



Transport & Mobility Forum

Cork City Council
Traffic Operations
City Hall
Cork

Via online consultation portal

Transport and Mobility Forum, Cork
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c/o Cork Environmental Forum
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2nd November 2020

PART 8 Public Consultation – Response **The Marina – Pedestrianisation**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Transport and Mobility Forum, Cork (TMF) is a representative group of organisations who have a common interest in sustainable travel *. The TMF fully supports sustainable modes of travel measures and policies. Sustainable and Active Travel helps reduce congestion on roads, improve air quality, supports a low carbon economy, reduces noise pollution and improves public health.

The current COVID 19 crisis is a tremendous challenge for the entire country (and the world). Recovery from the lockdown for businesses and public life, as well as recreation within the city is dependent on safety measures regarding social distancing with new requirements for space needed by pedestrians.

The **TMF strongly welcomes and supports the proposed permanent closure of the Marina to motor traffic** as this will safeguard the area as an invaluable asset of green infrastructure, for leisure, recreation and also green (active travel) commuting on a 24/7 basis. It is also an important step towards realising the Lee2Sea Greenway, which will soon see features of protected cycling infrastructure extended from the East into the city centre as far as City Hall and South Mall (see public consultations in July 2020).

Observations

Some form of **visual segregation of faster moving cyclists** (normal travel speed) from pedestrians, e.g. different surface colour) should be considered along the Marina's western part, particularly where it



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forms part of CSE GW1 cycle route (CCNP / Lee2Sea greenway), i.e. west of the point joining with the Blackrock Railway line greenway.

In the consultation document, information is given on **30km/h as being the present speed** limit where motor traffic is allowed for local access. We assume and ask that 30km/h will remain the speed limit in these areas, as unfortunately no information is given on this point. It should extend also onto the eastern end of Centre Park Road, from the Marina up to its junction with Marquee Rd.

The Marina is an ideal place especially for children to learn and train for cycling. One potential hazard, however, will be the **slope towards the river edge**. In connection with a later re-design of the road surface, a kerb towards the river-side grass area should remain, or e.g. a row of shrubs should create protection against children accidentally directing their bikes (or other wheeled devices) towards the river bank slope.

To enhance the quality of the public realm at the Marina and to underline its new status, measures of **tactical urbanism** shall be applied to upgrade the public realm and create a pleasant and vibrant space (planters, seating, cycle parking etc). Regarding street furniture, consideration shall be given to mini-interventions using natural material, e.g. timber planters that can serve as barriers instead of solely technical barrier installations and yellow lines.

On a general note, going forward there should be **safe quiet routes for walking and cycling** established linking the Marina to wider areas in the City, in order to give e.g. families the chance to reach the Marina with children on their bikes without the need to drive there, even for a few kilometres only.

Conclusion

We welcome the here proposed permanent road closure of the Marina and the fact that positive experiences over the summer now lead to a long-term re-dedication of the area. We reiterate to offer our support and expertise while going forward with introducing further short-term and temporary or permanent measures to strengthen Cork's resilience and boost its attractiveness for its citizens and visitors alike.

Should you require any clarifications, please email me at tmfcork@gmail.com .

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephan Koch".

Stephan Koch (Chair)
Transport and Mobility Forum

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/>