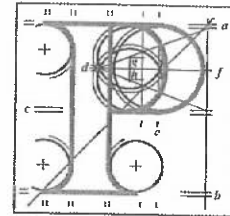


Our Case Number: ABP-314610-22

Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

David Kerins and Nicola Callaghan
34 St Mobhi Road
Glasnevin
Dublin 9
D09 V0H9

Date: 22 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 and oral hearing request (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.

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 on this matter in due course.

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.

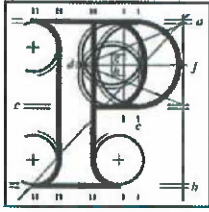
Yours faithfully,

Sarah Caulfield
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737287

HA02 (Acknowledgement - No Receipt to Issue)

Tel	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó 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

David Kerins and Nicola Callaghan

(b) Observer's postal address

34 St Mobhi Road,
Glasnevin
Dublin 9
D09 V0H9

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)

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)

Click or tap here to enter text.

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).

The following are my observations on the planning application lodged Bus Connects for the Ballymun to City Centre route of the scheme and St. Mobhi Road in particular.

We welcome the proposed provision of a more reliable, frequent, affordable and environmentally efficient public transport system but have serious concerns about some of the changes and the lack of openness on their inclusion in the proposals. We have outlined our concerns below and request an Oral Hearing by ABP to address them.

Lack of consultation on new changes

- No public consultation on changes introduced late in the process, with no explanation of their rationale or benefits.
- We do not believe the additional changes are proportionate for the unclear benefits expected, e.g. inclusion of bus shelters, removal of grass verges, removal of additional trees

Inappropriate and inconsistent process

- The sheer scale and size of the documentation is confusing and difficult to navigate for the general public
- There are discrepancies between the schedule and associated drawings, and therefore an urgent need to clarify precisely what changes are proposed

The rationale for the scale of change is questionable

- Sharing the footpath space presents more dangers, as they will not be wide enough to safely accommodate pedestrians and cyclists
- Scooters and electric bikes moving at speed in a shared space will endanger pedestrians and those with mobility issues
- The well documented poor behaviour of many cyclists and scooter users, as they consistently disregard the rules of the road and the safety of others will create potential conflict between pedestrians and cyclists
- In the absence of any meaningful enforcement, how will the Bus Gate on St Mobhi Road work, as it's flawed to think motorists will comply with the rules?

5. Grounds

Unnecessary introduction of Bus Shelters

- The building of new bus shelters was not subject to public consultation and the details are incomplete
- There is no design of the proposed bus shelters available
- Building a bus shelter against a garden will result in a loss of access to maintain railings and hedges
- There will be an accumulation of rubbish behind shelter, which will not be accessible for proper collection and disposal
- The shelter will bring increased illumination from signage, which will impact out home
- Ultimately these changes will reduce value of homes and there is no need for shelters if the frequency and timing of the buses are consistent and reliable

The changes are detrimental to the preservation of trees

- The infill of the grass verges with concrete will damage tree roots

The changes will cause a personal impact

- There will be an increased risk going in and out of home as a householder
- Once a bus stops outside our home it will block other buses, leading to a queue of buses outside our house, reducing our privacy.

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