

INCOMING EMAIL

From: >
To: Highways <EX:/O=TORBAY COUNCIL/OU=CIVIC OFFICES
SERVER/CN=ENVIRONMENT/CN=HIGHWAYS/CN=HIGHWAYS.>
CC:
Date: 03/05/2013 18:44:03
Subject: Torbay Road adjacent to Rock Walk

Traffic scheme CONSULTATION ON Torbay Road adjacent to Rock Walk.

I strongly support the single carriage way scheme on this piece of road, with the parking provision along the carriageway on the Princess Theater side. This scheme appears to have worked well since it was introduced after the Rock Walk cliff face was completed.

. The traffic flow is not interrupted by vehicles stopping to park as happened frequently when the dual carriageway system was introduced,

. Pedestrians were faced with crossing two lanes of traffic when leaving their cars on the cliff side whereas with the single lane system without parking in the traffic lane, this risk is eliminated.

. Under the single carriageway system, the numbers of pedestrians using the crossings at both the Torbay and the Palm Court end is reduced since the parking is eliminated as drivers and passengers are already on the seaward side when alighting - improving the flow of traffic.

. Safety could be improved without significantly affecting traffic flow if a strictly enforced 20mph speed limit was introduced at least along the section of carriageway in question, but at best from the Clock Tower on the Strand along the whole length of the Strand and Torbay Road to the Grand Hotel(taxis, to and from the station are currently amongst the worst speed offenders)

I believe that the section of carriageway used for parking could be improved and surfaced in such a way to eliminate speed bumps , controlling speed and blending the area into the regenerated seafront as and when funds permit.

Having lived in Torquay and been involved in the Tourist Industry locally since 1970, I am firmly of the opinion that reverting the road system back to dual carriageway would be a retrograde step.



CHELSTON LEISURE SERVICES
UNIT 1 GPNL ESTATE
LONG ROAD
PAIGNTON
TQ4 7BL

TEL: 01803 666736
FAX: 01803 666736
Email: info@dialabus.info
Website: www.dialabus.info



local
link

CPT 
member

22nd April, 2013

23 APR 2013

John Clewer,
Resident & Visitor Services
Highways & Engineering
Lower Ground Floor, Town Hall.
Torquay TQ1 3DR.

Dear Mr. Clewer

Re: Traffic Flow Torbay Road

Further to our recent telephone conversation I would like to point out in the strongest possible terms that we feel the existing traffic arrangements which were instigated in June 2011 have been a great success with reference to the following points

1. As the existing carriageway has no parking on the outside lane the traffic flow is constant and without holdup enabling the bus services to run as per timetable. Reverting to the old system would cause major holdups while cars park, and exit the new parking bays which you intend to create causing havoc and long tailbacks of traffic.
2. With regard to the existing inside lane the arrangement is far safer and convenient as this allows slow moving traffic which includes coaches, landtrain and motorists looking to park to exit from the main traffic flow as I have stated in point 1 speeding up traffic etc. and causing minimum holdups.
3. The only modification I feel is necessary is the creation of a filter exit at the Palm Court end onto the main traffic flow which I understand is now being addressed.
4. With regard to safety we have had no incidents as a result of the new arrangements and I feel the area is far safer with regard to pedestrian access etc.

In all I feel the designers of the existing scheme have done an extremely good job by side tracking slow moving and parking vehicles and providing extremely good access for tourist attractions within the area.

Yours sincerely,

INCOMING EMAIL

From:

To: Highways <EX:/O=TORBAY COUNCIL/OU=CIVIC OFFICES
SERVER/CN=ENVIRONMENT/CN=HIGHWAYS/CN=HIGHWAYS.>

Date: 22/04/2013 18:56:22

Subject: Seafront road

Proposed change to sea front Layout

I am concerned that the present layout of the seafront road is going to be spoilt, can we not remember the delays to a busy though fare while waiting for a car to be parked and then further frustration when they missed the gap and had to have a second attempt to be followed by passengers discharging from the driver's side, only to be repeated further along the highway with another car. Also Coaches blocking the highway waiting to discharge passengers to the Princess theatre

The present system is not perfect but is a better alternative than mixing parking and travelling ways on the same narrow highway, the present system should be extended further along the seafront towards the Grand Hotel.

