

Milton Road - bus, cycling and walking improvements project February 2024 update

The Milton Road project aims to improve public transport, cycling and walking infrastructure to make these sustainable travel options a more attractive alternative to the car.

Project overview



Now that 2024 is well under way, we wanted to start with an overview of how the Milton Road project is progressing.

Works on the King's Hedges Cyclops junction, the Arbury Road junction and the smaller junctions are progressing well. The east side of Milton Road from Mitcham's Corner to the Guided Busway is nearing completion, with the exception of just a small amount of final surfacing work on some sections, the George Street and Fraser Road Copenhagen junctions (works on Fraser Road are underway) and a 300-metre stretch south of Fraser Road to finish.

If you'd like to receive updates directly, please do register at www.greatercambridge.org.uk/subscribe.

If you have any concerns during the construction, please do get in touch with Milestone's project team on MiltonRoad@milestoneinfra.co.uk or telephone the 24-hour contact centre on 0800 023 4762.

The west side of Milton Road is also taking shape, with its new and soon-to-be-complete footpath and cycle lane at Mitcham's Corner. The Arbury Road shops area is progressing well and will provide an enhanced retail and leisure experience for both locals and passing trade, and the Gilbert Road junction will soon have improved crossing facilities to help provide safer school journeys.

Five Copenhagen crossings have been installed: Herbert Street, Oak Tree Avenue, Downham's Lane, Kendal Way and Cook Close. Ascham Road, Fraser Road, Ramsden Square and Lovell Road are on target for spring completion, and the remaining junctions will follow in the coming months. The planting on the Elizabeth Way / Highworth Avenue roundabout is flourishing as spring approaches, and remaining work on the roundabout will start as soon as the Arbury Road shops area is complete.

In addition to substantial meterage of footpath and cycle lane now available to the public, the Mitcham's Corner area in the south shows how the project is already making a substantial difference to people's lives, with an improved streetscape, new bus stops and cycle racks and reinstated parking restrictions to support local communities.

Since the start of the project, approximately:

2900m of cycle lanes and footpaths have been completed, equivalent to the length of 28 Premier League football pitches.

8700 metres of main, edging and demarcation kerbs have been installed – almost the height of Mt Everest.



2500 metres of drainage channel have been fitted, equivalent to the length of 50 Olympic swimming pools.

17100 tonnes of materials have been excavated, which is about the weight of 1200 double-decker buses.



115 trees have been planted.

Eight bus stops have been installed.



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Completed and almost completed works

Gilbert Road junction



We have installed permanent lights on the Gilbert Road/Milton Road junction, helping to make crossing easier and safer for everyone. These lights will shortly be turned on to replace the temporary lights that are currently there.

Gilbert Road/Milton Road junction

Herbert Street northwards - east

The footpath and cycle lane on the east, north of Herbert Street up to just before the south side of the Elizabeth Way / Highworth Avenue roundabout, is now open for use. There will be a few remaining works still to be completed on the east but these will be carried out at a later date.

Downham's Lane Copenhagen crossing



Last month we completed the Downham's Lane Copenhagen crossing, and the three-way lights at the junction have since been removed. Works are continuing south of Downham's Lane.

A Copenhagen crossing allows pedestrians and cyclists to continue on an uninterrupted route, as they have priority over motor vehicles. Pedestrians and cyclists are still expected to proceed with caution when crossing these junctions as cars may be turning or exiting the junction. Please note that there is still white lining to be added to complete the Copenhagen crossings.

North of King's Hedges junction - east

The area north of the King's Hedges junction on the east will shortly be complete, which means that the section from Fraser Road to the end of the scheme will then be finished.

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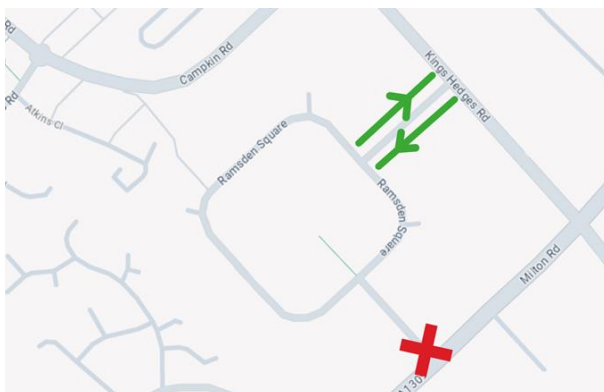
Woodhead Drive rain garden

We have planted a rain garden at the Woodhead Drive junction. This is an environmentally friendly drainage system which collects the rainwater runoff from the road. Water is filtered into the rain garden, which reduces erosion of the road and helps to prevent flooding.

