

Broad Street Improvement Project

Summer 2022 Construction Update

After more than four years of community conversations, the City of Providence is excited to invest in 'La Broa' to make it a safer and more accessible place to live, shop, and travel!

Broad Street is known for being the Southside's bustling center of small business, culture, and social life. Unfortunately, Broad is also known for having high rates of speeding (35-45% of all vehicles) and the most traffic accidents between cars and people walking or biking in all of Providence.

When this project is complete, Broad Street will be safer and more accessible for people walking, biking, riding the bus, and driving, while improving bus service and repaving. Importantly, a safer Broad Street will promote business by encouraging and attracting more people and activity.

Construction on sidewalk ramp repairs began in Fall 2021 and has continued throughout the Spring. Repaving, construction of bus islands, and restriping of the road will begin in June and disruption will be limited to off-peak commuting hours, avoiding Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings.

How will Broad Street change?

New curb ramps are being installed at all crosswalks to make them more accessible for walkers, wheelchair users, strollers, and more.

The road will be "milled", repaved, and painted with a new, safer traffic pattern.

- North of Peace Street, single lane bike lanes will be added to either side of the road (see images).
- South of Peace Street, a two-way protected "urban trail" will be installed on the southbound side of the street, directly next to the sidewalk (see images).

Bus Islands, designed to improve service, will replace existing bus stops on the southbound side of Broad Street.

Both sides of Broad Street will still have parking (and space for Chimi trucks). However, south of Peace Street, the southbound parking will shift out from the curb to make space for the protected urban trail.

Road space for these changes is being reclaimed from the left turning lane, which is considered a primary cause of accidents and safety issues on Broad Street.

NEED TO KNOW

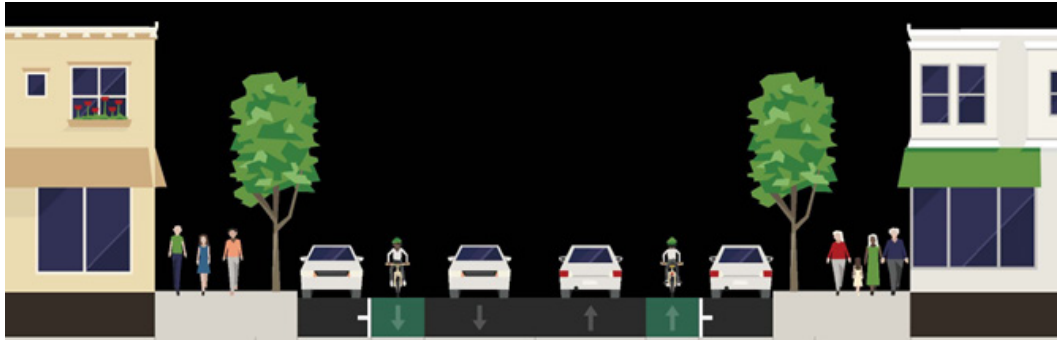
1. Road repaving is expected to begin in June, with milling and repaving of Broad Street between Hawthorne and Elmwood avenues. Construction that impacts traffic is not allowed during rush hours, or on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights.

2. Broad St will have a new traffic pattern. For much of Broad Street, the center turning lane will be removed to improve safety. South of Peace St, parking will be shifted out from the curb and a protected two-way "urban trail" put in (flip page). Bus islands will also be added on the southbound side.

3. There will be parking on both sides of the street, including for food trucks. There will be no change to trash and recycling processes.



NEW TRAFFIC PATTERN - NORTH OF PEACE STREET



NEW TRAFFIC PATTERN - SOUTH OF PEACE STREET



What is the construction schedule?

1. Curb ramps are being constructed along the length of Broad St now and should be completed by the summer.
2. The northern section of Broad Street, from Trinity Square to Potters Ave, will be milled and repaved over the course of 2-3 weeks, **starting in early to mid-June.**
3. The southern section of Broad Street, from Potters Ave to Roger Williams Park, will be milled and repaved later this summer. We will publicize these dates as soon as they are confirmed.

To avoid impacting businesses and activity on Broad Street as much as possible, most of the construction will take place on weeknights, with traffic still able to get through during the day and on weekend nights. **No construction activity that impacts traffic is permitted to take place during peak commuting rush hours, or on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights.**

Questions?

Any questions about the Broad Street improvement project can be sent to Alex Ellis, Principal Planner, at aellis@providenceri.gov or (401) 680-8400.



PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
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