



Transport & Mobility Forum

Cork City Council

Roads & Infrastructure Directorate
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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Public Consultation – Response

Alderbrook Pedestrian Improvement Scheme

A Chara,

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.

A core element of promoting walking (and cycling, i.e., active travel) in urban settings is the permeability of the urban fabric for pedestrians, to provide shortcuts and avoid –in many cases – lengthy detours for getting to local, services, schools and bus stops. Permeability particularly pedestrian permeability is absolutely vital to enabling active travel and public transport use in suburban contexts. The lack of permeability in the Douglas/Grange area is a very serious concern. Projects such as this which retrofit permeability by adding extra pedestrian connections into the suburban context, leading towards local services and bus stops, are vital transport infrastructure.

Observation

We generally question the provision of fencing between the footpath and the road as this type of hard infrastructure corraling pedestrians can contribute to a hostile public realm for pedestrians. If some form of separation towards fast moving motor traffic is deemed necessary, we would rather suggest a hedge row.

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The proposed geometry of the pedestrian crossing across Airport Rd (diagonal across same) will lead to a longer than necessary crossing. We would hence suggest moving the southern start of the crossing a few metres west into Airport Rd in order to achieve a more right angle situation and a shorter crossing distance for pedestrians, which would also off-set the pedestrians' waiting area from fast passing motor traffic along Grange / Frankfield Rd.

General Conclusion

As such we very strongly support the provision of improved pedestrian access to Alderbrook and this project. We hope that more of such retrofittings for active travel permeability will be done in future.

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

Do Chara,

Dr. Darren McAdam-O'Connell

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/>

