Report No. 346/2021 Report of the Assistant Chief Executive and City Engineer



Major Walking and Cycling Projects – December 2021

1. Staffing

The post of Programme Director has been advertised and the Department has sanctioned the recruitment of multi-disciplinary staff for walking and cycling projects. The Programme Director will be responsible for delivery of the major walking and cycling infrastructure projects over the next five years. To date no staff have been added to the walking and cycling team. This is as reported in November 2021.

2. 5-Year Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Delivery

Over the next five years, Dublin City Council will undertake the planning and implementation of up to 140km of cycling and walking infrastructure. This is made up of 55km from 27 existing projects and 85km from 31 new corridors. The full list was circulated in Report No 67/2021 issued in February 2021. Initial assessments were commenced as outlined below on the following corridors. However, work on these corridors is currently on hold due to staff shortages.

- Rathmines to Killester: The overall route is approximately 1.6km long. Initial assessment of the corridor has commenced. It is anticipated that a list of potential interventions along the corridor will be completed by end Q1 2022.
- **Finglas to Killester Corridor:** The overall corridor is approximately 7.3km long. The assessment is seeking to identify projects along this corridor that can be delivered over the course of five years. The inability to staff the Project Teams is causing delays to work on this corridor. It is now anticipated that proposals will be brought to the North Central and North West Area Committees in Q 1 2022.
- Santry Greenway: The project will include a river restoration and biodiversity element. It is being led by the Water Framework Directive Office. Request for tenders were sent out on 4th November 2021 to shortlisted candidates. It is anticipated that the contract for the design team will be awarded in Q 2 2022. The option selection process will take 24 months.
- **Kilmainham to Thomas Street:** The overall corridor is approximately 2.6km long. During the month, further work was done to develop cross sections for Suir Road and South Circular Road. It is anticipated that a list of proposed interventions along the corridor will be presented to the South Central Area Committee in January 2022.

- Cabra to Blanchardstown: The corridor assessment commenced in August 2021. The
 assessment is seeking to identify projects along this corridor that can be delivered over
 the course of five years. It is anticipated that a list of interventions along this corridor
 will be presented to the North West in Q2 2022.
- Naas Road to Inchicore: The corridor assessment commenced in August 2021. The
 assessment is seeking to identify projects along this corridor that can be delivered over
 the course of five years. It is anticipated that a list of interventions along this corridor
 will be presented to the North West in Q2 2022.
- Bayside to Donaghmede: The corridor assessment commenced in August 2021. The
 assessment is seeking to identify projects along this corridor that can be delivered over
 the course of five years. It is anticipated that a list of interventions along this corridor
 will be presented to the North Central Area Committee in Q2 2022.
- Harold's Cross to Ballymount: The corridor assessment commenced in August 2021. The assessment is seeking to identify projects along this corridor that can be delivered over the course of five years. It is anticipated that a list of interventions along this corridor will be presented to the South East Area Committee in Q2 2022.

In addition, a number of infrastructure projects that had been paused have resumed. The following projects have resumed;

- Dodder Greenway: The NTA Cycling Design Office (CDO) commenced work on Habitat and Environmental Screening Reports, with final reports to be issued by end of Q4. The CDO progressed design development of options for Milltown Road and Beaver Row. An updated options assessment for these two zones is in progress. The CDO has undertaken traffic modelling for route options on Beaver Row; the assessment has been incorporated into the options assessment process. Structural visual assessments of the existing bridges along the route have been completed. The emerging preferred option will be identified by end January 2022. It is planned to brief DCC and DLRCC nominated Elected Representatives in February 2022 followed by a briefing to the Steering Committee in March 2022.
- Clonskeagh to City Centre: The CDO commenced work on the project in late October 2021. A project inception meeting was held between DCC, NTA and CDO to agree the scheme extents, key personnel, project schedule. Arising from this, it is anticipated that the design will be progressed to allow non-statutory public consultation to commence in Q4 2022. To date, all relevant background documentation and previous studies have been issued to the CDO. The CDO has commenced a review of this documentation.
- Grand Canal Greenway (Blackhorse to Portobello): A review of current proposals in the context of new projects that have come on stream, such as Busconnects has been prepared. Dublin City Council will be reviewing this report over the next month. The designs for the safety improvements to the on road cycling facilities along the Grand Canal is being finalized and will be tendered shortly. Tenders have been received for additional site investigations. It is anticipated that a briefing on the project will be made to the South Central Area Committee at its January 2022 meeting.

3. Schemes with Statutory Planning Approval

There are no new schemes undergoing the statutory planning process. This is unchanged from last month. There are four projects with statutory planning consent. These are:

- Royal Canal Greenway
- Dodder Greenway
- Clontarf to City Centre
- The Point Junction Improvement Scheme

However, an amending Part 8 has been lodged to facilitate alterations over three sections of the Royal Canal. The scheme is currently undergoing statutory public consultation.

3.1 Royal Canal Greenway

The Royal Canal Greenway is being delivered in four phases.

Phase 1: Implemented.

Phase 2: The additional planting is complete.

Phase 3: The contractor selection process is being finalized, in conjunction with seeking the necessary approvals to proceed to construction. Work has been undertaken to facilitate approval of the scheme to proceed to construction.

Phase 4: The amending Part 8 for the scheme was lodged during September. It is anticipated that the Chief Executive's recommendation will be brought to Dublin City Council for their consideration at the January Council meeting.

3.2 Dodder Greenway (Herbert Park to Donnybrook)

A preferred tender has been selected. The project is currently experiencing delays. As a result, the award of the construction contract has been deferred.

3.3 Clontarf to City Centre

Tenders leading to the appointment of a works contractor were received in May 2021. The preparation of the Final Business Case for the scheme has been completed. If approved at corporate level and by the National Transport Authority, Dublin City Council will proceed to award the construction contract.

Information on the project is now accessible on the DCC webpages. The address is www.dublincity.ie/c2cc. The following information is now available;

- Project Overview and Progress Update
- Drawings and Visualisations
- Bus Stop Design
- Temporary Traffic Management

The Project Team is finalising bus stop designs following the engagement with disability groups and organisations and information leaflet, based on the feedback received from members. A leaflet is has been prepared for business and residents in line with the communication plan. The leaflet will be distributed as soon as approval to proceed to construction is on hand.

3.4 The Point Junction Improvement Scheme

A Project Team has been set up to resume the project. They are currently reviewing how the project interfaces with other proposed transport infrastructure projects in the area, such as the Point Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge.

4. Interim Schemes

The implementation of two interim schemes to facilitate immediate safety improvements for cyclists is ongoing. This is to compensate for delays in the delivery of the main schemes. These are:

- Liffey Cycle Route
- Fitzwilliam Cycle Route

4.1 Liffey Cycle Route

The installation of coloured surfacing on the south Quays was carried out during the month. The designs from O'Connell Bridge to Matt Talbot Memorial Bridge, for both the North Quays and South Quays are being finalised. Tenders leading to the appointment of Contractors will be issued shortly. Further design work was carried out to develop proposals for additional bus stops along Burgh Quay.

For the full permanent scheme, work was ongoing for the development of a strategic assessment report. This work will be ongoing for a further two months. A contract for some ground investigations for services was awarded during the month. It is anticipated that these investigations will be completed in December 2021.

4.2 Fitzwilliam Street Cycle Route

The interim scheme is now complete.

For the permanent scheme, the drainage design and ramps for pedestrian crossings for the scheme were finalized during the month. It is anticipated that the detailed design will be finalized in December 2021.

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&

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24th November 2021