

Bristol Walking Alliance (BWA) offers our comments on the latest proposals from the perspective of Bristol pedestrians. We continue to regret that the proposals for the A4 do not yet cover the section between Bath Bridge and Three Lamps junction in Bristol.

Scope of proposals

BWA submitted comments to the consultations on the A4 Bath-Bristol corridor in both 2021 [1] and 2023 [2]. For Bristol, the latest proposals focus on improvements in Arnos Vale and Brislington, but defer to a later date any proposals for other sections of the route.

In particular, the 2023 proposals for removing through traffic from Brislington Hill or re-routing traffic between Three Lamps and Lodekka are not mentioned, and nothing has yet been proposed for the section between Bath Bridge and Three Lamps which we have consistently identified as being woefully inadequate for pedestrians.

Support for current proposals

Overall, we continue to support moves to improve bus services and to reduce the detrimental effects of through traffic in residential areas. We also support the segregation of cycle routes from footways.

In particular, we support the proposed new pedestrian crossings:

- toucan crossing of the A4 near Brislington Retail Park
- zebra crossings along Emery Road, outside Holymead Infant School and on Allison Road, Sandy Park Road, Newbridge Road, and Talbot Road
- raised side-road crossings along Emery Road, School Road, Hollywood Road, Newbridge Road, Talbot Road, Hungerford Road

We also welcome the wider path through Victory Park.

Reduced traffic speeds can make roads safer for pedestrians, so we welcome the use of speed cushions along School Road, Wick Road and Talbot Road.

Since all bus users are also pedestrians, we also support the proposals for new bus lanes, extended hours for bus lanes (whilst loading and unloading would still be allowed outside of peak hours to enable local businesses to run smoothly), and improvements to many bus stops along the A4 and around Brislington and St Anne's.

Bath Bridge to Three Lamps

It is very disappointing that the proposals for the A4 Bath-Bristol route do not yet cover the section between Bath Bridge and Three Lamps junction in Bristol. We still believe this section of the route should be within scope for the overall A4 Bath-Bristol improvements. The narrow footway on the east side of this road is currently shared between pedestrians and cyclists. It is woefully inadequate for the amount of walking and cycling traffic it supports.

The significant works that would be required to provide new bridges for walking and cycling over the river and the railway lines in this section are just the sort of strategic investment that the West of England Combine Authority should be making.

[1] **Response by Bristol Walking Alliance to the A4 Bristol to Bath Corridor Improvements Consultation**, 10 September 2021 (<https://bristolwalkingalliance.org.uk/2021/09/10/a4-bristol-bath-corridor/>)

[2] **Comments by Bristol Walking Alliance on the A4 Bath Bristol consultation**, 28 September 2023 (<https://bristolwalkingalliance.org.uk/2023/09/28/a4-bath-to-bristol/>)

Bristol Walking Alliance
27 November 2025

enquiries@bristolwalkingalliance.org.uk