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From: lisa fb <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 19 February 2025 09:01
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Subject: Objection To Transport and Work Act Order to the Dept of Transport for a new busway to the southeast of Cambridge

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To Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit,

I am writing to make a formal objection, as the people in Cambridge have so many times before, with utter dismay at the lack of notice that has been taken of them, over the past few years to the *'Application for a Transport and Work Act Order to the Department of Transport for a new busway to the southeast of Cambridge'* as submitted by the Cambridge Greater Partnership on 9th January 2025.

The dismal proposed route through the Gog Magog Hills is desperately and sadly destructive as well as unnecessary due to the much more financially (£100m cheaper) and environmentally appropriate alternative. The gogs and surrounding landscape is a historical and distinctive part of this county, topped by a Bronze Age Bowl Barrow, an ancient Neolithic Causewayed Enclosure encircles the hill, steeped in history, significant natural habitat and farming land and this is the area the GCP is proposing to destroy with a restricted bus route, creating pockets of land for development, which a small path/cycle way is not a significant replacement, as this could all be built alongside the edge of this area, along the existing road whilst still embracing surrounding nature but not destroying it and a far more visual transport route which would encourage many more people to use.

The grounds for this objection are as follows...

1. The construction of 5 miles of new road through open countryside is completely unnecessary and as detailed in many previous reports the most expensive scheme possible to deliver any improvements in transport. (£160m v £60m for original scheme) Much better transport and economic benefits can be achieved by building a version of the scheme first proposed by the applicant in 2018. This would involve building sections of bus lane adjacent to the A1307, a minor road and 1 mile of new road (busway), much

more economical and not have the hugely damaging effect on the surrounding nature and green belt and yet still embrace the surrounding nature.

2. Constructing this proposed route along the A1307, which is not a busy motorway but an established road into Cambridge alongside the fields that could very easily accommodate the adjacent bus route and a cycle/walk pathway, which are partly already in construction. This route would still embrace the edge of nature and be more visible therefore much more utilised, encouraging the use of the pathway which would integrate and link smoothly with the already constructed and in construction cycle paths that run along the Babraham Road - rather than through fields which no one can see and will destroy the developed nature and truly important natural landscape of Cambridge.
3. This suggested alternative would avoid building two bridges over the River Granta chalk stream and putting Hobson's Conduit chalk stream into a culvert which is hugely damaging to its purpose and historical nature which dates back to the 17th Century.
4. This alternative would avoid creating a huge and damaging effect in the Gog Magog Hills rolling landscape, one of the most important and historical landscapes in the Cambridge area.
5. This alternative would avoid building a new road through a countryside park, to the detriment of its future users and nature which has been cultivated over many years and has a huge beneficial impact on the biodiversity of the surrounding areas.
6. This alternative would avoid severing many fields close to villages making them a definite potential to future development and further harm to the countryside, bringing in more traffic and pollution., which surely is completely counterproductive to any environmental reasons for a selective busway and pathway across green belt and historical landscapes.
7. This alternative would serve the planned expansion of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus much more effectively and serve more of the Campus in the region in a much simpler and easier manner, linking in with existing and presently developing pathways and cycle routes. As well as attracting other users for both Addenbrookes and medical campus.
8. Cycle routes in this area are already under construction and include the Linton Greenway which will connect Cambridge to Babraham, Granta Park and Linton; and the Sawston Greenway that will connect Cambridge to Sawston. Stapleford and Shelford are already served by the DNA cycle path, which work perfectly well as well as increased cycle and pathways along the Babraham Road which continues from the A1307 road linking into the new developing housing on the Babraham road, developing along this route would therefore include this area of increased population.
9. The proposal to construct 5 miles of road when a road already exists is a thoroughly damaging proposal to the nature of the land where at present foxes, deer, newts, all species of insects and fauna and of course the endless list of nature will be destroyed

and disturbed as this unnecessary construction is built leading to future further development, increased traffic, pollution and environmental negativity.

10. The objection to this scheme have been loud and clear from the start and the alternative option on the existing A1307 is both hugely more supported and economical in a time of struggling funds within the councils and government and long term an option which will not be destructive to our environment, massively outweighing any suggested improvements a busway, with already admitted limited use amongst passengers or environmental advantages of a pathway, would present.

transportinfrastructure@dft.gov.uk

Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit, Department for Transport,

Great Minster House,

33 Horseferry Road,

London, SW1P 4DR

Ms Freeman

[REDACTED]

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