

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIC POLICY  
COMMITTEE HELD ON 7<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2018, at 3.00 p.m.  
IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, DUBLIN 2**

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**ATTENDANCE:**

**SPC Members:**

Cllr Ciarán Cuffe, Chairperson; Cllr. Kieran Binchy , Cllr Mannix Flynn, Cllr Paul Hand, Cllr Jane Horgan-Jones, Cllr Teresa Keegan, Cllr Frank Kennedy, Cllr Paddy McCartan, Cllr Ruairí McGinley , Cllr Ray McHugh, Cllr Ciarán O'Moore, Cllr Larry O'Toole, Cllr Paddy Smyth.

Ms Fiona Kelty, NCBI, Mr Keith Gavin, Irish Parking Association Mr Martin Hoey, Public Participation Network; Mr Colm Ryder, Dublin Cycling Campaign, Mr Barry Aldworth, AA Ireland Ltd.

**Apologies:** Cllr Tom Brabazon, Mr Richard Guiney, Dublin City Business Improvement District t/a Dublin Town.

**Non-Members:** Cllr Pat Dunne; Cllr Norma Sammon, Cllr Dermot Lacey,

**Dublin City Council Staff:**

Mr Dick Brady, Assistant Chief Executive; Ms Céline Reilly, Executive Manager; Mr Brendan O'Brien, Acting Executive Manager (Traffic); Mr Kevin Meade, Senior Executive Officer; Mr Frank Lambe, Senior Executive Officer, Ms Sarah Scannell, Cycling/Walking Promotions Officer.

Ms. Mary Hussey, Senior Engineer, City Centre Projects; Mr Christopher K. Manzira, Acting Senior Engineer, Roads and Traffic Planning; Mr Andy Walsh, Senior Engineer, Transportation Operations; Mr Derek Dixon, Project Engineer, Luas Cross City Liaison Office; Mr Colm Ennis, Senior Executive Engineer; Ms Helen Smirnova, Senior Executive Engineer; Mr Alec Dundon, Executive Engineer; Mr Neil O'Donoghue Executive Engineer; Ms Claire French, Executive Engineer; Mr Dermot Stevenson, Acting Senior Executive Engineer.

Ms Esther Hickey, Administrative Officer; Mr Stephen Hickey, Senior Staff Officer; Ms Mary Boyle, Staff Officer; Mr Fergal McKay, Assistant Staff Officer; Mr. Patrick Davis, Clerical Officer.

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The Chairperson welcomed three new Members to the SPC, Councillors Ruairí McGinley and Tom Brabazon, and Mr. Barry Aldworth, AA Ireland Ltd.

### **Item No.**

1. Minutes of meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2017

#### **Minutes agreed**

2. Copy of correspondence dated 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2017, 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 and 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2018, with the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, in relation to clamp release fees for persistent parking offenders.

#### **Noted**

3. Luas Cross City – impact on traffic to date.

Mr. Brendan O'Brien, A/Executive Manager (Traffic), gave a presentation on the impact on public transport and traffic in the city centre arising from the operation of Luas Cross City, in particular from January, 2018, resulting in delays for Luas trams and Dublin Bus and safety concerns for pedestrians and cyclists, due to the volume of vehicles through College Street, College Green and D'Olier Street at peak times. Some waiting times for pedestrians were reduced at College Green but more will need to be done to bring the waiting times to a level safe and convenient for pedestrians to use. The City Council is assessing the number of taxis using College Green during different times of the day and, as agreed with the Taxi Unions, any changes proposed will be discussed with them. 20% of Dublin Bus routes have been diverted from College Green and some routes have achieved significant time savings as a result. As a temporary measure, a 2-way cycle track has been installed outside Bank of Ireland, from Westmoreland Street to Dame Street, to give cyclists an alternative. Mr O'Brien replied in detail to Members questions and issues. The City Council is happy to meet with the Irish Parking Association, receive their figures on car park usage and try to address their concerns. A report can be provided on meetings with the Taxi Unions and the NTA. The Chairperson said that over the last 25 years, we have seen a 75% increase in population in the inner city, and that it is a problem of success not so much a problem of failure. He said also that the NTA needs to move faster on the Bus Connects project. Mr Dick Brady, Assistant Chief Executive, noted that there isn't a facility to do nothing, and if we do nothing we will hit gridlock or create a city that no-one particularly wants to come to.

