



Transport & Mobility Forum

Cork City Council

Roads and Infrastructure
City Hall
Cork

Via online consultation portal

Transport and Mobility Forum, Cork

www.transportandmobilityforum.com

tmfcork@gmail.com

c/o Cork Environmental Forum
Bernadette Connolly
Mount Carmel, Kilcolman
Enniskeane, Co. Cork
P47 C578

20th November 2020

PART 8 Public Consultation – Response

South Douglas Road Junction Upgrade

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 **TMF welcomes the junction upgrade at South Douglas Road / Willow Park / N40 , replacing the existing roundabout.** The signalled junction, in connection with the new segregated cycle paths at the junction will contribute to clarity and safety for cyclists and pedestrians alike. A safer access towards two schools and the Tramore Valley Park will be provided.

Observations

We support and welcome the introduction of the segregated cycle paths along South Douglas Rd (inbound) and Willow Park as a safe access route into the Douglas Gaelscoil.

The **lack of an outbound cycle path** passing under the N40 bridge would be desirable. Unfortunately there is **no cross section given** at this location, and information about available space (esp. footpath width) in connection with location of the bridge pillars is not given. A 0.5m verge between the new cycle path and the carriageway under the underpass would be beneficial for cyclists' safety, given limited light conditions there.



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For **cyclists travelling east on South Douglas Rd** and turning right into Willow Park at the western pedestrian crossing, there is no defined space to wait for the pedestrian signal.

The westbound cycle path on South Douglas Rd should have an advanced stop line (or motor traffic a recessed stop line), to give cyclists a head start into the junction for better visibility.

The **Two-way cycle path heading towards South Douglas Rd** should be extended past the pedestrian (toucan) crossing up to where it reaches the South Douglas Rd's carriageway, in order to give cyclists a continuous path into South Douglas Rd.

The reason for the pedestrian crossing across Willow Park / N40 exit being **declared a toucan crossing** is not clear. What stream of cyclists are supposed to cross via this toucan crossing, while the cycle path inbound is on the carriageway and ruled by the general traffic signal.

In Willow Park, the transition of cyclists between the Two-way cycle path and the carriageway at the school gate is unclear.

The crossing of Willow Park towards the footpath leading to Tramore Valley Park should preferably be a raised table crossing.

The new location of the **outbound bus stop**, allowing motor traffic to bypass stopping buses, is unfavourable regarding longer access distance to the pedestrian crossing.

While there is sufficient space for pedestrians throughout most parts of the scheme, the obvious pinch point at the corner of Willow Park and South Douglas Rd (west) should be addressed (entrance to property). Obtaining a greater footpath width at the northern side of the junction would be beneficial for pedestrians.

Conclusion

We welcome the here proposed junction improvement scheme in principle and trust that our observations will be considered.

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

Kind regards

Stephan Koch

Transport and Mobility Forum - Chair

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/>