

## **Lea Bridge Road Improvements Take Shape**

Transport improvements for Lea Bridge Road are starting to take shape, with work on a new phase of construction starting this month. The work is part of the £27million Mini-Holland programme which is improving the streets of Waltham Forest for everyone, whether you walk, cycle, use public transport or drive.

A new phase of construction is getting underway this month following a public consultation last year, and some work on the initial phase has already been completed. The scheme has been split into individual sections, with work taking place until 2018.

Cllr Clyde Loakes, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Environment said: "Following early engagement and consultation with residents and businesses that took place last year we are moving forward with the next phase of construction on the Lea Bridge Road scheme. The changes we are making will improve one of the busiest roads in Waltham Forest for everyone, and make it safer for those who want to walk and cycle.

"We know there will be some disruption in the short term while we make these improvements, and I would like to assure residents that we are doing everything we can to keep this to a minimum. We will have signage in place to give advance warning of any expected disruption, and will continue to keep local residents updated."

Work is already underway on 'Section A' of the scheme, which covers the section of the borough boundary with Hackney to Lammas Road. Work has already finished on the installation of a new cycle track, pavement and walking bridge close to the Lee Valley Ice Centre and Riding Centre.

In November work started on 'Section B' of Lea Bridge Road, which covers the stretch of road between Burwell Road and Markhouse Road. Here a segregated cycle track is being created on both sides of the road, which will improve road safety by giving cyclists and vehicles separate, designated space.

Lea Bridge Road is one of the busiest roads in Waltham Forest, and in the last five years (up to May 2016) it has seen 361 collisions, half of which involve people who walk or cycle.

The scheme will also include improvements to pedestrian crossings, upgraded bus shelters and changes to existing parking and loading arrangements to make it more consistent and less confusing along the whole of Lea Bridge Road.

New road closures will be implemented on the Lea Bridge Road junctions with Sanderstead Road, Belvedere Road and Kettlebaston Road, to improve safety for all road users and create more attractive residential streets. Residents, emergency services and other services like waste collection vehicles will still be able to access

properties in these roads, they will just have to enter them a different way. Work on the remaining sections of the Lea Bridge Road scheme will start in 2017 and 2018. For the latest updated and full construction dates visit

[www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk](http://www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk)

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