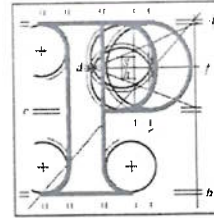


Our Case Number: ABP-317742-23



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Louise O'Reilly & Others
29 Patrician Villas
Stillorgan

Date: 12 October 2023

Re: BusConnects Bray to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme
Bray 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

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The Secretary
An Bórd Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1

Louise O'Reilly & Darran McGuinness
29 Patrician Villas
and
Karleen Smyth
37A Patrician Villas
Stillorgan
Co. Dublin

Tuesday 10th October

OBSERVATION: OBJECTION

RE: PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE MODIFICATIONS INSIDE & OUTSIDE
PATRICIAN VILLAS, STLLORGAN - CASE REFERENCE NUMBER: 317742

Dear Secretary,

We write to object to the National Transport Authority's (NTA) BusConnects modification proposals for outside and inside Patrician Villas (PV) as part of the No.13 bus route corridor.

We are urgently concerned regarding the detrimental impact to the health and safety of our community that this apparently minor infrastructure change (moving a bus stop 120 metres forward) and creating a second pedestrian crossing (where an underpass exists already). If proposed plans progress, PV residents shall make too great a sacrifice; the diminishment of our open space genuinely threatening our health, safety and wellbeing into the future.

We ask that An Bórd Pleanála rejects the NTA's proposals and our hope is have the privilege of entering conversation with the NTA towards a rethink to minimise the danger posed to Patrician residents. We wish to retain our valued, safe open space and public realm per the key objectives of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown's 2022-2028 County Development Plan.

Below description of the knock-on effects of facilitating a minor bus-stop relocation, construction of new island style stop, a toucan crossing, and extension of existing underpass further into the estate:

1. **Creating a new opening from our green space directly onto the N11** (fully fenced at present) **will void the current safety our children enjoy to play there.** And our pets and wildlife who may stray onto the busy road. And our elderly who may be threatened by those commuting by bicycle and scooter. The open space will cease in safe recreational use. It is a grave disappointment to face lose this meeting space.
2. **Constructing a concrete stairs and winding ramp, down from the new pedestrian crossing, through the middle of our green space and valued public realm will simultaneously limit its recreational use** for all residents to meet, play and rest.
3. **Constructing a second pedestrian crossing, over the N11 dual carriageway, in the area where an immeasurably safer pedestrian and bicycle underpass pre-exists**
4. Huge land-take inside PV and removing 50% mature trees (planted ~ 50 yrs' ago)

Note 1. Removal of mature trees is regrettable across a gamut of concerns, i.e. biodiversity and local wildlife; defence against carbon emissions and noise pollution; and protection from storms, flooding and severe climatic events. Our diverse residential population spans young children through elderly. Those particular cohorts have lesser lung capacity to be more threatened by the effect of increased emissions and especially with less trees and more traffic congestion due to proposed new crossing and bus stop. It is insufficiently reassuring to plant 'some new trees and native shrubbery'. It is unjustifiable to remove mature trees and the newly planted can't possibly balance the loss in a short or medium term. While busses are projected to become low emitters, it is cars, vans, trucks and motorbikes which dominate the N11. Trees and walls are sound absorbers too so without them noise pollution will increase with potential effects of stress, sleep disturbances and high blood pressure.

Note 2. Concrete ramps and stairs will be potentially unsafe especially in wet/icy conditions – not just for users but for residents living on the edge of the space, walking, parking and reversing cars. The underpass extension with a footpath above could provide a platform for anti-social behaviour including throwing of missiles which is not a current concern.

Note 3. Proposal to construct a Toucan crossing above an existing underpass which is inherently safer for pedestrians and cyclists moving to the other side of the carriageway.

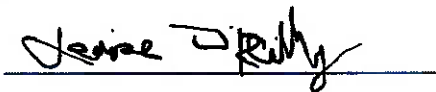
A substantial increase of pedestrian traffic through PV, resultant of all southbound bus-users in the hinterland of Blackrock being re-directed through our neighbourhood to and from the bus, makes driving and reversing from driveways more hazardous.

The proposed plans of 50% less mature trees, more motor congestion outside and more pedestrian foot and two-wheeled traffic inside, will see Patrician Villas become a less safe, less-cohesive community, more polluted, more public, noisier and unhealthier place to live.

We ask you to look favourably on our objection and refuse permission for case ref.: 317742 so our residents may have opportunity to enter dialogue with the NTA and agree less damaging, safer alternatives.

Yours sincerely,

PP



Louise O'Reilly & Darran McGuinness (29 Patrician Villas)
Karleen Smyth (37A Patrician Villas)