

Guided Busway Update

October 2008

Welcome to the October 2008 edition of the Guided Busway newsletter from Cambridgeshire County Council.

Progress on works

St Ives to Longstanton

The County Council's contractor, BAM Nuttall Limited, has started laying the guideway beams for the second section of the busway from Longstanton towards St Ives. This part is scheduled to be finished early next year. After this the gantry, the machine that lays the guideway beams, will be dismantled and brought to the south of Cambridge.

Here it will lay the remaining guideway from Trumpington to Cambridge railway station and Addenbrooke's Hospital.

Buses will start running on the guided busway from spring 2009.

Longstanton to north Cambridge

Although, the guideway has already been laid between Longstanton and

Cambridge, there is still a lot of work going on in this area. It is a very busy construction site and we would like to remind people that it is not safe to walk or cycle on or alongside the guideway.

Our contractor has started filling in the space between the tracks and is seeding grass, so that vegetation is established before buses start running. We are using recycled materials and topsoil for this.

The construction of a 3 to 4-metre wide maintenance track, running all the way alongside the guided busway is due to start soon. The maintenance track can be used for walking, cycling and horse riding and we will talk more about it on page 3.

The bus stops along the busway will also be built over the coming months. More information on the bus stops can be found on page 3 of this newsletter.



Filled in guideway
near the Cambridge
Regional College

Update on road works

Hills Road bridge

Work on the middle section of the new underpass is almost complete. The next steps will be to build the roof slab and the final section of the walls that make up the box-shaped underpass. Once completed, it will allow buses, cyclists and pedestrians to pass under Hills Road. This important work is now being carried out seven days-a-week.

Further restrictions to one lane for all traffic and one footpath are planned after the Christmas period.

This will again only happen in off-peak periods (9.30 am to 4 pm and after 6pm). We will talk more about these works in the next edition of the newsletter.



Works on Hills Road bridge



Road works on Milton Road

Milton Road

The new bus lane and footpath outbound towards the A14 have been completed. Our contractor is now installing improved safety barriers on the Cambridge bound side of Milton Road. This is a necessary safety measure for the foot & cycle underpass that runs alongside

Milton Road – where the new junction with the Guided Busway is going to be. Pedestrians and cyclists will still be able to use the underpass during these works, although it will be temporarily narrower than usual. The road works on Milton Road are scheduled to be completed early in the new year.

Over Road, Swavesey

Works at Over Road in Swavesey are progressing well. We reduced the duration of this closure from 7 to 5 weeks by completing more work under temporary traffic lights. At the moment the road is closed to all motor vehicles and a sign-posted diversion route is in place. Cyclists and pedestrians are still able to cross the works area via a safe, fenced path. The road is scheduled to re-open on Friday, 7 November.

B1050, Longstanton

The road works for the new guided busway junction on the B1050 in Longstanton finished earlier this month.

Further works for a new junction to access the planned park and ride site are scheduled to start in winter 08/09. The park and ride junction will be some distance away from the busway junction and therefore it was not possible to do both junction works at the same time.

Road closure in Swavesey



Cycling, walking and horse riding along the guided busway

A 3 to 4-metre wide maintenance track will be built all along the guided busway from St Ives to Cambridge and in the southern section, from Cambridge Railway Station to Trumpington Park & Ride and Addenbrooke's Hospital.

Between St Ives and Cambridge the maintenance track will be classified as a bridleway for shared use by horse riders, cyclists and pedestrians.

In the southern section, the maintenance track will be classified as a cycleway for shared use by cyclists and pedestrians, but not horse riders.

In addition, bus stops along the guided busway will be fitted with ample cycle parking.



