

FOREST ROAD

BETWEEN HOE STREET AND WOODFORD NEW ROAD
PUBLIC CONSULTATION RESULTS AND NEXT STEPS



**WALK
CYCLE
ENJOY**

enjoy

WALTHAM FOREST

www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk

In July 2023 we carried out a public consultation with the local community on our plans for Forest Road between Hoe Street and Woodford New Road. The plans aim to build upon the temporary scheme introduced in 2020 and connect with previously completed sections of Forest Road, transforming it into a route that helps people walk, cycle, access public transport and feel better connected to the surrounding community, amenities and services.

For more information on the Forest Road scheme and to view the consultation booklet visit www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk/work-in-you-area/forest-road

CONSULTATION RESULTS

Thank you to everyone who took part in the consultation and provided feedback on the proposals. All the comments have been considered and have allowed us to develop a final scheme that will benefit the local community as well as visitors to the area, and will support and enable the current redevelopment and regeneration taking place.

Over 6,000 consultation leaflets were delivered to the local area and two public drop-in sessions were held where people came to view the plans and ask questions. Below we have included some of the key outcomes from the public consultation, however a full consultation summary can be viewed at

www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk/work-in-you-area/forest-road

In total, 434 people responded to the consultation providing 821 individual comments. Not all respondents took part in every question asked, therefore in the table below we have stated how many respondents took part in each question.

Question	Positive	Neutral	Negative
How do you feel about the scheme overall? (Based on 407 respondents)	56%	34%	10%
How do you feel about the cycling proposals? (Based on 398 respondents)	58%	30%	12%
How do you feel about the junction improvements? (Based on 397 respondents)	56%	34%	10%
How do you feel about the pedestrian and cycle crossing proposals? (Based on 398 respondents)	58%	31%	11%
How do you feel about the planting and green space proposals? (Based on 396 respondents)	71%	12%	17%
How do you feel about the public realm improvements? (Based on 395 respondents)	61%	23%	16%

Taking into consideration feedback received during the public consultation, the scheme has been approved by the Council, and will proceed to the detailed design and construction stages.

THE FINAL SCHEME

Your feedback has been valuable in helping us refine the proposals we consulted on, as well as raising key areas where changes should be considered. Below we have listed the changes we are already making to the scheme, as well as areas that need further investigation to see whether more changes can also be made.

- The proposal to make Ulverston Road one-way will be removed, and the existing two-way arrangement will be retained. The modal filter at Woodstock Road will be included in the final scheme design as it provides safety benefits for the new proposed pedestrian crossing on Forest Road between Woodstock Road and Ulverston Road.
- The proposal to relocate the pedestrian crossing to the east of Beacontree Avenue will be withdrawn and the crossing will remain in its existing location. Feedback from local people suggests that vulnerable road users such as children, people with disabilities and woman travelling alone may be impacted by the proposal to relocate the crossing to the east of Beacontree Avenue.
- Following a study undertaken with vulnerable road users, the pedestrian islands at junctions and crossings will be changed to allow for a minimum width of 2.4 metres, where space is available, and a minimum width of 2 metres where spaces is limited.
- The cycle and pedestrian crossings located near St John's Road and Woodstock Road will be changed to minimise conflict between pedestrians and cyclists. The crossing for cyclists will be moved to the left hand side of the pedestrian and cycle crossing, making it closer to St John's Road and Woodstock Road so that people cycling can access these side roads from Forest Road without having to cross over the pedestrian side of the crossing.
- The pedestrian and cycle crossing outside the main entrance to Fellowship Square will be changed so that it aligns centrally with the entrance gates.
- We want to ensure disabled parking bays are located in areas that meet the needs of the user, therefore as part of the final scheme design we will review the location of the bays.
- During the consultation local people raised concerns about the mature trees near to the junction with Winsbeach and the drainage issues around Hale End Road junction. We can confirm that as part of the final scheme the trees will be retained, and further investigation will take place into the drainage issues around Hale End Road.

ST JOHN'S ROAD AREA

Alongside the main Forest Road public consultation, we asked people who live within the St John's Road area to answer a short survey about the changes they would like to see. Thank you to everyone who took part and shared their views. A total of 92 people who live within the specified area took part in the survey, and the results are as follows:

- 85% of respondents feel negatively about the volume and speed of local traffic
- 76% of respondents feel negatively towards traffic volume and speeds in the wider area between Forest Road and Fulbourne Road
- 86% of respondents said they would support future changes in the area to reduce traffic volume and speeds.

This survey has helped us understand that there is a broader opinion amongst the local community that the area could benefit from changes to address concerns around the volume and speed of traffic travelling in the area. Based on this we intend to carry out further data collection, such as Origin and Destination surveys, to develop a better understanding of how the area is being used and to help inform the development of some further proposals for the area. We will write to people living in and around St John's Road with more information early in 2024.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

As this is a long section of road and represents a significant investment for the Council, the scheme will be delivered and constructed in phases and will take two to three years to complete. To minimise disruption, we need to co-ordinate the construction with other schemes and major developments taking place in the area, therefore we will start to make improvements from summer 2024.

We will write to everyone in the scheme area in spring 2024 with an updated scheme map of the route along with more information on the construction phases.

CONTACT US

If you have any questions relating to the Forest Road scheme, please contact us using the details below:

Email: enjoy@walthamforest.gov.uk

Write to: **Enjoy Waltham Forest, Low Hall Depot, Argall Avenue, Leyton, London, E10 7AS**

Call: **020 8496 3000** and ask to speak with the **Enjoy Waltham Forest Team**

