

Walking & Cycling Sub-Committee

27th September 2018

Attendance:

Cllr Ciaran Cuffe, Chair of Walking & Cycling Sub-Committee, DCC

Edel Kelly – Senior Transportation Officer, DCC

Christopher K Manzira, DCC

Martin Hoey, PPN

Jane Hackett, Green Schools, An Taisce

Neil O' Donohoe, Environment & Transportation TAG,DCC

Karen Hosie, Environment & Transportation ITS,DCC

David Skene, Environment & Transportation DCC

Said Shawqi, Environment & Transportation DCC

Lauren Richards, Environment & Transportation Parking Enforcement, DCC

Clive Ahern, Environment & Transportation, DCC

Cllr Mannix Flynn, DCC

Orlaith Maguire, RSA

Jane Hackett, Green Schools, An Taisce

Barbara Connolly, Cycling Ireland

Fiona Kelty, National Council for the Blind of Ireland

Kieran Ryan, Dublin Cycling Campaign

Apologies:

Dick Brady, Environment & Transportation, DCC

Cllr Paddy Smith, Oliver Dalton NTA, Cllr Jane Horgan, Kevin Meade DCC, Dermot Stevenson DCC, Colm Ryder Dublin Cycling Campaign,

Administration:

Marian Cheevers, DCC

1 Minutes of Cycle & Walking Sub – Committee meeting held on 27th June 2018

June 27th 2018 minutes agreed.

2 Projects

Fitzwilliam St Cycle route – Mid October a meeting is expected to happen with residents. Cllr Mannix Flynn (MF) mentioned the width of the roads and emergency vehicles access. Chris K Manzira (CKM) says DCC are in discussions with Dublin fire brigade regarding the width of the road at present. Cllr MF pointed out that a disability group had to point out a grave error and he wants the project taken off the agenda to get proper drawings and plans drawn up. Cllr Cuffe stated that it is out to Public Consultation at present moment.

Point Junction Improvement Scheme – Alfie Byrne to East Link Bridge -a part 8 is being prepared. There was a cycling fatality in March this year on the East Wall Road.

Clontarf to City Centre the Canal Way will be the first item on the project list, we are waiting on more information from the NTA, there has been no date given to us.

Dolphins Barn should be on this list as it is already a part 8.

Clontarf Baths – DCC Still in discussions with private owners, Chris K Manzira will be back with results at a future date.

The Liffey cycle Route – Kieran Ryan says it is causing frustration to Dublin Cycling Campaign. Dublin City Council are not involved in the assessment project. Cllr Cuffe asks that Chris K Manzira convey our sense of concern as a matter of urgency to the NTA to move it along, and to underline the deep frustration with the project.

3 May 2018 Cycle & Pedestrian Count

Said Shawqi gave a verbal report of the C&P Count, it was counted from East to West, on North South Junctions from 7am to 7pm. It was noted that there were a huge number of people cycling. Cllr Mannix Flynn asked if it is broken down into tourists etc., S Shawqi said it cannot be broken down into tourists, visitors etc. Cllr Cuffe said it is interesting to see footfall in Shopping Streets, Grafton Street is down 5% due to online retail. Cllr MF asked if it is contracted out and where are the cameras etc. do we use Dublin Town cameras? S Shawqi said no we need to use the same cameras yearly so as we can compare trends year on year.

Cllr Cuffe suggested that we need someone to look strategically at the different data available– Edel to ask Dick Brady

4 ITS Reports/Pedestrian Crossings

Karen Hosie. Kevin Street has a new pedestrian crossing to go in, it is gone to tender and will be installed before the end of year.

Martin Hoey of PPN asked why some of the pedestrian push buttons crossings along the new LCC LUAS line do not have an audio sound. Karen Hosie stated the buttons on the right hand side are turned off. In order to ensure a standard operation at all junctions the pedestrian button is located on the left hand side and has an audio locator and is used to identify the tail of the tactile and to allow visually impaired road user to correctly position themselves at the junction. The buttons on the right are a repeater button due to the extra width of the crossing and the locators sound is not switched.,

Jane Hackett asked if there is a list of new Pedestrian crossings as she gets a lot of requests from parents.

There is a list with TAG and new developments have them in their plans. Edel Kelly stated that new developments have new desire lines and we ask developers to provide the crossings and to widen footpaths by setting building lines back.

Cllr Cuffe asks should we be strategically be looking at widening footpaths if we are serious about putting pedestrians first, we need a strategic list.

5 Station less Bikes

Lauren Richards Staff Officer – Parking Enforcement Section gave a verbal report and update on stationless bikes. 2 operators have been licenced. Bleeper bike is operational and Urbo not yet. The issue of how illegal parking is dealt with arose. Bleeper Bikes give one warning to people illegally parking the bikes, they send emails out to members also with news around the city. Trinity College, DCU, UCD Institute of Art Dun Laoghaire now all have these bikes. We are trying to raise awareness regarding de-carbonising the city. Urbo are progressing and should be up and running by the end of October. The campuses are private spaces but Trinity have rolled out a lot of new stands for bikes, and allow stationless bikes to use them. Healthy Trinity are in touch with Edel Kelly and are looking for cycle spaces outside Trinity also.

