

From: **Rurighd McMeddes** <Rurighd.McMeddes@edinburgh.gov.uk>

Date: Tue, 4 May 2021 at 16:11

Subject: Braid Road Urgent Review - Outcome

Dear all,

As you are aware Braid Road re-opened to Southbound traffic alongside the introduction of several measures meant to support the Greenbank to Meadows Quiet Connection on Monday 19th April.

As you are also aware, the layout as installed resulted in some unintended consequences with significant numbers of vehicles travelling north/east from Braidburn Terrace towards Cluny Gardens along the route of the quiet connection until the junction of Cluny Drive and Braid Avenue where traffic is forced to turn left. This resulted in larger levels of traffic in certain streets on the quiet connection (such as Corrennie Drive) than would normally be seen.

This traffic quickly reduced over the ensuing week as motorists became aware of the closures, however towards the end of last week it was observed to still be higher than had been hoped. It was also noted that numerous concerns had been raised about motorists finding the layout confusing. Following this input, and in line with instruction from Committee, a review was carried out.

Following this review we have actioned several minor changes to tweak the layout to encourage better driver behaviours in the area, and discourage through traffic from using the streets on the Quiet Connection. These changes are summarised in the attached document.

Most of these changes have been carried out, and we hope that all changes will have been made within the next week or so. We will continue to monitor the operation of the Quiet Connection through officer observation, consideration of public and elected member feedback and traffic counts at various sites.

From observations on site today it would appear that traffic levels on the Quiet Connection are continuing to fall compared to immediately after the introduction of the scheme, and we will continue to monitor this closely and consider any further changes that may be required.

We have received a large amount of correspondence from the public regarding this scheme and will shortly begin responding to all of these now that we have a more established way forward.

We will also be making the following changes following specific feedback:

- Widening the northbound cyclelane on Braid Road immediately north of the hotel
- Revising the layout of Braid Road between the junction with Hermitage Drive and the Hermitage of Braid path to allow northbound egress from the Hermitage of Braid for forestry maintenance vehicles
- Adjusting the Rosehill Cycle Lane Defenders at the junction of Braid Road and Hermitage Drive to improve pedestrian desire lines

Please let me know if you have any comments or questions on the above and attached.

Rurighd

Rurighd Ahluwalia-McMeddes

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Subsequent emails, following queries from Cllr & M'side CC

Hi Rurigdh,

Thanks for this. Three points:

1. What actual data was this decision based on?
2. Did the observation today that traffic was falling take into account that many schools were closed for in-service training? Can the data relating to traffic levels be shared?
3. What discussions have taken place in relation to the peak-time delays to public transport on Comiston Road? Was this considered today? I raised this with the SfP team last week.

Many thanks!

Scott

Professor Scott Arthur

Councillor for the Colinton, Oxgangs & Fairmilehead Ward.

Subject: RE: Braid Road Urgent Review - Outcome

Dear Scott,

1. This proposal was based on officer observations and feedback from local residents and councillors. Counts have been conducted (Tue 20th and Wed 21st) and reviewed, and follow on counts are scheduled for next week. Count summary attached (this level of data presentation has taken a considerable amount of time and may not generally be available across other projects).
 - a. The change is a very minor modification following an instruction from the Transport and Environment Committee on 22 April to conduct an urgent review due to unintended consequences with the layout at that time. Should problems persist more significant modifications can be considered.
2. Today's observations did not specifically consider the impact of school operations, however on previous days the majority of the traffic heading northbound on Braid Road was observed to turn right onto Braid Crescent – following the Quiet Connection. Today the majority of traffic heading northbound on Braid Road at this location was observed to continue along Braid Road.
3. Lothian buses have been part of discussions and while there have been some delays recently on the A702 there has been no clear pattern. LB have not raised any concerns with our proposals and we will continue to discuss any issues with LB if and when they emerge.

Hope this helps,

Cheers,

Rurigdh

Hi Carol,

The counts were conducted between 7am and 7pm on Tue 20th and Wed 21st April.

Cheers,

Rurigdh