



Trams to Newhaven

Project Newsletter



Construction Updates

Main construction works for the project are scheduled to be completed during 2022 with trams operational in Spring 2023. The latest construction programme can be found on the project website. Localised works will continue on carriage and footways to install equipment including tram communication systems, tram stop fit outs, the installation of overhead line equipment, street lighting, landscaping, and traffic signalling. Associated traffic management and pedestrian diversions will be set up as required with any major changes being communicated via the Project's communication channels. Surfacing works are ongoing in locations throughout the route, which will require junctions/ temporary pedestrian crossings being relocated and/or closed. These closures are expected to be for short duration with changes being communicated via the Project's communication channels.

Newhaven to Melrose Drive

Localised works are continuing on the north and south footways at Newhaven. Once completed, the Newhaven tram stop works will commence. There have been changes to pedestrian routes in this section however access to properties will be maintained at all times.

Melrose Drive

Main infrastructure works have now commenced from the south roundabout adjacent to the car park at Ocean Terminal, with utility works progressing from the car park towards the new link on Melrose Drive.



Constitution St



Queen Charlotte St



Leith Walk



Picardy Place

Ocean Terminal

Hard landscaping works on the eastern carriageway will continue to move south towards the Holiday Inn.

Rennie's Isle to Tower Place

Works have commenced on the approaches to both sides of Tower Bridge to enable the commencement of track laying over the bridge.

We will be working from 10am – 5pm on the following Sundays:

- 22 May 2022
- 29 May 2022

The discovery of sections of sea wall along with old train tracks in the area required works to temporarily halt to allow the archaeology team to assess the findings. In addition, despite pre-construction surveys having been carried out, the volume and complexities of the utilities that were uncovered required further investigation with utility providers.

Stevedore Place

The traffic management arrangements have been adjusted and are expected to be in place until Summer 2022. This will result in periodic changes to vehicle and pedestrian routes with any major changes being communicated via the Project's communication channels.

Tram stop works are continuing in the area.

As part of our works, the wall to the east of Ocean Drive at the Trade Winds development will be dismantled, removed and then re-built. Direct notification has been provided to the building's Factor.

Constitution Place to Baltic Street

Attenuation pipe works are continuing at Tower Street. Relaying the setts has been completed on the west side and the working area has been reduced. Due to the discovery of an uncharted service further investigations are being undertaken ahead of the final connection. Access to Tower Street remains from The Shore. Completion of these works is now anticipated to be early June 2022.

Baltic Street to Queen Charlotte Street

Further works are ongoing between Queen Charlotte Street (QCS) and Bernard / Baltic Junction on Constitution Street from week commencing 16 May 2022.

The installation of the seven Overhead Line Equipment poles (OLE) will start from week commencing 23 May 2022 followed by the first fit out of the tram stop from 30 May 2022.

The programme of works is as follows:

1. Localised work sites will be established and will involve slabs being lifted to expose the base of the OLE.
2. OLE poles will be delivered to site week commencing 23 May 2022 with installation taking place that same week.

During installation there will be no parking on Constitution Street between QCS and Bernard / Baltic Street junction. The project's Temporary Traffic Regulation Order will be implemented during these works to allow enforcement.

3. From week commencing 30 May 2022 the slabs will be reinstated around the OLE poles and barriers will be removed.

The tram stop works will be fenced off with crowd barriers (not heras fencing) to allow the first stage of fit out which is expected to take approximately one – two week and the barriers will be removed once completed.

There will be a requirement to carry out a second phase of tram stop fit out works at a later date, which will include the installation of the tram stop furniture. Details of this will be communicated ahead of works starting.

Queen Charlotte Street to Coatfield Lane

Main infrastructure works continue with drainage and ducting works nearing completion and further track laying expected in the coming week.

Changes have been made to walkways on the west side of Constitution Street from Coatfield Lane travelling north towards the end of The Port of Leith Housing Association.

These arrangements are expected to be in place for approximately six weeks. Once track works are completed, further footway works will progress towards the Queen Charlotte Street junction. Details will be available in due course and properties that are directly affected will be notified in advance.

Diversion routes are in place for all traffic including cyclists who can use the option of walking bicycles through the pedestrian routes.

Coatfield Lane to Foot of The Walk (FoTW)

Works are progressing well within this section, which includes finishing of the South Leith Parish Church wall. Once completed, OLE and footpath works will commence on the west side between Laurie Street and Coatfield Lane which will require further localised changes being made to the traffic management in the area. Updates will be communicated via the Project's communication channels.

