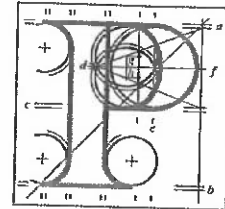


Our Case Number: ABP-314610-22

Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Ballygall Road East Residents (Caitriona O Brien)
62 Ballygall East
Dublin 11
D11 R5V6

Date: 21 November 2022

Re: BusConnects Ballymun/Finglas to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme
Ballymun/Finglas to Dublin City Centre

Dear Sir / Madam,

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

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

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

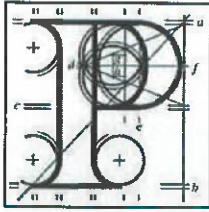
Yours faithfully,

Niamh Thornton
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737247

HA02 (Acknowledgement - No Receipt to Issue)

Tel	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaio 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



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

Caitriona Obrien (on behalf of Ballygall Road East
residents)

(b) Observer's
postal address

62 Ballygall East, Dublin 11, D11 R5V6

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)

HA29.314610

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

BusConnects Ballymun/Finglas to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme

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

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

Ballymun / Finglas to Dublin City Centre

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).

To whom it may concern,

We, the residents of Ballygall Road East, wish to make the following observations on the statutory planning listed above:

We are supportive of improvements to the overall transport strategy, and its objectives outlined in the application, however, we have several concerns with the proposal.

Communication	We understand that several meetings have taken place and some of the meetings took place over Zoom during Covid which did not suit members of our community group. Therefore, our community does not feel that there has been adequate engagement with us regarding this process.
Environmental Impact Assessment	The Environmental Impact Assessment does not adequately address the impact to Ballygall Road East or the side estates such as Glasilawn Avenue and Road, Tolka Estate and Griffith Road which will have increased traffic volumes due to the proposal to close Ballymun Road Lower and the changes for Mobhi Road northbound. We would expect that an assessment is conducted on these roads with respect to noise, vibration, and pollution.
Lower Ballymun Road Closure (Modified version of Option A)	The proposed modified version of Option A with the closure of Ballymun Road Lower and diversion of traffic westward along Glasnevin Hill and Cremore Villas would lead to significantly longer journeys for traffic re-joining Ballymun Road and would greatly exacerbate the traffic flow problem on Ballygall Road East. This should be changed so traffic will be allowed to flow in a Northbound direction up Ballymun Road Lower as was envisaged in the original amendment to the plan.

5. Grounds

	<p>Today at peak traffic times (8am- 9.30am and (3.30pm – 6pm) there is already significant congestion on Ballygall Road East and Fitzmaurice Road due to the traffic lights at the junction of Fitzmaurice Road /Ballygall Road East. This traffic volume is partially due to the number of schools in the area and the lack of schools in Charlestown / Finglas resulting in significant number of children commuting to these schools. Any further increase in traffic volumes as a result of the modified proposal will render Ballygall Road East almost impassable at peak hours.</p>
<p>Ballymun Core route:</p> <p>North Bound Bus Gate on St Mobhi Road</p>	<p>It is proposed to divert traffic to R135 Old Finglas Road or on to Botanic road and then on to Ballygall Road East and via Griffith Avenue extension to Ballymun Road.</p> <p>A high volume of traffic at peak times will cause this Northbound traffic to fan out through the surrounding roads. This includes Glasilawn Road and Avenue, Tolka Estate and Griffith Road which borders Ballygall Road East. This high throughput of traffic will impact negatively on our community and greatly increase road safety concerns for our residents especially our older and younger members this has not been examined or addressed in this application.</p> <p>We further note that the plans to impose traffic restrictions on Ballymun Road South are due to it being unsuitably narrow in particular with parked cars but it is considerably wider than the roads around Glasilawn Road and Avenue and Tolka Estate.</p> <p>There are a high number of schools in this small area: St Mary's and St Brigid's girls schools, Glasnevin National school, Sacred Heart and St Kevin's boys schools, Educate Together primary school, St Canices's special school, St Michael's house, and NDNISP primary school - our parents are concerned about the safe access of their children to these schools given the increased traffic flow through the area. Parents with children in different schools are concerned that they will not be able to commute between the schools in a timely manner. As already stated the catchment area for these schools includes new estates of Charlestown where no new schools have been provided.</p>

5. Grounds

	<p>The closure of Ballymun Road Lower would greatly exacerbate the traffic flow problem on Ballygall Road East which already experiences congestion at peak hours and this needs to be changed to the original proposal to allow traffic to flow in a Northbound direction up Ballymun Road.</p>
Ballymun Core route Destination	<p>The application states that the core bus routes will terminate at Arran Quay which is not in the city centre this will represent an increase in commuting time instead of improving it for most people. This is area is not easy to access and is unsafe in the evening and late at night this has not been addressed in this application.</p>
Access to Emergency Services	<p>There are also 3 nursing homes accessed via Ballygall Road East and increased congestion would hinder access to these by the Emergency services.</p>

Yours sincerely
Caitriona O'Brien


On Behalf of the Residents of Ballygall Road East

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