

MCF Victoria Street – ‘You Said, We Will’

In August/September 2019 we carried out public consultation on our proposals to improve the junction at Victoria Street / Warrington Road, to give local people the opportunity to have their say on the proposals.

We have collated all the responses and taken them into consideration.

You Said	We Will
You said you had concerns over the closure of Arundel Street and traffic becoming two-way	After collating residents’ feedback about the scheme, we have now reviewed the design and have found an alternative location along the route for the toucan crossing. We will no longer need to close Arundell Street. The revised design has been uploaded to our website.
You said the proposals will cause issues with on street parking.	Although we understand resident concerns we are not obliged to legally provide parking on the public highway, our responsibility is to keep traffic moving. To create the cycleway segregated from pedestrians has meant we will need to use some of the highway. To allow for the traffic to flow freely we will need to install double yellow lines on Warrington Road between Woodyates Street and Mere Street. There are side streets where cars could be parked as an alternative. This will be advertised through the TRO.
You said the new toucan crossing would increase congestion and air pollution.	The new A49 road due to be opened in 2020 we expect a reduction in traffic on this route therefore the new proposed toucans shouldn’t affect the flow of traffic. As there are large volumes of people walking and cycling to and from Alexandra Park the new toucan will provide a safe crossing point for residents.
You said you don’t want us to remove trees.	We have spoken with our woodland officer who has provided advice on tree removal and planting. We will be planting new trees to replace any we remove and this will be on the basis of three new trees for every one that is removed.
You said the lights at Saddle junction cause a build-up of traffic.	The Saddle cycling facilities were designed in conjunction with the Victoria Street scheme in order to provide a continuous cycling route between Alexandra Park and the town centre without unduly affecting traffic flow. As we have had to deliver the facilities in two stages (to minimise disruption on site) we appreciate that traffic may not be flowing quite as efficiently as before we started as we have only completed the first stage with the works at Saddle Junction. We have monitored journey times before and after the implementation of

	<p>the facilities and have noticed a small increase in journey times for traffic. We are aware of an issue on Ormskirk Road, which we are addressing by changing the road markings and signs to improve traffic flow. Once the Victoria Street scheme has been completed the traffic flows and journey times should be similar to how they were before any of the recent works.</p>
<p>You asked would we be resurfacing Warrington Road and the side streets.</p>	<p>This isn't in the remit of our scheme. Although as part of the construction works there will be some side road treatments. If residents have noticed areas of roads that need resurfacing, you can report it to the council via the 'Report It' app. All you need to do is download the app.</p> <p>Argyll Street is to be resurfaced by our maintenance teams within the next couple of months.</p>
<p>You said you wanted to see facts that cycle routes encourage more cycling</p>	<p>Cities around the world, from Amsterdam to Portland, from Vancouver to Copenhagen have found that when you invest in creating safe walking and cycling routes, you get more people walking and cycling, we're now starting to see this in Greater Manchester as well</p> <p>https://www.sustrans.org.uk/media/2947/bike-life-greater-manchester-2017.pdf</p>
<p>You said why not use alternative routes that won't impact traffic, e.g. through Parsons Meadow</p>	<p>This is a good suggestion and we will look at this route in the future as more funding becomes available.</p>
<p>You said the scheme could be advanced by pedestrian priority at side streets, additional pedestrian crossings on Warrington Road, Parklets, traffic signals that detect approaching cyclists and turn green in advance and / or a button that gives cyclists immediate green.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. We will take these into consideration and look into using them in future schemes.</p>
<p>You asked if construction will affect front gardens.</p>	<p>This scheme has no plans to affect any front gardens.</p> <p>As with any construction there may be some disturbance during the works but resident properties and land will not be affected.</p>