

From: **Gary Wilson** <Gary.Wilson@edinburgh.gov.uk>
Date: Tue, 23 Mar 2021 at 16:00
Subject: Covid 19 Emergency Measures - A71 Hermiston P&R

Dear Councillors and Stakeholders,

Covid-19 Bus Priority Rapid Deployment Fund

A71 Hermiston Park and Ride roundabout partial signalisation

In July last year the Scottish Government announced that a £10million national Bus Priority Rapid Deployment Fund (BPRDF) would be made available to help local authorities protect and, where possible, improve bus journey times to make services even more attractive and reliable. The fund focuses on key radial corridors that link the city with the region (prioritising routes that traffic modelling evaluation has demonstrated are likely to suffer from elevated level congestion).

Evidence is already showing that social distancing guidance, especially regarding public transport, is leading to an increase in car use, and as restrictions are further relaxed, additional significant increases in car volumes are expected; where the consequent congestion will be hard to manage and could potentially be overwhelm parts of the city.

Edinburgh has worked with partner local authorities across the region to develop a substantial package of interventions. These target improvements to bus journey times and reliability in order to protect public transport viability for key workers and those without access to car. As COVID-19 restrictions change the proposed enhancement in public transport infrastructure will hopefully encourage more people to choose public transport and sustainable methods of travel which will help mitigate the expected increases in car usage and congestion.

Please be advised that as part of these measures traffic signals will be introduced on two arms of the roundabout at Hermiston Park and Ride. The traffic signals will ensure buses are provided with an unimpeded exit from the park and ride on to the A71, with the aim of providing bus services with reduced journey times and improved reliability. The Council has worked in partnership with West Lothian Council, bus operators and Jacobs consultants to identify and evaluate this measure. The scheme has also benefitted from additional modelling work, alongside input from the Council Traffic Signals team, and will be subject to a robust monitoring plan to ensure that any issues that may be encountered can be resolved quickly.

I have attached the proposed designs for the scheme. In summary it shows:

- Introduction of traffic signals at the P&R and Riccarton Mains Road arms of the roundabout.
- Introduction of traffic signals on the south side of the roundabout for westbound vehicles.

Construction works to install these measures shall commence on Monday 29 March. Should you have any comments relating to this work please reply to transport.publictransaccess@edinburgh.gov.uk

Regards

On behalf of the Bus Priority Rapid Deployment Team