

# East Reading Mass Rapid Transit (MRT)

## Scheme Overview

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13 September 2017

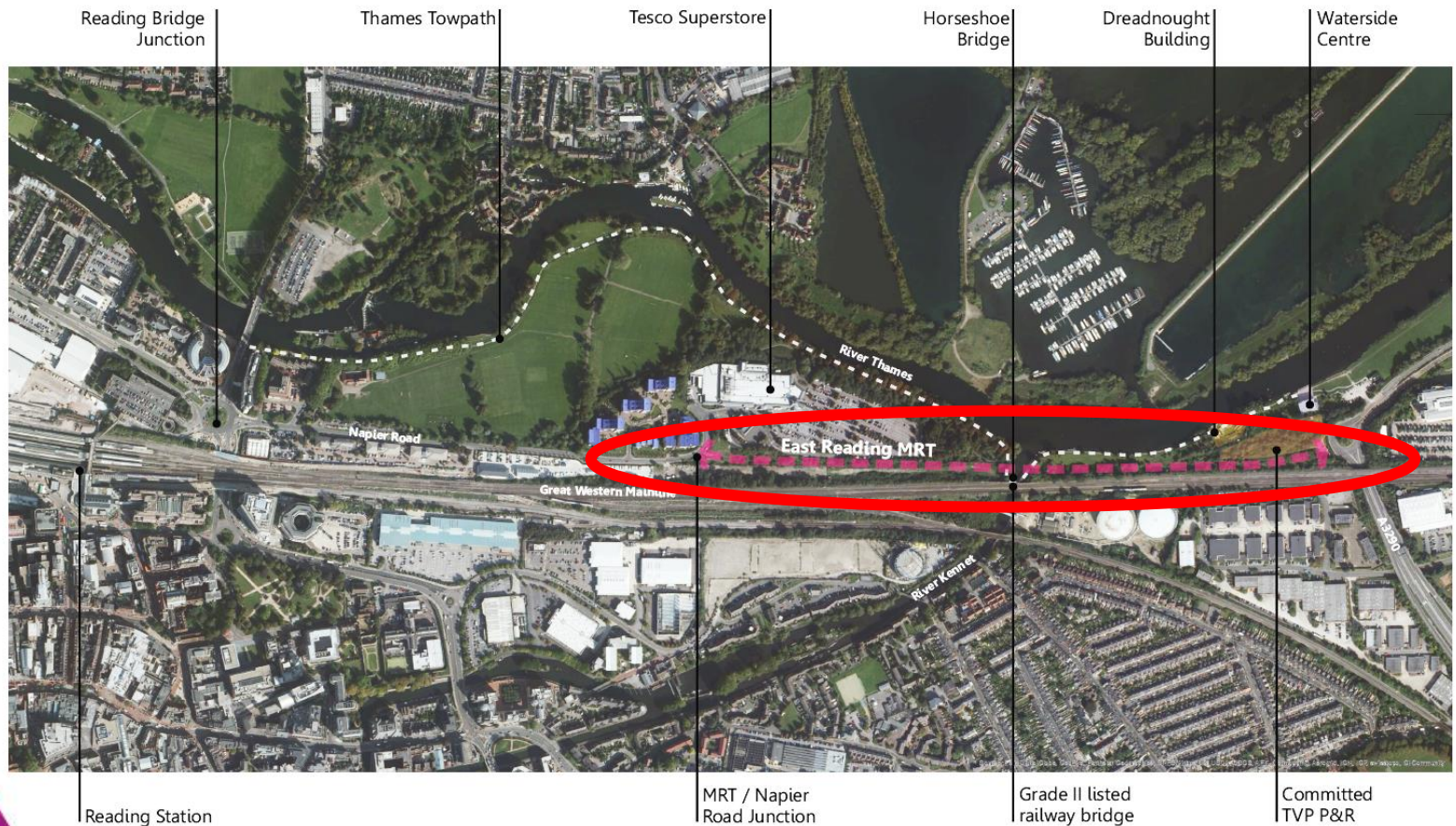


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# East MRT - Introduction

- Proposed 'Mass Rapid Transit' segregated public transport, pedestrian & cycle route
- Linking A3290 / TVP to Napier Road / Reading Station



# East MRT - Overview

- **Scheme objectives**

- Enhance accessibility & support sustainable growth
- Manage forecast congestion and air quality on existing network
- Improve attractiveness of sustainable and active travel

