**Richmond Mobility Forum and Transport Action Group**

**Thursday 26th Nov 2020, 2:20pm - 4pm**

**Attendees**

Amber Debenham, Alan Benson, Amanda Winterburn, Carol Stacey, Deborah Carter, Gareth Bubbins, Matthew Howie, Margo Turner, Michael Adlington, Paul Leonard, Piers Allen, Yvonne Benson, Jamie, Laura, John Clarke, Chelsey Fielding, Paulina, Siobhan Oktay (community engagement), Caroline Bathurst

**Apologies:** Philip Lesley and TFL

Agenda

* Minutes of previous meeting

         Updates from Operators

         Richmond Council Streetscape

         AOB

**Introduction**

The Richmond Mobility Forum and Transport Action Group is a group for any resident in the London Borough of Richmond (LBRuT), who wants to make transport in the borough more accessible. The meetings are structured to include presentations about transport issues, an opportunity to have a questions and answers, as well as time to have informal conversations about current transport issues. The meetings are combined with Your Say attendees and chaired by their Chairman, Alan Benson.

These are the minutes of the 23rd meeting of the Richmond Mobility Forum and Transport Action Group.

1. **Welcome and Minutes of Last Meeting**

Alan Benson (Chairman) welcomes everyone and leads the introductions in the 2nd ZOOM Mobility Forum. There was one action from the last meeting:

* The cul-de-sac ‘Hanworth Road’ that Amanda lives down is unsafe for those with mobility issues. It is situated near Heathside and opposite the cemetery
* Can turn left out of the road but not right, due to people parking on the pavement due to shops and the only way that people can get out of the road is to go on the road, which is unsafe
* Margo will look into this as there is funding set aside for this
* Will be presented to the engineering team as a matter of urgency
* Alan will be the point of reference for this

**2. Update from Transport for London**

**James Pickard (JP)**, Stakeholder Communications Executive at TfL) was not present.

**Transport and Streetspace changes**

As part of the Mayors Streetspace programme, roads across the city are being widened and space is being giving space to new cycle lanes and wider pavements to enable social distancing. The primary aim is to taketh pressure off buses, trains and tube services, making it easier to social distance whilst encouraging greener travel.

**Questions and answers**

Margo Turner: It’s not been designed yet but it is being worked on

Howie: Not liking the cycle lane in front of the Hampton Court bus stop

Margo: Hampton Court is a new trial in how they want to be doing things going forward. There will be more floating islands

Amanda: These islands are hazardous for visually impaired people

AD: It’s ridiculous that you have to go into the road at Hampton Court to get onto the bus

Margo: There are tactiles and they are on level with the curb and the bus stop bypass

Alan: There’s no method in the UK for these types of designs

Margo: We are working with TFL and cycle teams as we can’t have the cyclists going out into the traffic to get back into the lanes

Amanda: why can’t the cyclists be patient and wait for the bus to move

Margo: It’s hard because of the speed of the bus. We want TFL to come up with a consistent design

Alan: People don’t follow crossing points around cycle lanes because they don’t know the rules

Howie: People are always on their phones so not paying attention

Margo: Padestrians are almost never hurt by cyclists. Cyclists are injured by busses and cars mostly

Paulina: I spoke to someone recently who was very hurt by a cyclists but she didn’t report it. So maybe the statistics aren’t really accurate

SO: Had to leave the meeting

AB: Interesting but there needs to be more guidance from TFL cycle standards

A: Why are mobility scooters having to be on the road?

Margo: Richmond council have to abide by TFL standards due to funding. So the council have to focus on what they want at the moment.

AB: Escooters go at 15mph and are allowed on the cycle lanes but they don’t have to be on the road. But mobility scooters have to be on the road, which doesn’t make sense

Amanda: I complained to TFL about it but they didn’t listen

AB: This is something for next meeting that we can bring to the stakeholder. Need to get them and streetscapes to the next meeting. Thank you all for the debate but we can see it won’t be changed today

**3. Update from Richmond Council**

**Margo Turner (MG)**, Principal Transport Planner at Richmond and Wandsworth Councils

Brief overview of funding situation

Richmond Council Transport team is primarily funded by an annual settlement from Transport for London called Local Implementation Plan (LIP). This funding has been suspended this year. So, plans have had to be put on hold.

Instead as part go London Streetscapes Plan they’ve been able to bid for specific projects:

* Space and Town Centres
* Strategic Cycle Routes
* Local Neighbourhoods

Bid for funding under all three categories and received funding for school streets, cycling routes on Kew Road, Hampton Court Road and Castleneu,

Also received funding from another fund for Twickenham and Teddington town Centres and for a temporary scheme in Richmond Town Centre. These are all temporary schemes that are meant to be implemented nay the end of September.

Have also put in further bids for second rounds of funding for: low traffic neighbourhoods or strategic cycle routes for the second part of the financial year.

**Comments and Questions from attendees**

**Margo:** London Streetscape plan. Strategic cycle routes, Town centre improvement in Twickenham and Teddington. School Streets

Margo: Lots of plans to improve on earlier schemes and improvements to the cycle corridors and trying to make as many things permanent as possible

AB: There was an accident on Kew Road was that due to a cycle lane?

Margo: Haven’t heard back yet but there was a fatal one prior. Reason for lane on that road is due to poor safety record for that road

Amanda: Nobody tells us visually impaired people about things changing.

Margo: Richmond Town Centre scheme is the 1st scheme to go in June 2020. Nothing has changed

Amanda: Yes but we haven’t been told any further changes

AB: There are no changes so you don’t need to worry

**School Streets:**

School streets essentially means the closure of the street for an hour at drop off and pick up time aimed to improve air quality and safety and encourage kids to cycle or walk to school. 19 Streets in Richmond borough have been identified.

If you live on the street you can be a white list holder so you can drive in and out of your street during this time. Likewise, Blue Badge holders are exempt and kids who have access issues can be driven up to the school. There will br no hard and fast rules or enforcements but it is hoped it will lead to a 90% reduction in car traffic.

Hoping for the School Streets to be implemented in September. Initially the streets will be manned by volunteers, primarily parents before cameras are put in place to enforce the rules.

**Comments and Questions from attendees**

**Margo:** This has been implemented and running well. Extension of scheme to Kew Road and Hamm. There needs to be a traffic order to be made and a public consultation to be completed to go to phase 2

**5. Update from RATP**

**Matthew Howie** (Risk Manager) **& Malcolm Claridge** (Bus Priority Manager)

**Update on the buses**

* Howie: Concerned about Escooters and people getting hurt as bus drivers are not able to see them in their blind spots and worried about safety.
* The H22 opens more access to Whitten.
* The bus service is as normal and there are no reduced services. COVID – tackling as normal.
* Started up a project with the police: A team has been secured a month for a few hours to tackle people using phones on the road. They are running 2 trials in December and so far have prosecuted 7 people already.
* They have been talking to the council about cycle lane and bus stops

Amanda: Could a button link into a speech function to say which buses stop a bus stops?

* Howie: This is for someone at TFL
* A: Need to look at spaces for both buggies and wheelchairs and can masks being worn on buses be monitoried by the driver?
* Howie: There is no mask policing and more space can be looked into

**6. AOB**

**No**

**Alan thanks attendees and guest speakers**

**Meeting Minutes:** Chelsey Fielding

**Next Mobility Forum Meeting: TBC**

**Contact for further information:**

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