

# A452 Europa Way - Queensway to Princes Drive Signalisation scheme: Progress Update

## February

Date: 08/03/2025

Issue: No.9

### Overview

The scheme has progressed on schedule throughout February with several key phases nearing completion ready for overnight surfacing to take place during mid-March.

The new 3m wide footpath on Phase F has now been completed and is awaiting final surfacing works, which is planned to take place in late-April. Works for the innovative 90m long Vehicle Restraint System (VRS) Smartraft were also completed and consisted of installing 37 precast concrete rafts which interlock together to form a robust base for the safety barrier.

Phase B and D are both nearing completion with penultimate surfacing layer laid on the widened footpath during February. The paths are now open to the public and are awaiting final surfacing taking place in late-April.

Phase H, Myton Road South widening, has continued to progress with the attenuation pond now complete and awaiting final landscaping works. The installation of the new highway kerb alignment is taking place with over half of the kerbs already in place late-February.

To ensure the flow of traffic throughout the scheme is not adversely impacted, active traffic management will only take place during off peak times between 9.30am-3.30pm.

During March a series of night closures will be carried to surface Queensway roundabout. The night closures will commence on 10<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> March from 8pm to 6am. Diversion routes will be in place.

We continue to thank all residents, businesses, and visitors to the area for their co-operation and patience as we work to deliver these improvements.

Works are progressing on time and completion of the scheme is still on track for summer 2025.

On behalf of WCC and CR Reynolds, we apologise for any inconvenience/delays you may encounter due to the temporary traffic management.

Author: KC

## Progress to Date

### Phase F – Queensway - Europa Way North Gabion Retaining Wall

Throughout February there was great progression on Phase F, with several activities completed.

The carriageway widening base layers were completed and the new kerb alignment was laid. Once the new kerb line was installed the edgings for the new 3m widened footpath could be set out and installed along the 90m length, see Figure 1. The new footway width is approximately double the previous width, thus allowing greater space for cyclists and pedestrians.



*Figure 1 Phase F – Kerb and Edging Installation*

The VRS works then commenced in late-February, with the use of an innovative VRS product called Smartraft. Smartraft is an off-site prefabricated, modular concrete foundation to allow for a safe, quick, efficient barrier installation when compared to a traditional post in ground installation.

The Smartraft install only took two days and consisted of lifting individual concrete rafts into place behind the newly installed edge kerb, see Figure 2. The rafts interlock together to form one continuous foundation. This foundation has been tested to meet the stringent VRS standards in place, thus ensuring the system is able to withstand vehicle impact in the event of an errant vehicle.



*Figure 2 Phase F - Smarcraft VRS foundation installation*

In March, planned works to Phase F include, installation of the steel VRS posts and crash beam, edge kerbing installation to the new widened lower footway, lower footway structural layers, and final topsoiling works to the embankment slope.

## **Phase D – Tachbrook Park Drive South Widening**

In mid-February the new widened footway was topped with its penultimate surfacing layer, the tarmac binder layer. The layer is safe for pedestrian use and therefore the footpath was opened with some temporary ramping in place where crossings are situated, see Figure 2.

For Phase D completion, the thin surface course layer which will tie in with the top of the kerb levels will be laid in late-April.



*Figure 3 Phase D - New Footpath Construction Before and After Binder Layer*

## **Phase H - Myton Road South Widening**

Phase H has continued to progress with multiple key activities being completed throughout the month. The highway drainage attenuation pond was completed and now functions to store and filter highway water runoff before it enters the storm drainage network.

Approximately 50% of the new widened highway kerb alignment was laid in late February, see Figure 4, along with the new highway drainage gulleys which feed into the attenuation pond. The remaining 70m of kerbs will be laid throughout March.



*Figure 4 Phase H - New Kerb Alignment and Attenuation Pond*

The proposed works for March include completing road widening activities such as laying upper base layers for the widened carriageway lane, installing traffic signal equipment bases and the permanent street lighting pole bases.

## **Phase B – Tachbrook Drive/Queensway Widening**

Phase B is now nearing full completion, with great progress made throughout February. The new widened footpath edge kerbing was laid, and the surface was prepared for the tarmac binder layer. In mid-February, the binder layer was laid thus allowing for the footway to open to the public, see Figure 5.



*Figure 5 Phase B – Footway Binder Course*

Works began also to the goods entrance located on Queensway which serves electrical retailer Currys. The works include a new kerb alignment and full pavement reconstruction, see Figure 6.

The realignment is being performed to comply with current safety and highway design standards, which stipulate the maximum permanented distance between two crossing points for safe pedestrian movement. Therefore, the length now required for pedestrians to walk between the existing crossing points has been reduced and made safer.



*Figure 6 Phase B – Queensway Revised Industrial Entrance*

In March, the edge kerbs are planned to be laid on the opposite crossing point. Once completed, the phase is then ready for final surfacing and traffic signal pole installation, which is planned for mid-April.