

## **NORWOOD ROAD, MARCH – TRAFFIC CALMING AND WAITING RESTRICTIONS** **REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED**

### **Public Transport team at Cambridgeshire Peterborough Combined Authority**

I am providing comment on behalf of the public transport team at Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority.

Records show that a couple of the proposed traffic calming measures may conflict with existing bus stops. They are in the area between Wisbech Road and Maple Grove (location L), and o/s numbers 281 and 268 Norwood Road (location A).

The speed cushions proposed at location L should still allow the bus to stop there, but vehicles overtaking a stationary bus may not be able to use the cushion in their lane or pass over a cushion at an unconventional angle.

The build-out proposed at location A is not situated where the bus stops but may lead to conflict for drivers using the traffic calming feature while a bus is stationary at either bus stop. Moving the build-out slightly further away from the bus stops, or installing speed cushions instead, may assist.

Public Transport Network Co-Ordinator

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### **Comments relating to Location A (build-outs on both sides with priority working)**

We have lived in Norwood Road nearly 5 years and over that time we have experienced an increase in traffic usage, speeds and larger lorries. The road surface is beginning to show signs of wear – surface wheel indents due the heavy loads.

1. We strongly disagree with the proposal for Location 'A' as we believe it does not completely satisfy the objectives.
2. The objective is to stop speeding vehicles along Norwood Road and reduce the large and articulated lorries that clearly exceed weight limit of 7.5 ton (8 and 10 wheel vehicles) with the majority using this road to access the industrial estate. Clearly there is a safer route via the main Wisbech Road A141.
3. Having worked on the County Highways for 37 years I have attended numerous accident sites that involved vehicular impact on traffic measures similar to these – damaging bollards, signs, kerbs, etc. Increasing future maintenance costs.
4. The propose scheme shows there is No speed reduction measures from the Maple Grove junction to Location 'A' pinch point (approximately 200metres) and subject to a few drivers regularly exceeding beyond the road speed limit, I foresee accidents waiting to happen.
5. I envisage a high risk of accidents whereby speeding vehicles will either collide with oncoming vehicle or hit the 'build-out' islands or taking an escape route at the pinch point by diverting off the road onto the footway between the island and my property with a high risk of damage to my property, but more importantly, the fear of colliding with pedestrians/cyclists. The footway is a major route to local schools in Maple Grove and is a designated shared cycle route.

Personal Impact

6. We brought our Bungalow in mind of the wide frontage that enables us to manoeuvre our large Caravan 'on' and 'off' the highway to store 'off road' mainly over the summer period. To manoeuvre it does involve blocking part of the road for a short period, with the traffic calming measure will cause the road being fully closed the short duration.

Regretfully some road user can get frustrated and abusive on occasions

7. There will be a visual impact from our lounge and loss of road parking space that is used for visitors with a number of vehicles that stop for a short duration and to answer mobile phones. Nurses/Carers park to visit nearby elderly residents as clearly there is little space to park between property driveways.
8. Road water drainage is already a slight problem outside our driveway and question if the proposal might cause additional problems?

#### Suggestion

We are in favour of trying to achieve the objectives and understand that some residents will be affected more than others. We strongly express concerns over speed bumps (sleeping policemen) and speed cushions like those proposed further in the scheme. On the grounds of not fully meeting the objectives. Upon investigation and compromise we feel a 'speed table' crossing the entirety of the road would offer a solution, similar to that installed in Calvary Drive near Ireton Way, March. We accept there may be some noise but good engineering can keep it to a minimum.

#### Reasoning

- a) Reduce all traffic speed and maintain steady traffic flow.
- b) Bus route not compromised no more than Calvary Drive.
- c) As a major school/cycle route to Maple Grove schools we feel the solution would offer a slightly safer place for children/parents to cross the road to and from the nearby estates.
- d) Installation costs maybe more expensive but with less future maintenance and potential accident risks would benefit in the long term.
- e) Less visual impact for nearby residents.
- f) The measure may reduce large lorries using this route to the industrial estate.

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#### Comments relating to Location C (build-out on north side with priority working)

I understand from your plans, the plan is to put an calmer outside number xxx which I feel will be a danger not only to me accessing my drive but my family and the other three family that also use the junction to Locomotive Drive to get to their property.

As my drive is at the side of the house I need to reverse onto the drive so not to drive out on the main road. We have issues now with other drivers/car owner not allowing us chance to reverse on the drive if there going to be a queue awaiting to come by the calmer and if we are in that queue the stop straight after the calmer to access our drive this going to cause more traffic issues and possible accidents.

We understand the need for calmer but these need to further from the Norwood Road/Hundred Road junction as if there are cars parked on the left hand side has you turn into the road it cause a back log onto Norwood Road to the railway line and Hundred Road, causing more traffic issues.

