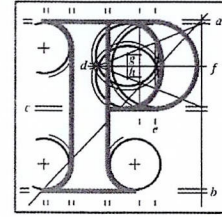


ⓧ Landowner

Our Case Number: ABP-316272-23



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

NOTE: Same submission
also on 316377
CPO.

Denise Russell
44 Templeogue Road
Co. Dublin
D6W NH33

Date: 18 August 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 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 at laps@pleanala.ie

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

Teil (01) 858 8100
Glao Áitiúil LoCall 1800 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

44 Templeogue Road

Dublin D6W NH33

AN BORD PLEANALA	
LDG-	065676-23
ABP-	
14 AUG 2023	
Fee: €	50.00 Type: Cheque.
Time: 1.35 pm	By: Courier

An Bord Pleanala
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1 D01V

11th August 2023

Re: Templeogue/Rathfarnham to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme CPO 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

As a homeowner and local resident, I hereby wish to lodge my objection to the proposed plan. I wish to ask An Bord Pleanala to appeal the decision to grant permission for this CPO on the basis that this plan is based on flawed assumptions. The financial cost, the time required to implement this plan, and the impact on both the homeowners and residents of the local community cannot be justified.

My family home of 25 years is located at 44 Templeogue Road. The Bus Connects plan directly affects this property as it proposes to take a portion of our front garden under the CPO.

If this acquisition goes ahead, we will be directly negatively impacted by:

- the a deterioration of the aesthetic of the property (removal of mature hedges and shortening our garden);
- the reduction in the practical size of the driveway (limiting the number of car spaces);
- the removal of our ability to safely access the road (as we will no longer be able to turn the car);

- the removal of long established privacy (large mature hedges and the elevation from the kerb ensures the property can't be seen by passers-by including passengers on the top deck of buses);
- Increased noise and air pollution level caused by increased traffic volumes passing by, and located closer to, our home.

The result will significantly negatively impact the financial value of the property, a 25 year investment, and more importantly, our ability to fully enjoy all the benefits of our family home.

While the above factors are very important, of equal importance to me are the numerous other ways my family, neighbours and the community will be affected by the Bus Connects plan.

Most significantly,

- The proposal to prohibit traffic on a significant number of other local routes will result in an overreliance on the facilities along Templeogue road. This displaced traffic from other routes will add to traffic volumes on Templeogue road. The NTA has already admitted that at peak hours essential car journeys alone will cause bottlenecks on the planned route. Therefore, it is irrefutable that the traffic on this main artery will be very heavy almost all of the time.
- Increased traffic through the community will have detrimental effects on local business and the neighbourhood in general.
- It is an undeniable fact that increased traffic volumes contributed directly to increased air pollution and noise pollution.
- The considerable amount of tree removal along the route will affect the natural habitat of the local wildlife, flowers and fauna. Its removal will not only be aesthetically unpleasant but this vegetation is a natural antidote to air pollution and serves to offset some noise pollution. To eliminate this natural solution will only result in amplifying the negative impact of the increased traffic volumes.
- The Bus Connects plan does not provide for proper and continuous cycle tracks.

Since the Covid pandemic, Irish society has embraced seismic changes. The focus now is to prioritise our work-life balance, which improves living conditions for all. The way we live and work has changed in a manner that was unimaginable when the Bus Connects plan was designed. In my opinion, the Bus

Connect plan is formulated on the flawed assumptions of a bygone era, including, but not limited to the following:

- Access to Dublin city centre is no longer the primary goal.
- More people are working from home.
- Consumers are shopping online.
- Improved services and timetables are encouraging more commuters to use Dublin Bus.
- Bike to work schemes and improved lighting and footpath conditions are contributing to more environmentally and cost conscious commuters.

A significant amount of the State's money will be needed to acquire the land for the Bus Connects plan. In the current cost of living crises, it is unconscionable to spend state money acquiring land when so many citizens are struggling with housing needs. Furthermore, as a taxpayer, I do not believe this cost justifies the benefit.

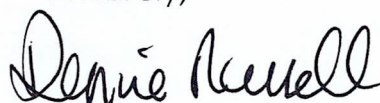
Public infrastructure could be improved in a far more cost effective, and timely, way by offering:

- Cheaper/free fares at off peak times
- More 24 hour routes
- Increased buses on main routes
- More electric buses
- A metrolink
- Use of bus gate and bus traffic lights
- Tax car users in city centre

I acknowledge and welcome improvements to the transport system, but as both a Templeogue resident and a taxpayer, the sacrifice is too much for a plan that cannot be considered as a viable solution.

Enclosed a cheque for the €50 appeal fee.

Sincerely,



Denise Russell