

Trams to Newhaven



Project update, October 2019

Trams works to begin on Constitution Street in November



Edinburgh Trams are scheduled to run between Newhaven and the airport from early 2023

The first phase of work to take trams to Newhaven is scheduled to get under way on Constitution Street in mid-November, following six months of joint work by the Council and contractors to finalise the construction programme and costs for the project.

The Trams to Newhaven project team has worked hand in hand with the Infrastructure & Systems Contractor (Sacyr, Farrans, Neopul JV) and Swept Path Contractor (Morrison Utility Services) to finalise the plans. Passenger services are timetabled to begin in Spring 2023.

The work in finalising the plans has also demonstrated that the project budget of £207.3m reported in the Final Business Case remains achievable.



Lesely Macinnes
Transport and Environment
Convenor

The past six months have been invaluable in allowing the project team to work hand in hand with our contractors to put the designs and construction programme through their paces so that we're in the best possible position to get started next month. Now that we've finalised the plans, we're pressing ahead with getting everything ready to begin the first phase of work in Constitution Street alongside enabling works on Leith Walk. Given Leith is one of Scotland's richest sites for urban archaeology, particularly Constitution Street, it's key that we allow ample time for this aspect of work to get under way.

Throughout this whole process, we've taken a robust, prudent, open and transparent approach, keeping residents and businesses fully informed at every stage and incorporating their feedback directly into the plans so that they are truly community-based. The project's independent adviser praised our plans as the most closely scrutinised he had ever come across in decades of work in the light rail industry, while community council leaders welcomed our work to involve and engage with communities along the route. We're hugely grateful to everyone for their contributions.

Cammy Day
Deputy Leader, City of
Edinburgh Council



This thorough, collaborative and open approach is exactly how we mean to go on, striving to keep disruption to a minimum and helping maintain the vibrancy and attractiveness of the area as place to live, visit and shop. We'll be keeping residents and businesses in the loop at every stage of construction, with information provided to those in Constitution Street in the next few weeks on arrangements for waste, buses, loading and parking provision. Full details of a £2.4m Support for Business package are being finalised and will be communicated early in the New Year.

Taking trams to Newhaven is going to be transformative for Leith, north Edinburgh and the whole of our fast-growing city, opening up new economic, social, housing and development opportunities and connecting thousands more people sustainably to major centres of employment, without putting pressure on existing Council budgets.

Work will begin in two sections of Constitution Street from Monday 18 November 2019:

1. Foot of the Walk to Coatfield Lane
2. North junction of Queen Charlotte Street to Constitution Place

Traffic management - approved jointly with members of the city's Traffic Management Review Panel, including Lothian Buses and the emergency services - will start on 16 November. Throughout this period, access will be maintained from Laurie Street into Kirkgate and from Mitchell Street into Maritime Lane.

A logistics hub to support Constitution Street businesses has been set up on Mitchell Street so that they can receive and dispatch deliveries during the construction works. Help will also be at hand via the logistics hub for residents expecting large deliveries such as appliances or furniture.

Communications will continue with residents and businesses on Constitution Street over the course of the next few weeks to explain arrangements during construction, including waste, buses, loading and parking provision.

Enabling works are also scheduled to get under way on Leith Walk next month to prepare the access lane for traffic ahead of the main construction work, which begins in spring 2020. This will involve the removal of parking and loading bays on Leith Walk on the city bound side of the road. During these works, traffic will continue to flow in both directions and bus stops and will be maintained on the street although they may need to be moved a short distance. Bus timetables will remain as they are.

[View the construction programme](#)

Alejandro Mendoza Montfort
Project Director
Sacyr Farrans Neopul Joint
Venture



On behalf of the Sacyr Farrans Neopul Joint Venture, we are delighted at the announcement. As a team, we were confident the ECI period would bring great benefits to the project through the collaboration with the Council and key stakeholders, this 6 month period has given all parties a great stepping stone to build on and we now look forward to delivering a successful Trams to Newhaven project, along with the wide-ranging social and economic benefits for the local community.

At every point during delivery, we will pay close attention to maintaining the highest levels of safety and quality. We will ensure the needs of the community and local businesses are central to our plans, to ensure they experience minimum disruption. We are committed to ensuring we leave a positive lasting legacy to the community of Leith, Newhaven and the City of Edinburgh.




Peter Carolan
Project Director
Morrison Utility Services

We are delighted that the project has had final sign off from the Council. During the ECI period, we have demonstrated our ability to work in a collaborative manner, offer real depth of experience in delivering large scale utility contracts and the ability to deploy innovation which will deliver tangible benefits to the successful delivery of the project.

“As we move to the next phase of the project our goal will be to build on the strong relationships formed with our construction partners and City of Edinburgh Council during the ECI period and deliver the project to the highest safety and delivery standards, while driving a positive customer experience.

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