

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

05 December 2005

**Joint Report of the Divisional Manager
and the Director of Planning & Transportation**

Part 1- Public**Matters For Decision****1 SMALL IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES - DRAFT PROGRAMME FOR 2006/07****Summary**

This report summarises the draft programme of schemes to be funded in Tonbridge and Malling Borough, from the 2006-07 Casualty Reduction Measures allocation and the Local Transport Plan programme.

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 At its meeting in March this year the Board endorsed a schedule of proposed traffic and highway improvements for inclusion in the Second Local Transport Plan for Kent. The schedules provide a framework for programming works during the period 2006 through to 2011. The tables that follow are based on Year One of the approved schedules.

Project Title and Location	Project Description and Desired Scheme Outcome	Outline scheme cost (£000s)	2006/07 Year 1
			£000s
Generic and Borough-wide programmes			
Safer Routes To School – Borough-wide	Scheme providing engineering support to school travel plans especially facilitating greater walking and cycling.	250	50
Tonbridge Transport Package Schemes			
Brook Street Cycle Route Phase 2	Includes segregated lanes and the installation of new toucan crossings. Provides accessibility to	60	60

Project Title and Location	Project Description and Desired Scheme Outcome	Outline scheme cost (£000s)	2006/07 Year 1
			£000s
	school and continuity of cycle lanes in the area. Linked to improvements at station. Aimed at facilitating more cycling to school and the station.		
Shipbourne Road Safer Routes To School	Cycle route - The Ridgeway to Portman Park. To improve accessibility, especially for school journeys, by infilling this missing section of the local cycle network.	80	80
Junction review Hadlow Road/Cannon Lane	Junction Priority review including pedestrian and bus priority phases across Cannon Lane to address the crash record at this junction, to give greater priority to pedestrians and to improve bus journey times.	25	25
Hectorage Road traffic calming	Installation of speed cushions over existing 20mph zone to complete estate-wide traffic calming and enhance the local environment by reducing air and noise pollution caused by traffic.	15	15
Pembury Road - signal improvements	Improvements aimed at addressing unacceptable pedestrian collision rate at this existing wide crossing point. The crossing will be remodelled to create a staggered crossing with protected central island together with build outs and kerb line readjustments at each side. Aimed at making the crossing safer for pedestrians and improving access by foot to local amenities.	50	50

Medway Gap Transport Package (inc Borough Green)			
Lorry management Malling Road Snodland, western side, improvements to eastern side and management of northern end of Lunsford Lane	Following presentation of a petition and approval by Members at a former JTB, a scheme needs to be developed to manage lorry parking on the western side of Malling Road, west of Leybourne Lakes. A scheme similar to that developed on the eastern side needs to be implemented to prevent footway parking. In addition some enhancement to the eastern side is required to both further enforce inappropriate parking there and inappropriate (rat running) use of the northern end of Lunsford Lane.	200	200
West Malling Station – multi-modal interchange	Provision of bus turnaround / forecourt facilities to exploit opportunities created by West Malling/Leybourne bypass dualling. Aimed at enhancing bus facilities and integrating bus and train systems to increase patronage.	500	500
West Malling Station, North side – access.	Implementation of measures to open up access to the north side of the station. Aimed at improving accessibility for disabled people and pedestrians from the east of the station. Funding in conjunction with the Borough and neighbouring Parish Councils.	60	30
Bus-Net enhancement - A20 and A228 to Kings Hill	Refinement of passenger information systems and installation of new bus tracking technology to improve the bus service along the A20 corridor. Aimed at increasing bus usage and promoting accessibility.	250	50

