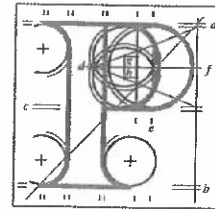


**Our Case Number:** ABP-317121-23

**Planning Authority Reference Number:**



**An  
Bord  
Pleanála**

Neasa Hourigan TD  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street

**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 (including your fee of €50) 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.

If you have any queries in the mean time, please contact the undersigned officer of the Board at [laps@pleanala.ie](mailto: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

HA02

**Teil**  
**Glao Áitiúil**  
**Facs**  
**Láithreán Gréasáin**  
**Ríomhphost**

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D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1  
D01 V902

Neasa Hourigan TD  
Leinster House, Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

Dublin City Council,  
Civic Offices, Wood Quay  
Dublin D08 RF3F

12th September 2023

Re: Case 317121 - BusConnects Swords to City Centre Bus Corridor Scheme

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to comment on the above planning application. I have included my observations below and submitted the required fee.

Kind Regards,

Is mise le meas,



Neasa Hourigan TD, Dublin Central



Cllr. Janet Horner, North Inner City



Feljin Jose, Area Rep., Cabra-Glasnevin



Cllr. Donna Cooney, Clontarf

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## Observations

### Illegal parking/driving

Constituents expressed concern that illegal parking/driving is currently the cause of many delays on the bus network. Plans need to be put in place to prevent a number of illegal activities (e.g. illegal parking, illegal use of the bus lane, etc.) from hampering the effectiveness of the proposed BusConnects network. This enforcement needs to be automated in large part.

### Statue at Our Lady's Park, Drumcondra

A number of constituents asked that appropriate care be taken when moving/storing the statue in Our Lady's Park, Drumcondra. While the statue may not be on the Record of Protected Structures it is nonetheless a statue valued by the local community.

### Right turn to Eccles Street

With the removal of the right turn from Dorset Street Lower inbound to Eccles Street it is unclear how people who need to drive to the Mater Hospital complex will access the facility if coming along Dorset Street inbound.

### Loading bay provision

We would ask that An Bord Pleanála give careful consideration to the adequacy of loading bay provision through the scheme, especially on the stretch from Griffith Avenue to city centre given the higher number of retail outlets, cafés and restaurants on this stretch.

If sufficient loading bays are not provided (and enforced) then delivery drivers will simply block the bus and cycle lanes.

### Appropriate separation

Given the volume of cycle and the higher speeds of some electric bicycles there needs to be an appropriate separation mechanism between pedestrians. Constituents have expressed concerns about the existing cycle lane/pedestrian shared space on both sides between Hollybank Road and St Alphonsus' Rd Lower. We would like to see fully segregated paths for pedestrians and cyclists for the safety and comfort of all users.

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## Disability review

We ask that the NTA be required to undertake a formal review of the proposal from the perspective of people with disabilities and action any recommendations from that review. Items such as the shared space separation, relocation of disabled parking, and cycle lanes going behind bus stops all require consideration.

## Greater Dorset Street Together Plan

The local community around Dorset Street produced the Greater Dorset Street Together Plan<sup>1</sup> which was presented to Dublin City Council. Little of this plan seems to have been incorporated into the BusConnects proposal, most notable the removal of the central median in favour of wider tree lined footpaths.

We'd ask that the NTA, at a minimum, be made to consider the removal of the median and the redistribution of that space to more productive use. And that the Dorset Street residents and surrounding community be regularly engaged with in order to progress plans to make their area a more liveable, walkable and safe neighbourhood.

## New pedestrian/cycle bridge at Frank Flood bridge.

Some constituents have concerns that the modern design of the new pedestrian/cycle bridge at Frank Flood Bridge is not in keeping with the prevalent architectural style of the area (e.g. Edwardian/Victorian) and the existing bridge. While a pastiche treatment is unlikely to be successful something a little less jarring might be more appropriate.

## Richmond Road

We have had an ongoing dialogue with the residents of Richmond Road about the volume of traffic on that road and the dangers it presents to residents given the narrow width of the road.

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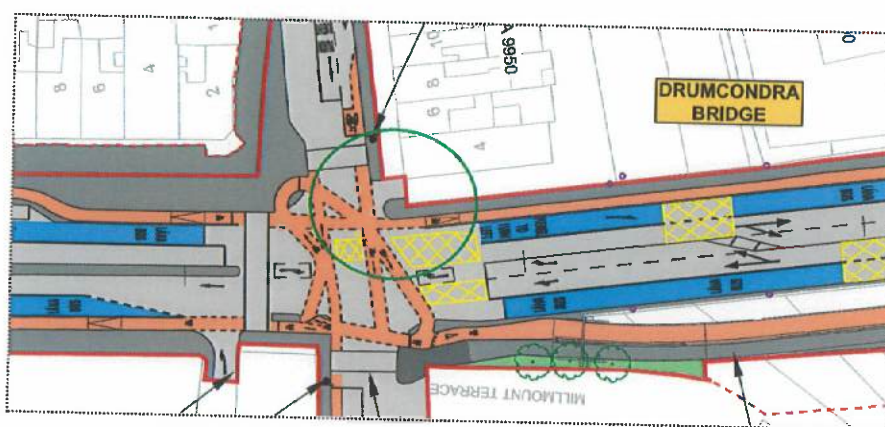
<sup>1</sup>

<https://councilmeetings.dublincity.ie/documents/s34231/Greater%20Dorset%20Street%20Together%20Project.pdf>

We ask that the BusConnects scheme does not prevent the implementation of a filtered permeability scheme on Richmond Road and changes required to any of the streets joining the Drumcondra Road Upper north of Richmond Road.

### Path at junction of Richmond Road and Frank Flood Bridge

The path at the corner of Richmond Road and Frank Flood Bridge disappears (see circled section in photo below). It is not clear from the drawings how this section will be treated but as drawn it looks unsuitable for pedestrians and people with a disability or any kind of reduced mobility.



### Greening of section from Griffith Avenue to Richmond Road

It's not clear what treatment is proposed for the central medians (example outlined in green below) but we would request that these medians are planted with suitable trees/shrubs has has been done elsewhere (e.g. Dorset Street Lower)