Barbara Connolly of Cycle Ireland asked if there was any consideration being given to training?

Cllr Cuffe says introductory care should be given by stationless bikes companies to their clients, a request by us should go to Bleeper Bikes to raise safety awareness to encourage safer cycling.

Lauren stated that stationless bikes are obliged to use Sheffield stands, new permits do not exceed more than half of new stands provided by us.

6 Drury Street Cycle Parking Upgrade

Dublin City Council is going to try out cycle lockers in Drury St car park and trial both models. Dublin Cycling Campaign says that there is not enough signage for the car park –it is noted that it needs to go onto the Agenda again. Cllr Cuffe says we should be using new media feeds in DCC to promote it.

7 Velo City 2018

Clive Ahern gave a verbal update on Velo City 2019, which will take place from the 25th to 28th June next year. The overall theme of the conference is 'Cycling for the Ages' and the vision of the conference is 'the Cycling City of 2030'

We have a call for abstracts for the 22nd of October and the abstracts will be reviewed this November. The European Cyclists Federation are working with the Velo team regarding abstracts and speakers.

We will promote Dublin City and Ireland to make attending Velo-city 2019 as attractive as possible to potential delegates. We will also be working with other organisations within Ireland, to make the programme interesting for both an Irish and international audience.

Cllr Cuffe says this is a great opportunity to involve local communities and children. There is great potential to link in to North East Area Office and Bradóg, schools etc.

Jane Hackett asked if there is another meeting on abstracts as we need a parallel project for schools. Clive Ahern says the overall conference theme 'Cycling for the Ages' can facilitate and encourage us to involve children and older people.

Jane Hackett says that the Erasmus project for schools is running at same time so different countries will be here for Velo.

Edel Kelly pointed out that the Health & Social element engages with Green Schools, and projects can happen during Velo. It needs to come from a grass roots level. Trinity College's mechanical engineering department will work on showcasing something for Velo City. The Chief Executive has indicated that he wants a lasting legacy from Velo City.

Cllr Mannix Flynn says that we need to use the event to grow the product in the city. Pilot ideas for example- taking traffic out of the streets e.g., Phoenix Park. Promote Dublin City not Ireland! Promote walking – we did it for the Pope's visit! Ask people to co-operate with us, no traffic, and car pool. Give the city back to the people, open up parks, and involve Ballybough, Cabra etc. and involve whole communities in it.

Barbara Connolly says it is an opportunity to create a watershed, a goal to use it to change.

Barbara Connolly says The Liffey route won't be there and it says it on the bid that we have it.

Cllr Cuffe says that it is a huge opportunity to showcase the city, quick wins, signage and small things will be valuable. We won't have any big routes ready. He is delighted that Jane Hackett's Green Schools will be involved, and that there will be free informal social events from Dublin Cycling Campaign

Clive Ahern says the Wood Quay Venue is booked for a potential meeting. Cllr Cuffe says round table meeting of NGO's are happening for this autumn.

8 Public Realm and other updates

Edel Kelly explained that the Public Realm corporate structure is made up of a steering group headed by Dick Brady and there is also a working group headed up by Edel Kelly Senior Transportation Officer. It is a coordinated approach to Public Realm.

Fiona Kelty says that the Beta Boxes are great with the graffiti/ paintings on them. She asks why we cannot get a pedestrian crossing over a Luas line. It is harder to cross a Luas line as a visually impaired person. St Stephen's Green crossing was taken away –Karen Hosie stated that the design of the Luas line was carried out under the rail way order by TII. TII have no plans to add in a signalised crossing at this location but they are working on additional road markings.

James St entrance to St James hospital – Edel and Karen Hosie are insisting on a signalised pedestrian crossing across the entrance.

West Moreland Street – full pedestrian crossing across, it took 25 years!

Barbara Connolly – Why let Bus Connects predict how pedestrians use the city?

Edel Kelly – we can't widen the paths at Dame St/Georges St.

Cllr Cuffe- Bus connects does take a lot of routes out of the city.

Cllr Mannix Flynn – there are a lot of issues concerning Bus Connects. Luas is privatised and subsidised, bus connects will be privatised. Grafton St/Henry St before 11am is bedlam it is not traffic monitored.

Cllr Cuffe acknowledged that the benefit of having all the public realm projects altogether on one page, a lot can be gained by bringing a draft of the proposals to local areas.

Cllr Cuffe says shared space (guidance) needs condensed lobbying. Develop a protocol where mechanised vehicles share with pedestrians. Older people are scared of bikes on the footpath. We have an opportunity now to make city right with all the new development.

