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Colchester Rapid Transit System –
Final works schedule

Dear Resident / Local stakeholder

We are writing firstly to apologise that the construction of the Rapid Transit System on Northern Approach Road has not been completed as per the timescale that had previously been indicated.

We appreciate that these works have been disruptive to residents and that you have shown great patience during the construction. The project is now at a very advanced stage and the final works that are required to bring the scheme to a conclusion have been identified.

The schedule for works that are remaining to be completed with an indication of potential impact and our mitigations is attached. The nature of the works we need to undertake means that a series of road closures at night will be required affecting Northern Approach Road, the Mill Road junction and Wallace and Dickenson Road. The full closures have been scheduled for 3rd April to 11th April. Additionally, lane closures will be in place during the night shift from the 14th to the 25th April.

We have included an FAQ overleaf to answer the questions you might have about these works.

The out of hours team can be contacted on 07391 413204 if there are any issues during the times of the closure.

We thank you for your co-operation and apologise for the temporary disruption as we approach the final stages of the project.

Yours faithfully

RTS Management Team

Northern Approach Road closures - FAQ

When will the closures happen?

The full closures have been scheduled to happen between the 3rd and 11th April, Monday to Friday only. No closures will happen on a weekend.

What time will the roads close?

The affected roads will be closed between 8pm and 11pm each weekday.

Which roads do you need to close?

The closures will affect different sections of Northern Approach Road, Mill Road, Wallace Road and Dickenson Road as identified on the attached schedule.

What works will you be undertaking during the closures?

Works remaining include, drainage, carriageway reinstatements, kerbing, surfacing, lining and loop cutting for the traffic signals. The new signals will also be commissioned with the temporary signals removed.

What is loop cutting?

In order to make all the traffic signals operational we need to install the sensors under the road surface which detects the movement of vehicles. This is called loop cutting and involves cutting slots in the road surface to embed sensors.

Why do you need to undertake these works at night?

Much of the works needed will involve excavating the carriageway which can only be done safely by closing the road. Northern Approach Road is the A134 and one of the main routes into Colchester. It is a traffic sensitive road so to close this during the day would have a significant impact on traffic across the city. The only viable option is to close the road at night when the traffic flows are lighter.

Will the works be noisy?

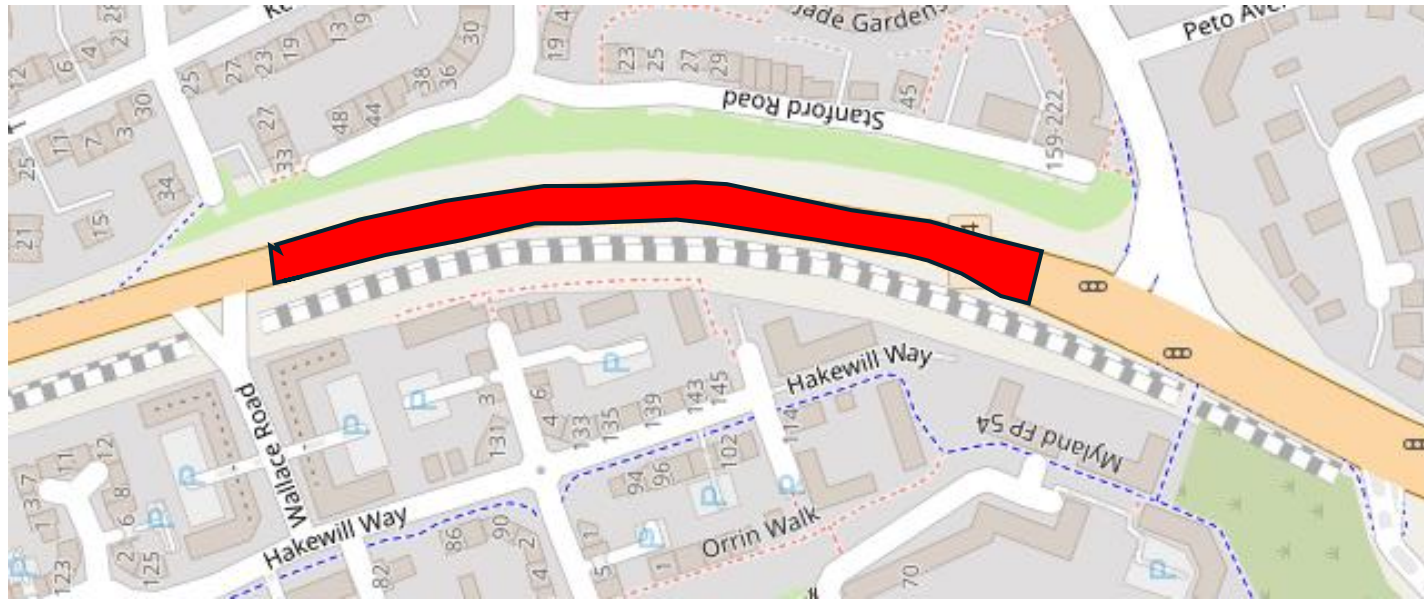
The loop cutting works require excavating which does involve noisy machinery. However, all the works will stop by 11pm to minimise disruption to the residents. Temporary traffic management will be removed from 11pm (this is not a noisy activity).

