

Report for Resolution

Report to Norwich Highways Agency Committee
26 March 2009

Report of Head of Transportation and Landscape

Subject Mile Cross Road Pedestrian Refuge

Item
10

Purpose

To inform members of the results of the public consultation carried out on a proposal to install a pedestrian refuge in Mile Cross Road near to Kirkpatrick Road.

Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to approve the construction a pedestrian refuge, with associated amendments to waiting restrictions as shown on plan number 08-HD-130-02A, attached as Appendix 1.

Financial Consequences

The Local Transport Plan budget has allocated £20,000 for this scheme.

Strategic Objective/Service Priorities

The report helps to achieve the corporate objective to ensure the City has a clean and healthy environment and the service plan priority of implementing the Local Transport Plan.

Contact Officers

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Background Documents

Consultation material

Report

Background

1. The school travel plan for Mile Cross Primary School has identified the need for assistance to pedestrians when crossing Mile Cross Road north of the junction with Kirkpatrick Road.
2. The restructuring of Norwich schools has seen an increase of pupils using this route due to the closure of Dowson First and Middle Schools to create Mile Cross Primary.
3. A pedestrian refuge at this location would be of benefit to the school children and also other pedestrians to local amenities, including the Phoenix Centre that is used by community groups.

Public Consultation

4. A letter and plan showing the proposed position of the refuge was sent to approximately 45 local residents as well as various interest groups. The proposed layout is shown as Appendix 1.
5. Twelve responses were received. Six in support of the scheme and six raising concerns. Three respondents were concerned with reduced on street parking for picking up and setting down children to a nearby child minder that would be caused by the introduction of double yellow lines. See Appendix 2 for a summary of each respondents comments.

Ward Member Views

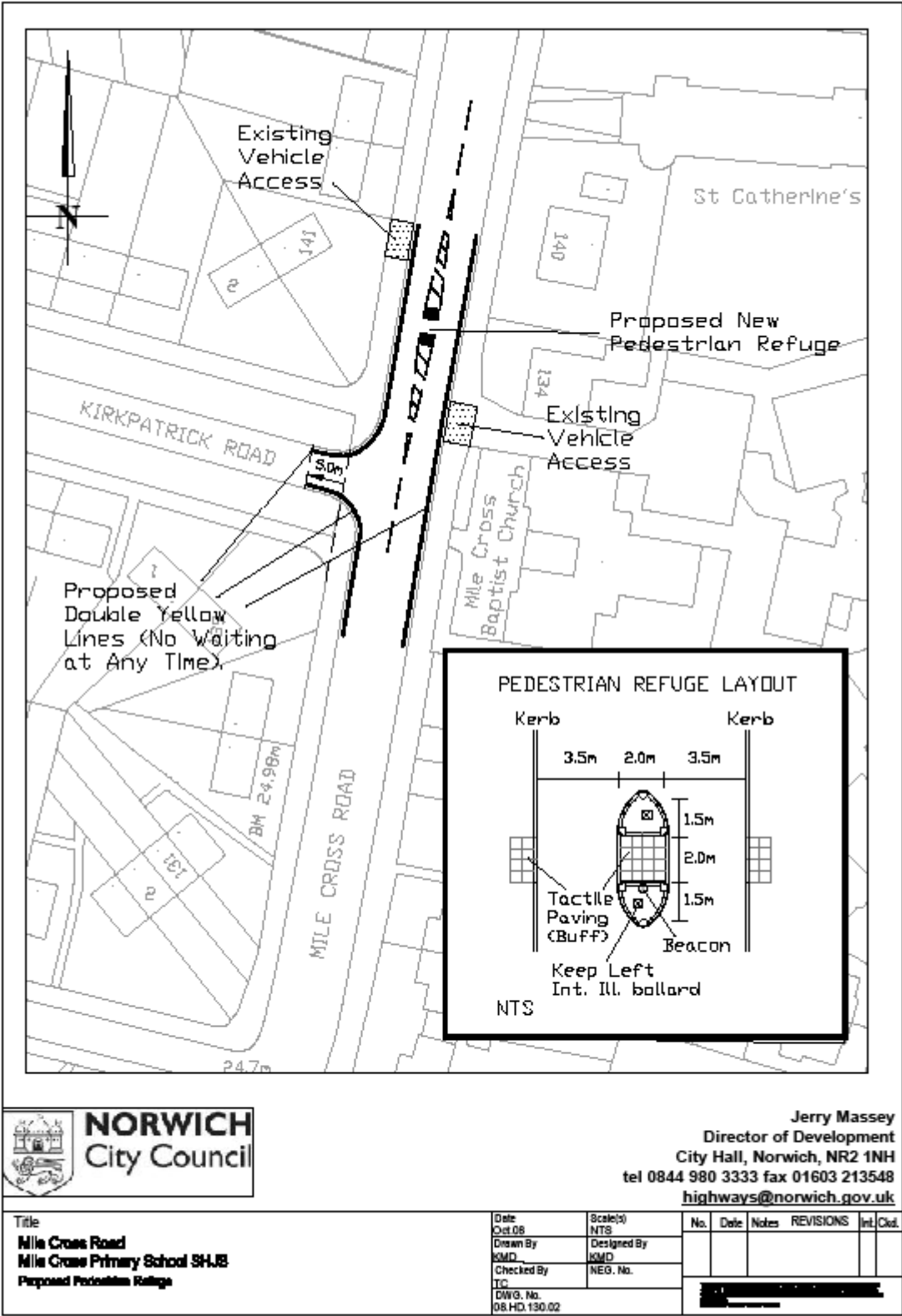
6. Two local ward members responded to the consultation and both are in favour of the scheme. Their comments are recorded in appendix 2.

