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From: Tom Bramley <[redacted]>
Sent: 12 February 2025 21:52
To: TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE
Subject: Objection to Transport and Work Act Order to the Department for Transport (DfT) for a new busway to the southeast of Cambridge Cambridge

Dear Sir/Madam

I'm writing to make a formal objection to the "Application for a Transport and Work Act Order to the Department for Transport (DfT) for a new busway to the southeast of Cambridge", as submitted by the Cambridge Greater Partnership on 9 January 2025.

It is clear that this plan has so many drawbacks and so few potential benefits relative to its cost that it should be scrapped.

As a resident of Stapleford I would be very unlikely to use this bus route. We are already well served by cycle routes and the railway line for travel into Cambridge. Admittedly the bus journey to Cambridge can take too long, but at least the bus stops are within the village, rather than requiring a 15 minute walk to get to (as would be the case with the proposed new busway).

I do not expect that the new busway will ease congestion on the A1307 (except for the buses that use the busway). It is more likely just to move the congestion nearer to the Babraham end where the big new Park and Ride will be.

The new route would be a terrible blow to the local countryside, affecting Hobson's conduit, the views of Cambridge from the Gog Magog hills and the walk from Stapleford to Babraham along the footpath. It seems inevitable that it would lead to further housing development along the route, spoiling the 'village' character of Shelford and Stapleford.

It is also enormously expensive, for the relatively few benefits it would achieve. A much better and cheaper proposal, more proportionate to the benefits, has been described by the campaign The Better Way — Better Ways For Busways. It essentially involves creating a bus lane by the existing A1307.

They point out that their proposal would also allow for future re-opening of the old railway line to Haverhill (which the proposed new busway would foreclose forever). This (re-opening the railway line) might be a better long-term solution to congestion and transport in the South Cambridge area.

I hope you will heed the concerns of the many local residents who are strongly opposed to the GCP proposal.

Yours faithfully

Tom Bramley
[redacted]

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