- **Scheme cost: £24m**

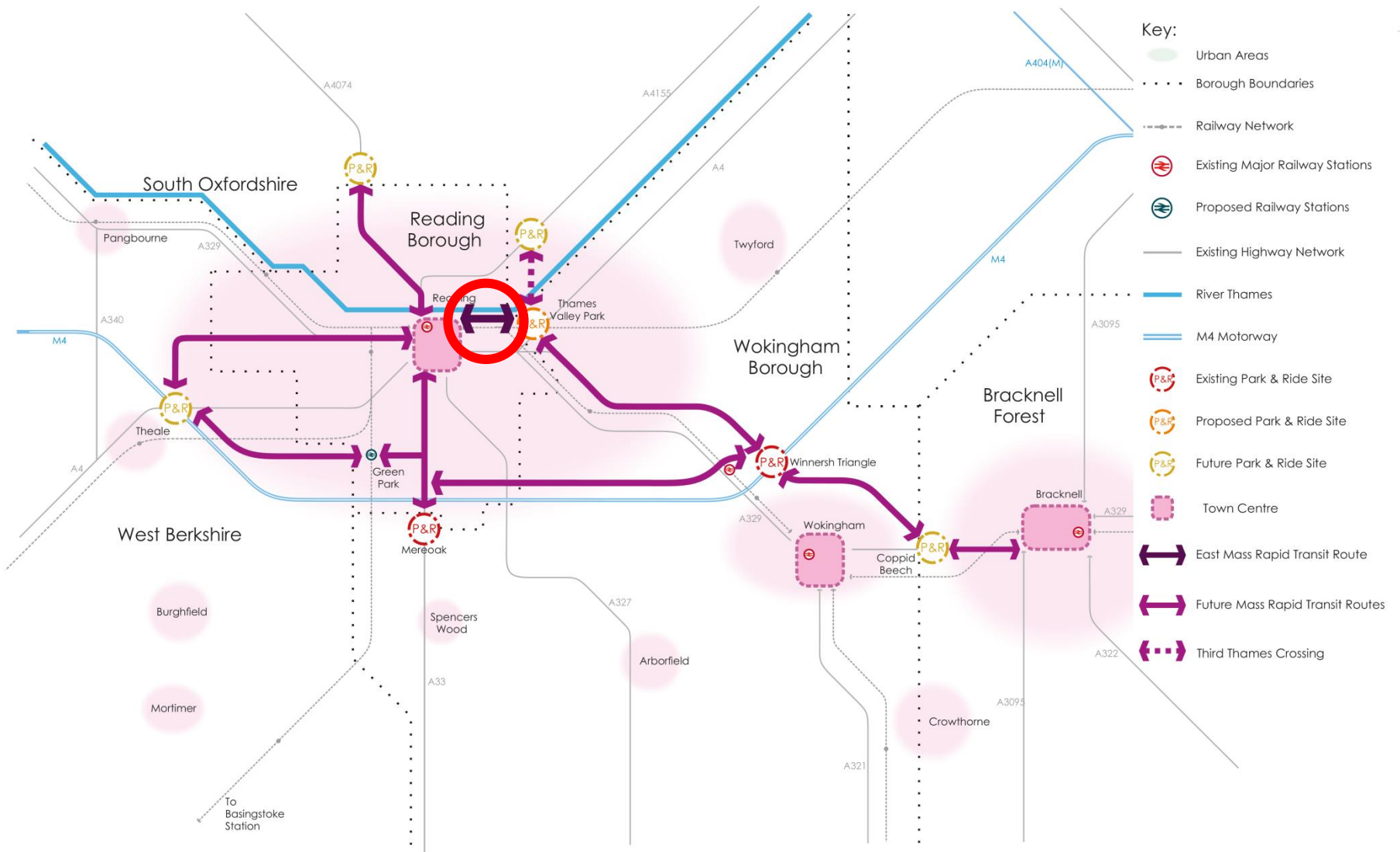
- LGF (Local Growth Fund): £19.1m (80%)
- CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy): £4.9m (20%)
- LGF can only be used for this scheme

- **Scheme business case: Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) >2.0**

