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Campbell, Jacqui

From: Roads Eastern Srit
Sent: 23 February 2015 16:24
To: Cycling Unit
Subject: York Street Interchange Formal Consultation

Andrew

Thank you for your response to the consultation on the proposals for the York Street Interchange. Your views have been recorded as part of this process and will contribute to the decision on whether The Department should hold a Public Inquiry into the scheme.

Regards

Colin Pentland

Strategic Road Improvements

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Your Ref:
Our Ref:
Date: February 2015

Dear Kevin

YORK STREET INTERCHANGE – DRAFT ORDERS AND ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Thank you for letter of 27th January 2015 in relation to the consultation of the above scheme.

Cycling Unit have been giving further consideration to the design of the York Street Interchange as presented in your current consultation.

At a previous meeting we discussed cycling provision through the scheme and Cycling Unit priority was for routes away from York Street (such as North Queen Street and Corporation Street).

However, following recent consideration of the plans set out recently we now feel that a direct route through the scheme will be important to those travelling from York Street and the Yorkgate Station through to the new university campus. We believe that the scheme also provides an opportunity to give expression to the Minister's cycling ambition for Belfast and Northern Ireland as it could demonstrate the way in which good quality cycling infrastructure for everyday cycling will be incorporated in transport infrastructure for the future.

Cycling Unit would therefore recommend 2.0m segregated cycling lanes in each direction throughout York Street (i.e. from Frederick Street / Great Patrick Street to Brougham Street / Dock Street) in the form of a stepped 'Copenhagen' style lane (I have attached a graphic).

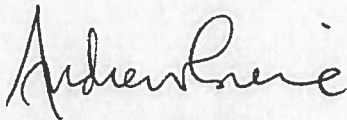
I believe there is sufficient width within the remits of the scheme if buffer strips can be reduced to 0.6m and the bus lane from 3.5m to 3.2m.

I have also attached an example of how stepped lanes carry cycling provision through junctions in Copenhagen.

Another option is to increase the bus lane instead to 4.5m shared cycle/bus lane with narrower buffers for the into town option.

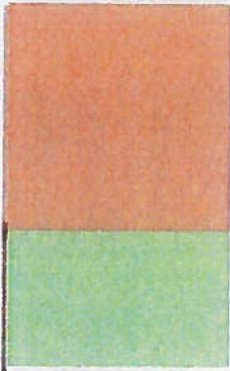
We are happy to meet to discuss the options

