



Transport & Mobility Forum

Cork County Council

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Via email part8.rdrlo@corkcoco.ie

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c/o Cork Environmental Forum
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Public Consultation – Response

Part 8 - Proposed Ballinrea Junction Upgrade Works, Ballinrea, Carrigaline, Co. Cork

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for giving the general public and stakeholders the opportunity to feed into the Proposed Ballinrea Junction Upgrade Works. The Transport and Mobility Forum, Cork (TMF) is a cross-sectoral representative group of organisations who have a common interest in sustainable travel *. The TMF fully supports measures and policies promoting sustainable and active travel. Sustainable and Active Travel (cycling and walking) help to reduce congestion on roads, improve air quality, support a low carbon economy, reduce noise pollution and improve public health.

As such it is the TMF's aim to support the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, in particular SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

Overview

We oppose this proposed scheme, this prioritises vehicle capacity and speed rather than the needs and safety of pedestrians and cyclists.

The existing junction suffers from poor sightlines and overly wide turning radii, which together decrease the safety of the junction particularly for pedestrians and cyclists. But it must be acknowledged, however, that the poor sight lines also have a positive effect in reducing the mean speeds at which vehicles approach the junction.

Rather than simply improving the sight lines which has a negative effect on safety due to increasing the mean speeds on approach to the junction we would prefer to see a treatment which reduces the radii of the turns narrows the carriageway in order to reduce speeds on approach and ensure vehicles come to a stop in advance of the junction and provide appropriate provision for pedestrians and cyclists.

The proposed layout is hostile to pedestrians and cyclists in that it offers no provision for crossing and does not reduce vehicle speeds on approach. Roundabouts are particularly intimidating for novice cyclists and difficult for pedestrians with limited mobility to cross as well as safety concerns for pedestrians and cyclists. An alternative which could be considered is a signalized junction.

We would be obliged to further participate in the discourse and planning processes around active travel schemes as we feel that TMF can provide valuable input into the process. Please do not hesitate to contact us at any time at tmfcork@gmail.com.

Kind regards

Stephan Koch

Transport and Mobility Forum – Acting Chair

Darren McAdam-O'Connell

Transport and Mobility Forum – Coordinator

Note: *The comments within this submission are solely the view of the Transport and Mobility Forum (TMF) as a whole and not the opinion or view of any individual partner of the TMF.*

**) A full list of partners in the Transport and Mobility Forum can be found at*

<https://transportandmobilityforum.com/partners/>