

East Busway Lane Restrictions to be Removed Thursday

<u>FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE</u> (December 18, 2024) - Two months after a landslide in Polish Hill dumped tons of mud and debris onto the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. East Busway, engineers have given Pittsburgh Regional Transit the green light to reopen the busway without lane restrictions, the transit agency announced today.

The busway is expected to return to full two-lane operations by Thursday afternoon.

Engineers monitoring the hillside where the landslide occurred have observed no movement after a recent freeze-thaw and multiple days of rain.

PRT will keep the concrete barriers and blocks on the shoulder of the busway to serve as a protective barrier until the slope is permanently stabilized. The 25 mile-an-hour speed restriction that has been in place since October 18 will be upgraded to 35 miles-an-hour. The normal speed limit in that area of the busway is 55 miles-an-hour.

PRT closed the busway on October 11 following the landslide. Crews removed the debris and reopened a single lane of the busway after placing 34 concrete barriers and 21 concrete blocks along the 272-foot stretch where a portion of the hillside collapsed.

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. East Busway is one of PRT's most heavily traveled corridors, serving approximately 12,000 riders every weekday.

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