

# NCH IN D8

[Residents Alliance Group](#) July 2021

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## Work Plan over the coming quarter

The focus of work continues to be on the external frame of the building for the forthcoming quarter, between being weatherproofed and completion of the window insertion and the installation of external cladding.

Internally the atrium continues to be put in place and specialist welders are on site during July completing some of the specialist welding required.

The “fingers” on the south side are almost complete and fit out for the fingers on the north side will begin in August.

The Family accommodation block to be built where Gate 3 is at Brookfield has not yet gone out to tender. This work is not managed by NPHDB but by the HSE and the Ronald

McDonald Foundation however preparation and clearance of the site will be undertaken by BAM. This work was scheduled to take place at the start of the summer but has now been put back to September.



Figure 1 The model taking shape



## Derogations

Residents Alliance Group turned down a proposed trial of quiet work by BAM.

Resident representatives believe that the existing BAM working week is long enough at 76 hours (66 hours official + 2 derogations per week)

Previously the RMC had agreed to late night “quiet work” on nights when DCC had derogations for concrete pouring. However RAG now believe that the conditions that facilitated “quiet work” before no longer exist. Many people now are working from home due to the pandemic and it is not realistic to enforce longer site hours. Quiet work is

actually an extension of the working day and will establish a precedent for the area that has a number of other developments beginning.

See Report on Previous Quiet Work [here](#)

See [DCC conditions for granting derogations to NCH](#)

## Co-vid

BAM have confirmed that the site continues to operate PCR co-vid testing and will begin to move the testing from fortnightly to a monthly basis and review the situation later in the year.

There are currently 1350 workers on site, and this should increase to 1600 by the end of the month, still well below the 2300 planned for. BAM do not see themselves reaching a full site workforce this year.

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### Live Calendar of Work Notices

Check the RAG website for all BAM published work notices

[Calendar of Work Notices](#)

## Linear Park

The Linear Park continues to occupy people's attention, recent information shows that there is not one but three different licences that keep the hoarding in place from Rialto Bridge to the gate of the Misa Hospital.

The first is between St James's and DCC Parks, the second is between St James's and DCC Development and the third is between NPHDB and DCC Parks. At least two of them are up for renewal, one this September and another next March. The Wayleave renewal is to be extended from the current finish date of 2022 to 2025.

The RMC was informed by DCC that the Linear Park will be reinstated when the hospital development is finished, and the wayleave agreement will be renewed to facilitate this. BAM also informed the meeting that site cabins will not be removed until the build is finished.

People are still looking for a time frame about the full restoration of the park.

### Update

In response to a question by Councillor Tina McVeigh the CEO of DCC gave the following update at the July 5<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

**Fatima Station environs:** Works within the park adjacent to Fatima station will commence in September 2021 based on the planning granted for the MISA entrance. Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services are managing this project.

**Basin View – MISA Entrance:** The detailed design of this area of the park will be developed in Q4 2021 based on the consultation feedback received on the masterplan, with a view to implement in 2022 by Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services.

**Fatima Station – Rialto Station:** Following the National Children's Hospital (NCH) works completion, BAM will reinstate the full park lands from the hospital boundary to the edge of the LUAS line as per intention of the masterplan. St. James's hospital have been in contact with DCC to extend the current wayleave agreement that expires in March 2022 to mid-2025. This request will be dealt with by Planning and Development Department in consultation with Parks, Biodiversity and Landscape Services.

**Rialto Station - Rialto Bridge:** The design for the NCH entrance and park environs that includes parks lands from Rialto Luas station to Rialto Bridge was agreed as part of the hospital planning. The NCH have sought an extension to the license to mid-2025 for use of the lands within Parks boundary. As part of the license and planning agreements, the NCH will

reinstate these lands as per the planning drawings and for the park environs, as per the intention of the masterplan.

**Rialto Bridge – Suir Road:** This section of the parks sits along the proposed 7B cycle route in the NTA's 'Cycle Network for the Greater Dublin Area'. We are working with Environment and Transportation Department to develop the detail of how this cycle route can be integrated into the park while ensuring that the park is retained as a safe space for walking amenity and children's play. The Environment and Transportation Department advises that they intend to prioritise the design development of this route in order to minimise delays to the development of the linear park.