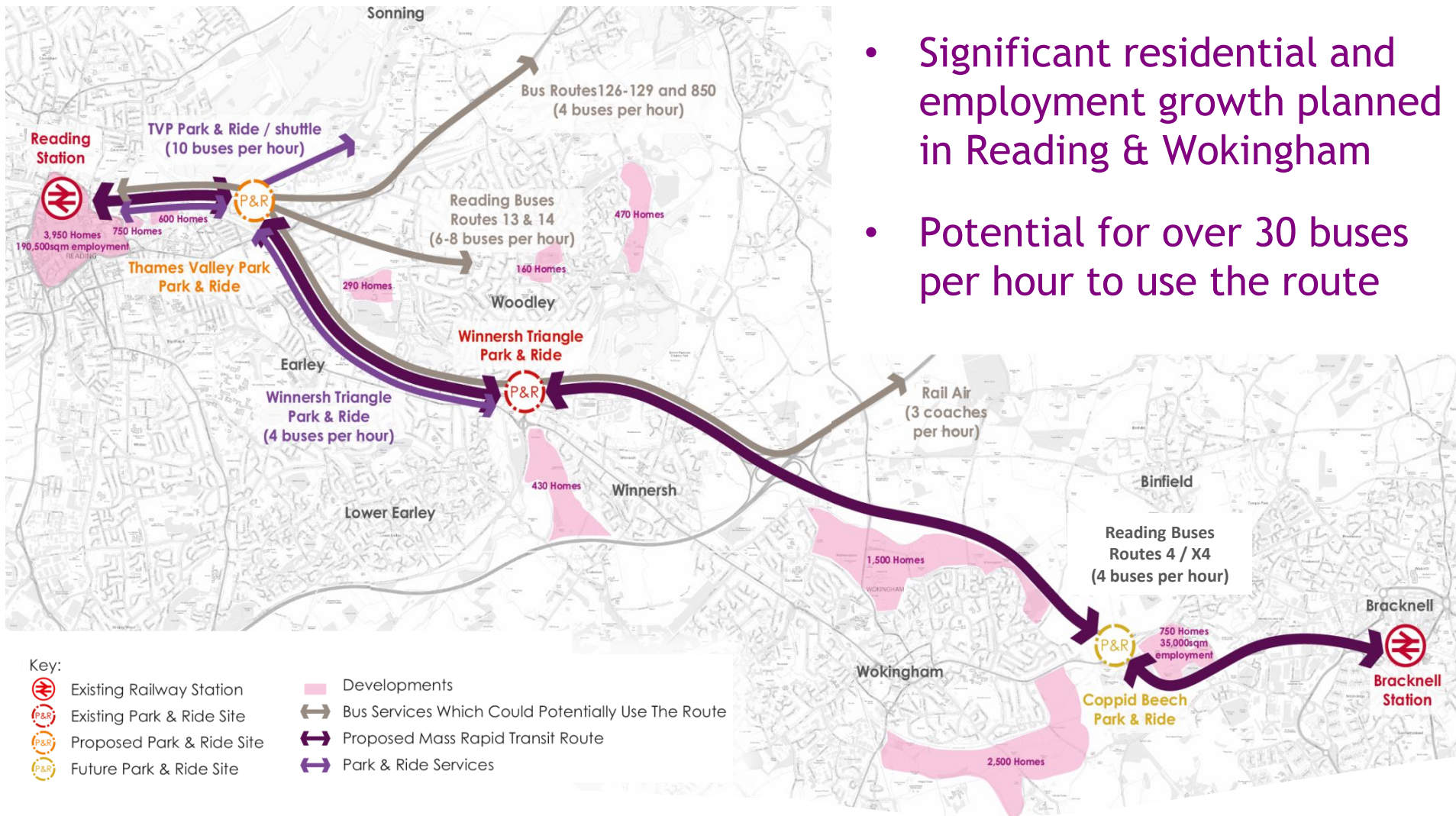
- £2 worth of benefits for every £1 invested
- Business case subject to external review



# Wider Transport Strategy



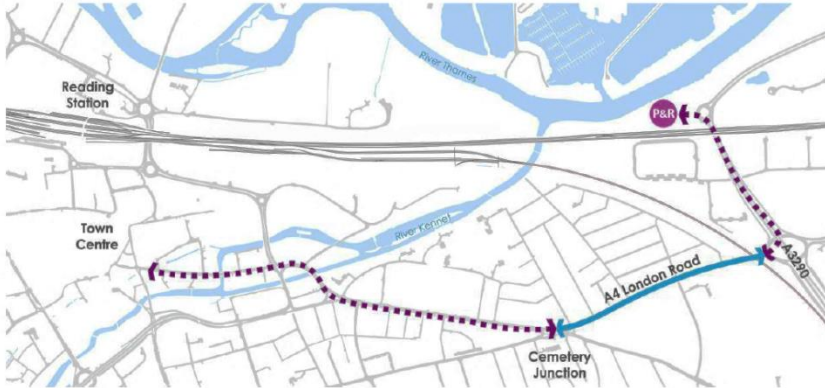
# A329 Growth Corridor



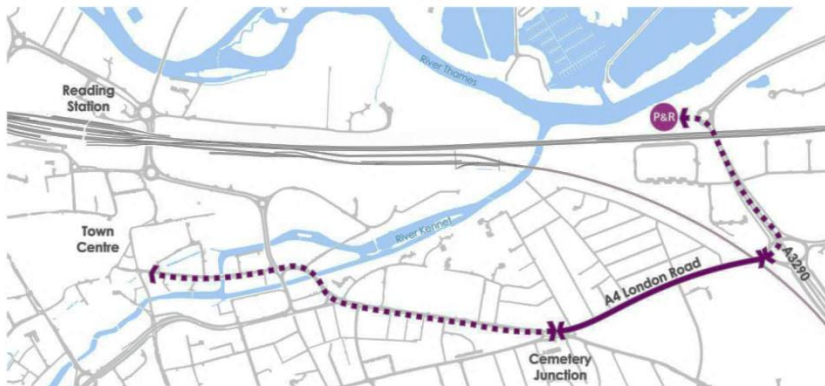
- Significant residential and employment growth planned in Reading & Wokingham
- Potential for over 30 buses per hour to use the route

