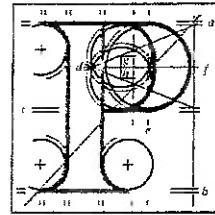


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Our Case Number: ABP-317742-23



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Monica Glynn & William Cleary
11 The Bridge
Dublin Road
Shankill

D18 W982

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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Bray Scheme 317742 (Bray to City Centre Bus Corridor)

An Bord Pleanals
64 Marlboro St
Dublin 1
10th Oct 2023

Observation from :

Monica Glynn 11 The Bridge, Dublin Road Shankill D18 W982
William Cleary 11, The Bridge, Shankill, D18 W982

Dear Sir /Madam

We are literally heartbroken that anyone in Government or in any of the government institutions would think that it is a good idea to fell 800 trees in Shankill to allow a bus to move faster. The saving on this route would only be 7 mins across the distance from Bray to the city centre. How could anyone put this into an official document as a good idea ? 800 hundred trees versus 7 mins on a bus. The 800 trees are in a distance of approximately one mile in a suburban area already absorbing hundreds of new homes and adjacent to the two busiest motorways in the country the N11 and the M50.

This could never be a good idea !

There are many many reasons why the Bus Connects scheme from Loughlinstown roundabout to the Bray North exit of the M50 is ridiculous and we know that others will list the many key reasons why this is so and we support all the points that are made by them. We are begging you as planners, who surely must have the ordinary person's interest at heart, to look at this plan and see what a poor plan it is and reject it or choose a better plan..

The points that affect us personally are listed below.

Shankill is beautiful because of the trees, the old walls and the green spaces. A great deal of this will be ruined for no good reason. We are already absorbing hundreds of new homes, a new dart station and at some point our park will be ruined by a new cycle way. With the change in traffic since Covid there will be no need for this route to be altered.

It would not have been possible for an extensive tree survey to have been carried out on so many trees and there are many places where felling old trees would possibly undermine the land and affect things like subsidence. The Bridge development that we live in is adjacent to the old Harcourt Line bridge and the roundabout at St Annes. The trees in this area are clearly old and are part of an old wooded area. It is a strange layout. The old railway line was built into a valley but the road rises for the bridge. If you inspect the bridge you can see that many repairs have been done but some of the bridge is very old. Some houses are low down in the valley

and then our building is on the slope. Can the government and Bord Pleanála be sure that taking down these trees would not undermine all the buildings in this area and cause movement of buildings and indeed the road and the Bridge. Undermining a 52 apartment block would surely be a very serious error.

We are told that the aim of this scheme is to save time on the bus route from Bray into the city centre. The delays on this route are very clearly noted by all who live along this route. The N11 Bray North exit roundabout is a problem all the time but this rarely backs up into Shankill. The area from Cornelscourt up to UCD is a problem in term time as there are so many schools in this area. Out of term time there are no delays. If there are delays in the rush hour the delay is caused by the congestion in the bus lane itself with taxis and buses pulling onto the main lanes leapfrogging each other. This project will not solve this problem.

There are few delays passing through Shankill.

3. As there are few delays it seems mad to spend taxpayers money to ruin the village. It is a particular scandal that you would cut down mature trees. Shankill runs parallel to the busiest road in the country (N11 and part of the M50) and the pollution from these roads must be terrible. The mature trees improve the air quality on this section.
4. A new dart station is planned at Woodbrook which may take more cars off the road. There is also a bike greenway planned again through the park removing cars from the village. Thus reducing any small delays that might exist.
5. Closing off Corbawn Lane has been tried before and failed. All the houses and LIDL customers served by the Corbawn Lane turn off will now have to be routed to a traffic light causing a back up onto the roundabout. This will only be made worse by lights.
6. The roundabout at St Annes church keeps all five lanes moving. There is no need for lights.
7. The area outside the Tesco shop is an accident waiting to happen and yet no improvements are planned for this area such as a raised area and proper pedestrian crossing areas.
8. A lot of the amenities in the village lie behind the main road. There are three junior schools and a senior school. There is a health centre and a day centre. There is a shortage of parking in the village and the pavements from the St Annes' church down to the post office area are currently unsafe as it is too narrow for the traffic of buggies, elderly etc. People often have to step into the road to pass each other. None of this is addressed in this scheme and all of this will worsen the access. Shankill is a lovely friendly community. The layout of the village allows for walking and this helps communities to know each other. Shankill is a wonderful community that accepts all people, we have a traveller community, an Alzheimers community, we have a facility for those with Downs Syndrome, we have national schools and secondary school, we have a day care centre and a health centre, we have rich people in large homes and middle class people in medium sized homes we have people in small homes all living in harmony. Why should a bus lane take priority over all of this ?
9. Once the developments at Shankill Castle and Wood brook are finished there is no land to develop the area from the Dublin Road across to the sea all other developments will have to be on the other side of the N11/M50. So there will be no increase of passengers for the buses.

There are so many great needs for the use of public monies that it is unbelievable that so much cash would be used to ruin a village for no reason. We ask you to carefully consider all the

feedback and to be sure that public money is used wisely and that this does not turn into another Childrens Hospital.