



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE HELD ON 15th April, 2015, IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, DUBLIN 2

ATTENDANCE:

Members: Cllr C. Cuffe, Chairperson; Cllr P. McCartan, Cllr J. Horgan-Jones, Cllr. R. McHugh, Cllr F. Kennedy, Cllr T. Keegan, Cllr C. O'Moore, Cllr K. Binchy, Mr F. Mulligan, Mr J. Leahy, Mr D. Brennan, Mr D. Peppard, Mr R. Guiney.

Apologies: Ms F. Kelty

Non-Members: Cllr M. Flynn

Dublin City Council Staff: Mr M. Phillips, Director of Traffic/City Engineer; Mr D. Wallace, Executive Manager; Mr B. O'Brien, Head of Technical Services; Mr K. McGlynn, A/Senior Engineer, Mr D. Brennan, Assistant Engineer, Traffic Management and Control; Mr K. Meade, Administrative Officer; Ms E. Hickey, Administrative Officer; Mr S. Hickey, Senior Staff Officer; Ms B. O'Reilly, Assistant Staff Officer, Ms C. Curran, Clerical Officer.

Parking Appeals Officer: Mr L. Kielthy

1. Minutes of meeting held on 11th February, 2015 (**copy attached**)

Minutes agreed.

2. Letter dated 26th February, 2015, from the NTA, enclosing copy of letter sent to the South Central Area Manager in January, 2015, regarding bus fare increases (the NTA's correspondence is in response to the SPC who wrote to the NTA following discussion of the item at their February meeting) (**copy attached**)

Letter noted

3. Annual report of Parking Appeals Officer 2014 (**copy attached**)

The Members thanked Mr L. Kielthy, Parking Appeals Officer, for his report. The Members raised a number of issues which included a need for more signage at certain locations, the matter of illegal parking within City Council housing complexes, members of An Garda Síochána parking private cars in the vicinity of Garda stations and Garda cars on the footpaths in the vicinity of the criminal courts, the possibility of opening the City Council car park at the Markets on Saturdays and Sundays and the need to penalise repeat offenders more (persons with a high level of illegal clamps). Mr D. Wallace, Executive Manager, said that signage can be examined in requested areas and the use of the Markets car park and the issue of illegal parking in housing complexes will be raised with the appropriate Departments.

It was agreed to write to the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport to request that the de-clamping fee be index-linked. It was agreed also to write to the Garda Commissioner to seek a protocol in relation to Garda parking on footpaths.

4. Regulation of Rickshaws in Dublin City Council area **(verbal report)**

Mr D. Wallace said that the National Transport Authority is seeking senior counsel opinion on the issue of regulation of rickshaws - whether primary legislation is required or whether bye-laws can be used.

It was agreed to provide a further report to the SPC on the regulation of rickshaws when legal opinion is received. It was agreed also to examine the Bye-Laws which were introduced in London, and to request the Gardai to take action against rickshaws operated in pedestrian areas and on footpaths.

5. Draft Dublin City Council Appointed Stands (Street Service Vehicles) Bye-Laws 2015 – proposal for holding of statutory public consultation process **((i) report and (ii) copy of Draft Bye-Laws 2015 attached)**

Mr K. McGlynn, A/Senior Engineer, Traffic Management and Control, outlined the proposed changes to the Taxi Rank Bye-Laws and responded to Members questions. The Chairperson requested a map indicating the taxi ranks for the central business district.

Report noted. It was agreed to write to the Taxi Regulator to enquire how some taxi drivers are registered to work in a number of counties including Dublin and to report back to the SPC.

The draft Dublin City Council Appointed Stands (Street Service Vehicles) Bye-Laws 2015 were recommended to the City Council to commence the public consultation process.

6. Motion regarding waiver of street furniture license fees in the North Inner City area **(report attached)**

The Members discussed the item of waiving street furniture fees and expressed various views.

It was agreed to report back to the SPC on a pilot scheme to waive street furniture fees in the Smithfield Market area and to submit a detailed report also on street furniture and sandwich boards located on footpaths and their impact on pedestrians.

7. Dublin City Development Plan **((i) report and (ii) timeline attached)**

It was agreed to discuss the transportation issues involved in the Dublin City Development Plan at a workshop, in conjunction with the City Centre Traffic Management Plan.

8. Canal Cordon Report 2006 – 2014: mode share of vehicles and people **(copy attached)**

Mr B. O'Brien, Head of Technical Services, outlined details of the report and replied to Members' questions. Some extra detail can be incorporated into future reports such as figures for Dublinbikes. The Chairperson asked for details on the number of people coming into the city by car who are commuting and the number coming by car who are shopping.

