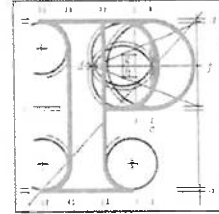


**Our Case Number:** ABP-316272-23



**An  
Bord  
Pleanála**

Stephen Bailey  
137 Rathgar Road  
Rathgar  
Dublin 6

**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](mailto: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	<a href="http://www.pleanala.ie">www.pleanala.ie</a>
Ríomhphost	Email	<a href="mailto:bord@pleanala.ie">bord@pleanala.ie</a>

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

## Kevin McGettigan

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**From:** Eimear Reilly  
**Sent:** Monday 8 April 2024 12:54  
**To:** Kevin McGettigan  
**Subject:** FW: ABP - 316272-23 - Further submission

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**From:** LAPS <laps@pleanala.ie>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 28, 2024 3:36 PM  
**To:** Eimear Reilly <e.reilly@pleanala.ie>  
**Subject:** FW: ABP - 316272-23 - Further submission

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**From:** Stephen Bailey [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 28, 2024 3:28 PM  
**To:** LAPS <laps@pleanala.ie>  
**Subject:** ABP - 316272-23 - Further submission

**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.

Case Reference No ABP – 316272-23  
Original Submission Reference - SID-OBS-001126

28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

An Bord Pleanála  
(Strategic Infrastructure Division)  
64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1  
D01 V902

[laps@pleanala.ie](mailto:laps@pleanala.ie)

Re Bus Connects Templeogue/Rathfarnham to City Centre  
Case Reference No ABP – 316272-23  
Original Submission Reference - SID-OBS-001126

Dear Sir/Madam

As provided for under section 217B of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and in accordance with your letter dated 23 February 2024, I wish to make a further submission to An Bord Pleanála (ABP) in relation to the submission dated 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 received from the National Transport Authority (NTA)

Please add the following few comments, which were not included as part of my original observation, which was previously made by me with attached fee.

### **Bus Stop Removal Rathgar Road**

The planned removal of bus stop on this route appears to be an NTA policy to reduce journey times. This cannot be allowed or considered.

In particular I make comment on the planned removal of the bus stop on Rathgar Road at Garville Ave junction. This is a popular stop with many elderly residents and children using it. Forcing these residents to walk a further 1km to Rathgar village or Rathmines and children having to cross up to 4 further sideroads to reach a stop is unacceptable. Perhaps one of the reasons for its proposed removal is that the buses will already be full and there is no need to stop. This would be a disgrace. There is evidence to indicate that these corridors have been proposed to get people further out into town with scant regard for people who live closer to town on the routes to be able to avail of the transport. (as buses will be full when they reach them). The calculation from NTA should not be allowed to use the removal of bus stops in its time saving calculations to justify other reasons for changes as a result of time savings. For example if the total time savings proposed for a bus to travel along Rathgar Road from Rathgar to Rathmines is 2 minutes and the removal of a bus stop and the introduction of a bus gate provides a saving of 2 minutes, then there is no justification to make Rathgar Road a 24 hour one way system. On the other hand, if the introduction of a 24 hour one way system provides a saving of 2 minutes along Rathgar Road then there is no need to remove a much used and needed bus stop at Garville Ave junction.

### **Removal of turns in Ranelagh**

In today's Irish Independent (Mar 28, 2024) there is a disturbing article about the anger of residents in Ranelagh only now becoming aware of the loss of turns to roads that will turn journey times from metres to over 3km. In particular the hardship caused for a charitable meal delivery for the elderly organisation. The NTA process did not inform these residents of this change. It should have.

### **The change in landscape.**

It is undeniable that when NTA started this process, commuting was the key issue and there was no focus on remote working. Covid changed that focus and there is clear evidence that remote/home working will continue. The need for every working person who is employed by a company based in the city to transport themselves to the city is gone. It will never return. Remote working, AI etc is here to stay. The work NTA did in drawing up these plans was before they knew this. This single point alone screams STOP – The NTA should Redo their traffic models and submit new plans, the landscape has changed.

### **Bus gates working – Rathgar Road not busy.**

As a result of reduced traffic due to remote working, the prospect of congestion charges (Ref Eamon Ryan – Mar 2024), and the effective working of the bus gates recently installed on Rathgar Road, there is ABSOLUTELY NO NEED to turn Rathgar Road into a 24 hour one-way system. There is no need for road widening and loss of significant trees on Terenure Road East. Rathgar Road is moving well and there is often no or very little traffic on this road. Making 24 hours a day changes to this road is completely unnecessary. The people who know the workings of these roads the best are the people who live on and around them. The consultation process may have ticked some legally required boxes, but has not listened to and taken into account the knowledge of these residents.

### **Oral Hearing**

You have declared there will be no need for an oral hearing for this corridor. Why ?. The current plans if imposed on Dublin residents will affect this city for a century. Not consulting fully will leave this process open to appeals and further delays. I strongly implore everyone to pause, analyse and view all of the submissions originally made to the NTA for this corridor. Thousands of submissions were made originally to NTA. If these are not considered or reviewed by ABP, then let me remind ABP that there were thousands of submissions for this corridor alone. This process including the 50 Euro fee to ABP have made it impossible for these concerned Dublin citizens to be heard by ABP. ABP should be reviewing the original submissions made to NTA as part of this process.

Rathgar is a community. Do not allow the heritage of this city to be destroyed with the removal of trees, widening of roads, laying of more cement, and unnecessary removal of bus stops. Bus gates are working. Save our money and bring some common sense to this proposal. The bus routes within Bus Connects was planned by a detached Canadian consultant. Dublin is not a grid city. You cannot run these corridors through our historic small villages. This has become a vanity project for some senior employees within the NTA. They need to be stood down, corrected and a fresh approach taken. There are some good things in the proposal. Bicycle lanes, Bus gates, Congestion charges (recently), Combined Fare ticketing, Card scanning etc – all of these will make our city safer and get buses moving faster. NO NEED for tree removal, road widening, one way systems, bus stop removals.

Yours faithfully

Stephen Bailey  
137 Rathgar Road  
Rathgar  
Dublin 6