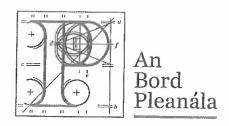
Our Case Number: ABP-314597-22

Your Reference: Olivia Heffernan



MJ Designs Boleybeg East Barna Co. Galway

Date: 01 December 2022

Re: BusConnects Galway Cross-City Link Scheme. University Road to Dublin Road, Galway City.

Dear Sir / Madam.

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent submission in relation to the above-mentioned proposed road development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter.

Please be advised that landowners listed on the Compulsory Purchase Order schedule associated with this application are not required to pay the €50 fee associated with this case. As you are listed as a landowner, a refund of €50 will be issued to the debit/credit card used to make payment for this submission.

Please note that the proposed road development shall not be carried out unless the Board has approved it or approved it with modifications.

The Board has also received an application for confirmation of a compulsory purchase order which relates to this proposed road development. The Board has absolute discretion to hold an oral hearing in respect of any application before it, in accordance with section 218 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. Accordingly, the Board will inform you in due course on this matter. The Board shall also make a decision on both applications at the same time.

If you have any queries in relation to this matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board.

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

HA02A



Boleybeg East Barna Galway 086-2657596 091-750006 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022

An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1. D01 V902

**BORD PLEANALA CASE REF: HA61.314579** 

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: BusConnects Galway: Cross-City Link (University Road to Dublin Road) Scheme Objection to Proposed Cross City Bus Link-Bord Pleanala Case Ref: HA61.314579

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of my client Olivia Heffeman of Bayview House, College Road, Galway H91 T2H4, I wish to lodge the following objection in relation to the BusConnects Galway: Cross-City Link (University Road to Dublin Road) Scheme which was submitted to An Bord Pleanala by Galway City Council.

Olivia Heffernan is the owner of Bayview House, an 11 Bedroom Guest house located at the junction of College Road and Moneenageisha Road, Galway.

The property is a commercial guest house/BnB and has substantial on site car parking.



Extract from GeoHive Maps showing Bayview to Western side of existing Junction License No.: CYAL502609611 © Ordnance survey Ireland / Government of Ireland.

As will be noted from the Aerial Photograph above, Bayview House BnB is bounded by College Road to the South East and Moneenageisha Road to the North East.

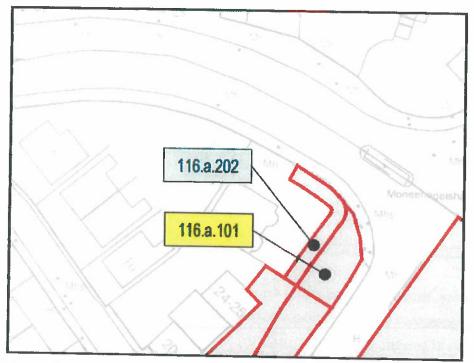
The Guest House (With Red Dot) is located to the Western Corner of the site and there is a large car parking area in front of the house. The Area of Car parking is 325 sq.m and this can provide car parking for in excess of 12 car spaces and at times over 15 cars.

Vehicular Access is off Moneenageisha Road and Pedestrian access via a gateway onto College Road.

The Guest House has 11 bedrooms -5 x Triples, 1 x Quad Bedroom and 5 x Doubles/Triples and the fact the property has extensive on site car parking and is within walking distance of Eyre Square means that this is a very popular guest house for visitors to Galway as it provided free on-site secure car parking.

As a result of being able to offer on-site car parking, the guest accommodation has a very high occupancy rate throughout the year. Our client advises that the high occupancy is solely dependant on being able to offer on site car parking for her guests.

As part of the BusConnects Galway: Cross City Link (University Road to Dublin Road) Scheme, Galway City Council have published Compulsory Purchase Order No. CCL-CPO-001,2022.



Extract from Galway City Council Drawing BCG-DM-05

-Lands being Compulsorly Acquired-Deposit Map.

The lands being permanently Acquired from Olivia Heffernan are labelled 116.a.101. The lands being Temporarly Acquired for the construction stage are labelled 116.a.202.

The Area of lands being Permanently Acquired is 110.3 sq.m.

