

4th June 2013

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Dear Louise,

Westbound Bus Lane, A27 in Fareham

I would like to put on record that First wholeheartedly support both the westbound bus lane on the A27 in Fareham and the conversion of the section of bus lane on Portland Street to a permanent TRO.

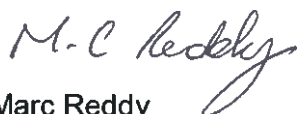
As you know we currently run eight buses an hour on our Eclipse route and we plan to increase this further to ten buses an hour later this year, as there is significant public demand for this route between Fareham and Gosport.

It is imperative that the existing experimental TRO is made permanent without alteration (to include bus lane provision to the junction with the Fire Station roundabout) and in order for BRT to remain efficient and as a viable alternative to the car.

The benefits of these sections of bus lane are significant as peak time general traffic queues can be long. You will be aware that in research carried out by the County Council it was found that the reliability of the Eclipse services was one of the key benefits that has encouraged use of the service - in some case resulting in modal shift from the private car.

I would also like to again thank the County Council for its commitment to the Eclipse project. I am pleased to have been able to use it as a demonstration for high quality partnership working for visitors from both the in the UK and beyond.

Yours sincerely,



Marc Reddy
Managing Director
First Hampshire, Dorset & Berkshire