

# **EASTBOURNE AREA COMMITTEE - 13**

## **February 2002**

### **LIST OF SCHEMES FOR CONSTRUCTION AND/OR DESIGN DURING NEXT 12 MONTHS IN EASTBOURNE**

## **A22 NEW ROUTE OPENING**

### **A22 SIGNAGE STRATEGY**

A £94,000 scheme is currently in progress to provide the requisite new signage, for Eastbourne and the adjacent areas, associated with the opening of the Polegate Bypass and the A22 New Route. Most of the signs will be erected by the end of March however approximately 60 of the signs will be erected in the week prior to the opening of the new roads. This is to avoid driver confusion and to utilise existing posts, which are in a good condition and do not warrant replacement. Extensive publicity will be required as a number of temporary signs on A-frames will be in use for this short period. The current programmed date for the opening of the new roads is June/July 2002.

For traffic heading into Eastbourne on the new A22, town centre traffic will be signed via Cross Levels Way. Traffic heading for the seafront or the Sovereign Harbour area will be signed via Lottbridge Drove. For traffic heading out of Eastbourne, all traffic south of The Avenue will be signed to the new A22. All traffic north of The Avenue will be signed via the existing A22 (to be renumbered A2270). This strategy conforms to the long term plans for relocating the town centre ring-road.

## **LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN SCHEMES**

### **STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE**

The County Council has set a provisional amount of £357,000 of the LTP structural maintenance allocation to Eastbourne. The allocation is subject to final approval in February 2002. This is to be utilised for structural maintenance and surface dressing of non-principal roads, of which £118,000 is available for footway maintenance. The Eastbourne Highways Group is currently evaluating and prioritising the existing list of roads and footways to determine where the funding should be allocated. All of the allocated funding must be spent in the 2002/2003 financial year. By necessity, this means that there may be extensive roadworks throughout the year but it is hoped to program the works to cause the minimum of traffic disruption, particularly in the summer months.

### **EASTBOURNE URBAN AREA PACKAGE**

The Eastbourne Highways Group is currently preparing preliminary designs for the following highway schemes:

1. Seaside Road Regeneration scheme

This is a jointly funded scheme by the Borough Council, County Council and English Heritage designed to improve the Seaside Road area. The scheme will incorporate environmental enhancements, pedestrian improvements and possible changes to the existing traffic regime. It is intended that a draft scheme will be the subject of a public exhibition in June 2002. Implementation is programmed for the 2003-2004 financial year.

2. Terminus Road (south end)

This scheme involves the partial pedestrianisation and one-way northbound of the section of Terminus Road between Grand Parade and Seaside Road. Preliminary designs are currently being prepared with the intention of a joint public exhibition with the Seaside Road scheme. Construction is also intended for the 2003-2004 financial year.

3. Highway infrastructure associated with the opening of the A22 New Route

When the A22 New Route opens, it is likely that there will be significant changes to the current traffic patterns in Eastbourne. A number of strategic junctions have been identified by the Eastbourne Highways Group as areas where physical changes need to be carried out to the junction geometry to facilitate the changes. Dependent on ESCC priorities, the necessary funding may be allocated that will permit the works to be carried out in the 2002-2003 financial year.

4. Sovereign Harbour Bus Link

The scheme is currently in the feasibility design stage. Discussions on various options are ongoing between the principal parties (Sovereign Harbour, Prudential, ASDA, Eastbourne Borough Council and East Sussex County Council). However, the safety implications of bus services running through a car park mixed with shoppers and parking vehicles has recently been highlighted in a safety audit. Routes requiring adjacent but less contact with this environment are currently being considered. Alternatively more protection, in the form of kerbing and pavements, will be necessary. This approach would be more expensive and the number of car parking spaces available form part of the lease agreements in Sovereign Harbour.

5. District General Hospital – Public Transport Interchange

A number of meetings have occurred between Eastbourne Buses, Stagecoach, ESCC Passenger Transport Group, Transport 2000, the local highways group, DGH, Sussex Downs College and Park College to forward the scheme. A detailed design for the highway improvements required for the interchange has been prepared and agreed after consultation with all interested parties. The scheme is intended to be implemented prior to the opening of the A22 New Route. Implementation will include a marketing initiative by the bus operators, aimed at encouraging more people to use buses to and from the site. Planning permission will be required for the development, which is located wholly on private land.