Will I be able to access my property during the closures?

Access for residents on the estate to the west of Northern Approach Road will be maintained. There will be three different traffic management arrangements in use which will determine which arrangements are in place for residents. Closures A and B involve the road being closed south of Wallace Road through to the Turner Road junction – Turner Road will remain open. Closure C will close Northern Approach Road from north of the Mill Road junction down to Dickenson Road. The dates for these are included on the schedule.

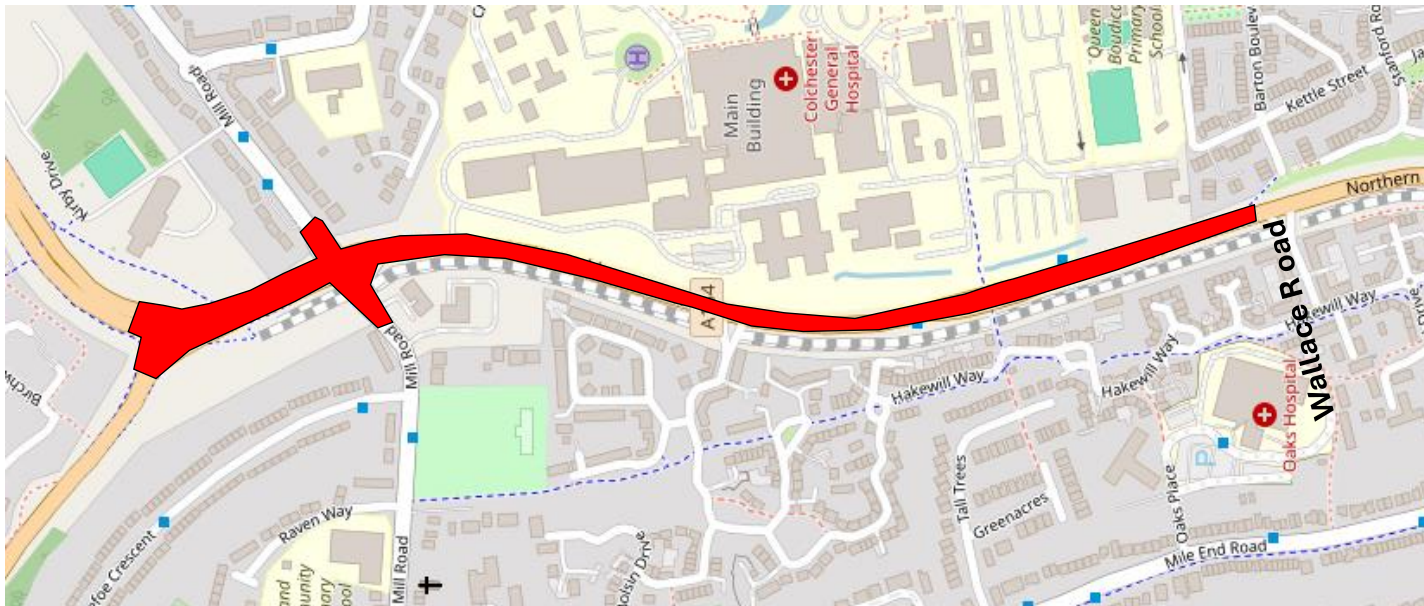
Location Description	Works required	Start date	Duration (nights)	Impacts	Mitigations (if applicable)
Section 1					
Mill Road to Dickenson Road	Complete outstanding drainage work	09/04/2025	2	- A134 closed from north of Wallace Road to junction with Via Urbis Romanae	- See Closure C plan
Mill Road to Dickenson Road	Asphalt surfacing	10/04/2025	2	- A134 closed from north of Wallace Road to junction with Via Urbis Romanae	- See Closure C plan
Mill Road to Dickenson Road	Complete road markings at the Mill Road junction	11/04/2025	1	- A134 closed from north of Wallace Road to junction with Via Urbis Romanae	- See Closure C plan
Section 2					
Dickenson Road to Wallace Road	Complete outstanding drainage work	09/04/2025	3	- A134 closed from north of Wallace Road to junction with Via Urbis Romanae	- See Closure C plan
Footway between Dickenson Road and Wallace	Kerb remedials on the eastern footway	09/04/2025	3	- A134 closed from north of Wallace Road to junction with Via Urbis Romanae	- See Closure C plan
Wallace Road junction	Concrete infill to splitter islands	09/04/2025	1	- A134 closed from north of Wallace Road to junction with Via Urbis Romanae	- See Closure C plan
Dickenson Road to Wallace Road	Carriageway reinstatements around drainage gullies	09/04/2025	2	- A134 closed from north of Wallace Road to junction with Via Urbis Romanae	- See Closure C plan
Section 3					