Report noted.

9. Proposed Dublin City Centre Traffic Management Plan (**verbal report**)

Mr B. O'Brien, Head of Technical Services, said that the proposed City Centre Management Plan is a joint endeavour between Dublin City Council and the NTA. The Plan is looking at the city centre for the next 5 to 7 years, at where we see growth and how to cope with increased numbers. We need to be able to sustain the city, improve the pedestrian environment and the public realm, and provide for public transport. The Plan should be available in about two months time.

It was agreed to hold a workshop on the issues involved, and to incorporate a discussion on the transportation issues involved in the Development Plan. The issue of transport police to form part of the discussions.

10. Traffic plans for College Green (**verbal report**)

Mr D. Wallace, Executive Manager, said that very substantial EU funding is now available to carry out traffic modelling at College Green which would give more accurate results than a previously suggested pilot scheme for a plaza with lane closures. In the context of the discussion, the Chairperson referred to Cllr F. Kennedy's Motion on the Agenda calling for the relocation of the taxi rank in Foster Place to an appropriate location to allow for the maximisation of the potential of Foster Place. The Members discussed the issues involved in detail, expressed support for the Motion and also expressed concern for the taxi drivers located at Foster Place and that the Taxi Unions would be consulted appropriately.

It was agreed to submit a report to the SPC on further plans for College Green and Foster Place. Members discussed the area at present in use as a surface car park in front of the Bank of Ireland, and requested that a draft letter, addressed to the Bank on the potential future use of this area, be brought to the SPC for its approval.

11. Guidelines for the setting and managing of speed limits (**update report attached**)

Mr K. McGlynn, a/Senior Engineer, Traffic Management and Control, said that the City Council is reviewing the Guidelines as published by the Minister with a view to developing a policy and having consultations with the elected Members. The Chairperson asked that a report be submitted to the SPC as soon as possible.

Report noted.

12. Minutes of Cycling and Walking Sub-Committee meeting of 4th March, 2015 (**copy attached**)

Minutes noted.

13. Proposed Terms of Reference for the Cycling and Walking Sub-Committee (**report attached**)

Agreed.

14. Luas Cross City works (**report attached**)

The Members raised concerns about the conditions the streets and footpaths are left in at various locations arising from the Luas Cross City works and also about the safety of pedestrians, in particular at the junction of Dawson Street and Nassau Street. Members also considered the standard of hoardings in use as very poor. The Chairperson asked for clear information panels showing what works are being done, when it starts and when it finishes.

Mr B. O'Brien, Head of Technical Services, said the City Council has already brought up with the RPA on a number of occasions the condition of the roads and the issue of pedestrian safety.

It was agreed that Mr B. O'Brien, Head of Technical Services, would bring the concerns of the Members as expressed at the meeting about the condition of the roads, the safety of pedestrians, the poor standard of hoardings and the request for clear information panels, to the meeting of the Luas Cross City Traffic Forum taking place later in the morning with the NTA and that a report would be submitted to the next meeting of the SPC.

Motions

15. Motion in the name of Councillor Paul Hand:

"This SPC notes with concern the lack of motorbike parking spaces in the Dublin City Council administrative area. Furthermore, we request that the next draft of Parking Control by-laws allow motorbikes park in pay and display parking bays using the parking tag system."

It was agreed to defer the Motion to the next meeting of the SPC.

16. Motion in the name of Councillor Frank Kennedy:

"This Committee calls for the relocation of the taxi rank in Foster Place, Dublin 2 to an appropriate location to allow for the maximisation of the potential of Foster Place."

The Motion, which was discussed earlier in the meeting in the context of the item on further plans for College Green, was agreed.

17. A.O.B.

Cllr M. Flynn asked for the re-instatement of the left turn from Wellington Quay onto Parliament Street to facilitate local businesses and for the provision of secure bicycle parking in City Council housing complexes.

It was agreed that a group of students from Drimnagh Castle School could make a brief presentation at the next SPC meeting to make a case for the addition of Dublinbikes to the Leap Card.

Cllr C. O'Moore raised the issue of vehicles parking in the cycle lane, past the wooden bridge, heading towards Sutton. It was agreed to refer this item to the Cycling and Walking Sub-Committee.

In relation to the Development Plan review, Cllr K. Binchy referred to a Motion he has submitted calling for proper bicycle parking in any new office or residential development and requested support for the Motion on 5th May. The Chairperson said that we need to set a high specification for the bicycle rack by way of planning condition.

**Councillor Ciarán Cuffe
Chairperson,
15th April, 2015**