Artist impression of cycle parking at guided busway stop

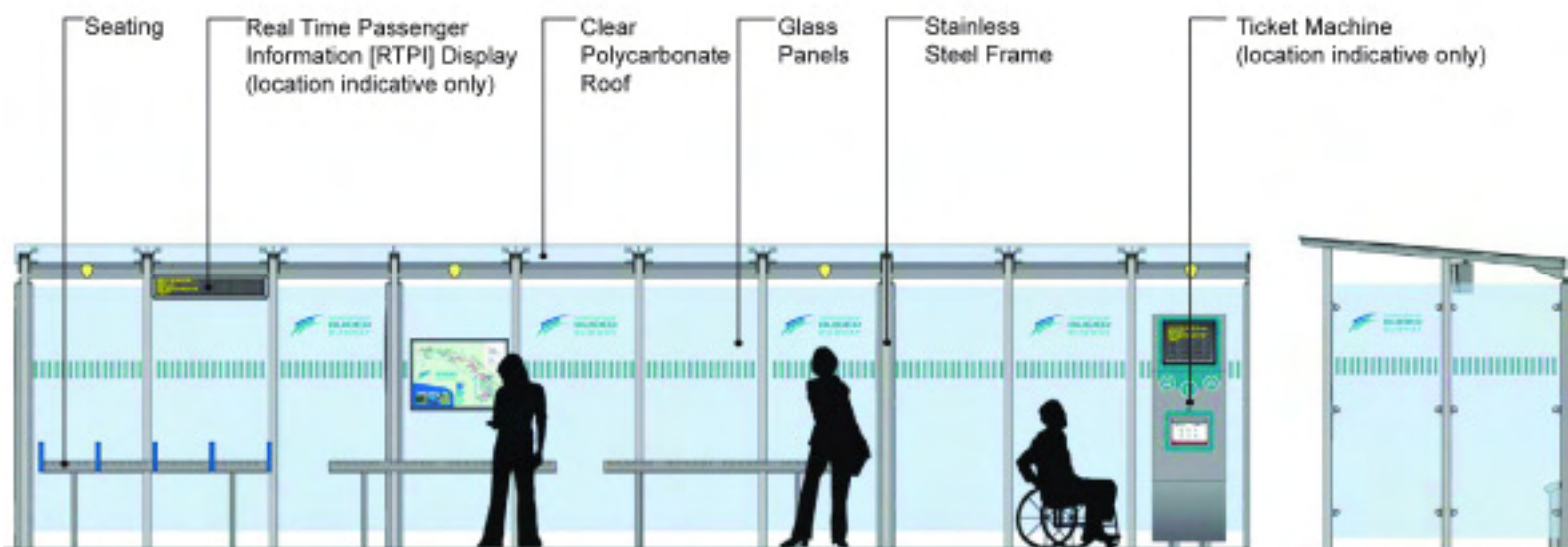
Bus stops

The bus stops along the route of the guided busway will have a raised platform and high-quality bus shelters. This will allow level boarding for wheelchair users or push chairs and will make bus travel much easier for people with walking difficulties.

Bus stops will be fitted with real-time passenger information

(similar to those already introduced in the Cambridge area). It will tell people exactly when the next bus is due.

Ticket machines will also be available, so that passengers can buy their bus ticket before getting onto the bus. This will help speed up boarding times and make bus journeys more reliable.



Artist impression of bus shelter at guided busway stop

Guided busway
from the air



Construction timeline

As with any large construction project this programme is subject to change. We will update the programme in each edition of this newsletter.

Activity	Start	Finish
Longstanton to Cambridge further construction	July 07	Spring 09
Longstanton to St Ives construction	Aug 08	Spring 09
Work on Great Ouse bridge	May 07	Nov 08
Work on Hills Road bridge	May 08	Feb 09
Further construction from Cambridge Railway Station to Trumpington	March 08	Spring 09
Construction of St Ives Park & Ride	July 08	Mar 09
Construction of Longstanton Park & Ride	Winter 08/09	Spring 09
Cambridgeshire Guided Busway completed and opened		Spring 09

How can I find out more?

If you want to know more about the Guided Busway project or if you have questions or concerns about anything to do with construction, please contact the Guided Busway team on **01223 716972**, e-mail us on guidedbusway@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or write to us at

Cambridgeshire County Council
RES 1504
Castle Hill
Cambridge
CB3 0AP

There are also lots of details about the project on our webpages at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/guidedbusway

If you would like a copy of the text in this newsletter in large print, Braille, audiotape or another language please contact the Guided Busway team using the details opposite.

The next update
about the project
will be available in
Januray 2009.