Report No. 315/2022. Report of the Traffic and Transport Strategic Policy Committee



Breviate of The Traffic And Transport Strategic Policy Committee meeting held on 9th November 2022

- 1. Minutes of meeting of 7th September 2022
 - a) Minutes of Walking & Cycling Sub-Committee
 - b) Minutes of Zebra Crossing Working Group
 - c) Minutes of 30KPH Working Group

1-1c - Noted and agreed

2. Report from the 30KPH working group on setting of speed limits and recommendations for changes to the guidelines for setting of speed limits.

It was agreed to refer the Report and Recommendations to City Council for approval to submit to Department of Transport

3. Report on Motion that DCC examine mechanisms to reduce the presence of oversized and emissions intensive vehicles, particularly in the City Centre –, Brendan O'Brien, A/Executive Manager (Traffic)

Motion 162 referred from Special Council Meeting 8-10 November 2021 Draft Dublin City Development plan 2022-2028 - Submitted by Green Party

Refers to: Chapter 8 - Sustainable Movement and Transport

Motion 162

Chapter:8, Section: Page: 225 after SMT32 to include a new policy: The Council will examine mechanisms to reduce the presence of oversized and emissions intensive vehicles, particularly in the city centre

Planning Reason

To support sustainable transport and reduce the number of private cars in the city. Chief Executive's Response

The delivery of goods and services in the city is an essential service carried out by many large scale trucks and vehicles and supports many jobs and businesses in the city. However, the concern regarding the reducing in emissions is noted and Dublin City Council is committed to supporting and promoting the development of 'last mile' deliveries (Policy SMT14) which seek to reduce the presence of vehicles in the city. Policy SMT028 also seeks to tackle the adverse environmental and road safety of traffic in the city through measures such as the ongoing monitoring of traffic noise and emissions and the evaluation of the air quality and traffic noise impacts of transport policy and traffic management measures being implemented by DCC.

The issue of mechanisms to change access for vehicles is an issue of City bylaws and is not a Development Plan matter; and this topic would be best addressed through examination of the wider issue through the Traffic and Transport SPC.

Chief Executive Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the CE that the motion is not agreed as it is outside of the scope of the Development Plan; and the Draft Plan contains policies seeking to reduce traffic noise and emissions.

Noted

4. Report on Traffic cameras in the city – Brendan O'Brien, A/Executive Manager (Traffic)

Noted

5. Proposed dates for Traffic and Transport SPC Meetings 2023/24

Wednesday 8th February, 2023 Wednesday 7th June, 2023 Wednesday 6th September, 2023 Wednesday 8th November, 2023 Wednesday 7th February, 2024

All meetings to start at 3pm

Agreed

6. Motion in the name of Councillor Cieran Perry.

That this SPC notes with concern the BusConnects Blanchardstown to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme was submitted to An Bord Pleanála without an opportunity for a proper public consultation on changes introduced since the final preferred route documents was published in March 2022. Given the importance and impact of the BusConnects project, at a minimum, a report should be presented to the Traffic & Transport SPC prior to progress on any of the major phases of the project.

This SPC will write to the NTA highlighting these concerns.

Deferred to the next SPC February, 2023

7. Motion in the name of Councillor Damian O'Farrell

That this Traffic and Transport SPC supports the Road Safety Authority's 'Be Safe, Be Seen Campaign as we enter into the darker winter months.

This is an inclusive safety campaign encouraging all road users' pedestrians, cyclists and motorists to do everything they can to keep everyone in our community safe. Pedestrians are advised to wear light material or reflective clothing at dusk and at night. Similarly cyclists are required to have a white light to the front and a red light to the rear of their bicycles and additionally are advised to wear a reflective vest or armband. Motorists are required to use their dipped lights at lighting up time and at night as well as making sure their lights, indicators and reflectors are in good working order. Motorists in particular need to be aware of slowing down at night and in poor light conditions.