We are pleased to be adding plants to the neighbourhood, helping to increase the biodiversity of Milton Road. We look forward to seeing them thrive and brighten up the area.



Ramsden Square Copenhagen crossing



The Ramsden Square Copenhagen crossing will be complete in the next couple of weeks. Swales (a natural drainage system) have been installed and utility cables moved. Three-quarters of the kerbing needed for block paving is in place. The road is still closed while works take place.

Ramsden Square diversion © Google Maps

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New and ongoing works

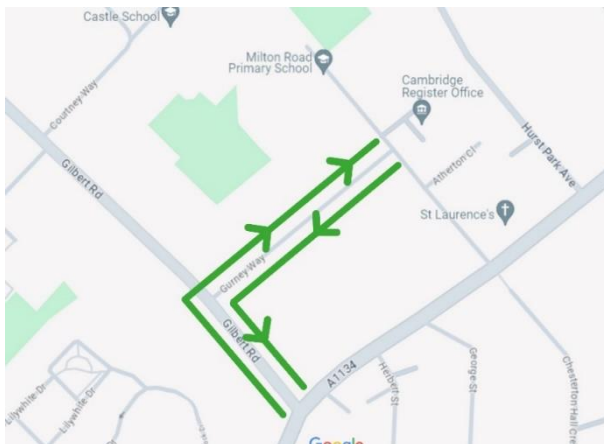
Mitcham's Corner / Gilbert Road- west

On the west side of Mitcham's Corner to Westbrook Drive we have put down the first layer of tarmac, known as 'binder coursing'. We will shortly be laying the surface course after which we will be looking to open Mitcham's Corner to Gilbert Road on the west.

Gilbert Road to the roundabout - west

Works are underway on the west, north of Gilbert Road up to just before the south side of the Elizabeth Way / Highworth Avenue roundabout. We have completed trial holes and excavation to planting depth and are now installing drainage.

Ascham Road Copenhagen crossing



Ascham Road is due to close shortly to start construction of a Copenhagen crossing at the junction. This is expected to take roughly eight weeks to complete.

Access to Ascham Road by vehicle will be via Gilbert Road and Gurney Way. Pedestrians and cyclists will still be able to access Milton Road from Ascham Road. This includes access to the schools in this area.

Above: Access to Ascham Road during the closure © Google Maps



Left: Ascham Road / Milton Road junction where a new Copenhagen crossing will be constructed.

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Arbury Road shops



Works at the Arbury Road shops are going well. We are currently installing kerbing, and access for business and shop users has been maintained as has access for deliveries / parking. Final work should be finished in the spring.

Installing block paving

Union Lane/Arbury Road junction

In this [video](#) project manager Tom Porter explains how we're using traffic management to reduce congestion.

The gas works on Union Lane, which were not part of the Milton Road project, have now ended, and we have returned to the three-light system until 24 May.

As mentioned in previous updates, Union Lane is closed to vehicles to assist with works at the Arbury Road junction, while cyclists and pedestrians continue to have access as normal.

The closure allows us to run a three-way light system rather than a four-way one, which reduces waiting time for vehicles on Milton Road and Arbury Road.

Due to the temporary traffic lights, there are increased traffic levels on Milton Road. Please allow additional time for your journey. Two members of the team are stationed at the junction to help manage traffic flow and manually control the lights if needed.

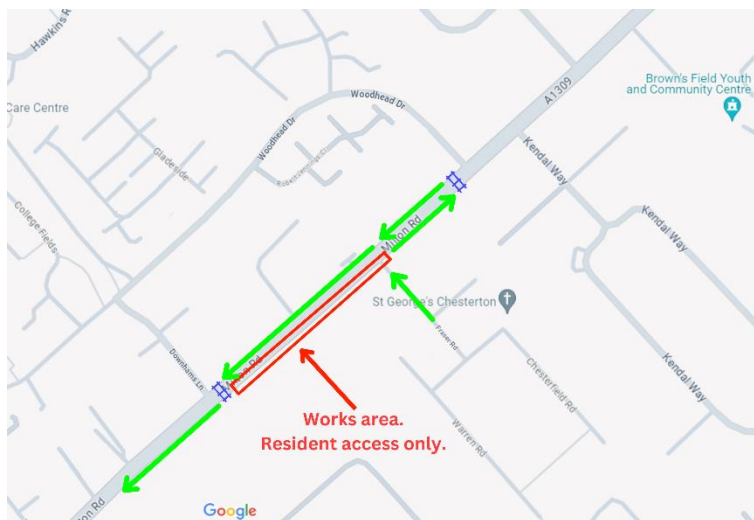
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North of Arbury Road/Union Lane

