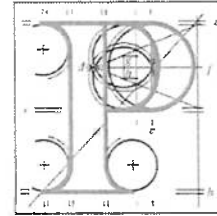


Our Case Number: ABP-316272-23



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Denise Russell
44 Templeogue Road
Co. Dublin
D6W NH33

Date: 24 April 2024

Re: Bus Connects Templeogue/Rathfarnham to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme
Templeogue/Rathfarnham to City Centre

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent submission in relation to the above-mentioned proposed road development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter.

Please note that the proposed road development shall not be carried out unless the Board has approved it or approved it with modifications.

If you have any queries in the mean time, please contact the undersigned officer of the Board at laps@pleanala.ie

Please quote the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

Eimear Reilly
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737184

HA02

Teil	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1800 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	www.pleanala.ie
Ríomhphost	Email	bord@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

Eimear Reilly

From: LAPS
Sent: Monday 25 March 2024 11:46
To: Denise Russell
Subject: RE: ABP-316272-23

Good morning Denise

I acknowledge receipt of your email. A formal acknowledgement will issue via post.

Kind regards

Eimear

From: Denise Russell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 10:44 AM
To: LAPS <laps@pleanala.ie>
Subject: ABP-316272-23

Caution: This is an **External Email** and may have malicious content. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, contact the ICT Helpdesk.

To whom it may concern,

Attached is my submission to An Bord Pleanála in relation to the Bus Connects Templeogue/Rathfarnham to city centre core bus corridor scheme.

The submission deadline is 28.03.24 and I would like you to confirm receipt of this submission ahead of the deadline so that as a property owner and resident that would be directly impacted if this planning were granted, my voice is heard.

Sincerely,

Denise Russell
44 Templeogue Road
D6WNH33

44 Templeogue Road

Dublin D6W NH33

Eimear Reilly

An Bord Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street

Dublin 1 D01V

25th March 2024

**Re: ABP-316272-23 - Templeogue/Rathfarnham to City Centre Core Bus Corridor
Scheme CPO 2023**

Dear Eimear,

In response to your letter dated 23rd February, 2024 about the above mentioned road development application, as a homeowner and local resident that would be directly impacted, I hereby wish to submit my objection to the proposed plan.

I wish to ask An Bord Pleanála to appeal the decision to grant permission for this CPO on the basis that this plan is based on flawed assumptions. The financial cost, the time required to implement this plan, and the impact on both the homeowners and residents of the local community cannot be reasonably justified.

My family home of 25 years is located at 44 Templeogue Road. The Bus Connects plan directly affects this property as it proposes to take a portion of our front garden under the CPO.

If this acquisition goes ahead, we will be directly negatively impacted by:

- the a deterioration of the aesthetic of the property (removal of mature hedges and shortening our garden);
- the reduction in the practical size of the driveway (limiting the number of car spaces);

- the removal of our ability to safely access the road (as we will no longer be able to turn the car);
- the removal of long established privacy (large mature hedges and the elevation from the kerb ensures the property can't be seen by passers-by including passengers on the top deck of buses);
- Increased noise and air pollution level caused by increased traffic volumes passing by, and located closer to, our home.

The result will significantly negatively impact the financial value of the property, a 25 year investment, and more importantly, our ability to fully enjoy all the benefits of our family home.

While the above factors are very important, of equal importance to me are the numerous other ways my family, neighbours and the community will be affected by the Bus Connects plan.

Most significantly,

- The proposal to prohibit traffic on a significant number of other local routes will result in an overreliance on the facilities along Templeogue road. This displaced traffic from other routes will add to traffic volumes on Templeogue road. The NTA has already admitted that at peak hours essential car journeys alone will cause bottlenecks on the planned route. Therefore, it is irrefutable that the traffic on this main artery will be very heavy almost all of the time.
- Increased traffic though the community will have detrimental effects on local business and the neighbourhood in general.
- It is an undeniable fact that increased traffic volumes contributed directly to increased air pollution and noise pollution.
- The considerable amount of tree removal along the route will affect the natural habitat of the local wildlife, flowers and fauna. Its removal will not only be aesthetically unpleasant but this vegetation is a natural antidote to air pollution and serves to offset some noise pollution. To eliminate this natural solution will only result in amplifying the negative impact of the increased traffic volumes.
- The Bus Connects plan does not provide for proper and continuous cycle tracks.

Since the Covid pandemic, Irish society has embraced seismic changes. The focus now is to prioritise our work-life balance, which improves living conditions

for all. The way we live and work has changed in a manner that was unimaginable when the Bus Connects plan was designed. In my opinion, the Bus Connect plan is formulated on the flawed assumptions of a bygone era, including, but not limited to the following:

- Access to Dublin city centre is no longer the primary goal.
- More people are working from home.
- Consumers are shopping online.
- Improved services and timetables are encouraging more commuters to use Dublin Bus.
- Bike to work schemes and improved lighting and footpath conditions are contributing to more environmentally and cost conscious commuters.

A significant amount of the State's money will be needed to acquire the land for the Bus Connects plan. In the current cost of living crises, it is unconscionable to spend state money acquiring land when so many citizens are struggling with housing needs. Furthermore, as a taxpayer, I do not believe this cost justifies the benefit.

Public infrastructure could be improved in a far more cost effective, and timely, way by offering:

- Cheaper/free fares at off peak times
- More 24 hour routes
- Increased buses on main routes
- More electric buses
- A metrolink
- Use of bus gate and bus traffic lights
- Tax car users in city centre

I acknowledge and welcome improvements to the transport system, but as both a Templeogue resident and a taxpayer, the sacrifice is too much for a plan that cannot be considered as a viable solution.

Sincerely,


Denise Russell