



Project Newsletter



Construction Update

Newhaven to Melrose Drive including Lindsay Road

Drainage and ducting works are continuing along this section with our contractor Morrisons Utility Services (MUS) diverting utilities. Works at Lindsay Road have started with site clearance up to the existing wall. This allows the process of lowering Lindsay Road so that the new tram route and road interface can be linked including the new link road down to Melrose Drive. This phase will also see the completion of the retaining wall, an infill section towards the flats and an extension of the wall to the east.

Ocean Terminal

Our contractor, SFN, has been progressing works in the area since August 2020 with earth works, drainage and ducting. The first tram track was laid last week which is an exciting milestone on the project.

Following track install, public realm works will commence and this area is scheduled to be completed in spring 2021.

Constitution Place to Baltic Street

The main infrastructure works are progressing well in this area. Works to date include drainage, ducting and track laying construction. The first trackslab installation has taken place in the last week which will see surrounding reinstatements begin to take shape. Following the completion of the track works Tower Street to Constitution Place will re-open for traffic in January 2021 which will allow the project to begin construction on sections of Ocean Drive.

We will be carrying out road resurfacing works on the running lane at Tower Street Industrial Estate. To minimise the impact to the businesses and residents these works will be completed on Sunday 22 November. Works are expected to take approximately 3-4hrs and will start at 12pm. The access road to Tower Street Industrial Estate will be closed until approx 7pm to allow the tar to cure.



Ocean Terminal



Project Directors on site

Archaeology Vlog

This week, John and Rosa take a look at one of our most exciting discoveries yet, and of course, we find it towards the end of the excavation!



Itison



Any vouchers purchased for the Constitution Street scheme which were due to expire 30 November 2020 have now been extended to 31 March 2021.

Progress Route Map

You can download our latest Progress Route Map on our website.

More Updates



Baltic Street to Queen Charlotte Street

Main Infrastructure works are now underway in this section which will see the commencement of drainage and ducting works followed quickly by track laying.

Laurie Street to Foot of the Walk (FOTW)

Works are progressing well in this section with investigation and clearance work in preparation for the drainage and duct bank installation works.

To accommodate these works we have made some temporary changes to footpaths in this area. Pedestrian access to businesses will be maintained at all times.

Leith Walk

Both our contractors, SFN and MUS are working on Leith Walk. MUS are undertaking excavations and diverting utility services. SFN will then complete the infrastructure works.

Crown Street to Dalmeny Street

We are undertaking a diversion of a 500mm diameter gas main at Jane Street. This a complex diversion due to the constrained space and working carefully around a number of other utilities.

Dalmeny to Pilrig Street

Main infrastructure works are progressing with the installation of drainage and ducting works and the commencement of track laying activities with the aim of the first tracks being laid in this area before the end of the year.

In order to progress tram infrastructure works in this area, we are required to temporarily adjust sections of the site perimeter. This will reduce the space available to pedestrian and cyclists. We anticipate these works will be for a short duration and will look to progress as quickly as possible to ensure that minimal disruption is caused. Signage will be installed locally to advise pedestrians and cyclists of a temporary route.

Pilrig to McDonald Road

Excavation and utility works have commenced in this section.

McDonald Road to Annandale Street

Installation of drainage and ducting is continuing.

Annandale Street to London Road

Backfilling has been ongoing between Annandale and London Road following the utility diversions in preparation for the commencement of main tram infrastructure works

Coatfield Lane to Laurie Street



The excavations next to South Leith Parish Church graveyard are coming to an end. However we are still uncovering exciting new discoveries that are redrawing the map of medieval Leith. Work over the last couple weeks have revealed three large features, two predating the 14th century graveyard. Perhaps the most important are two large ditches. The first is a large 10m wide ditch running diagonally across the middle of the site, which contained an unusual crouched burial half way down. The second is an 8 metre wide possible return for this ditch discovered only last week 25 metres south of the Graveyard. Why these large ditches are here and what they enclosed is unknown at the moment but will be a focus of our future research.

The new total for the human remains uncovered is around 340. This has exceeded expectations and will provide a key insight into the past lives of Leith once they are taken for forensic analysis.

Walking and Cycling Spaces

As our works progress, on occasion we will be required to temporarily adjust sections of our site perimeter which will reduce the available space for pedestrian and cyclists. Where this occurs, signage will be installed in the local area to inform pedestrians and cyclists about diversions and the recommended route. We will look to progress with works in these areas as quickly as possible to ensure that minimal disruption is caused. Notification of these works will be communicated via the project's communication channels as far in advance as reasonably practicable.

Local School Christmas Poster Challenge

The Trams to Newhaven team is committed to maximising the social, economic and environmental benefits through the delivery of the project. We are committed to working in partnership with local schools/community groups recognising the impact we are having in the area. You have been very patient with us during the year and we would like to give something back.

We would therefore like to invite local schools and community groups to help us spread some festive cheer in Leith this Christmas! We would like to decorate some of our site perimeter fencing with posters created by local children. These posters will help spread a little joy throughout the community of Leith. Please visit our website or get in contact for further information on the Christmas Poster campaign.

Additional Traffic & Pedestrian Updates



Jane Street Industrial Estate Temporary Road Closure

We will be carrying out utility diversion works on Jane Street in the Industrial Estate from Monday 23 November for approximately 6 weeks. Localised diversion and parking restrictions will be in place with access to businesses being maintained at all times. An update on these works will be provided prior to the Christmas break.

Jane Street and Arthur Street Fence Line Adjustments on Footpath and Cycle Way

There have been minor adjustments to the fence line on Leith Walk at Jane Street and Arthur Street from Monday 16 November for 6 and 2 weeks respectively. This is to accommodate utility works within the footpath.

Final Business Case



On Thursday 19 November Councillors approved the continued construction of the line in light of an updated Final Business Case (FBC) reflecting on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the project.



Discovery Garden

The project team, working in partnership with Ambassador, who own Ocean Terminal, met with community members to discuss their concerns as the design had been inherited from the previous ownership.

Following this, the public realm designs were amended to allow the garden to remain alongside Ocean Terminal, as part of works being undertaken by the project.

You can view the updated proposals on our website.

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