The north-west side of the Arbury Road junction should start to have its final surfacing laid by the end of the month, ahead of schedule.

Continuing on the west, north of the junction, we are working on the footpath and cycleway south of Downham's Lane. We are currently excavating and installing drainage channels. Kerbs are being put in place, and a new bus shelter is about to go in, but the bus stop itself is not yet in use. In the section north of Middleton Close, heading towards Ramsden Square, final surfacing is due to take place.



Work is also underway on the east approximately opposite Downham's Lane and Fraser Road. There is a pedestrian diversion. See map left.

↑ 2 way pedestrian route. Pedestrian crossing

Map data ©2024 50 m

Fraser Road Copenhagen crossing

Work on the Copenhagen crossing at the Fraser Road junction has started with general clearance and trial holes now underway. Works are likely to take approximately eight weeks. The junction will not be closed to traffic but will be controlled by motion sensitive lights to allow vehicles to exit/enter Fraser Road. The works in this location have been coordinated with Cambridge Water to avoid additional traffic signals in the future.

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King's Hedges junction



Our Project manager Tom Porter has recorded a [video](#) about works on King's Hedges junction.

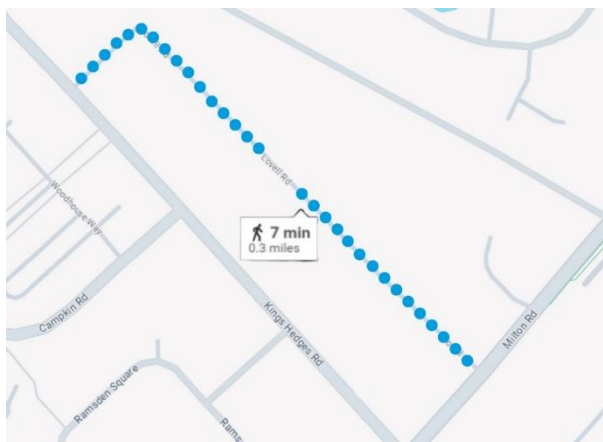
When complete, King's Hedges will be a cyclops junction similar to our Histon Road project. A cyclops junction gives priority to pedestrians and cyclists, making a safer experience for all users.

The Histon Road Cyclops junction

At the south-west quadrant of the junction, we have been laying tactile paving (the bumps to support people who are blind or partially sighted) and the special sockets needed to install signals. We also have teams working on the section between King's Hedges junction and Ramsden Square installing the cycle lane and drainage.

There is currently no right turn into Green End Road from Milton Road. This will continue until the junction is complete. If you would like to enter Green End Road, please drive to the roundabout at the A10/A14 junction, and drive back down Milton Road for access.

Lovell Road Copenhagen crossing



Work will shortly be starting at the Lovell Road / Milton Road junction to create a new Copenhagen crossing.

Access to Lovell Road via vehicle will be from the King's Hedges Road access point as shown in the map. Pedestrians and cyclists may continue to enter and exit from Milton Road.

© Google Maps

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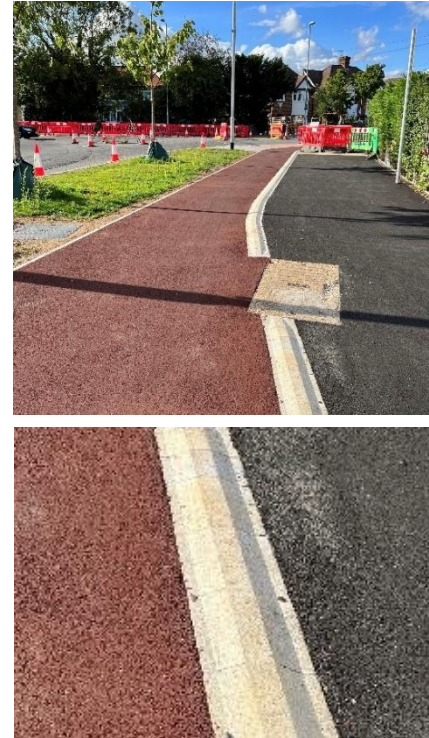
General information

