

# HAVE YOUR SAY ON IMPROVING HOE STREET JUNCTION



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WALTHAM FOREST

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**Waltham Forest is changing and we want you to be part of it. Thanks to a funding pot of £27million from Transport for London, we're planning to make our streets fit for everyone to use, whether you walk, cycle, use public transport or drive.**

We are developing a network of walking and cycling routes on our main roads, one of which is Forest Road. These routes aim to better connect our town centres and residential areas, making it easier for people to walk and cycle for local journeys. The routes also help connect Waltham Forest to our neighbouring boroughs, attracting visitors and boosting business for our local economy while providing safer and healthier travel options so that people enjoy living and spending time in the borough.

## **What's planned for Forest Road?**

Forest Road is a busy route used by up to 17,000 vehicles daily, and is home to around 3,600 residents and 340 businesses. Between 2010 and 2014 there were 181 collisions on Forest Road and so improving road safety is a high priority. It's already an important walking and cycling route that helps people get to work and places like the William Morris Gallery, Lloyd Park, Walthamstow Wetlands and other local facilities, and over the last few years Forest Road has seen a 56 per cent increase in people cycling to get around.

To make Forest Road safer for all road users we're planning to make the following improvements:

- Upgrade all major junctions
- Improve and create new pedestrian and cycle crossings to make the area safer and more accessible to people who walk and cycle
- Upgrade and relocate bus stops to bring bus facilities up to Transport for London's standards and make it easier for disabled people and people with push chairs to get on and off buses
- Introduce new blended 'Copenhagen' crossings at all side road junctions, giving pedestrians a continuous pavement rather than a traditional kerb that they need to wait at before crossing the side road. These crossings encourage vehicles to slow down when entering and exiting the side road, ensuring that pedestrians or people cycling have right of way, as per the Highway Code
- Create segregated cycle lanes which create separate, designated space for cycling – making it safer and easier for cycles and vehicles to share the road
- Invest in new public spaces, making Forest Road more enjoyable to use, and benefitting residents, businesses and visitors to the area.

## **What has happened so far?**

In May 2015, we sent a survey to all addresses in the scheme area and spoke with local businesses to understand your concerns and how we can use the Transport for London (TfL) funding to deliver what you want in your local area.

Over 301 residents and 52 businesses took part, providing over 540 individual comments. The results can be found at [enjoywalthamforest.co.uk/work-in-your-area/forest-road](http://enjoywalthamforest.co.uk/work-in-your-area/forest-road).

Since this survey, we have also been looking at important information about how Forest Road is used including traffic flow, collision statistics and public transport. By using this information as well as your ideas and feedback, we are aiming to create a scheme that makes it easier for people to get around without negatively impacting traffic flow in general.

We have also been speaking to key stakeholders including the emergency services to make sure the proposals work for them, and we will continue to engage with them as the scheme progresses.

## What has happened so far? (cont.)

To help manage the design and consultation of the Forest Road scheme effectively, we have split the route into sections. By splitting the route into sections we are able to spend more time finding out what local people think of the designs near to them, so that the finished road reflects what people want. By doing things in stages, we can also minimise the impact on residents when construction takes place.

The following table breaks down the sections and consultation dates so far.

Section of Forest Road	Consultation dates
Ferry Lane to Forest Road – Walthamstow Wetlands	Completed – 21 March 2016
Blackhorse Road junction to Palmerston Road	Completed – 21 March 2016
Palmerston Road to Hoe Street	Completed – 31 July 2016
Blackhorse Road junction	5 July to 28 July 2017
Hoe Street junction	5 July to 28 July 2017
Hoe Street to Wood Street	Currently at feasibility stage
Walthamstow Wetlands to Blackhorse Road junction	Currently at feasibility stage

As shown in the table above, the consultation for the first three sections of Forest Road took place in spring and summer 2016. The results from these consultations and the next steps can be found online at [enjoywalthamforest.co.uk/work-in-your-area/forest-road](http://enjoywalthamforest.co.uk/work-in-your-area/forest-road).