We all need to be doing everything we can to be more visible at night time, pedestrians, cyclists and motorists. The RSA campaign is a common sense community effort to keep everyone safe and is mindful of the different categories, ages and abilities of all road users. We and/or members of our family are all pedestrians, cyclists or motorists at some point.

Councillor Carolyn Moore said that she was not against a road safety campaign, however, she would not endorse an onus being put on vulnerable road users, i.e. those not protected by being in a vehicle, to protect themselves from dangerous driving, and this statement was supported by Councillor Janet Horner.

Motion agreed

8. Motion in the name of Councillor Noeleen Reilly

Given the urgent crisis in the Bus Service in Dublin that this special policy committee arranges a special meeting with the Minister for Transport to discuss the current service. Passengers of both Dublin Bus and Go-Ahead are being affected by route cancellation, buses turning up late and overcrowding. This is effecting people going to work and children going to school. The bus service is losing confidence from its customers meaning people are turning back to their private cars.

Amended Motion agreed to write to the Minister for Transport, NTA, Dublin Bus and Go Ahead seeking an update on how they are dealing with the current service problems and an invitation to be issued to same to attend a Special Meeting of the Traffic and Transport SPC on Public Bus Services in the City.

9. Motion in the name of Councillor Dermot Lacey

Could I suggest a possible solution? In each street convert say 10% of car park parking spaces to secure bicycle spaces. Each of these locations would have bicycle stands for chaining the bike and cctv recording. Technology is very cheap. The cctv system could be solar powered, and wireless. The bicycle parking bays could have a prominent sign giving a number for citizens to contact if they see suspicious behaviour related to possible theft. All of this would be a great deterrent to would be thieves.

Agreed. Proposals to be included in Report on Parking Charges for SPC in 2023

10. Motion in the name of Lord Mayor Caroline Conroy, Councillor Janet Horner, Councillor Carolyn Moore, and Colm Ryder, Dublin Cycling Campaign.

The Road Safety Authority last year published a Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030 (RSS) which, among a range of objectives, includes a "Vision Zero" for road deaths, a review of speed limit legislation, and the availability of up to date data to enable Local Authorities, such as Dublin City Council to better monitor traffic incidents and plan for safer roads. Despite these ambitions we have already seen road fatalities increasing this year and latest available data showing large increases in Pedestrian and cyclist serious injuries in urban areas.

The RSS is a comprehensive strategy, which has an initial 3 year (2021-24) phase, with many actions already due to be completed, many of which have a direct bearing on actions in Dublin City.

This Traffic and Transport SPC requests the RSA to present an update on this Strategy, and achievements so far, related to stated targets; and in particular the progress on updated collision and casualty data availability, and on the review framework for setting of speed limits.

Motion agreed to write to the RSA to request presentation to SPC on Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030

11. AOB

 Safety Issues for pedestrians during works on Clontarf to City Centre Cycle Route (C2CC) was raised by Martin Hoey and Councillor Flynn

The Manager agreed to come back to the Members.

Councillor Noeleen Reilly Chairperson 9th November 2022

ATTENDANCE:

SPC Members:

Councillor Noeleen Reilly (Chair);
Lord Mayor Caroline Conroy;
Councillor Deirdre Conroy;
Councillor Keith Connolly;
Councillor Daniel Céitinn;
Councillor Mannix Flynn;
Councillor Anne Feeney;
Councillor Janet Horner;
Councillor Carolyn Moore;

Councillor Paddy McCartan;

Mr Martin Hoey, Public Participation Network; Mr Colm Ryder, Dublin Cycling Campaign; Richard Guiney Dublin Town, Declan Gray, Dublin Chamber of Commerce

Apologies:

Mr. Gary Kearney Public Participation Network

Non-Members:

Councillor Dermot Lacey; Councillor Damian O'Farrell

Officals:

Brendan O'Brien, A/Executive Manager Mary Boyle, A/Senior Staff Officer; Michael Mann, Staff Officer; Fergal McKay, Assistant Staff Officer, Oliver Esmonde, Clerical Officer, Shannon Kelly; A/Assistant Staff Officer.