



EOGHAN MURPHY TD

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Metro – Update

July 2018

Dear Resident,

I know that there has been a lot of concern surrounding the MetroLink proposal that was recently announced – **I share these concerns and agree that we must find an alternative solution.** You may be aware that I formally put our concerns forward, as I see them, and requested an alternative option in a submission made as part of the recent public consultation. (You can request this submission from my office).

I believe that Dublin needs a Metro, and we need extra capacity on the Green Line, but both of these objectives can be achieved without dividing the neighbourhood, which is my chief concern. Following on from our earlier engagements, I wanted to give an update on the latest developments.

I have raised the matter with both the Minister for Finance and the Taoiseach. I have also met with consultants in the area of transport planning. Last week I met with the National Transport Authority (NTA) and Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to discuss the project.

Alternatives

I can confirm that the NTA and TII are **looking seriously at alternative options that will not see the community segregated** at either the Beechwood or Cowper LUAS stops – that is, new proposals that **will see both cars and people being able to continue to cross the line at Beechwood and people to be able to continue to cross the line at Cowper without any major disruption** to current movement patterns.

Timelines

Each of the possible options are being assessed. It is intended that in **August** a new “preferred route/option” will be published for a further round of public consultation. **I have received assurances that this consultation will extend well in to September**, to ensure that people on holidays are not excluded.

Work on an Environmental Impact Assessment for the project has commenced and will continue into next year. **A planning application will then be submitted to An Bord Pleánala in the second half of 2019**, providing there are no delays.

See overleaf...

Working with Kate O’Connell TD, Cllr Paddy McCartan,
Cllr Kieran Binchy, Cllr Paddy Smyth and Cllr Anne Feeney

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Both bodies are accountable to the Minister for Transport and final decisions made will be done so by the Minister before approval by Cabinet. Permission to go for planning next year, permission for the business case for the Metro project as a whole, or any proposal that will see the Compulsory Purchase of private property, will be **decisions to be taken next year**.

My sincere thanks to local residents and representative groups for coming together to represent the wider community on this issue. They have also organised public meetings with your local elected representatives.

While some people differ on what the alternative for Ranelagh should be, and indeed whether or not the Metro should merge with the Green Line at all, I think everyone is in agreement that an alternative to the current proposal must be secured. I will continue to work on your behalf, with my colleagues in the Oireachtas, to this end. As more information becomes available I will be in touch.

I hope you find this information useful. Every week I send out a **Weekly Email** that provides information on what's happening in our area (e.g. transport changes, water disruptions), as well as developments regarding national issues (budget info, housing & rental measures etc). **Email me** at eoghan.murphy@oir.ie and I will add you to the list.

Also, the lease for my constituency office in Ranelagh has ended, very unfortunately. We will confirm our new location shortly. Of course we will still be working away in Leinster House and the Custom House, so please do get in touch – email me at eoghan.murphy@oir.ie or call me on 01 618 3324. I'd love to hear from you.

All the best,



Eoghan Murphy TD
Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government