



# CCS & CCSS

## NEWSLETTER



**Winter 2023**



# As the Nights Draw In...

As the leaves continue to fall, and the City Gardens teams sweep them up, it nears the time to reflect upon what the last 12 months has brought. With a huge increase in the number of planning applications received, up a quarter to over a thousand, positivity abounds and there is confidence in the City of London as a destination, a workplace and somewhere exciting to reside. Over half a million square metres of office space is in the pipeline, with a similar amount currently being constructed.

Alongside the office space, a lot of planning applications for mixed-use and change of use, shows that the City, as ever, is able to adapt and thrive. Footfall generally and numbers of people attending cultural attractions is on the rise. Whilst this brings optimism, the rising number of construction sites, vehicle movements to supply said sites and the infrastructure necessary to make this all work means that more than ever, we have to work together to make sure that the City is a safe place to live and work. On the evidence of the work carried out in recent years and the trust built up in the relationships between contractors and the City's officers, there is a certainty that together we will safely bring the vision of the future City to fruition.

With innovative designs coming through our planning department, we are excited to see these become reality and how the industry high standards we see on a daily basis will be exceeded further still.

Judging Day is just around the corner, marking of construction sites and utilities contractors continues at pace, with fine margins separating the best sites from Gold Award winning sites.

**From all of the CCS and CCSS team, we wish you a happy, healthy holiday season and we look forward to working with you all again in the New Year.**



The Aldgate Square tree lit up for the Aldgate Winter Festival



Significant progress at last year's Chairman's Trophy winner at 1 Broadgate

# Innovation - Vorboss Electric Splicing Vehicle



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Working with care  
for our City

As always the City loves to champion innovation, particularly when that new piece of kit has such great eco friendly credentials! Vorboss have put themselves into the running for the Innovation Award at the next Gold Awards ceremony with the brand new, energy efficient, low-emissions, electrified splicing bike. The adapted electric cargo bike has the power to dart around the Square Mile (and up to 100km), mechanically splicing fibre cables, permanently joining the two optical fibres.

Due to the size of the vehicle, there is no need to apply for parking permits, speeding up the turnaround for the customer, no need to suspend parking bays, freeing up space for other road users and is compact enough to reduce further congestion on the network.

The vehicle has storage for all of the tools and barriers need to carry out the works and will hopefully revolutionise the way the industry is working. Again, we would like to congratulate Vorboss on the forward thinking innovation and we look forward to seeing these vehicles carrying out important work all over the City.

Vorboss COO Rhod Morgan told us: 'We couldn't be prouder of this vehicle, conceived, designed, and built all in-house by our dedicated Design and Innovation team. Whilst it gives us more flexibility in working on our infrastructure, it also allows us to reduce our impact on London's road network. We are conscious that every vehicle on the road contributes to increased congestion. Adapting an e-bike design to our daily operations means fewer vans on the streets of London, and playing our role in supporting the Mayor's ambition of a net-zero London by 2030.'



The Streetworks Team's Bill Liston taking the EV for a spin around the Guildhall Yard during the demonstration



The vehicle contains everything needed to carry out the works, but is green and compact, reducing emissions and congestion on the network

# Newgate Street Summer Collaborative Project



Over five weeks this Summer, across July and August, the City of London granted licences for 17 different companies to work under the same closure, in another of our major collaborative projects to save over 50 days of disruption across the network.

Part of the works included the installation for new electrical ducts for the large scale project at 81 Newgate Street, with Compass Infrastructure excavating and reinstating around 300 square metres of carriageway and footway on behalf of UKPN to install the eight new ducts. Whilst the westbound carriageway was closed to facilitate the works, cycle and pedestrian movements were safely maintained throughout the installation. The teams successfully negotiated the congested layers of services already in existence beneath the highway and worked in tandem with other contractors and City officers throughout.

In order to keep disturbance of the network to a minimum, the City allowed other contractors access to the closure to carry out essential maintenance to the utility infrastructure. This included replacement of damaged electrical cabling, repairs to faulty network equipment on a low voltage main, replacement of damaged box frames and covers, expansion of fibre broadband network, gas disconnections and other works.

Due to the volume of traffic that usually uses this route, including buses, there is never a good time to obtain a road closure to carry out maintenance to the road surface. The City was able to use this period to carry out larger scale repairs to carriageway defects that will hopefully keep the network moving freely for many years to come.

We would like to thank staff from FM Conways, UKPN, Compass, Lumen Technologies, Cadent Gas, Ferns Group, JSM, Vorboss, Zayo, COLT, Verizon, EU Networks, Powercare, SQS, JSM, ESL and Andels for helping to minimise disruption and their fantastic communication with the City's Streetworks Team throughout the project.



The City were able to maintain cycle routes and some vehicle movements throughout the whole project



The new ductwork being installed amongst existing infrastructure beneath the highway

# Puddle Dock Site Safety Workshop



Ahead of a major new development in the Puddle Dock and Castle Baynard area of the City, our Streetworks team got together with Michael Barratt of TfL and various members of staff from Reach Active, Momentum Transport Consultancy and Metro Traffic Services in order to discuss the needs of the upcoming works and how best to facilitate them, whilst maintaining safe accessible routes for pedestrians and cyclists throughout.

Before any major works are undertaken, sixteen trial holes will be excavated in order to assess local archaeology, internal structures, consideration for Network Rail infrastructure and services.

On site, the working group went through numerous traffic management scenarios related to the initial works and the upcoming project, discussing the best course of action to maintain site safety and the safety of anyone coming into contact with site. The discussions were aided by the many years of experience from across the industry of the people present, helping to formulate a plan that will minimise impact on the Square Mile and it's stakeholders. During the walkthrough, the group kept in mind the local businesses, residents and the demographic of people that frequently use this area.

We always enjoy positive collaborative working and look forward to the project commencing, knowing there is a well thought through plan in place.

Winter 2023

# **Wishing happy holidays to all involved in the CCS and CCSS!**



## **Working with care for our City**



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