A133 Colchester to Clacton route improvements

Working on behalf of Essex County Council

December 2019

Background

The A133 is the key route providing access from Colchester to the seaside resort of Clacton-on-Sea and allowing access from the district of Tendring into Colchester. Essex County Council and the South East Local Enterprise Partnership have made £3.25m available to fund improvements. These are designed to support economic growth and provide safety improvements to the route, they will also increase journey time reliability through highway capacity improvements for motorists and improved passenger transport facilities.

What are we doing?

Improvements include:

- Frating Roundabout - introduce left-turn slip from A133 (A120 Spur) to A133 (east) and modify roundabout and approaches to increase capacity.
- Weeley Roundabout - widen northbound approach, road marking and signage improvements.
- Safety Improvements - local carriageway widening and junction improvements on A133 Colchester Road between Frating Roundabout and Weeley Roundabout to reduce congestion and address existing road safety issues.

Site establishment works at Weeley and Frating Roundabouts started in November 2019 with the main construction starting in January 2020. The works will be undertaken in a phased approach and are due to be completed in Spring 2020.

Please note that details may be subject to change if the works are hindered by poor weather conditions, or if unexpected issues arise.

Progress

What a wet start to the scheme! The site set up has progressed despite the wet weather that we have experienced during November. This has made the ground conditions difficult for the machinery and operatives. Despite this, Jackson Civil Engineering have now fully established the site set up ready for main works to begin in 2020.

Weeley Roundabout

Works to date has included set up of the site compound, installation of the traffic management with minor carriageway disruption, site clearance and road widening of the A133 northbound carriageway approach to the roundabout.

Frating Roundabout

The site compound has been set up with traffic management installed with only minor carriageway disruption. Site clearance activities have taken place including some tree protection and construction of the attenuation tank is progressing on the southside of the scheme.

Traffic management

The majority of the works will be carried out during the daytime with only limited night time working. For the safety of the public and onsite operatives we have segregated our working area, separating the public from plant movements and material delivery.

We appreciate that this is a traffic sensitive site and the works will be planned to minimise inconvenience to the area while allowing effective working.

Christmas traffic management arrangements

Works will finish for Christmas from 3pm on 20 December 2019 returning on 6 January 2020. During this time traffic management will remain in place.

What's next

Weeley Roundabout

During January 2020 the main drainage works will commence along the widening section.

Frating Roundabout

From January 2020 Openreach will start moving and lowering their existing services which will then allow the road widening works to start on the southside. Works will commence on widening the section adjacent the roundabout on the North side.

Our environment

Essex County Council have been working closely with ecologists over the last year to undertake vegetation clearance and ecological surveys to protect the local environment before physical works began on the scheme.
How to find out more?
Essex County Council website will be updated with information about the scheme as works progress.

If you have any questions or comments about the scheme, please contact the Essex County Council customer service team on 0345 603 7631 or via the weblink: https://www.essex.gov.uk/enquiries

Improving the image of construction
The Considerate Constructors Scheme was set up to improve the image of the construction industry. The scheme aims to encourage best practice beyond statutory requirements and show the industry to be considerate. We are doing everything possible to apply the Scheme’s Code of Considerate Practice:

• ensuring the professional appearance of our site,
• respecting the community,
• protecting the environment,
• securing everyone’s safety,
• caring for the workforce.

As you may be aware from the banners around the site, our site has signed-up to the scheme and the monitor visit is scheduled for the new year.

Site reference: 119000 Freephone: 0800 783 1423 #love construction

Thank you and Merry Christmas

We would like to thank you for your patience and understanding whilst we have been carrying out this important work.

The team wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Working in partnership
The project is being carried out by Jackson Civil Engineering on behalf of Essex County Council.