#### **Presentation noted.**

4. College Green update.

Ms Mary Hussey, Senior Engineer, City Centre Projects, outlined the current position in relation to the College Green project.

#### **Report noted**

5. Proposed Dublin City Council Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2018.

Mr. Dermot Stevenson, Acting Senior Executive Engineer, said that the draft Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws and a map would be submitted to the April, 2018 meeting of the Transportation SPC. It was agreed to write to An Garda Síochána to request greater enforcement of the new speed limit zones. The City Council also will raise the issue directly with An Garda Síochána at their next meeting.

**Report noted.**

6. Stationless On-Street Bicycle Hire

Mr. Kevin Meade, Senior Executive Officer, gave a presentation on Stationless On-Street Bicycle Hire. The next steps will involve the drawing up of the assessment criteria, and advertising for licence applicants towards the end of February, 2018. It is expected that service will commence on 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2018.

**Presentation and update noted.**

7. Removal of abandoned bicycles - policy update

Mr. Alec Dundon, Executive Engineer, replied to the issues raised by Members in relation to the abandoned bicycle policy. With regard to labelling bicycles parked hazardously, Mr. Dundon said that tags could be looked at for possible use by Public Domain Officers if the particular need arose.

**Report noted**

8. Pedestrian facilities improvements at St Margaret's Road/McKee Avenue and Jamestown Road/Melville Road roundabouts – issue regarding funding referred to the Transportation SPC by the North West Area Committee **(report attached, plus copy of original report submitted to the North West Area Committee meeting in November, 2017)**

Mr. Christopher K. Manzira, Senior Engineer will report to the April, 2018 meeting of the North West Area Committee on funding for the above schemes.

**Report noted**

9. Wheelchair availability in Dublin City.

**It was agreed to submit a report on the matter to a future meeting of the Transportation SPC following consultation with representative stakeholders such as Public Participation Network, and elderly and disability groups.**

**Report noted**

10. Minutes of Cycling and Walking Sub-Committee meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2017

**Minutes noted.**

## **Motions**

### 11. Motion submitted by Fine Gael Group:

“This committee recommends that the current DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL PARKING CONTROL BYE-LAWS 2014, be amended as follows.

#### A) Two additional designations be included in the bye-laws

1. “Very heavy demand road” means a residential parking permit road where the number of residents parking permits that have been issued for the road exceeds 75% of the total number of residential parking permit bays on the road.
2. “Extremely heavy demand road” means a residential parking permit road where the number of residents parking permits that have been issued for the road exceeds 85% of the total number of residential parking permit bays on the road.

#### B) That the following regulations apply to the above designations;

1. Where the building, regardless of the number of sub-units therein, is on a ‘very heavy demand road’, the maximum number of residents in that building who may concurrently hold a resident’s parking permit shall be 2.
2. Where the building, regardless of the number of sub-units therein, is on a ‘extremely heavy demand road’, the maximum number of residents in that building who may concurrently hold a resident’s parking permit shall be 1.

C) That these amendments to the Bye-Laws, would apply but without prejudice to the rights of existing permit holders in that house/building to renew their parking permits, and that non-renewal of permits by existing holders where the permit quota exceeds the level as per paragraph (B) will result in the extinguishment of an automatic entitlement for a new applicant to a permit for that house/unit.”

### **Motion agreed**

### 12. Motion in the name of Councillor Frank Kennedy:

“In light of the ever growing practice of people using smartphones while walking (in particular sending texts and reading emails and articles), which creates serious risks to health and safety including that oblivious smartphone users could step onto oncoming traffic, be hit by cars and bicycles, or walk into stationary objects, this Committee resolves that Dublin City Council conducts an assessment of the ways in which it could (a) encourage people not to engage in this practice and to be aware of the serious consequences that it can cause, and (b) introduce safety measures to prevent injuries and collisions.”

**Motion agreed. A report on the issue to be submitted to a future meeting of the Transportation SPC.**

Cllr Ciarán Cuffe  
**Chairperson,**  
**7<sup>th</sup> February, 2018**