Part of the proposal includes a new footpath (with lighting) connecting the interchange with Sussex Downs College across land owned by the Education Department at ESCC, which is currently a sports field. However, the Education Department are unwilling to release this

land, which is needed to meet their recreational requirements. Although useful and providing a more attractive scheme, it would appear probable that the scheme will be constructed without the footpath element.

## **LOCAL SAFETY SCHEMES**

### **A259 / GILDREDGE ROAD / IVY TERRACE**

The experimental scheme of amendments to the town centre road layout has been in operation since January 2001. A public consultation exercise was carried out with all directly affected parties in July 2001 to determine the acceptability of the scheme. The overwhelming response was in favour of the scheme, with the only major concern regarding the number of vehicles illegally crossing from West Terrace to Mark Lane.

In March 2002, the scheme will be made permanent with the additional works to include a traffic island in Gildredge Road. A successful bid was also made to the County Council for £30,000 in order to pedestrianise the 'closed' section of Ivy Terrace. The construction materials will be in accordance with the Eastbourne Streetscape manual. The funding will also enable the widening of the existing footway in Mark Lane, between Station Street and Cornfield Road, which is currently temporarily widened with concrete blocks.

### **WILLINGDON DROVE / MILFOIL DRIVE**

The junction of Willingdon Drive and Milfoil Drive has been identified in the County Council's Road Safety Strategy as a high accident frequency site. Owen William's consultants have undertaken an accident study of the site and have recommended that the priority junction be replaced with a mini-roundabout. In view of the success of the mini-roundabout at the nearby junction with Larkspur Drive, a mini-roundabout at the Milfoil Drive junction makes good sense as it provides a further traffic calming feature on Willingdon Drive as well as providing a safer junction. It is intended that the proposed improvement will be the subject of a preliminary design in the current financial year. Consultation, detailed design and construction is programmed for the financial year 2002-2003.

### **UPPERTON ROAD / WATTS LANE**

A zebra type pedestrian crossing is currently being installed in Upperton Road, at the junction with Watts Lane. The crossing is proposed in response to a number of requests from local residents dating back over several years. The location of the crossing is on the 'desire line' for a significant number of pedestrians who travel from Watts Lane, and adjacent roads east of Watts Lane, to the west side of Upperton Road.

### **MEMORIAL ROUNDABOUT**

The Road Safety Strategy has identified the Memorial Roundabout as a high accident frequency site. A preliminary design has been prepared comprising a number of minor improvements, focused on improving conditions for pedestrians. A consultation exercise was carried out in September 2001 and the responses are currently being evaluated. The intention is to take forward the project for design and construction in the next financial year.

## CRASH ANALYSIS SITES

Preliminary investigation work has been carried out by ESCC's consultant on the following sites in Eastbourne:

- a) Seaside roundabout
- b) Devonshire Place / Compton Street
- c) Willingdon Road / Victoria Drive
- d) Lottbridge Drove / Cross Levels Way
- e) Langney Rise / Sevenoaks Road
- f) Langney Road / Bourne Street
- g) Seaside / Whitley Road
- h) Lottbridge Drove / Willingdon Drove
- i) Seaside / Susans Road
- j) Grange Road / Blackwater Road
- k) The Goffs / Southfields Road
- l) Victoria Drive / Milton Street
- m) Carlisle Road / Grange Road

The investigation work is currently being evaluated to determine the extent and program of possible remedial measures.

## TRAFFIC CALMING

### ST. PHILIP'S AVENUE – PHASE 2

Phase 2 of the traffic calming proposals for St Philips Avenue are currently under consideration following the well attended public consultation exercise carried out in December 2000. The results of the consultation were inconclusive with local residents not giving a clear opinion on the next stage of the traffic calming measures. In view of the variance of public opinion, it is recommended that the phase 2 works progress in stages with the first part looking at the existing parking arrangements and the possibility of alternating the parking, and introducing build-outs to create chicanes to slow traffic. Once the effects of this have been assessed, other measures, such as an additional mini-roundabout at the junction of St Philip's Avenue with Harding Avenue/Roselands Avenue would be investigated if necessary.