A possible solution to prevent endangering pedestrians is to reduce the speed limit to 20 mph.

INCOMING EMAIL

From:

To: Highways <EX:/O=TORBAY COUNCIL/OU=CIVIC OFFICES
SERVER/CN=ENVIRONMENT/CN=HIGHWAYS/CN=HIGHWAYS.>

Date: 22/04/2013 12:11:22

Subject: Torbay Road - next to Rock Walk

I should like to add my voice to those who feel that the Council should not reverting this road to its previous format. In my view the road works perfectly well. Yes, there could be better signage and it would help if this was at eye-level. Perhaps there could be some small bollards in the centre of the road but the general layout is, in my view, an improvement on what we had before.

There is no point in spending money on this scheme as it is not necessary and would simply cause more disruption.

INCOMING EMAIL

From: [REDACTED]

<EX:/O=TORBAY COUNCIL/OU=CIVIC OFFICES
SERVER/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=COMMUNICATIONS>; Highways
<EX:/O=TORBAY COUNCIL/OU=CIVIC OFFICES
SERVER/CN=ENVIRONMENT/CN=HIGHWAYS/CN=HIGHWAYS.>
Date: 19/04/2013 12:11:19
Subject: RE: Torbay road

Dear Highways dept. Please find below consultation comment from a local resident.

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 April 2013 20:00
To: Communications
Subject: Torbay road

I would like to make a simple suggestion re access from the Rock Walk pavement to the seaward pavement (in the area of the Princess Theatre)I think a pedestrian crossing in this area, half way between the Palm Court end & the Tobay Hotel end would stop people trying to cross the road, which is very dangerous.

I live on [REDACTED] & use Rock Walk frequently & have seen many near accidents, as people try to cross the road.

I would like the road to stay as it is NOW not reversed back to the previous arrangement .

Sent from [REDACTED]

1.

INCOMING EMAIL

From:

To: Highways <EX:/O=TORBAY COUNCIL/OU=CIVIC OFFICES
SERVER/CN=ENVIRONMENT/CN=HIGHWAYS/CN=HIGHWAYS.>

Date: 15/04/2013 18:34:15

Subject: Torbay Road Consultation

I "voted" in favour of the current arrangement when it was suggested two years ago. As a driver, and sometimes I walk along there, I think it works well. There are no cars parked or trying to park or leave, so giving good visibility; and if pedestrians are confused perhaps Torbay Council should paint direction arrows in the road and put signage at the crossing. Unfortunately no mention has been made of the number of accidents over a similar period when the road was a dual carriageway so we cannot compare.

If the existing arrangement does continue perhaps the Council should consider a central reservation barrier between the parking lane and the carriageway. I was driving past the Princess Theatre last week when a delivery van was driven from the parking lane onto the carriageway doing a U turn over the central reservation.

I expect Torbay Council will change the road back, regardless of anyone's opinion, because of the prospect of the potential income an additional 56 paying parking spaces will bring.

While writing, perhaps someone might consider a review of that road from The Torbay Hotel to Torwood Street Traffic lights. I have driven along that stretch for many years, not so much now, thank goodness. It started to go wrong at busy times when the Torwood St/Meadfoot Rd/Terrace traffic lights were replaced a few years ago. The new lights have a pedestrian sequence which is a total waste of time; Pedestrians come along, press the buttons and cross the road when it is clear before the sequence starts, so when it does all the motorists are sitting at the lights not moving (CARBON FOOTPRINT) and nobody is there to cross the road. Traffic rarely backed up along The Strand, at the times I travelled, before the new lights were installed. The backing-up causes impatience by some of our poorer drivers, the number of which continues to grow, they drive down the Harbour-bound lane to the Clock Tower and barge in by the crossing to go up Torwood Street. This could be avoided by introducing a bus lane from the Torbay Hotel through to the Clock Tower, so making that stretch single lane for traffic which would have to wait its turn.

Another problem with same stretch of road, this time the Paignton bound side, is the number of pedestrian controlled crossings in a short stretch of road and their "recycling" times. In particular the combination of Torwood Street lights (again) and the crossing by the Queens Hotel. The problem arises from around Spring Bank Holiday for the "season", the crossing stops cars too often, I've seen it change

twice in a minute. Traffic comes out of Meadfoot Road, stopped by the crossing and backs up to Torwood Street, Traffic coming down Torwood Street above the lights is stuck at those lights because of the tailback caused by the Queens Hotel crossing and by the time it's clear the lights have turned-back in favour of Meadfoot Road again and the process starts again.

