

# The new Putney Bridge pier

The new Putney Bridge pier has led to controversy and concern amongst rowers. The architect Anthony Carlile illustrated the scheme for *Planning in London*

Just upstream of Putney Bridge, the new pier will form the western terminus for London's river buses. The proposal moves the ferry stop approximately 80m downstream to a new purpose built pontoon.

The existing pier does not serve the ferries well, its link-span reaches a gradient of 1:4.9 on the low spring tides and it is not accessible for wheelchair users for large parts of each day. At the very highest tides the pavement also floods and the entrance is extremely confusing, feeling much like a private marina.

In contrast the new pier is designed to be a welcoming continuation of the public pavement. It will allow passengers to embark and dis-embark simultaneously which isn't possible at the existing pier, frequently causing knock-on delays along the rest of the central RB6 route.

The proposal also moves the ferries further away from the Putney Crossing and the Upper Tideway to the west where rowing activity is most intense. The face of the new pier is 30m from the navigation channel leaving space for smaller

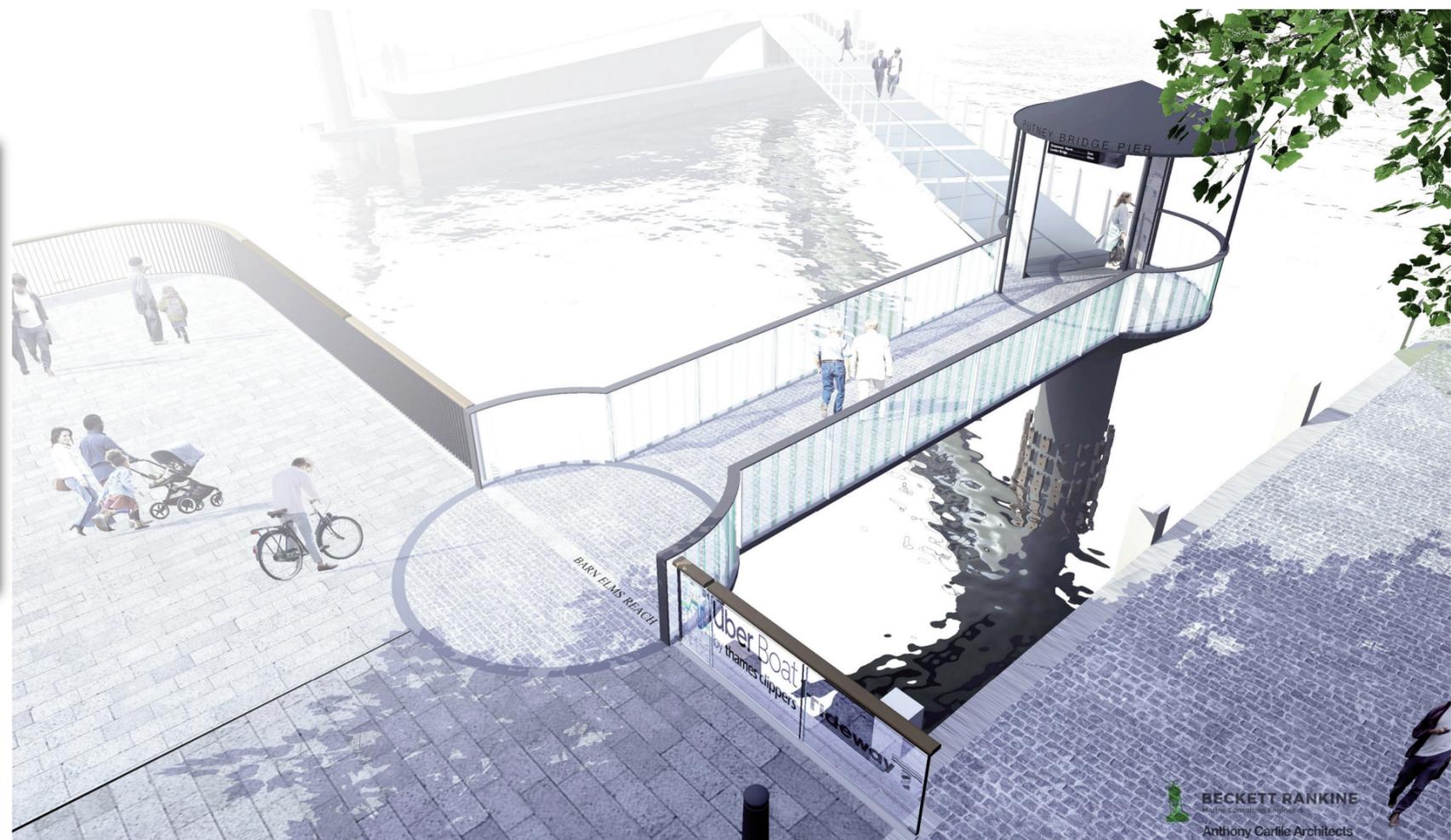
craft to travel safely outside of the fairway. The new pier also moves the ferries downstream and outside of the competitive course for the traditional rowing races. As is the case in the current situation, the River Buses will work around special race events ceasing operation.

