

DO: GACH BALL DE CHEANTAR CATHRACH PHORT LÁIRGE
TO: EACH MEMBER OF THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OF WATERFORD

Re: Section 38 Road Traffic Act 1994 - Traffic Calming Scheme
New Pedestrian Crossing at Barrack Street, Waterford City

The following proposed scheme was advertised for public consultation from Wednesday 8th January to Tuesday 4th February 2020 inviting submissions before 18th February, 2020.

- To undertake the construction of a pedestrian crossing and related traffic calming measures on Barrack Street. The proposed location is adjacent to the junction with Mount Sion Avenue, in the area in front of the SPAR shop and Doyle's Bar, Barrack Street.
- The proposed works include the construction of build outs on the two corners of Mount Sion Avenue, a new build-out in front of the shop and the Pub, and a pedestrian refuge area.
- As a part of these works road markings will be altered to provide for the tapers for the new refuge island.
- The implementation of the traffic calming scheme with the Pedestrian Crossing will create a safe environment for all road users with a strong emphasis on non-motorized road users. The main goal is to reduce vehicular speed and improve the facilities for vulnerable road users.

The provision of a pedestrian crossing at this location was originally proposed by a number of Councillors and intended to provide a more direct and safe pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of the shops on the southern side of Barrack Street.

There were three submissions received during the display period relating to the proposal, two from local residents in relation to sightlines at St. Carthages Avenue junction and one from the owner of the Spar Shop in relation to loss of parking. In addition, there was an on site meeting held with business representatives from the street and further representations received on behalf of local residents.

The scheme as proposed would result in the loss of some parking on both sides of Barrack Street (approx. 8 no spaces in total) and it is this factor that was the main issue/concern raised and the potential impact that this may have on local retail businesses. Addressing the sightline issues from St. Carthage's Avenue highlighted in the submissions would result in the loss of a further 2 parking spaces.

Installing a pedestrian crossing at any location where there is on street parking will inevitably require some loss of parking in order to achieve a safe crossing place for the pedestrian. It is further complicated at this location due to the setback nature of the junctions between Barrack St - Mt Sion Avenue and St. Carthages Avenue. To achieve the

required standards for sight lines for traffic emerging from both these junctions requires additional measures including build outs and pushing parking further back from the junctions on Barrack Street which gives rise to a greater impact on on-street parking spaces on both sides of the street.

A number of suggestions were made regarding installing a pedestrian crossing Any intervention by the Council that would involve a new build such as a pedestrian crossing or traffic calming would have to meet the required current design safety standards and there would be an inevitable loss of some parking associated with whatever we would propose.

The street is already provided with signalized pedestrian crossings at the Manor Hill junction and the Cannon Street junctions which are respectively circa 45m and 90m on either side of the proposed crossing.

There is a decision to be made at this point as to whether we proceed with a pedestrian crossing at this location or not and that is a matter for the Members of this Council to decide on.

Fergus Galvin
Director of Services
Roads, Water and Environment
16thNovember, 2020.