



**BERNARD J. DURKAN TD**

Kildare North Constituency

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An Bord Pleanála  
64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1  
D01 V902

28<sup>th</sup> of October 2022  
ABP Ref 314232/22

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to make the following submission in relation to the proposed DART+ West Railway Order - Dublin City to Maynooth and M3 Parkway, ABP planning file reference 314232/22 as follows.

RAILWAY ORDER  
TRANSPORT (RAILWAY INFRASTRUCTURE) ACT 2001  
(AS AMENDED AND SUBSTITUTED)  
DART+ WEST ELECTRIFIED HEAVY RAILWAY ORDER [2022]

Firstly, the proposed project is a welcome development to increase the capacity of the train line between Dublin and Maynooth creating further capacity options to allow for a more meaningful modal shift from single occupancy vehicles to high-capacity public transport with a fast and efficient link to Dublin City Centre.

However, I do have reservations about many of the proposals particularly where the use of green open space, recreational areas are to be encroached upon, used as compounds or in any way impacted.

I should also mention that notwithstanding previous enquiries, hearings etc in relation to this particular project, I and other public representatives strongly urged that the DART be extended to Enfield, or Kilcock at least and that the ancillary requirements could be located equidistant from Kilcock, Enfield and even Edenderry. This would provide a much better and wider service to a vastly greater population and eliminate the need for concentration of such services in the already densely populated areas. I realise that my and other protests were to no avail and that decisions made by others had a greater advantage of being included.

Nonetheless I wish to also point out that in the course of the major scheme, every effort should be made not to discommode local residents in places like Leixlip, Maynooth, Kilcock and the surrounding areas. In particular, I am strongly of the opinion that the creation of cul-de-sacs, dead ends and for what of a better description, "hang about" places should be avoided at all costs. Similarly, instead of impeding, interfering with or reducing recreational areas, public open spaces or the quality of life of residents, efforts should be made to augment the existing facilities rather than a diminution.

I believe that the project will be of tremendous benefit for hundreds of years but that the quality of life in the surrounding areas should be enhanced in every way possible as to depending entirely on the augmented rail service in this regard.

Please find enclosed €50.00 fee as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bernard J. Durkan', written over a horizontal line.

Bernard J. Durkan T.D.