

Living Streets Blackrock Public Realm Improvement project

Summary Presentation May 2023



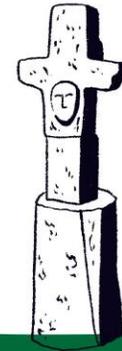


Living Streets Blackrock is a public realm improvement project which aims to enhance the **attractiveness, liveability, connectivity and economic vibrancy** of Blackrock village

Building on the temporary measures implemented during the COVID restrictions of summer 2020 on Blackrock main street, the plan will move the village from a temporary layout to a high-quality permanent design.

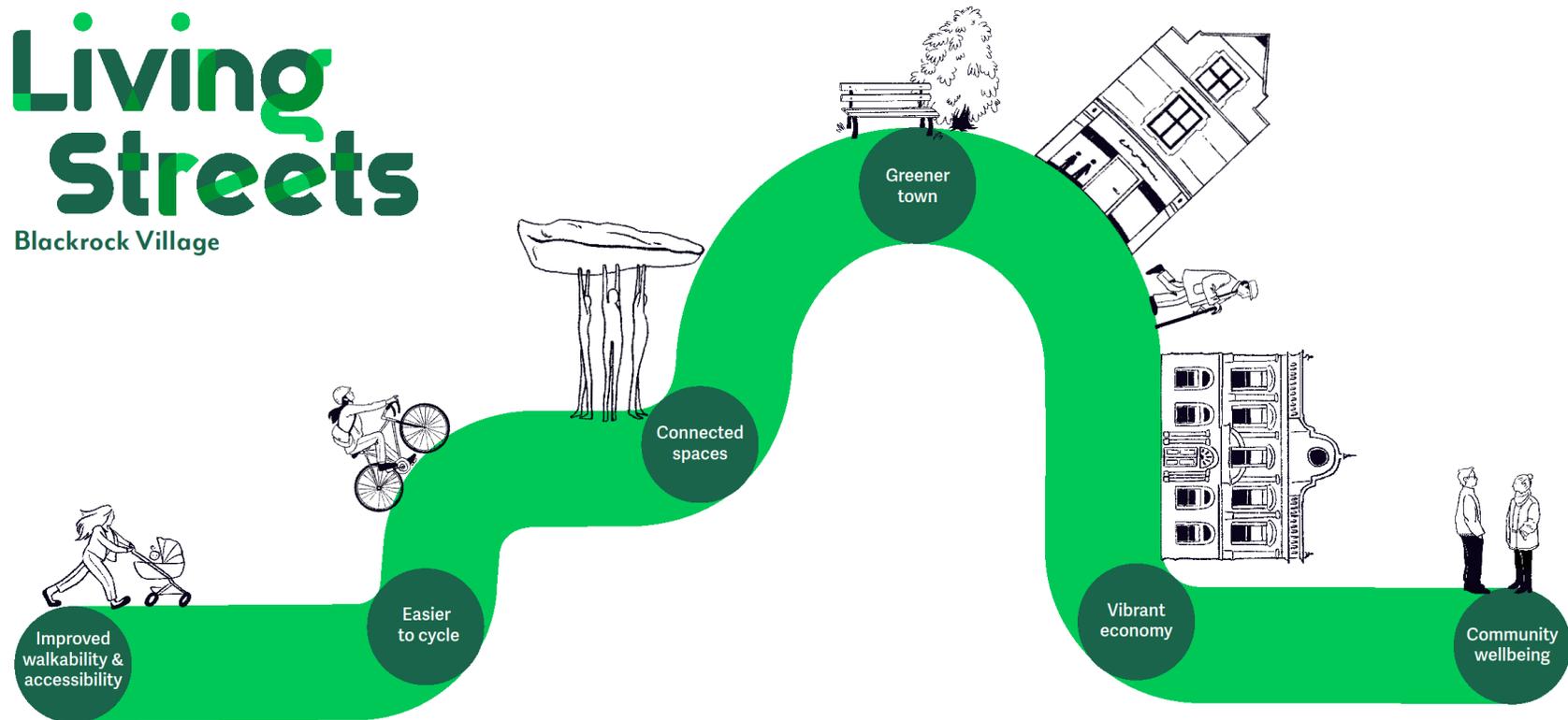
What does the scheme involve?