We understand the need for double yellow line but again people will park near the junction and up onto Hundred Road as there are time now when neighbour again park their homes and park up on Hundred Road. The Norwood Road, Hundred Road junction will be a night mare with all the traffic queue up to get down Norwood Road, driver being unsure who right of way due to the fact they can not move as all the traffic will be backed up.

This proposal will not just affect us but the three property down Locomotive Drive, please reconsider this proposal or give clear reason how you feel it is the safely option for the residents.

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I have looked at your proposals and these are my concerns and objections.

1. No Waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the following lengths of road in Norwood Road - double yellow lines are already in place at the corner of norwood road and maple grove outside the one stop but loads of cars are always parked on there and create a problem for traffic turning into Norwood Road, therefore double yellow lines do not work.
2. Double yellow lines outside peoples properties will not allow them to wait to reverse onto their driveways. It is something that they need to do as it is in the highway code about not reversing onto a main street which is what Norwood Road would be classed as. therefore they would be breaking the law waiting to reverse onto their property.
3. Priority narrowing with separated cycle bypass lane on the north side of road (traffic travelling eastwards required to give way) at a point 48m east of Hundred Road. Priority narrowing with kerb build-outs on both sides of the road (traffic travelling north-eastwards required to give way) at a point 102m north-east of Russell Avenue. Priority narrowing with kerb build-outs on both sides of the road (traffic travelling south-westwards required to give way) at a point 75m south-west of Russell Avenue - there is currently priority narrowing just after the junction of Hundred Road and Norwood Road and it does not stop the speeding of cars. At night, I can hear the cars racing between the roundabout and the priority narrowing.

Education about speeding and a police presence are what is actually needed as the vast majority of drivers follow the speeding rules. Also, none of this will stop the wheel spinning that is heard as the cars pull out of Norwood Road to Hundred Road or from Robingoodfellows onto Norwood Road. The traffic lights on Norwood Road bridge haven't reduced the speeding either, they just use it as an incentive now to see if they can beat the lights.

Resident of xxx Norwood Road.

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#### **Comments relating to Location E (build-out on north side with priority working and cushion)**

I live at number xx Norwood road March, and the traffic calming system is outside my house, I need to be able to access my driveway on and off because I have an electric car and need to charge regularly. The vehicle is a Nissan leaf with a 24kw hour battery and needs to be charged regularly.

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We have reviewed the proposed plans and have the following objections to these plans

1. The double yellow lines - we live at xx Norwood Road where it is proposed to have double yellow lines to be painted. These will prevent us from being able to use our off road parking safely. Note we have dropped curbs to allow us to use the front part of my property as an off road parking space without damaging the pavements. We prefer to reverse onto our parking space so that we can safely drive off by facing the road. To do this we have to pull up outside the property and then manoeuvre the car onto the parking space. With the double yellow lines, this will no longer be possible as the double yellows mean no waiting. This will mean that we would have to pull on to the parking space forwards and the reverse into the traffic which is dangerous due to the lack of visibility. The times I have been forced to do this, I have had a number of near misses. Also with the double yellow lines it will also affect a service that CCC currently provide for our son. That is his transport to his school at Littleport. By adding the double yellow lines, this will prevent the taxi from pulling up directly outside our house thus forcing us to wait with our autistic son outside for said taxi. Please note that our son reacts badly to loud noises such as traffic which can lead to a meltdown, which in turn can be dangerous for all concerned, including our son running away and potentially getting hurt.

Also Hundred road has similar measures in place but without the double yellow - so why the difference? Please see attached photos showing the lack of double yellow lines along Hundred Road.

2. The island itself - this will severely affect traffic flow due to parking further along Norwood Road towards the junction with Hundred Road - also increasing the issues for people who park off road.

We do not object to the proposed speed bumps.

In addition We would like to know if a study has been conducted to determine what affect such construction would have on property values. We are asking as we all intend to move next year to be closer to our sons school and if such a study has been conducted what the results of such a study are.

We would also like to know what are the timeframes for the proposed works as this will affect our plans on moving (if there is a detrimental affect on house prices) and also with regards to our sons transport provision as well.

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### **Comments relating to Location H (build-out on north side with priority working and cushion)**

Traffic calming sounds good.

But the cut outs on Norwood road odd numbers in 50s do not seem useful. There are usually cars parked outside the houses on the odd number side of the road - as this didn't calm down traffic then I don't think build puts would work.

Plus they would reduce the parking spaces which are already rare.

So, I am against them.

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### **Comments relating to Location J (build-out on south side with priority working)**

With regards to the above I am writing as the homeowner of xx Norwood Road, where I reside with my partner and our 2 children.

