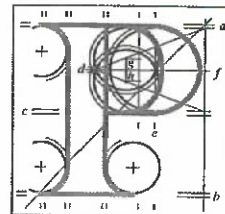


Our Case Number: ABP-314724-22

Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Butterfield District Residents Association
C/O Pat Donnelly
8 Butterfield Grove
Rathfarnham
Dublin 14

Date: 07 December 2022

Re: Railway (Metrolink - Estuary to Charlemont via Dublin Airport) Order [2022]
Metrolink. Estuary through Swords, Dublin Airport, Ballymun, Glasnevin and City Centre to Charlemont, Co. Dublin

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent submission (including your fee of €50) in relation to the above-mentioned proposed Railway Order and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter.

The Board will revert to you in due course with regard to the matter.

Please be advised that copies of all submissions/observations received in relation to the application will be made available for public inspection at the offices of the relevant County Council(s) and at the offices of An Bord Pleanála when they have been processed by the Board.

More detailed information in relation to strategic infrastructure development can be viewed on the Board's website: www.pleanala.ie.

If you have any queries in the meantime, please contact the undersigned. Please quote the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

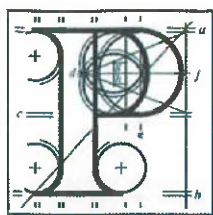
Yours faithfully,



Niamh Thornton
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737247

Tell	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaao Áitiúil	LoCall	1890 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



An
Bord
Pleanála

Observation on a Strategic Infrastructure Development Application

Observer's details

1. Observer's details (person making the observation)

If you are making the observation, write your full name and address.

If you are an agent completing the observation for someone else, write the observer's details:

(a) Observer's name

Pat Donnelly (Butterfield District Residents' Association)

(b) Observer's postal address

Click or tap here to enter text.

8 Butterfield Grove, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14

Agent's details

2. Agent's details (if applicable)

If you are an agent and are acting for someone else **on this observation**, please **also** write your details below.

If you are not using an agent, please write "Not applicable" below.

(a) Agent's name

Click or tap here to enter text.

(b) Agent's postal address

Click or tap here to enter text.

Postal address for letters

3. During the process to decide the application, we will post information and items to you or to your agent. For this **current application**, who should we write to? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

You (the observer) at the postal address in Part 1

☒

The agent at the postal address in Part 2

☐

Details about the proposed development

4. Please provide details about the **current application** you wish to make an observation.
- (a) **An Bord Pleanála case number for the current application (if available)**
(for example: 300000)

NA29N.314724

- (b) **Name or description of proposed development**

Estuary through Swords, Dublin Airport, Ballymun, Glasnevin and City Centre to Charlemont, Co. Dublin

- (c) **Location of proposed development**

(for example: 1 Main Street, Baile Fearainn, Co Abhaile)

Click or tap here to enter text.

Observation details

5. Grounds

Please describe the grounds of your observation (planning reasons and arguments). You can type or write them in the space below. There is **no word** limit as the box expands to fit what you write.

You can also insert photographs or images in this box. (See part 6 – Supporting materials for more information).



Butterfield District Residents' Association Rathfarnham, Dublin 14

The Secretary,
An Bord Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Rotunda,
Dublin 1, D01 V902

15th November 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Case reference: NA29N.314724

Estuary through Swords, Dublin Airport, Ballymun, Glasnevin and City Centre to Charlemont, Co. Dublin

Dear Sir/Madam,

We, the committee of Butterfield Residents' Association, wish to make a submission on behalf of our residents relating solely to the permission sought to locate the terminus of MetroLink at Mander's Terrace, Charlemont. BDRA would request that the terminus be located initially at Stephen's Green for the moment so that further excavation can be deferred to allow other options to be explored.

BDRA considers a terminus located at Rathmines rather than Charlemont to be a more suitable option for the future. We would like to emphasise that we are fully supportive of

5. Grounds

MetroLink from Estuary to St Stephen's Green and would wish for work to begin as soon as possible.

