

Aslockton Parish Council

DEMOLITION OF BROADMARSH BUS STATION WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?



The purpose of this letter is to alert you. Your local residents will not be aware of major changes to their bus route may be coming soon. Now is the time to ensure voices are heard, both from passengers and local councillors.

Councillors and local bus passengers may have noted brief media coverage of Nottingham City Council's plan to demolish the Broadmarsh Bus Station and Car Park, leading to the Broadmarsh redevelopment. However, Nottinghamshire Better Transport (NBT) is less sure there is awareness of the implications of this for bus passengers.

Bus operation is complex and Broadmarsh Bus Station is a key component of TrentBarton's efficient operation of bus services in the East Midlands. For example, toilets and mess room facilities are there for bus drivers taking their rest breaks, there is parking for buses between trips. For passengers the bus station is a pleasant environment whilst waiting for a bus. There is also linkage to how bus stops/stands across the City are used in an efficient way, especially on Friar Lane. Any disruption to this efficiency could mean **higher fares** and an environmental impact if bus passengers switch to their cars with resulting increased road congestion, especially as it could be two years plus before we have a new bus station – long enough for passengers to completely change their travel habits.

NBT has been discussing the implications of all this with TrentBarton and the City Council. We appreciate that demolishing the Bus Station may be the best way forward, but have great reservations on how this project is being managed. The level of secrecy is of concern and we have no confidence that the solutions will be of acceptable quality or convenience to the bus companies and bus passengers. We note too that although this is a *City* project, those affected will be *County* citizens. Has Nottingham City Council contacted you for example? They are not obliged to but it is poor practice not to have done so. There is the added complication of the current 'purdah' period and NBT can see the new bus network being decided without any scrutiny by elected members in the County.

TrentBarton bus routes that currently use Broadmarsh Bus Station:

18 Nottingham - Beeston – Stapleford
20 Heanor - Ilkeston - Kirk Hallam - Beeston – Nottingham
21 Nottingham - Trowell - Kirk Hallam – Ilkeston
Cotgrave Connection Nottingham – Cotgrave
Indigo Nottingham - Long Eaton – Derby
Keyworth Connection Nottingham - Tollerton – Keyworth
Rushcliffe Mainline Nottingham - Radcliffe – Bingham
Skylink Express Nottingham - Clifton - East Midlands Airport
Skylink Nottingham Nottingham - East Midlands Airport - Loughborough / Coalville
V1 Nottingham - Radcliffe - East Bridgford - Newton – Bingham
V2 Nottingham - Cotgrave - Cropwell Bishop - Sutton - Aslockton – Bingham
i4 Nottingham - Sandiacre - Derby
Plus Kinchbus/Centrebus/Yourbus:
9 Nottingham - Bunny – Loughborough
19 Nottingham - Melton Mowbray - Oakham - Stamford – Peterborough
Y5 Nottingham - Beeston - Long Eaton - Derby

This letter is concerned with the immediate challenge of the loss of Broadmarsh Bus Station. In the longer term we need to understand what the new bus station will look like and City needs to keep us updated on:

1. The City strategy for replacement provision for bus operation.
2. How the replacement strategy will help action on their commitment to reducing car reliance (in their Local Plan and their LTP).

NBT has been impressed by the City's sustained commitment and action on reducing car travel over many years and we don't want to see all this exemplary practice jeopardised now.

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