at the rotary where the Arborway, or Route 203, meets with Centre Street, a representative from the city's Boston Bikes program said during an announcement of the project at a neighborhood council meeting Tuesday night.

The representative said bike lanes in rotaries are currently prohibited by state regulations, though the idea of allowing for them in rotaries is being studied further. Cyclists are advised to use sidewalks around that rotary if they feel uncomfortable riding with regular traffic.

The new lanes will connect lanes installed last year along Centre and South Street in Jamaica Plain to another set along the VFW Parkway in West Roxbury. A portion of the new lanes will involve collaboration with state department of conservation, which owns and manages a section of Centre Street.

When asked by a neighborhood council member about another bike lane project that had been promised before connecting Centre Street, the representative said that project has been pushed back because it involves the more complicated and costly process of curb cutting.

She also said that the city is working on its promise to initiate education and enforcement campaigns for drivers and cyclists through resident mailings and police targeting key areas to ticket traffic violators.

The representative also said that bike lane installation tends to also involve touching-up of crosswalk lanes around where the lanes are being installed, and added that the city is installing new crosswalks and repairing faded ones, along with touching up other pavement markings, through its separate "Mark It" program.

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