Assessment

7. It should be noted that the introduction of double yellow lines at this location are primarily to allow vehicles to pass around the refuge safely. The proposed position of the refuge is a result of strategic assessment of the highway layout and the desired route used by schoolchildren/pedestrians. The child minders property is situated on the junction of Kirkpatrick Road and Mile Cross Road. Parking cars close to the junction is considered unsafe and does not conform to the highway code. Visitors to the childminders can park just inside Kirkpatrick Road, or a few metres north on Mile Cross Road.
8. A reduction of the double yellow lines in front of the Phoenix centre is possible to allow some on street parking without compromising the area for vehicles to pass around the refuge safely.

Conclusion

9. It is suggested that the pedestrian refuge is implemented, but the extent of the yellow lines reduced in front of the Phoenix Centre as shown on plan number 08-HD-130-02A, attached as Appendix 3.



Respondent	Summary of Comments	Officer Comments
Resident Mile Cross Road Norwich	Childminder conducts business at home near to location of proposed refuge. Feels that introduction of double yellow lines will not allow children to be dropped off immediately adjacent to her home and that this will affect her business. Does not want yellow lines in front of her drive as she feels this will not allow her to park car while she closes her driveway gates. Suggested re-locating refuge to other side of Kirkpatrick Rd further down Mile Cross Road.	Introduction of Double yellow lines does not affect a car being temporarily positioned in front of gates whilst the gates are being closed. The lines would make the junction safer, parking or picking up/setting down practices close to a junction would not be encouraged for road safety reasons. Proposed location of refuge is to accommodate the crossing desire line, relocation to the other side of the junction would not accommodate this.
Residents 87 Baxter Court Norwich	Being customer of the above endorses the comment of not being able to drop children off adjacent to the childminders home.	As above
Resident 143 Bullard Road Norwich	Being customer of the above endorses the comment of not being able to drop children off adjacent to the childminders home.	

Respondent	Summary of Comments	Officer Comments
<p>Trustees Phoenix Centre Mile Cross Road Norwich</p>	<p>In favour of crossing facility but feel the design of the refuge is deep enough for cyclists & pushchairs sticking out either side of crossing. Would prefer not to have double yellow line completely across the front of the premises due to the need for max. on street parking when the centre gets busy.</p>	<p>Design of refuge complies with safety standards. Double yellow line could be amended to still allow protection of the refuge.</p>
<p>ECHG Housing & Support 1 Charles Jewson Ct Mile Cross Road Norwich</p>	<p>Scheme manager & tenants would like to see the proposed double yellow lines extended further past number 140 Mile Cross Road to make it safer to turn right out of Charles Jewson Court.</p>	<p>The proposed double yellow line to the north of the vehicle access to Charles Jewson Court are of sufficient distance to allow good visibility of approaching traffic. This coupled with the introduction of the refuge, causing traffic to slow, should increase the safety for right turning traffic.</p>
<p>Resident Kirkpatrick Road Norwich</p>	<p>Concerned that verge parking will be forced further along Kirkpatrick Road with the introduction of Double Yellow Lines.</p>	<p>The Introduction of double yellow lines at the mouth of the junction is necessary for road safety reasons. Verge parking could be assessed if there is a problem following the introduction of double yellow lines.</p>

Respondent	Summary of Comments	Officer Comments
Governors Mile Cross Primary School	In favour of scheme	Welcome the support
Cllr. Linda Blakeway Ward Member	In favour of scheme	Welcome the support
Rev. Paul Mackay St Catherines Church	In favour of scheme	Welcome the support
Police	In favour of scheme	Welcome the support
Resident, Mile Cross	In favour of scheme	Welcome the support
Cllr. Peter Harwood County Councillor	In favour of scheme	Welcome the support

