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Stoneybatter Resident Submission to Bus Connects Dublin - Blanchardstown to City Centre

Lodged under: KA29N.313961 Blanchardstown to Dublin City Centre

We are lifelong residents of Stoneybatter. We are very concerned about the proposed Bus Connects proposal and the long term and detrimental impact to our village and community. We are residents of Montpelier & Arbour Hill. Our many concerns are outlined below:

- What holistic impact analysis has been undertaken to assess the impact of the changes for the whole of Stoneybatter? This area is vast extending for example from Infirmary Road, NCR through to Manor Street and GrangeGorman. Redirecting and restricting traffic and parking will have an extremely negative impact. We have highlighted many times to Dublin City Council, issues with our roads and pathways being extremely narrow and in extremely poor condition.
- Our specific concern relates to the use of Montpelier hill as a "rat run" from Arbour Hill and the City Centre through to Infirmary Road. The current issues with traffic, congestion and parking are already well known when the Central Criminal Court is sitting (Monday through to Saturday). For example, there is a portion of Montpelier Hill that is a blind spot and where two vehicles cannot even pass each other.
- The information for this proposal was gathered pre-covid. What analysis has been undertaken post covid to validate the data supporting this proposal? Examples such as the number of people commuting into the city centre 5 days per week pre covid versus the number of people commuting into the city centre in 2022 and beyond. What are the measurable commuting time benefits from this proposal into the city centre? Is the % time gained measured against the impact to the residents of Stoneybatter who already embrace a cycling and pedestrian ethos.
- This proposal severely impacts local residents' ability to access existing amenities such as access to Tesco, Lidl, Navan Road and Cabra Swimming Pools and Children's Sporting Activities.
- Infirmary Road is a major road artery. Based on the proposal this Road will now become a primary road for people accessing the NCR, Cabra and beyond. What analysis has been undertaken to understand the impact on this area.
- What co-ordination has taken place with the Greening and Tree planting projects that are taken place across Stoneybatter? For example, there is a proposal to place a roundabout and large tree in the centre of Montpelier Hill. In fact, what co-ordination has taken place with any other infrastructure work that is being proposed for Stoneybatter.
- There has been limited, clear, transparent and accessible information available to residents of Stoneybatter. Also, the timeframe for submission over the summer period provides advantage to BusConnects rather than those of us spending time with Children on school holidays and on holidays.