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## Quarterly Report of the Active Travel Programme Office – April 2022

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## 1. Introduction

This is the first Quarterly Report of the Active Travel Programme Office. It introduces the Active Travel Programme Office and details its activities for the period February 2022 to April 2022. It also discusses planned activities for the second quarter of 2022.

Future reports will be aligned with the quarterly annual calendar. Thus, the second quarterly report will cover a shorter period of May to June 2022 and, it will be issued for the July full Council Meeting.

## 2. Active Travel Programme Office

The Active Travel Programme Office (AcTPrO) was set up on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022, initially with 15 staff transferring from Traffic. Andy G. Walsh has been appointed Director for the Active Travel Programme.

Other members of the senior management team are;  
Christopher K. Manzira, Senior Transportation Officer,  
Gráinne O'Brien, Senior Engineer and,  
Victor Coe, Senior Engineer.

The fledgling office now has a compliment of 21 staff. It is anticipated that significant nos. of additional staff will continue to be added presently, especially at executive engineer and assistant engineer levels. Competitions for other professions that will form the multi-disciplinary team will also be held within the next three months.

The Active Travel Programme Office has the responsibility for the delivery of the Active Travel Programme, which is funded by the National Transport Authority (NTA), with a particular focus on the Active Travel Network.

The Active Travel Programme Office can be contacted by email on [ActiveTravelOffice@dublincity.ie](mailto:ActiveTravelOffice@dublincity.ie)

## 3. The Active Travel Programme

The Active Travel Programme currently has 89 live projects in the city, which are at various stages of implementation. The delivery of the majority of these projects will be directly managed by AcTPrO. AcTPrO will also rely on other Divisions within the Environment and Transportation Department and throughout DCC to deliver some of the projects.

Over the last two months, AcTPrO has been working on the overall strategy for the programme including network planning and planned project execution, while keeping a number of projects moving, such as the Clontarf to City Centre and also getting a greater number of projects started.

A key element of the execution plan will be to grow an interim network of protected cycling facilities. This will involve the building in excess of 70 km light segregated cycling facilities over the next two years, where possible. This infrastructure will then be developed into enduring infrastructure during the subsequent three years.

## 4. The Active Travel Network

AcTPrO has been working closely with the NTA over the last two months to establish an Active Travel Network that is necessary to facilitate safer cycling throughout the city. This network, within the Greater Dublin Area (GDA) approved network, has now been locked down and will drive the allocation of resources in the short and medium term. The network (circa

200 kilometres), being almost 50% larger and accordingly more ambitious than the initial project list put forward in early 2021.

Over the next three months, AcTPrO will be developing an implementation programme for this network. As part of this process, AcTPrO is scheduling the following engagements with Elected Representatives;

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Schedule</b>
Council Groups (Parties and Independents)	May 2022
Area Committees	June/July 2022
Transportation SPC	September 2022
Environment SPC	September 2022

During these information meetings, a particular focus will be placed on projects that will be in construction or going to construction over two time periods,

<b>Term</b>	<b>Time Horizon</b>	<b>Time Period</b>
Short	3 Years	2022 - 2024
Medium	5 Years	2025 - 2027

A formal launch is scheduled for September.

## **5. Network Updates**

58 major projects have already been identified as part of the Active Travel Network. Eight of these are already at construction or scheduled to be in construction in 2022.

### **5.1 Clontarf to City Centre**

The Clontarf to City Centre Project will deliver 8km of walking facilities, 6km of cycling facilities, and 5.4km of bus lanes, from Alfie Byrne Road/Clontarf Road Junction to Amiens Street/Talbot Street Junction and a section of the Tolka Valley Greeway from Annesley Bridge to Alfie Byrne Road/East Wall Road Junction. Construction commenced in Q1 2022 and will continue until Q1 2024.

The AcTPrO held a joint information meeting on the project on 25th March for members of the Central and North Central Area Committees.

The Lord Mayor Alison Gilliland turned the sod for the project on 28th March 2022. Main construction works commenced on the same day. Extensive advance messaging of roadworks was put in place.

The project is scheduled for completion in Quarter One, 2024. The contractor has divided the main route into seven sections as shown on the figure below. Works are now in progress in sections two, six and seven. Work on the three sections are already underway and will continue for the remainder of 2022. Works along the Tolka, are scheduled to commence in the later part of Quarter four 2022. The remaining sections, section one, three, four and five are scheduled to commence in 2023.

