

Item No. 11

Minutes of Cycling & Walking Sub-Committee Meeting held on 7th December 2016, Richard O'Carrol Room, City Hall, Dublin 2, at 2.30pm

Attendance

Members

Colm Ryder, Dublin Cycling Campaign (Stand-in Chairperson)
Orlaith Maguire, Road Safety Authority
Fiona Kelty, National Council for the Blind of Ireland
Barbara Connolly, Cycling Ireland

Non Members

Conor O'Leary, Executive Engineer Dublin City Council
Edel Kelly, Executive Planner, Dublin City Council

Apologies

Cllr Ciaran Cuffe, Chairperson
Alley Menary, An Taisce
Sarah Scannell, Cycling & Walking Promotions Officer, DCC
Cormac Ross, National Transport Authority
Alita Rivero, Dublin City Cycling Campaign

Admin

Marian Cheevers, Dublin City Council
Jenny Sweeney, Dublin City Council

Chair Cllr Cuffe sent apologies. Colm Ryder agreed to chair in his absence.

1. Minutes of Cycling & Walking Sub- Committee held on 6th October 2016

Colm Ryder meeting amendment requests inputted to minutes.

2. College Green Update

Conor O'Leary gave verbal update alongside hard copy of report circulated to members.

3. DCC Funding for Primary Schools Cycle Training

Verbal update by Edel Kelly. The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport have approved the Cycle Right programme and intend to write out to the schools to inform them of the programme and encourage schools to partake. Barbara Connolly made it clear how urgent it was that Dublin City Council respond to the funding request clarification in relation to the Cycle Right program for 2016, otherwise training will not take place next year.

4. Cycle Projects

Conor O'Leary gave a verbal update on cycle projects. A hardcopy was circulated to the members at the meeting and emailed with the Agenda.

The Canal Way Ph 2 should have said Q2 instead of Q1.

Colm Ryder noted that the Dublin Cycling Campaign had a meeting with Tony McGee, regarding the Clontarf to City Centre Cycle Route and is happy to have the project delayed if changes are to be made.

Colm Ryder also noted that Dublin Cycling Campaign is a stakeholder, but they did not get consulted.

Colm Ryder noted that with regard to the S2S project, Michael Collins is making a public presentation on Monday night in the Central hotel regarding the S2S.

Colm Ryder asked for clarity regarding the St. Stephens Green Area concerning the contra flow cycle lanes.

Colm Ryder also requested a list of where the new cycle parking is going to be in the city.

Colm Ryder asked for more clarity and detail on project updates.

5. Cycle Promotion Update.

Edel Kelly gave a verbal update on DCC cycle promotion. The European Cycling Federation visit to Dublin was held last week on foot of Dublin being shortlisted for Velo City 2019. Dublin and Helsinki were shortlisted for the bid. DCC hosted the visiting group of judges and there is a meeting the 7th December 2016 regarding picking the winner. The visit was a great success.

An Anti Bike Theft Campaign launched on Friday 25th November by An Garda Síochána and the DCC's South East Area committee . A photo shoot took place in Rathmines and received coverage online and on social media sites. Sarah Scannell Cycling & Walking promotion officer also attended the event.

The Customer Services Department in DCC was asked to trail monitoring the twitter hashtag #freethecyclelanes. #freethecyclelanes is a twitter campaign whereby users post photographs of vehicles parked illegally in cycle lanes around the city. Customer Services have begun to monitor the site and feedback findings to DCC's Parking Enforcement unit.

Walking: There is a Public Realm Strategy for the City Centre since 2012 and a corporate implementation group meets monthly. This group advocates for pedestrians and walking. The Heart of Dublin City - Public Realm Masterplan for the city core was launched September 2016 in the Gresham Hotel. This proposes a pedestrian friendly city core with more space for pedestrians. A Spatial Calculator for pedestrian space was developed specifically for Dublin as part of the masterplan process.

