

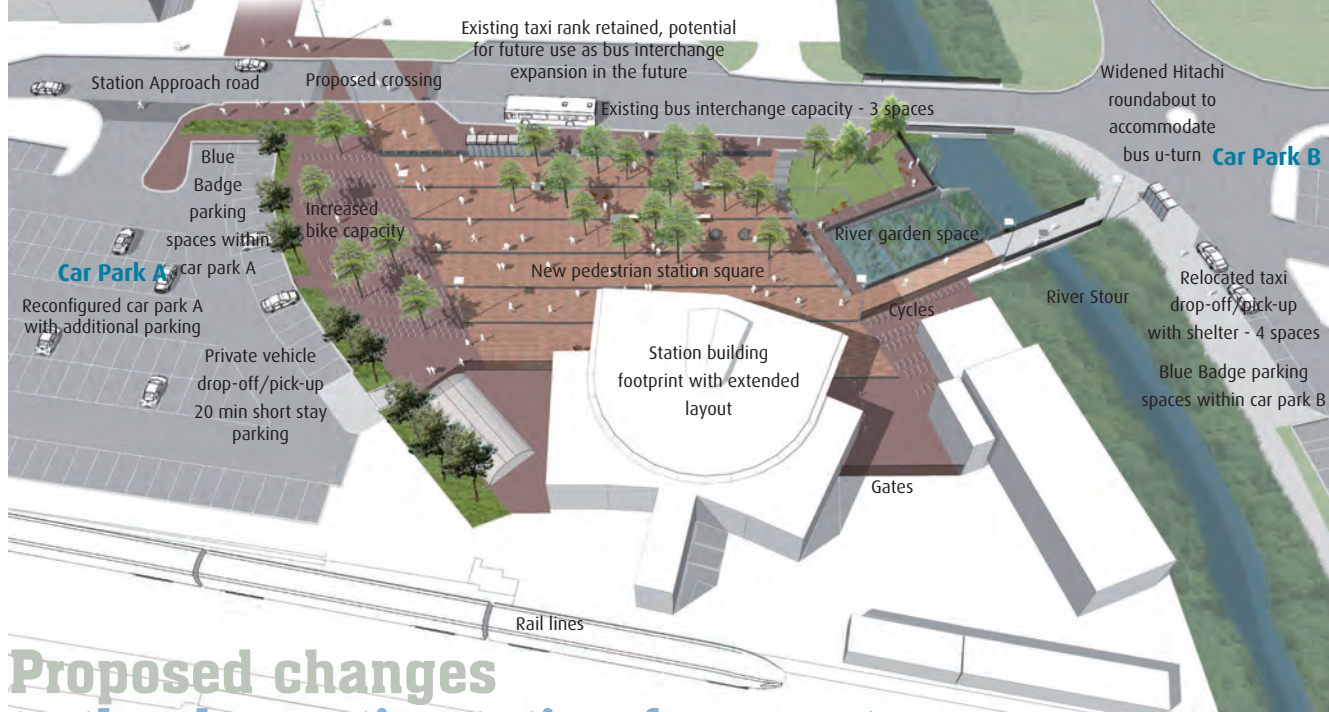


A new station forecourt for **Ashford International Station**

Find out more about the exciting changes planned for the domestic station forecourt

Ashford
best placed in Britain

southeastern.



Proposed changes to the domestic station forecourt

High speed rail services to London and Europe have been a tremendous boost to Ashford making the town an even more attractive place to live and invest in.

The proposed improvements show how a safer and less congested forecourt with

clear links to the town centre will be created including a stunning public square with new seating, landscaping and walkways and better access for cyclists and pedestrians.

These improvements will mirror the quality and design of other exciting changes that

have already taken place or are planned for the town and further promote Ashford as best placed in Britain.

Work is expected to start in summer 2010 and finish in spring 2011 subject to funding approval.

What is happening and where?

The following improvements are proposed:

- A new public square or plaza in front of the station including new seating, lighting, landscaping and paving
- A dedicated pedestrian pathway to the town centre
- Increased cycle parking from 250 to 400 spaces
- Relocation of the drop-off and pick up point, the 20 minute short stay parking and disabled parking to Car Park A
- Relocation of an expanded Taxi Rank to Car Park B
- A new and extended bus shelter
- The roundabout by the access road to Hitachi will be enlarged to allow buses to circle



Why are the changes required?

The increase in Ashford's population and arrival of high speed trains means more people using the station. The station forecourt currently does not present the best first impression of the town.

The improvements will address the safety and congestion issues within the forecourt, make better use of space in front of the station and help make Ashford an inviting and connected town where people want to live and invest in.



Ashford is a vibrant, expanding town with exciting plans for new homes and jobs and big improvements to shops, leisure, community and transport facilities.

Significant improvements to the town can already be seen including shared space, an extended County Square Shopping Centre and the remodelled Stour Leisure Centre.

A new improved library, a new road called Victoria Way linking the station to south Ashford and improvements to Junction



9 and Drovers Roundabout are also planned.

What happens next?

Work is expected to start in summer 2010 and finish in spring 2011 subject to funding approval.

The £2.5m improvements are being paid for through government Growth Area Funding from Ashford's Future.





How can I find out more?

Visit www.ashfordbestplaced.co.uk/stationimprovements

Call **Optimum Consultancy** on **07779 066 048**

email Neil.Bowsher@optimum.uk.com