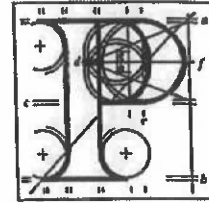


Our Case Number: ABP-316272-23

Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Wainsfort and College Residents Association
c/o Greg O'Toole
56 Wainsfort Road
terenure
Dublin 6W

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,


Eimear Reilly
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737184

HA02A

| | | |
|--------------------|---------|--|
| Tel | 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 Maolbhríde | 64 Marlborough Street |
| Balle Átha Cliath 1 | Dublin 1 |
| D01 V902 | D01 V902 |

Submission to An Board Pleanála from College and Wainsfort Residents' Association on NTA 'Bus Connect' proposals for the Templeogue/Rathfarnham to City Centre Bus Corridor.

An Board Pleanála Ref: HA29N.316272

College and Wainsfort Residents' Association, Terenure, Dublin 6W represent some 550 homes located on Wainsfort Road/Crescent/Avenue/Drive/Grove, part of Fortfield Road, College Drive/Park/Crescent, Manor Avenue and the Orchard Estate. We recognise the need to prioritise the use of public transport over the use of cars as a mode of transport on our roads, particularly in light of the ever-increasing population in Dublin city and the need to cut down on carbon omissions as Ireland strives to meet its commitments under the Climate Change Action Plan. We also welcome an increased bus service and better connectivity to the city centre.

However, having examined the plans submitted to An Board Pleanála for the Templeogue/Rathfarnham Bus Corridor, we would like to make the following observations on the implications of the proposed development:

- As a consequence of the proposed bus gate on Templeogue Road (between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. 7 days a week), inbound traffic on the Templeogue Road from the Tallaght direction, including HVD and delivery vans will have to find alternative access routes into Terenure Village which in our view, will force traffic from main roads on to secondary roads, and through housing estates.
- The proposed bus gate and ban on right-hand turns in our area will add many kilometres and minutes to typical car trips such as people who live on Greenlea Road trying to access their houses, families trying to do a weekly shop in Terenure when it is not feasible to use a bus. Increased emissions for these trips is inevitable. Another unfortunate consequence is that many people may be deterred from moving about particularly elderly and disabled people who are trying to access churches, activities such as boules in Bushy Park etc. In particular, businesses will be negatively impacted as delivery vans will not be able to easily access premises in Terenure Village.
- It is unclear from the plans, what additional benefits in terms of extra busses and quicker commuting times will arise from the proposals and it would seem that there won't be much benefit accruing for what is going to be huge disruption to locals going about their business. We believe that the proposed hours of operation of the bus gate and right-hand turn bans are 'overkill' and unnecessary. We contend that at most, the proposed operation times of the proposed bus gates and bans of right-hand turns should be confined to morning rush hour traffic, Monday to Friday only. There is already a bus light in operation on the Templeogue Road that gives priority to busses over cars which seems adequate.

In relation to the specific impact from traffic in our area:

- Inbound traffic on the main route from Tallaght, which is a substantial amount of cars, will be forced to divert at either Cypress Grove Rd, Templeville Road or Fortfield Road

to reach Terenure Road West either via the KCR or via Greenlea Road or Lavarna Grove.

- Inbound cars diverting at Cypress Grove Road and Templeville Road will mostly end up on Wainsfort Road which will become a parking lot as traffic will back up trying to turn right on to Kimmage Road West at the KCR.
 - Fortfield Road is the last road before the proposed bus gate on Templeogue Road that inbound city traffic can divert via. The original proposals allowed a right-hand turn from Fortfield Road onto Greenlea to allow cars access Terenure Village. The new proposed ban on right-hand turn into Greenlea Road will result in a huge increase in cars on Fortfield Road as they try and make their way inbound into the city towards the KCR. There is no bus lane on Fortfield Road and none planned so as a result the only bus operating on the road (currently the 54A) will now be left sitting in traffic which seems counterproductive.
 - These proposed right-hand turn bans from Fortfield Road into Greenlea Road and Lavarna Grove will also result in an increase in traffic on narrow secondary roads. In particular, it is anticipated that traffic trying to access Greenlea Road will divert through Wainsfort Park and Wainfort Grove so as to enable them to access Greenlea Road legitimately by taking a left hand turn from Fortfield Road. These are very narrow roads, with cars parked on them and with adjacent green areas on which local children play. Turning these side roads into 'rat runs' is dangerous and unnecessary.
 - Likewise, inbound cars on Wainsfort Rd can turn right at either College Drive, College Park and Wainsfort Park and make their way through Wainsfort Grove and Wainfort Park and travel to the junction of Fortfield Rd. They can turn right here and then legitimately turn (left) on to Greenlea Rd, again resulting in using these side roads as 'rat-runs'..
- We are also of the view that the Templeogue/Rathfarnham proposals should not be considered in isolation to the Kimmage Bus Corridor proposals which includes plans for another bus gate on the Lower Kimmage Road. Cars heading into the city centre who cannot access Terenure Village because of the bus gate and who divert down Fortfield Road towards the KCR will be met with another bus gate on Lower Kimmage Road preventing access to the city. As such the two schemes should be considered together by An Bord Pleanála and not in isolation.
 - The plan is not very clear on where the bus corridor goes after it reaches Georges Street. This can be said for all of the bus corridors as the plans don't give detail on where they cross the city centre – see Appendix 1 and the gap in the middle of the map. This is an important point given the current plans to pedestrianize both Parliament Street and College Green – this means the bus cannot turn right onto Dame Street or left and then onto Parliament Street. Again this highlights the need to consider all of the plans together rather than in isolation.
 - Finally we note that while a number of meetings on the proposals were organised in our area by local representatives for which we are very grateful, there was a noticeable absence of any

representation at these meeting by members of the NTA. Neither were there any public consultation on the proposals submitted to An Board Pleanála by the NTA. The only consultation held was during covid which was not ideal as these were mostly online and moreover there are a number of changes in the proposals submitted to an Board Pleanála including the hours of the operation of Bus Gates from rush hour only to the current plans of 6am to 8pm.

- The required €50 fee has been paid online with this submission.

Yours faithfully

Greg O'Toole
Chairperson
Wainsfort and College Residents Association,
c/o 56 Wainsfort Road,
Terenure
Dublin 6w

Appendix 1