A second leaflet drop detailing the phasing of the works was carried out in April 2022, comprising 45,000 leaflets of which 29,000 went to business and 16,000 went to homes. This doubled the distribution of the first leaflet. It encompassed the entire East Wall Area and the Clontarf Area, and the area bound by Drumcondra Road/Swords Road, Collins Avenue and Vernon Avenue.

Further information on the project is accessible on the Dublin City Council webpages. The address is [www.dublincity.ie/c2cc](http://www.dublincity.ie/c2cc)

### **5.2 Royal Canal Phase 3**

Royal Canal Phase 3 will provide 2.1 km of cycling facilities and 2.1 km of walking facilities along the Royal Canal, from Newcomen Bridge (North Strand Road) to Cross Guns Bridge (Phibsborough Road). Construction will commence in Q4 2022 and continue to Q 3 2024.

During this quarter, the preliminary business case for the project was completed and the construction tender was published on 12th April 2022.

It is anticipated that the preferred tenderer will be selected during the second quarter of 2022. Construction will then start in early in the fourth quarter of 2022. The project is scheduled for completion within a two year time frame.

AcTPrO will schedule an information meeting with members of the Central Area Committee during the third quarter of 2022, in advance of the start of the main construction works. In addition, a communication plan on the project will be put in place and implemented.

### **5.3 Royal Canal Phase 4**

The project will deliver 4.3km of cycling facilities, and 4.3km of walking facilities along the Royal Canal, from Cross Guns Bridge (Phibsborough Road) to the city boundary at Ashtown. A section of the scheme requiring amendments will be put out on public display in May to June 2022, under Part 8.

During this quarter, the revisions to the documents for amending Part 8 were completed. The revisions involved further clarity on matters relating to the visual impact of the proposed revisions as well as additional information on ecology, in particular the presence of otters. The additional information does not alter the scheme previously put on public display.

It is planned to have the scheme back on public display during May 2022. The scheme will then be brought to either the September Full Council Meeting for decision.

Construction is scheduled to start in the fourth quarter of 2022 and will continue for a year and a half, with completion in the second quarter of 2024.

### **5.4 Dodder Greenway**

The scheme will deliver 7.5km of walking and cycling facilities, including three bridges, along the Dodder River, from the River Liffey to Orwell Park. A further 9.5km is being delivered by South Dublin County Council.

During this quarter, the NTA's Cycling Design Office completed the identification of the emerging preferred option. This was completed in March 2022. It is planned to brief DCC and DLRCC nominated Elected Representatives in May 2022. The Dodder Steering Committee meetings will resume in May 2022.

### **5.5 Dodder Greenway – Herbert Park to Donnybrook**

The scheme will deliver half a kilometer of walking and cycling facilities, including flood protection measures, along the Dodder River, for the Donnybrook end of Herbert Park, connecting to Donnybrook Road. Construction will start in the second quarter of 2022 with completion scheduled for quarter two of 2023.

## **5.6 South Grand Canal Cycle Safety Improvements**

The scheme will upgrade existing signalized junctions, including the provision of pedestrian crossings.

A contractor for the upgrade of the junctions will be appointed during the second quarter of 2022 with completion in the first quarter of 2023.

## **5.7 East Coast Trail (North)**

The scheme will provide segregated cycling facilities from Alfie Byrne Road to North Wall Quay.

During this quarter, tenders for the provision of segregated cycling facilities from Alfie Byrne Road to East Road were received and a preferred tenderer selected.

It is anticipated that works will start on site during quarter two of 2022 with works completed by December 2022.

## **5.8 Fitzwilliam Cycle Route**

The scheme will deliver a kilometre of cycling facilities.

During this quarter, detailed design of the scheme was in progress.

It is planned to publish tenders for construction during quarter two of 2022, with construction starting in the third quarter of 2022. The scheme is scheduled for completion in quarter two of 2023.

## **5.9 Works carried out by the Traffic Division - Capel Street Pedestrianisation**

Report of the Traffic Division's work on the pedestrianisation of Capel Street is as follows:

Following on from the success of the changes to Capel Street over seventeen weekends in 2021, and in conjunction with the Area Office and City Recovery Office, the Traffic Division brought forward proposals for making the street traffic free from 11:00 am each day. These proposals have undergone extensive public consultation, where more than 91% of all respondents were in favour of this change. At a special meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022, the Central Area Committee unanimously accepted this proposal. It is currently anticipated that this initiative will be in place by the end of May 2022, with progress updates and agreed reporting to the Area Committee in July and September of this year.

**Andy G. Walsh**  
Director for the Active Travel Programme

**John W. Flanagan**  
Assistant Chief Executive & City Engineer

27<sup>th</sup> April 2022