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Submitted to Proposed Draft Variation No 6 of the Dublin City Development Plan 2016 - 2022: Marrowbone Lane (Including DCC Depot lands), Dublin 8
Submitted on 2018-12-12 23:37:56

Introduction

1 What is your name?

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Organisation:

Resident of the [REDACTED]

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Make a submission:

While I understand the need for depots to help Dublin City Council serve the city, and while consolidating the footprint of Dublin's depots as a whole is a good thing, as a resident of the Liberties, I have to ask - why here? For years I have seen the current depots along Marrowbone Lane, most notably the Road Maintenance Department, and have wondered - is it not time to move these out of a residential community? The trucks coming in and out of Marrowbone Lane are highly disruptive and noisy. They block traffic and wake us at all hours. While they usually operate M-F starting at 8am, there are numerous times I have been woken up by the trucks at 2am, 3am, or 4am, or on Sundays or Holidays, and I have to wonder, what is this doing in an area that is full of people just trying to live their lives and raise their families? I understand that this is an artifact of time and that it is not easy to relocate such an extensive array of industrial facilities, but as the city is changing and growing, it is time to rethink the purpose of the depots in this area at all.

Upon hearing that a large site near Marrowbone Lane that was originally zoned to become an open community space, could now turn into a super-depot, my heart sank for our community. While Weaver Park is a great addition to the area, it is small. Even with Weaver Park, the Liberties is drastically lacking in green space. With the elimination of Newmarket as a community hub (to be replaced by something that will hardly serve the community), the scheduled destruction of District 8, and more and more and more hotels being built instead of the things residents need to thrive, the thought of adding a super-depot to this area feels like a nail in the coffin for an area that is desperately trying to cling on to its sense of community. What this area needs is green space and residential units, period. Industrial depots of any sort have no business being so close to the city center in a residential neighborhood, especially during a time where the housing crisis is crippling the city. Yes, our area is not as affluent in other areas of Dublin, but why does that mean we get stuck with the loud, polluting, disruptive industrial facilities? I am aware that Owen Keegan's plan includes 100 residential units - but this is shockingly few for the size of the area in question. In a crippling housing crisis and a growing city, why do trucks and maintenance depots get priority in the city center, and residents do not? The only sensible thing to do is to move industrial facilities like this far out of the city center, even past the M50.

The city is stretching, growing, thriving. This is an opportunity to develop the Liberties into a residential and community hub rather than an industrial area. While the new additions to the area like Weaver Park are welcomed, the area needs more. This is an opportunity to move all of the depots out of our neighborhood and use the area for sporting facilities, recreational facilities, and for essential housing. There is no vision in putting a super-depot in the middle of The Liberties on a site where, with a bit of imagination, so much could happen.

I do support consolidating the depots, and the proposed plan by Owen Keegan is indeed an improvement over the current state of affairs. I am simply expressing my opinion that it could be taken a step even further.

Owen Keegan, please take the voices of residents like me into consideration, even if doing so is challenging. This community will thank you for generations to come.

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