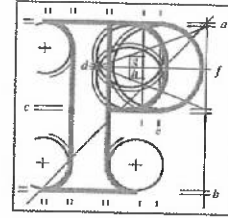


Our Case Number: ABP-314610-22

Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Glasilawn Avenue Residents Association
C/O Michelle Flaherty
4 Glasilawn Avenue
Glasnevin
Dublin 11

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 (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.

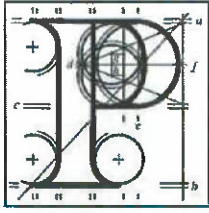
Yours faithfully,

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

Michelle Flaherty (on behalf of Glasilawn Avenue Residents Association)

(b) Observer's postal address

4 Glasilawn Avenue, Glasnevin, Dublin 11

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

Not Applicable

(b) Agent's postal address

Not Applicable

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 Glasilawn Avenue, 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	Our community was not involved in any meetings or asked for any views in relation to traffic changes being proposed as part of the Bus Connect project. We were informed of submission proposals and status via local councillor and were disappointed not to be consulted as a community.
Environmental Impact Assessment	<p>We, as a community, are concerned about the detrimental impact on the likely substantial increase in traffic being routed through our area. We have not been able to ascertain if an Environmental Impact Assessment has been conducted for Ballygall and surrounding impacted areas.</p> <p>At the very least, it is expected that that an assessment is conducted on these roads concerning noise, vibration, and pollution. As a community, we are very concerned about traffic being diverted to minor residential roads which are not built to withstand the increased level of traffic.</p>
Lower Ballymun Road Closure (Modified version of Option A)	The closure of Lower Ballymun Rd will significantly exacerbate the traffic flow problem on Ballygall rd. East and this needs to be re-examined so traffic will be allowed to flow in a Northbound direction up Ballymun road.
Ballymun Core route: North Bound Bus Gate on St Mobhi Road	<p>The current proposed route is to divert traffic to R135 Old Finglas road from Harts Corner, or onto Botanic Road, up Glasnevin Hill and turning onto Ballygall rd East and further routing via Griffith Ave ext. to Ballymun rd. This proposed route is the 3rd option explored following lobbying by Mobhi Road Residents and subsequently Ballymun Road residents not to have traffic routed from city centre.</p> <p>Firstly, the proposal has not given affected residents a right of reply to date. It is highly likely that increased traffic volumes at peak times will cause this Northbound traffic to fan out through the surrounding roads. This includes Ballygall Road East, Glasilawn Avenue, Glasilawn Road, Tolka Estate, Fitzmaurice Road, Hillcrest, St Canice's Road and Wadelai. High throughput of traffic will negatively impact our community as it will physically divide Tolka Estate, Glasilawn Ave/Road estates in two. It also significantly increases road safety</p>

5. Grounds

	<p>concerns for our residents, especially our older and younger members. We have not seen any evidence of examination or response to these issues in the application documentation provided.</p> <p>As it stands, we have many schools in the area. There is a school or schools on every road surrounding the Ballygall Area. Old Finglas Road has St Mary's and St Brigid's girl's schools, Griffith Avenue Extension has Glasnevin National school, Ballygall Road East has St Kevin's boy's school, St Canices road has Sacred Heart primary school, St Ciaran's school, St Michael's house, and NDNSP primary school-our parents are concerned about the safe access of their children to these schools given the increased traffic flow through the area.</p> <p>Note as it stands, residents in this area are effectively housebound for the duration of the school start/end times – traffic is very heavy as it stands.</p> <p>We also have a large senior community who will be adversely impacted – both those living in their own homes and in FOLD accommodation on Ballygall Road East. We also have a number of nursing homes in the area which will be harder to access due to increased traffic volumes.</p> <p>As this option came about post consultation with 2 other areas, it is very unfair to put all the pressure on the Ballygall, Tolka Estate and surrounding areas. We would like that consideration is given to a more equitable distribution of traffic and welcome opportunity to provide input on same.</p>
Ballymun Core route Destination	<p>We were also surprised to note that this application states that the core bus routes will terminate at Arran Quay when all publicity states time to city centre as being a benefit of bus corridors. Arran Quay is not in the city centre. It will most likely mean an increase in commuting time for most. Arran Quay is not easy to access and already instead of improving it for most people. This 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 Chapter 6	<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> <p>The traffic impact study fails to outline the impact on adjoining areas of the proposed changes, i.e. the closure of the Ballymun Road section at Glasnevin Hill and the additional traffic rerouting up through Ballygall Road East and other areas.</p>
Creation of Rat Runs	<p>Creation of Rat runs through Ballygall – Glasilawn Road, Glasilawn Avenue, Tolka Estate, St. Canice's Road and Hillcrest/Pappins Road is inevitable as Ballygall Road is currently very congested. We note the route via Griffith Avenue extension – however, passing motorists will just try to drive routes that they perceive to be the shortest journey.</p> <p>There is a balance between making Ballygall Road East open and accessible by the local community and needs of the local evening commuter. Can the option of ensuring Griffith avenue extension the primary way to get to Ballymun road be explored.</p>

5. Grounds

	<p>Can the idea of speed restrictions in the offshoot roads of Ballygall Road East be considered to encourage passing through traffic to go with larger roads? Note the residents of Cremore Villas, Cremore Crescent are still badly impacted by this option given the routing from Old Finglas Road to Ballygall Road East.</p> <p>While we note the option of using the Old Ballymun road was removed following consultation, what options are there for it to share some burden of the through traffic rather than sending it all up via Ballygall Area? On this point, why can St Mobhi Road not allow 2 way traffic at all times?</p>
Impact of Traffic during mass and events in the Church of our mother of divine Grace	<p>We could not find any information in the proposal on an impact assessment on the increased traffic and impact during mass times. As several churches have limited service, people in the surrounding areas are forced to attend and drive to this church, The Church grounds and surround are extremely busy and congested. This and increased volumes from city centre traffic travelling northbound will put significant pressure on the traffic along Ballygall Road East and surrounding areas.</p>

Yours sincerely
Michelle Flaherty,


On Behalf of the Glasilawn Avenue Residents Association

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