



Traffic and mobility at the UN Climate Change Conference: Bonn is well prepared

Bonn – Up to 25,000 guests from all over the world are expected to attend the UN Climate Change Conference (COP 23) from 6th-17th November in Bonn. To ensure a quick and environmentally friendly arrival of the delegates at the conference grounds, additional traffic services have been organized. Ongoing road closures are only expected to occur in the direct vicinity of the conference grounds.

At a press conference on Wednesday, 10th October 2017, the Federal Environment Ministry, Police Department, municipality, municipal works of Bonn, local transport Rhineland (Nahverkehr Rheinland) and German Railways (Deutsche Bahn) informed about how delegates are to arrive in Bonn and the effect this will have on the traffic situation in Bonn.

Traffic density and traffic stream

Those attending from many different countries will be accommodated mostly in Bonn and the surrounding Rhine-Sieg Area. To ensure their daily arrival at the conference grounds located in the Bonn Rhinaue and at the World Conference Center Bonn (WorldCCBonn), an additional route network around the UN Campus and its new station will be established, using both electric and hybrid buses. Furthermore, the Federal Environment Ministry is providing 600 bicycles and will organize an E-shuttle to connect the “Bonn Zone” with the “Bula Zone” by using emission-free cars and small buses. If required, additional trams, city railways and buses will extend local public transport services.

Still, additional private transport cannot be ruled out. Therefore high traffic density is to be expected on the main travel days of Friday, November 3rd to Sunday, November 18th and Friday, November 17th to Saturday, November 18th.

Permanent road closures only in direct vicinity of conference grounds

According to present knowledge, ongoing road closures are part of the safety concept but will be reduced solely to the direct conference zones around the World CCBonn and the Rhinaue. As of yet, permanent police barriers are not scheduled on federal highway 9, between Bad Godesberg and Bonn. However, due to demonstrations during the conference, temporary traffic blockages and road closures around the conference site and the whole area of Bonn may occur.

Only residents may use the streets “Welckerstrasse”, “Heussallee”, “Kurt-Schumacher-Strasse” and “Fritz-Erler-Strasse” to reach the Federal District - otherwise these streets are closed for transit traffic.

Employees have access to the roads leading to “Deutsche Welle”, “Deutsche Post DHL Group” and the United Nations. There are no road closures at the entry to the hospital “Johanniter-Krankenhaus” as well as to the bordering neighborhood.

Additionally, the streets “Heussallee” (when crossing the “Winston-Churchill-Strasse”) and “Kurt-Schumacher-Strasse” (when crossing the “Heinrich-Brüning –Strasse”) will be completely closed. Residents with their own parking spaces in these streets may pass after a quick check by police.

Please notice that the traffic lane from “Bundeskanzlerplatz” to “Welckerstrasse” coming from “Reuterstrasse” and the traffic lane from “Adenauerallee” and “Willy-Brandt-Allee” to “Heussallee” is completely closed except for residents.

Police officers will patrol the area around the WorldCCBonn and the Bonn Rhinaue both in uniform and in plainclothes. Vehicle inspections and identity checks may occur. Please have your ID, driver’s license and vehicle document ready.

Stopping restrictions and parking lots

The municipality will install stopping restrictions on “Kennedyallee”, between “Kolumbusring” and “Ludwig-Erhard-Allee”, as space is needed for the shuttle bus stops. There will be additional stopping restrictions on “Winston-Churchill-Strasse”, “Heinrich-Brüning-Strasse” and “Fritz-Erler-Strasse” to provide enough space for bus traffic with articulated buses.

The parking lot beside the hospital “Johanniter-Krankenhaus” will be closed during the conference period. The “Rhinaue” parking lot in the “Ludwig-Erhard-Allee” will be only partially open and the parking lot at “Petra-Kelly-Allee” will be closed until the end of the conference.

Information for bicyclists and pedestrians/traffic in the Rhine Meadow

The passage of “Charles-de-Gaulle-Strasse” has been closed for bicyclists and pedestrians for some time. A detour for cycle traffic is signposted. Routes through the Rhinaue and along the banks of the Rhine are open for cyclists during the conference.

