A350 Farmers Roundabout Improvement Scheme

This is the fourth in our series of planned newsletters presented by Dyer & Butler to keep local residents and stakeholders fully informed of our progress throughout the construction phase of this key major local highway improvement scheme.

Programme Timetable

In undertaking the works so far, we have encountered a few problem areas that have been mainly associated with buried underground services such as gas, water, electric mains, and telecommunication cables.

Although these issues have posed us challenges, we remain on target to have the key works at Farmers Roundabout and Western Way substantially completed by mid-summer 2019, and we currently remain on target for the scheme to be completed in October. Our headline programme as we work toward completing the works later this year is as follows:-

- Farmers Roundabout (off peak lane closures) – Early Feb to Early Summer 2019
- Western Way (off-peak or night time lane closures, culminating with a week of full night road closures) - Late Spring to Summer 2019
- North of Farmers Roundabout to A365 Junction – Summer to Early Autumn 2019
- Completion of Works – October 2019

Scheme Works Completed Last Month

New kerb lines and road drainage gullies have been installed on the central roundabout in anticipation of the final road resurfacing works. To the north of Farmers Roundabout, works have continued with installation of new traffic signal ducting and street furniture in the verges adjacent to the carriageway, and on the eastern approaches works to install the new kerb alignment and improved footpaths have continued.

Road users may have noticed that works have been carried out on Western Way, between Semington & Farmers Roundabout at night between 19:00hrs to 06:00hrs under temporary 2-way traffic lights to reduce traffic congestion. Dyer & Butler planned these works carefully to ensure that sufficient road space is being maintained whilst works are carried out safely. We thank you for your understanding during the current period of night works. You may also have noticed the new Variable Message Signage (VMS) that have been installed on the approaches to the scheme. These will be used to display helpful information and messages about our traffic management arrangements going forward.
Dyer & Butler are also proud to advise that the efforts that we, and the wider delivery team, have been making to bring these works forward as smoothly as possible have been recognised. We recently received a ‘very good’ rating through the Considerate Constructors scheme following an inspection / site visit in April this year. We will be aiming to maintain and build upon this recognition as the works continue.

**Planned Works for the Next Month**

Re-surfacing will be undertaken to the central roundabout widening areas (anticipated to commence early June), and we will continue with the installation of the new drainage systems which will help manage surface water run-off from the new road gullies. There will also be further installation of traffic signal ducting and associated traffic signal furniture at the roundabout.

Works to the east of Farmers Roundabout are currently on hold pending utility diversion / protection works to some uncharted and unexpected underground services that we located. Once this is resolved we will return to the area and focus our activities there.

To the North of Farmers Roundabout, we will continue installing new kerb lines and lay the foundation layers within the road widening areas. You may also notice the installation of the new traffic signal furniture and associate control equipment.

Western Way will also see the installation of new kerb lines, street light ducting, and drainage chambers.

We will commence the widening works immediately north of Semington Road roundabout which, once completed, will help ease the northbound lane merge arrangement. All works in the vicinity of Semington Roundabout will be undertaken outside of peak traffic flow times to avoid unnecessary disruption to traffic.

In order to maintain our current works programme, full night time road closures with diversion routes will be necessary to allow the final carriageway surfacing works. We are currently working closely with our specialist subcontractor to plan these closures, and we will do our best to minimise any inconvenience caused. We will advise further, but at this stage the full closures are anticipated towards the end of July / early August.

**Contact us**

Please do contact us if you have any queries concerning the works being carried out. We are always here to listen and resolve any issues with you as soon as possible.

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Please contact us if you wish to unsubscribe to this newsletter.

**Further Information**

Further information on the scheme can be found at: [http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/highways-improvements-a350-melksham](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/highways-improvements-a350-melksham)