



Your Ref:
Date: 26 February 2024

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Dear Residents and Businesses,

Consultation on proposals for Yarmouth Road near Pound Lane, Norwich

Norfolk County Council is asking for feedback on proposed changes to Yarmouth Road on its approach to the mini roundabout with Pound Lane. We are writing to let you know how to find out more about the project and how to take part in our consultation.

This project is part of a series of improvements we’re making in the city, aimed at improving bus journey times and reliability of services across our public transport network. We’re using funding awarded to us by the Department for Transport for our Bus Service Improvement Plan to invest in infrastructure at strategic locations, relieving specific areas of congestion that affect buses so we can deliver better, more punctual services. Through these changes, along with funding for additional and extended services, the current £2 fare cap and zero-emission buses, we hope that more people will choose the bus for their everyday journeys into and around Norwich.

What’s being proposed and why

This project is making changes to Yarmouth Road on its approach to the roundabout with Pound Lane. It is designed to create more space for buses and general traffic to help relieve congestion, which can cause delays for all road users. By improving flow for all traffic, this will reduce delays and improve journey times and punctuality for buses at the same time.

The table below explains what changes we’re proposing and the reasons behind them. The enclosed plan shows what the project would look like on the ground – the numbered proposed changes below correspond to the relevant points marked on the map.

	Proposal	Reason for proposal
1	Replacement/reshaping of kerbed splitter islands and creation of a larger mini roundabout at the Yarmouth Road junction with Pound Lane. The existing kerbed splitter islands will be replaced with narrower, thermoplastic ones.	Creating space to allow the roundabout to be made larger means it will be easier for large vehicles, including buses, to turn.

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2	Installation of double yellow lines on Yarmouth Road for 64.5m between house numbers 173 and 183.	This is to replace the parking restrictions currently in place due to the presence of the zig zag lines associated with the existing zebra crossing (see point 3 below). There is a loss of one parking space outside house number 173.
3	Removal of existing zebra crossing and kerbed build-out outside 182 Yarmouth Road (see proposal 9 for relocated crossing).	To allow the two-lane approach to the roundabout to be increased from about 40m to about 77m. This increases capacity, reducing queue lengths and blockages to the roundabout, which can delay all traffic, including buses.
4	Installation of formalised, unrestricted (no time limit) parking bay for six cars outside house numbers 169 to 173.	To make sure there is enough space to allow buses to exit the existing bus stop outside house number 165 safely. Also, to improve bus punctuality by reducing inappropriate parking, which can delay all traffic. The length of the bay is two car parking space length shorter (12m) than existing, informal, provision. An additional space is provided on the opposite side of the road as part of proposal 6 below.
5	New double yellow lines outside house number 167, immediately after the existing bus stop and between house numbers 142 and 144, immediately after the relocated bus stop.	To help buses exit safely from the bus stops in both directions. The 12m of double yellow lines (between house numbers 142 and 144) after the relocated bus stop is where there are regular access points for driveways and so does not significantly impact the area's parking provision.
6	Extension of existing parking bay outside post office and other shops from eight to nine spaces. Existing 30-minute restriction to remain.	The new proposal allows an additional space to improve parking for customers, while also reducing inappropriate parking, which can delay all traffic.
7	New double yellow lines to replace existing white "H-bar" road marking between the extended parking bay (proposal 6) and the zig zags of the relocated signal-controlled crossing (proposal 9). These would be between house numbers 150a and 152.	To prevent parking between the end of the parking bay and the zig zags for the new signal-controlled crossing, where there are access points for driveways.
8	Removal of existing bus stop and shelter outside house number 150a.	To remove the current pinch-point in the road when both bus stops are occupied by a bus, improving traffic flow and journey times in both directions.
9	New signal-controlled crossing outside house number 148 (in location of existing uncontrolled crossing).	Increases visibility and safety for crossing pedestrians compared with existing crossing by moving away from the bend in the road. The new location also allows for improved traffic flows,

		which will reduce delays for all vehicles and therefore help bus journey times and punctuality at the same time.
10	Relocated bus stop and shelter outside house numbers 144 and 146.	To remove the current pinch-point in the road when both bus stops are occupied by a bus. This allows vehicles to pass when both buses are stopped, which improves traffic flows for all vehicles, including buses – this helps both bus journey times and punctuality of services. It also allows the increased parking outside the shops and post office, with an additional parking space. Visibility for general traffic is also improved.

All road markings in the area will be refreshed as part of the scheme.

How to comment

There are two ways to comment on the consultation:

- Visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/yarmouthroad to complete our online survey and share your thoughts on the proposals.
- Ask for a hard copy of the survey by calling or emailing us using the details at the top of this letter. Large font and other formats are available on request.

Next Steps

The deadline for comments is Wednesday 20 March and we will carefully consider all responses ahead of advertisement of the formal Traffic Regulation Orders needed to deliver the project. This will be done in consultation with the local county council member and cabinet member, as appropriate. The webpage above will be kept up to date with the latest progress and information.

Background

The Department for Transport (DfT) has awarded the county council nearly £50m of funding for its Bus Service Improvement Plan, aimed at improving bus services and infrastructure facilities across the county. The plan includes measures such as integrated travel hubs, new and more frequent services and bus priority infrastructure schemes such as this project at the Yarmouth Road roundabout with Pound Lane. You can read more about our work on the Bus Service Improvement Plan by visiting www.norfolk.gov.uk/busstrategy.

Yours faithfully,



Niki Park
Head of Passenger Transport