

# Transporting Bedford 2020

## Work has begun on an £18million project to free up traffic on Bedford's busiest roads.

**'Transporting Bedford 2020' represents the largest ever investment in the town's roads. Funded jointly by Bedford Borough Council and through SEMLEP's Local Growth Fund work has now begun on Manton Lane to tackle congestion in the area and widen the road to increase capacity for all road users.**

This major investment will improve transport in Bedford for everybody whether you travel by car, public transport, cycle or walk. We will reduce congestion, improve journey times, boost our economy and revitalise our environment, including the air we breathe.

**Find out more over the page.**



**BEDFORD**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

**SEMLEP**

South East Midlands  
Local Enterprise Partnership



**HM Government**



### Mayor Dave Hodgson said:

*“ Never before has so much money been invested in our town centre roads and we will target works to tackle congestion at key traffic hotspots. This will cut congestion, improve safety for all road users and significantly boost the local economy. I want everyone to get involved in this major project to deliver real improvements to our roads so please visit our website to find out more and give us your thoughts.”*

## Manton Lane Improvements

Improvements include widening the road to increase capacity for all road users; removing the pedestrian crossing and replacing this with a footbridge, and rearranging the entrance to Bedford Modern School. The roundabout at the junction of Manton lane and Clapham Road is being changed to traffic signals, reducing delays for people travelling in and out of Bedford. The traffic lights at Sainsburys supermarket entrance will also be improved.

Thorough traffic modelling has been used to redesign all of these junctions and the new sets of traffic lights will all work together and be set to help traffic move through the junctions more efficiently. Pedestrian and cycle facilities will also be provided in the new road layouts.

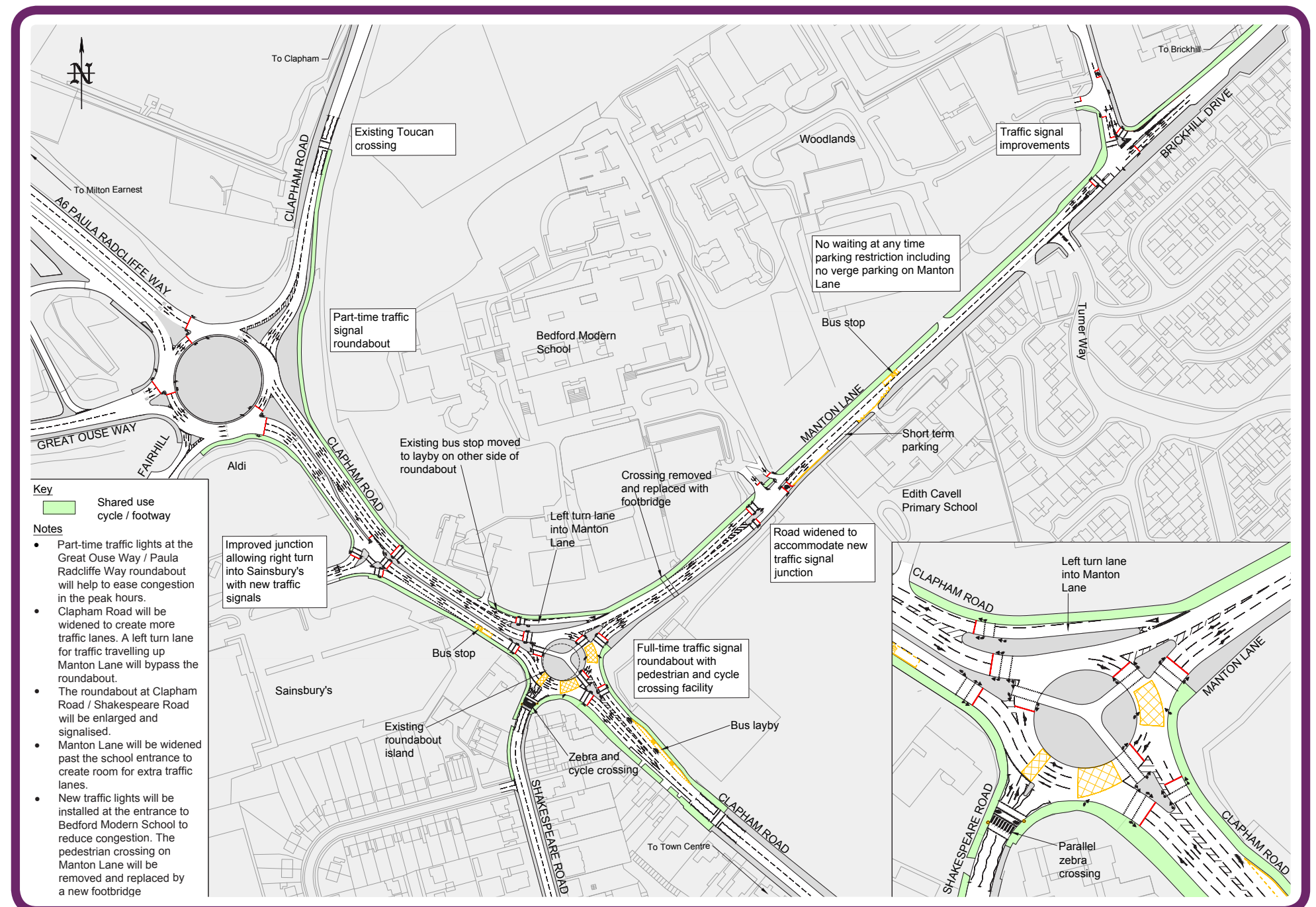
Network Rail is planning to carry out works at the rail bridge on Bromham Road throughout 2019. We will programme our works to fit around the Network Rail works to reduce traffic congestion as much as possible. We will start by carrying out our widening works and junction works in Manton Lane in Spring 2019 and will carry out as much work as possible in school holiday periods. The works to improve the junctions on Clapham Road will be carried out after Network Rail have finished. Roadside information signs will be used to give you up to date information on the roadworks and you can get all the latest information on progress via our website at **[Bedford.gov.uk/transportingbedford2020](http://Bedford.gov.uk/transportingbedford2020)**

