

Hampstead Residents CLG, 10 Hampstead Ave Dublin 9

Hampstead Residents CLG Concluding remarks. (Submission No 111/Case 314724) An Bord Pleanala Metrolink Oral hearing 28/3/24.

Our residents, support the concept of the Metrolink project. We have sought early, honest dialogue with TII and expected to be included in a genuine consultation process- which indeed is our legal right!

Unfortunately, during the last several years, we often experienced a rejectionist and negative attitude from TII. At these oral hearings in Module 1 and 2, TII avoided to address properly, and too often dismissed many of our key questions/concerns.

It is TII's full responsibility to champion and execute consultation with all residents and stakeholders fairly. In reference to the Preferred Route 'consultation' which ended in early 2019. We repeat, we were NOT consulted on the TII plan to place the largest City located Metrolink construction site within Albert College Park (ACP)! This site was planned to be located just meters from our homes. TII has utterly failed to provided adequate consultation!

Our residents association had to 'forcefully request' information, under 'freedom of Information' from TII. This request was subsequently refused repeatedly, by TII staff. Eventually an appeal was made to the Information Commissioner, who then directed TII to release the information that was requested. This, simply put, is, -TII withholding information!

The Metrolink process, to date has taken approximately 5 years. TII have never met 'face to face' with our residents in relation to Metrolink, throughout those 5 years!

...we could go on, but 5 minutes does not permit!

The poor engagement and lack of genuine consultation by TII, is shocking. However it is now with much astonishment, our residents have learned that it appears TII has in fact has had many meetings with other institutions/stakeholders. Many of these engagements have concluded with 'private agreements'. We feel that such agreements (which are then put under NDA), undermine the integrity of what is supposed to be an 'open, impartial and transparent' hearing. We suggest that such 'covert activity', is more suited

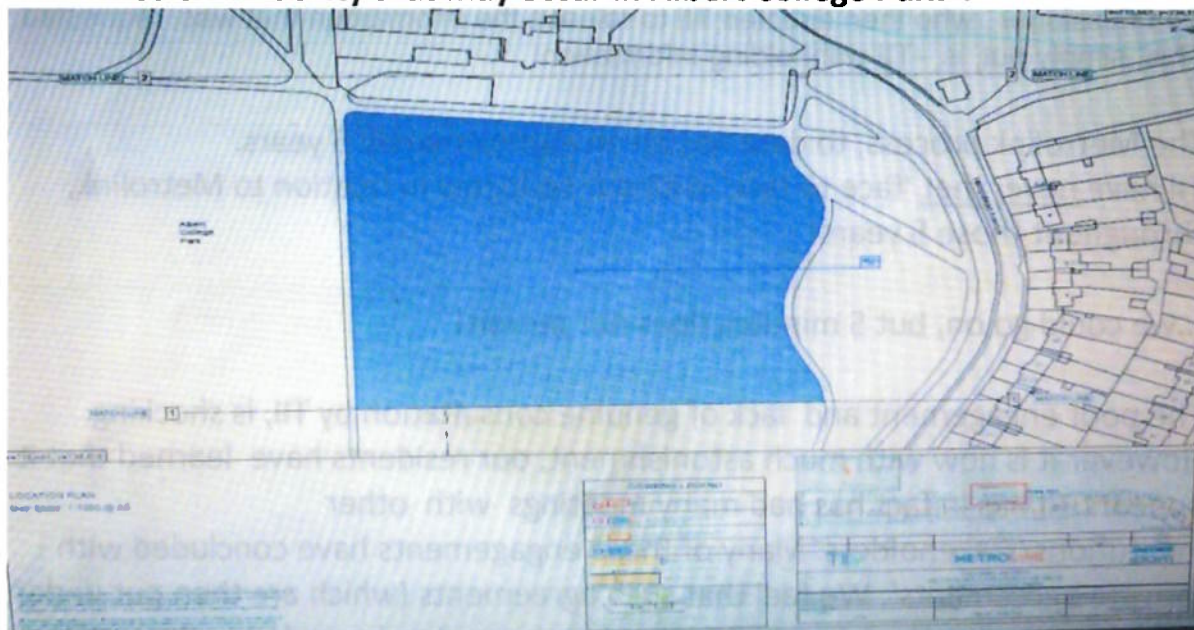
to an authoritarian system and should have no role, within a planning process of public funded infrastructure, in a democratic state.

TII have been asked repeatedly to show evidence of consultation on the position of the shaft and alternatives to the shaft but have neither supplied it to residents nor to the ABP inspectors. We therefore conclude that this does not exist so we are calling on the ABP inspectors to look for this information from TII, prior to progressing with the Railway Order.

We ask , that the Inspector now initiate a formal review on TII's Preferred route 'consultation' (2019), regarding the proposed 'Vent Shaft' in ACP and any alternatives to the shaft itself. -The objective, in our opinion, should be - reinstating our statutory right of affording us genuine consultation, in relation to the Vent Shaft and its alternatives.

In our RO submission and in our Module 1 & 2 oral hearing presentations, we have raised many requests for the inclusion of RO conditions. All conditions are important to us. However we highlight below a summary of some of the key **RO conditions**. All these could apply to any Metrolink structure that may be positioned within ACP.

- (1) "The ACP land outlined in blue (map below), is to be used specifically for football field re instatement and NOT at any stage to be used for any construction work/staging /storage, or any support uses for a Metrolink facility that may occur in Albert College Park".**



- (2) Once work starts on any Metrolink site in ACP, it must continue to completion. ie:-it does not adapt a 'start stop' approach over numerous years.**
- (3) Any work or use of a site, proposed in ACP must be only related to that site alone.**
- (4) Any Sprayed Concrete Lining (SCL) works in ACP must be carried out during standard working hours (this is standard practice in other European metro construction sites on metro Shaft facilities!).**
- (5) Any Metrolink site in ACP (or directly adjacent to it) must be a 'quiet and dark' site at night time!**

Finally we would like to thank RINA for their Independent expert assistance. We believe if our request for RINA's assistance was provided , by TII early in the Metrolink project cycle, there likely would have been less, ongoing issues, stress and frustration, and probably result in a more efficient RO process.

Thank you,

Hampstead Residents CLG.