

# Colchester Rapid Transit System

## Northern Approach Road

### WORKS UPDATE

#### Work undertaken between August 2024 and December 2024

Since the summer, visual aspects of the Rapid Transit System have really started to take shape.

- The island which separates the new bus lane from Northern Approach Road has been installed. This will provide a clear separation between the existing road, the bus lane and the new cycle / footway
- The kerbing works along the route of the bus lane and cycle lanes have been completed
- All lighting columns for the eastern footway have been installed with the lanterns reused from the existing columns
- Upon the completion of the groundworks, we were able to commence the surfacing of the bus lane and cycle routes including the footways from Mill Road to Dickenson Road



*View looking north up Northern Approach Road including Dickenson Road junction (November 2024)*



*Newly surfaced bus lane and separation island looking south towards Turner Road and aerial view of Wallace Road junction looking north*



If you would like to help us do our bit for the environment and receive email updates about the scheme, instead of through the post please scan the QR code to register your details.

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**Essex County Council**



# Colchester Rapid Transit System

## Northern Approach Road

### WORKS UPDATE (CONTD)

- Bruff Close has been surfaced together with the construction of the new footways, installation of the new bus stops and associated signing
- The electrical connections for the new permanent traffic signals between Mill Road and Wallace Road have been made
- The signalised pedestrian crossing north of Wallace Road has been realigned with new kerbs, tactile paving and footway
- The full surfacing of Mill Road junction commenced, together with the works to pull cables through for the new traffic signals



*View looking down Bruff Close from Northern Approach Road taken from drone footage in November 2024*



- Filter drains and gullies have been installed between Bruff Close and Wallace Road
- The footway between Wallace Road and Dickenson Road has been realigned to accommodate the revised junction layout
- The extensive planting of the trees and new hedging along the route has commenced
- Types of tree being installed include Silver Birch, Hornbeam, London Plane and Small-leaved Lime and replace the shrubbery which was removed from the boundary line when the scheme commenced
- The trees are already semi-mature and will serve as an additional noise barrier for the residents from the sound from the road and the bus lane

*Left: Some of the newly planted semi mature trees along the western boundary*

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## Northern Approach Road

### WORKS UPDATE

#### What next and what Impacts?

The Rapid Transit system works on Northern Approach Road are close to completion with some key elements to be undertaken in early part of the new year.

#### Within the site boundaries or no traffic management impact

- The continuation of street furniture installation including street lighting, road signs, benches and bins. There will not be any traffic management impacts for these works, but during the lighting works there may be times when workers are visible on high platforms
- Installation of pedestrian guard railing at the pedestrian crossings
- Installation and commissioning of traffic signals for all sections of the RTS route
- Continuation of the landscaping works to plant further semi-mature trees, low level shrubs and seeding (all within the site boundaries)
- Acoustic fencing to be installed within the central reserve

#### Works requiring traffic management

**Works:** We need to raise the carriageway levels of Wallace Road and Dickenson Road to meet the levels of the Northern Approach Road. In order for this work to be effective, a limited amount of material can be laid each shift as it needs to cool in time for the road to be reopened in the morning.

**Impact:** A series of overnight closures are required with Wallace Road serving as the diversion route when Dickenson is closed and vice versa. The Nayland Road bus gate will be suspended during these closures

**Date and time:** Jan 20<sup>th</sup> to Feb 20<sup>th</sup> Mon-Fri only between 8pm and 5am (TBC)

**Works:** We need to return to Mill Road to finish the cutting of the traffic signal loops at the Mill Road junction and resurfacing where the adverse weather prevented the works from being completed during the late November / early December night closures