See [Linear Park Draft Masterplan](#)

NTA's '[Cycle Network for the Greater Dublin Area](#)'.

Share your views on Linear PARK complete the a survey being carried out by Residents' Association of New Ireland Area.

[Here](#)

## Parking and Planning?

The Rialto Street Pay and Display scheme was due to commence in early June has been postponed until Mid-August.

In the meantime, along James's Walk where no one parked for years has now become a legitimate free parking section because of DCC's introduction of double yellow lines opposite the Rialto Street junctions. The introduction of the limited double yellow lines has effectively increased the danger for all roads users pedestrians, cyclists and motorists alike.

Yet again this situation demonstrates the apparent lack of joined up planning in various DCC departments and section that interact with the public. The organisation appears to

operate with little or no shared analysis and co-ordination of responses. It certainly does not augur well for the community that not only has to contend with the building of the NCH, the redevelopment of the Linear Park, the operationalisation of the NCH along with other development in the area not mentioning the attendant transport and parking issues.

It is time for DCC to restate a strategy for the area that takes account of the developments actual and planned and to consult with the stakeholders including residents.

## One more Crane to be Removed



One of the remaining eight large cranes will be removed on the 7<sup>th</sup> of August, Crane 5 adjacent to Cameron Sq.

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## Roadworks and Road restrictions

Between end of March and the date 19<sup>th</sup> July, a period of 17 weeks, the roads on Mount Brown and Kilmainham will have been subjected to roadworks and road disruption on 28 days, including 9 days of works on Saturday and/or Sunday (full days). A mix of full day and evening works took place on the other 19 days. Residents will have been exposed to a total of 202 working hours on the roadway, over 123 of those hours have been at weekends (Sat and/or Sun), 7 weekends in all. 190 of the total 202 hours, have been road excavations. This is all in addition to the building works at NCH and

the designated construction site at St James Hospital Energy Centre.

Residents of Mt Brown and Kilmainham have this week, been notified of road resurfacing due to take place from next Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July and will end on 19<sup>th</sup> July, works taking place Sunday/Thurs and Sun/Wed 7 days...(all going well they will be finished on 19th... according to notification received by the contractor SIAC, who is carrying out the work on behalf of DCC Road Maintenance Dept). The road being resurfaced extends from the EMO Garage to Kilmainham Cross.

**These works will take place starting at 7pm each evening until 6am the next morning.**

With the NCH site, working 7 am to 7pm and Road resurfacing starting at 7pm until 6am the following morning, this is giving 1 hour when residents might manage to get some sleep

The Kilmainham Residents Association have vociferously objected to and expressed grave concerns for the health and wellbeing of residents in this area, in regard to the numerous and ongoing works which are taking place including this latest road works.

### Update

On the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup> of July Kilmainham Residents Association were informed by DCC that the proposed road works are now to be deferred to later in the year and advised that alternative options for working time will be discussed in order to minimise disturbance ahead of these rescheduled works.

### CONNECT online

Connect will no longer be delivered to homes in the area but will now only be available on line.

Click on the image below to view the New CONNECT newsletter issued by NCH that

covers the development of the New Children's Hospital



Figure 2 CONNECTIONS The NCH Newsletter on Line

### What it says in the Media

BAM has lodged 900 claims in relation to the NCH project and agreement on just nine of those claims came to €2.5m, the Oireachtas Health Committee has heard. It was revealed at the Oireachtas committee on the 7<sup>th</sup> July that the NCH will be delayed 14 months because of the Covid-19 shutdown. Instead of being finished in August 2022, as planned, it is now due to be completed in December 2023. The hospital is likely to open in the second half of 2024.

View July 7<sup>th</sup> Oireachtas Health Committee: [An update on the progress of the National Children's Hospital](#)

Some newspaper coverage; [Irish Times](#) [The Irish Independent](#) [The Journal](#) [The Irish Examiner](#)

