

Transforming Brixton Town Centre: Phase Three

Creating an improved space
for the community



Introduction

Transport for London (TfL), the London Development Agency, Design for London and Lambeth Council, with the support of the Mayor of London, have been working together to develop a new square for the Brixton community, improve pavements for pedestrians and enhance the movement of traffic on the surrounding roads.



GROSS, MAX

Work will begin in spring 2009, and will end in late 2010. The designs have taken into account feedback from the public consultation carried out in 2005 and input from local businesses and other interest groups.

The new square has been designed for the community and will be used for a mix of cultural activities and events. It will also be a lovely place to visit and walk through.

Highways works that will take place at the same time will further improve the environment for pedestrians. The gyratory system around St Matthews Church will be removed, and Brixton Hill widened to accommodate two-way traffic. This will make the road feel more like a high street and less like an urban motorway.

The Brixton Central Square Project is the third and final phase of TfL's improvements for Brixton Town Centre.

You can stay up to date with developments by visiting tfl.gov.uk/brixtonsquare

The project is part of a wider regeneration project for the area which will create a thriving Brixton now and in the future. You can find out about Lambeth's Masterplan for Brixton at www.lambeth.gov.uk/futurebrixton



A new square for the community

The project is the third and final phase of a larger TfL project to improve the area in Brixton Town Centre.

Rushcroft Road, which runs between the two green spaces (Tate Gardens and Windrush Square) at the top of Brixton Road, will be closed to traffic. A new square with trees, grass, a water feature and a sculptural granite seat will be built in its place.

The new 3,000m² area is a world-class design for a contemporary, accessible and flexible civic space that fits with the local context and the historic character of the area.

It will be built using materials that are used in the surrounding buildings, while the Sharpeville memorial plaque, the Tate statue and the London Plane tree in Tate Gardens will be kept to retain the distinctive character of the area.

Public consultation was carried out in 2005 and showed that the community was keen to see the area developed into a safer and more secure place to be at all times of the day. The local police and Lambeth Council were active in the design development of the square to ensure that these concerns were addressed.

The open design of the square will mean that anyone walking through it can see who is in the area and what they are doing. Combined with carefully placed CCTV cameras and improved lighting, this will enhance the feeling of security.

Lights will be embedded by the new trees, in the pavement and on tall structures which have been created to look like windrushes – a reference to the Empire Windrush, the ship that carried passengers from Jamaica to the UK in 1948, many of whom settled in the Brixton area.

The square has been created for the community and will be used for a mix of cultural activities and events. It will also be a pleasant place to visit and walk through. The annual Brixton Splash, outdoor exhibitions, and a host of other events will be held in the square. There is the potential for a café and public toilets on-site, with an outside seating area.

Fixed chairs will provide a place to sit outdoors for local office workers at lunchtimes and for people visiting the Ritzy cinema or Tate library, which both face onto the square. A sculptural granite seat and a water feature, which sprays a fine mist illuminated by coloured lights, should also attract people to the area.

