

## Dublin Cycling Campaign

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A member of



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Assistant Commissioner John Twomey,  
Head of An Garda Síochána Traffic Corp,  
Garda HQ,  
Phoenix Park,  
Dublin 8.

November 12th, 2015

Dear Assistant Commissioner Twomey,

We are writing to you about the problem of parking in cycle lanes and the lack of support and enforcement from An Garda Síochána in assisting with keeping them clear and usable. On many cycle lanes illegal parking is a daily occurrence which renders them unusable and forces cyclists to mix with either fast moving traffic or squeeze through grid lock. This discourages cycling, especially people cycling of all ages as it creates an unsafe environment to cycle in.

We ask you to make it safer to cycle in the city by reducing the instances of parking in cycle lanes. We have compiled a list with the assistance of Dublin's citizens using our twitter campaign #FreeTheCycleLanes. At the end of this letter we have listed the 10 cycle lanes that have the worst record of illegal parking.

Cycling is an important part of Dublin transport as it eases congestion and reduces air quality problems of our fine city. For the individual, it can represent a reliable, low cost and healthy mode of transport. However, it is necessary for you to lend a helping hand to those who choose to cycle with the existing infrastructure we have.

The recent RSA free speed survey highlighted that 3 out of 4 drivers are exceeding the typical 50km/h city speed limit of urban streets, which raises the importance to have cycle lanes where cyclists can travel safely and confidently. We do hope that greater efforts are made to reduce urban speeding which in turn will make cycling safer.

It must also be mentioned that people who cycle on any given day, are also people who drive or take the bus on another. It is important to encourage people to choose cycling over driving in order to reduce traffic congestion and promote a healthy active lifestyle as well as a vibrant moving city.

We ask can you assist the flow of cycling traffic in Dublin by freeing cycle lanes from being blocked by inconsiderate parking. Unsafe and disrespectful parking impacts not just cycling but also walking and other road users. We need you to assist our vulnerable road users to travel safely and confidently.

Can you please acknowledge receipt of this letter and we look forward to your response. We would be more than happy to discuss matters further with you.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Byrne

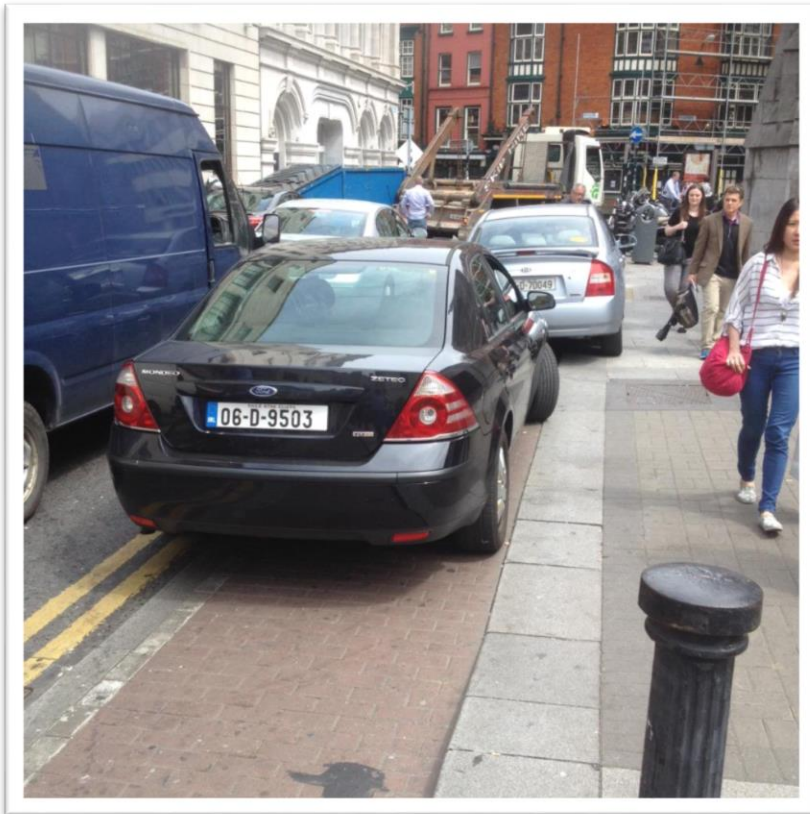
Chair, Dublin Cycling Campaign

A member of Cyclist.ie, Irelands Cycling Advocacy Network

These are 10 key locations where your assistance would make a significant difference for cycling in Dublin. There are many more examples from other Irish cities and around the country.

