



working in partnership
to improve Harrow



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Full steam ahead for highway upgrade

Following the successful Petts Hill bridge replacement last Christmas, highway improvement works are now in full swing at the South Harrow / Northolt site.

EnterpriseMouchel is undertaking these highway works for the multi-million pound scheme, on behalf of major project partners Harrow and Ealing Councils, Transport for London and Network Rail.

To allow the works to be carried out, Petts Hill from The Heights to Northolt Road is being restricted to one traffic-controlled lane between the hours of 9.30am - 3.30pm until Friday 4 September – completing just in time for the new school term. Disruption should be expected and drivers are advised to seek alternative routes during this period.

The project aims to provide much-improved highway facilities for all road users at this vital artery in the local transport network. It has already increased headroom under the Petts Hill railway bridge to reduce the risk of it being hit by high vehicles. The highway works will also improve travel times along this busy London bus route, while increasing pedestrian safety and allowing cyclists to use dedicated lanes.

The utility companies are also making use of the road works to install upgrades. Additional storm drainage has been installed, to assist the flooding-prone area.

Other works to be completed by the end of the year include new footways in both directions; crossing facility upgrades at the A312 (Northolt Road) and A4090 (Alexandra Avenue) signal junctions; a short section of bus lane; footways and kerbing renewals; new cycle tracks on both sides of the road under the bridge; gas mains and street lighting improvements; and new trees. Access to Northolt Station from both sides of the bridge will also be greatly improved.

Harrow Council Highway Project Manager, Bob Henson, said: "I fully realise the challenges such a compacted site and complex design pose for a project team like ours and this scheme is no different. To complete the new carriageway, we have to lower the level of the existing road by 600mm and we're already finding a great deal of live and redundant services underneath. So we have to remain vigilant and efficient at all times."

EnterpriseMouchel Site Manager, Richard Chantigny, said the main challenge for the team was to keep road users, cyclists and pedestrians satisfied. He said: "One of the most important parts of this project is making sure we keep them moving smoothly and safely at all times. We're basically ensuring that a high standard of health and safety is maintained at all times throughout the works. Making sure that the public and workforce remain safe is a constant effort, which can only be achieved when we all work as a team."



Despite these obstacles, Richard said the works would surpass all expectations: “This project is pretty impressive due to its high-profile location and the complexity of the works. I believe the key to the success of these works will be good communication between the various stakeholders, as well as keeping the public and road users happy’

Harrow Council portfolio holder for environment services, Councillor Susan Hall, commended all parties involved and said: “This is one of Harrow’s most important projects, as it will ease congestion, increase pedestrian and cyclist safety, and improve journeys for tall vehicles crossing underneath the bridge.”

Ealing Council cabinet member for regeneration and Transport, Councillor David Millican, said: “When the entire project is complete, we will have unclogged a vital artery in the local transport network for the good of pedestrians, cyclists and drivers. Buses and trains will also benefit, meaning more efficient public transport links.”

TfL Head of Responsive Delivery, Scott Lester, said: “We are fully supportive of this project and its success clearly demonstrates how effectively London’s Boroughs and TfL can work together to deliver improvements that will make a real difference to all road users in the area.”

Further information about the scheme can be found by calling 020 8424 1483 during office hours or by visiting the project web site at www.pettshill.co.uk

The main works are expected to be completed by the end of the year, with full completion including landscaping, street signing and lining works by February 2010.



Excavation works for the new carriageways, were completed in early August near the Petts Hill Bridge.



The team prepared the ground in June for future stormwater drainage works.

Notes to editors:

The Petts Hill Bridge and Highway Improvement Scheme involves:

- 100-year-old railway bridge, which was built by Network Rail and its contractor Birse Rail over Christmas.
- Adding an extra traffic lane in each direction.
- Adding bus priority at the junction.
- Improving access to Northolt Park Station by widening the footway, installing cycle paths and providing better lighting.
- Adding new footways in both directions to make it safer for pedestrians to walk under the bridge.
- Creating cycle tracks on both sides of the road under the bridge to join up existing cycle lanes.
- Upgrading the signal junction at A312 (Northolt Road) and A4090 (Alexandra Avenue) to provide crossing facilities.
- Improving the appearance of the area by planting new trees.
- The multi-million pound project is backed by various funding, including £1.3 million from Network Rail and £4.1 million from Transport for London.

Media contact:

Samantha Cairns
Harrow Council EnterpriseMouchel Partnership
Communications Manager
020 8420 9657
samantha.cairns@harrow.gov.uk