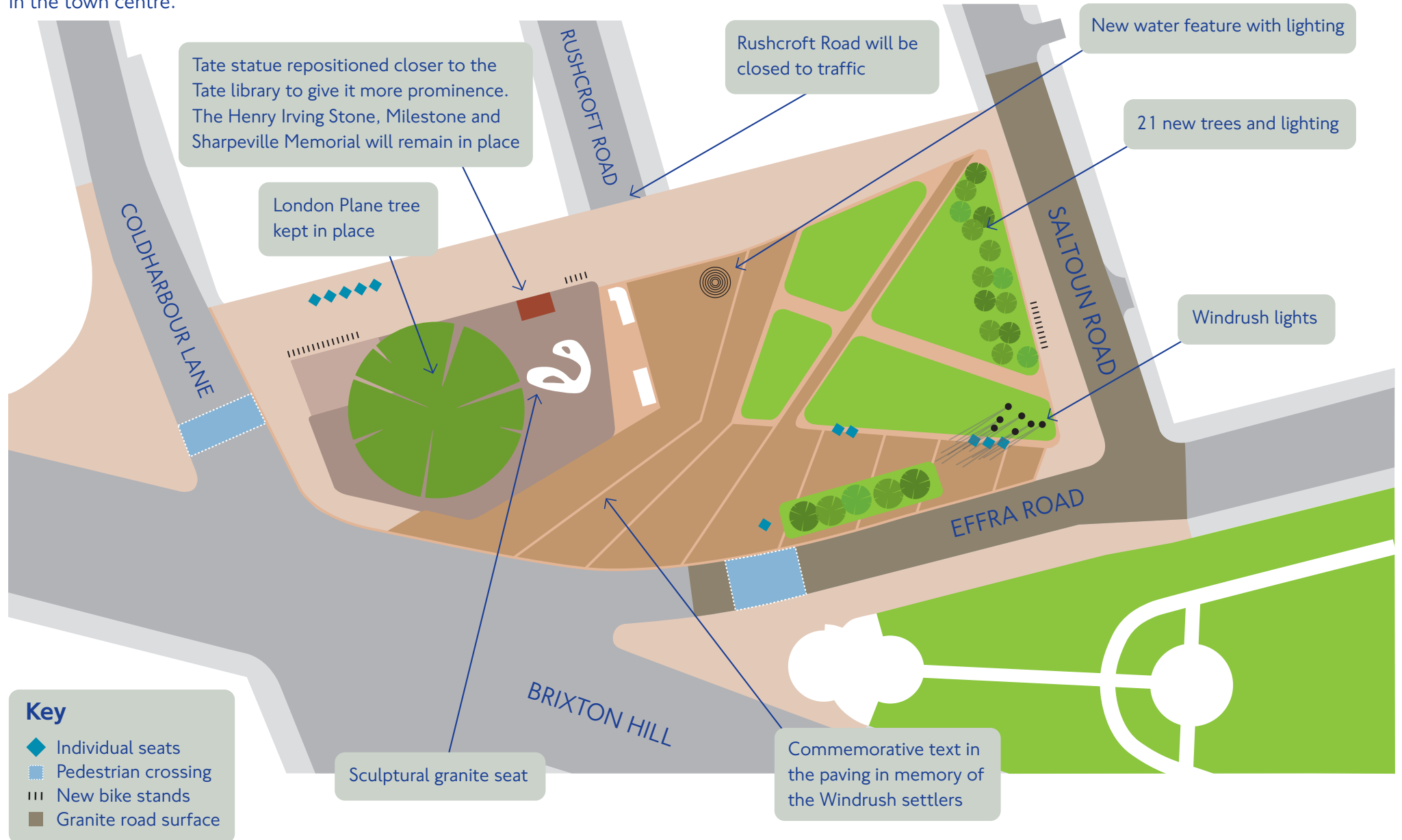
Whilst construction work is taking place, see-through hoardings will be erected around the site to ensure that people cannot get in to the area without being seen.

The see-through hoardings will also ensure that visitors can see through to the Ritzy and Library – making sure business can continue as usual.



New square layout

The new square will create a focal point for those who live and work in the town centre.



Artist's impression. Locations shown are approximate.

A world class design

An international design competition was held to choose the best possible designers for Brixton Central Square. An expert panel including Lord Rogers and the borough police commander selected award winning Landscape Architects GROSS.MAX. Their work includes the new Pottersfield Park next to Tower Bridge, St Martins Square in Birmingham as well as work to improve the Royal Festival Hall.



Delays expected

In early May 2009 utilities road works will take place at the junction of Brixton Road and Coldharbour Lane. Major delays are expected. Please check signs by the road for more information.

Improving the road layout

The gyratory system around St Matthews Church will be removed, and Brixton Hill will be widened to accommodate two-way traffic to make the road feel more like a high street and less like an urban motorway.

The highways works will improve the streetscape and pavements, incorporating resurfaced footpaths and pavements and better access at bus stops.

Consultation showed that the public wanted Effra Road to remain open. This is remaining open to local traffic, but will have fewer vehicles travelling down it.

Key dates

May/June 2009: Works begin on Central Square and the gyratory system around St Matthews Church

