



Transport & Mobility Forum

Cork City Council
Roads and Infrastructure
City Hall
Cork

Via online consultation portal

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c/o Cork Environmental Forum
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Public Consultation – Response

Coolroe Meadows Active Travel Scheme

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for giving the general public and stakeholders the opportunity to feed into the Mahon Cycle Scheme.

*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 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.*

We would be obliged to further participate in the discourse and planning processes around the development of Mahon Cycle Scheme as we feel that TMF can provide a valuable input into the process. Please do not hesitate to contact us at any time under tmfcork@gmail.com.

Overview

We strongly support this proposed scheme as it will improve the safety, accessibility, and desirability of this section of road for pedestrians and cyclists, in particular.



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We would like to further mention that this scheme is well designed in that it uses best practices such as raised table junction, narrow curb radii, bollards delineated cycle lanes, and visual narrowing. This is a far more effective and desirable intervention than many others and has our full support

Decreased risk for cyclists & pedestrians

Removing the hatched central medium and using the space instead for a cycle lane delineated by bollards physically and visually narrows the carriageway space for motor vehicles, which will lead to lower speeds and more alert drivers. This will decrease the risk and increase the desirability for all road users including drivers but particularly for cyclists and pedestrians and has our strong and unequivocal support. Likewise, the style of raised table junction, where the cycle lane continues on interrupted outside the stop line for traffic which yields for cyclists in the same manner as motor vehicles on the main road, is far safer for pedestrians and cyclists than other alternatives. The provision of bollards increases the actual, and perhaps more importantly the perceived, safety of the cycle lane for timid and inexperienced cyclists.

The Urban realm

It is welcome that it is possible to implement this scheme without removing any of the existing urban trees and we welcome that it is also possible to provide several new trees. We feel that this will improve the Urban realm making a route more attractive for pedestrians.

Possible improvements and critical analysis.

We are concerned that the 1.5 m width of the cycle lane is the minimum acceptable width. While we welcome the provision of bollards their presence means that it is all the more important that the cycle lane be sufficiently wide to allow wider bikes such as those adopted for disabilities, cargo bikes, and child trainers to use the route, as well as allowing overtaking within the lane. We would suggest that if it is possible that this width is increased slightly in order to allow this. If not possible that the particular notice is taken to ensure on installation but the minimum 1.5 m space inside bollards and all fixtures is maintained.

We also note that the roads (R608 & the N22 interchange roundabout) at either end of this scheme are particularly hostile and while recognizing that this falls outside the scope of this scheme we would like to see better integration of this scheme with those routes.

Stephan Koch

Transport and Mobility Forum – Acting Chair



Transport & Mobility Forum

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/>