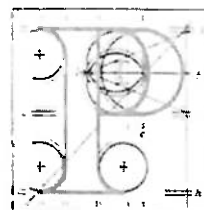


Our Case Number: ABP-317121-23



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Residents of Griffith Downs
c/o Peter McDonnell
5 Griffith Downs
Drumcondra
Dublin 9

Date: 29 January 2024

Re: BusConnects Swords to City Centre Bus Corridor Scheme
Swords to Dublin City Centre

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent submission in relation to the above mentioned proposed road development. The contents of your letter have been noted.

If you have any queries in relation to this matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board at laps@pleanala.ie

Please quote the above-mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

Breda Ingie

Breda Ingie
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-873 7291

HA06

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64 Sráid Maoilbhríde
Baile Átha Cliath 1
D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

AN BORD PLEANÁLA

LDG- _____

ABP- 317121-23

19 JAN 2024

Fee: € _____ Type: _____

Time: 10:28 By: [Signature]

5, Griffith Downs,

Drumcondra,

Dublin 9

18th January 2024

Bus Connects: Swords to City Centre

ABP Ref. No. 317121 - 23

Ref. No. 1174(1). 1i and 1174(2). 1i

**BUS CONNECTS/NTA: Response to Submissions on Proposed Scheme
317121 - 23, dated ABP, 23 NOV 2023.**

Ref. 2.1.3.1 'Request for green area to be protected and conserved'

Request for all of the green area outside Griffith Downs which contains 'Griffith Downs' signage to be protected and conserved.

Griffith Downs Residents

The residents of Griffith Downs do not accept that it is necessary to remove any part of the mature green area located along Swords Road at Griffith Downs to facilitate a two-way cycle lane. We maintain that the proposed two-way cycle lane is not needed as the current cycle track is more than adequate for current and all future needs.

From the above report (Response to Submissions) Figure 2.3 (Map 29) date March 2020 and Figure 2.4 (Map 29) date November 2020, show a single cycle lane outside Griffith Downs which does not impact on the green area, proving that the two-way cycle track was NOT part of the Bus Connects Project at that time. It is not true to say that the 20m two-way cycle track was suggested at Public Consultations on or before November 2020. During the Public Consultations, attended by representatives of Griffith Downs, there was never any suggestion that the green area at Griffith Downs would be impacted by a two-way cycle track. The protection of the green area was brought up many times at the Public Consultations and the unease of the residents was allayed by those representing Bus Connects at those presentations.

The removal of a strip of grass along the carriageway (Swords Road) side of the green by approx. 2m will ruin the grass area and leave a very narrow strip of grass which will be difficult to maintain to its present standard. Maintenance of the remaining narrow strip of grass will be difficult. In time, it will resemble other grass verges along Upper Drumcondra Road which are usually poorly maintained and attract litter, car parking and other detritus. This two-way cycle lane is not needed.

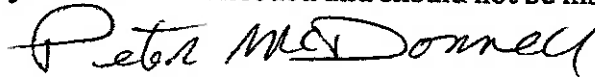
The first indication to the residents of Griffith Downs that a two-way cycle lane was being proposed came in July 2023. This was new information to the residents and something that was never considered prior to that time, following the assurances given at all previous Public Consultations.

The residents of Griffith Downs' position is that cyclists do not need to cross the main road at Griffith Downs on a new toucan crossing. They can continue on the existing north-bound cycle lane and cross the road at the entrance to Seven Oaks/Bonnington Hotel where there are traffic lights. A toucan crossing could facilitate entering Seven Oaks at this point. Alternatively, they could cycle south from the traffic lights on the existing cycle lane for approx. 15m and enter Seven Oaks through the pedestrian/cyclist access facility.

The removal and replacement of some of the trees in the green area was indicated during the Public Consultations. This was agreed by all as necessary for the project.

In light of the viewpoint expressed above we respectfully suggest that the current single lane cycle track is retained and the green area at Griffith Downs is preserved as it is today. The current system for cyclists works well and should not be changed. The proposed two-way cycle track is not needed and should not be installed.

Peter McDonnell,



Griffith Downs Residents,

Drumcondra,

Dublin 9.

Email: 