

Cork Docklands to City Centre Road Network Improvements Scheme

PART 8 – PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001

BACKGROUND

Cork Docklands is a significant brown field redevelopment zone adjacent to Cork City Centre. In general terms the area is transitioning from light industrial uses to office and residential type developments. The Cork Docklands Road Network Improvement Scheme aims to improve accessibility between Docklands and the City Centre while at the same time providing a high quality public realm in keeping with the ambitious redevelopment plans for the area.

The existing road network is regularly congested with traffic queuing at peak times. It has little in the way of sustainable transport infrastructure and the public realm is of a lower order.

The proposed new road layouts and related public realm will seek to provide a high quality environment for road users along the relevant routes. In order to facilitate greater movement of people between Docklands and the City Centre it will be necessary to provide dedicated high quality sustainable transport infrastructure i.e. walking, cycling and public transportation infrastructure.

This project aims to:

- Provide key transport infrastructure that will act as the catalyst for the early development of the adjoining lands within the Docklands area thereby providing new residential and commercial developments
- Provide a network for the optimum movement of all modes of transportation between Docklands and the City Centre.
- Provide a high quality public realm consistent with the overall ambition for the Docklands area as a vibrant, innovative, mixed use, sustainable, socially inclusive new urban quarter.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The primary project objectives are as follows:

- Optimise the performance of the transportation network within the South Docklands and between: - Docklands and the City Centre, Docklands and the N27 & Docklands and the Public Transportation hubs.
- Improve movement between South Docklands and the City Centre for all modes of transportation pedestrians, cyclists, public transport users and general vehicular traffic.
- Provide a high quality public realm within the subject site building on the qualities of the surrounding environment, its riverside frontage and the industrial heritage of the area.

DESCRIPTION

The proposed infrastructural work associated with the project includes the following:-

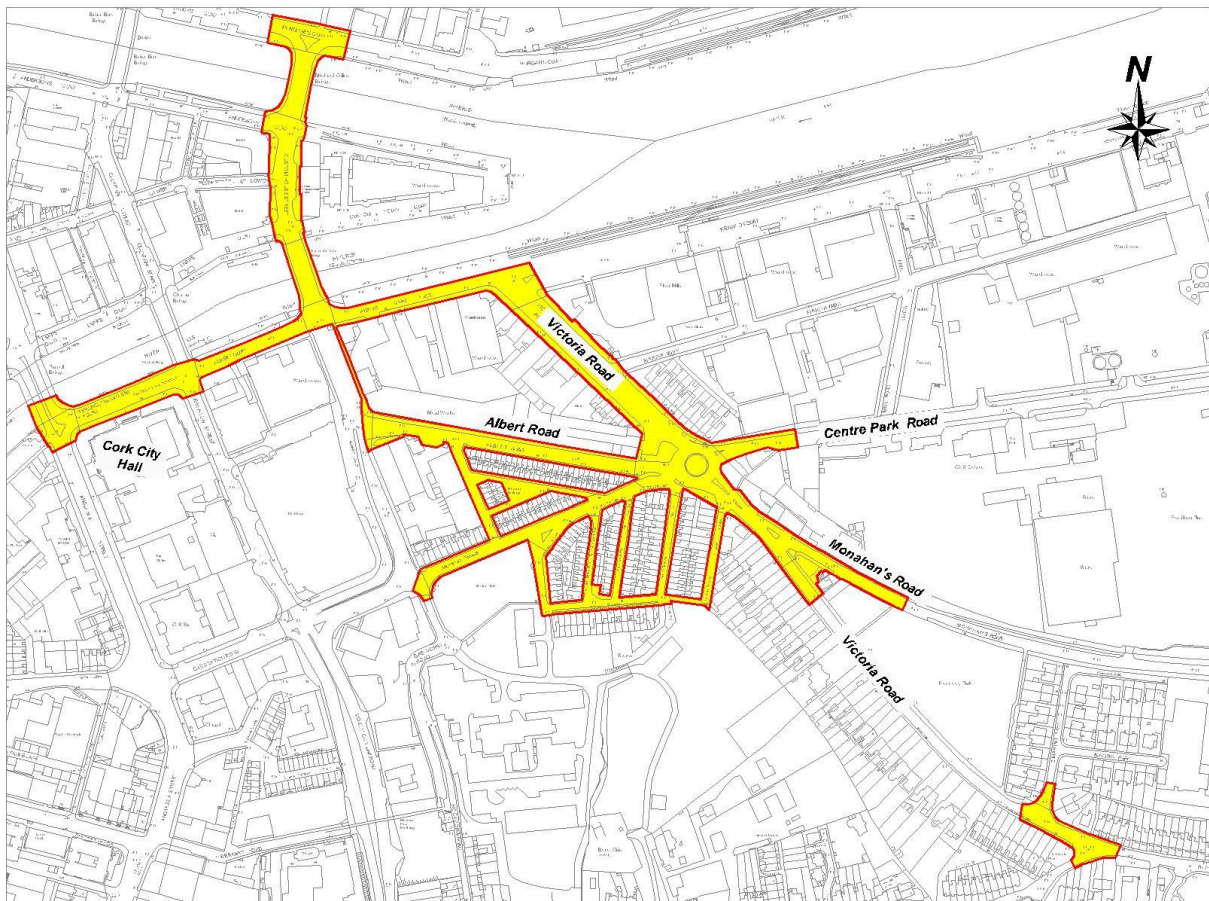
- Introduction of a northbound contra-flow bus lane on Victoria Road (North) from the new signalised junction to Albert Quay, continuing west along Albert Quay through the Albert Quay / Albert Street Junction and terminating at the Eglinton Street/Albert Quay and Clontarf Bridge Junction;
- Introduction of a 2-way Cycle Track on Albert Quay and on Victoria Road (North) which will connect with Centre Park Road and Monahan Road
- Replacement of Victoria Road / Centre Park Road Roundabout with a traffic signal controlled junction
- Improvements to the Monahan Road/Victoria Road Junction;
- Re-alignment of the Old Blackrock Road/Victoria Road Junction;
- Public realm improvements on Albert Quay East – this quay will act as the ‘gateway’ to the South Docks from the city centre;
- Public Realm Improvements on Victoria Road, Albert Road, Marina Terrace;
- Introduction of a new residential access link between Electric Terrace and Rosefield Terrace.
- Kennedy Quay access from Albert Quay will be restricted. Access to Kennedy Quay will be provided via Marina Walk.
- Footpaths will be widened and repaved for the safety and convenience of pedestrians
- Crossing facilities will be provided at all junctions for the safety of vulnerable road users.
- Bus stops within the works area will be upgraded and real time passenger information displays installed.
- Public lighting will be renewed.
- Utility services will be renewed and spare capacity provided in order to future proof the service network.
- Other related ancillary works will be provided:- signage, tactile paving, bollards etc

To facilitate the above work it will be necessary to acquire certain lands from a number of adjoining property owners. The precise extent of land acquisition required is outlined in the accompanying drawings. Cork City Council will seek to secure the acquisition of this land through agreement with the relevant property owners. In situations where agreements cannot be reached Cork City Council may need to exercise its compulsory purchase powers.

The construction phase of the project is expected to take approximately 15 months to complete.

The City Council will work closely with affected parties to ensure that disruption is minimised throughout the construction phase. Access to properties will be maintained at all times.

LOCATION & EXTENT OF WORKS



Cork City Council
Roads & Transportation Directorate
Roads Design & Construction Division