Speed reduction - Rochester Road, Aylesford	Installation of speed reduction measures by providing a buffer speed limit for the to 20mph zone in conjunction with the new entrance to Aylesford Quarry. Aimed at calming traffic speeds and providing a more attractive environment for walkers and cyclists and other vulnerable road users.	15	15
Bus priority measures - A20 West Malling - Coldharbour Coldharbour Roundabout	Provision of real time passenger information systems, electronic and physical bus priority, including bus priority measures at Hermitage Lane and traffic light control at Coldharbour Roundabout. Aimed at improving journey times and reducing delays on public transport, potentially releasing latent demand. The scheme allocation includes a £2.5M developer contribution.	4M	300
A20 Cycle Route Phase 2 and 3 - New Hythe Lane to Town Hill West Malling	Installation of a range of measures to make cycling on the A20 safer and more convenient.	190	90
A20 London Road, Allington - Improved crossing facilities	Installation of a toucan crossing. To improve access for pedestrians and cyclists. Scheme allocation includes a £60K developer contribution.	60	60
A228 improvements - West Malling & Leybourne Bypass to Hale Street Bypass	Implementation of improvements at key points from the end of West Malling & Leybourne bypass through to Hale Street bypass (with possible major works beyond LTP2). Aimed at reducing journey times and increasing highway safety.	195	20

A227, Shipbourne - traffic management.	Installation of measures to address traffic speed problems, including lower speed limit, signing, lining and surfacing at critical locations. Aimed at addressing community concerns in Shipbourne Village about the speed of vehicles and enhancing road safety. Latest version includes a revised 30mph southern gateway entrance to Ightham and extended length of speed limit along Back Lane.	100	100
West Malling traffic calming New Town area of West Malling	Traffic calming in the new town area of West Malling to minimise rat running. To address speed problems and enhance the local environment. The scheme complements an existing Borough Council project for the Fartherwell Avenue neighbourhood.	20	20
Leybourne Way/Gighill Road Junction – toucan phased traffic lights	Installation of traffic lights with toucan phase to permit safe crossing of Leybourne Way for pedestrians and cyclists to Leybourne Lakes Country Park. Partnership funding committed by Borough Council.	130	70
A227, Borough Green Road. (Adjacent to Potters Mede sports ground and car park) - Central pedestrian island	Construction of a central island on the A227 between Borough Green and Wrotham close to Wrotham primary school to assist pedestrians crossing the road and protect right turners. To achieve a reduction in child casualties and promote modal shift toward greater walking to school.	30	30

1.1.2 This is an ambitious draft programme and it amounts to over £1.5m. Of this £0.8m relates to West Malling station interchange and bus priority measures for the A20. Some preliminary design work has been carried out on a number of additional schemes in response to requests from the local community. These are listed below.

1.1.3 Whether these additional schemes and, indeed, the schemes listed above figure in the firm programme for 2006/07 will depend greatly on the results of the government's funding settlement for next year. Information on this is due imminently and will help inform the drafting of the firm programme for report to the next meeting of the Board. From the later report in these papers on the Second Local Transport Plan for Kent, the Board will note changes in the way the Government will be distributing funds for transport schemes over the five years of the LTP. The changes will benefit Kent so there are grounds for being cautiously optimistic that a significant proportion of the schemes listed can be included in the firm programme.

Project Title and Location	Project Description and Desired Scheme Outcome	Outline scheme cost (£000s)
Offham pedestrian demarcation in front of The King's Arms and new footway provision to the east of this.	The scheme will provide continuity and security for pedestrians walking along the northern side of Teston Road in Offham village centre.	10
Zebra crossing, Tonbridge Road, Hildenborough adjacent to Coldharbour Lane, Doctors Surgery and West Wood.	In a recent crash, a car demolished the existing central island. This prompted concerns about pedestrian safety, especially of school children, because this is a well used crossing point on the route to the local school. The existing crossing is very narrow and, to avoid people having to stand on it, the proposed scheme is for it to be replaced with a zebra crossing. Opportunity is also being taken to widen adjacent narrow footways.	40