Yours sincerely



ANDREW GRIEVE

Head of Cycling Unit



3.0m f/way
3.0m f/way

2.0m cycle



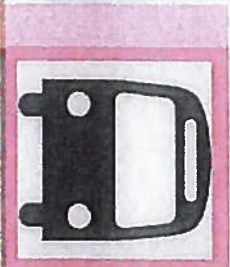
6.5m – 2x3.25m traffic lane



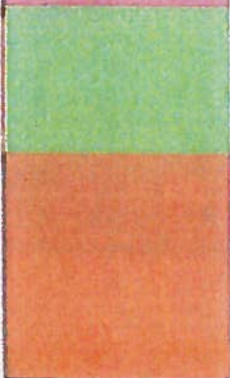
0.6m



6.5m – 2x3.25m traffic lane

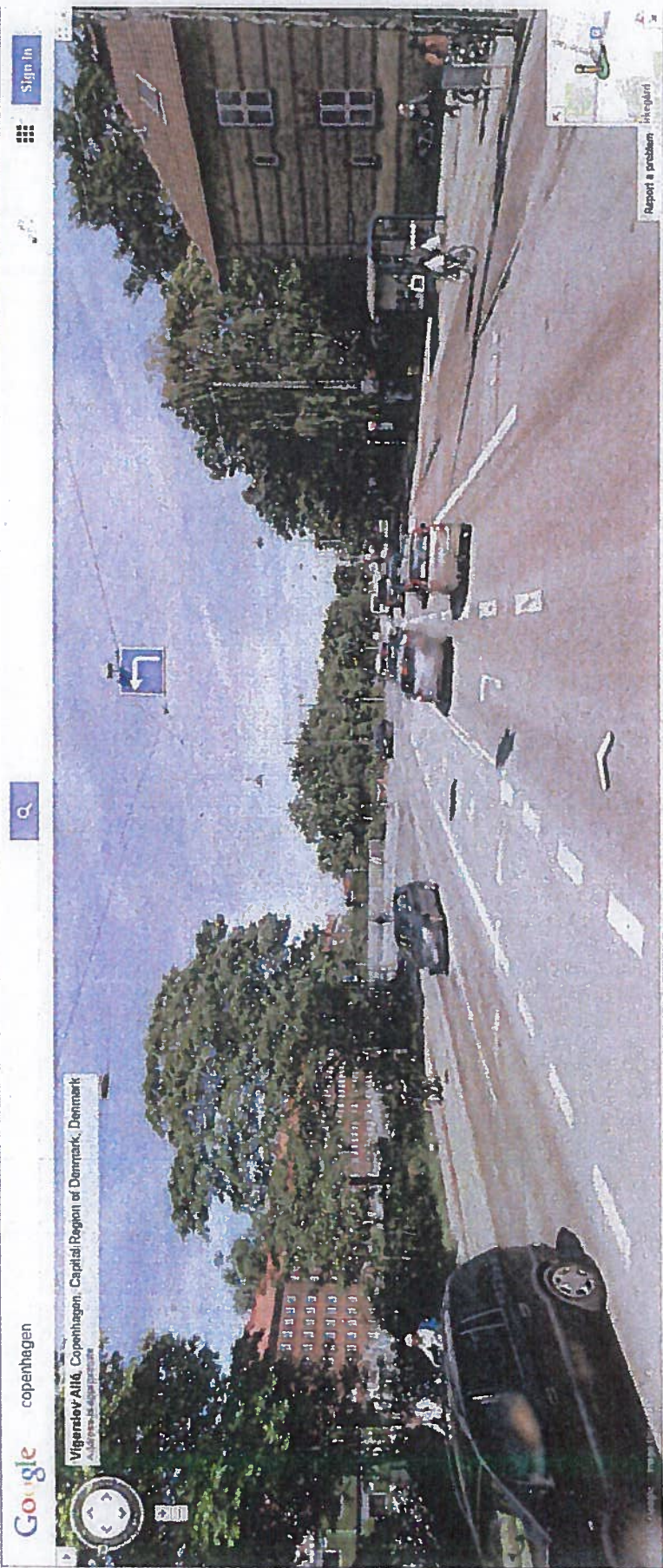


0.6m 3.2m bus lane



2.0m cycle

Internet Explorer browser window showing the address bar with the URL <https://maps.google.co.uk/maps/@59.408214,12.567171,15z>. The page title is "copenhagen" and the search bar contains "copenhagen". The browser interface includes a search bar, a "Share" button, and a "More" menu. The address bar also shows "Sign In" and "Sign Out" options.



Done



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Your Ref:
Our Ref:
Date: 7th May 2015

Dear Kevin

YORK STREET INTERCHANGE – DRAFT ORDERS AND ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT: FOLLOW UP

Following my letter to you about the above consultation, I met with Roy Spiers on Monday 30th March for a discussion of the Cycling Unit recommendations in relation to cycling provision through the York Street Interchange scheme. Roy explained the procedural difficulty of having a response from one part of the Department that would be considered as an objection to a scheme being taken forward by another part of the Department. In order to remove that procedural difficulty I am prepared to withdraw my February 2015 note to you entitled 'York Street Interchange – Draft Orders and Environmental Statement'.

The Cycling Unit would welcome the opportunity to consider the various 'cycling related' objections that have been received and to work with you to consider how these could be accommodated in the scheme so that a solution might be presented to the public inquiry that would be in keeping with the Minister's cycling ambition for Belfast. I am willing to be involved in discussions with the objectors should that be helpful in resolving outstanding issues. Indeed, a meeting has been arranged with Sustrans next week for that purpose.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Grieve

Head of Cycling Unit