INCOMING EMAIL

From:

To: Highways <EX:/O=TORBAY COUNCIL/OU=CIVIC OFFICES
SERVER/CN=ENVIRONMENT/CN=HIGHWAYS/CN=HIGHWAYS.>

Date: 11/04/2013 12:03:11

Subject: Comments re Torbay Road (Rock Walk)

I consider that the current layout (as in operation since June 2011) should be maintained, subject to:

- resurfacing and improved road marking (why on earth is there not a double white continuous middle line - the single non continuous one can easily confuse and assume that overtaking is safe (which it is not).

Also, consideration could be given to installing some roadside barriers on the pavement on the Rock Walk side and, where spaces are left to permit crossing the road, appropriate safety signs installed.

Perhaps, even the installation of a pedestrian crossing with lights by the entrance to Rock Walk at the Princess Theatre end could be considered.

Finally, why not a 20 mph speed limit - with some enforcement?

Kind regards,

INCOMING EMAIL

From:

To: Highways <EX:/O=TORBAY COUNCIL/OU=CIVIC OFFICES
SERVER/CN=ENVIRONMENT/CN=HIGHWAYS/CN=HIGHWAYS.>

Date: 12/04/2013 12:08:12

Subject: Torquay seafront traffic layout

Dear Sirs

I feel the existing layout works well with two exceptions, detailed below:

1) Cyclists are a major issue as passing them can be dangerous for all involved. A cycle lane should be described along the seafront itself, where the pavement is easily wide enough.

2) Bus drivers should be warned that the speed and arrogance with which they currently drive along this stretch is dangerous. Buses regularly come out of their lane, threatening on-coming traffic. While driving professionally must have its frustrations, some of Torbay's bus drivers are amongst the most aggressive I have come across and their driving standards leave much to be desired.

I trust this will prove of value.

Regards

INCOMING EMAIL

From [redacted] >
To: Highways <EX:/O=TORBAY COUNCIL/OU=CIVIC OFFICES
SERVER/CN=ENVIRONMENT/CN=HIGHWAYS/CN=HIGHWAYS.>
Date: 16/04/2013 10:52:16
Subject: Torbay Road traffic schem review

Traffic Scheme Review for Torbay Road in Torquay

The current traffic system should remain and I set out my reasons.

A few years ago when the traffic flow on Torquays seafront was changed from dual-carriageway we were told it was to improve the flow of traffic. Whenever a vehicle was being parked it invariably needed to reverse into the traffic flow causing traffic congestion. This being true for both the Royal Gardens side and the theatre side. Two years ago the layout was reorganised to provide vehicle parking on the theatre side as the original change had overlooked that the majority of people, having parked, wanted to be on the sea side of the carriageways.

Could it be that by reverting to dual-carriageway more parking spaces could be introduced and hence additional revenue. (The press release tells that changes could be made for 45000 but additional parking meters will take a fair portion of the monies.)

When insufficient care has been taken by drivers and/or pedestrians there have been a few accidents since the changes were introduced. This should not be the sole justification for a return to a dual carriageway arrangement that will once again cause major traffic congestion for vehicles when entering and leaving Torquays sea front.

Any alteration will cost money, so perhaps it is best to leave as is. However, perhaps any funding could be used to make a clearer distinction between the traffic carriageway and the parking lane

One of the following suggestions may help alleviate potential accidents:

An additional crossing point near the theatre / rock garden steps.

A distinct barrier between the traffic lane and the car park lane in the form of say, flower boxes, with access available only at the proper crossing points.

Make a clear distinction between the colour of the car park road and the two-way traffic tarmac.

There are already signs to inform of two-way traffic and the last thing that many residents would want is an excess of signs informing road users to take care when crossing the road or reminding drivers to look out for pedestrians.

As both a driver and a pedestrian I use that particular

piece of road several times a week.

I believe that it will be a backward step to revert to a dual carriageway system and I support the view that the current layout should remain.

