

**ABP Belfield/Blackrock to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme (comprising the Blackrock to Merrion Core Bus Corridor, and the UCD Ballsbridge to City Centre Core Bus Corridor)**  
**Status Update/Note issued to Public Reps & Community Forum Members 12.05.22**

Dear Community Forum Member,

We are emailing you to provide a status update in relation to the Core Bus Corridors.

This week, the National Transport Authority (NTA) gave notice of its application under Section 51(2) of the Roads Act 1993 (as amended) to An Bord Pleanála for approval in relation to a proposed road development consisting of the construction of the **Belfield/Blackrock to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme**.

The Proposed Scheme consists of two sections namely:

- The University College Dublin (UCD) Ballsbridge to City Centre Section (previously UCD Ballsbridge to City Centre Core Bus Corridor); and
- The Blackrock to Merrion Section (previously Blackrock to Merrion Core Bus Corridor).

During the non-statutory public consultations and the route selection process (up to the choice of the Preferred Route Option), these two sections had been considered separately. These sections have now been combined as the Proposed Scheme. The principal reasons for combining the University College Dublin (UCD) Ballsbridge to City Centre and the Blackrock to Merrion Sections into the Proposed Scheme include their geographical association and functional interdependence and the fact that the Blackrock to Merrion Section joins the UCD Ballsbridge to City Centre Section at the junction of Nutley Lane and the Merrion Road and shares the remaining section of the route from that junction to the City Centre.

For information, a small number of changes have been made to this scheme following consideration of the submissions received during the third round of public consultation (at the end of 2020) and these are summarised below.

- The Scheme is extended to include signalised junction of Nutley Lane and R138 Stillorgan Road;
- A proposed 'cul-de-sac' at George's Avenue (south) to motorised vehicles, allowing only authorised vehicles (such as emergency and refuse vehicles) to pass through;
- The introduction of a new accessible ramp from the McCartney (Baggot) Bridge footpath to the existing walkway alongside the Grand Canal;
- Offline traffic management strategy prepared to offset diversions due to online measures;
- A number of Junction, Crossing and Parking Modifications including additional disabled spaces; Layouts of all bus stops enhanced and some bus stop locations and layouts have been optimised to allow better connectivity for bus passengers;
- Landscaping updated throughout; and
- Cycle facilities optimised throughout including improvements to tie-ins on side roads.

A copy of the application documentation may be viewed and downloaded free of charge at: [www.belfieldblackrockscheme.ie](http://www.belfieldblackrockscheme.ie). Please note all previous documents regarding BusConnects are still available on [www.busconnects.ie](http://www.busconnects.ie)

Submissions/observations may be made in writing to the **Board at An Bord Pleanála (Strategic Infrastructure Division), 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902** between Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May and Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

Any submissions/observations must be accompanied by a fee of €50 and must be received by the Board not later than **5.30 p.m. on the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022**. This fee will not apply to certain prescribed bodies including those specified in Section 51(3)(b) of the Roads Act 1993 (as amended) or to landowners and others with a legal interest in land who are objecting to compulsory acquisition of land in which they have such an interest in a compulsory acquisition case.

Submissions/observations can also be made on the An Bord Pleanála website at the following address: <https://online.pleanala.ie/en-ie/sid/observation> .

It is our intention to submit the schemes on a phased basis with the next four schemes likely to be submitted in the order shown below:

- Blanchardstown to City Centre CBC Scheme;
- Liffey Valley to City Centre CBC Scheme;
- Ballymun/Finglas to City Centre CBC Scheme;
- Ringsend to City Centre CBC Scheme.

As each scheme is submitted for approval to An Bord Pleanála the process of public notifications in newspapers and online will be repeated. After these first six scheme applications are made, the remaining six projects are likely to be submitted to An Bord Pleanála during the second half of this year.

Yours Sincerely,

BusConnects Team