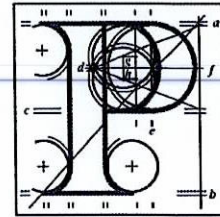


Our Case Number: ABP-313509-22

Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Paddy Mulligan
17A Warrington Place
Dublin
Dublin 2

Date: 13 July 2022

Re: BusConnects Belfield/Blackrock to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme
Co. Dublin

Dear Sir,

An Bord Pleanála has received your observation or submission in relation to the case mentioned above and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter. Please accept this letter as a receipt for the fee of €50 that you have paid.

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 Local Authority and at the offices of An Bord Pleanála when they have been processed by the Board.

For further information on this case please access our website at www.pleanala.ie and input the 6-digit case number into the search box. This number is shown on the top of this letter (for example: 303000).

Yours faithfully,

Sarah Caulfield
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737287

BL50A

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Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1890 275 175
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64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
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An Bord Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street

Dublin 1

D01 V902

Case Ref : HA29N.313509

Bus Connects Belfield/Blackrock to city centre Core Bus Corridor

AN BORD PLEANÁLA	
LDG-	
ABP-	313509-22
12 JUL 2022	
Fee: €	50.00
Type:	CARD
Time:	13:37
By:	HAND

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you to object in the strongest terms to the Belfield Blackrock Bus corridor and the destruction it will cause to my community, to my neighbourhood and to Georgian Dublin. As someone who relies upon public transport, I don't have a car, I am particularly shocked to see the madness that this plan is trying to unleash. When I want to travel to Blackrock I get the DART! Why the NTA want a bus corridor running right alongside a train track, going in the same direction as the train, stopping at the same places as the train, but causing chaos to the residents of the area, is beyond me.

I regularly go to Belfield to see UCD play, I get there by getting a bus through Donnybrook, not via Merrion Rd. UCD to town via Donnybrook is the way any sensible person is going to get into the city centre. Why are the NTA trying to cause destruction by sending a wall of busses through Ballsbridge and Pembroke Rd and Upper Baggot St? There is a natural route via Donnybrook on one side and an existing DART line on the other.

The plan beggars belief to begin with, but then it gets even worse. When the Bus Corridor gets to the corner of Northumberland Rd, where the old Jurys Hotel is, instead of going straight ahead along Northumberland Rd and over Mount St Bridge to Merrion Sq, they want it to veer off up Pembroke Rd and Upper Baggot St. Pembroke Rd is lovely, its lined with protected Georgian buildings, it's a lovely road to walk along. It's the way people walk to Lansdowne Rd for matches. Its not built for 100 busses an hour to blast along. This plan wants to turn it into a dead zone of empty busses. The busses along Baggot St are already empty! I know! That's how I travel around.

Hold on, they haven't stopped with the madness yet. They want to cut off Baggot St! this is where I shop, socialise, spend time. Chemists, supermarket, dry cleaners, doctors, barbers and more! Its an urban village! This plan will cut it off and kill its shops! It'll cut off movement from Pembroke rd! cut off movement from Waterloo Rd! Cut off Movement from Mespil Rd! the only way left onto the street will be via Haddington Rd, AND they want to restrict that to a single lane at the lights, that's going to make a shambles of Haddington Rd, it'll be traffic jammed! And putting bile lanes along Haddington road when they're already running along the far side of the canal, its not a plan its just torment.

I can already see that there isn't enough parking or loading bays on Upper Baggot St. This plan wants to strip the street of even more parking spaces! Madness! I've lived and travelled all over the world and seen that robbing a village or neighbourhood, and Baggot st is an urban village, of the ability to accommodate deliveries and customers will kill an area. Don't let this happen to my home, don't put the village shops out of business by cutting them off from their customers. There are people younger than me that need to get to the chemist by car. People with dry cleaning need cars to get clothes in

and out, the florist needs to be accessible by car. Putting loading bays on Wellington Rd, is someone actually serious? Does someone think moving pallets from there makes sense? Loading bays on Eastmoreland Place are just as nonsensical! It'll take a Guinness truck an hour of noise and chaos rolling barrels along the footpath just for one pub. All while empty and unwanted busses blast past at 100 an hour! And loading goods into the supermarkets and restaurants, do you want to eat shellfish that's been pushed along the footpath for 15mins on a hot summer day! I don't, and I doubt if the Doctors in the Emergency Department want you to either!

Chaos and destruction can be avoided by taking a straight line route over Mount Street bridge. Its wide and flat and modern! Baggot St bridge is a narrow humpback bridge, who would ever want to use a 200 year old humpback bridge to take a circuitous route? A ridiculous routh that divides a neighbourhood! That kills a village. That robs residents of our shopping and visual amenities and hurts a community instead of going straight over Mount St bridge!

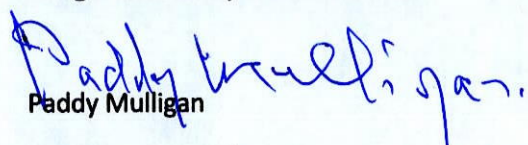
I've seen the alternative "NewtonPlan" for Dublin transport. Why hasn't this been examined by the NTA? It's a plan that respects communities and serves them rather than seeking to rip them apart and kill them. An underground metro system has finally been announced, this would link with the Newton Plan. Is it madness or arrogance that the NTA wont look at any alternatives to destruction of communities, Upper Baggot St area in particular?

I know my history, I know my neighbourhood, even the British army went via Mount St Bridge when they wanted to get into town! The Battle of Mount St Bridge! Bus Eireann EXPRESSWAY use Northumberland Rd and Mount St! The Aircoach use the Northumberland Rd/Mount St route and N11/Donnynbrook/Leeson St! This Bus corridor plan is flawed. From the beginning its flawed, and it gets worse and more worrying the closer you look.

I work in offices all around Dublin. Offices are still empty, what data was used by the NTA? The Government wants people to work from home, theyre going Pre covid data, out of date data! Meaningless data! All through covid I was lucky to have the Baggot St village area. I didn't have to worry about life's necessities. I can see that shops need people to be able to travel to Baggot St Upper, they suffered through lockdowns and I need my village community or I will be left suffering. The whole area will be left suffering if Upper Baggot St is cut in half and cut off from its neighbouring roads in this mad plan.

Don't make a shambles of Dublin, don't let a flawed plan kill my community. Villages want to be bypassed not to have Motorways rammed through them. At the moment Pembroke Rd and Upper Baggot St are effectively bypassed, Donnybrook/N11 on one side and Ballsbridge/Northumberland Rd on the other. Pembroke Rd/Upper Baggot St is a place where people come to! People visit! People shop! People eat! Ramming a Bus Corridor through this gem of Georgian Dublin would be the same as ramming a Motorway through Adare or Enniskerry. You'd be killing a village instead of protecting it.

Common sense and a bit of old fashioned cop on, that's all that's needed to save livelihoods and a village community from madness!


Paddy Mulligan

17A Warrington Place

Dublin 2