# Route Selection

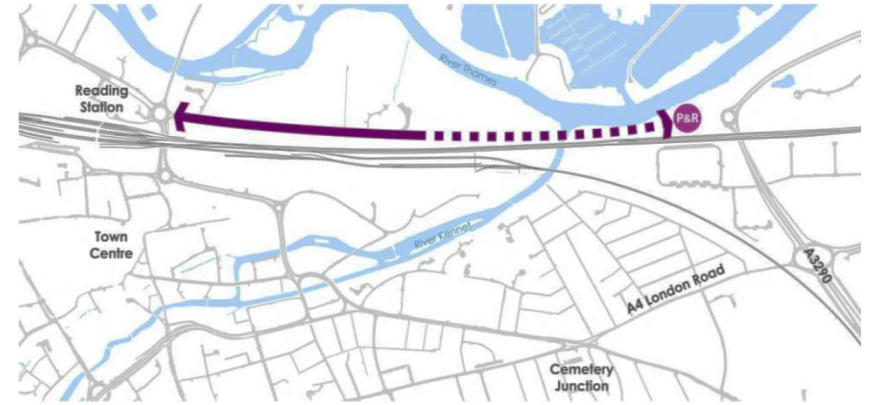
## Tidal Flow London Road



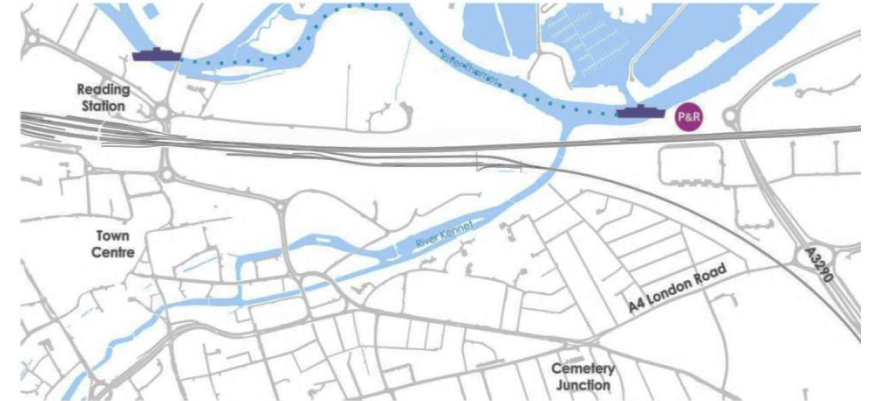
## Tidal Flow Bus Lane London Road



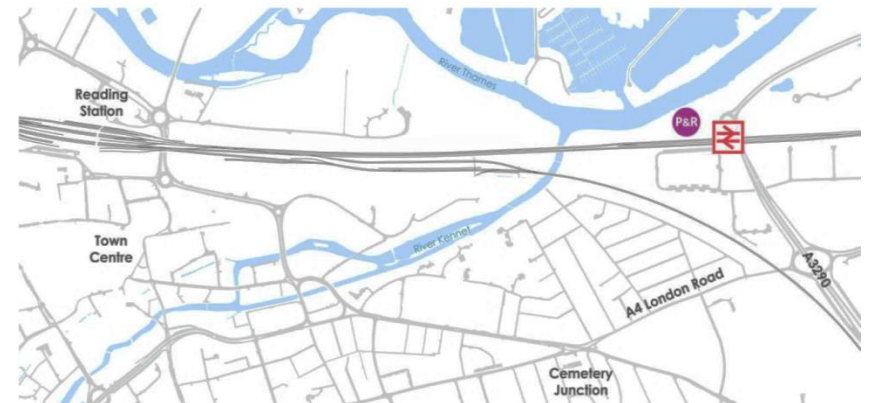
## Tunnel



## River Service

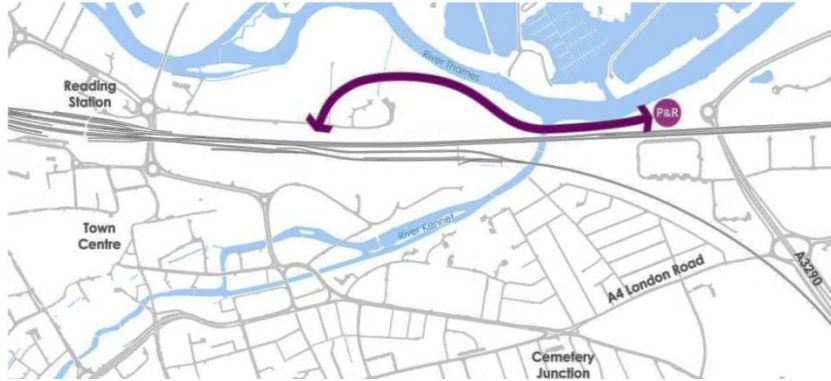


## New Station at TVP

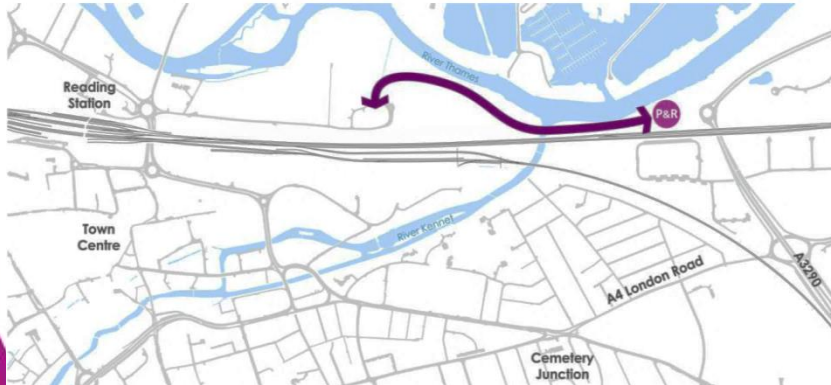


# Route Selection

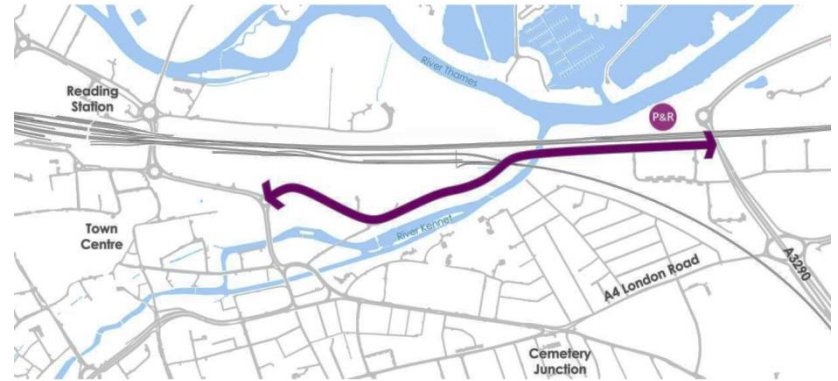
North of Tesco (1)



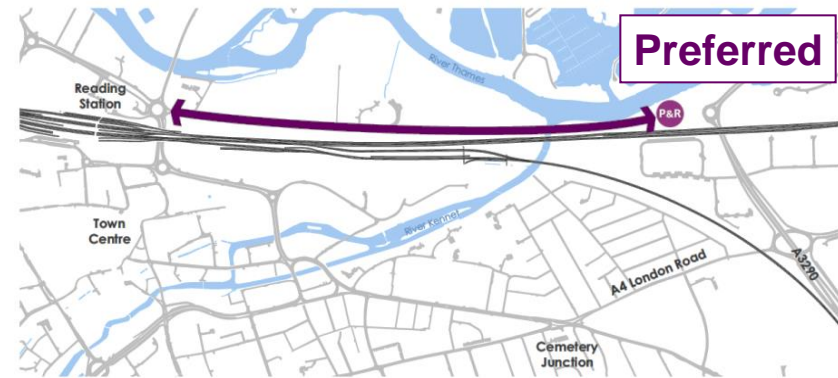
North of Tesco (2)