- Public Realm Improvements: Better landscaping, planting and seating throughout the town to create a safe, accessible and attractive environment and to maintain the economic vibrancy of the town.
- Easier To Cycle: New finish for existing bike lane in the village. Contra-flow bike lane outside the library to connect with existing bike lane on Maretimo Villas and Coastal Mobility Route.
- Improved Walkability and Accessibility: Accessible urban environment improved pedestrian crossings, traffic calming, increased footpath widths and quality.
- Connected Spaces: Better connections with seafront, connected bike lanes.
- Parking Provision: Increase in disabled parking spaces (+1), number of loading bays remains the same, minimal impact on the number of on-street car parking spaces, increased bike parking



Benefits

Living Streets Blackrock Village



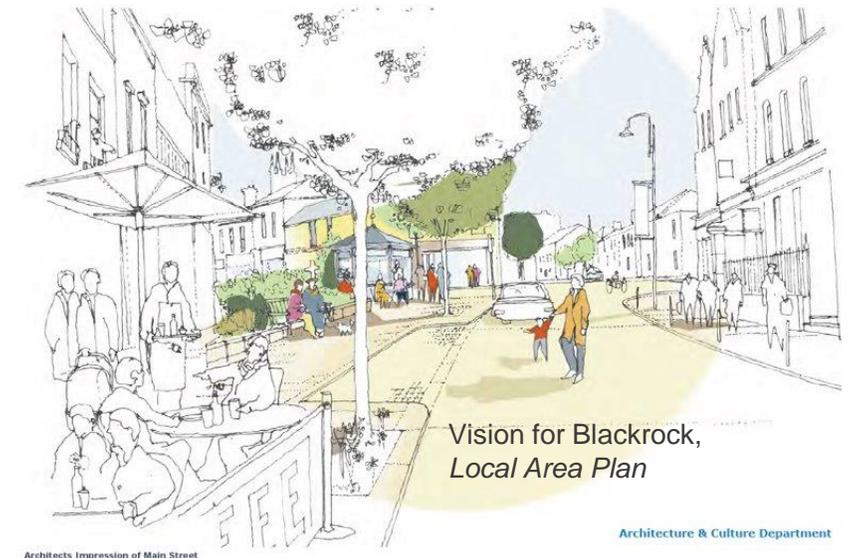
Context – local engagement & policy

The scheme is informed by consultation with local representative business and resident groups such as Blackrock Business Network and Blackrock Village Rejuvenation Action Group and independent evaluation of the temporary measures by TU Dublin.

It is consistent with the Blackrock Local Area Plan developed in 2015, which itself was informed by extensive public consultation. The scheme also considers future plans for the creation of a new public plaza at the seafront.

Blackrock Local Area Plan (2015-2025)