Land o	ther than land co	rsisting of a house or houses unfit for	SCHEDULE PART I Lands Being Permanently A rhuman habitation and not capable of	<b>equired</b> of being rend
Number on map deposited at Local Authority	Quantity, Description, and situation of land		Owners or Reputed Owners	Lessees o
116.a.101	Area (Ha); Area (m²); Description; County; Address;	0.01103 110.3 B&B Carpark Galway Bayview House, College Road, Galway, H91 T2H4	Olivia Heffernan, Bayview House, College Rd. Galway, H91 T2H4	Nonc

MJ Designs- 091-750006 / 086-2657596 | Olivia Heffernan Bayview House, College Rd. michael@ mjdesigns.ie Objection/ Submission to Case Reference HA61.314579
BusConnects Galway: Cross City Link (University Rd to College Road) Scheme.

The Area of lands being Temporarily Acquired is 76.7 sq.m.

#### SCHEDULE PART II

### **Lands Being Temporarily Acquired**

Land other than land consisting of a house or houses unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered

Number on map deposited at Local Authority	Quantity, Description, and situation of land		Owners or Reputed Owners	Lessees or
116.a.202	Area (Ha): Area (m²): Description: County: Address:	0.076 76.7 B&B Carpark Galway Bayview House, College Rd. Galway, H91 T2H4	Olivia Heffernan, Bayview House. College Rd. Galway. 1191 T2114	

As mentioned above, the on-site car parking is the reason that the B&B is so successful and the business generates a turn over in excess of €210,000.00 per annum and this is our client's sole source of income.

The existing car park has an area of 325sq.m and Galway City Council as part of the CPO for the BusConnects Cross City Link propose to Permanently Compulsory Purchase 110sq.m of the Car Parking Area -34% of the total Car Park area.

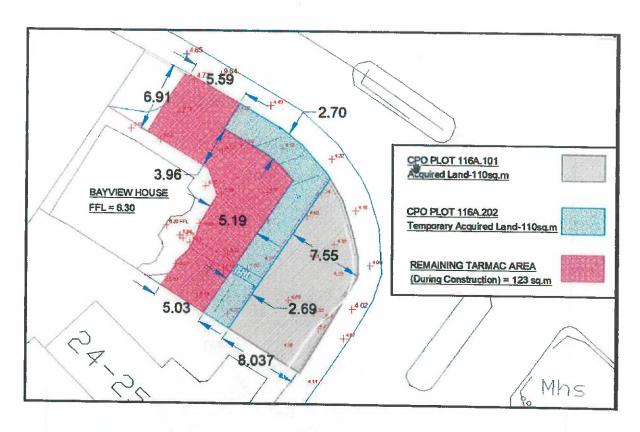
Additionally, Galway City Council are Temporarily acquiring an additional 76.7 sq.m of car park for the construction stage

This will mean that for the construction stage of the project, the City Council will have acquired 187sq.m of the car park or 58% of the car park.

Due to the shape of the site and the shape of CPO Plot 116.a.202, there will only be space left on site for 2 car spaces during the construction stage.

The Construction Phase around Moneenageisha Junction could extend for in excess of a year, or even longer, as this will be one of the main Junction Points in the whole scheme and if the Galway BusConnects Cross City Link Scheme is approved by An Bord Pleanala, then this will result in the closure of our client's business as it will no longer be viable during the construction phase as it cannot operate with only 2 car parking spaces.

In addition, practically all of the B&B business is generated through Booking.com. The problem which our client faces is that she is now taking bookings for 2023 and in 2023 she will be taking bookings for 2024 and so forth, therefore she needs certainty in relation to her business. Under the Booking.com arrangement she is contractually liable to provide her guests with their booked accommodation. If she cannot provide that accommodation then she is liable for any losses suffered by such guests and furthermore her booking rate would be adversely affected. The problem she faces is that if she cannot be certain that she can accept bookings for future periods should the scheme be approved and without knowing to what extent her premises will be affected by the construction works then her business may be forced to close.



The drawing above shows the two CPO Plots. The lands shaded Purple will be the area of car park accessible during the construction stage- Due to the irregular shape and narrow width of the remaining car parking, it would only be possible to park two cars and from a Health & Safety Perspective, the car park would be dangerous as there are no proper turning areas and the owner would be liable to Insurance claims for car damage.

