

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 14th FEBRUARY 2022
ITEM NO. 34

PROTECTED CYCLE LANES – REMOVAL OF KERBING

Motion: Councillors D. Mulligan and A. Graves

“That the Chief Executive remove the cement kerbing aspect of protected cycle ways due to the increase in significant falls, trips and injury due to trip hazards it has created and given measures taken to date have not reduced or eliminated trips, falls and injuries. We ask the Council to remove and replace with safer segregation as an immediate measure and any further plans regarding segregated cycle lanes should be paused pending consultation with residents and stakeholders and a full report on the issues that have arisen”.

Report:

The protected cycle lanes on Rivervalley and Rathingle Road represent a significant improvement on pre-existing road safety, cycling and pedestrian facilities.

This project has been rolled in two phases. As part of the works, non-motorised User and Road Safety Audits have been carried out on the Rivervalley/Rathingle scheme. The recommendations made in these audits have been implemented in Phase 2. These works have been on site since October 2021.

Since the introduction of the buff and red coloured epoxy resin surfacing to the protected cycle lanes, there has been a significant reduction in the number of complaints received by Fingal County Council.

In summary the project has improved the infrastructure for all road users by:

- Providing reduced carriageway widths which is a traffic calming measure;
- Tightening junction corner radii at minor roads resulting in:
 - o Reduced vehicular speeds through junctions;
 - o Reduced time spent crossing minor road junctions for pedestrians and cyclists by reducing the crossing distance,
 - o Improving safety for vulnerable road users, such as those that are less mobile, and for children.
 - o Improving visibility between drivers and pedestrians/cyclists
- Provided the necessary protection of the cycle lanes by preventing the illegal parking that was persistent at bend on Rivervalley Road from Loreto College to the Finian's GAA club.

In summary the project provides:

- 4km of protected cycle lanes that connects,
 - o Holy Family Junior & Senior NS, and Loreto College
 - o Boroimhe & Rivervalley shopping areas
 - o Ward Rivervalley park
 - o Sports facilities at parks in Rivervalley and Rathingle.
 - o Playgrounds and
 - o The Church
- Resurfacing of 600m of the Rathingle Road (5796m²)
- Introduction of 14 No. build-outs at minor road junctions providing pedestrian priority through the provision of raised table across minor road junctions with tactile paving.
- 21 No. at grade uncontrolled crossings across the arterial road.
- Introduction of 3No. controlled toucan (pedestrian and cycle) crossings.
- Upgrade to 2No. existing pedestrian crossings to toucan crossings.

- Table top ramp at junction of Brookdale Drive with pedestrian and cycle priority, accommodating multiple desire lines.
- The redesign of the Roundabout at Forest Boulevard for pedestrian and cycle priority and reduced vehicle speeds through the roundabout.
- 4km of high visibility of epoxy resin to cycle surfacing.
- 35 gullies replaced with cycle friendly gullies.

The project has:

- Retained all mature trees along the route.
- Has had no impact on bus routes or bus stops locations.
- Provided a sustainable reuse of existing carriageway with minimal materials required.
- Resulted in highly sustainable construction methodology.
- Resulted in cost efficient delivery of cycle infrastructure.
- Improved road safety measures through the reduced carriageway widths reducing vehicular speeds, preventing overrunning of the cycle lanes, preventing illegal parking on cycle lanes.
- Minimised disruption through the construction methodology utilised.

The works detailed above, represent an investment in the Rivervalley/Rathingle area of €2.18m Ex. VAT which compares favourably to costs of similar infrastructure nationwide. This investment represents value for money by bringing the area up to current design standards, in a sustainable manner, reusing the existing road space.

These improved facilities promote active travel and a modal shift from motor vehicles which is a key component of our climate action commitments. We look forward to working further with the community to encourage the full use of this new asset.