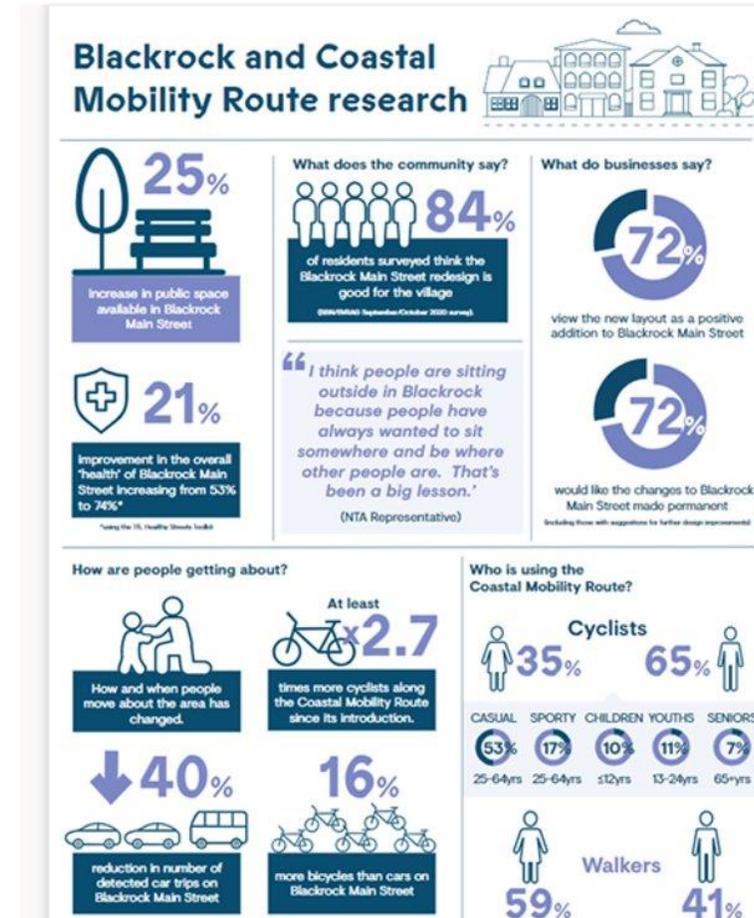
- *“It is Council policy to upgrade the public realm along Main Street and Rock Hill in order to provide a more attractive streetscape and an improved pedestrian environment in the village core”*
- *“It is an objective of the Council to reduce the volume of through traffic on Main Street over the Plan period to complement a package of measures aimed at improving the public realm and environment for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport”.*



COVID-19 Public Realm & Active Mobility Measures TU Dublin Evaluation (2021)

Key findings:

- 84% residents surveyed think Main Street redesign is good for the village.
- 72% of businesses would like to see changes made permanent.
- 43% would like to see some design changes in permanent scheme.
- Loading and deliveries a key issue for businesses

