

Response from Sustrans

In responding to the consultation Sustrans have presented a general support for the scheme with some comments related to the detailed design and which will be considered as part of this process. In addition Sustrans have noted the general support for a route on Marine Parade. Below presents this correspondence as received on 14 January 2009.

14Jan09

To Travel Planning at BHCC

NCN2 Cycle Link Scheme

Noting previous Sustrans comments and those of the Cycle Forum AGM 08, my comments on the scheme presented for consultation are as follows:

- 1) The path in front of the pier entrance needs to be widened (3m min suggested) and remarked including provision for getting on and off the carriageway at the signalised crossing to the west of the pier.
- 2) The 3m width lane is welcome provided there is adequate separation from parked cars and possible door conflicts (a 1m buffer zone is referred to but the extent is not clear). Shared space could also work here for family groups.
- 3) As a lane is being proposed suggest some staggered or zebra lining through the shared space area where coach drop offs are made. This will alert pedestrians/tourists to the facility. Suggest symbols rather than language markings are used.
- 4) Detailed treatment of the transition on to carriageway is not clear but suggest large smooth radius curves are used rather than the angled bends as drawn. The recent "smoothing" of NCR2 west of the pier has been extremely well received.
- 5) Detailed treatment of the junction with Dukes Mound is hard to see as it falls on the change of frame. This needs consideration especially the change to a one way westbound advisory lane. Suggest the two way facility should be carried on to the east of the Dukes Mound junction.
- 6) The new ramp to eliminate the two sharp bends before the tunnel is welcome. Suggest it is implemented to have minimum impact on the greenspace.
- 7) Suggest continuation to the Undercliff is desirable - the Undercliff is an excellent additional route to the cliff top path and the "no cycling" restriction should be revised ASAP.
- 8) The proposed new Toucans to Arundel Road are very welcome.
- 9) Additional cycle parking away from the cycle lane and car parking would be welcome. Users of the cycle parking adjacent to the lane risk interference with cars and with cyclists on the lane especially whilst locking and unlocking.

Additional comments:

Prior to the the Forum (9Jan09) I met with Paul Bonett and Paul Steadman to look at cycling

Appendix 5

activity on the upper level of Marine Parade. This was in fairly constant use and we spoke to several cyclists. They were all in favour of a facility on the upper level. With major trip attractors such as the Hospital and the College there is clearly a need for both routes. The upper level route will also serve on occasions when events close Madeira Drive. There are good views from the top level and it passes some of Kemp Town's fine Regency architecture.

The pavement width is adequate for shared use (approx 10m at the eastern end reducing to 5-6m opposite Camelford Street). A recent Sustrans commissioned report on Shared Use facilities:

http://www.sustrans.org.uk/webfiles/Publications/merits_of_segregated_and_non_segregated.pdf

suggests (para 7.77) that a 6m wide path can support 600 users per hour based on a 50/50 ped. cyclist split. It also documents positive experience of shared use facilities in the Royal Parks (para 7.79 on). There are approx. 10 crossings on this stretch of road, many of which are already in use by cyclists making trips to and from Kemp Town. There are also access ramps down to the mezzanine level and the street which, whilst not ideal, are of similar gradient and width to those to be used at the eastern end of the scheme.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment although I would like to note disappointment at the extremely short notice (one day!) supplied for the consultation exhibition. I have commented via email as the form does not easily allow for detailed comments.

Kind regards
Chris Boocock
Sustrans Area Manager
Brighton and Sussex.