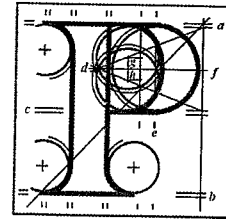


Our Case Number: ABP-314724-22

Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Mark O'Connell
18 Lindsay Road
Glasnevin
Dublin 8

Date: 18 January 2023

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

Teil	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1890 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	www.pleanala.ie
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64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

18 Lindsay Road,
Glasnevin,
Dublin 8.

Tel: 087 2488502
Derrynane@gmail.com

15th January, 2023

Re: Observation on Metrolink, ABP Case number 314724

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am a 58-year-old resident of Glasnevin. I have lived and worked in this area all my life. I consider myself to be a progressive person and with four children, I often think about how I can help leave behind a better world – or just a better Dublin.

My observation on the above SID is as follows:

1. I am not convinced of the necessity for a rail link to the airport. I believe the airport is well served by a network of public buses, private buses and taxis. Just because we are the only European capital city without a rail link to its airport should not dictate that we need one.
2. This area in which I live – the junction of Phibsboro, Glasnevin and Drumcondra – has had its challenges over the decades. All in all, I am not of the opinion that it has improved. I believe that the Metrolink – with its stations at Crossguns Bridge and Mobhi Road – will not represent a turnaround. The reality is that the area has been dragged down by the presence of Mountjoy Jail and the declining Phibsboro Shopping Centre.
3. Standing proud above the incremental drabness are the Botanic Gardens, Mobhi Road and the Brian Boru Pub. The Metrolink Stations on Mobhi Road and Crossguns will significantly impact the former and will completely obliterate the latter. This is really sad. Mobhi Road would be destroyed. So many mature trees would be removed.
4. In particular, the plans to scrub the Brian Boru from the area is so crude. It's such a beautiful building. It features in James Joyce's Ulysees and it's

the only pub in Ireland with a crucifix on the front! I don't go in there often but I derive great comfort from its presence. It also happens to be the place where my siblings and I bade farewell to our parents after their funerals in Glasnevin Cemetery. Could the station not be built down the road on the site of Phibsboro Shopping Centre? What an opportunity to get rid of an eyesore? Some good lateral thinking there?

5. In addition to the Brian Boru, three beautiful neo-Georgian houses are also slated for destruction. They too are lovely features on that street. It will be a shame if they go.
6. The construction of the Metrolink stations at Crossguns and on Mobhi Road would add to the congestion in the area. It is important to note that permission has already been granted for a massive number of housing units a Crossguns/Royal Canal and further away on Botanic Road. These developments are in themselves unsuitable because proper provision has not been made for cars, retail, school and green play areas. The addition of Metrolink stations would draw significant amount of additional vehicular traffic – set-down and passing. The area would become unviable. The irony of building a railing station in the middle of this should not be lost.
7. Assuming that the Metrolink station does go ahead at Crossguns, has any consideration been given to preserving at least part of the Brian Boru? Could it be incorporated into the station? Could the building be uplifted and moved to an adjacent area? I believe one or both of these options could be viable.

Please give some consideration to these points.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Mark O'Connell