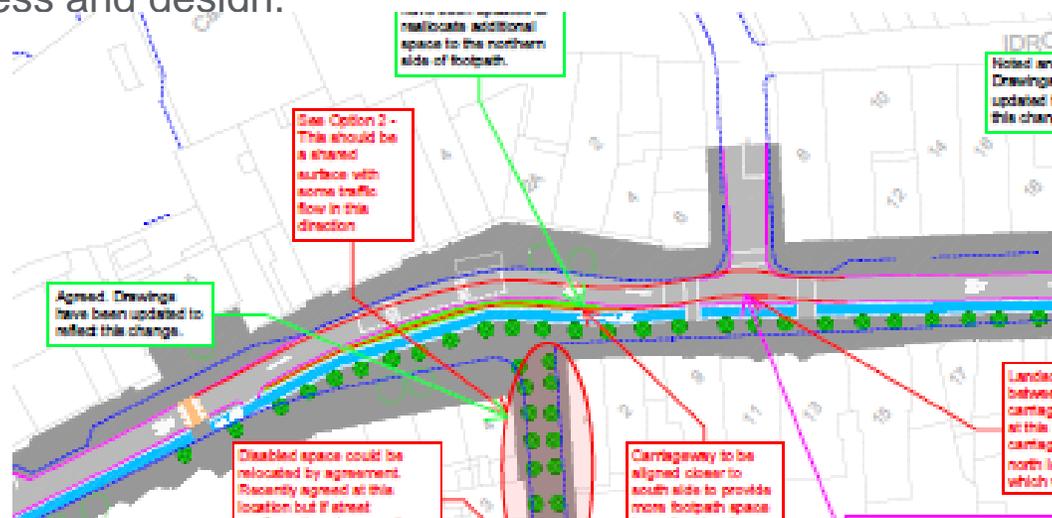


Design Development

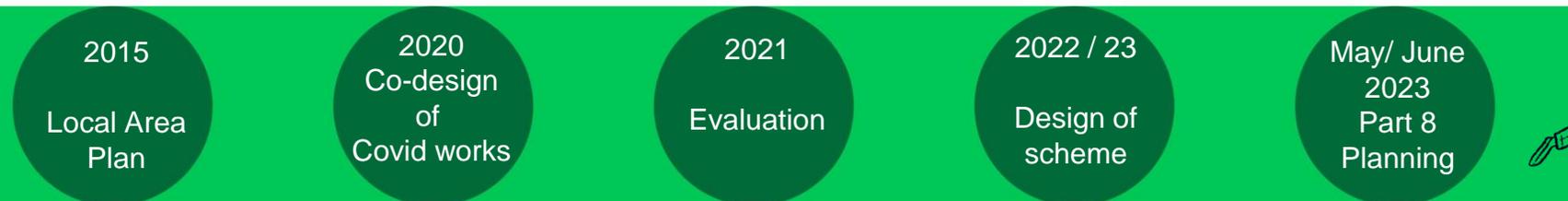
- Engagement with representative groups

The proposed scheme design was developed for Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council by Barry Transportation engineers and NNMP landscape architects throughout Winter 2022/2023. The National Transport Authority were consulted on bus routing and layover options.

Design development was informed through engagement with key local stakeholders **Blackrock Business Network (BBN)** and **Blackrock Village Rejuvenation Action Group (BVRAG)** on various aspects of the design, including hard and soft landscaping, business deliveries, car parking spaces, and bus stop locations. The **DLR Disability Consultation Group (DCG)** also provided advice on matters related to universal access and design.



Project Evolution and Timeline



Identifies need for streetscape upgrades, active mobility infrastructure, and enhanced connectivity.

One-way system, street-widening & public realm improvements – co-design with BBN/BVRAG

TU Dublin – evaluation– shows positive impacts, high levels of support for the temporary redesign and appetite for a permanent scheme.

Liaison with community and business groups within the village to inform design.

Public consultation: Survey, webinars, information evening, pop-ups, submissions.



Landscape design



**Living
Streets**
Blackrock Village



PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS

Better landscaping, planting and seating throughout the town to create a safe, accessible and vibrant environment.

EASIER TO CYCLE

1. New finish for existing bike lane in the town.
2. Contra-flow bike lane outside the library to connect with existing lane on Maretime Villas.

IMPROVED WALKABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

Accessible urban environment improved pedestrian crossings, traffic calming, increased footpath widths and quality.

PARKING PROVISION

Increase in disabled parking spaces (+1), number of loading bays remains the same, minimal impact on car parking space numbers, increase in bike parking.

CONNECTED SPACES

Better connections with seafront, connected bike lanes.