South of Railway

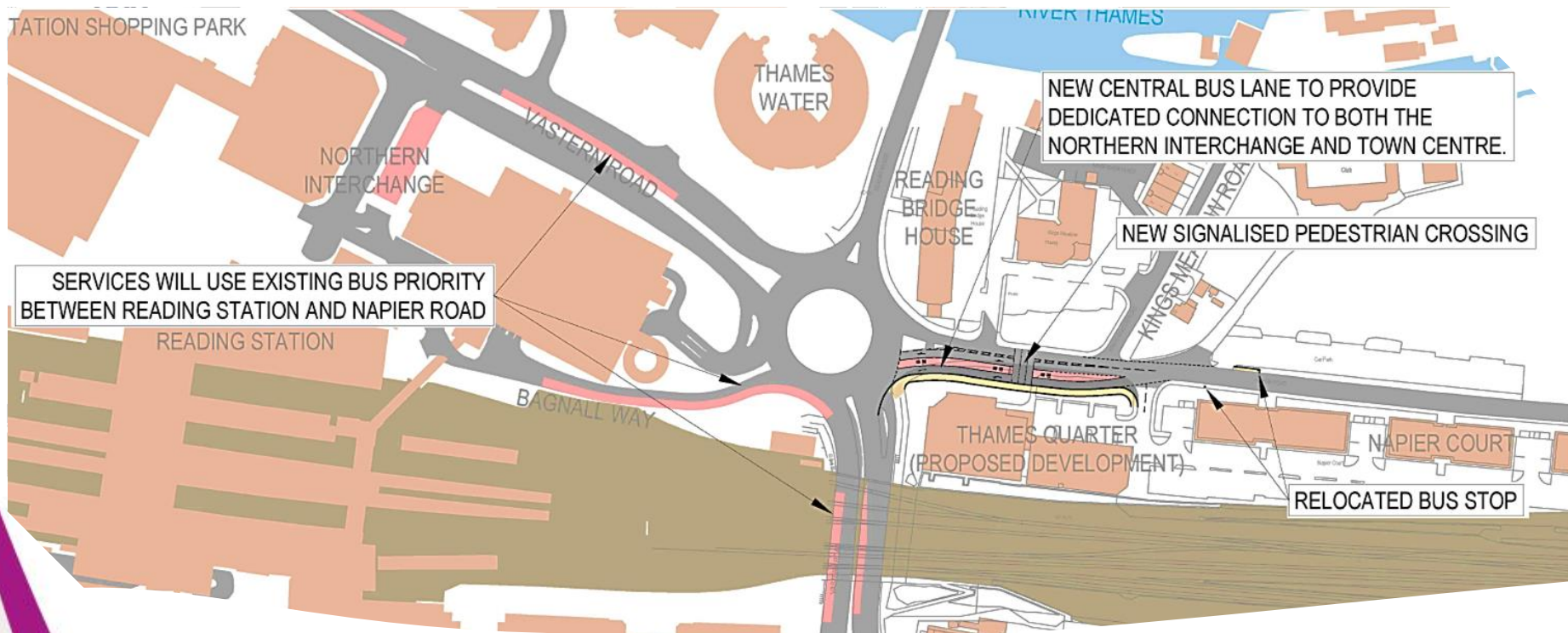


South of Tesco



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# Route Design

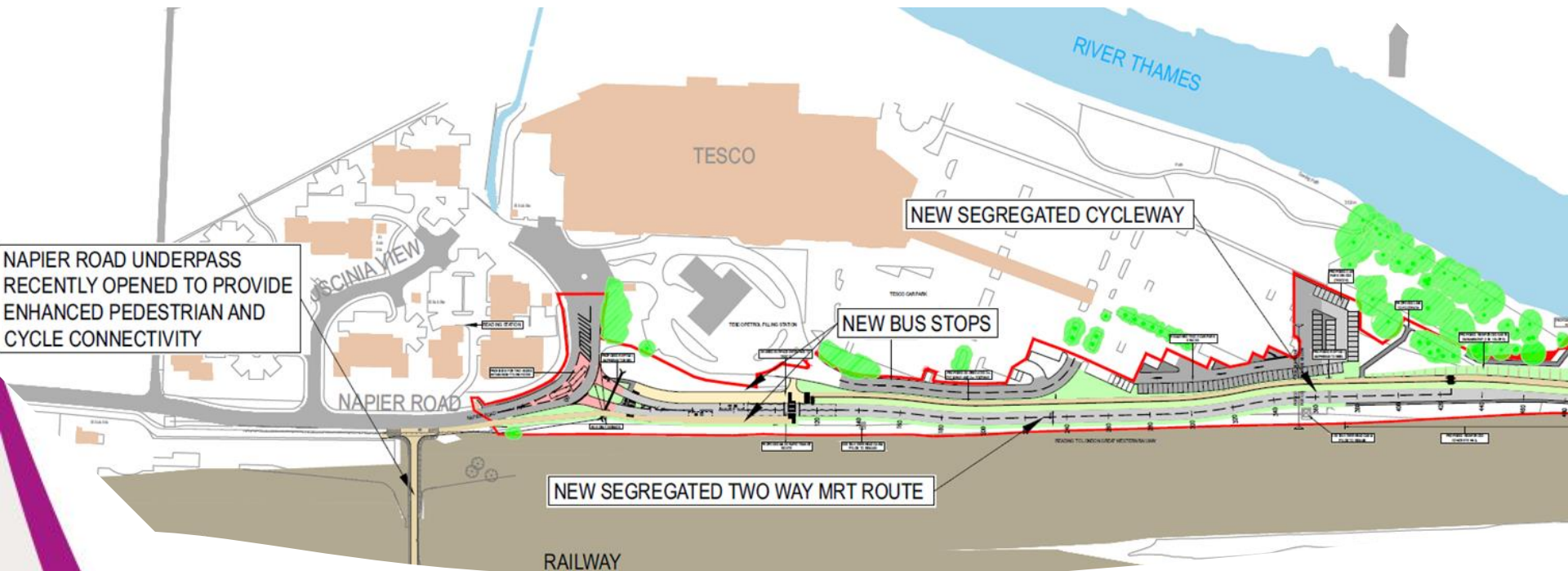