### How you can get involved

We want to hear your views on the plans as they are brought forward and throughout the project we will be talking to residents, businesses and transport companies.

Visit our website to see updated plans on the proposals listed in this leaflet:

**[www.bedford.gov.uk/transportingbedford2020](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/transportingbedford2020)**





## Looking Ahead

Transporting Bedford 2020 is set to tackle congestion hot spots across Bedford. As well as work on Manton Lane and access routes North West of Bedford work to improve the flow of traffic will include the following areas:

- **Britannia Road** - Works to widen Britannia Road, change the road layout and make improvements to the traffic lights at either end of Britannia Road are currently planned to start in Spring / Summer 2019..
- **Ampt Hill Road & the old A6** - Early in 2020 work will start to improve the traffic flow on Ampt Hill Road. This will include upgrades to all traffic signals so they work in unison, reviewing the extent of bus lanes, increasing the number of traffic lanes on the bridge between the B530 Ampt Hill Road and Elstow Road Kempston by building a separate pedestrian and cycle only bridge alongside the existing road bridge. We will also be making best use of technology such as detectors to monitor traffic conditions, CCTV and variable message signs to help improve journey times.
- **Bromham Road** - Works planned for Spring 2020 (to avoid a clash with Network Rail works to Bromham Bridge) will see the existing double mini roundabout replaced by traffic lights. This arrangement will provide much better crossing facilities for pedestrians and cyclists and also help us to manage traffic through this busy junction to improve journey times.
- **The High Street & St Paul's Square** - In the summer of 2020 we plan to carry out works to improve the street scene in High Street and St Paul's. We are looking at widening pavements using traditional York stone paving and will be putting in new street furniture to create a more pleasant space for people to walk, cycle, shop and visit our town centre. Traffic will still be able to travel along High Street and St Paul's. Loading bays and drop off bays will also be provided for delivery vehicles. We are planning public exhibitions in 2019 to show these proposals in more detail.

## Network Rail works on Bromham Road

- Network Rail need to demolish the road bridge over the railway in Bromham Road and build a new bridge deck to facilitate electrification of the Midland Mainline. This work is due to start early in 2019 and will take many months to complete. Network Rail will be publicising details of their plans shortly. More information can be found at [networkrail.co.uk](http://networkrail.co.uk)



## Contact us

To have your say and for more information please contact us at:

@ [transportingbedford2020@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:transportingbedford2020@bedford.gov.uk)

🌐 [www.bedford.gov.uk/transportingbedford2020](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/transportingbedford2020)

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You can also visit our website [www.bedford.gov.uk](http://www.bedford.gov.uk) and click on 'stay connected' at the top of the page to sign up for regular email updates on this and a range of news, events and council services.