**Impact:** A series of overnight closures are required (as above)

**Date and time:** The dates are to be confirmed but will be in conjunction with the Wallace / Dickenson junction works



# Colchester Rapid Transit System

## Northern Approach Road

### WORKS UPDATE

#### What next? (continued)

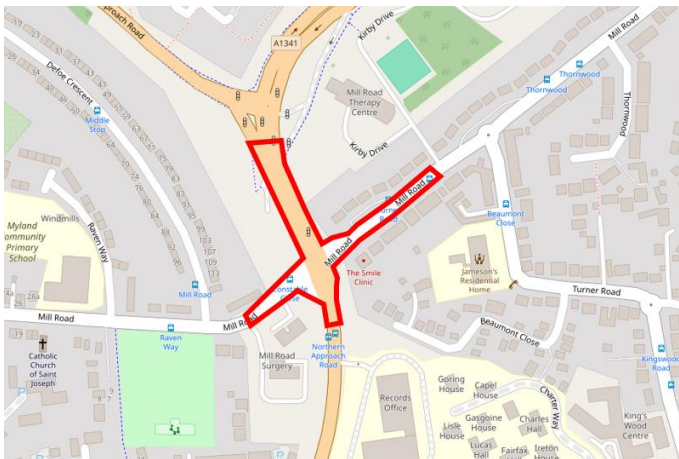
#### Works requiring traffic management

**Works:** Full resurfacing of the Northern Approach Road for the whole length of the Rapid Transit System route. This includes all carriageway line markings

**Impact:** A series of overnight closures are required. Local traffic can access the estate via Wallace Road when the Dickenson junction is closed and vice versa.

A signed diversion will be in place for all other traffic

**Date and time:** The dates are to be confirmed



**Above:** Extents of final resurfacing works and traffic signal loop cutting for Mill Road junction with Northern Approach Road

**Right:** Extent of closure for junction works at Dickenson Road. Access to the estate can be made via Wallace Road. For works at the Wallace junction access can be made via Dickenson Road



*Sisk and Essex County Council appreciate the patience shown by local residents and road users during these important construction works.*

*We aim to minimise disruption from noise or traffic management as much as possible but there are inevitable impacts which we can't avoid completely. We ask for your continued patience as we approach the final critical stages of the Rapid Transit System on Northern Approach Road.*

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# Colchester Rapid Transit System

## Northern Approach Road

### WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

#### Colchester Engagement and Next Steps (CENS)



CENS (formerly the Colchester Night Shelter) are a key charity who have been providing emergency accommodation and help to the people of Colchester for almost 40 years. Sisk have in turn supported CENS with donations of essential supplies for use in the shelters. We will continue to support this important charity until the completion of the RTS project.

If you are interested in supporting the ongoing work of CENS in your area visit [www.cens4homeless.org.uk](http://www.cens4homeless.org.uk)

*Left: Members of the Sisk team with donations for the shelter*

#### High Woods Country Park litter pick

The RTS team have been undertaking litter picks in the local area including the High Woods Country Park.

Many sacks of rubbish are removed from the area during each litter pick and the team volunteers always appreciate the opportunity to make a difference in such aesthetic local surroundings.



#### Colchester Academy Careers Fayre and Mock Interviews

Sisk were amongst a number of local employers who were invited to attend the Academy Careers Fayre in November. Companies across all disciplines met the students from Year 7 through to Year 11 to discuss career paths and advise on what skillsets and qualifications were needed to enter each industry.

We followed this up with a morning of mock job interviews with Year 11 students ahead of their GCSE exams next summer. The feedback was very positive and we are happy to support local organisations with their events.



Scan the QR code  
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information on the  
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### WORK IN THE COMMUNITY (CONTD)



#### Chelmsford Prison

Sisk together with representatives from one of our supply chain partners visited Chelmsford prison as part of a rehabilitation workshop.

Participants were identified by the prison as viable candidates to make positive changes when they are released and we were happy to go and support with this programme

Sisk together with representatives from one of our supply chain partners visited Chelmsford prison as part of a rehabilitation workshop.

Participants were identified by the prison as viable candidates to make positive changes when they are released and we were happy to go and support with this programme. We promoted how the door into the construction industry isn't closed for those who prove that they want to make positive changes.

#### Colchester Institute and Job Centre

Sisk have continued working with the Colchester job centre and the Colchester Institute for SWAPs events (Sector based Work Academy Programme).

Participants receive skills training in construction activities over a 6 week period and Sisk have been supporting with careers advice and the opportunity for mock job interviews at the end of the programme.

#### Doucecroft School careers workshop

Sisk have worked with Doucecroft on a couple of other events so were pleased to be invited back to talk to the students who are close to graduating about opportunities that could be available to them.

Students were asked about the interests and skillsets as part of a quiz to identify what jobs they may be suited to. We wish the students all the best in the future careers.

*Site works for the Rapid Transit System in 2024 will finish on  
December 20<sup>th</sup> returning on January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2025.  
On behalf of the project team we wish you a Happy Christmas*



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