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Date: 13 August 2021

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Dear Sir/Madam,

Transport for Norwich: Consultation on Active Travel proposals for Ipswich Road

Norfolk County Council and the Transport for Norwich (TfN) partnership are asking for feedback on proposals to improve the Ipswich Road area so that more people choose to walk and cycle. We're writing to let you know how to find out more about the project and how to take part in our consultation.

What's being proposed and why

Bearing in mind changes in people's travel habits during the global pandemic, this is an opportune time to encourage more people to walk or cycle, reduce congestion on our roads and deliver a wide range of health and environmental benefits to residents.

The table below explains what changes we're proposing and the reasons behind them. The enclosed plan shows what the project would look like on the ground – the numbered proposed changes correspond to the relevant points marked on the map.

	Proposal	Reason for proposal
1	Segregated on-carriageway mandatory cycle lanes on both sides of Ipswich Road between the Outer Ring Road (A140 junction) and the junction with Newmarket Road. The cycle lanes will be physically separated from general traffic by using kerbs and reflective poles, often referred to as wands. There will be double yellow lines provided within the mandatory cycle lanes.	To provide a safer environment for those cycling along this busy route into and out of the city centre. The cycle lanes will be classified as mandatory cycle lanes, so drivers cannot drive in them. The double yellow lines will mean no vehicles may park within the cycle lanes. These elements provide a safer environment for cycling.
2	Replace existing central island with a new zebra crossing.	To provide a controlled crossing point for pedestrians to make it easier and

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		safer to cross on what is a busy route in and out of the city centre.
3	4 hour parking bay to be removed.	To allow space for the segregated, on-carriageway cycle lanes to be provided.
4	Coach parking bay to be removed.	To allow space for the segregated, on-carriageway cycle lanes to be provided. We are discussing alternative options for coach parking with the coach operating companies.
5	20mph zone from City College through to St Stephens Street junction.	To reduce general traffic speed along this busy pedestrian route and to allow for reduced road width to allow for the segregated, on-carriageway cycle lanes to be provided.
6	Existing 4 hour parking bay to be split into a 4 hour parking and Zone T parking bay.	To provide alternative parking arrangements due to the existing Zone T parking bay on Ipswich Road being removed as part of the proposals.
7	2 hour parking bay to be reduced in length (from 79m to 42m)	To allow space for the segregated, on-carriageway cycle lanes to be provided while allowing some existing short term parking spaces to remain.
8	30 minute parking bay to be removed.	To allow space for the segregated, on-carriageway cycle lanes to be provided.
9	2 hour parking bay to be removed.	To allow space for the segregated, on-carriageway cycle lanes to be provided.
10	Zone T parking bay to be removed.	To allow space for the segregated, on-carriageway cycle lanes to be provided.
11	New Zone T parking bay (20m in length).	To replace the existing Zone T parking bay on Ipswich Road that will be removed as part of the proposals.
12	Continuous footway across Cecil Road junction	To reduce traffic speeds of turning traffic in and out of Cecil Road, making it easier and safer to cross the junction.
13	Cecil Road Car Club space moved further from Ipswich Road junction	Current position can cause queueing issues at Cecil Road junction in peak hours. Moving the Car Club space will reduce the likelihood of any queueing traffic blocking the junction.

How to comment

There are two ways to comment on the consultation:

- Visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/ipswichroad where you can complete our online survey to share your thoughts on the proposals.

- Ask for a hard copy of the survey by calling or emailing us using the details at the top of this letter. Large font and other formats are available on request.

Next Steps

The deadline for comments is **Sunday 5 September**. We will then carefully consider all responses and report back to the Transport for Norwich Joint Committee later in the year. The committee, which is chaired by Norfolk County Council and made up of councillors from TfN partners Norwich City, Broadland District and South Norfolk councils, will then decide how to proceed with the project. The webpage above will be kept up to date with the latest progress and information.

Background

Norfolk County Council was recently awarded £1.2 million from the Department for Transport's (DfT) Active Travel Fund to invest in local infrastructure projects that support the promotion of walking and cycling as an attractive and convenient transport mode for shorter journeys and a further £300k to support future behaviour change initiatives. More information on our active travel programme can be found at www.norfolk.gov.uk/activetravelfund

All active travel proposals in Greater Norwich are being fully integrated with our Transforming Cities programme which includes an improvement project on St Stephens Road which has already been approved for construction.

The DfT awarded £32m of funding to TfN from the Transforming Cities Fund to deliver a range of schemes across Greater Norwich. These projects aim to improve access to jobs, training and retail by supporting improvements to sustainable modes of transport, while also responding to issues around air quality.

More information about our application to the DfT and all the proposed schemes can be found at www.norfolk.gov.uk/transformingcities. You can also read more about previous, current and future TfN projects by visiting www.norfolk.gov.uk/tfn.

Yours faithfully



Andrew Wadsworth, Engineer