## **PRIORY ROAD TRAFFIC CALMING ASSESSMENT**

Priory Road was identified as a priority location for traffic calming based on ESCC criteria. Parkmans Consultants have been instructed to commence work on the project with the first stage being consultation with all interested parties on what the problems are and the options open for addressing those problems. Any works identified will then be taken forward for detailed design and construction in 2002-2003 subject to a satisfactory LTP settlement.

In addition to any measures identified above, a traffic island is to be constructed in Priory Road at the entrance to the Langney Sports club. This is to provide a safe crossing point for pedestrian visitors to the club. The new island will be in conjunction with additional waiting restrictions designed to reduce the congestion caused by parked vehicles during major events held at the club. The funding for the island and waiting restrictions is wholly supplied by the club as part of a Planning agreement associated with extending the club facilities.

## **CYCLING**

### **A22 (NEW ROUTE) TO LARKSPUR DRIVE LINK**

Construction of a cycleway bridge is planned to connect the cycle paths constructed as part of the A22 New Route with the cycleway constructed as part of the Causeway school. The scheme is programmed to commence construction in February 2002. The bridge is seen as an important linkage providing a traffic free direct east / west cycle route for people attending the Causeway School. In addition it provides an access point for cyclists wishing to enjoy Eastbourne Park.

### **PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS**

#### **B2103 GRAND PARADE - CONVERSION OF ZEBRA CROSSINGS**

The two zebra crossings located adjacent to the pier and at the junction with Terminus Road are currently being converted to Puffin type light controlled crossings. The work commenced on 7 January 2002 and is anticipated to be completed within 8 weeks.

#### **VICTORIA DRIVE – PROVISION OF NEW CROSSING**

A Puffin type light controlled crossing is proposed to be installed in Victoria Drive outside the entrance to Ocklyne School. The anticipated dated for the works is June 2002.

#### **UPPERTON ROAD (STATION APPROACH)**

It is proposed to install a Puffin type light controlled crossing in Upperton Road adjacent to the main post office. The preliminary design was the subject of a consultation exercise in August 2001. The scheme has received overwhelming support from all parties. The anticipated start date for installation is April 2002.

## **A22 WILLINGDON ROAD / RODMILL DRIVE / ELDON ROAD**

### **TRAFFIC SIGNALISATION SCHEME**

Following the public consultation exercise carried out earlier this year, the proposed scheme has been modified to accommodate the comments received to the consultation. The scheme started on 11 February and should be completed within 4 weeks. Once the A22 New Route and Polegate By-Pass have been opened to traffic the signal timings will be modified to give more green time to the east / west route across Willingdon Road and therefore improve the reliability of the bus services in this area. No objections were received from the formal advertisement of the Traffic Regulation orders required to construct this scheme.

## **PARKING STRATEGY IN EASTBOURNE**

### **DECRIMINALISED PARKING**

It is intended that the required preliminary work will shortly commence on collating a database of all the existing Traffic Regulation Orders in Eastbourne. This work will continue into the next financial year. Also, it is planned to commence an extensive consultation exercise with all parties as to the form that the revised parking strategy should take particularly in the first instance, the identification of residential parking zones. This will require input from local and County Councillors, businesses and residents. The work is to be jointly funded by EBC and ESCC.

### **STREET LIGHTING – MAINS FAULTS**

At the last Eastbourne Area Committee it was requested that the County Council report back on the progress of implementing a Service Level Agreement with Seeboard for mains repairs. A meeting was held on 7 November 2001 to discuss a possible Service Level Agreement. Representatives from all authorities (East Sussex, West Sussex, Brighton & Hove City and Kent) within the Seeboard area attended. However, Seeboard declined to enter into an agreement.

Seeboard did agree to review their Charter in consultation with the authorities and in consideration of nationally published standards. A working group has been established to undertake the review. They also agreed to investigate improvements in their communication with the local authorities to be better informed in the future on the position of mains fault repairs. However, it is not anticipated that there will be any major changes to the existing regime. Seeboard indicated that they believed their performance was in line with other electricity boards and as such it was not appropriate for major improvements in service to be instigated. ESCC is undertaking a scrutiny review of street lighting. It is intended that results of the review will be reported to Scrutiny Committee on the 20 March 2002.