Laurie Steet to Foot of the Walk (FoTW)

The walkway on the east side of Constitution Street at the FoTW tram stop remains closed with pedestrian access being located on the west side. Access to properties and businesses is maintained.

Leith Walk

A total of 14 temporary wooden planters will be located at key locations between Jane Street and Annandale Street to help deter pavement parking and are expected to be in position for the next few months. The planters are made from recycled materials from the project and will be donated to local community / educational provision. They will also display artwork produced by children from primary schools in Leith using 'I Love Leith because...'

As part of the final design for the project, permanent street planters and other street furniture such as bike racks will be installed. Whilst construction is ongoing, logistics hubs are operational at Montgomery Street, Albert Street, Dalmeny Street and Jane Street to support businesses with deliveries and dispatches.

Foot of the Walk to Manderston Street

Infrastructure, drainage and ducting, and hard landscaping works are ongoing with track laying to follow. As previously communicated, to accommodate the progression of utility clearance and track works across the junction at Foot of The Walk, traffic management arrangements have been amended. The key points to note are:

1. The Manderston Street / Leith Walk junction will re-open to traffic travelling from Easter Road to Leith Walk. Vehicles will only be allowed to turn left onto Leith Walk heading towards the city centre. This will become the main diversion route for buses and other vehicles that normally turn left from Duke Street onto Leith Walk.
2. There will be no left hand turn from Duke Street onto Leith Walk
3. There will be no access to Manderston Street from Leith Walk.
4. Traffic will continue to be able to turn right from Great Junction Street onto Leith Walk.
5. Traffic movements between Great Junction Street and Duke Street heading both ways will remain under two way traffic management.

Parking enforcement will be in place on Manderston Street and Gordon Street to accommodate the diversion route. The temporary bus stop located at Foot of the Walk will be relocated further south on Leith Walk with the new location in place from Monday 23 May 2022. You can find further information of bus diversions and timetables at www.lothianbuses.com.

These arrangements are expected to be in place until Autumn 2022.

Jane Street to Balfour Street

As part of ongoing localised works on the west side of Leith Walk, vehicle access to Jane Street remains closed. MUS commenced reinstatement works on Jane Street this week. These works are expected take approximately four weeks and require parking restrictions in the area. External surfacing, internal fit-out, and power connection works are ongoing at the substation.

Balfour Street to Pilrig Street

The Dalmeny Street crossing point was relocated approximately 20 metres south bound from 19 May 2022 to accommodate further works in the area.

The temporary bus stop and the waiting area near Albert Street will require to be relocated within the vicinity over the next few weeks. Further details will follow via the Project's communication channels. There will be out of hours working on Friday 27 May 2022 from 7pm until 5am to accommodate the installation of four OLE poles. The works are being done out of hours to minimise disruption to traffic flows in the area and will involve securing the poles into their final positions. Minimal disruption is expected as a result of these works.

Pilrig Street to McDonald Road

In the coming weeks final surfacing and hard landscaping works will commence. Arthur Street has re-opened to traffic via the city bound running lane.

McDonald Road to Annandale Street

Hard landscaping and surfacing works to the new carriageway and cycle lane is now completed on the east side of Leith Walk. There will be temporary traffic management changes in the coming week to facilitate further tram infrastructure works and these will be communicated through the Project's communication channels.

Annandale Street to London Road


Hard landscaping on the existing footway is continuing on the east side of Leith Walk and at Elm Row. Works are also progressing in preparation for surfacing the new carriageway. Further hard landscaping works are expected to commence between Annandale Street and London Road on the west side of Leith Walk from early June 2022. As part of the phasing of works between Annandale Street and York Place there will further changes to the traffic management in this area including the current bus stop relocating to Elm Row. Further updates will follow in the next week across the Project's communication channels.

York Place to London Rod

Main tram infrastructure works are progressing well in this section. There will be further traffic management changes made to accommodate further project works on the weekend of 27 May 2022. Traffic travelling city bound from London Road will be reduced to one-lane of traffic and the loading bays and taxi rank currently in place from 9 Baxters Place to Greenside Lane will be closed off to ensure that traffic flows are maintained. Direct communication will take place with affected properties. Works on Union Street are now complete and opened to one way traffic today. The temporary loading bay on Union Street has been relocated to its original position near the junction of Leith Walk.

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