

INCLUSION

THE A453 MULTI-MODAL STUDY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 4 FEBRUARY 2002

Dear Reader

In this fourth edition of Inclusion we would like to enlist your help in the development of a preferred transport option for the A453 corridor within the preferred strategy framework. In the last issue we described the development of four transport strategies for further appraisal to establish the best balance of policies to address the many transport issues in the corridor. Following extensive testing using the transportation model and with the valuable assistance of the project management group and consultation at the strategy development stage, a preferred strategy has been established. This is summarised in the panel alongside this letter.

We are now well advanced in the testing and assessment of different packages of schemes, or Options, to implement this strategy. This stage has included complex evaluations of both individual schemes and the Option packages. This process has shown that we need to examine the balance, or 'trade offs' between various elements of the strategy, for example the balance between the level of encouragement to change people's mode of travel by changes to policies such as level of public transport fares and/or parking charges, and, the scale of highway improvements.

Our work continues on technical appraisals, and consultations with transport operators, local authorities and the Wider Reference Group. But it is the views of yourselves, the general public, that we wish to capture through the content of this newsletter and the public exhibitions which we are holding in mid February.

I must stress that no decisions have been made as to the preferred Option and none will be made until we have all the results of consultation to hand. At the exhibitions we hope to generate the inclusive environment to encourage all stakeholders to participate, but if you can't attend please let us have your views using the enclosed prepaid questionnaire.

Repeating what I said in August, its never too late to come up with a good idea, so please let us have your ideas and comments in person at the exhibitions or by using the questionnaire.

We are listening.

Peter Webster - Project Manager

The Preferred Strategy

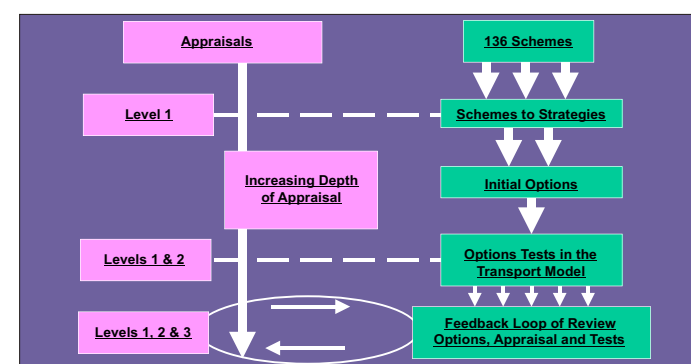
The preferred strategy can be summarised into 5 component parts:

- Public Transport (major investment)
 - NET, heavy rail and bus schemes
- Demand Management and Mode Change Policies
 - e.g. work place parking levy and public transport fares
- Highway Improvements
 - accessibility, residual demand, safety and the environment
- Complimentary Packages
 - freight, pedestrian and cycle networks, local travel behaviour
- Strategy and National Measures
 - initiatives to change travel behaviour and response to M1 multi modal study proposals

There are many ways in which schemes and policies can be combined to implement this strategy. Our initial option testing has sought to establish a balance between the first three parts, making provisional assumptions for others.

Options for Public Consultation

The chart below outlines the process we use to arrive at initial Options and the ongoing process to enable us to select a preferred Option.



An initial list of over 150 schemes has reduced to around 100 by increasing the depth of appraisal through levels 1, 2 and 3.

Schemes have been grouped into three shortlisted Options to test the various effects with the intention that the preferred Option would be made up from the best elements of these three. These shortlisted Options are shown overleaf and we would like your views on their content based on your local knowledge and emerging results.

**PLEASE COMPLETE A QUESTIONNAIRE
GIVING US YOUR VIEWS AND RETURN BY
FRIDAY 8 MARCH 2002**

Elected Members Briefing

On 12th September a joint presentation was made by the A453 and M1 multi-modal study teams on the progress of the studies. The invited audience of local elected members from interested authorities and MP's and MEP's with local constituencies were given a presentation of the initial Options and emerging results from both studies. In total some 30 delegates attended the event which concluded with a general question and answer session.

Wider Reference Group - Options Seminar

On 26th September, the Trent Bridge Cricket Club in Nottingham played host to 59 delegates for the 3rd Wider Reference Group Seminar organised by the A453 study team.

Following on from Inception, and Strategy Development, this seminar concentrated on the Option Identification and Appraisal process itself and sought views on the Initial Options arising from the work carried out upto that date.

Several common themes emerged as follows:

- The 'hearts and mind' measures such as education, commuter plans, fuel duties, taxation etc. were seen to be particularly complex and sensitive, but relevant to possible solutions.
- It was acknowledged that the transport problems in the study area were complex and would not be solved by single interventions.
- There was support for taking the longer view and planning for the longer term.
- There was concern about the long lead time for major infrastructure projects.
- It was felt that Options should include phasing of implementation to provide some early benefits without compromising later schemes.
- It was hoped that the broader inclusive approach of this Multi-Modal Study would be reflected in corresponding attitudes in Statutory Procedures and Approvals.

Other outcomes from the Seminar included:-

- On emerging solutions:
 - The secondary or consequential changes in traffic should be properly assessed.
 - The link between land use planning and the highway and NET schemes is important for Rushcliffe and requires constructive evaluation.
 - There were mixed views about highway solutions, but perhaps more support than

MP Updated on Study Progress

In September Alan Simpson MP met the A453 study team and was given a presentation which updated him on study progress.

He stressed the importance in strategy terms of the study for Nottingham City and the County and emphasised his view for a positive attitude for the outcome.

opposition for some further road building, as part of a mixed option.

- There was a range of views on a preferred option. If there was any discernible consensus it was for a mixed strategy based on the moderate public transport approach, but with some more highway improvement which would include measures for the benefit of buses.

More specific issues:

- A solution to safety problems on A453 should be prioritised and if necessary proceed independently of consideration and implementation of the rest.
- Development of East Midlands Airport and the surrounding area was still a concern within the context of the Study.
- There was no apparent preference between the on-line Red Route and the eastern bypass Yellow Route for the A453 at Clifton, together with a feeling that neither were very satisfactory and if a choice had to be made it could be outside the Study, reflecting the widespread interest in this particular issue.
- There was general support for rail and bus schemes, but concern about the ability to coordinate planning and deliver schemes.
- There was wide support for integrated ticketing.
- There was general support for speed limits with enhanced enforcement.
- There were many suggestions for individual features or aspects of schemes to be taken into account, and several new schemes were suggested.

Just as at previous WRG Seminars the output more than justified the event and has proved immensely helpful in the ongoing study process.

Our thanks to all who participated and their sponsors.

CONSULTATION EVENTS

Kegworth Community Centre
Tuesday 19 February 2002
3.30pm to 9.30pm

Clifton Leisure Centre
Wednesday 20 February 2002
11.00am to 9.00pm

Broadmarsh Shopping Centre
Friday 22 February 2002
9.00am to 5.30pm

Mobile Exhibition Unit

Tudor Inn Hotel
Castle Donington
Tuesday 12 February 2002
9.00am to 5.00pm

Silverdale Community Centre
Thursday 14 February 2002
9.00am to 5.00pm

Gotham Village Hall
Friday 15 February 2002
9.00am to 5.00pm

Market Square
Nottingham City Centre
Saturday 23 February 2002
9.00am to 5.00pm

Language/Reading Difficulty

If you know of anyone with language or reading difficulties who would like the Newsletter in a different form please contact the Project Manager.

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