Spring 2010: Work on Central Square complete

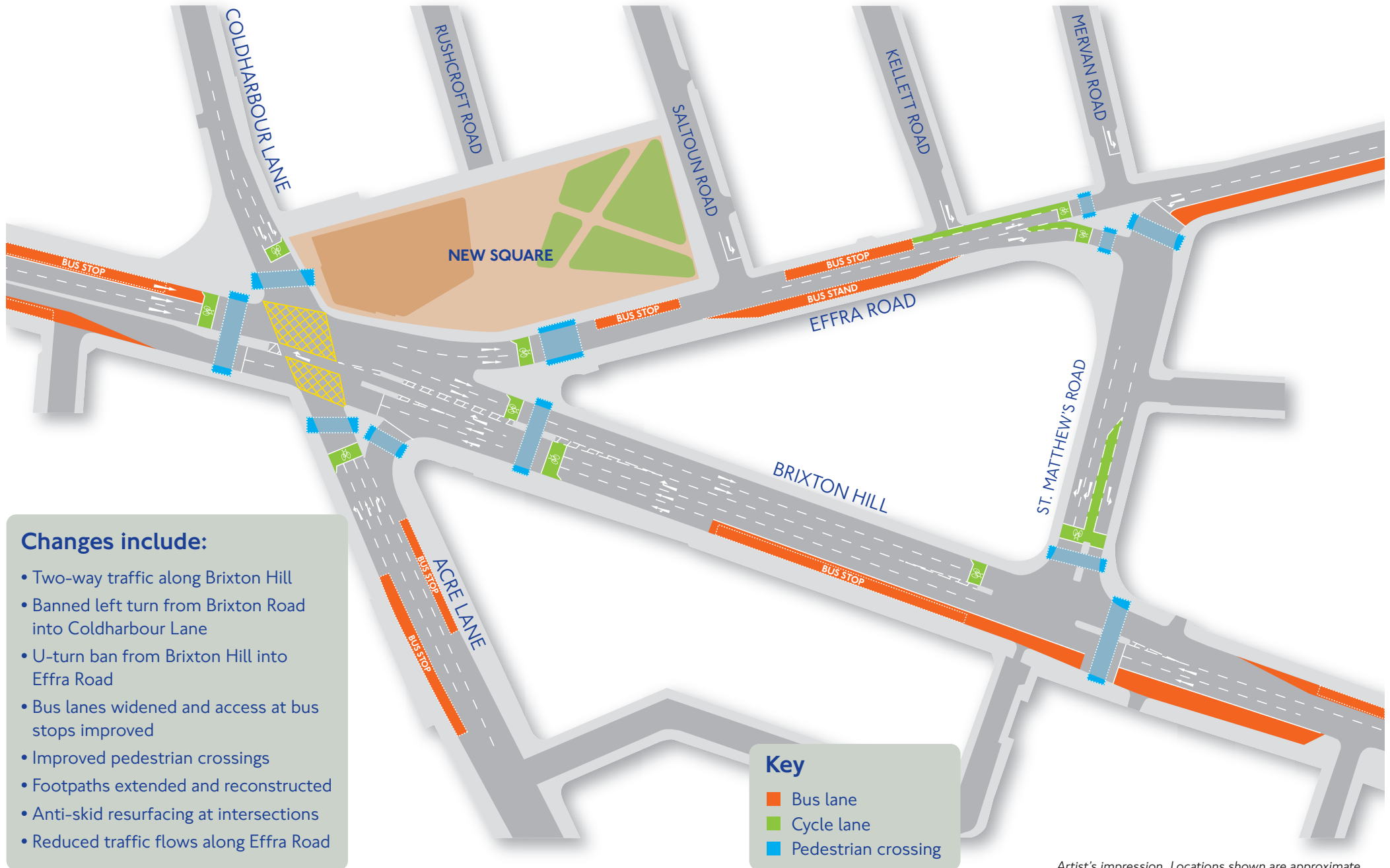
Autumn 2010: Road works complete

During construction, there may be some disruption to journeys by road, and by bus. You can keep an eye on any traffic disruptions at tfl.gov.uk/trafficnews and listen to Traffic Radio, at www.trafficradio.org.uk

Bus stops may be temporarily relocated during construction – there will be clear signs indicating alternative locations to board your bus.

The TfL website features a number of travel tools that will help you plan your journey and get travel information on the move. Visit tfl.gov.uk/traveltools to find out more.

Revised road layout



Artist's impression. Locations shown are approximate.

This is the third and final phase of work undertaken by TfL and its partners as part of the Transforming Brixton Town Centre project. Previous phases have seen the footpath and road surface improved on Brixton Road and Coldharbour Lane.

This project is part of TfL's Investment Programme, which funds work that improves London's transport system and enhances the urban environment.

TfL manages the red routes: 580km of London's most important roads, which carry a third of the city's traffic, despite representing only five per cent of roads in London.

Contact details

If you require a copy of this leaflet in another language, Braille or large print format, please call Freephone 0800 298 3009.

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