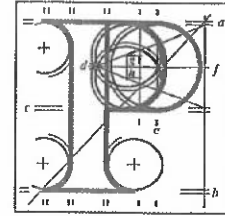


Our Case Number: ABP-314942-22

Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Conor and Suzanne Haugh
32 Hollyville Lawn
Palmerstown
Dublin 20

Date: 10th February 2023

Re: BusConnects Lucan to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme
Lucan 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 meantime, 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,

Doina Chiforescu
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737133

HA02

| | | |
|--------------------|---------|------------------|
| 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 |

Conor & Suzanne Haugh
32 Hollyville Lawn
Palmerstown
Dublin 20
D20VY71

10th January 2023

An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

**Re: Bus Connects – Lucan to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme
– Palmerstown Village**

To Whom it Concerns,

We are residents of Palmerstown village and are somewhat concerned with the proposed Bus Connects project that is planned for Palmerstown. We have a number of observations in relation to the plan, as outlined below but our concerns are further elevated when you consider the Bus Connect changes on top of the other scheduled changes currently underway or scheduled for the future. These changes include

- 1) New Apartment development of 260+ apartments whereby the traffic management plan is unclear as there is a pending High Court case to decide on entry/exit to the site. Your office granted this permission (entry/exit) without there being an agreed position on the entry/exit points. If the case goes against the developer then all of the traffic from the new apartment complex will have to exit onto Kennelsfort Rd lower at the very busy N4/R148 junction.
- 2) There is also approved planning for a 55 room hotel on the site directly opposite the New apartment development mentioned above. (This approval was granted by your office despite your inspector recommending otherwise). The entry/exit for the hotel is again onto lower Kennelsfort Road at the very busy N4/R148 junction – directly opposite the new apartment development.

As you can see the bus connects changes in addition to the two above mentioned developments will create significant infrastructure, traffic and access issues for the small village of Palmerstown with existing traffic levels already causing issues, especially at peak times.

Please find below our observations on the proposed bus connects project.

Proposed Changes at the Oval Palmerstown

- Removal of the filter light. The filter is a key solution to ensuring all of the traffic from the Oval isn't backed up. In our opinion, this doesn't make sense and will cause significant traffic issues within the local estates.
- Right turn at Apple Green into Palmerstown Village. Buses will struggle to turn left into the village (at Shaws/Apple Green) with the planned cycle lanes and road layout. If anything this will put cyclists at more risk.

26 Bus Route Changes

- We don't see the benefit of bringing the 26 bus (80 bus in future) into the village of Palmerstown. People will still walk to the main N4/R148 bus stops as there is a much wider selection of buses to get to the city centre.
- One of the aims of the Bus connects project is to enable better movement of buses and connections for people – why would you bring a bus into a small village setting to get caught in the current heavy traffic and even worse future traffic based upon the two developments outlined above.
- The proposed new stops in the village will also be a major eyesore in front of existing protected houses/buildings.

Kennelsfort Rd/R148 Junction

- Over 20 years ago the R148 was developed and is now one of the busiest roads in Ireland. As part of the safety planning a walkover bridge was constructed to allow residents cross the road in a safe manner. I don't understand how you are proposing to introduce a new pedestrian crossing across this busy main road. Not only that, you are planning to have a middle island where pedestrians wait in the middle for a second green man to cross. The cars speed through this junction and as a parent I would be very concerned for the safety of my children at this junction. There have been occasions over the past few years whereby the traffic lights, bollards and fencing in the middle of the junction have been destroyed by cars crashing into them.
- This will also delay the light changes and the traffic, again going against one of the aims of the bus connect project of creating better moving buses.
- You are proposing to have 1 lane for cars heading west on the R148 towards the N4. This is already a significant bottleneck and will be further traffic congestion will be further compounded by this plan. Currently, in the evening, traffic is backed up for 1/2 kilometres approaching Palmerstown from the city centre.
- Removal of Filter from Kennelsfort Rd to R148 towards the M50/N4. Again, the traffic on Kennelsfort road is very heavy already and the filter light is the only relief for vehicles approaching

R148. Kennelsfort road traffic is very busy and on occasion in the past few weeks traffic has been queued up in both directions. Vehicles were backed onto the R148 causing congestion and making it hugely dangerous as cars try to turn right onto Kennelsfort from R148/M50 direction. This congestion is making travel very difficult for people along Kennelsfort Road and also all surrounding housing estates.

I trust you will consider the above concerns and give them the focus they deserve.
Thanks in advance

Yours Sincerely,

Conor Haugh

Suzanne Haugh