The Federal Environment Ministry will provide an emission-free shuttle service with electric vehicles in the Rhinaue, making vigilance crucial on narrow paths.

“Clean Shuttle”: three additional bus lines for conference members

With the help of “Verband Deutscher Verkehrsunternehmen” (Union of German Traffic Companies) and the participation of local traffic companies from around Germany, the municipal works of Bonn have organized a “Clean Shuttle”. Three new bus lines will be brought into action for the conference members, amounting to 15 electronic, hydrogen and hybrid buses.

Line SH1 will connect Cologne/Bonn Airport with the conference site at WorldCCBonn and “Museumsmeile”.

Line SH4 will connect the new train station “UN Campus” with the stops “Heussallee/Museumsmeile”, “Rheinaue/Hauptzugang”, “WorldCCBonn” and “Kolumbusring”.

Line SH5 will make a roundtrip starting at “Robert-Schumann-Platz”, including the stops “WorldCCBonn”, “Rhinaue/main entrance” and “Museumsmeile”.

All shuttle lines will ensure a fast and environmentally friendly arrival and departure of the conference members.

Furthermore, the municipal works of Bonn will have spare vehicles and staff standing by should the need for additional buses, trams and city railways arise.

75 volunteers of the volunteer program of the United Nations (UNV) will be deployed as travel guides at important transport interchanges during the entire conference period. 50 young municipal works employees who speak foreign languages will also be present at the Cologne/Bonn Airport and important transfer points across the local transport system of Bonn, especially in the first days of arrival. They will guide the arriving COP23 members and give advice on how to navigate through the city via bus, tram and city railway or on foot.

New stop “UN Campus” comes into operation

To facilitate the use of bus, tram and city railways for the conference members and to be more environmentally friendly, road traffic will be reduced by giving all accredited members free access to local public transport. They will receive badges that are marked as tickets for the extended network of the Rhine Sieg Traffic Area (VRS).

Right in time for the UN Climate Change Conference, the new stop “UN Campus” will come into operation. The stop is an important component in the concept of the local rail passenger services. Train lines RE 5 (DB Regio NRW), RB 26 (Transregio), RB 48 (National Express) and RB 30 (DB Regio NRW) will stop at this new station in both directions during the conference period. Despite the long-term railroad construction work along the tracks between Cologne South and Cologne West, all possible lines from Cologne Central Station to Bonn UN Campus will be running. Additionally, a train will supplement the local rail passenger services in the morning hours between Cologne Central Station and Bonn Beuel (Monday –Friday at 7:27 a.m. ; Saturday and Sunday at 7:25 a.m.). Two further train journeys of the line RB 30 will be organized to run at night from Bonn Central Station to Remagen resp. Kreuzberg.

The national train service will run from the south via Bonn as usual. The national train service coming from the north will be diverted to the east side of the Rhine and will mostly stop at the station “Bonn-Beuel”.

Nevertheless, a definite higher number of passengers is to be expected on the trains and in the train stations in and around the area of Cologne/Bonn. Commuters and travelers are

therefore advised to plan enough time for their journeys and to postpone their travel to times outside of the rush hour if possible.

Information possibilities for citizens

The Bonn Police will constantly report possible traffic disruptions due to the conference and potential demonstrations via their website bonn.polizei.nrw and social media (Twitter and Facebook). Starting on October 25th, 2017 Bonn Police will operate a citizen helpline which can be reached at 0228 – 15 30 30.

Real-time information concerning the current traffic situation downtown as well as on the three Rhine bridges are accessible on Bonn's mobile city map. This city map is optimized for smartphones and tablets but can also be viewed on a normal PC. More details can be found at www.bonn.de/@aktuelle-verkehrslage.

Information regarding the special railway schedule can be found under www.bahn.de, in the DB navigator. The special tram schedule can be viewed at www.vrsinfo.de as well as in the VRS App. Additionally, the special schedules can be viewed in the stations in question.

Information concerning the planned railroad construction by "Deutsche Bahn" along the tracks between Cologne and Bonn can be reached under www.deutschebahn.com/presse/duesseldorf.