Transport Group



11/11/2021

IMPROVING TRANSPORT ON POLEGATE HIGH STREET

Introduction

East Sussex County Council (ESCC) are consulting on plans to "improve pedestrian and bus stop facilities and introduce a 20mph speed limit along Polegate High Street." The consultation closes on the 26th November.

https://consultation.eastsussex.gov.uk/economy-transport-environment/polegate-high-street/

There could be, within this process, an opportunity to change the design of Polegate High Street with a number of additional initiatives.

For example, at the same time, there is an ESCC submission to the Government, for funding for a "Bus Service Improvement Plan". This outlines an intention to have additional bus services running through Polegate and 2 Mobility Hubs.

Then there could be other improvements around 'implied zebras' also known as 'side street zebras' and better signage to encourage drivers to turn their engines off.

Consultation

Shown on the images, on the last page, are these additional improvements, drawn in by the author.. These include :-

1) Installing low cost 'implied' zebra crossings that are less than £1000 each. Greater Manchester and the DfT, show in early trials, that vehicles are much more likely to give way to pedestrians when they are implemented. In contrast traditional zebra crossings need Belisha Beacons and electric supplies and can be easily over £30,000 each

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- 2) The current signage should be extended along the road on both sides of the rail crossing ,so that more drivers are aware of the request to turn off their engines. Often this can be 3-5 minutes of excess pollution.
- 3) The Bus Service Improvement Plan identifies in Polegate two mobility hubs. These are transport facilities which provides for improved connections between bus services, the railway station and the commercial, health and employment functions of Polegate High Street. There is not sufficient information but it is assumed they might be, as shown on the drawings, on the last page.
- 4) A '20's plenty' and 'Low Traffic Neighbourhood' review taking place by East Sussex County . This could be an ideal case study to test out the options

Conclusion

Councillors and Residents in Polegate and South Wealden should ask for these other elements to be considered in the consultation

Perhaps write

"The main objective of the scheme is to make the High Street safer for all users to access, as well as more attractive to visit. This would be enhanced by considering a higher usage of buses, implied zebras, building the proposed mobility hubs and improved signage to reduce idling at the rail crossing "

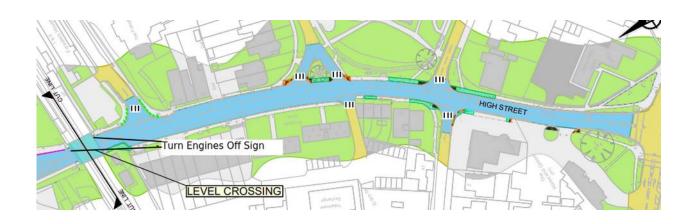
With additional bus services and the increased population in the area, the High Street will become ever more congested. If bus routes are going to be made reliable then there has to be further improvements

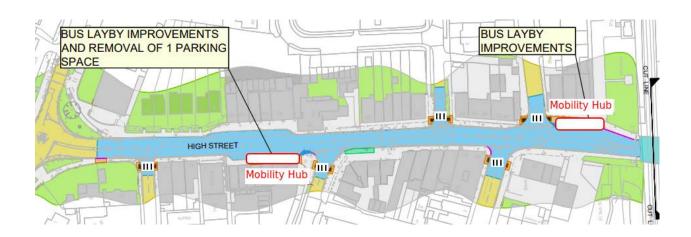
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Enhanced Plans for Polegate

Notes – Implied zebras are now shown across most side road junctions, improved signage to discourage idling at the rail crossing, and likely locations for mobility hubs. These will enhance the 20 mph limits or zones proposed by the Council.





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