

Colchester Rapid Transit System

Northern Approach Road

WORKS UPDATE

Work undertaken between May 2024 and July 2024

Works for the Northern Approach Road section of the Rapid Transit System are progressing well with the following works either completed or under way.

- Removal of the traffic island between Mill Road and Dickenson Road
- Additional vegetation clearance in the Bruff Close area
- The start of works required for the installation of the permanent traffic lights at the junction of Mill Road and Northern Approach Road. The temporary signals currently installed will remain in place for the duration of the project
- The ducting for the new lighting columns has been completed as well as the installation of the new columns throughout the bus lane
- Bund formation for the perimeter of the footway and cycleway has been completed
- Existing toucan crossing to the hospital has been temporarily removed to allow the northbound traffic to proceed whilst the kerbing works are being completed



Utility diversion works



View looking south on Northern Approach Road



Newly installed lighting columns



If you would like to help us do our bit for the environment and receive email updates about the scheme, instead of through the post please scan the QR code to register your details.

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WORKS UPDATE (CONTD)

Work undertaken between May 2024 and July 2024

- Extensive pothole repairs have been undertaken between Mill Road and Bruff Close ahead of full carriageway surfacing towards the end of the project
- Drainage works between Mill Road and Wallace Road are completed
- All of the utility diversions have now been completed
- Kerbing works are ongoing between Mill Road and Dickenson Road
- The permanent traffic signals at the junction of Northern Approach Road and Turner Road have been replaced with temporary signals which will remain in place for the duration of the project



View looking north on Northern Approach Road taken from drone footage in July 2024



Section of acoustic fencing installed along the site boundary on Northern approach Road

- The installation of the acoustic fencing along the western side boundary was started in May. The works will be ongoing until late August. Once the works are complete the fencing will provide a sound barrier between the properties and the bus lane
- The tree pits along the boundary line have been created. As part of the landscaping works this will supplement the acoustic barriers in providing residents with a noise buffer from the traffic
- New traffic signals have been installed along the bus lane which will become operational once the bus lane is open



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WORKS UPDATE

What next and what Impacts?

The scheme is reaching a critical stage where visually you will start to see the Rapid Transit System take shape.

Between August and November, the works which you will see happening on site include.

- The surfacing of the new bus lane, cycleway and footway will commence early to mid-August. The works will take place during day shifts within the site boundaries so there will be no additional traffic management impacts. It is estimated that these surfacing works will take 5 weeks to complete
- The kerbing along the route of the bus lane needs to be completed, this is within the site boundaries so no further traffic management impacts
- Once the surfacing of the new lanes between Wallace Road and Dickenson Road is completed, the traffic management on Northern Approach Road will be amended to allow for the construction of the new traffic island that will separate the new bus lane from Northern Approach Road. This arrangement will be in place for approximately 6 weeks (see over page for further details)
- The road will be closed on the night of the **10th September** to make the changes to the current road layout
- Bruff Close will be closed for a month from mid-October to enable the new bus stops to be built, footways to be constructed, plus surfacing and lining works
- There will be closures on Wallace Road and Dickenson Road in November to facilitate footway widening, traffic signal ducting and surfacing and lining to form the new junction (TBC)

