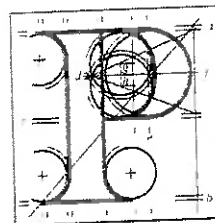


Our Case Number: ABP-320164-24



**An
Bord
Pleanála**

Paul Fitzpatrick & Others
48 St. Fintan's Road
Sutton

D13 FA06

Date: 19 September 2024

Re: DART + Coastal North Railway Order 2024 - Northern Line between Dublin City Centre and Drogheda including the Howth Branch
Dublin City Centre and Drogheda, located in counties Dublin, Meath and Louth

Dear Sir / Madam,

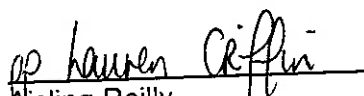
An Bord Pleanála has received your recent letter in relation to the above mentioned case. The contents of your letter have been noted. Please accept this letter as a receipt for the fee of €50 that you have paid.

More detailed information in relation to strategic infrastructure development can be viewed on the Board's website: www.pleanala.ie.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board at laps@pleanala.ie

Please quote the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,



Aisling Reilly
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737131

RA03

Teil
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Riomhphost

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Dublin 1
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Dart and North Coastal Proposals.

Paul , Kevin & Paul Jrn Fitzpatrick,

48 St Fintan's Road, Sutton, Dublin 13. D13 FA06 Tel: 0876291686

Observations.

1. The future impact of the dart proposal from a local's point of view is less people will use the dart service due to increased travel time by the forced closure of the direct line and the forced stop over at Howth junction. People will not feel safe at this dart station no matter what C.I.E say or do to improve the infrastructure. The result will be people will revert to their cars.
2. A bad experience at this dart station by anyone will become headline news and result is less dart usage by locals and others.
3. An example of a bad experience is I used to shop fortnightly in Nicky's fish monger in Howth. Because of the building developments, it's impossible to get parking as they are full of the builders' cars, as a result I do not go to Howth any more for my fish.
4. The same points are valid for visitors to Howth, more travel time, forced stop over at a less than desirable dart station.
5. Tourists are the life blood of businesses in Howth. If this proposal goes forward this will impact on tourist footfall to the detriment of local business i.e., less tourists means reduced demand.
6. I recently closed my retail business on the southside of the city in Dundrum Shopping Centre. Reasons for closure, escalating costs and static demand equal's no future.
7. Dundrum is a good example of a bad business decision, in this case by the Landlord. Pre covid, they upped the car parking charges, people reacted instantly by reducing their visits to Dundrum and going elsewhere. Footfall went down substantially. The same will happen Howth.
8. Being in a small business is hard enough as it is without the authorities sabotaging them with bad decisions that will impact them negatively.
9. The population of Howth and its catchment area is growing due to all the developments that are happening now, I seriously doubt this was considered when this proposal was put forward.
10. The impact on people with disabilities is also a major consideration. They also will not want a stop over at Howth junction.
11. Moving on to the impact on road users, cars, buses, cyclists, and walkers. The impact on road users will be horrendous. Half hour closures will result in people bypassing Howth and its catchment area due to the traffic jams. Road rage will occur.
12. There are six schools alone in Howth /Sutton area without taking into account Baldoyle/ Bayside. The school children come from all over the place, not just the local community. Traffic is bad enough as it is without adding further chaos to it by facilitating a proposed change in dart services that has no benefit to the people in the catchment area.
13. On a sunny summer's day and especially at weekends , traffic in to the Howth area is bad enough without the proposed dart changes to make it worse again.
14. I repeat, a negative experience, whether it's a dart user or road user will turn people off coming to the area.
15. This proposed change affects everyone in the community negatively ,from Howth, Sutton, Baldoyle, Bayside plus surrounding areas.
16. The proposal similarly has a negative impact on all visitors not just tourists.

17. Finally it seriously impacts on the survival prospects of local businesses.