

## **M27 J3 to J4 LANE WIDENING NEWSLETTER No 2 @ 24<sup>th</sup> July 2008 To Residents in the Parish of Nursling & Rownhams**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This newsletter has been produced to update local residents and other interested parties of the progress of the M27 Junctions 3 to 4 Lane Widening scheme.

An additional lane is being constructed on each carriageway between junction 3 and 4, approximately four kilometres in length. The scheme will bring reduced congestion, quicker and more reliable journey times and improved safety. The scheme is to be built entirely within the existing highway boundary minimising the impact on the environment and surrounding communities, and will bring real benefits to the current traffic situation.

The main construction works commenced on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2008 with the installation of traffic management, including a 50 mph speed limit regulated by average speed cameras. During peak hours three narrow lanes are maintained in each direction leading to and from the junction with the M3 in order to minimise the impact of the works on the travelling public. There will however be occasions when less lanes are operating at off peak times to undertake works. This is necessary for the safety of both the travelling public and construction workers.

Overall duration of the scheme is 15 months. However with the exception of landscaping and finalising motorway communications, we anticipate the roadworks being complete within 10 months. Overall project cost is approx £36m

### **PROGRESS**

All works are on programme. The central reservation works have now been completed and the narrow lane traffic management system was re-configured on 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> June to allow construction works to the verges to proceed.

Earthworks have progressed well despite some adverse weather. Installation of concrete piles for the gantry bases has commenced along with construction of the reinforced concrete bases. Installation of the steel sheet piles has also commenced in areas where retained earth solutions are required. Drainage works have also recently commenced on site, along with gabion walls on the eastbound carriageway embankment to the east of Rownhams Services.

## PROGRAMME

Programme for the next 3 months is as follows:-

### August

- Completion of the concrete piles and gantry bases
- Completion of the installation of the sheet piles for the retaining walls
- Continuation of the earthworks for carriageway widening
- Construction of the gabion walls
- Commencement of installation of motorway communication ducting

### September

- Complete earthworks and commence new carriageway construction,
- Complete gabion wall construction
- Complete drainage pipework, installation of oil interceptors and manhole construction.
- Complete re-topsoiling to all new earthworks profiles
- Complete installation of motorway communications infrastructure
- Commence construction of new concrete drainage channel.
- Installation of new "super-span" gantries.

**Note:** *Some overnight midweek closures of the motorway will be required for the gantry installation. These will be advertised in advance with full diversion route signage.*

### October

- Complete construction of new widened areas including carriageway and drainage channel.
- Commence laying of new surfacing to widened areas
- Continue installation of, and commence commissioning of, new motorway communications.

## NUISANCE AND COMPLAINTS

For the duration of the works we sincerely hope that there will not be too many reasons for you to complain.

However it is inevitable with a contract of this size that some problems will arise. If you have any queries or wish to bring to our attention any problems, then please contact Brian Southon, Costain Community Relations Manager for the M27 on our Helpline 0845 602 4322 and he will address your particular query or problem. In addition, you can contact the Highways Agency Information Line (HAIL) on 08457 50 40 30.

Our aim is to ensure that the minimum of inconvenience is caused to you. We will respond quickly to your complaint through personal contact and with a quick resolution.