Project Title and Location	Project Description and Desired Scheme Outcome	Outline scheme cost (£000s)
Amendments to village speed limit terminals and minor traffic management measures to the minor roads south of A25, St Mary's Platt.	This scheme has been developed from representations by local residents, agreed by the Parish Council to act on their behalf for this project. The scheme entails concurrence of the speed limit boundaries to the extent of residential development, modifications to junctions of Longmill Lane with Comp lane and Grange Road, minor traffic calming measures and footway improvements for the pedestrian environment.	30
Coloured surface dressing and carriageway markings adjacent to Bell Lane, Burham.	From consultations with the Parish Council this scheme has been developed to highlight to motorists this busy section of Rochester Road which incorporates the village shop (Jill and Jims) and a main pedestrian access into the recreation ground adjacent to the local play-ground.	10
Lunsford cycle lane scheme from Park Road to Leybourne Way	This scheme has been developed to provide an alternative north/south route away from Junction 4 of the M20. The scheme extends from the eastern end of Park Road to the Leybourne Lakes Country Park at Leybourne Way/the northern end of Gighill Road, via Oxley Shaw Lane, Willowmead and Willow Road and complements the toucan crossing works proposed for the Gighill Road/Leybourne Way junction. The project will include extensive local consultations with Parish Councils, local Members, schools and residents. The funding package includes a £50k developer contribution.	£50k + (£50k) Dev. Contrib.

1.2 Casualty Reduction Measures (CRMs)

1.2.1 From the annual analysis of the county council's Crash Database, the following schemes are proposed as bids for casualty reduction measures in 2006/07.

Scheme name/location	Background and description of works	Estimated cost £000's
High Street/Bradford Street, Tonbridge	Eight slight injury crashes, three serious and one fatality has occurred in this area in the last three years, five of which has resulted from right turning movements. It is proposed to reverse the existing one way system (with New Wharf Road) with build out constructions at both junctions and increased footway provision on the south side of Bradford Road.	30
Quarry Hill Road/Waterloo Road, Tonbridge	The seven slight injury crashes recorded at this junction mainly involve visibility problems and loss of control. The scheme involves the provision of anti-skid surfacing and cutting back/removal of trees/shrubs etc. Existing road markings to be revamped.	23
Shipbourne Road/Yardley Park Road, Tonbridge	From the crash history at this mini-roundabout, it is proposed to apply anti-skid surfacing at the remaining approaches and renew road markings.	37.5
Red Hill, Watringbury, junction with Malling Road adjacent to North Pole Pub.	Four of the six slight injury crashes at this junction involved right turning movements and two involved motorcyclists. The scheme involves the redesign of the junction to make the exit from the North Pole Pub via a slip road to the left. Slow markings, bar markings and change of road surface in this area will also be employed to compliment the new speed limit implemented this year.	72
Brook Street, Tonbridge	The three year crash record comprises nine slight injury crashes and one serious, mainly involving pedestrian casualties. The scheme involves an eastbound gateway feature at the western approach, vertical deflections and raised crossing points.	44

A227 The Street, Ightham	This is a re-submission. The latest three year crash record comprises four slight injury crashes, two serious and one fatality. The main factors include pedestrian casualties and loss of control.	49
--------------------------	---	----

1.3 Outstanding schemes from this financial year

1.3.1 Two schemes have been identified from this year's programme that will have to be carried over to next financial year. They are:-

- A20/New Hythe Lane bus priority scheme – considerable preparation and design has been undertaken on this scheme; however priority has been given this year to the implementation of village schemes that in themselves have been carried over from previous years. Scheme cost for next year - £50k
- Hadlow Road/Higham Lane roundabout – investigations on this scheme have revealed significant costs associated with statutory undertakers equipment. This will require further design work, discussions and negotiations with service providers to identify options to moderate costs. Scheme allowance for next year - £140k.

1.3.2 The programme is in draft form and between now and the next meeting may have to accommodate a response on the request for additional traffic calming at Lunsford Lane reported elsewhere in these papers and also possibly deferring pedestrian crossings in Borough Green.

1.4 Total

1.4.1 The total allocations required under the various headings are as follows:-

Generic Borough wide	£ 250K
Tonbridge package	£ 230K
Medway Gap	£1360K
Additional locally developed schemes	£140K
CRMs	£ 256K
Carryovers	£ 190K
Grand Total	£2426K

(£1626K excluding West Malling interchange and bus priority measures)

1.5 Recommendation

1.5.1 That the Board **ENDORSES** the bids for Local Transport Schemes described in the report.

Background papers:

contact: Terry Drury

Nil

01474 544094

Norman Bateman
Divisional Manager

Steve Humphrey
Director of Planning & Transportation