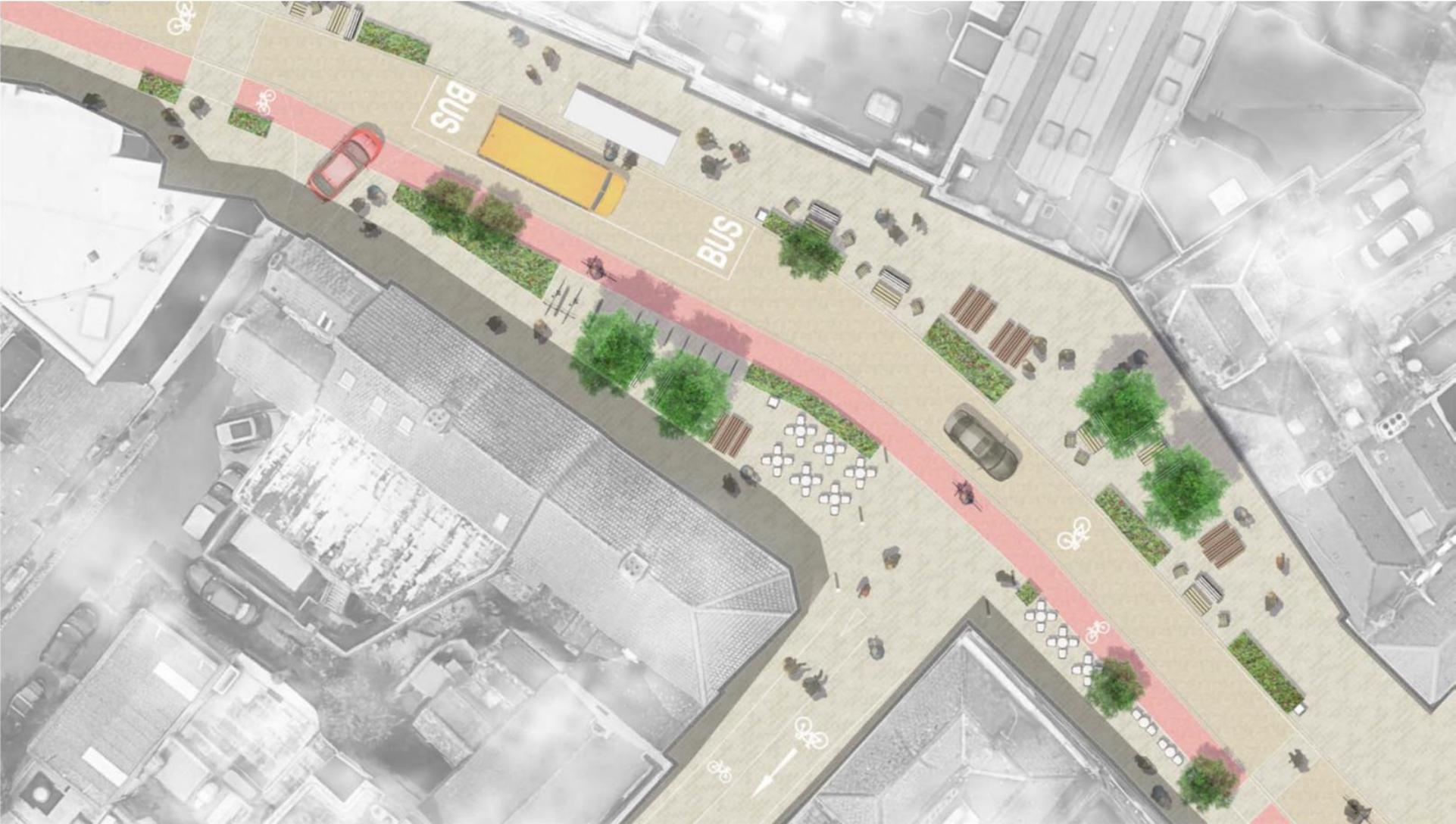
View – Proposed Main Street



Proposed Landscape Plan - Village Entrance



Proposed Landscape Plan - Streetscape



Proposed Landscape Plan – Pocket Park



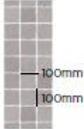
Proposed Landscape Plan – Pocket Park

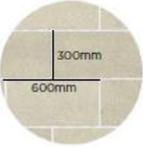


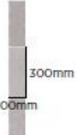
Proposed Landscape Plan – Library



Typical Street Detail

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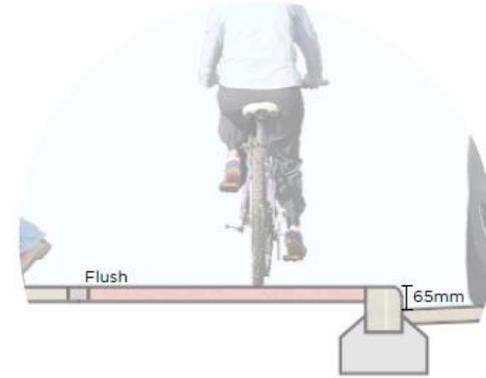
