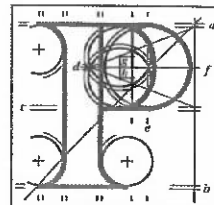


Our Case Number: ABP-314610-22

Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Wadelai Hillcrest and Distict Resident Association
220 Hillcrest Park
Glasnevin
Dublin 11
D11F861

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,

Niamh Thornton
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737247

HA02 (Acknowledgement - No Receipt to Issue)

Teil	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

220 Hillcrest Park
Glasnevin
Dublin 11
D11F861

12th November 2022

An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Rotunda
Dublin 1
D01V902

REFERENCE: STATUTORY PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THE BALLYMUN/FINGLAS TO CITY CENTRE CORE BUS CORRIDOR SCHEME.

To whom it may concern,

We wish to make the following observations on the statutory planning listed above:

We support 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 engaged with this process.
Environmental Impact Assessment	We have not seen evidence that a comprehensive environmental Impact Assessment has been conducted. There are several roads to which traffic will be diverted, which will not be able to withstand the level of traffic. We would expect that an assessment is conducted on these roads concerning noise, vibration, and pollution. 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.
Ballymun Core route: North Bound Bus Gate on St Mobhi Road	Due to the proposed bus gate, it is proposed to divert traffic to R135 Old Finglas road or onto Botanic Road and then onto Ballygall Road East and via Griffith Ave ext. to Ballymun road. A high traffic volume at peak times will cause this Northbound traffic to disperse through the surrounding roads. This includes St Canice's Road and other housing estates such as Hillcrest Park, which borders Ballygall Road East, and Wadelai, which borders Ballymun road. This high traffic throughput will negatively impact our community as it will physically divide our estates and significantly increase road

	<p>safety concerns for our residents, especially our older and younger members. This has not been examined or addressed in this application.</p> <p>There are a high number of schools in this small area: St Mary's and St Brigid's girl's schools, Glasnevin National school, Sacred Heart and St Kevin's boy's schools, Educate Together 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. Parents with children in different schools are worried that they will not be able to commute between the schools in a timely manner.</p> <p>The closure of Lower Ballymun Road will significantly exacerbate the traffic flow problem on Ballygall Road East. This needs to be re-examined so traffic will be allowed to flow in a Northbound direction up Ballymun road.</p>
<p>Ballymun Core route Destination</p>	<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 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>
<p>Creation of Rat Runs</p>	<p>Creation of East-West Rat runs through Canice's Road and Hillcrest/Pappins Road is inevitable as Ballygall Road is too congested unless the route down the Griffith Avenue extension is favoured.</p> <p>There is a balance between making Ballygall Road open and valuable for the local evening commuter and making Griffith Avenue extension the primary way to get to Ballymun road.</p> <p>Perhaps the idea of speed restrictions in Hillcrest, Pappins and Canice's is the best option so that drivers vote with the time and go for the quicker route.</p>
<p>Impact of Traffic during mass and events in the Church of our mother of divine Grace</p>	<p>There was no evidence within the pack of an impact assessment concerning the increased traffic during mass times. As several churches have limited service, people in the surrounding areas are forced to attend and drive to this church, which is almost always full; this puts significant pressure on the traffic along Ballygall Road east and surrounding areas.</p>
<p>St Pappins Road</p>	<p>If the anticipated increase in traffic onto Canices Road and up through Wadelai occurs, the bus route utilising Deville to St Pappins Road will be caught in the traffic, delaying the service.</p> <p>This service currently encounters high traffic volumes at the east end of St Pappins Road, particularly during school drop-off times. There is nothing in the current report referencing this current situation. A conversation with the current drivers of the 11-bus service during the hours of 7.30 am – 8.45 would provide first-hand testimony of their experience, particularly during school terms.</p>

Kind regards,

Deirdre Martin, Kevina McGill, Margaret White

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Deirdre Martin'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Wadelai Hillcrest & District Resident Association