Therefore, it is our conclusion that if An Bord Pleanala grants permission for the proposed works, then Galway City Council and An Bord Pleanala will be responsible for the closure of a very successful business which provides much needed visitor accommodation in Galway City.

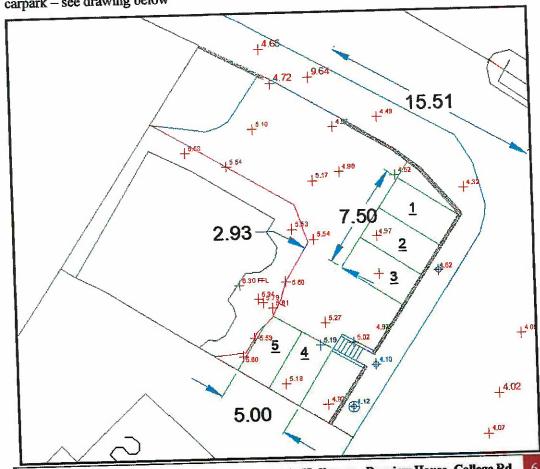
If the scheme is approved and the works are completed, then additional issues will arise for my client

Galway City Council are permanently acquiring between 7.55 and 8.03m of car parking area which fronts onto College Road.

There is currently a pedestrian access from the car park onto the footpath at college road. When the existing boundary wall is set back over 7.5m, there will be a difference in levels of 1100mm between the new footpath and the existing car park.

It will be necessary to construct a new pedestrian access that will further eat into the car park.

On completion of the proposed works, it will only be possible to park 5 cars within the carpark – see drawing below



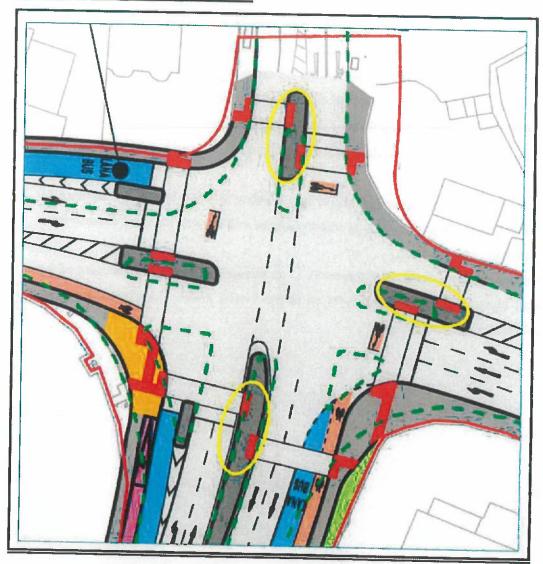
MJ Designs- 091-750006 / 086-2657596 | Olivia Heffernan Bayview House, College Rd.
michael@ mjdesigns.ie Objection/ Submission to Case Reference HA61.314579
BusConnects Galway: Cross City Link (University Rd to College Road) Scheme.

Car parking on completion of Works for Bus Connect Cross City Link Scheme.

Again, this leaves an unviable car park and therefore an unviable business- An 11 Bedroomed B & B which can sleep up to 34 people cannot operate with only 5 car parking spaces, especially when the main selling point for this business is the availability of on-site free car parking.

The proposed scheme in its current form will result in the permanent closure of Bayview house B & B and the total loss of my client's business and income.

### Failings with Road Safety Audit



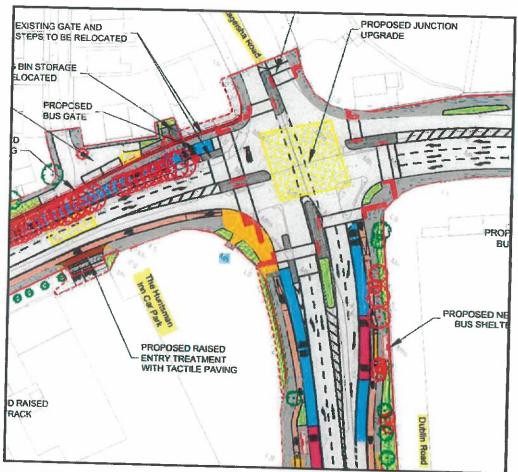
A Stage 1 Road Safety audit was completed by Barry & Associates on the College Road / Moneenageisha road junction- See Section 2 of Road Safety Audit- Audit Issues Identified.

