

From: Peter Whiting
Sent: 11 May 2018 18:39
To: TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT
Subject: Objection to the proposed railway level crossing on the A21 near Robertsbridge

Dear Sir,

As a frequent user of the A21 from Hastings to London, I am writing to you to register my stongest objection to the proposed new level crossing near to Robertsbridge.

The A21 has been accepted as the most dangerous road in England - as any user will agree. This is the only north / south road route for Hastings, Bexhill, Battle and Rye and is therefore heavily congested. It consists of a narrow, single carriageway which twists and turns extensively and is not suitable for either the size or number of the vehicles that have no alternative but to use it. The surface is in a very poor state of repair.

I am concerned that the construction of a major impediment to the traffic flow will exacerbate the existing issues.

- Completely contrary to increasing accessibility to a neglected area of the South coast. This proposal will not help develop the industry or housing which is desperately needed.
- Increased journey time caused by crossing closures. The cost of which will be borne by business.
- Increased pollution caused by stationary vehicles. The cost of this will be increased heath problems for local residents and vehicle occupants.
- Increase the number of drivers seeking alternative routes. This will create gridlock in the surrounding area as the other roads are very narrow.
- Increase road rage incidents leading to more accidents.
- Delay emergency vehicles using the A21 to answer 999 calls.

The plan to install a new level crossing should be abandoned. I suggest that a new station is built on the east side of the A21, close to existing foot bridge to allow passengers to cross the A21 to Fair Lane. It is then a short walk (half a mile?) to Robertsbridge station.

My proposal will eliminate the need and cost of a new level crossing. It will have no impact on the A21 traffic flow. It will allow the benefits associated with an additional rail link to be captured. It may well be supported by the population of Robertsbridge!.

Please reconsider this expensive, disruptive and needless project.

Yours faithfully,

Peter Whiting