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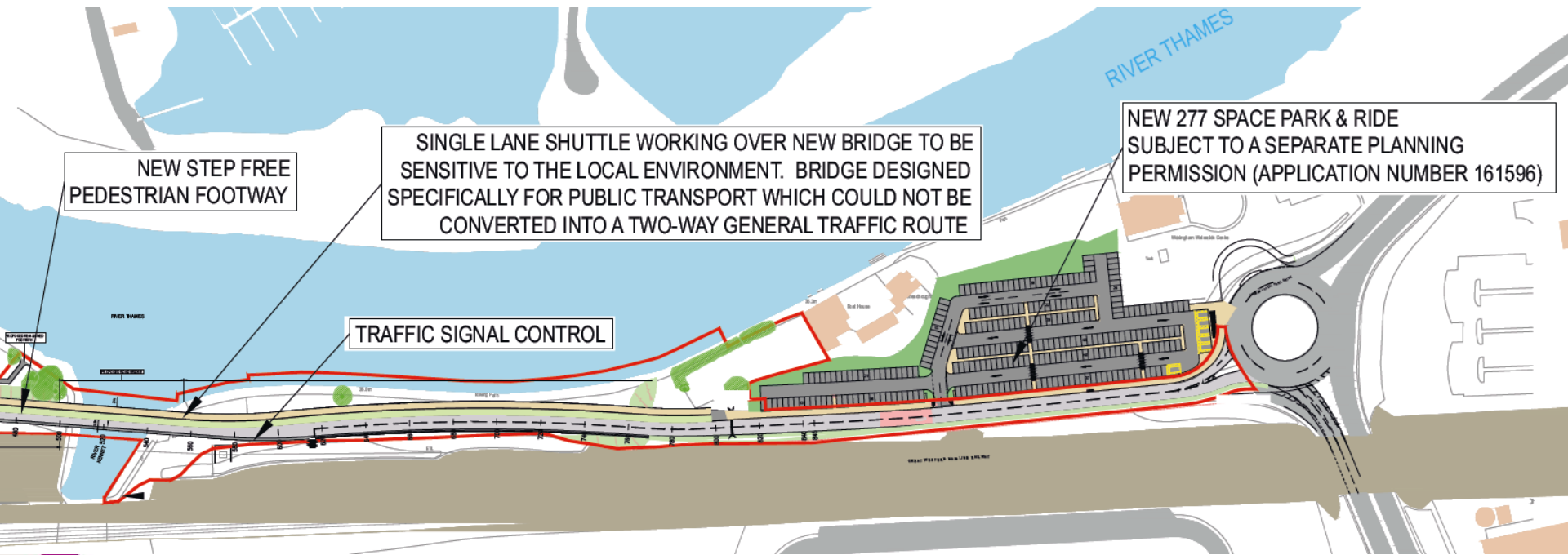
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# Route Design

