



Norfolk County Council



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Infrastructure
County Hall
Martineau Lane
Norwich
NR1 2SG

NCC contact number: 0344 800 8020
Text relay no.: 18001 0344 800 8020

Your Ref:
Date: 25 October 2024

My Ref: PEA059/HD/01
Tel No.: 0344 800 8020
Email: tfnorfolk@norfolk.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam,

Active Travel England Consultation: Walking and cycling improvements proposed for Middleton Road

Norfolk County Council are asking for feedback on proposals to improve Middleton Road so that more people choose to walk, wheel or 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

The proposed route would provide safe cycle access between South and North Gorleston, serving the local college and town amenities and see a number of improved safe crossings introduced for those on foot.

The table overleaf explains what changes we're proposing and the reasons behind them. Plans available on the project website show what the project would look like on the ground – the lettered proposals correspond to the relevant points marked on the map.

How to comment

There are two ways to comment on the consultation:

- Visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/middletonroad where you can view plans, read our FAQs and complete our online survey to share your thoughts on the proposals.
- Large scale plans are also displayed at Gorleston Library, with copies available to take away. Hard copies and other formats for all materials are also available on request via the email and telephone details above.

Background

This project was identified as a priority scheme in the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) for Gorleston and is supported by Great Yarmouth Borough Council. The work is currently estimated to cost £500,000 and would be funded by the Governments Active Travel Fund. This money cannot be used to fund other council services or initiatives and must be spent on cycle infrastructure.

Proposals

Point	Proposal	Reason for proposal
A	Segregated on-carriageway mandatory cycle lanes on both sides of Middleton Road from the A47 Middleton Rd roundabout to the Middleton Rd, Church Ln roundabout. The carriageway would be widened and kerbs realigned where necessary to accommodate the cycle lane, whilst maintaining a suitable width footway. The cycle lanes would be physically separated from general traffic using reflective wands with double yellow lines throughout the length of the mandatory cycle lanes to prevent cycle lane obstructions.	To provide a safer environment for those cycling along this busy route, which links with other proposed cycle facilities in Gorleston. The cycle lanes would 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 and ensure the pavements are fully accessible for pushchairs and wheelchairs, as well as those on foot.
B	Replace the 3 existing pedestrian refuges with 3 new zebra crossings.	Making it easier and safer to cross this busy road.
C	Raised junctions on all Middleton Road side roads (level with pavement)	Making it easier and safer to cross junctions on foot.
D	Raised cycle lane at bus stops. (cycle lane to be same level as footway).	Making it easier and safer to access the bus from the footway for pedestrians, pushchairs and wheelchair users.
E	New lay-by areas for vehicles.	Retains some parking provision whilst avoiding obstruction of the cycle lane.
F	New zebra crossing (exact location to be confirmed)	Making it easier and safer to cross Middleton Road.

Next Steps

The deadline for comments is **Sunday 24 November**. We will then carefully consider all responses and report back to you with the results and next steps. All decisions rest with the cabinet member for highways, infrastructure and transport. The webpage above will be kept up to date with the latest progress and information.

Yours faithfully,

Transport for Norfolk



If you need this report in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language please contact 0344 800 8020 and ask for Transport for Norfolk or textphone 0344 800 8011 and we will do our best to help.