



Meath Street & Environs

Public Realm Improvement Project



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

Meath Street & Environs Public Realm Improvement Project

Overview:

- Follows from Thomas Street-James Street and Francis Street improvements
- Initiated concept stage in 2018
- Public meetings with residents and businesses in Oct 2018
- Concept report prepared by Haslem & Co. Architects in May 2019
- Current approval from CPSO to develop preliminary design and move to Part VIII
- Design lead: Haslem & Co Architects
- Project Management/ Engineering: Roads Design Section

Meath Street & Environs Public Realm Improvement Project

Objectives:

- **Enhance the appearance** of Meath Street and its environs
- Improvements/additions to all public realm areas including: footpaths, kerbs, carriageway, street furniture, street lighting, planting and landscaping etc. The principle of **universal access** should be supported.
- **Prioritise pedestrians**
- Consider the provision of cycle parking, on-street parking and loading facilities for retail premises on the street, and measures to **consolidate, enhance and improve these facilities**.
- **Support economic revitalisation of Meath Street** - encourage and facilitate day time activities and street animations such as cafés, bars restaurants and shops etc. Support formalised street market activity.
- Encourage of wider **improvement of the streetscape, investment in property**
- **Upgrade infrastructure** such as drainage, water services etc

What the initial Community Meetings told us...

- **Better connections** - both north south through to Newmarket and east-west to Francis Street must be considered
- Pedestrians - **wider pavements** needed and better street lighting
- **Shop fronts** - better image of Meath Street required
- Cleaning - **better street cleaning** and bin provision
- Signage - Meath Street, The Liberties and way finding generally
- **Parking** - drop off, short stay and loading
- Street furniture – feared links to anti-social behaviour
- Market - **development of street market** and closing of street for a day market such as Sunday welcome.
- Improvement or gentrification? - continue the **vibrancy and colour** of Meath Street
- Improvements - be careful to balance noise levels and resident's





Next Step: Preliminary Design

- Concept design provides a range of design ideas for the street
- June 2020: initiated a preliminary design phase
- Initial workshops with internal technical departments to develop design
- Policy requirements
- Establish project boundary line
- Surveying utilities, site levels, etc
- Assessments for archaeology and conservation, appropriate assessment



Next Step: Preliminary Design

Challenges:

- Rebalancing space towards the pedestrian
- Creating functional space on pavements for street market, seating etc
- Can we provide SUDS measures or drainage improvements
- Adding trees and landscaping
- Traffic management
- Cycling
- Optimum parking/ loading provision
- Access to the church (funerals)
- Crossings



Next Step: Preliminary Design

- By end Q1/2021 propose to have a draft scheme
- Present design to Elected Members
- Public consultation and discussion
- Bring proposal to Part VIII in Q2/2021

