

# A361 Road Safety Improvements

Opportunity to improve safety for all road users on A361 between Banbury and Chipping Norton.

Proposed improvements to safety on A361 include: carriageway resurfacing, drainage improvements, vegetation clearance to improve sight lines, footway improvements, Wykham Lane and Ells Lane/Bloxham Grove Road junctions' improvements, relining and signage, speed limit reductions and new safety fencing.

## Latest update

- In the last few weeks our Skanska engineers have been meeting to discuss drainage, signage and lining and resurfacing needs in South Newington and to plan the works.
- The planned **resurfacing works** are due to **start** at on the last week of **November 2018** and should be completed within a week. These would require a road closure.
- The **pre-works** are going to start **w/c 5<sup>th</sup> November 2018**. The drainage pipes would first be tested by Skanska engineers, then the improvements would commence.
- All pre-works would be during daytime and should be done under “give and take” or traffic signals.

## What has already happened?

In the last few months, we have been progressing the enabling works on the A361 section from Banbury to Chipping Norton.

The activities included:

- Programme of advanced works for South Newington
- Assessment of vehicle crash barrier (safety fence) south of South Newington
- Advanced vegetation clearance prior to design work along the entire route
- Topographical and utilities surveys
- Drainage surveys

- Signs and lines survey
- Accident analysis on two study junctions
- Surface condition assessment and prioritisation exercise

## **What is going to happen over next few months?**

1. Design of safety improvements to Wykham Lane and Ells Lane/Bloxham Grove Road junctions
2. Assessment of structural condition of the carriageway and coring
3. Maintenance of existing signs and lines
4. Programme of works for remaining sections will be prepared

## **Why we are doing this project?**

The Safer Roads Foundation (SRF) identified A361, between Banbury and Chipping Norton, as one of the 50 sections of A-class roads with the highest risk of fatal and serious road traffic accidents.

The accidents recorded on the route were quite diverse but include loss of control incidents, particularly at bends and junction accidents. The higher severity accidents are mainly on the more rural stretches, with comparatively few being recorded within the two villages Bloxham and South Newington.

The Oxfordshire County Council was invited to bid for funding allocated by the Department for Transport (DfT) and following work to identify appropriate measures to reduce accident risk to all users, a bid was submitted in April 2017 to the DfT and was successful.

Subsequently, we have received **£4.135m** to deliver the agreed A361 road safety improvements by 31st March 2020.

## **What are we proposing?**

Measures to reduce the risk of accidents on A361 from Banbury to Chipping Norton.

### **Key changes**

The key changes that will be brought about by this project to reduce the likelihood and impact of accidents, include:

1. Vegetation clearance
2. Carriageway re-surfacing
3. Reduced speed limits
4. Improved junctions at Bloxham Grove Road and Wykham Lane
5. Improved road markings and signage
6. Improved drainage
7. New safety fencing south of South Newington
8. Improved footway for all users

## **Public consultation**

We will hold a public consultation in Spring 2019.