Fiona Kelty – The NDA hosted Engineering Ireland, they got research done by Trinity House, and it's a 120 page document. We need to write to the NDA seeking Clear Guidelines on shared space parking in light of UK recent changes in guidance of shared space (in UK).

9 30KPH

Dermot Stevenson has already given updates on the implementation at the Transportation SPC and will do again at the full council meeting in October.

10 De Brief on Bike Velodrome – Edel Kelly – Committee ran out of time to discuss

11 Bypad Actions Audit – No resources at present

12 Quick Wins

Old section of S2S – Dublin cycling campaign suggested sites. Liffey Bridges was suggested as a Quick win. CKM said it's very difficult to implement there. DCC will be calling in Dublin Cycling Campaign for a meeting. We are hoping to do works in the city like the ITS items. We are anticipating the Department of Transport to facilitate some solutions and to get funding to do trials i.e. Karen Hosie's ITS teams to look at giving extra time on pedestrian lights.

Fiona Kelty – we are asking for years to extend pedestrian crossing times, is it now possible if sites can be identified it can be done? Karen Hosie says yes it is possible currently on all sites there is a 6 second green man time which is an invitation to cross the amber man time allocated based on road width. For areas of high pedestrian volumes such as requests from school etc. this time can be extended on request.

Fiona Kelty – Could we have a sound for amber time?

Karen Hosie- there was mixed results for international studies with the fob (for extending times by the pedestrian)

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Cllr Mannix Flynn – it' getting more and more dangerous with congested footpaths especially at City Hall/Parliament Street with big bus mirrors, we need to look at pedestrian safety, there is not enough space

Cllr Cuffe- There is 1.2 international speed, we should give it 1. We need a system for widening footpaths in the future. In the research how much time was needed to cross, who were the people, who did the research, is it time for new research?

Karen Hosie- The timings for the crossing comes from the traffic signs manual (department of Transport) and is the minimum time allowed. Trinity College carried out research in relation to crossing times for an aging population – Tilda report,

Edel Kelly – As sites are developed, we are always looking at pedestrians, we try to expand footpaths and provide crossings We work with Green Schools/TAG to give more and put pedestrian crossings to the top of the list.

Kieran Ryan says there is a difference between 'Pedestrian Friendly' and 'Pedestrian Priority'

Cllr Mannix Flynn request that Edel Kelly – Senior Transportation Officer gives her report on liaising with the Department of Education to the committee.

Cllr Cuffe suggests that we write to Sarah Scannell to thank her for her role as Walking & Cycling Promotions Officer in DCC.

Edel Kelly says that Sarah will be replaced, there is some thought being given to extending the role to be pro-active in projects – but replaced at what level and will need a team too?. Green Schools needs a person as small infrastructure needs attention also. The question is should it be open to more than DCC, it is likely that it there will not be a replacement until after Christmas.

Cllr Mannix Flynn says we should secure the budget for the Walking & Cycling Promotions.

Fiona Kelty agrees the need for a team for promotion of Walking & cycling.

13 Beta Project

Bike Hangars- Helen Smirnova to apply to NTA for funding. 107 areas are interested in on street and inside bike lockers.

Cycle stands for the Disabled – we need to get a policy in and how do we enforce it? Talk to disability groups regarding specialised bikes, they need more space to park them.

Dublin cycling Campaign is to poll its members regarding them. Alan Cook of Temple Bar raised issues re parking for wheelchairs. There is no standard in the Development Plan for Wheelchair Parking.

Cllr Cuffe suggested that Shane Wearing published quite a bit, we should encourage new ideas to go to trial and help them as it educates us too.

Cllr Mannix Flynn – We are poor on Children's infrastructure, we should make it more inviting to children.

Fiona Kelty says street games and children's' culture are being lost because they can't go out on the street. Cllr Mannix Flynn says that there is a children's place on every street corner in Barcelona.

There is a problem also with pavement blockers – waste bins and delivery vans

Kieran Ryan says that the coroner's inquest was on for the cyclist killed at the Phoenix Park, how is the process followed up when a coroner recommends something?

Brendan O'Brien usually has an immediate meeting after a death, ask Dick Brady what the process is when there is a traffic accident death in relation to the coroner's court recommendations.

14 AOB

Edel asked for views of committee on the role of cycling officer to feed back to the Senior Manager. Fiona Kelty said she would like to have a team working on Walking & Cycling. Cllr Cuffe – the officer should report to the SPC and committee and have a work programme strategic plan. Cllr Cuffe was in favour of the post being advertised externally.

Next week is National Road Safety Week – Orlaith Maguire. The RSA are working with the construction Industry regarding 'Clean Trucks' and are holding 'Tool Box Talks'.

PPN – Martin Hoey asks why the campshires were used for autonomous vehicle. It showed up that greater regulation of driverless vehicles is needed.