



Findon Valley Residents' Association

Protecting the interests of our community
and the countryside around us.

www.findonvalley.org

A27 Worthing and Lancing Improvements Scheme Option 1

This response is submitted by Findon Valley Residents' Association (F.V.R.A.) on behalf of the 1850 households it represents.

Residents have been consulted by e-mail, a local press release delivered to every household, our website and by a public meeting held on 5th September 2017.

The general consensus is that the Option on offer is totally unacceptable on the following grounds:

The cost of the proposals of £69M cannot be justified as the benefit and improvement the scheme offers is minimal.

This money is from the public purse and as such there is a duty of care to ensure that it is used in the best interest of the taxpayer. There is nothing in the scheme that supports that the improvements represent value for money.

The installation of additional traffic lights at pinch points will only increase congestion, cause unnecessary delays particularly at times of light traffic flow, lengthen journey times, cause more noise and disturbance to residents and irritation to drivers. Idling vehicles must only increase the already acknowledged dangerous levels of pollution.

With specific reference to the A27/A24 Offington roundabout, traffic lights at this junction will serve to increase the level of congestion trailing back through Findon Valley as vehicles will have to stop regardless of whether or not they may have free passage at this junction. Also there will be a detrimental effect on the wellbeing of pedestrians and cyclists using this junction.

Land take on both sides of this roundabout will have a detrimental effect on the health and well-being of residents bringing traffic closer to their homes and removing trees originally planted to reduce pollution.

Furthermore this maturely planted and attractive roundabout is one of the gateways to Worthing and is of value from an aesthetic aspect as well as helping with pollution absorption.

There is a huge groundswell of opinion that there should be no traffic lights at the Grove Lodge roundabout save for “on demand” pedestrian controlled crossings.

There has been no attempt to divert through traffic by either upgrading existing roads, considering new routes or a combination of both. The figure that claims 31% of traffic along the A24/A27, Warren Road is through traffic, is not backed up by any data evidence. However anecdotal and observational evidence would suggest that this percentage is much higher. Residents are resolute that it is absolutely crucial that an alternative route is sought for through traffic.

Schemes to close off junctions are not practicable as this will result in more traffic movement including HGV and distribution vehicles using unsuitable residential roads and clogging up the A24 through Broadwater.

There is no evident improvement to the Lyons Farm double traffic light junction congestion. There has been no dialogue with the Lyons Farm Estate to explore improved traffic flow such as the potential for a one -way system.

The claimed benefits are negligible compared with the projected improvements in journey time savings and, compounded by the noise, disturbance, loss of environment habitat and effect on the local economy that up to 2years of construction work imposed on the local community this cannot be a viable and sustainable option.

That a relief road through the South Downs National Park cannot be considered does not hold sway as the proposal for the junction at Busticle Lane allows for land take in an area of the National Park.

Regardless of which Agency has authority for our roads there is a real need for an overall strategy in order to achieve the best long term future for the Sussex Coastal Area.

**No to flyovers. No to underpasses. No to dualling.
Yes to a relief/bypass route.**

WORTHING DESERVES A MUCH BETTER DEAL

The FVRA support the submissions of the AWRA group of residents' associations.

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The FVRA is a registered charity in England and Wales, Reg. No. 267009.