Demarcation kerbs between cycle lanes and footpaths

Some people have asked why we are installing demarcation kerbs. Demarcation kerbs are a slightly raised kerb, with an sloped side and flat top, which separate the cycle lane and footpath. The raised kerb indicates the two separate paths to people who are visually impaired. They provide a physical clear division between cycle lanes, in red, and footpath lanes, in black. These have been installed as a key safety feature of our Milton Road project.

Once the final layer of tarmac has been installed, the demarcation kerb will be about 20mm higher than the cyclist and pedestrian lanes and will be safe to cross by bicycle or on foot. Demarcation kerbs are flat at driveways and around obstructions. This allows water which may be on the cycle path to reach the drainage channel at the edge of the footpath.

Demarcation kerb near the Elizabeth Way roundabout (top right) and close-up (bottom right)



Temporary lights and streetlights emergency number: 0800 023 4762

In order for works to be carried out safely, there are temporary lights to ensure that traffic management runs smoothly. We ask all road users of Milton Road to obey the traffic signals. By driving through the lights when they are going from amber to red, the whole light system will automatically turn to red for every junction as a safety measure. This prevents the lights from working as efficiently as possible and causes further delays for traffic. Should you think the lights are not working properly, please call Milestone on **0800 023 4762** or email MiltonRoad@milestoneinfra.co.uk, as included on the bottom of our monthly updates. This is the quickest way to report an issue.

Speed monitoring van

A speed monitoring van has been allocated to Milton Road. This will move periodically to different positions along the route. Milton Road is a 20mph zone, which is legally enforceable, and those found speeding will be reported to the police. We ask that all users of Milton Road obey the speed restrictions in place for the safety of all users of the area.

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Bus stop update

Any bus stops not listed below are currently open and functioning as normal.

Suspended bus stops

The following bus stops are currently suspended and have been replaced as shown in the table below.

Bus stop	Temporary location
Ascham Road southbound	Outside 94 Milton Road
Ascham Road northbound	Outside St. Laurence's Church
Union Lane northbound	Outside St. Laurence's Church
Downham's Lane southbound	Outside 270 Milton Road
Downham's Lane northbound	Outside 221 Milton Road
Fraser Road southbound	Outside 270 Milton Road
Fraser Road northbound	Outside 221 Milton Road
Kendal Way northbound	Opposite Kendal Way
Golden Hind southbound	Outside 374 Milton Road

'Bus stop suspended' signage will always be displayed with a notice of the new temporary location. Information boards and service provider websites will also display information.

The following bus services are currently stopping on Milton Road:

Milton P&R (PR5) Stopping at P&R, Science Park, Kendal Way (northbound stop temporarily opposite Kendal Way), Fraser Rd (southbound temporarily outside 270 Milton Road, northbound temporarily outside 221 Milton Road), Downham's Lane (southbound temporarily outside 270 Milton Rd and northbound temporarily outside 221 Milton Road), Union Lane (northbound temporarily outside St. Laurence's Church), Ascham Rd (southbound temporarily outside 94 Milton Road and northbound temporarily outside St. Laurence's Church), Westbrook Centre.

Number 9 Stopping at Science Park, Kendal (northbound stop temporarily opposite Kendal Way), Fraser (southbound temporarily outside 270 Milton Road, northbound temporarily outside 221 Milton Road), Downham's Lane (southbound temporarily outside 270 Milton Rd and northbound temporarily outside 221 Milton Road), Union Lane (Union Lane (northbound temporarily outside St. Laurence's Church), Ascham Rd (southbound temporarily outside 94 Milton Road and northbound temporarily outside St. Laurence's Church), Westbrook Centre.

B the busway Stopping at Westbrook Centre.

Number 2 Stopping at P&R, driving test centre, Cambridge North, driving test centre, Chesterton - Milton Rd.

Number 1 Stopping at Westbrook Centre southbound.

Drop-in session

The next monthly drop-in session, with staff from Milestone, will be 11am – 12pm on Monday 4 March at Milton Road Library. Please do note that this is a drop-in session and visitors are encouraged to free up space for those coming in.

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