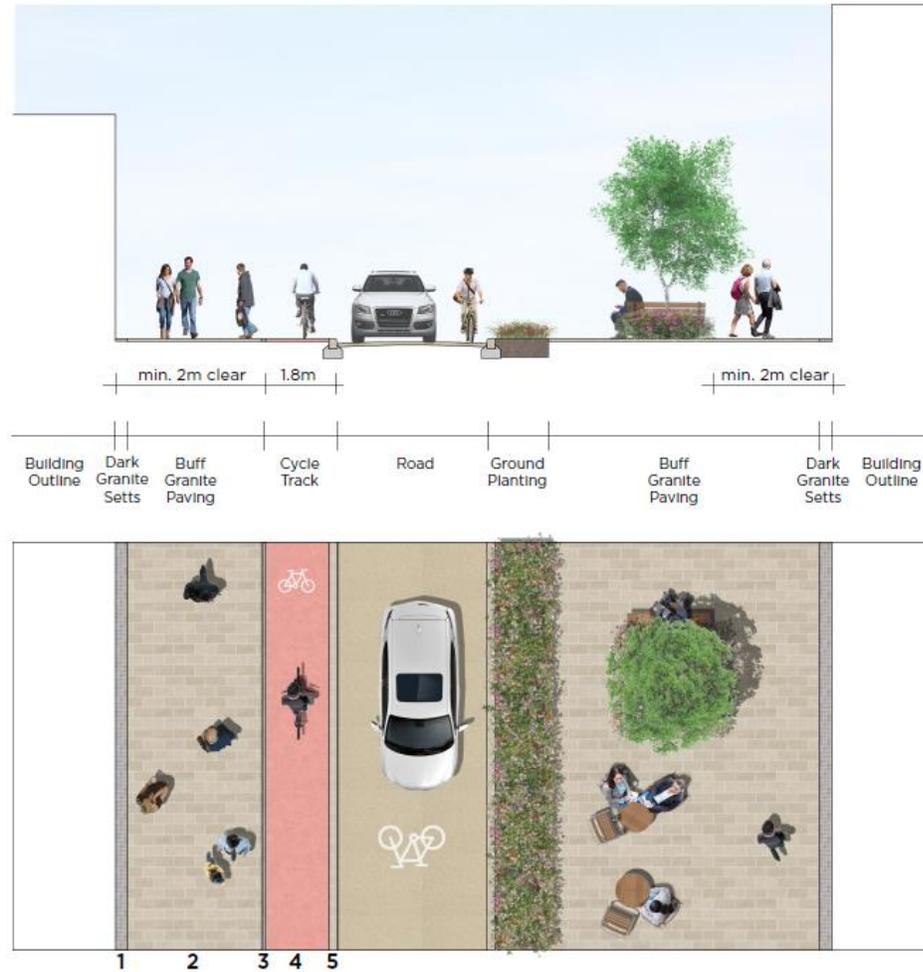
1. 100mm x 100mm Dark Granite Paving Setts
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2. 600mm x 300mm Buff Granite Paving
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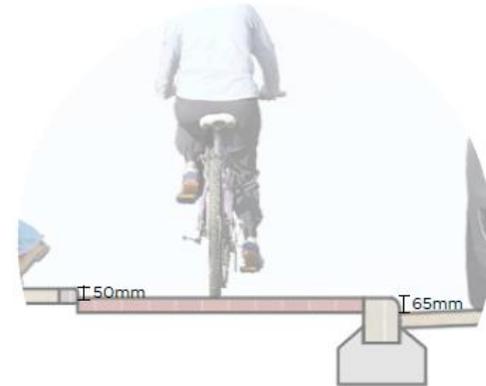
3. 300mm x 100mm Dark Granite Paving
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4. High Friction Surface (Colour Red)
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5. 900mm x 200mm Buff Granite Kerb