Wallace Road to Bruff Close	Asphalt surfacing	03/04/2025	2	- See Closure A Plan - No right turn restriction out of Wallace Road - 3 way traffic lights to manage traffic between Turner Road, Bruff Close and A134	- See Closure A plan
Wallace Road to Bruff Close	Install traffic signal chambers and associated works	03/04/2025	2	- See Closure A Plan - No right turn restriction out of Wallace Road - 3 way traffic lights to manage traffic between Turner Road, Bruff Close and A134	- See Closure A plan
Bruff Close and Turner Road junctions	Loop cutting for Bruff / Turner junction northbound (17 No.)	03/04/2025	2	- See Closure A Plan - No right turn restriction out of Wallace Road - 3 way traffic lights to manage traffic between Turner Road, Bruff Close and A134	- See Closure A plan
Wallace Road to Bruff Close	Reinstate road markings	07/04/2025	2	- See Closure A Plan - No right turn restriction out of Wallace Road	- See Closure A plan
Wallace Road to Bruff Close	Remove temporary traffic management barriers	08/04/2025	1	- 3 way traffic lights to manage traffic between Turner Road, Bruff Close and A134	
Turner Road junction	Loop cutting for Turner Road and southbound (15 No.)	07/04/2025	2	- See Closure B Plan - No right turn restriction out of Wallace Road - 3 way traffic lights to manage traffic between Turner Road, Bruff Close and A134	- See Closure B plan
Mill Road, Wallace, Dickenson and Turner Road junctions with NAR	Commissioning of traffic signals for all junctions	14/04/2025	6	- Lane closures, commissioning should only take two nights but we have earmarked this time frame in case of unforeseen issues	- N/A

Closure A and B



Road closed north of Turner Road within the **red** areas, access to Wallace Road and Dickenson Road maintained from the Mill Road junction.

Closure C



Road closed within the **red** areas. Access to the estate to the west of Northern Approach Road maintained through Wallace Road. Access to the estate east of Northern Approach Road to be made via Turner Road (south)