

Pedestrian Improvement Measures Planned for Newmarket

Newmarket and its environs is an area undergoing unprecedented change and regeneration. Since 2015, the area has seen the progressive replacement of former light industrial units and warehouses, and a number of longstanding vacant sites, with new high density developments including apartments, purpose built student accommodation, hotels, retail and leisure uses and office. From being a little used and overlooked area, Newmarket now has a substantially increased resident population, high levels of visitor footfall (to hotels and attractions in the area) and a large concentration of students staying in student accommodation in the area.

As you may be aware, in 2017 Dublin City Council adopted proposals to redesign the main square and its adjacent streets to improve the quality of the public realm in tandem with the development happening around its periphery.

The main elements of the Public Realm Improvement Scheme included the creation of a large pedestrianised events space at Newmarket (the Universal Square), the removal of most through-traffic, a rationalisation of car parking, and the introduction of more greenery and landscaping.

While it remains our ambition to implement the Public Realm Improvement Scheme, there have been difficulties in progressing the detailed design of the scheme needed to proceed to construction. The progress of the scheme has also been impacted by the scale and sequencing of development work around the square, most recently the large Newmarket Yards development.

The need for interim measures

With the recent completion of Ardee Point Student Housing and the impending occupation of the large Newmarket Yards scheme on the north side of Newmarket, the square will see much greater levels of pedestrian use and there is a greater need for dedicated pedestrian space.

We believe that, with the completion now of most of the large developments around the square, there is an imperative to reduce the volume of through-traffic using Newmarket, to redistribute space away from excessive car parking, and to create a more pleasant and usable area for residents, workers and visitors.

What is proposed?

A series of rapid-install measures are proposed for Newmarket to increase the extent of pedestrian space on the square, to reduce the extent of car parking and restrict parking to the west end of Newmarket, and to better regulate and manage traffic flows on the square.

The proposed measures include:

- creating a large pedestrian space on the south side of the square. The new space will be approximately 10-12m deep and will be contiguous with the existing footpath. All

parking in this area will be removed. This expansive area will be constructed using rubberised kerbs, asphalt and resin-bound surface.

- widening the footpath on the north side. These buildouts will be approximately 3m deep and will be contiguous with the existing footpath. Provision will be made for 2 no. disabled parking spaces (relocated from the south side of the square) and an area for loading. Again, buildouts will be constructed using rubberised kerbs, asphalt and resin-bound surfaces.
- creating a defined traffic route through the square (in both directions) and restricting vehicles from the area south of the former weighstation building on the east side of Newmarket/Ward's Hill.
- reordering car parking on the west end of the square including provision for loading. Pay parking will operate in this area.
- installing street furniture including tree planters, seating and bollards as required.

The measures are intended to be an interim solution that will begin the process of re-ordering Newmarket in line with the approved public realm improvement scheme.

The measures are intended to reduce traffic speeds; improve facilities for pedestrian and create a more relaxing environment on this important public space; and substantially reduce the extent of car parking on the square.

Traffic into Newmarket and the wider network of streets will continue to be facilitated and the current HOHO tourist bus access to Newmarket will also be maintained. The bus stop for HOHO services was recently relocated back to Brabazon Row following the completion of the Premier Inn Hotel.

The existing recycling facility will remain in place.

Access to existing gates and site entrances will be maintained.

When will this happen?

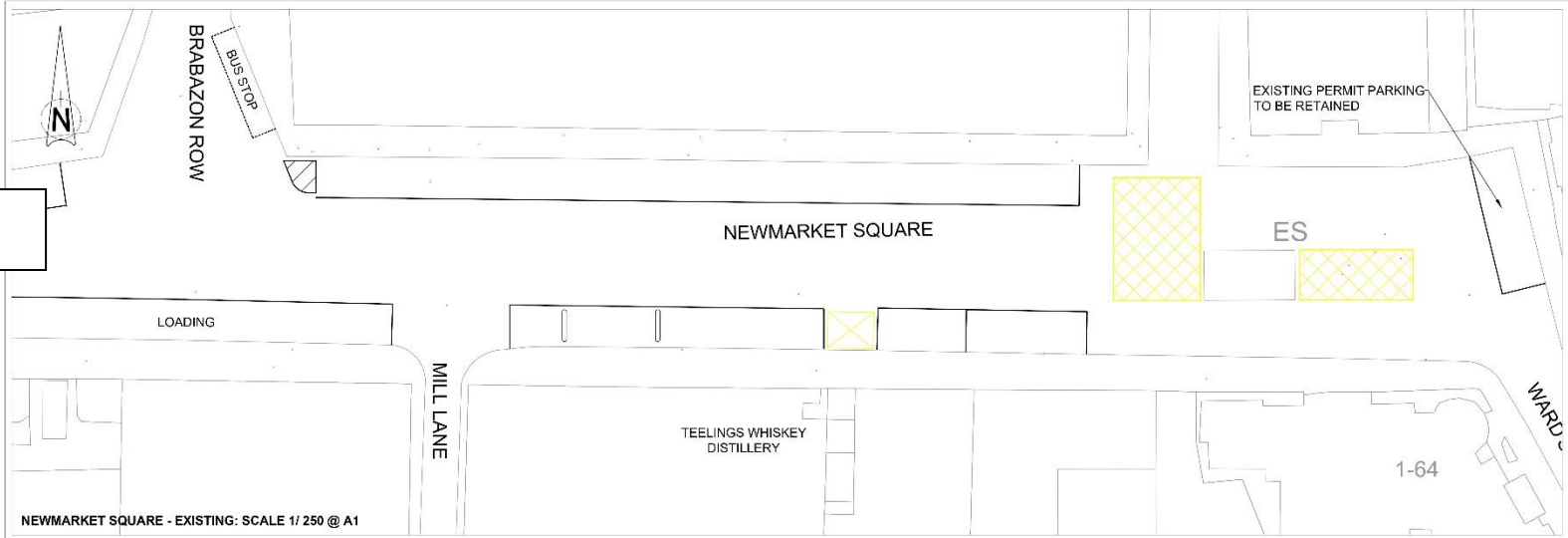
It is planned to engage a contractor and make these changes in summer 2024. The work will take a number of weeks to complete and disturbance to adjoining properties will be minimised as much as possible.