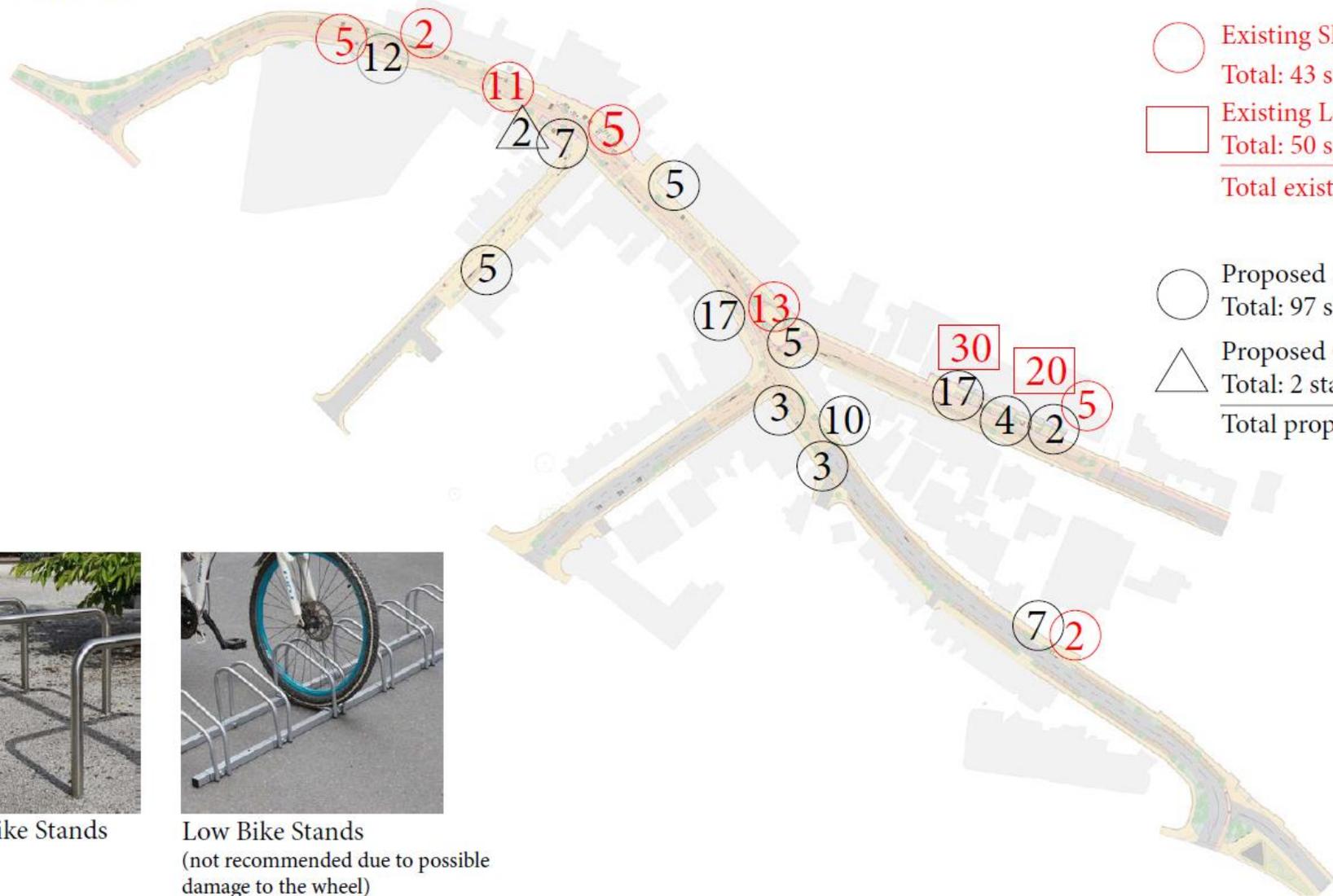


Option 1



Option 2

Bike Location Plan



○ Existing Sheffield Bike Stands
Total: 43 stands (86 spaces)

□ Existing Low Bike Stands
Total: 50 spaces

Total existing spaces: 136

○ Proposed Sheffield Bike Stands
Total: 97 stands (194 spaces)

△ Proposed Cargo Bike Stands
Total: 2 stands (4 Spaces)

Total proposed spaces: 198



Sheffield Bike Stands



Low Bike Stands
(not recommended due to possible damage to the wheel)

Inclusivity & accessibility – design features

- Reduced street clutter and obstacles
- Defined areas for retailers' furniture
- Introduction of tapping lines for visually impaired and contrasting materials at thresholds.
- Additional drop kerbs for mobility impaired
- Smooth clean, non-slip surfaces
- Tactile and contrasting paving at crossing points
- Disabled spaces – retained

Next Steps

Six-week Part VIII consultation period from May to June:

- **Survey:**
 - Online survey hosted on <https://dlrcoco.citizenspace.com/>
 - Duration: 6 weeks
 - Go-live 28th April '23
- **Stakeholder meetings:** Starting mid-April
- **Webinar:** May '23
- **Pop-up:** May '23
- **Drop-In:** 16th May (Blackrock Library)

Engagement & Awareness Building:

- Integrated communications plan to build engagement and awareness:
 - Online distribution – series of social media outputs, direct mail and web content
 - Town-wide distribution – street posters
 - Direct communication to residents – leaflet drop

Project Resources: All project information available on:

- www.dlrcoco.ie
- DLR consultation hub: <https://dlrcoco.citizenspace.com/>



ENDS