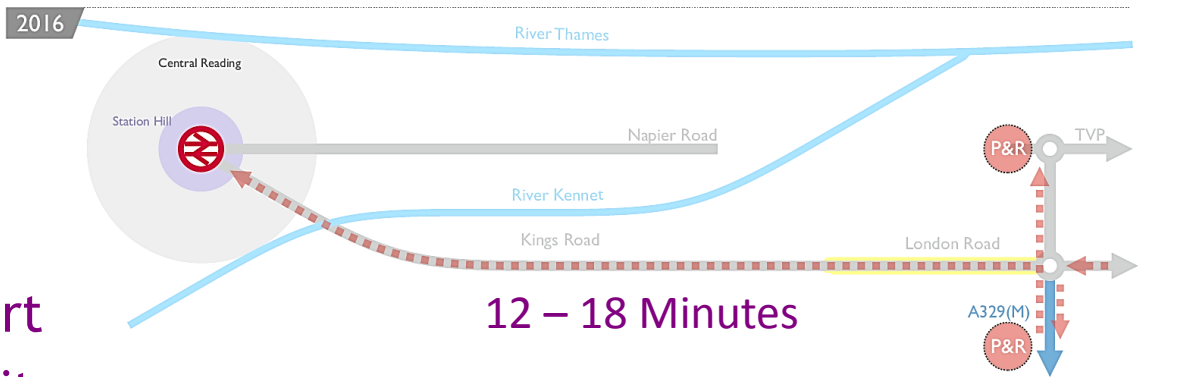


# Route Design

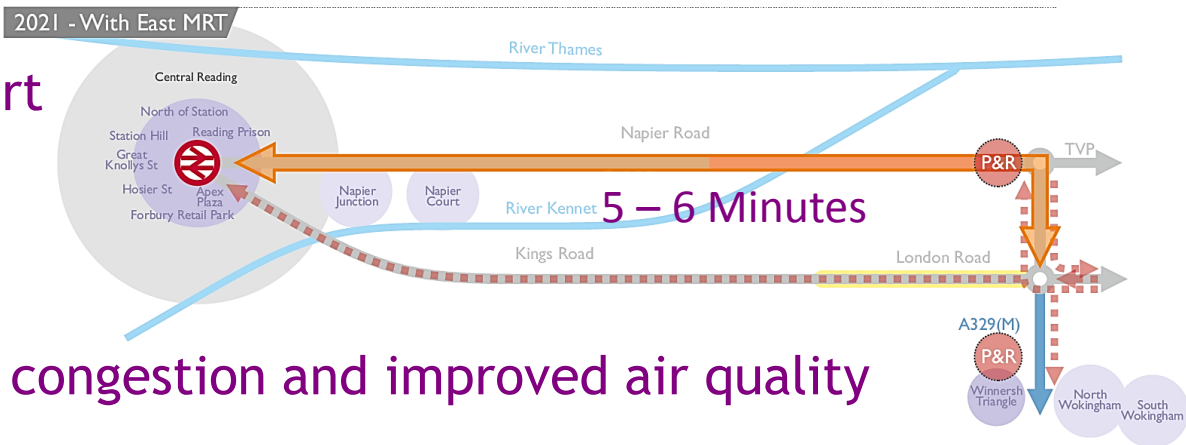


# Route Benefits

- Significantly reduced public transport journey times
- Increased public transport connectivity and reliability



