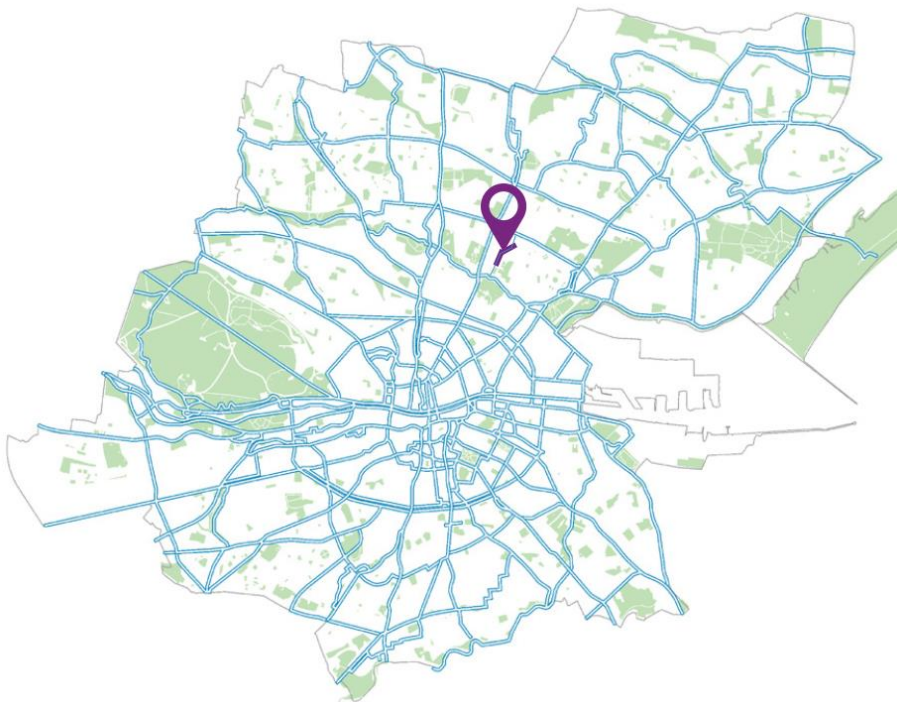


Item No.

**Report to the Chairperson and Members
of the North Central Area Committee.**

Protected Cycle Lane on Grace Park Road



March 2024

Background

During the installation of the protected cycle lanes on Griffith Avenue a number of requests were received to extend cycling facilities along Grace Park Road. Similar to Griffith Avenue, there are a number of schools immediately adjacent to Grace Park Road.

In reply to a Councillor's question from the December 2023 NCAC meeting, DCC responded:

The widths of Lower Grace Park Road vary considerably over its length. Over certain sections there is insufficient width to provide any protected cycle lanes without removing a lane of traffic. This would effectively make Grace Park Road one way and this not something that the Traffic Department would recommend.

While the Traffic Section has therefore ruled out the possibility of providing continuous cycle lanes on both sides of Lower Grace Park Road it is exploring what limited options are available. A report will be prepared on these options for a future area committee meeting.

