

A8 Cycle Route Upgrade – Proposals

November 2015

The A8 cycle route is a shared pedestrian and cycle route in the west of the city that runs from Newbridge Roundabout to South Gyle Station and forms part of Route 9 of the Council's 'Quiet Route' network.

The cycle route is essential for cyclists and pedestrians wanting to travel to major destinations along the way and to avoid travelling on the A8 itself. The existing cycle route has a number of issues for users including narrow paths, poor quality surfaces and side road crossings that are difficult for cyclists and pedestrians to use. These issues have resulted in safety concerns at a number of locations, increase journey times and discourage cyclists from using the route.

We propose to address these issues in two phases:

- Phase 1 - that will be delivered in spring 2016, will look at resurfacing locations where very little geometric design is required whilst
- Phase 2 - will tackle more problematic situations that require detailed design and will be delivered in the 2016/17 financial year.

The current budget for the project is £300K.

Maybury Road crossing

Due to the layout of the signalised junction of Maybury Road with Glasgow Road there are currently significant delays for pedestrians and cyclists crossing the Maybury Road arm. To reduce these would require substantial rebuilding of the junction which is out with the budget for this scheme but is planned in the longer term as part of development proposals in this area.

Therefore the proposal for the cycle route upgrade is an interim solution that provides an uncontrolled traffic island crossing of Maybury Road to the north of North Gyle Terrace. This would facilitate pedestrian / cyclists crossing at this location whilst minimising delay to them.

Gogar Transport Interchange underpass

Transport Scotland / Network Rail are currently constructing a new underpass under the east side of the Gogar roundabout, on the A8 Glasgow Road (East) arm. Discussions are ongoing with them regarding the consent for cyclists to be able to use this without dismounting.

The A8 cycle route proposals include the upgrading of links to the underpass, particularly on the south side (on the north side these will be provided for by the Transport Interchange).

Consultation

At this stage we would welcome comments from all interested parties. Consultation will be open until the 18 December 2015. Comments can be sent to cycling@edinburgh.gov.uk.