

Milly Southworth

From: Trisha Hewitt <trisha.hewitt@tamarcrossings.org.uk>
Sent: 06 September 2024 11:08
To: Torpoint Town Council clerk
Subject: re Phase 2 of Torpoint Ferry Gantries project
Attachments: Briefing note re Phase 2 of Gantry works.docx; Work on Phase 2 of Torpoint traffic light gantries to begin on Monday, 9 September. .docx

Good morning

Please find attached a copy of a briefing note and a press release about the start of work on the second phase of the Torpoint Traffic Gantries project next week. The works are currently due to be completed by 25 October.

The first phase at Devonport took place between 19 June and 31 July 2024.

As with the first phase we are sending details of the works to stakeholders and adding information to the Tamar Crossings website and social media channels, as well as sending the press release to local media.

Tamar Crossings are working with Cornwall Council, who are managing this phase of the project, to minimise disruption as much as possible but inevitably the reduction on lane capacity will have an impact on the local road network.

Please can you share this with your councillors.

Kind regards
Trisha



Trisha Hewitt

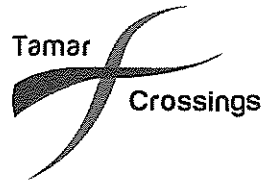
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Briefing note on Phase 2 of Torpoint Ferry Traffic Light Gantries works.

Introduction

The Torpoint Ferry traffic light gantries spanning the queuing lanes over the A374 at Torpoint and the traffic marshalling area at Devonport were built in 1993.

Constructed from steel and connected to foot mounts sunk in concrete foundations, the gantries contain the equipment and traffic lights used to control and monitor traffic into the queuing lanes and then subsequently onto the ferry slipways on both sides of the river.

The Torpoint gantries are owned by Cornwall Council as they form part of the A374, whereas the Devonport gantries are owned and managed by Tamar Crossings.

Background

A recent survey found that, whilst the structures remained in a good material state, extensive areas of the protective topcoat on each structure were severely weathered.

As a result we are in the process of recoating the gantries in collaboration with Cornwall Council to minimise the risk of corrosion and maximise the life of the structures.

Details of the project

The work can only be carried out during fair weather due to the surface preparation and curing requirements of the topcoats. Following consultation with key partners it was agreed to begin work after Tamar II returned from its refit in June to provide a three-ferry service to minimise the number of vehicles waiting in a queuing area with reduced capacity.

The first phase at Devonport took place between 19 June and 31 July 2024.

The second phase – Torpoint Gantries – is due to begin during the week commencing 9 September and it is anticipated that all work will be completed by 25 October 2024.

We recognise that the smaller marshalling area in Torpoint, together with eastbound ferry traffic travelling through the town and the potential impact of queuing vehicles on the local road network, makes this phase more complex to carry out.

Tamar Crossing will manually manage eastbound traffic in ferry queuing lanes for this phase of the work and anticipate lane queuing capacity will be severely restricted.

Cornwall Council and their contractors will manage this phase of the gantry refurbishment works, including local traffic management plans, with Tamar Crossing manually managing eastbound traffic in ferry queuing lanes.

Customers will be encouraged to consider allowing additional time when planning journeys to compensate for the unavoidable impact and delays anticipated during this essential work.

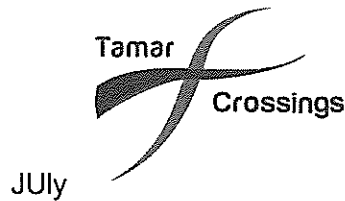
Cornwall Council will be working closely with Torpoint Town Council, other key partners and stakeholders to keep disruption to a minimum.

Summary of Works

The first two weeks of each phase involve the introduction of the traffic management measures and the removal of equipment from each of the gantries. All equipment will be inspected, serviced or, where applicable, replaced.

Work will then take place to prepare and recoat the structural surfaces, rehouse cables and return the equipment before the power is reconnected. Following final checks, inspections and testing of systems, the lane restrictions will be lifted and the gantries will return to full operation.

End



Work on Phase 2 of Torpoint traffic light gantries to begin on Monday, 9 September.

Work on the second phase of the project to refurbish the traffic light gantries at the Torpoint ferry is due to begin on Monday, 9 September. It is expected that all works will be completed by 25 October.

The steel gantries, which span the queuing lanes over the A374 at Torpoint and the traffic marshalling area at Devonport, contain the equipment and traffic lights used to control and monitor traffic into the queuing lanes and then subsequently onto the ferry slipways on both sides of the river.

Following a survey which found that extensive areas of the protective topcoat on each structure were severely weathered, it was decided to recoat the gantries at the first available opportunity to minimise the risk of corrosion and maximise the life of the structure.

The first phase at Devonport took place between 19 June and was completed on 31 July 2024.

There will be restricted queuing capacity as designated queuing lanes will be closed to provide access and ensure safe working areas for contractors operating mobile elevated work platforms.

Traffic signals will not be in operation during the works and traffic will be managed manually by ferry staff. This will involve marshalling staff sited at the front and rear of queuing lanes to direct traffic and co-ordinate call forward for loading to each of the ferries.

The first two weeks will involve the introduction of the traffic management measures and the removal of equipment from each of the gantries. All equipment will be inspected, serviced or, where applicable, replaced.

Work will then take place to prepare and recoat the structural surfaces, rehouse cables and return the equipment before the power is reconnected. Following final checks, inspections and testing of systems, the lane restrictions will be lifted and the gantries will return to full operation.

“Whilst we recognise that the reduction in queuing capacity in the lanes is likely to create increased congestion in the immediate vicinity of the works, and potentially impact on the wider local road network at certain times, these measures are essential to provide access for the works and manage the safety of the public” said David List, from Tamar Crossings.

“Cornwall Council will be working closely with contractors and key stakeholders, including Torpoint Town Council, transport providers and emergency services throughout the project to keep disruption to a minimum.”

Ends

Notes to editors

The Torpoint gantries are owned by Cornwall Council as they form part of the A374, whereas the Devonport gantries are owned and managed by Tamar Crossings.