

## **Sutton to Sandycove cycleway**

The Sutton to Sandycove (S2S) project is an interim scheme comprising elements of two projects, the Dollymount Promenade & Flood Protection Project (DPFPP) and the North City Arterial Watermain (NCAM), both of which have planning approval from An Bord Pleanála. Subsequent to the planning approval by An Bord Pleanála of the DPFPP in December 2011, Dublin City Council (DCC) and the National Transport Authority (NTA) received Part 8 Planning approval for this Interim scheme in May 2013. The scope of works includes the construction of two new sections of retaining wall and improvements to the existing sea defence wall. These works include height adjustments to the existing sea wall to ensure a statutory minimum level of flood defence is provided.

The proper Part 8 consultation procedures were followed. The proposed scheme was advertised on the DCC website and a public ad was placed in Irish Times. A total of 14 site notices were erected at key locations from the Wooden Bridge to north of Causeway Road and at all major traffic junctions along the route. Plans and particulars of the proposed scheme went on display for public inspection in Civic Offices, Wood Quay and in local Library at Raheny, and a total of 43 submissions were received which resulted in 2 amendments to the final proposed scheme.

The proposal was presented to the North Central Area Committee in September and November 2012. A public information meeting, hosted by the Clontarf Residents Association and attended by 180 people, took place in January 2013 in Belgrove Girls School Hall, Seafield Road with a follow-up meeting in May 2013 in the Northside Civic Centre in Coolock. Public representatives and residents attended this meeting. The NTA and their project consultants Roughan & O'Donovan were present and dealt with any additional or new queries that had not been addressed in the already comprehensive consultation. Planning approval was granted on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2013.

The section of the project involves the construction of 2 km of cycle track, additional flood protection measures and the laying of a trunk water main. The wall is required to protect against coastal flooding in this area. In a coastal area deeper water level will generate higher waves. With large portions of Bull Island likely to be flooded in the future due to a rise in sea levels, this section of the coastline will be much more exposed to wave action and the wall height is the minimum recommended to combat this.

The wall will not impact on sea views for pedestrians or cyclists on the seafront. It is important to note that the project is currently a work in progress and the footpath has yet to be constructed. Due to the low level of the roadway opposite St. Anne's Park motorists will have significantly restricted views. On completion, the highest point of the wall along the route will be **1 metre (3 feet 3 inches)**.

As part of the process a glass wall was considered, however, it was considered to be unsuitable for the following reasons:

1. There would be a significant difficulty with it handling impacting waves which ruled out this possibility.

2. This would involve rebuilding most of the existing sea wall, not just a small portion of it under the current scheme.

3. In locations in the city where Dublin City Council has installed glass panels there are very significant maintenance costs due to vandalism.

4. The cost of the glass panels is a multiple of the current flood alleviation measure.

5. The extra cost for a glass panel project would be €5 million to €10 million more than the current proposal, with no funding stream for it.

The final finish/render for the wall is under consideration by the Council at the moment and while the proposed rendering complies with the planning permission that was granted, a change to the current finish is under consideration.

When completed there will be an overall increase in the provision of discretionary car parking in the area.

The project is due to be completed by the end of 2016.

For images/maps of the project [click](#)

**ENDS**

**For further information contact:**

Dublin City Council Media Relations Office T. (01) 222 2170, M. 087 740 0277

**Notes to the Editor:**

FAQs here