- Enhanced public transport capacity and service frequency

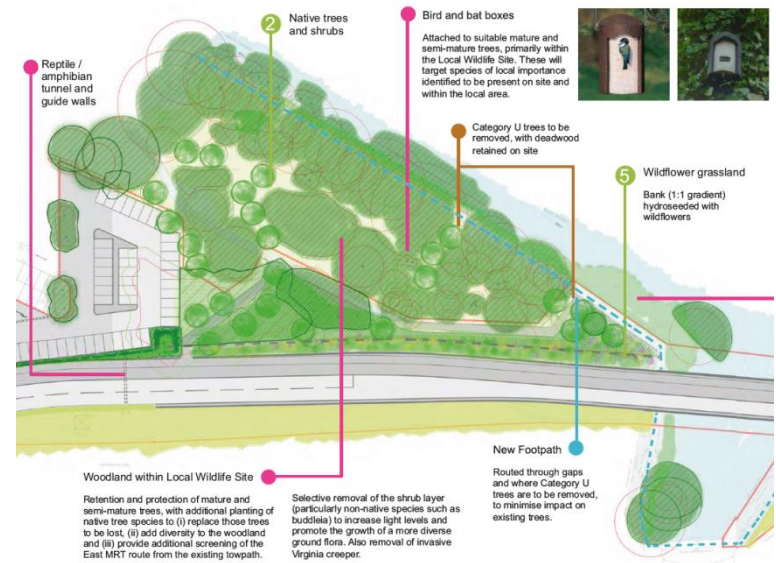


- Reduced forecast traffic congestion and improved air quality
- Promote healthy living through improved walking and cycling facilities
- Enables development of Reading's wider transport strategy

# Planning Application

Planning application submitted to Planning Authorities for Reading and Wokingham in July 2017, including:

- Environmental Impact Assessment screening and scoping report
- Landscape Design
- Transport Statement
- Design and Access Statement
- Highways and Civils Assessment
- Flood Risk, Hydrology and Surface Water Drainage
- Utilities
- Geotechnical Investigation
- Ground Conditions and Land Contamination

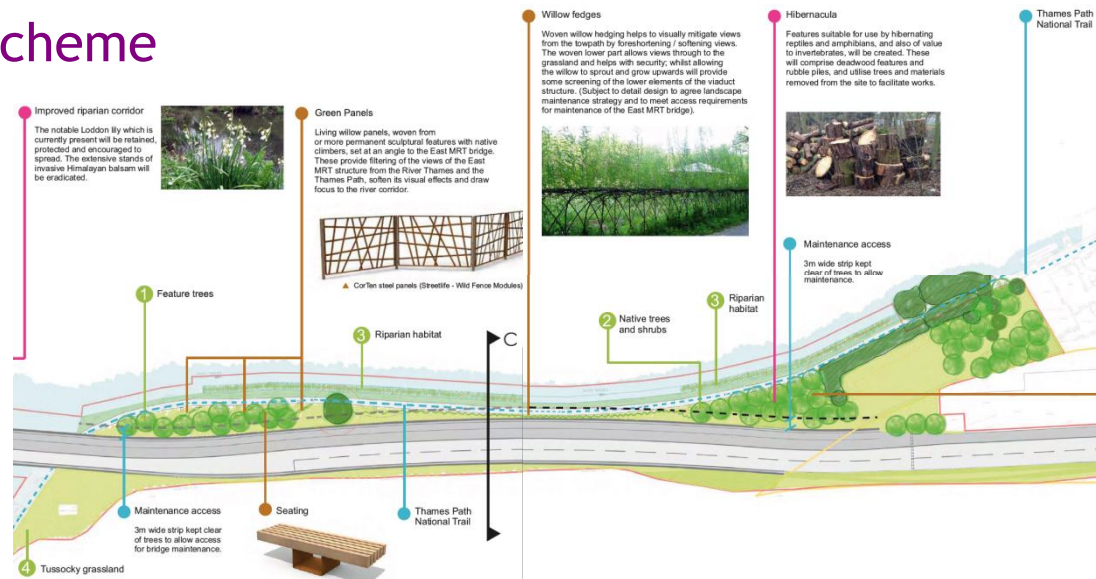


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# Planning Application

... Cont'd

- Landscape and Visual Assessment
- Ecology Appraisal
- Lighting Assessment and Scheme
- Noise Assessment
- Air Quality Assessment
- Archaeology & Heritage
- Arboriculture
- Socio-Economics
- Waste Strategy
- Sustainability Statement



All documentation available online:  
[www.reading.gov.uk/east-reading-mrt](http://www.reading.gov.uk/east-reading-mrt)



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# Consultation & Transparency

- Consultations for Local Plan and Local Transport Plan
- Consultation on scheme proposals (summer 2016)
  - Wokingham Waterside Centre public exhibition (~100 attendees)
  - Consultation (124 feedback forms received, roughly 50/50 in support and against the scheme)
- Liaison with key stakeholders throughout scheme development
- Public exhibitions (summer 2017)
  - Wokingham Waterside Centre and Reading Town Hall (~100 attendees)
- Planning consultation (ongoing)
- Scheme progress regularly reported to:
  - Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport Committee
  - Traffic Management Sub-Committee
  - Berkshire Local Transport Body (BLTB)



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# Next Steps



## Key Task

## Completion Date

Independent Assessment of Business Case

Autumn 2017

BLTB Financial Approval Decision

Autumn 2017

Planning Consultation

Winter 2017

Planning Committee Decision

Winter 2017

Legal Orders & Land Acquisition

Autumn 2018

Detailed Design

Winter 2018

Committee Spend Approval

Winter 2018

Enabling Works

Autumn 2019

Construction

Summer 2021



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# Visualisation



View from Thames Path looking  
towards Horseshoe Bridge



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# Visualisation



View from Thames Path looking  
towards Reading



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# Visualisation



**Cross section of the proposed route  
east of the River Kennet**



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# Thank you for listening



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