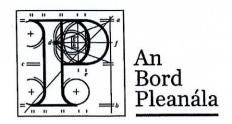
Our Case Number: ABP-316272-23

Planning Authority Reference Number:



Rosemary Steen 17 Richmond Hill Rathmines Dublin 6

Date: 16 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 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 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,

**Executive Officer** 

Direct Line: 01-8737184

HA02A

Teil Glao Áitiúil

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Baile Átha Cliath 1 D01 V902

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde 64 Marlborough Street Dublin 1 D01 V902 Submission on behalf of Rosemary Steen 17 Richmond Hill Rathmines Dublin 6

Referring to site notice picture attached with regard to Richmond Hill, Mount Pleasant Avenue Lower restriction of rights of way

14/8/23

Dear Sir

Objection to Notice of restriction of or Interference with existing public right of way

### I wish to make a submission on this matter

I understand observation can be made based on the detail of the attached notice, photo attached in regard to the likely effects on the community on the propose road development if carried out, which I am assuming also includes the provision of a right turn for all traffic down Richmond Hill from Rathmines Road as well as the closing of the road to all traffic to Mount pleasant lower as well as the implications for planning and sustainable development and the likely significant effects of same.

I have paid 50 euros online to cover the cost of this submission.

I am writing to you to lodge an objection to this development on our road under the three headings listed in the notice based on the 4 areas outlined below.

I have lived on Richmond Hill in Rathmines since 2000.

I greatly fear what is planned in regard to the implications for management of the proposed bus gate as it will turn our road from a side road into a main route for traffic seeking to exit from Rathmines road. While wishing to support the objectives of Bus Connects this proposal relating to the introduction of a right turn from Rathmines road lower and necessary road closures is putting our community at unnecessary risk. It is my view that all traffic bar buses should have to turn right at the junction of the Swan centre with Rathmines road lower and no traffic should progress past this junction. All car and truck traffic would be diverted in line with the plans through Ranelagh. Bringing that turning point further down Rathmines will create significant issues.

#### A. Road Safety Concerns

Bus Connects proposal to permit access to all trucks, lorries and cars to our road will have a hugely negative impact from a road safety point of view. There are many children using our road throughout the day from St Mary's school and the local Ranelagh Multi denominational school. There is likely to be a significant increase in noise and traffic

volumes 24/7 and this will have a deeply negative impact on our road. I am concerned for our safety crossing the street. At the moment entering and leaving our house is very challenging and I have consistently asked local representatives for support in regard to traffic management tools on our road such as traffic lights at either end to slow and help manage traffic.

### B. Air Quality Concerns

Our road already has extremely high levels of airborne pollution. This is likely to be increased significantly based on what is proposed with higher traffic volumes and will increase the risk of respiratory diseases including asthma based on the relevant WHO guidelines.

# C. Noise pollution

The road will carry traffic in both directions in far greater volumes than currently at peak times resulting in significant increases in Noise pollution

#### D. Tailbacks

Richmond Hill is likely to become a traffic overflow tailback as traffic tries to reach the Ranelagh route to town. I do not understand why it is desirable to divert traffic down Richmond Hill and back up Mount Pleasant avenue rather than simply turning right all traffic earlier at the junction of the Swan Centre and Rathmines Road.

## Significant effects

For us it will mean that we must be able to turn right up mount pleasant avenue if mount pleasant lower is blocked off to reach Ranelagh by car, without this we have no way of reaching Ranelagh. Bicycles and motorbikes should be able to turn left down towards the canal through the bollards. The residents of Richmond Hill did attend and engage with Bus Connects and I appreciated that opportunity. The residents who met from our road as a group with their team were unanimous in agreement that a right turn should be allowed up mount pleasant avenue, and a traffic light filter should at least be provided to allow us take this right turn to access Ranelagh. I was very disappointed with the overall design which emerged but recognised they tried to at least preserve access for us to be able to drive back out via Mount Pleasant Avenue Upper as part of meeting our concerns with regard to us being able to drive out the other end of the road and turn right. It is critical that this is allowed as without this option it will leave us in an impossible position with no left or right turn possible at the end of Richmond Hill. If that happens we will end up in a very difficult position with dramatically increased traffic volumes, little road access and a very significant increase in noise levels.

I was disappointed that no flexibility with regard to allowing local residents access to moveable bollards or the provision of keys to the bollards to be made available for use in emergencies on our road. This would be against current best practise internationally.

I would like some additional provision on our road with regard to signage on the speed limits and higher speed bumps if the proposal goes ahead. I also think large trucks should be banned from using the road.

If the new scheme is implemented its critical cameras are in place to monitor the impact on the road and ensure changes can be made if required.

I would be most grateful if you could consider the issues I am raising in your decision.

Kind regards

Rosemary Steen