Fiona Kelty indicated that Temple Bar should be more accessible, and suggested getting rid of the cobblestones as they are a hindrance to pedestrians, and pointed out that Trinity College's works on the cobbles was very successful. Edel Kelly indicated that there are three phases of projects coming from the Masterplan and that Temple Bar in Phase one will be subject to a Part 8 process. There will be a public consultation in 2017.

It was also commented that 50% of cycling is done on the footpath at Grand Canal because of the cobblestones.

Fiona Kelty noted that walking is not addressed enough at the meetings of the subcommittee.

Orlaith Maguire requested more information with regard to the Public Realm Masterplan and the conference that was held in September. Edel Kelly agreed to circulate the links to both. It is noted that the committee has requested an update on the Masterplan and walking and cycling issues.

Edel Kelly indicated that it is normal procedure to improve the environment for pedestrians and cyclists where possible e.g. through new developments, by setting increasing footpaths and improving junctions and crossings etc. The example of St. James's Hospital was discussed where it is proposed to improve the entrance from St. James Street as part of the new Children's Hospital development. DCC communicated to the Hospital that it would be part of the project.

The Polis Conference was held in Rotterdam last week and Dublin City Council was represented by Sarah Scannell, Edel Kelly and Mary Hussey. A discussion ensued regarding the huge plazas, they cause terrible problems for visually impaired people, and it seems that the group representing visually impaired people didn't make contact during the public consultation (for Rotterdam Plaza). Fiona Kelty commented that visually impaired people and their guide dogs find these huge spaces/open plazas very disorienting and as a result avoid them altogether. It would help if during design the pavement/flag stones had raised kerbs for example, for dogs/visually impaired people to guide them through the plazas.

6. ByPad Audit

The first ByPad Audit meeting is to be held on Thursday 8th December.

7. Hike It! Bike It! Like It! Dublin

Edel Kelly reported on the progress of a promotional campaign for sustainable travel that began in Drimnagh and is now to be expanded citywide. The Hike It. Bike It. Like It. Dublin logo and brand is being developed by graphic designers. The original logo was the result of a competition for primary school children in Drimnagh. The original project has been a finalist in two national awards and won an Energy Globe Award this year. It is proposed the new logo and brand will be launched officially next year, alongside a communication and engagement strategy. There are plans to incorporate a new web site also.

250 Green Schools take Walkability Audits every year, they identify issues in their area and this will feed information into the area engineers remit.

8. End of Year Report

Sarah is currently compiling the report.

9. Contra Flow Cycle Lanes

Conor O'Leary needs clarification from the Department, a letter to acknowledge receipt was received however no response at present.

Fiona Kelty suggested that contra flow lanes should be site-specific, and there should be a caveat to try it out, to see if they work in spaces with their own specific difficulties/needs.

10. A.O.B.

Colm Ryder stated that the committee wants written reports attached with the agenda, so that the committee can read it first and then comment at meeting, this should save time at the meetings.

Colm Ryder mentioned 'Quick Wins' in particular Christ Church and Civil Works Projects.

Fiona Kelty asked was there any update on the issue Cllr Mannix Flynn raised regarding the Walking Tours and wants it raised as an issue for next meeting.

Dublin Cycling Campaign are meeting the Department regarding Road Safety on the 19th December, there was a change in legislation regarding the mandatory use of cycle lanes.

Barbara wants it noted that the committee are deemed to be concerned about the changes, and asks did a letter go out to the Department from Cllr Cuffe. She wants it put on the Agenda and it needs clarification.

Colm Ryder to comment back after the meeting on the 19th December.

Colm Ryder noted that he is disappointed that there was no elected members present at the Sub Committee meeting today.

Requested Links:

Public Realm Masterplan for the City Core:

['The Heart of Dublin; City Centre Public Realm Masterplan](#)

Symposium on Public Realm September 2016

All the presentations were video on the day and are now available for sharing in either pdf or video format by scrolling down on this link

<http://www.dublincity.ie/main-menu-services-planning-public-realm/heart-dublin-city-centre-public-realm-masterplan-2016>