The following reasons apply:

1. Lack of Bus connectivity at Charlemont.

Charlemont is not served by many buses. When the BusConnects plan is fully in place Rathmines will be served by the A Spine at a rate of 33 buses per hour at peak times. Passengers using these buses could alight at Portobello and easily access the Rathmines terminus. Conversely, for Charlemont, the same passengers, many bound for the airport with luggage, would face a considerable walk along the canal on pathways not designed for the use of large numbers of pedestrians to use at once.

The Railway Order plan contains no proposal for a proper infrastructure to facilitate these commuters. In addition, on arrival in Charlemont, those passengers must also use lifts/escalators to negotiate level changes. Such a scenario has obvious and needless negative consequences for those with mobility difficulties.

This proposal is supported in Jasper's report for the NTA

"The connection to Ranelagh could feasibly be deferred until there is clarity on the future of the Green Line (subject to an improved understanding of how this could physically be delivered in a scenario with Metro operational)"

For these reason BDRA strongly supports a future terminus at Rathmines rather than Charlemont.

2. Further options for MetroLink have not been explored fully.

Three options were identified by the NTA:

- Continuing the Metro along the Green Luas line
- Extending the Metro to UCD
- Extending the Metro to South West Dublin

The third option is of most interest to BDRA and its residents.

BDRA contends that the area in between the two Luas lines is very poorly served by public transport at present and that BusConnects alone will not satisfy the future transport needs of this rapidly growing area.

The feasibility study already made did not capture/reference all the transport needs of the entire area. The study confined itself to a possible Metro to Knocklyon thereby neglecting consideration of the travel needs of the wider area including much of Greater Tallaght/ Ballycullen whose residents have no easy access to the Luas. We would therefore request that a proper feasibility study with appropriate parameters be undertaken to explore this option.

BDRA considers that the building of terminus at Charlemont would preclude any possibility of further development of this option in the future.

3. The environmental benefits for extending the MetroLink to the south-west are many. BDRA recognises that the population of Rathfarnham and its surrounding areas is growing rapidly. Extensive housing development is taking place in Scholarstown and It is already apparent that traffic is seriously gridlocked on local roads because many people rely

5. Grounds

on cars due to the woefully inadequate bus service in this area. This situation will deteriorate as more people move into these residences with the inevitable rise in carbon emissions.

The issue of carbon emissions cannot be adequately addressed by excluding the Metrolink to the south west as commuters will still have to rely on cars to commute to work, for family visits, social events etc thus adding to daily gridlock and longer journey times and all the while producing further harmful emissions.

BDRA believes that the case for extending the MetroLink to the south-west is a very strong one. The human and economic benefits are many.

Yours faithfully,
Pat Donnelly,
Fionán Ó Cuireáin
Committee, Butterfield District Residents' Association

Supporting materials

6. If you wish, you can include supporting materials with your observation.

Supporting materials include:

- photographs,
- plans,
- surveys,
- drawings,
- digital videos or DVDs,
- technical guidance, or
- other supporting materials.

You can insert photographs and similar items in your observation details: grounds (part 5 of this form).

If your supporting materials are physical objects, you must send them together with your observation by post or deliver it in person to our office. You cannot use the online uploader facility.

Fee

7. You **must** make sure that the correct fee is included with your observation.

Observers (except prescribed bodies)

- strategic infrastructure observation is €50.
- there is no fee for an oral hearing request

Oral hearing request

8. If you wish to [request the Board to hold an oral hearing](#), please tick the “Yes, I wish to request an oral hearing” box below.

You can find information on how to make this request on [our website](#) or by contacting us.

If you do not wish to request an oral hearing, please tick the “No, I do not wish to request an oral hearing” box.

Yes, I wish to request an oral hearing

☐

No, I do not wish to request an oral hearing

☐

Final steps before you send us your observations

9. If you are sending us your observation using **the online uploader facility**, remember to save this document as a Microsoft word or PDF and title it with:

- the case number and your name, or
- the name and location of the development and your name.

This also applies to prescribed bodies sending an observation by email.

If you are sending your observation to us by post or delivering in person, remember to print off all the pages of this document and send it to us.

For Office Use Only

FEM – Received		SIDS – Processed	
Initials		Initials	
Date		Date	

Notes