Paragraphs 2.2 to 2.4 all refer to the College Road / Moneenageisha Road junction yet the audit does not consider the fact that the entrance to Bay View is now 8m closer to the junction and this will lead to a serious health and safety issue with the increased likelihood of a traffic accident when driving from the Moneenageisha Cross into the property with a risk of being rearended. The problem this poses is that it would normally be the responsibility of the other driver for the accident but that other driver could seek to make Galway City Council and An Bord Pleanala (in approving the scheme) and our client partially liable for the accident. This would result in our client's insurance company having to deal with such an incident on her behalf. However, is there is more than one accident, the problem then is that no insurance company will give our client public liability cover and this will result in our client not being able to conduct any business whatsoever on the premises. It would be the case that if the scheme is approved that our client would be seeking an indemnity from Galway City Council and An Bord Pleanala in respect of any such accident.

Additionally, the scheme design shows a pedestrian crossing beside the entrance to Bayview House. This is creating an additional hazard along with the short distance from the junction to the entrance.

There is a very real chance that there will be an increase in accidents on account of the current layout and this was not assessed in the Traffic Audit. Therefore, the scheme should be refused permission.

### **Alternative Designs**



There is no evidence anywhere within the Galway City Council submissions that they looked at an alternative design for the College Road / Moneenageisha Road Junction.

If the proposed alterations to the College Road section were moved Southwards towards the green space in front of the Huntsman Inn, then it is probable that the impact on Bayview house would be much less severe and it may have been possible to retain the property as a viable business.

It Appears that in the design of this scheme, no consideration was given what so ever to the impact this bus route will have on my client's business and as such the scheme should be refused.

Michael Lydon BE MIEI

On behalf of Lydon Consulting Engineers Ltd t/a MJ Designs

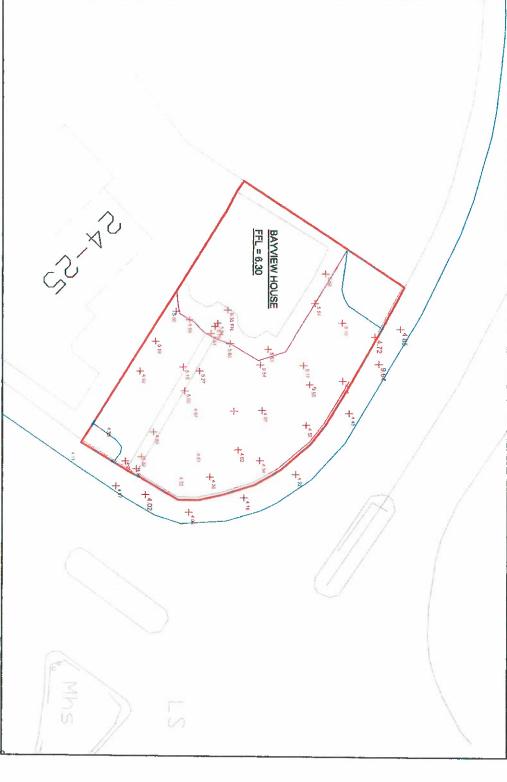
Appendix A – Site Survey Drawing

## PLOT EDGED RED OVERALL SITE AREA = 523 SQ.M

TARMAC AREA FOR CAR PARKING =

BAYVIEW HOUSE-PLOTS 116a.101 & 116a.202 **BUS CONNECT GALWAY- CROSS CITY LINK** Compulsory Purchase Order No. CCL-CPO-001, 2022 (UNIVERSITY ROAD TO DUBLIN ROAD) SCHEME

# 531074,726283



531000, 726234

CYAL 502609611

(c)Endnance Survey Ireland / Government of Ireland

BAYVIEW HOUSE LOCATION MAP PLOT EDGED RED (Scale 1:250 @ A3) TARMAC AREA = 325 sq.m. PLOT AREA = 0.129 Acres (0.0523 Ha)