As per my email below of 25th February 2021 objecting to the previous Council proposal for traffic calming measures, to which I never received a response, I am now outraged at the further measures that are being proposed and to which myself and my family are also objecting to. It is quite clear that anybody involved in putting together such a proposal has never driven the length of Norwood Road at any point of the day or night, should anybody feel the urge now ie. 7:50pm would be a really good time just so you can witness the number of cars parked on the side of the road simply out of necessity. Should you not feel the urge, I have attached photos of a typical day in the life of residents from numbers 1E to number 9 and how we very amicably park on the roadside, please be aware that visitors with cars are not an option, they normally end up down Estover Road. Please note as residents we have no choice other than to park on the side of the road as the majority of us do not have driveways, we therefore have no other option!! I would like you to also note that further to another email dated 23rd January 2020 (also below) in which I requested removal of the disabled parking bay outside 1f Norwood Road, this clearly hasn't happened! There was a notice sent to this address around 1 year ago stating the plans to remove the bay, however, having now given up waiting for the bay to be removed residents are forced to use the bay due to an already severe lack of parking outside their homes.

Having spoken to a number of residents along the road, none of whom agree with the proposals I might add, the stress and anxiety these proposals are causing is evident, myself included. The people living on Norwood Road are neighbourly, hardworking, some are parents with young children and others are elderly but every single one of these people deserve to have a parking space outside their own homes. By putting 'Build outs' and double yellow lines in place outside the homes of these people we are left with absolutely nowhere to park our cars, and please don't think that any of us own cars just because we like them, these vehicles are a necessity to get us to and from work

so that we can pay our bills/mortgages/rent etc. Please suggest where exactly we would be allowed to park should such restrictions be put into place? Just how difficult this would make the lives of every single resident of Norwood Road due to nobody being able to park on the roadside is unthinkable, there is literally nowhere else for us to realistically park!

The knock on effect on the everyday lives of the residents by putting such measures in place will be life changing, for example, house values will fall, that's if homes with no form of nearby parking even sell at all. Homeowners on Norwood Road who bought with the intention of moving in just a few years, once again, myself and my family included, are very unlikely to be able to do so. Also, the unrest this will inevitably cause between residents trying to find parking spaces lord only knows where will have a huge impact on everyone's daily lives. In a time where mental health, stress and anxiety already forms a huge part in the daily lives of a lot of people, such factors must be at the forefront in the decision making process.

I find it very hard to believe that in 2022 other far less intrusive and life changing measures can't be put in place to slow drivers down? For example, Elwyn Road which is much wider than Norwood Road and has hundreds of school children using it daily, now has the nice flashy happy/sad face signs to slow people down. I personally drive to Peterborough 5 days a week and travel through Whittlesey which has a very long stretch of average speed cameras which are incredibly effective, why are these not an option? I'm assuming it's a cost thing, it can't be a space thing because if you believe that we have space for 'Build outs' and double yellow lines then there is plenty of room for average speed cameras!!

Another note that I feel necessary to bring to your attention is that of the environmental impact of cars constantly stopping and starting at the 'Build out' points. Have comprehensive surveys regarding environmental and noise pollution been conducted?

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I'm a resident of x Norwood Road, March. After looking at these drawings I can see that this would remove all parking around the area and there is simply not enough already.

This is a major concern to myself as I have a works van filled with tools, materials and equipment that I need to keep close to the property, we also have 2 small children (aged 3 & 2) and having the car local to the property is a must for us. Above all of that my partner goes through a very painful and intimate procedure every 4 weeks leaving her unable to walk any sort of distance.

We are all fully aware that the road is due some attention with the forever speeding vehicles and people not giving way appropriately but for people living here this is by no means the best option. I appreciate that time has been taken to propose these measures but unfortunately I must oppose them due to the reasons given above.

If you could please get back to me regarding my concerns with some haste that would be appreciated.

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Having previously had no issues with the proposed plans of location K, I am struggling to understand the illogical placement of the new plans.

The new location is now directly opposite two driveways which completely renders ours (number x) useless as we won't be able to reverse onto it, or exit as the turning circle has been halved. My partner drives a van for work which currently requires the full width of the road in order to access the driveway safely.

My neighbour also expressed access concerns. Having already said he will need to get rid of one of his cars due to the loss of roadside parking the new plans mean he also won't be able to reverse onto his driveway at the angle required to make use of it.

I have previously emailed saying that I have no issues of the plans being outside our home, so I fail to understand why the build out is not located directly in front of the building as this location would allow full access to our

driveway, including the front, not impede on our neighbours driveway and those who are effected by loss of roadside parking will be the same.

Also, the speed bumps outside number 2 seem unnecessary as the current parking forces people to give way making this one of the slowest sections of road. It's once they pass this part of parking where they speed towards the bridge as there are no obstacles.

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I live at x Norwood Road, where cambridgeshire county council propose to put build-outs on westbound carriageway, with cycle bypass down Norwood Road, with one opposite my house and No 7 with double yellow lines from No 1 to 11.