Accessed from the Thames Tideway build-out, the public transport use is well suited the large new civic space. The planning application is in and Thames Clippers are keen to commence work as soon as possible. Almost all of the pier will be constructed off site which will minimise local disruption.

The pedestrian and cycle ferries connect piers through central London to Barking Riverside in the East.



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CREDITS  
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Heritage Consultant: Alan Baxter  
Environmental Consultants: Thomson Environmental Consultants



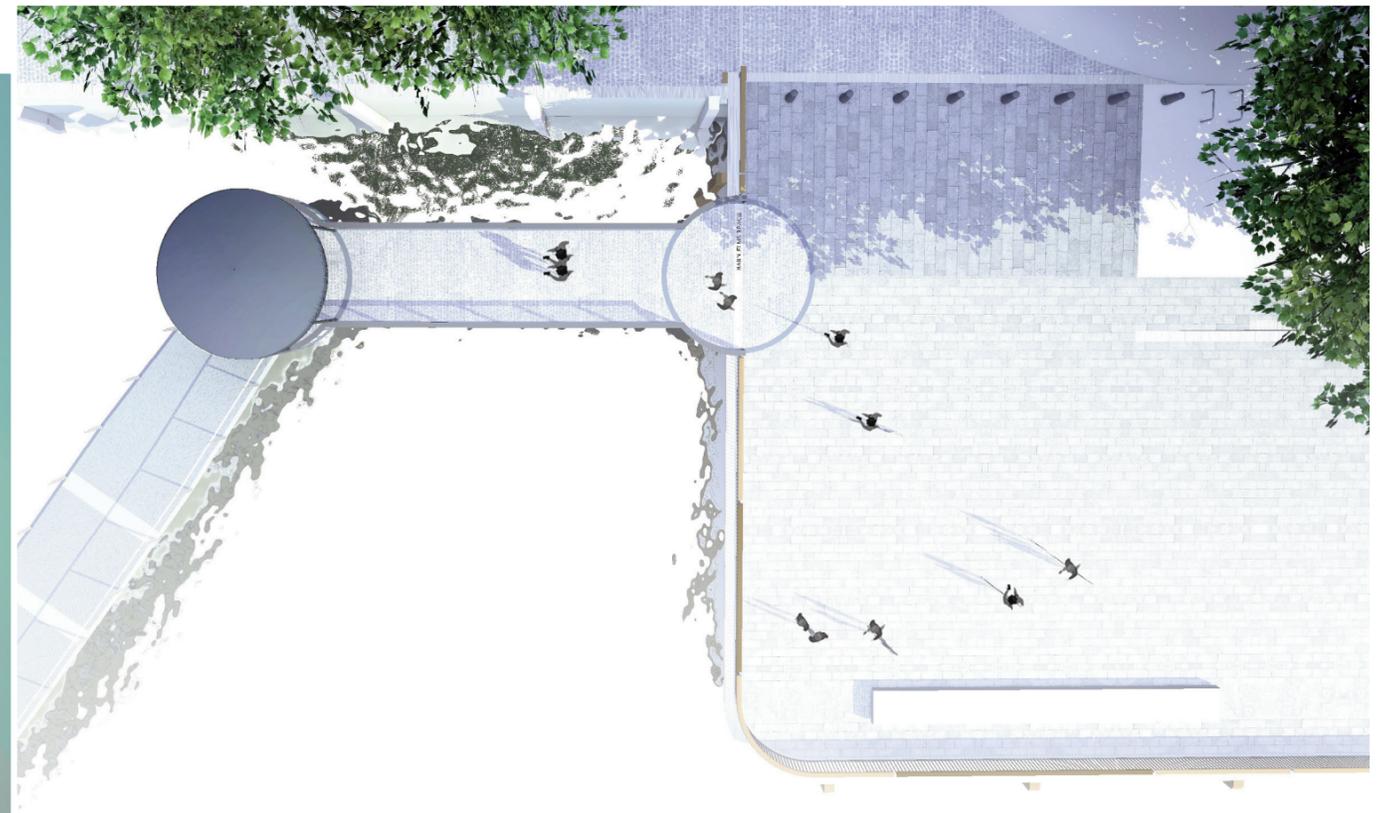
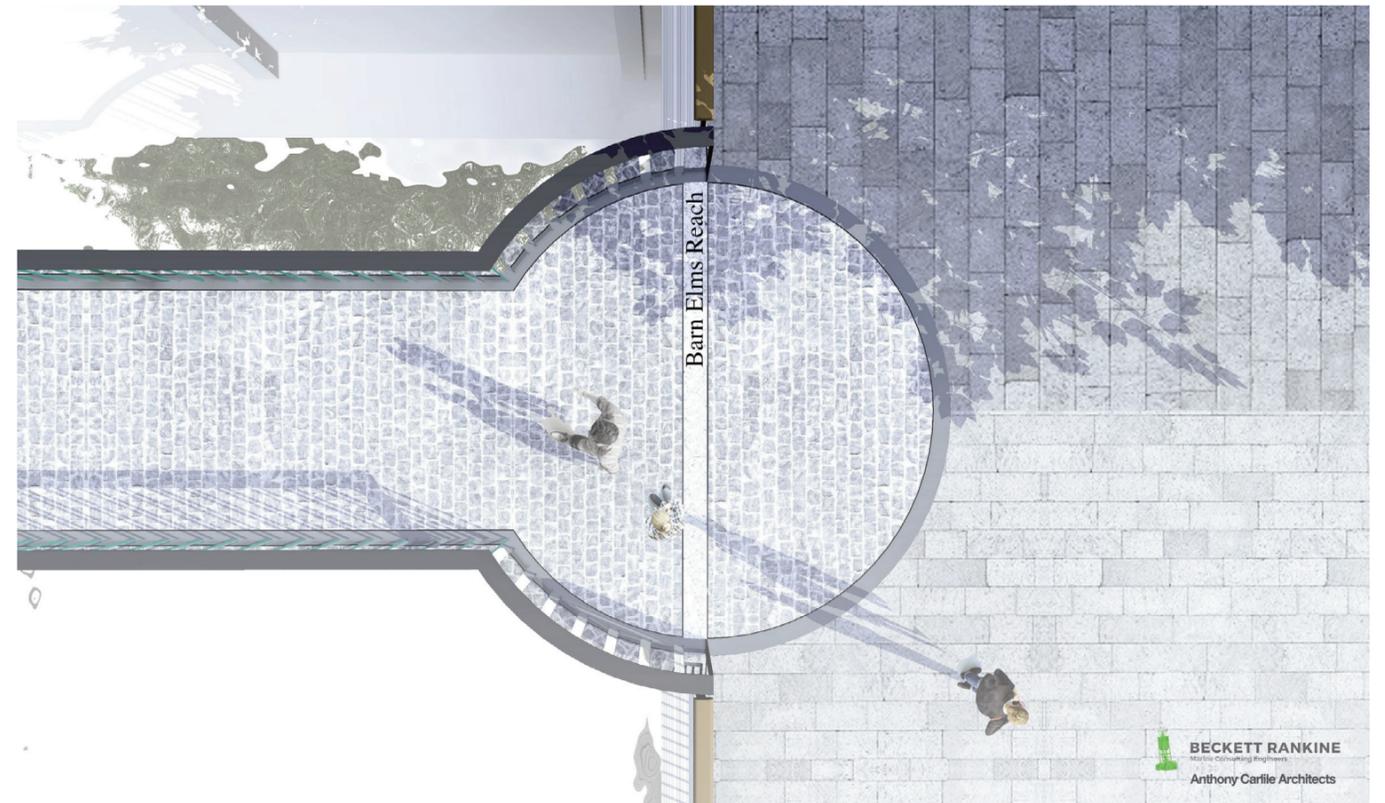
Anthony Carlile, principal of Anthony Carlile Architects

NEW PUTNEY BRIDGE PIER



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