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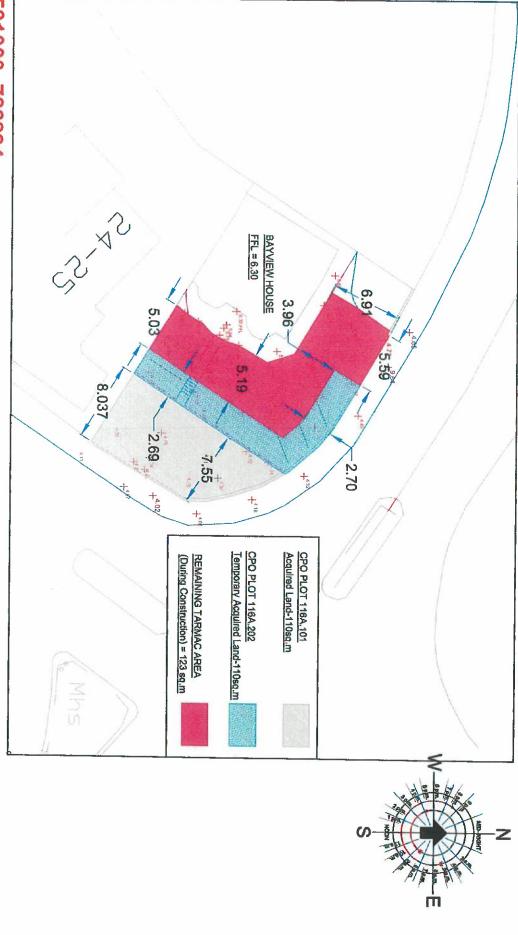
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### Appendix B -

Site Layout showing CPO Plots and available car parking DURING construction works

BAYVIEW HOUSE-PLOTS 116a.101 & 116a.202 BUS CONNECT GALWAY- CROSS CITY LINK Compulsory Purchase Order No. CCL-CPO-001, 2022 (UNIVERSITY ROAD TO DUBLIN ROAD) SCHEME 531074,726283



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MAP SHOWING CPO PLOTS AND RETAINED LANDS

Scale 1:250 @ A3)

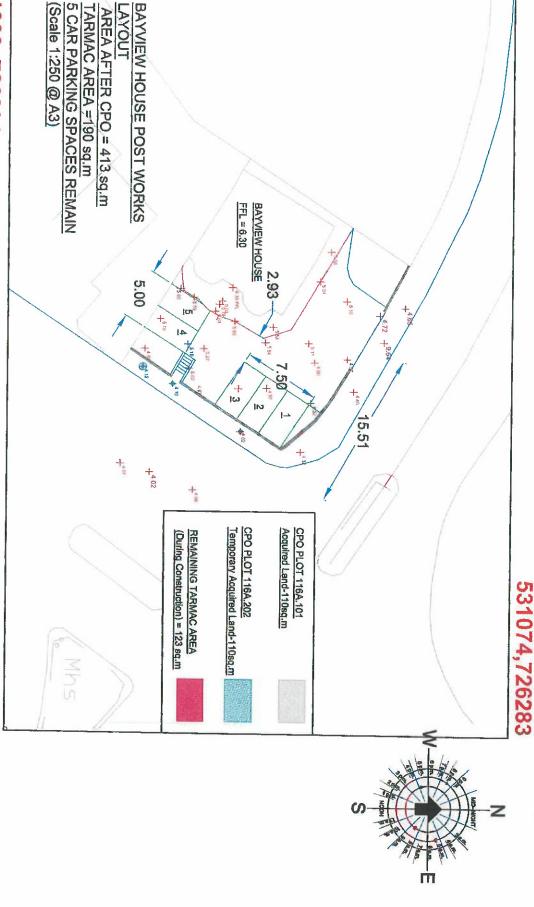
CONSULTING ENGINEERS & ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNS

DESTONS

## Appendix C-

Site Layout with 5 Remaining Car Spaces after COMPLETION of proposed Works

BAYVIEW HOUSE-PLOTS 116a.101 & 116a.202 Compulsory Purchase Order No. CCL-CPO-001, 2022 (UNIVERSITY ROAD TO DUBLIN ROAD) SCHEME BUS CONNECT GALWAY- CROSS CITY LINK



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DESIGNS