



G.A.D.R.A.

Griffith Avenue and Districts Residents Association

GADRA November 2019 Newsletter

A big THANK YOU to the SKYLON HOTEL who hosted our recent AGM providing tea/coffee and for hosting our committee meetings throughout the year. We are extremely grateful for the generosity and true community spirit of this local hotel

Metrolink

THE TII plan to permanently take a large area of Albert College Park for an above ground Intervention Shaft and maintenance carpark. This information was not made publicly available during the last consultation period and the plans are still not on their website.

Please contact the TII and local politicians to tell them this is not acceptable to you. The Metrolink project is progressing at pace and TII will be ready to announce the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) shortly. It has been our experience that once the EIA is announced very few changes will be made to the project.

Therefore, to support the representations that GADRA have made on residents behalf and as agreed at the 2019 GADRA AGM, residents need to make representation regarding their concerns directly to the TII and to their politicians with regard to the following three serious issues – (a) The Intervention Shaft and Maintenance Car park planned for Albert College park; (b) The Independent Expert; (c) TII out of hours contact point. These representations should be made without delay.

Template Text for Representations

Below we have detailed the issues as discussed at the AGM and offer the following as a template list of issues to be considered in your submissions to both the TII and your local public representative:

- ◆ **It is unacceptable to you that TII did not consult the public on the proposed Intervention Shaft.**
- ◆ **You do not agree to the loss of parkland for this permanent above ground Shaft and permanent Maintenance Carpark**
- ◆ **You are requesting that the TII produce a solution to avoid positioning the Shaft and Car Park in Albert College Park**
- ◆ **You need the independence of the expert panel to be assured and request that the Dept Of Transport write the Scope and Terms of Reference for the Independent Expert. This is needed to ensure the Independent Expert is separate from the agency tasked with driving forward the Metrolink project.**
- ◆ **TII needs to be the point of contact on a 24-hour basis on all issues that occur for residents. TII should log, record and to respond to issues within a set timeframe outlining the proposed solution/plan of action. All issues logged and time to resolution should be available for review. (The TII use their procedure on Luas Cross City project as a reference however, that project was above ground where resident could see the contractor causing the problem. As Metrolink will be below ground and may have many contractors residents will not be able to know what or who is causing the issue which is why the TII need to be the 24-hour contact point.**

Contact Details for Representations

- ◆ **TII**
info@metrolink.ie Suzanneangley@tii.ie 1800333777 or by post to Metrolink, TII, Parkgate Business Centre, Parkgate Street, Dublin 8
- ◆ **TD'S**

Paschal Donohoe	paschal.donohoe@oireachtas.ie	016045810/ 016183689
Noel Rock	noel.rock@oireachtas.ie	0857049415
Roisin Shortall	roisin.shortall@oireachtas.ie	016183593
Mary Lou McDonald	marylou.mcdonald@oireachtas.ie	018683934/ 016183533
Maureen O'Sullivan	maureen.osullivan@oireachtas.ie	016183488
Dessie Ellis	dessie.ellis@oireachtas.ie	018347674
- ◆ **Please contact Dublin City Council City Manager, North city area manager and the Lord Mayor with regards to the permanent loss of DCC parklands. DCC are tasked with the protection of the city parks and as there are decreasing amounts of green spaces and we need DCC to protect our city parks for future generations.**
Please email coilin.oreilly@dublin.city.ie chiefexecutive@dublincity.ie lordmayor@dublincity.ie 012226200

Please also contact your councillors- details are on our Website www.gadra.ie

All supporting information with regards to this issues are on our website -if you need a hard copy please email us at info@gadra.ie or phone /text 0873658885 and we will drop them into you.

While you are emailing or phoning your public reps on Metrolink please also let them know your issues with Bus Connects Network Redesign

NTA have just announced the revised plans for the Dublin Area Bus Network Redesign. **Public consultation closes on Dec 3rd.** You can make your submission online to consultations@busconnects.ie or by post to Dublin Area Bus Network Redesign, NTA, Dun Sceine, Harcourt Lane, Dublin 2

Much has been said in the media about how this version is much improved on the NTA Jarrett Walker original plan. There are some changes, but residents need to be aware that in our area the service will be much diminished with the loss of the 11 and 13 routes. Instead of the 11 (a direct cross city route serving all the universities and both shopping areas north and south of the city) we are getting a local route called the no. 94. This will run from Wadelai to Dorset Street/Parnell Square. On Griffith Ave instead of the 13 (a direct cross city route which again serves the city shopping areas and both Temple Street and St James Hospital) there is only an orbital route N2 from Marino to Stoneybatter via Broombridge.

While there will be bus routes along the two spines i.e. Mobhi Rd and Drumcondra Rd it will involve either a walk (which many elderly residents can not do) or changing buses and crossing roads which is again very difficult if you are visually impaired or have a physical or intellectual disability. While increased routes and frequency are welcome the NTA have said that only 5% of service have been downgraded, it would appear that in our area 100% of our service has been downgraded. Our area has the highest number of people over 80 years of age living alone in homes with no car.

The NTA have stated that new design is in response to the 50k submissions made by the public in to the first phase of this project. But almost 22k (45%) of the total submissions related to loss of existing services - people like us trying to hold onto our vital bus routes. GADRA does not support the loss of the cross-city bus routes from this area.

You need to contact NTA and Local Politicians

- ◆ **Requesting that NTA reverse their plan to down grade the 11 bus route and their plan to do away with the 13 routes**
- ◆ **That the 11 remains a direct cross city bus route**
- ◆ **That the NTA reinstate the 13 as it is a vital link to St James Hospital**
- ◆ **That the NTA respect and service the older communities of the city and not disregard them in their plan to enhance routes from the suburbs.**
- ◆ **The principle of interchange which is at the heart of the redesign is reviewed as it makes travel too difficult for vulnerable citizens**
- ◆ **This area is to bear the brunt of the construction of both Metrolink and the NTA planned CBCs, yet we are also to lose our important services completely. This is totally unacceptable and will be an election issue for all residents in the upcoming election.**

Please contact your Councillors and TDs so they know your views. We will put our draft submission on website in advance of the closing date for your input, but everyone needs to make an individual submission from each person in your home.

Crime

There has been an increase in crime in the area and we are advising all residents to be vigilante and report everything. We have contacted all public representatives on this issue and will update you through our website of any developments.

Leaf Mulch Project.

We were delighted to launch this project at our AGM and with the positive response from residents. The cages will be delivered over the next week and we plan to put community cages along the DCU field for all residents to use. If you would like a cage, please email or text for one. Our Leaf Mulch videos are on the Website and we had a nice article on the project in this month's Inquirer Magazine.

Local News

History walk with Pat Liddy is to take place on Nov 30th at 2pm- meet at Corpus Christi Parish Hall. All welcome

We are very disappointed that following a complaint the Olive trees are to be removed from outside Corpus Christi school. We have requested that something in keeping with Pedestrian Safety through Environmental Design program will be put in place.

Thank you to all who have returned the Annual Association Subscription envelopes. If you have misplaced your envelope and would like to contribute please get in touch and we can drop one to you.

Get in Touch by Email and help if you can

Phone number 087 3658885

Email info@gadra.ie

www.GADRA.ie



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Residents Association

Representing 1000 homes in the Drumcondra Glasnevin Area www.gadra.ie