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Campbell, Jacqui

From: Roads Eastern Srit
Sent: 18 March 2015 11:21
To: 'bernard.clarke@translink.co.uk'
Subject: York Street Interchange Formal Consultation

Bernard

Thank you for your response to the consultation on the proposals for the York Street Interchange

The formal consultation closed on 10th March 2015, however TNI will have regard to your comments.

Colin Pentland

Strategic Road Improvements

DRD - Eastern Division, Hydebank, 4 Hospital Road, Belfast BT8 8JL.

Campbell, Jacqui

From: Bernard Clarke [Bernard.Clarke@Translink.co.uk]
Sent: 13 March 2015 12:50
To: Roads Eastern Srit
Cc: Frank Clegg; Ciaran Doherty
Subject: York Street Interchange: Consultation on Draft Orders and Environmental Statement

FAO Roy Spiers and Colin Pentland.

Translink, as a key stakeholder, would wish to put on record their general support for the York Street Interchange. With respect to the publication and exhibition last month of the draft orders and environmental statement, we took the opportunity to commend officials from DRD TransportNI and representatives from URS for the inclusion of a new southbound bus lane on York Street as well as remind them that urgent consideration now needs to be given to the Temporary Traffic Management Strategy (TTMS) that will be needed for the anticipated 3 year construction period, particularly as we understand that it is now expected that the start date for the scheme is to be accelerated to 2017/18.

As has been the experience with other recent strategic road improvement schemes e.g. M1 / Westlink and the A2 Shore Road at Greenisland, public transport will have a key role, particularly as overall travel demand in the environs of the scheme will change considerably with the Ulster University at York Street opening in September 2018.

The consequences of the recent 2015 / 16 budget settlement and with further funding cuts anticipated in subsequent years will impact on our collective ability to ameliorate the potential traffic disruption along the M2, Westlink and M3 as well as adjacent roads.

For these reasons, Translink formally request DRD TransportNI to now develop proposals for the introduction of hard shoulder bus lane(s) on the M2 to be operative in advance of the start of the construction. These in combination with the new Park & Ride scheme at Ballymartin, which commences operation in July 2015, will off-set the loss of the car parks at Northside and York Street 2 – a total of 369 spaces - (both needed for the proposed York Street Interchange scheme) but also help to achieve the demanding bus and rail modal share targets set for the relocation of the University of Ulster.

Translink look forward to working with DRD TransportNI in developing suitable TTMS arrangements as well as appropriate traffic and travel advice in advance of, as well as during, the construction of the York Street Interchange scheme.

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