



MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT SPC MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 2023 AT 3PM

Hybrid Meeting held online via Zoom and in Council Chambers, City Hall.

ATTENDANCE:

SPC Members:

Chair, Councillor Noeleen Reilly; Councillor Caroline Conroy; Councillor Deirdre Conroy; Councillor Keith Connolly; Councillor Mannix Flynn; Councillor Janet Horner; Councillor Paddy McCartan; Councillor Larry O'Toole; Councillor Michael Pidgeon; Councillor Anne Feeney;

Mr Martin Hoey, Public Participation Network; Mr Colm Ryder, Dublin Cycling Campaign; Richard Guiney Dublin Town, Mr Keith Gavin, Irish Parking; Stephen Browne, Dublin Chamber; Gary Kearney, Public Participation Network

Apologies: Councillor Daniel Céitinn; Councillor Jane Horgan Jones

Members of the Finance SPC: Lord Mayor of Dublin, Daithí de Róiste; Chair, Seamus McGrattan; Councillor Dermot Lacey; Councillor Fiona Connelly; Aidan Sweeney, IBEC

Non-Members:

Councillor Donna Cooney.

Dublin City Council Staff:

John Flanagan, Assistant Chief Executive; Brendan O'Brien, Head of Technical Services (Traffic); Christopher Manzira; Senior Transportation officer, Active Travel Programme; Linda McDonald. A/Parking Enforcement Officer; Michele Murphy, Senior Executive Planner, Active Travel; Mary Boyle, A/Senior Staff Officer; Michael Mann, Staff Officer; Fergal McKay, Assistant Staff Officer; Hazel Tapley, Assistant Staff Officer;

For Noting - Prior to the start of the agenda Councillor Mannix Flynn raised the recent media coverage suggesting problems with the route of the Dublin City Marathon.

The Manager outlined that issues regarding the start and finish locations for the race and also closing down traffic in the area for three days around the event where raised by the former Chief Executive with the organisers of the marathon. He also informed members that while the Transportation Department may be asked to comment on proposals submitted, it is the Events Section of Dublin City Council deal with this annual occasion.

1 Minutes of the Traffic and Transport Strategic Policy Committee Meeting dated 13th September, 2023

Noted and agreed

a Minutes of the Public Transport Sub Committee Meeting dated 22nd June, 2023

Noted and agreed

b Minutes of the Walking and Cycling Sub Committee Meeting dated 3rd July, 2023

Noted and agreed

2 Finance SPC request for discussion at the Traffic and Transport SPC on the issue of congestion charges for Dublin City.

The Chair of the Finance SPC kicked off the discussion informing members that introducing congestion charges has arisen a number of times at the Finance SPC, and they wanted to see if there was a political will to progress the issue among the members of the Transport SPC.

A number of members did not support the charges. Other members that did not object to the idea of congestion charges did feel however, it was not the time to introduce them and would rather concentrate on delivery of current projects such as the City Centre Programme.

Brendan O'Brien said it was not a suitable tool in Dublin at this time and would involve a high cost upfront. Dublin City Council does not have the mechanisms in place to carry it out at the moment.

Councillor Lacey requested a list of any committees in the Department of Transport of which the Executive of Dublin City Council is a member.

The Executive would not commit to any reporting on this matter in the short term, suggesting congestion charges may be a consideration for future committees.

3 Report on Draft Dublin City Council Parking Control Bye-Laws 2024

The report recommended to increase parking fees as part of the 2024 Budget.

Issues raised in discussion included:

- Vehicle emissions
- Raising Residential Permit fees
- the cost of bike parking (bunkers) versus car parking (residential permit)
- How the increase will affect those reliant on the car as their only mode of transport.
- The Development Plan objective to remove all free parking between the canals
- Business Permits

In response the Manager said a full review of Dublin City Councils Parking Control Bye-Laws will take place in the near future and should address these issues.

Members agreed to recommend the Draft Dublin City Council Parking Control Bye-Laws 2024

Report noted and recommendation agreed

4 Guidelines on Traffic Works Procedures - Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act (1994)

Presentation by Brendan O'Brien, Head of Technical Services

Cllr Cooney and Councillor Pigeon and Cllr Horner welcomed the guidelines. Cllr Lacey said this circular lessened the powers of the Elected Members. Cllr Feeney questioned the lack of consultation with locals and local reps, the lack of modelling for trials.

Presentation noted

5 Active Travel Programme - Update

Update given and questions from Members on some specifics of certain projects answered by Christopher Manzira, Deputy Director, Active Travel Programme Office

Report and update noted

6 AOB

- Public Consultation for the Draft City Centre Transport Plan ends on 1st December, 2023
- The winter maintenance programme was raised and the Manager said there be a presentation by Road Maintenance at next Walking and Cycling Subcommittee on this topic.