We want everyone who lives and works in the local area to have their say on the scheme design and help shape the proposals.

Please read each proposal listed in this leaflet, and tell us your thoughts by visiting [frproposals.commonplace.is](http://frproposals.commonplace.is) or completing the accompanying questionnaire, if you requested a hardcopy leaflet. Depending on how much you write, we expect the survey to take no more than 10 minutes to complete.

If you would like to view the proposed measures for the previous three sections these can be found at [enjoywalthamforest.co.uk/work-in-your-area/forest-road](http://enjoywalthamforest.co.uk/work-in-your-area/forest-road).

## Proposals for the Hoe Street junction (Bell Junction)

The Hoe Street junction is an important junction on the Forest Road route and forms the northern gateway to the Walthamstow Town Centre area. We want to make changes to the junction to make it safer, easier and more convenient for people using Forest Road and improve connections with Hoe Street, Walthamstow Town Centre and Lea Bridge Road.

We are proposing the following key changes at the junction:

### Pedestrian and cycle improvements

- Change the road layout at the junction to make more space available for pedestrians and cyclists, whilst also maintaining the current flow of traffic and bus journey times
- Increase pavement widths around the junction, particularly outside no.1 Hoe Street, to provide more space for pedestrians and cyclists and provide greater potential for tree planting and public realm improvements
- By widening the pavements we can shorten the crossing distance of pedestrian crossings on all arms of the junction – making crossing the road safer, quicker and more convenient
- Introduce new segregated cycle tracks which create separate, designated space for cycling and new cycle crossing points on all arms of the junction to improve cycle safety and make crossing the junction by bike easier
- Link the current and planned cycle lanes on Forest Road into future proposals for Hoe Street to provide continuous segregated cycling infrastructure.

