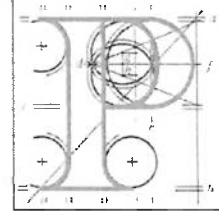


Our Case Number: ABP-316272-23



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Deputy Francis Noel Duffy TD and Cllr Mark Lynch
c/o Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2
D02A272

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 Maoibhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

Eimear Reilly

From: LAPS
Sent: Monday 25 March 2024 15:05
To: FrancisNoel Duffy
Subject: RE: ABP-316272-23

Good afternoon

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

Kind regards

Eimear

From: FrancisNoel Duffy <FrancisNoel.Duffy@oireachtas.ie>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 1:12 PM
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 concerns

Please find attached submission from Francis Noel Duffy TD and Cllr. Mark Lynch in regard to case ABP-316272-23

Kind regards

Mark Lynch
Parliamentary Assistant | Cúntóir Parlaiminte
Francis Noel Duffy TD
Leinster House, Kildare St, Dublin D02 A272

Beartas ríomhphoist an Oireachtais agus séanadh. oireachtas.ie/ga/email-policy/
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An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough St, Rotunda,
Dublin 1,
D01 V902

6th March 2024

RE: Templeogue / Rathfarnham to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme

We, Deputy Francis Noel Duffy TD, Dublin South-West and Councillor Mark Lynch, Rathfarnham-Templeogue LEA, are writing to make the following observations on the Templeogue/ Rathfarnham to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme:

Rathfarnham

I. Extension of an Already Ineffective Dual-Carriageway

- Currently a section of Rathfarnham Road is a dual-carriageway, its only purpose appears to be to split the village from its medieval castle. This section of road is less than 500 meters long and has the following issues:
 - It separates Rathfarnham Village from the Castle and surrounding residential areas, making it more difficult for social cohesion and the creation of a natural sense of community. The community would be better served if the funding was used to narrow the road, provide high quality active travel infrastructure, including traffic calming measures. These actions would reunite the village with its castle to celebrate our heritage instead of dividing the existing community further with the current proposal.
 - It allows traffic to build up on this small section of road, only to then be directed to other streets which do not have the same capacity for vehicles. This creates unsafe road conditions.

- The proposed extension of this section of dual-carriageway would exacerbate these issues and create a road to nowhere in these Dublin suburbs.
- We echo the concerns of Rathfarnham Wood Residents Association regarding the CPO of the woodland at the boundary of Rathfarnham Castle Park for the following reasons:
 - The destruction of flourishing biodiversity; the removal of mature trees, vegetation, undergrowth will impact the existing wildlife
 - The woodland is home to so much wildlife, including protected species such as ashy mining bees, frogs and many species of birds as well as being a significant roosting place for bats.
 - The River Glin which flows through the area was overlooked in the environmental assessment and is home to a number of protected species.
 - The NTA now acknowledge that the loss of the linear strip of woodland would be significant in terms of the impact on wildlife.
 - South Dublin County Council's submission stated that there was an underestimation of the number of trees in the area and that there is a disparity in ground levels between the road and park that was not allowed for and would result in a greater impact on root systems.
 - The EIAR noted that the construction work would likely displace breeding birds and possibly reduce breeding success of birds in the vicinity. Furthermore, this disturbance could be long term and have impacts even after construction is complete.

Consideration should instead be given to ensuring that outbound busses be given priority by utilising a bus priority light in the Butterfield Avenue junction.

2. Unnecessary CPOs of Rathfarnham Road Resident's Gardens

- Multiple residences along the Rathfarnham Road will be subject to CPO orders to facilitate this planned expansion of the road network. It is disturbing to think the state will spend so much money disrespecting the urban heritage of the greater Rathfarnham area to extend a bottleneck

dual carriageway to nowhere. Many residents are upset at the idea of their homes being violated to create an over engineered dual carriageway and displacing existing cycling commuters.

3. Construction Compound By Dodder View Road

- There are serious concerns regarding the construction compound being developed adjacent to residential streets, particularly considering the high-risk activities and the storage of hazardous materials on the southern boundary of the site.
- The compound will be open from 07:00hrs and 23:00hrs on weekdays, between 08:00hrs and 16:30hrs on Saturdays and it is expected that Sunday and nighttime activities will be facilitated to complete works that cannot be undertaken during the day. It is also expected that a total of 26 two-way lorry movements in a typical hour during peak haulage activity of the proposed scheme. This level of traffic in an out of the compound, coupled with the nighttime activity which will create a intolerable level of noise pollution is of particular concern to young families and professionals who live adjacent to the compound.

Templeogue

1. Demand Analysis

- A review of the demand analysis should be undertaken prior to the granting of permission as the existing plan is unclear as to whether this was undertaken in any comprehensive way.
- In conjunction with the above, the analysis should include a cost benefit analysis and comparison with other modes of transport, in particular a metro link.

2. Active Travel Schemes

- Consideration must be given to active travel schemes, i.e. cycle and walking infrastructure, to ensure that these form a central part of any redevelopment process.

3. Traffic Congestion & Safety

- It is critically important that prior to planning permission being granted, that An Bord Pleanála is fully satisfied that the proposal will not increase traffic congestion or decrease safety in any way or form.

Demand Analysis & Metro Link

- There appears to have been several attempts to conduct a demand analysis for the Templeogue / Rathfarnham bus corridor with various different projections and outcomes established along the way. This has the appearance of arriving at demand and usage figures that suit the proposed plan rather than designing a plan to suit future demand.
- The extension of the MetroLink to South West Dublin must be considered as part of any public transport plan, the provision of which is critical to delivering efficient and cost-effective public transport to the Dublin South West region.

Finally, we'd like to [iterate](#) our general support for any scheme that will increase public transport usage in conjunction with improvements to walking and cycling, in particular, we welcome the increase in cycling facilities from 11 km to 23.3 km of which 85.4% will be segregated.

Yours faithfully,

Francis Noel Duffy TD, Dublin South-West

Councillor Mark Lynch, [Templeogue-Rathfarnham LEA](#)