INCOMING EMAIL

From: .
To: Highways <EX:/O=TORBAY COUNCIL/OU=CIVIC OFFICES
SERVER/CN=ENVIRONMENT/CN=HIGHWAYS/CN=HIGHWAYS.>
Date: 16/04/2013 16:08:16
Subject: Torbay Road Consultation

Dear Sirs,

I have looked at the existing layout and the proposed changes.

The current layout allows for traffic to flow freely. Reverting to the proposed (original) scheme will cause considerable congestion at peak times, as was seen regularly in the past prior to the introduction of the current scheme. I acknowledge that additional parking spaces could be achieved by the proposed scheme, however, there always appears to be spaces available in the car park behind Fleet Walk. Therefore additional metered parking is not necessary and priority should be given to maintaining a reasonable traffic flow. Accepting that different parking rates MAY be charged on roadside meters as opposed to car parks the increase in potential revenue will be marginal compared to the disruption caused.

INCOMING EMAIL

From:

To: Highways <EX:/O=TORBAY COUNCIL/OU=CIVIC OFFICES
SERVER/CN=ENVIRONMENT/CN=HIGHWAYS/CN=HIGHWAYS.>

Date: 11/04/2013 11:41:11

Subject: Torquay's seafront traffic layout.

Dear Highways

As a Torbay resident who has seen many changes over the years in traffic layouts in Torbay I find the present seafront traffic layout the ideal solution.

The traffic flow is much better than under the previous layout and we have a safe area for parking which also gives easy access to the Princess Theatre.

My vote goes to keeping the present layout and using the money not spent (apparently 45000.00) to provide another pedestrian crossing next to the Princess Theatre.

Regards

!

INCOMING EMAIL

From:

To: Highways <EX:/O=TORBAY COUNCIL/OU=CIVIC OFFICES
SERVER/CN=ENVIRONMENT/CN=HIGHWAYS/CN=HIGHWAYS.>

Date: 11/04/2013 12:03:11

Subject: Comments re Torbay Road (Rock Walk)

I consider that the current layout (as in operation since June 2011) should be maintained, subject to:

- resurfacing and improved road marking (why on earth is there not a double white continuous middle line - the single non continuous one can easily confuse and assume that overtaking is safe (which it is not).

Also, consideration could be given to installing some roadside barriers on the pavement on the Rock Walk side and, where spaces are left to permit crossing the road, appropriate safety signs installed.

Perhaps, even the installation of a pedestrian crossing with lights by the entrance to Rock Walk at the Princess Theatre end could be considered.

Finally, why not a 20 mph speed limit - with some enforcement?

Kind regards,

INCOMING EMAIL

From: 1
To: Highways <EX:/O=TORBAY COUNCIL/OU=CIVIC OFFICES
SERVER/CN=ENVIRONMENT/CN=HIGHWAYS/CN=HIGHWAYS.>
Date: 10/04/2013 14:28:10
Subject: Torbay Road Torquay

The present layout works apart from the clumsy lead into two lane from the cafes beyond the old Palm Court towards the theatre. Better signing would help. There is far less congestion now when the theatre empties out as vehicles can pull in to pick up disabled patrons without holding up all traffic. The anticipated cost of reverting to the former layout would be better spent on improving the road surface broken up when the parking bays and bus stop were put opposite theatre.

INCOMING EMAIL

From:

To: Highways <EX:/O=TORBAY COUNCIL/OU=CIVIC OFFICES
SERVER/CN=ENVIRONMENT/CN=HIGHWAYS/CN=HIGHWAYS.>

Date: 10/04/2013 14:11:10

Subject: Torbay road, Torquay.

I travel down Torbay road most days and have witnessed a couple of near misses. I do think it should be left the same but adding double white lines down the middle to stop people trying to overtake and reinforce the importance of staying in their lane. Also better markings from the pavilion end of the road to take drivers into the correct lane as they hesitate thinking they should go to the left and often end up in the parking area by mistake. Hope this feedback helps.

INCOMING EMAIL

From:

To: Highways <EX:/O=TORBAY COUNCIL/OU=CIVIC OFFICES
SERVER/CN=ENVIRONMENT/CN=HIGHWAYS/CN=HIGHWAYS.>

Date: 10/04/2013 12:29:10

Subject: Torbay Road - Traffic Flow

Leave the traffic flow as it is as it makes the area less of a race track and more of sea front leisure area.

Analyse the accident stats and put some of the money into increasing safety based on this analysis.