



Transport & Mobility Forum

Submission to the Cork City Centre Movement Strategy (CCMS), Phase I & II

July 2016

Introduction

The Transport and Mobility Forum welcomes the general plans outlined in the draft consultation document. This plan will enhance the public transport offering, the public realm for communities and supports the economy¹ and is consistent with developing a greener and more sustainable city for the 21st century.

Comments

Further to our previous submission of 5th June 2015, the Transport and Mobility Forum would like to make the following additional comments.

- We welcome the introduction of 30Km zone in the Middle Parish, however, we feel this could be extended to Grattan Street, Grenville Place etc. – see more detailed note as per previous submission.
- The extended operational hours of pay parking in Grattan Street and surrounding areas is a positive move in particular for the benefit of local residents.
- The raised table at St. Vincent's footbridge is a welcome change to allow level access to the bridge.

¹ Prioritising sustainable transport also benefits the private sector. Reports reveal an increase in trading of up to 40 percent in areas where walking and cycling become the norm. In Copenhagen (Denmark), customers who travel to cities by bicycle spend €2 billion per year - more than those who travel by private vehicle. Ref: EU Mobility Week 2016 www.mobilityweek.eu

- The plan of works needs to have a greater emphasis on public realm improvements and soft landscaping to balance the needs for transport functionality and public social space.
- We welcome the new pedestrian crossing in Grattan Street due to the increase in traffic on this street.
- Due to the restriction of traffic in Patrick Street and the move towards a pedestrian priority area we wonder in the long term whether an additional pedestrian crossing is required given that the street already has 6 sets of traffic lights.
- There are too many gaps in the connectivity desire lines for cyclists between the North Mall and the Washington Street/ Mardyke area. Maintaining a southbound travel option via the Mercy Hospital remains a priority as pointed out in detail in our 2015 submission.
- The materials and finishes used in the infrastructure e.g. pavements should facilitate and assist all users including visually impaired and people with mobility issues.
- We welcome the hours of restriction to general motor traffic in Patrick St, however, we consider this as being the start of a process where restriction times will be reviewed and extended.
- It is unclear if the restricted hours also apply to Saturdays and Sundays, we hope that the period of private motor traffic restriction is applicable from Monday to Sunday.

We believe that the suite of works proposed in Phase I & II overall will facilitate and improve the public transport movement in the entire city and increase the modal share and uptake of public transport .

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The Transport and Mobility Forum Cork is a group of organisations who have a common interest in sustainable travel.

For the list of members, see document attached or see online:

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

Chair: Stephan Koch, UCC

Vice Chair: Bryan Riney, Cork County Council / SWRA

Spokesperson: Bernadette Connolly, CEF