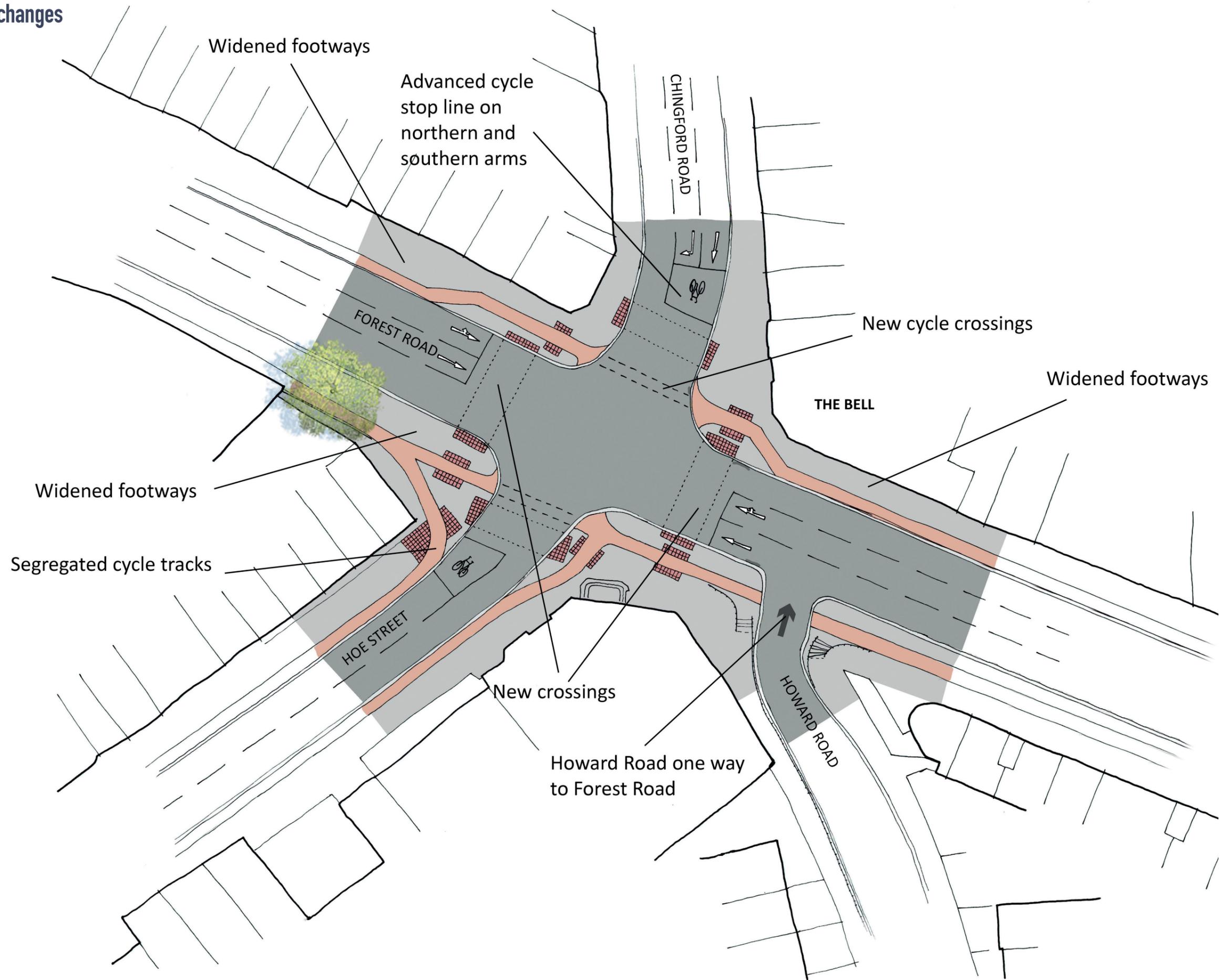
### Public space improvements

- Upgrade and modernise the street lighting to make the junction feel safer at night
- Resurface the footways using materials that create a high quality look and feel, and that complement the material used elsewhere in the town centre
- Plant new trees and a variety of plants to complement the existing species in the area, increase biodiversity and improve air quality.

### Proposal for Howard Road

To make the junction more accessible and safer for pedestrians and cyclists, we plan to use some road space to widen the pavements and accommodate the new cycle lanes. As this will reduce the amount of road space in Forest Road we anticipate that any vehicles waiting to turn into Howard Road from Forest Road are more likely to block the junction, leading to increased congestion, delays and potential safety issues. Therefore, to ensure that the new junction layout operates safely and efficiently we are proposing to make Howard Road one-way northbound towards Forest Road.

# Map of proposed changes



## Giving your views on the proposed design

We hope you like the proposals and can see how they will benefit Forest Road for everyone. It's important that you help us shape the improvements by telling us your views. Please complete your feedback by midnight 28 July 2017.

There are a number of ways for you to have your say:

- Online – visit **frproposals.commonplace.is** to complete the questionnaire and provide comments online
- Request a hardcopy of the consultation document and questionnaire by emailing **enjoy@walthamforest.gov.uk** or calling 020 8496 3000
- Come and talk to us and view the plans on:  
Thursday 13 July between 6pm and 8pm at Acanthus Room, William Morris Gallery, E17 4PP.

## What happens next?

All of the feedback received will be grouped, carefully analysed and used to shape the final design.

Where there are elements of the scheme that are not well supported by residents and businesses, we will look at these again. Where it's possible to make changes based on your comments and suggestions we will, and where we can't we will explain why. A summary of the results and feedback will be sent to everyone who took part and provided an email address soon after the public consultation stage has ended. This will set out the results and how they have been used to help shape the final design. This will also be available on the website for everyone to see.

As part of the detailed design stage Transport for London (TfL) will need to agree to all of our plans as the funders of the scheme and so the final scheme will be subject to obtaining the necessary TfL approvals.



Visualisation of the junction

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