

Ratoath Road Active Travel Scheme (DCC 21 0028 Cabra to Blanchardstown)

Project update- Feb 2024

The Ratoath Road Active Travel Scheme aims to deliver 4.1km of high quality protected cycle paths and improved pedestrian facilities linking the Navan Road to Cappagh Road via Ratoath Road. The scheme covers Central and North West Administrative Areas.

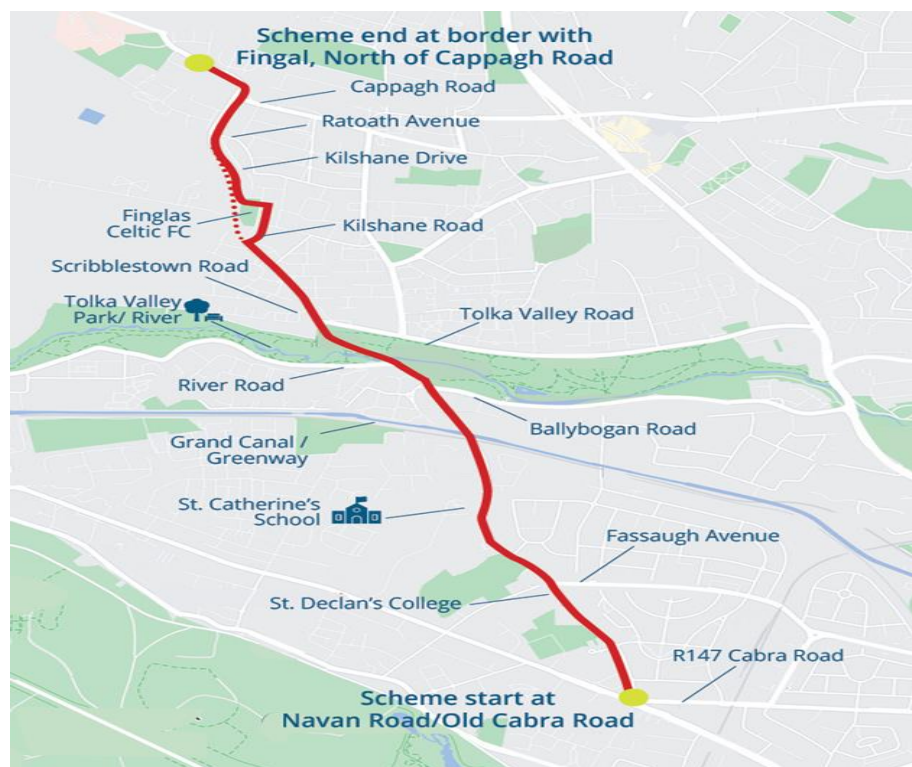


Figure 1- Ratoath Road Scheme Extents

In 2022 Dublin City Council developed designs for an interim walking and cycling scheme along the route and undertook non-statutory public consultation on it between December 2022 and January 2023. A total of 225 responses were received with the submissions indicating a wide range of sentiments towards the proposals. The key issues raised were as follows;

- Removal of on street parking
- Congestion along the route
- Cycle facilities at the junctions
- A more permanent, quality solution instead of bollards

A review of the design was undertaken to take on board the submissions, whilst also improving the interim proposals. This review also provided the opportunity to consider more permanent infrastructure along the scheme and to align with new National Transport Authority (NTA) design guidance relating to pedestrian and cycle infrastructure, the NTA Rapid Build Advice Note (February 2023) and the new Cycle Design Manual (September 2023).

The revised design proposes to further improve the safety at junctions and roundabouts and provide raised cycle tracks, either one or two way. This will now be achieved by using concrete kerbs, coloured asphalt on the cycle track. The southern half of the scheme will be predominately a one-way cycle track on either side of the road, while the northern half of the scheme will be a two-way cycle track on one side and a quietway.

The section of Ratoath Road between Westwood Rd / Dunsink Lane and Ratoath Avenue (on approach to Cappagh Road) is very constrained. It has a narrow carriageway with no footpath provision and cannot be implemented using rapid build active travel measures. It will require significant roadworks for approximately 1km. The design of this section will be

commenced in parallel although it will progress at a slower pace due to its complexity.

Dublin City Council has appointed Consultants AtkinsRealis in January 2024. They will start work with a full review of the scheme, and prepare the amended designs taking account of the feedback from the consultation process. In addition, they will also commence the review of the northern section of Ratoath Road between Westwood Rd / Dunsink Lane and Ratoath Avenue (on approach to Cappagh Road) in order to develop concept designs and an option selection report for an upgraded road with footpaths and cycle tracks along this 1km section.

The Dublin City Council Active Travel Programme Office (ACTPRO) is working towards publishing the Public Consultation report in Q2 of this year. The report will summarise the observations received and respond to these, including updated scheme drawings. The ACTPRO webpage will provide further information and updates as this project progresses. Members will be notified in advance of publication.