Proposed Protected Cycle Lane on Grace Park Road

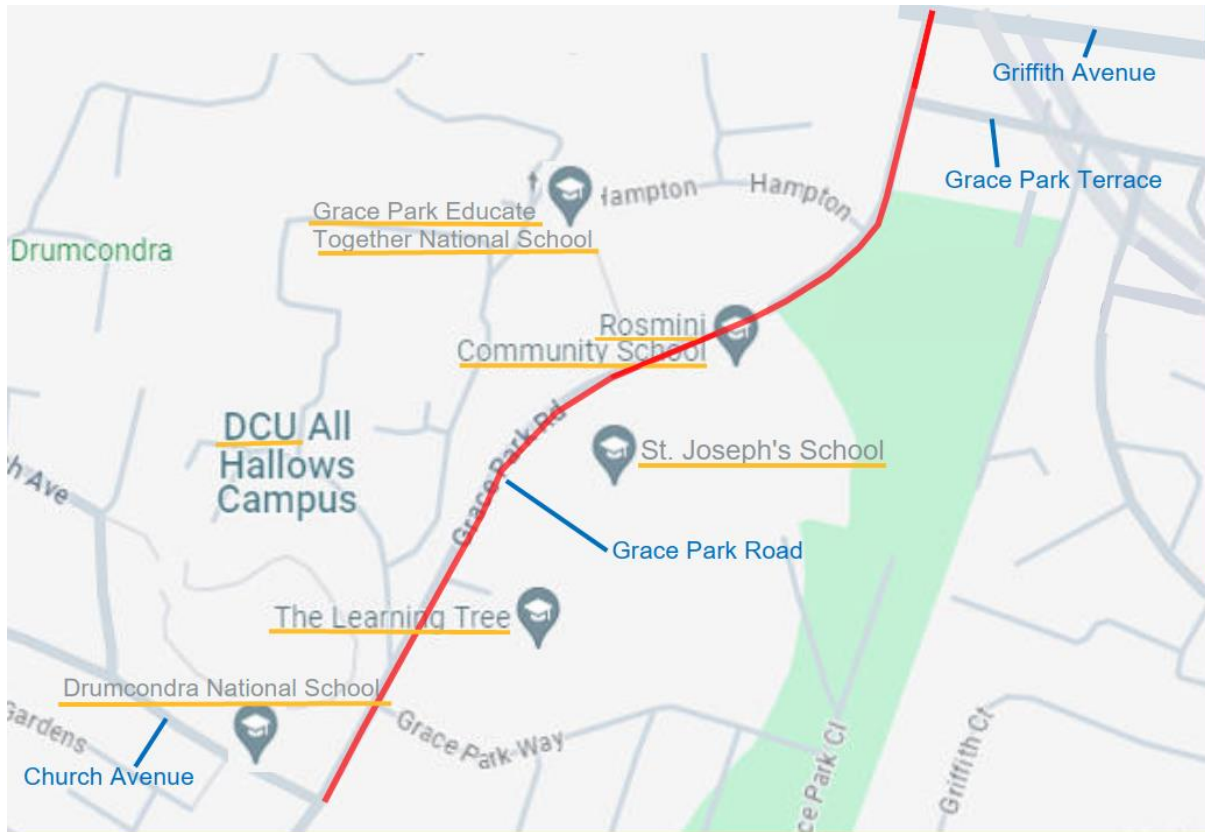
The Traffic Section has assessed the widths of Grace Park Road and determined that there is sufficient width to provide a protected cycle lane on one side of Grace Park Road only between the junction of Grace Park Terrace and Church Avenue, a length of approximately 800 metres.

Initially The Traffic Section was proposing to install the protected cycle lane on the outbound side of Grace Park Road. The route out of town is uphill, and it was considered that cyclists travelling uphill would benefit more from a protected cycle lane than cyclists travelling downhill.

In early February 2024, DCC engineers accompanied the Marino Cycle Bus along their route to the Educate Together School off Grace Park Road, during the morning rush hour. During this visit it was clear that cyclists have difficulty holding their position on the road travelling inbound as they have to compete for road space with general traffic travelling inbound along Grace Park Road. This is less of an issue in the afternoon when the cycle bus is travelling up Grace Park Road, as the evening rush hour hasn't started. For these reasons it is now proposed to provide a protected cycle lane on the inbound (eastern side) of Grace Park Road between Grace Park Terrace and Church Avenue.

North of Grace Park Terrace, linking onto Griffith Avenue, it becomes too narrow to provide protected cycle lanes on either side of the road but large cycle logos will be provided on the carriageway to highlight the presence of cyclists

As part of the works it is proposed to modify the south-east corner of the junction of Grace Park Terrace and Grace Park Road to make it easier for cyclists to join Grace Park Road from Grace Park Terrace. The junction of Grace Park Way and Grace Park Road will be tightened to slow the speed of turning vehicles and thereby improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists.



Map showing scheme extents and nearby schools highlighted

Next Steps

It is proposed to provide a 2 meter wide protected cycle lane on the inbound (eastern side) of Grace Park Road between Grace Park Terrace and Church Avenue.

It is proposed to monitor the impact of the protected cycle lane and, if it is successful, consideration will then be given to upgrading the pedestrian crossing on Grace Park Road to toucan crossings to further improve accessibility for cyclists.

Drawings

Proposed scheme drawings attached separately.

