CITY OF WESTMINSTER - GROWTH, PLANNING AND HOUSING

DELEGATED AUTHORITY REPORT - REF: 7172

CENTRAL LONDON CYCLE GRID – QUIETWAY ROUTE 68 (BLOOMSBURY TO SOUTH BANK)

TRAFFIC ORDERS – WATERLOO BRIDGE / LANCASTER PLACE (Drawing Nos. 70005333-Q68-TMO-PR-WB & 70005333-Q68-TMO-EX-WB)

(St James's Ward)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Westminster City Council, in partnership with Transport for London and other local authorities, is supporting the delivery of a proposed Central London Cycle Grid. The Cycle Grid is being funded under the Mayor of London's Vision for Cycling, a 10-year plan delivering cycling improvements across London. The plan includes a network of Quietways and Cycle Superhighway routes, providing connected ways for cycling across central London.

Quietway route 68 will connect the Cycle Grid between Bloomsbury and South Bank via Covent Garden. It will benefit all people who want to cycle in the area, particularly those wishing to avoid some of the busier, highly trafficked main roads, by improving facilities and provision for cycling where they are most needed. Facilities for pedestrians will also be improved as part of the scheme.

This report seeks approval for the making of Traffic Orders to facilitate the implementation of the following measures on the length of Quietway route 68 consisting of Waterloo Bridge (within the City of Westminster) and Lancaster Gate:

(a) INTRODUCTION OF DOUBLE YELLOW LINES

It is proposed to replace the existing single yellow lines on both the northbound and southbound carriageways with double yellow lines "at any time" waiting restrictions. This would remove evening and overnight parking to assist cyclists by providing additional carriageway space.

The double yellow lines would be consistent with the "at any time" waiting restrictions on the southern section of the bridge within the London Borough of Lambeth.

(b) INTRODUCTION OF MANDATORY CYCLE LANE OPERATING "AT ANY TIME"

It is proposed to replace the "advisory" cycle lane on the southbound carriageway with a mandatory cycle lane, which varies in width between 1.5 metres and 2 metres. All vehicles, except cycles, would be formally prohibited from entering, proceeding or waiting in the cycle lane (to be marked with a continuous white line with cycle symbols at regular intervals), thereby offering more protection for cyclists than the current advisory cycle lane shown with a broken white line. The "at any time" cycle

lane would adjoin the existing mandatory cycle lane on the length of Waterloo Bridge within Lambeth which operates between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Monday to Sunday.

In 2016, the Secretary of State for Transport is due to replace The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002. The revised Regulations will allow the provision of "at any time" mandatory cycle lanes without the need for metal signs. This will help reduce street clutter as Waterloo Bridge is a listed structure.

It is not feasible, due to the width of the carriageway, to install a mandatory northbound cycle lane. However, cycle symbols will be marked within the existing bus lane, which varies in width between 3.5 metres and 4.2 metres, to assist cycles to follow the Quietway route and to alert other drivers to the presence of cyclists within the lane.

It is anticipated that the above measures will be implemented in the Spring of 2016. Approval for further proposals affecting Quietway route 68, including improvements at the junction of Lancaster Place and Strand, will be sought at a later date.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Traffic Orders are made to implement the proposals outlined above and shown on drawing nos. 70005333-Q68-TMO-PR-WB & 70005333-Q68-TMO-EX-WB.

STATEMENT OF REASONS

The introduction of double yellow lines "at any time" waiting restrictions and the provision of a mandatory southbound cycle lane on Waterloo Bridge and Lancaster Gate forms part of Quietway route 68 on the Central London Cycle Grid, which is intended to improve facilities for cyclists.

I agree / do-not-agree to the above recommendation and statement of reasons and give the following authorisations:

- that procedural steps be taken with a view to Traffic Orders being made under sections 6 and 124 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984;
- (b) that subject to no objection being received as a result of public notice and period of consultation, such Traffic Orders be made as proposed; and
- that in the event of objections being received, they be referred to me for consideration and reported to the Cabinet Members if I consider it to be necessary in accordance with City Council procedure, following which I will decide whether or not the Traffic Orders should be made, with or without modification.

Signed

City Transport Advisor

(Growth, Planning and Housing)

Date 1 December 2015



