

Report to Norwich highways agency committee
23 July 2015
Report of Head of city development services
Subject Major road works – regular monitoring

Item

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Purpose

This report advises and updates members of current and planned future roadworks in Norwich.

Recommendation

To note the report.

Corporate and service priorities

The report helps to achieve the corporate priorities of a strong and prosperous city and the service plan priority to coordinate programmes to achieve best value.

Financial implications

There are no direct financial consequences from this report

Ward/s: All wards

Cabinet member: Cllr Bert Bremner – Environment development and transport

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Background documents

None

Report

Background

1. Roadworks are a source of frustration and inconvenience to road users but they are an essential operation and need to be managed carefully to minimise their impact on the travelling public.
2. There are two main originators of roadworks: The Highway Authority and public utility companies. Norfolk County Council has a responsibility to improve and maintain the highway, while the public utility companies have a responsibility to provide and maintain their infrastructure, the vast majority of which is located under the highway. From time to time developers are also required to work in the highway, carrying out improvements to facilitate access to their developments.
3. The table attached as appendix 1 sets out the current works that have been completed since your last meeting, are currently in progress or are planned for the future on the A, B and C class roads within the city. More detailed roadworks information is provided online via the electronic local government information network at <http://norfolk.elgin.gov.uk>
4. The more significant works are highlighted below.

Push the Pedalways programme

5. The design work for the majority of the schemes has been completed and work has commenced on constructing the major schemes. The works on Tombland and Palace Street commenced on 18 May 2015 and is scheduled to last for 25 weeks.
6. The major project for works on The Avenues and its junctions with Bluebell Road and Colman Road commenced on 1 June 2015, and will now incorporate other essential highways maintenance projects to gullies within its work site to minimise disruption
7. Works to upgrade the intersection of Park Lane, Unthank Road and Essex Street are currently scheduled to commence 8 August 2015. It is anticipated that a week-long closure of Unthank Road will be required, necessitating a diversion of the bus services onto Newmarket Road.

Resurfacing and surface dressing

8. The 15/16 surface dressing program on the main road network will start shortly and continue throughout the summer. Major roads earmarked for work this year include Aylsham Road, Mile Cross Road, Bowthorpe Road, King Street, Rouen Road and Bluebell Road. Given the weather dependent nature of these works, the relatively short durations and the need to co-ordinate the contractors availability across the county it is not possible to give firm dates of when these works will take place. Advance warning signs will be erected on site giving drivers notice of the works.
9. Additionally there are 3 major surfacing schemes in the city this summer; the junctions at Magdalen Road / Sprowston Road and Heartsease Lane / Salhouse Road and the city end of Thorpe Road.

National Grid upgrades

9. National Grid Gas main upgrades within the city centre have largely been completed, with one large project to upgrade the gas main in Westlegate, All Saints Green and Red Lion Street awaiting scheduling. Officers are in discussion with NGG to see if these works can be delayed until the proposed Golden Ball Street project is on site to minimise disruption in the city centre.

Works in progress

Location	Lead Authority	Type of scheme	Traffic management	Due for completion	Remarks
Tombland & Palace Street	Norwich City Council (PtP)	Cycling Scheme	Closure of Palace Street and traffic management via signals in Tombland. Access to all businesses will be maintained	Early November 2015	Works was temporarily halted for Lord Mayors celebrations with Palace Street opened for access for parade vehicles only (4 th & 5 th July)
The Avenues	Norwich City Council (PtP)	Cycling Scheme	Closure of The Avenues between Colman Road and Bluebell with access maintained for residents and allotment users	Early September 2015	Works have been scheduled to incorporate essential highways maintenance and allow for works to upgrade non-highways surfaces within the UEA site

Planned future works

Location	Lead Authority	Type of scheme	Traffic management	Anticipated dates	Remarks
Park Lane / Unthank Road	City	Push the Pedalway	Closure of Unthank Road (first week only)	8 – 28 August 2015	
Magdalen Road / Sprowston Road	City	Resurfacing	Road closure	30 -31 July 2015	
Heartsease Lane / Salhouse Road	City	Resurfacing	To be determined	24 – 28 August 2015	
Thorpe Road	City	Resurfacing	To be determined	1-3 September 2015	