

Leicester  
City Council

**WARDS AFFECTED**  
All Wards

**FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND MEETINGS:**

**Cabinet**

**11th March 2002**

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**ROAD AND BRIDGE WORKS AFFECTING MAJOR ROADS IN THE CITY**

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**Report of the Director of Environment, Development & Commercial Services**

**1. Purpose of Report**

This report describes the necessity for major road works to be undertaken in the City over the next five years as part of the Local Transport Plan and details how the disruption caused by the works can be minimised.

**2. Summary**

The City Council needs to address the recent concerns over the disruption caused on the City's roads by the increased amount of road and bridge works on major roads, which has been caused by the good settlement for the City from the Local Transport Plan 2001/6. This has meant that this year several major road and bridge maintenance and improvement works are to be carried out and the scale of such works will increase in future years as the Government's decision to increase investment in local transport starts to take effect. In the light of this, a draft consultation protocol (including possible future measures for reducing this disruption and better informing members, residents, the travelling public and the press) has been sent to various parties for their comments. A final version of this consultation protocol will be submitted to the next meeting of Cabinet.

**3. Recommendations**

It is recommended that Cabinet:

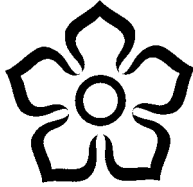
- i) Confirm their support as to the necessity of the major road and bridge works and new traffic schemes in the City; and
- ii) comment, as appropriate, on the draft protocol produced to improve the information flow to members, residents, the travelling public and the press.

**4. Financial & Legal Implications**

There are no financial or legal implications arising out of this report.

**5. Report Author/Officer to contact**

Alistair Reid, Assistant Director (City Development) Ext 7295



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**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

**1. Report**

**1.1** There are three types of road or bridge works carried out on the City's roads which are likely to cause disruption to traffic:

**a) Capital Maintenance Schemes.**

This is essential work to be carried out on roads, bridges and footways so as to maintain them in a satisfactory condition or, in the case of bridges to strengthen them in order to comply with European legislation to carry 40 tonne loading. The road works are needed to achieve the Government's 10 year plan to halt the deterioration of roads by 2004 and eliminate the backlog by 2010. The award of £2.764m in 2001/2 for capital maintenance reflects the need for essential maintenance and strengthening work to be carried out on the highway infrastructure in the City.

The need for maintenance works is determined from regular highway and bridge surveys and visual inspections. There is no consultation concerning the need for the capital maintenance works; however there are extensive discussions with interested parties about timings, diversion routes, road closures, etc. in order to minimise disruption for local residents, bus services etc. In addition, there is a quarterly Co-ordination Meeting with Statutory Undertakers and the City Council under the New Roads and Street Works Act (NRSWA).

**b) Integrated Transport Schemes.**

The investment in new schemes to improve the attractiveness of the bus service, to facilitate walking and cycling, to provide safer routes to school and to improve road safety generally, is expected to rise substantially next year, with an increasing proportion of the work affecting the City's major roads. Examples of such schemes recently completed or currently underway are the Evington 'Safer Routes' Project and the Vaughan Way/Burleys Way scheme. Future major schemes to achieve the above objectives are to be carried out

later this year in Narborough Road and London Road together with Bus Stop improvements over the next ten years.

There is extensive consultation procedure with all affected parties included in the design process for these schemes. This consultation will depend on the scheme and can range from speaking with local ward members and frontagers to public meetings and exhibitions. All schemes are submitted to the quarterly NRSWA Coordination meeting.

**c) Statutory Undertakers Schemes**

Statutory Undertakers such as British Telecom, Severn Trent Water are entitled to carry out works on major roads under the NRSWA. They obviously do not carry out consultation on the need for the work, however their major works are co-ordinated with other Statutory Undertakers and the City Council at the quarterly NRSWA Co-ordination meeting organised by the City Council.

**1.2** There has been a general concern from members, residents and members of the public about the disruption that major road works have recently caused in the City. Unfortunately it is not possible to carry out major road or bridge works without causing some disruption and therefore it is proposed that a consultation protocol for reducing the disruption is introduced. A copy of the draft protocol detailed in Appendix 2 has been forwarded to relevant parties (see para 5) for comment. These will be incorporated into the final version of the protocol which will be reported to the Cabinet meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> March 2002. One of the aims of the protocol is to improve the quality of information given to the press. This has already started by the issuing of a weekly update bulletin by the Press Office detailing proposed and current roadworks on major roads in the City.

