



Environment Not Trams Newsletter

October 2002

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50 mph through your neighbourhood!



NET say 50 mph!

NET have now revealed their intention to run the tram at up to 50 mph along the Wilford Lane/Compton Acres section of the Clifton via Wilford route.

This is despite the claims on their website (see box below) that tram speeds will be 'very carefully assessed relative to the surrounding environment' and reduced if close to residential areas.

Don't forget that, if the route is given the go ahead, the nature trail embankment along this section will be totally removed and the tram will run at street level with a footpath and cycle track alongside.

Running at these speeds will have enormous implications for increased intrusion caused by the noise of the tram.

More important are the safety implications. All other traffic in

the area is governed by a 30 mph limit. The tram is 100 feet long and weighs 50 tons. Its emergency stopping distance is clearly considerably greater than a car and since it runs on tracks it obviously can't manoeuvre to avoid an accident.

Dear Darling ...

We support the need to improve public transport provision and to provide alternatives to car use in city centres. However we want to see that these alternatives are viable and will not introduce other damaging environmental impacts as a result of their implementation.

If you feel the same then join us and make your views known to the 'man at the top'. Alistair Darling is the Secretary of State for Transport and will decide whether NET are given public money to build this route.

On Saturday 5 October we'll be holding a letter-signing event at

Compton Acres shops to let Mr Darling know our concerns about a possible tram route through Compton Acres and Wilford.

Join us please between 10:30 and 12:00. Rushcliffe MP Kenneth Clarke will be there to show his support.

Taste of things to come

Seen the traffic holdups during the roadworks along Wilford Lane at the moment? Well imagine what it'll be like when the tram is crossing every few minutes. And the tram has priority ...



Netballs

'It has been noted that some people have been worried by the thought that the tram could travel at 50 mph through their area. 50 mph is the top speed that the tram could reach, when running off-street. Tram speeds would be very carefully assessed relative to the surrounding environment and the speed would be reduced to reflect particular conditions such as close proximity to residential areas. On street the tram would strictly observe pre-set speed limits and often run well below them.'

Quote from the NET website

Please make a note in your diary or on your calendar now to join us at:

Compton Acres Shops

on

Saturday 5 October

any time between

10:30 and 12:00

to sign a letter to the Secretary of State for Transport and make your views known.