

**HERTFORDSHIRE HIGHWAYS
WATFORD JOINT MEMBER PANEL
Tuesday 10th July 2012**

**APPENDIX D - UPDATE ON WATFORD JUNCTION--NATIONAL
STATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (NSIP)**

Progress Update provided by Christian Hoskins, HCC Forward Planning and Rail Liaison Team Leader

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the panel of progress and programme on the NSIP Project.

Confirmation has been received early 2012 from Network Rail to allow London Midland (LM) to proceed with the scheme. With the exception of the programme dates, the current status of NSIP has seen little change and is as follows:-

2. STATUS OF NSIP

2.1 Programme and Work On-Site

The contractor will be J. Murphy and Sons Limited of Cannock, Staffordshire.

The approximate timing of the works on-site is as follows:-
August 2012--Start
February 2013--Finish

2.2 Drop Off Facility

There has been no change since the last Panel meeting and HCC officers are in urgent talks with London Midland (LM) to request their decision on the proposal to install 10 marked bays in the long-stay car near to the entrance of platforms 9 and 10.

This facility will be used by season ticket holders and passengers with disability. Signage indicating this facility will be included in the schedule of new signs to be provided for the short-stay car park in Woodford Road (See 2.3 below). LM have indicated that the bays will reduce the total number of spaces in the existing car park and may affect a number of existing disabled parking bays. This would require a station change procedure because of railway legislation and an exemption to current standards may be required from the Department for Transport. If this happens some delay is inevitable.

An investigation into an alternative egress for private cars onto St. Albans Road continues with preliminary and full design work being undertaken by

Hertfordshire Highways .Access and egress for the car park via Penn Road is considered to be the best option. Penn Road is not public highway and agreement with the land owners and their tenants would be required. Discussions with the land owners are ongoing and if agreement can be reached, together with the appropriate funding, the scheme could be implemented during the financial year 2012/13.

LM would seek to enhance the scheme with the installation of automatic gates, ticket vending machine and CCTV controls at the entrance to platforms 9 and 10. LM is investigating the means of securing a funding contribution for this work from the Department for Transport.

2.3 Woodford Road

Network Rail made the Planning Application for the short-stay car park in Woodford Road on 7th March and approval was made by Watford Borough Council on 10th May, 2011.

The lease agreement between Hertfordshire County Council and Network Rail has been agreed.

LM will install a ticket machine for the enforcement of the 20 minute time to park; no charges will be made.

LM will install a real time train arrivals/departures display for car park users. The proposal to review the bus stand and provide pay and display waiting in Woodford Road for approximately 9 vehicles has been approved in principle by Watford B.C., Hertfordshire Police and the bus operator affected Arriva.

Hertfordshire Highways have completed consultation on the proposal which requires a Traffic Regulation Order. Panel Members should note that the majority of responses from residents in Woodford Road requested resident parking bays rather than pay and display waiting. The TRO has now been advertised, and no objections were received. The TRO would come into effect when the bus station work is completed. It will not be possible to reduce the capacity of the bus stand in Woodford Road, whilst work in the bus station area is being undertaken.

2.4 Public Information

LM plan to post information at the station and on their website londonmidland.com during 2012. Further consultation will be undertaken with major stakeholders such as taxi operators and groups representing the disabled. Additional information relating to bus stop allocations and services will be provided by HCC as part of the Intalink service. Members will be provided with this information in advance of the general public.

2.5 Bus Drivers Mess Room

No change since the last panel meeting.

LM has agreed to provide this facility for bus drivers. Currently a parked bus is used by Arriva staff. A licence agreement to agree the level and maintenance of the facility is required between LM and Arriva.

Discussions on this agreement are still outstanding.

2.6 Platform 11 (Abbey Line)

The heated waiting room has now been installed on the temporary scaffolding behind the platform and is awaiting being moved into place.

3. FURTHER INFORMATION

If further information becomes available from London Midland this will be reported orally at the meeting.