The project is being undertaken by Dublin City Council's Transportation Section on behalf of the South Central Area Office under provisions of the Roads Acts which empowers the local authority to make changes to road layouts and parking arrangements. This means that the changes we propose do not require planning consent. The measures will not preclude future implementation of the approved public realm improvements.

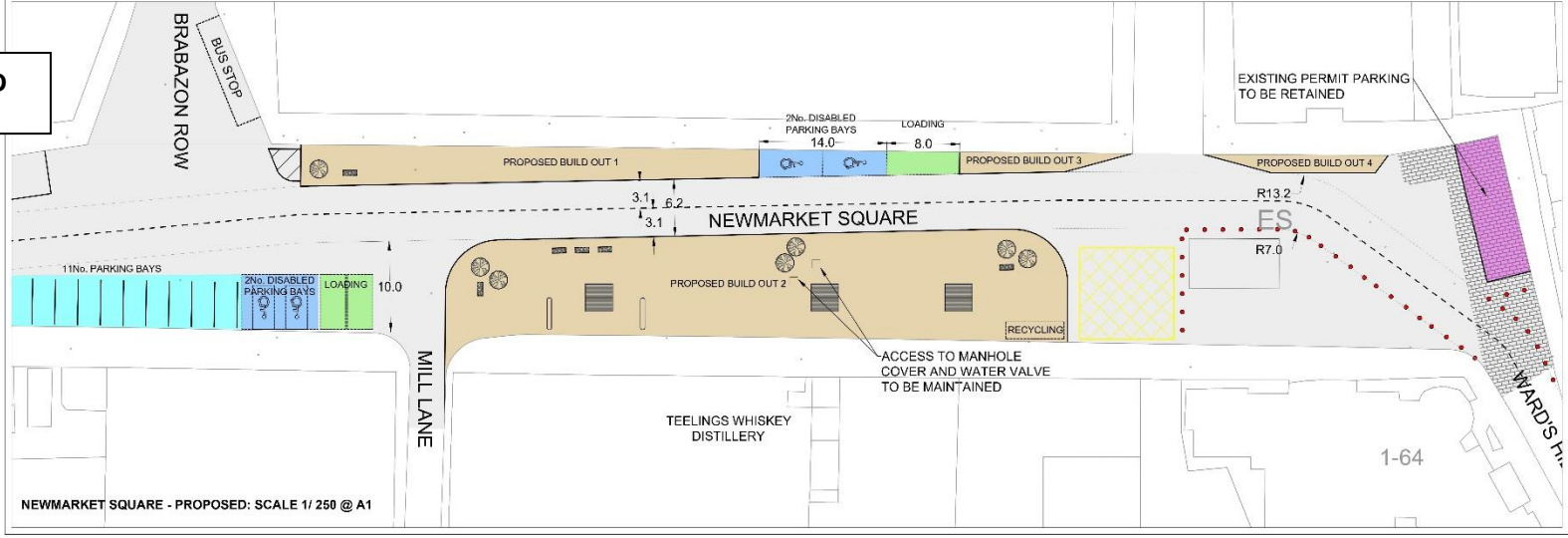
We would like to hear from you

Queries on the scheme can be made to southcentral@dublincity.ie or Stephen Coyne at 01 222 5180. I would be happy to discuss any feedback on the proposals or answer queries. Any formal submissions on the proposals should be made in writing by 26th April 2024.

EXISTING



PROPOSED



- LEGEND:**
- Proposed Parking
 - Proposed Disabled Parking
 - Proposed Loading
 - Proposed Build-Out
 - Existing Permit Parking
 - Proposed 2m diameter Round Planter (7No. total)
 - Proposed 1.5m x 6m Rectangular Planter (6No. Total)
 - Proposed Podium Seating 3m x 1.5m 2No. to be installed side by side (6No. Total)

DRAFT

<p>Comhairle Cathrach Bhaile Átha Cliath Dublin City Council</p>	<p>DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL Comhairle Chathair Bhaile Aithe Cliath</p> <p>ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT DEPT. CIVIC OFFICES WOOD QUAY, DUBLIN 8</p>	<p>Udarás Náisiúnta Iompair National Transport Authority</p>	<p>NOTES</p> <p>1. © Ordnance Survey Ireland. © Ordnance Survey Ireland. All rights reserved. License number 2024/23/CCMA/DublinCityCouncil</p>	<p>Project Title:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FOOTPATH BUILD OUT</p>											
	<p>BRENDAN O'BRIEN ACTING EXECUTIVE MANAGER TRAFFIC</p>		<p>SKETCH</p>	<p>Drawing Title:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NEWMARKET SQUARE</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; font-size: 8px;"> <tr> <td>Designed: JJ</td> <td>CAD File:</td> <td>Sheet:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Drawn: MRS</td> <td>XXXX</td> <td>1 OF 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Checked: AC</td> <td>Job No.: 100337</td> <td>Dwg No.:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Approved: PR</td> <td>Scale: 1:250 @ A1</td> <td>Date: 10/03/24</td> </tr> </table>	Designed: JJ	CAD File:	Sheet:	Drawn: MRS	XXXX	1 OF 1	Checked: AC	Job No.: 100337	Dwg No.:	Approved: PR
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