From: [redacted]
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Subject: Reference: RoadNotice-3422329-20241112 Objection
Date: 15 November 2024 10:41:26

Your Reference: RoadNotice-3422329-20241112

To whom it may concern,

This email concerns the changes proposed for St Neots Road, Hardwick. Along that stretch of the planned route on the one side of the road , there are small businesses which will be disproportionately affected by the changes.

I am one of the partners of Ashcroft Veterinary Practice (169 St Neots Road CB23 7QJ). The practice was founded in 1985 and it is the oldest independent veterinary practice in the Cambridge area. It is also one the few remaining independent practices around the city as most of the other practices were bought by big corporations. I think everybody is aware of the recent news articles about the dramatic increase in veterinary service prices and take over by big business. This has priced out a significant part of the population and made people desperate and unable to help their pets. We feel socially responsible and we are trying to keep our prices as reasonable as possible and try to help the community in which we all live. This is not the case when it comes to the big corporations.

This would all be jeopardised by the proposed changes around the practice. It would eliminate the lay-bys and make access and parking impossible. It would mean the end of the practice. We would have to relocate and the village would lose the surgery which was there ,as mentioned, for forty years.

My wife, Laura Wood (a founder of the practice), and I are keen bicycle riders. In fact we almost only use bicycles to access Cambridge and we are happy to have safe bicycle paths and buses. Unfortunately Greater Cambridge Partnership just paid lip service to the apparent consultations with the people and businesses affected. Repeatedly we tried to discuss and argue that the lay-bys and bicycle path could be accommodated along most of the route therefore saving the various small businesses. It would entail slight reduction of the existing grass verges and the slight reduction in the width of lay-bys. That would allow a proposed safe bicycle path.

I would be happy to discuss this in detail if I would have a chance to speak or write to somebody who would be truly interested to help and solve this matter. It may be a small thing, but for us who live here it is a life changing decision.

Yours sincerely,

Dragan Tomovic, partner
Ashcroft Veterinary Practice
169 St Neots Road
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Cambridge CB237QJ
[redacted]

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