1. Please can you tell us how you expect us to get off and on to our drives?
2. With the double lines where are the other residents going to park? When the yellow lines are outside their houses, are they expected to park on Elm Road or Estover Road and then try to cross a busy road with their shopping and children.
3. What about the fumes and noise coming from the waiting cars to pass? One neighbour has 2 small children that suffer with asthma how will that help them.

We are all for calming the traffic down on Norwood Road especially the way some people speed down Norwood Road, it needs to be addressed but it also needs to help the residents of Norwood Road, especially with lack of parking and I believe this is not the way. Why can't speed bumps be they way forward.

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Please consider my objections to planning proposals Norwood Rd PR0793 as follows:

The purposed position of purposed build out outside of numbers 9,11 Norwood Rd would restrict my access to mine and number xx drive ways. It is illegal under the highway code to reverse onto a carriageway so my only option is to reverse onto my driveway. This at present is difficult enough due to traffic levels but manageable as I can park outside of my house at present and let traffic pass then reverse but with double yellow lines and build out in front of my house this would be impossible.

The increase in traffic noise and exhaust pollution with waiting traffic and the likely hood that cars would sped up pass my house is unacceptable.

What traffic surveys have been completed to measure expected increased noise and pollution levels to homes with planned build outs and what other alternatives have been looked at. What about average speed cameras , staggered parking bays to slow traffic down and still allow residents to park in their street has any of these alternatives been looked at doubt it. 1-7 Norwood Rd residents would have to find alternative parking in neighbouring street causing fraction with resident of Eastover and Elm Rd. Residents in these homes have small children how do these plans improve their lives by making them walk over two or more roads to get to their homes. Little thought has been given to the residents in Norwood road how to reduce speeding and they are not the ones causing this problem but are being punished by the lack of thought and imagination from the planning department to find solutions with the residents how to solve this problem. Would it not be better to go ahead with northern link road and then look at how traffic levels and speeding have either reduced or increased in Norwood Rd before spending tax payers hard earned cash on measures that may not be needed.

Whilst I am happy to have speed bumps placed in Norwood Rd I am not happy with the proposed build outs as set out above.

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## Comments relating to speed cushions generally

I would like to complain about the proposed speed bumps to be put into Norwood Road PE15 8QQ I live at number xx Norwood Road March and feel that the speed bumps are noisy when cars hit them and make your house shake so I would like to object against the speed bumps being put in the road, however I have no objection to other traffic calming measures, Like the ones in 100 Road, as these are effective by slowing traffic without the noise.

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As a resident of Norwood road, March , I object to the installation of speed cushions as a traffic control. This is likely to cause my vehicle suspension and track damage, as I will have to cross them at least twice a day.  
xxx Norwood Road

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## Comments relating to parking issues generally

As a resident of Norwood Road I wish to object formally to the plans to introduce traffic calming measures in this street (ref PR0793).

The reasons for my objection are as follows:

Resident and visitor parking is already bad on the 'east' side of Norwood Road (between the bridge and Station Road), too many people have dropped kerbs so you can't park outside their houses and the few remaining spots are in high demand by the unfortunate souls who either a) don't have dropped kerbs b) have more than one car or c) are visiting.

My concerns is that any introduction of traffic calming measures will make a woeful parking situation even worse. There is nowhere else to park and so removing ANY on street parking from the 'east' side of Norwood Road would cause considerable inconvenience to residents and a potential loss in house prices. If we are losing parking we need a reasonable alternative beyond 'suck it up', perhaps turning the 'other' side of the road bordering the nature reserve into parking spaces would be a good idea?

As the homeowner of Number xx, I feel if the above proposal were to go through as is, I would have no option but to drop the kerb outside my house (at no small expense to myself and ruining our lovely front garden) in order to ensure I can still park outside my own house.

As you can imagine I'm quite concerned about this and so wish to object in the strongest terms to the above plans.

Please note, I have no issue with any proposed changes that mean no loss of on street parking on Norwood Road – this is the sole cause for objection. We need better parking on Norwood Road, not worse!

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We live at xxx Norwood Road and are lucky to have off road parking. A lot of the residents along here don't have this luxury which can make the traffic back up anyway. With your proposed method where are people supposed to wait with all these parked cars on the road? Or where are people supposed to park? Looking at your previous plans it looked as if the give way area was going to be in front of our house. The neighbours opposite us park on the road so how is this going to work? And how are we going to access our driveway, on and off?

Since the bridge has been changed and the traffic light system installed the traffic has slowed down apart from the odd motorbike speeding.

We think this is a waste of public money and is going to make life more difficult for a lot of people who live here.

We are two doors away from the shop which also gets a lot of traffic parked along this side of the road at peak times.

Please carefully consider our opinion and look at how the cars park on Hundred Road. This road is far busier and we believe it will be chaos.

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