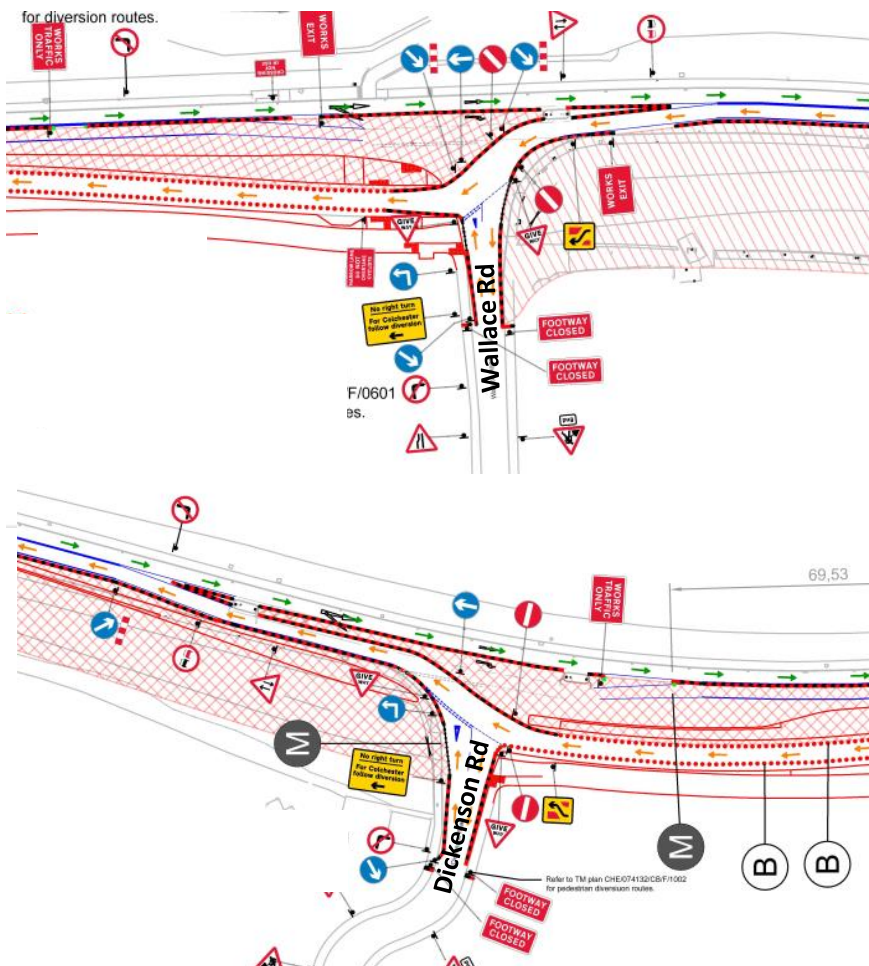
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WORKS UPDATE

What next (continued)?

- The new traffic management arrangement starting on **September 11th** will temporarily restrict the right movement in and out of both Dickenson Road and Wallace Road as below. Access for southbound traffic approaching the estate will need to be made via the roundabout at the southern part of A134 (Northern Approach Road).
- Vehicles wanting to head to Colchester Centre from the estate will be diverted to the roundabout between Nayland Road and Boxted Road where they can then head back down the A134
- Northbound traffic between Dickenson Road and Wallace Road will be diverted onto the newly surfaced bus lane.
- Whilst this arrangement is in place it is recommended that drivers allow additional journey time.



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WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

Thomas Lord Audley Mentoring

Two members of the Sisk RTS team joined other volunteers to help out at the mentor day at the Thomas Lord Audley School.

With the support of their mentors over 50 year 10 students were tasked with creating a product which would have a global impact.

The task included considering the product slogan and branding and culminated with the groups presenting their ideas to their peers at the end of the day.

Some innovative ideas were offered by the students ranging from products to clean up the sea to solutions to tackle homelessness.



Sisk Site Agent Charles Harvey with his team at the TLA School

Work experience

The RTS project recently welcomed two students for a weeks work experience of the construction industry. They spent valuable time on site with the engineering teams learning about setting out and the safety elements of working on a construction project. In addition the students joined in with a litter pick at the Colchester Sports Centre.

Colchester Institute and Job Centre

Sisk have been working with the Colchester job centre and the Colchester Institute for SWAPs events (Sector based Work Academy Programme). Participants receive skills training in construction activities over a 6 week period and Sisk have been supporting with careers advice and the opportunity for mock job interviews at the end of the programme.

Queen Boudica Primary School

As one of our neighbours close to the Northern Approach Road Sisk were keen to support the Queen Boudica School in their summer event.

We presented them with vouchers to use at the Wyvernwood outdoor adventure park. We hope some local families are enjoying the opportunity to get outside in the summer at a local attraction.



Scan the QR code
for detailed
information on the
project



Essex County Council

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Northern Approach Road

WORK IN THE COMMUNITY



Construction Simulator for Schools

Sisk are keen to promote the construction industry to the next generation of engineers and are lucky to have access to a realistic simulator courtesy of Flannerys Plant Hire. The simulator offers users the opportunity to drive various vehicles used in the industry.

We have recently supported events at Doucecroft School and The Colchester Academy where over 200 students have tested their driving skills.

At Doucecroft in particular it was rewarding to see how much enjoyment the students got from driving a vehicle which they never

considered they would be driving. We hope some of the budding drivers we met will consider that a career in construction is possible.

In addition to supporting the event, Sisk also sent a team back to Doucecroft to help with the removal of materials from a play area. The area was made safe and finished off with top soil ready for when the children return in September.



Doucecroft School before and after