**1.3** Highways and Transportation services are operating in a national context of massive increases in infrastructure and service investments to deliver the Government’s Transport objectives. In recent years Leicester has secured and been promised large allocations to deliver the Local Transport Plan (see below). However, at a local level, the City Councils Highway and Transportation services continue to endure revenue budget cuts along with other main services provided by the Council as well as reduced LTP Capital Maintenance allocations

|                             | 2001/2         | 2002/3                       |
|-----------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| Integrated Transport        | £6.389m        | £6.614m                      |
| Capital Maintenance         | £2.764m        | £4.316m*                     |
| Slippage from previous year | £1.895m        | Not known                    |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>£11.048</b> | <b>£10.930*plus slippage</b> |

\*20% of this figure has been removed to the Single Capital Pot for possible reallocation

**1.4** The Local Transport Plan aims to persuade Government that we have a realistic and achievable vision of transport improvement which deserves financial support. The aims are that the transport system in Central Leicestershire must:

- Provide better information for all travellers so that everyone can make an informed choice.
- Improve the quality of pedestrian areas and routes used by cyclists.
- Reduce accidents.
- Provide greatly improved local bus and train services.
- Provide for the needs of taxis, motorcyclists and freight distribution.
- Improve the journey time reliability of all types of transport.
- Provide for more energy efficient, healthier and less polluting movement.
- Keep congestion to a minimum, allowing traffic to flow as freely as possible.

**1.5** The key targets are:

- 20% increase in bus trips to the City Centre by 2006, 40% by 2011.
- 6% of all trips to be by cycle by 2006, 12% by 2011.
- 20% reduction in killed and seriously injured people from 1994-98 average base year by 2005, 40% by 2010.
- 25% reduction in children killed and seriously injured from 1994-98 average base year by 2005, 50% by 2010.
- 4% reduction in car trips to the City Centre in the am peak by 2006, 8% by 2011.
- 25% reduction in car journeys to schools by 2011 (parents with children and staff).
- to halt the deterioration in condition of roads by 2004 and eliminate the backlog by 2010/11.

**1.6** The programme for road and bridge works over the next 15 months is given in Appendix 1.

**2. Financial Implications**

There are no financial or legal implications arising from this report.

**3. Other Implications**

| OTHER IMPLICATIONS            | YES/NO | Paragraph<br>References<br>Within Supporting information |
|-------------------------------|--------|--|
| Equal Opportunities           | No     |  |
| Policy                        | No     |  |
| Sustainable and Environmental | No     |  |
| Crime and Disorder            | No     |  |
| Human Rights Act              | No     |  |
| Elderly/People on Low Income  | No     |  |

**4. Background Papers – None.**

5. **Consultations** – The Press Office, Other Departments of the City Council, Bus Companies, Motorcyclist and Cyclist Groups, Pedestrian Association, Access Group, Emergency Services, City Centre Management, Chamber of Commerce, Freight Groups, Statutory Undertakers, Local Press and Radio.

6. **Report Author/Officer to contact**

Alistair Reid, Assistant Director (City Development) Ext 7295

## Appendix1

### FUTURE PROGRAMME FOR MAJOR ROAD AND BRIDGE WORKS 2002/3

#### Bridges

|  | <u>Construction On Site</u> |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Old West Bridge (Continuing)           | Jan 02 to June 02           |
| Loughborough Road                      | Jan 02 to July 02           |
| Green Lane Road                        | )                           |
| Northgate and North Bridge Frog Island | ) Aug 02 to Nov 02          |
| Ash Street                             | )                           |
| Forest Road                            | )                           |
| Melton Road Culvert                    | Jan 03 to Feb 03            |

#### Major Traffic Schemes

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| Bus Stop Improvements  | Over next ten years |
| Pork Pie Junction  | Nov 02 to April 03  |
| London Road  | 2002/3 and 2003/4   |
| Narborough Road-1 <sup>st</sup> Phase (Rowley Fields Rd to Fullhurst Avenue) | Mar 02 to June 02   |
| Hinckley Road/Outer Ring   | Jan 03 to June 03   |
| Victoria Road East Extension   | June 02 to June 03  |

#### Highways

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Krefeld Way                              | Jul 02 to Aug 02  |
| Atlee Way                                | May 02 to Jun 02  |
| Welford Road Footways - outer ring to CB | Sept 02 to Oct 02 |
| Blackbird Road Drainage Improvements     | Apr 02 to May 02  |

Note: All dates are approximate and are subject to further discussions with interested parties.