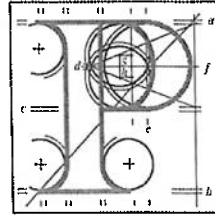


Our Case Number: ABP-316272-23

Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Colleen Feeley
26 Highfield Road
Rathgar
Dublin 6
D06 A7Y8

Date: 07 July 2023

Re: Bus Connects Templeogue/Rathfarnham to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme
Templeogue/Rathfarnham to City Centre

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent submission in relation to the above-mentioned proposed road development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter. Please accept this letter as a receipt for the fee of €50 that you have paid.

Please note that the proposed road development shall not be carried out unless the Board has approved it or approved it with modifications.

The Board has also received an application for confirmation of a compulsory purchase order which relates to this proposed road development. 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 in due course on this matter. The Board shall also make a decision on both applications at the same time.

If you have any queries in relation to this matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board.

Please quote the above-mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

Eimear Reilly
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737184

HA02A

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Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1890 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
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64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

**Re: Observations and Objections to Case reference: HA29N.316272,
Bus Connects Templeogue/Rathfarnham to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme,
Dublin City Council LA Road Dev - Application**

A chara

We note the application by the National Transport Authority for approval under the Strategic Infrastructure Development of the Bus Connects Templeogue/Rathfarnham to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme.

This proposed scheme materially affects our home and local access to services and facilities.

We object to this proposal on a number of grounds, including:

1. The data presented as justification for this proposal is out of date. It does not reflect the changes in traffic patterns from Covid, use of e-bikes and remote working. The proposed Bus Connect system should be fully reconsidered to reflect this reality.
2. The associated compulsory purchase order ref. does not provide any detail - this does not allow a full consideration of this case and the subsequent requirements to acquire front gardens or other spaces.
3. Highfield Road is not wide enough to accommodate the current traffic not to mind the additional traffic consequent to this proposed scheme, particularly in winter and wet weather.
4. The impact on Highfield Road will have serious negative implications for this heritage area of architectural significance. Many of the houses are protected structures, the affected trees and intact Victorian/ Edwardian streetscape will be detrimental to the community and heritage of this road. This proposal will mean Highfield Road will be a main thoroughfare for vans, trucks and cars banned from Rathgar Road and potentially affect the fabric of these protected structures.
5. The environmental impact on flora and fauna is not properly assessed in the EIAR. The recent efforts of the residents of this road in encouraging bee friendly planting and the installing of beehives will be for nothing. The noise level and emissions impacts are not assessed.
6. The radial Bus Connect proposals for Dublin does not fully consider the current needs of the public or reasonably assess future developments. It does not consider alternative transport systems such as a Metro and Tram systems.

7. The impacts from the diversions proposed on service vans, lorries and trucks for accessing homes and businesses are significant and is not evident in this submission.
8. The impact of this proposal will divide the existing community in Rathgar by restricting pedestrian access and reducing public space. Access to hospitals, such as St Luke's for daily treatments will be severely impacted by this proposal as this hospital services people travelling from across the country. Access to other hospitals will be more convoluted and difficult.
9. Local shops will be further restricted for deliveries and may be made unviable. Access to churches for funerals, weddings, etc. on Rathgar and Highfield Roads will be significantly restricted by the 24/7 Bus Lanes and traffic restrictions.
10. The Bus Connect proposal will adversely affect the quality of life to all residents of the Rathgar/ Rathmines areas in many ways as highlighted above.

We trust that you will fully consider this submission and those of our neighbours to reject these Bus Connect proposals.

Mise le meas

Colleen Feeley
26 Highfield Road,
Rathgar, D06A7Y8

e-mail: c-feeley@hotmail.com