

Scheme Brief for:

## **The Hole in the Wall Road Roundabout Improvement.**

Prepared for:

**North Central Area Committee Meeting, 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017.**

### **1.0 Existing Scenario**

Circa December 2012, Toucan crossings (a signalised pedestrian and cyclist crossing) were installed on two arms of the roundabout (Grange Road (east) and Grange Road (south)), and these experience frequent use.

However, the remaining two arms of the roundabout, Clarehall Avenue and The Hole in the Wall Road, experience high crossing demand and require vulnerable road users to negotiate substandard crossing facilities and high traffic volumes. The opportunity to cross these roads is often reliant on the courtesy of drivers.

Public Transport passengers using bus stops on Clarehall Ave. regularly wait in the central hatched area of the road, adjacent to live traffic, whilst trying to cross.

In addition, the efficiency of The Hole in the Wall Road's inbound bus Lane is compromised owing to its termination in advance of the roundabout, necessitating buses to merge with the general traffic lane.

### **2.0 Scheme Objectives**

The issues the proposal is aimed at resolving are:

- safety of cyclists, pedestrians and mobility impaired users crossing Clarehall Avenue and The Hole in the Wall Road,
- substandard crossing facilities along Clarehall Avenue and The Hole in the Wall Road,
- improving connectivity between local points of interest,
- improving the priority of public transport at The Hole in the Wall Roundabout,
- improving existing cycle facilities, and,
- improving traffic monitoring and control at, and in the vicinity of the roundabout.

### **3.0 Proposed Roundabout Improvement Scheme**

As part of the improvement scheme for the roundabout it is proposed to;

- install additional Toucan Crossings on The Hole in the Wall Road and Clarehall Avenue arms of the roundabout,
- extend The Hole in the Wall Road inbound Bus Lane to the roundabout,
- improve the uncontrolled pedestrian crossing facility at the junction of The Hole in the Wall Road and the Grange Abbey Road,
- improve existing cycle facilities, and,
- improve traffic monitoring and control at and in the vicinity of the roundabout.

### **4.0 Scheme Benefits**

The main benefit of the scheme will be the significant improvements to pedestrian and cycle facilities. This in turn will lead to improved safety;

- for cyclists, through the provision of dedicated, single phase signalised crossings. Their introduction will provide the missing link in a completely off-road circulatory facility for cyclists of all abilities to use,
- for pedestrians through the provision of single phase dedicated signalised crossings.

Additionally, the improved pedestrian, cyclist and public transport facilities will encourage a shift towards more sustainable forms of transport and will improve connectivity between the neighbourhoods north and south of Clarehall Ave/Grange Road.

The Hole in the Wall Road and Grange Road (south) are Primary routes of the NTA's Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network. The proposal will improve the existing cycletrack and improve its access links from Clarehall Avenue.

Finally, with the installation of Toucan Crossings on all arms of the roundabout, an opportunity presents to allow better monitoring and control of traffic at the roundabout.

### **5.0 Proposed Scheme Programme & Cost**

The elements of the proposal allow for implementation in the short term.

It is envisaged that the cost of the project will be circa € 700,000. The project is currently scheduled to commence in November 2017 with completion in early 2018.