

Queensferry High Street Town Centre Improvement Project Update No.2 – June 2021

Progress so far:

Our last project update in December 2019 was offered at a point when the High Street Public Realm project had just been tendered to Council Framework Contractors. Unfortunately, the value of the tender returns received in February 2020 were well beyond the project budget at that time and then the Pandemic struck in March.

In the last few months a lot has changed. The Steering Group considered the overall scope of the project, and agreed to progress with a one-way layout similar to the current temporary Covid 19 Spaces for People measures. We fully appreciate this is a big change, however, if we are genuinely wanting to change the environment for everyone on the High Street it is the best way to create more space for pedestrians whilst maintaining access.

In November 2020 we submitted a bid for external Sustrans project funding, there has been a bit of a delay on the decision, however, we are hoping to receive news near the end of July. The project team will also be seeking Scottish Government Town Centre funding in 2022/23 and making use of CEC Capital budgets where available.

Subject to funding the scope of the works will include the following:

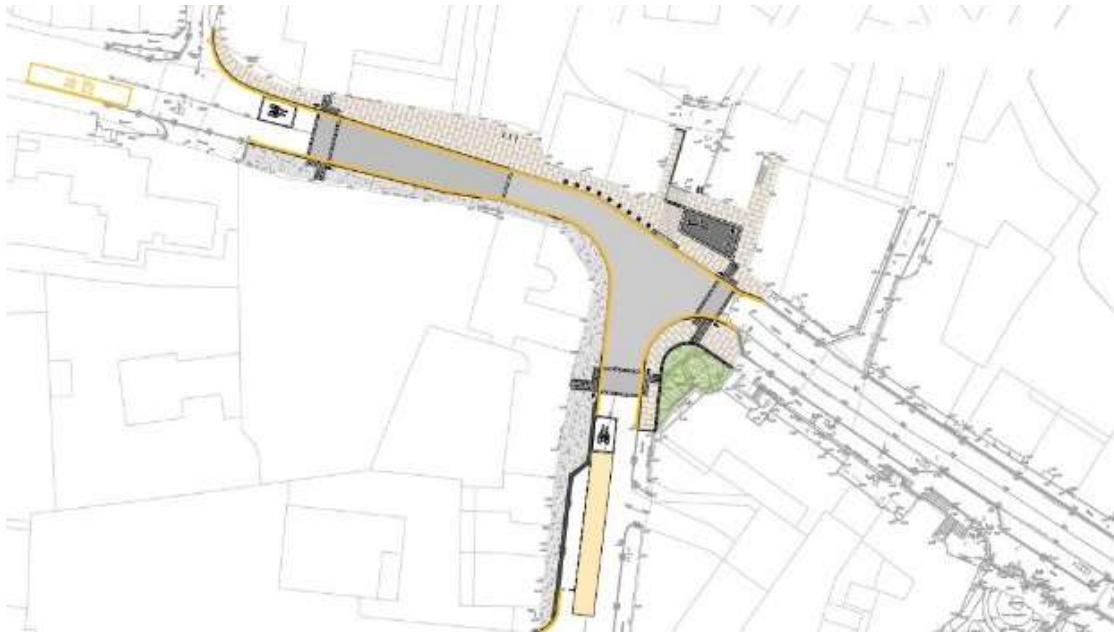
- New high quality granite footway and carriageway surfacing with whinstone kerbs and reclaimed cobbles, all laid on a high strength concrete base.
- One way eastbound traffic lane with a marked contraflow cycle lane heading west.

- Installation of a new signalised junction with three pedestrian crossing points at the foot of the Loan to improve road safety.
- We have promoted an Environmental Order to restrict heavy vehicles passing through the High Street (not heavier than 7.5 tonnes), allowing limited HGV service access between 6am and Midday (we are considering the public representations currently).
- It is proposed that Pay and display car parking spaces will be removed from the High Street and replaced with Loading bays which will operate in the morning. After that time they would revert back to pavement use.

The project will focus on resurfacing the main High Street in high quality materials, narrowing Newhalls Road leading up to the Hawes Car Park to create additional parking spaces, the construction of a new turning circle at the West end of the Hawes Car Park and the creation of a segregated cycleway along the front of the Hawes to encourage safe access for all.



Visualisation of Core Area



Extract showing The Loan Junction

To take advantage of Scottish Government and Council Capital funding available this year we have appointed a contractor to undertake an Early Action package comprising of:

- The Loan signalised junction and associated footway surfacing
- The turning head at the west end of the Hawes Car Park
- A speed table on Rosshill Terrace

The contractor has now been appointed and we expect the works in the Hawes Car park to commence in July 2021.

We are still finalising the detailed construction programme however the works at the west end of the Hawes Car Park will pause during the Ferry Fair and allow traffic to exit the area when the car park is occupied at that time.

At this time we anticipate work will commence on the Loan traffic signal installation in September 2021 running through to early next year, with a shut-down period in the Christmas trading period. Finally, the installation of the

Rosshill Terrace raised table traffic calming feature is under consideration and proposed to be installed during the school summer holidays, if possible.

When the work starts we will hold quarterly community and business meetings and we will issue regular updates regarding works programming, access arrangements and construction progress from the contractor.

The Wider Scheme

Prior to the start of the main High Street Public Realm project we are required to promote a revised Traffic Regulation Order and Redetermination Order to consider the creation of the planned One Way scheme and changes to the road layout. The legal process to make these proposed changes are due to commence in late summer this year with a view that the main project could start in late 2022, subject to available funding.

We will keep you updated on their progress and that of any subsequent funding bids.

Community and Business Forum

We will be creating a package of measures to support the needs of local business and residents in advance of work starting. It is our intention to establishing a Community and Business Forum to develop proposals for business support and ensure good channels of communication between the Council, the Contractor, and the Community. The Queensferry & District Community Council continue to provide invaluable support in taking the project forward.

A meeting was held with business representatives in September 2019 and the Steering Group in February and June 21 to discuss the planned road layout, access requirements during the construction phase and likely phasing of the works.

The project team will be supporting Stakeholder Liaison and Communications for the project in 2021 until completion.



Visualisation at Boat House Steps



Visualisation of High Street looking East

More information

If you need any more information about the project at this stage please contact me on the following email david.sinclair@edinburgh.gov.uk

We will be arranging for project updates to be posted on the Queensferry and District Community Council Facebook page and Website as well as community noticeboards in the Town.

In advance of the works start dates we will hold a steering group meeting and reach out to residents and businesses in the affected areas.

If you wish to be either included or removed from the mailing list, or to have your data amended please contact gillian.smith@ironsidefarrar.com

Data Protection

Any information shared with the project team will be used to inform the development of this project and may be shared with contracted organisations if deemed necessary and appropriate. At the end of the project all personal data will be permanently removed.

