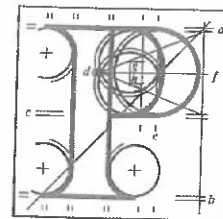


Our Case Number: ABP-317121-23

Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Iona and District Residents' Association (IDRA)
c/o 28 Iona Crescent
Glasnevin
Dublin 9

Date: 20 September 2023

Re: BusConnects Swords to City Centre Bus Corridor Scheme
Swords to Dublin 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

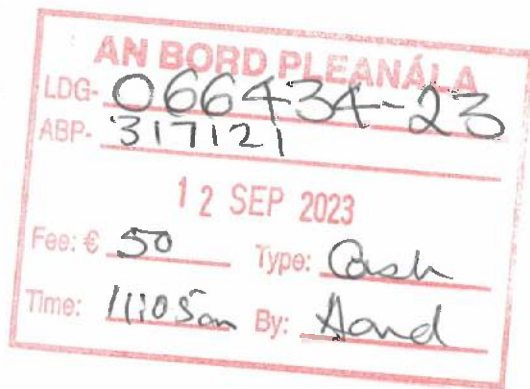
Please quote the above-mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

Sarah Caulfield
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737287
HA02A

Teil	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1890 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin	Websíte	www.pleanala.ie
Ríomhphost	Email	bord@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902



Iona and District Residents' Association
c/o 28 Iona Crescent
Glasnevin
Dublin 9

Secretary
An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1

12th September 2023

BusConnects Swords to City Centre Bus Corridor Scheme

Strategic Infrastructure Development Application

Bord Pleanála Case reference: HA06D.317121

Observers: Iona and District Residents' Association ('IDRA')

Dear Sir/Madam,

We, the Iona and District Residents' Association ('IDRA') are writing to submit observations on the above application

Background

IDRA is the residents association covering the Iona and surrounding area¹. IDRA represents the inhabitants of a unique part of the north city, which encompasses a Residential Conservation Area and includes the site of the application. One of the roles of our residents association is to maintain the planning standards and appropriate development of our area which is of the utmost importance in order to preserve our heritage. We therefore believe that it is important that all development in the area is undertaken with respect to and in full accordance with the planning process, with respect to the established design and building line, and in a fair and consistent manner.

Observations

¹ The area covered is bounded by Drumcondra Road on the east, Whitworth Road to the south, Finglas Road/Botanic Road to the west and Botanic Avenue to the north.

Our Lady's Park Drumcondra Road Lower / New Pedestrian/Cycle Bridge

Our Lady's Park will be seriously impacted both during and after construction phase. The area under the new bridge and the area on the Drumcondra Road side of the new bridge will no longer be easily accessible and has the potential to attract anti-social behaviour. The proposed bridge will extend as far as the plinth of the statue of Our Lady which is proposed to be relocated. But we are unaware of any local consultation with regard to the re-location of this statue, which is included in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage. The remaining park area leaves no where prominent enough for the statue.

The design of the proposed new pedestrian/cycle bridge But we are unaware of any local consultation with regard to this. over the Tolka River is incongruous and out of character with the surrounding area. The bridges and walls along the Drumcondra Road - St Patrick's Campus, Tolka Bridge, Clonliffe College, Binns Bridge) are all consistent and uniform comprising cut stone walls and granite capstones. In the case of the recent realignment of the wall at St Patrick's College, the cut stone wall was fully reinstated.

The proposed new bridge has made no effort to demonstrate any empathy with the historic boundary treatments of the surrounding area contrary to Volume 4 Part 3 Chapter 16.3 of their Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). The proposed bridge will have white painted steel railings and glass panels which will be much more open to graffiti than the traditional walls in the Drumcondra area. We believe that if the current bridge was widened and existing boundaries reinstated, it is likely that less of Our Lady's Park would be eliminated.

Wheelchair Parking

It is proposed to re-locate the wheelchair parking spot outside Markey's shop on Drumcondra Road Lower to around the corner on Botanic Avenue outside Fagan's Pub. Given its closeness to the junction and the volume of traffic turning into Botanic Avenue at speed when they have the green light, this has serious road safety concerns. A possible re-location at the end of Hollybank Road might be considered a better option.

Bus Stop relocation.

It is proposed to relocate the existing Bus Stop 19 on Drumcondra Road Lower from outside AIB to closer to the junction with Hollybank Road. This reduces the sightlines for traffic turning right from Hollybank Road onto Drumcondra Road.

Also there is currently no "Bus Lane" marking on this part of Drumcondra Road between Hollybank Road and Botanic Avenue, as is now proposed. This had allowed the traffic turning left into Botanic Avenue to merge into the inner lane more safely than as now proposed.

The proposal to relocate Bus Stop 17 at the railway station to Between St. Anne's Road and Grattan Parade will probably improve the safety for vehicles turning right into St. Anne's Road, when two or more buses are stopping.

	Description:	Dublin
	County:	Green area along Drumcondra Road Lower, Dublin 9
	Address:	

SCHEDULE PART II

Lands Being Temporarily Acquired

Land other than land consisting of a house or houses unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered fit for human habitation at reasonable expense

For details of the Owners or Reputed Owners/Lessees or Reputed Lessees/Occupiers please see the Swords to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme Compulsory Purchase Order 2023 at www.swordsscheme.ie.

Number on map deposited at NTA	Quantity, description and situation of land	
1101(15).2i	Area Ha:	0.00697
	Area m2:	69.6
	Description:	Community
	County:	Dublin
	Address:	Green area along Drumcondra Road Lower, Dublin 9
1101(16).2i	Area Ha:	0.00830
	Area m2:	83.0
	Description:	Community
	County:	Dublin
	Address:	Green area along Drumcondra Road Lower, Dublin 9
1101(18).2i	Area Ha:	0.02822
	Area m2:	282.2
	Description:	Community
	County:	Dublin
	Address:	Green area along Drumcondra Road Lower, Dublin 9
1101(22).2i	Area Ha:	0.00475
	Area m2:	47.5
	Description:	Community
	County:	Dublin

	Address:	Green area along Drumcondra Road Lower, Dublin 9
1152(6).2i	Area Ha:	0.00879
	Area m2:	87.9
	Description:	Community
	County:	Dublin
	Address:	Green area along Drumcondra Road Lower, Dublin 9
1152(8).2i	Area Ha:	0.00397
	Area m2:	39.7
	Description:	Community
	County:	Dublin
	Address:	Green area along Drumcondra Road Lower, Dublin 9

We thank you for taking on board our comments.

Yours sincerely,

Carmel Sherry

Carol Lynch

IDRA Secretary

PP