1. Contra flow St. Andrews Street
2. Ranelagh Village
3. Rathmines Road
4. Richmond Street South
5. Pearse Street
6. Westland Row
7. Manor Street
8. Parnell Street
9. Doyle's Corner Phibsboro
10. Baggot Street Upper

**Figure 1: St. Andrews Street**



**Figure 2: Ranelagh Village**



**Figure 3: Rathmines Road**



**Figure 4: Richmond Street South**

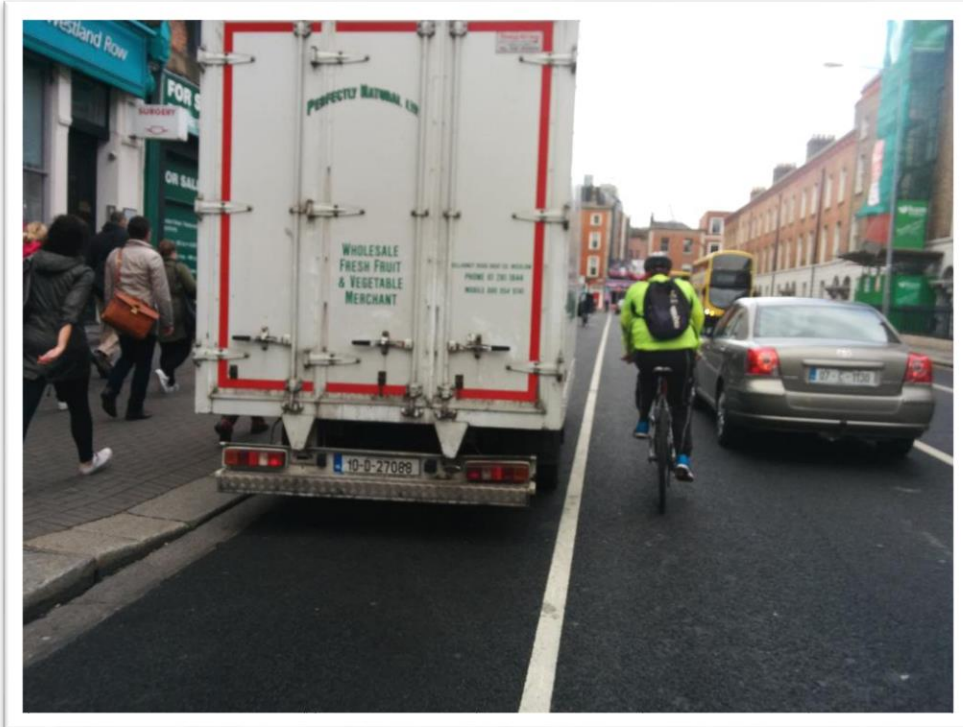




*Figure 5: Pearse Street*



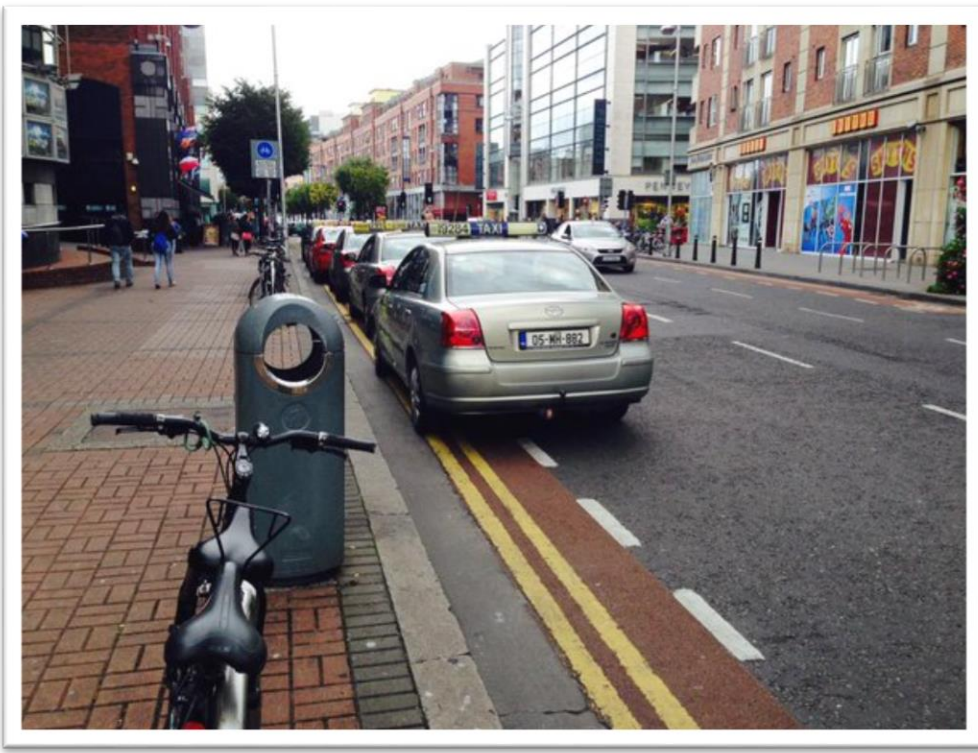
*Figure 6: Westland Row*



*Figure 7: Manor Street*



*Figure 8: Parnell Street*





*Figure 9: Doyles Corner Phibsboro, with cars parking in cycle lane and on footpath*



*Figure 10: Baggot Street Upper*



*Figure 11: Parking in solid white line cycle lane on Pearse Street*





*Figure 12: Grand Canal Cycle Way, Charlemont, blocked completely by HGV*

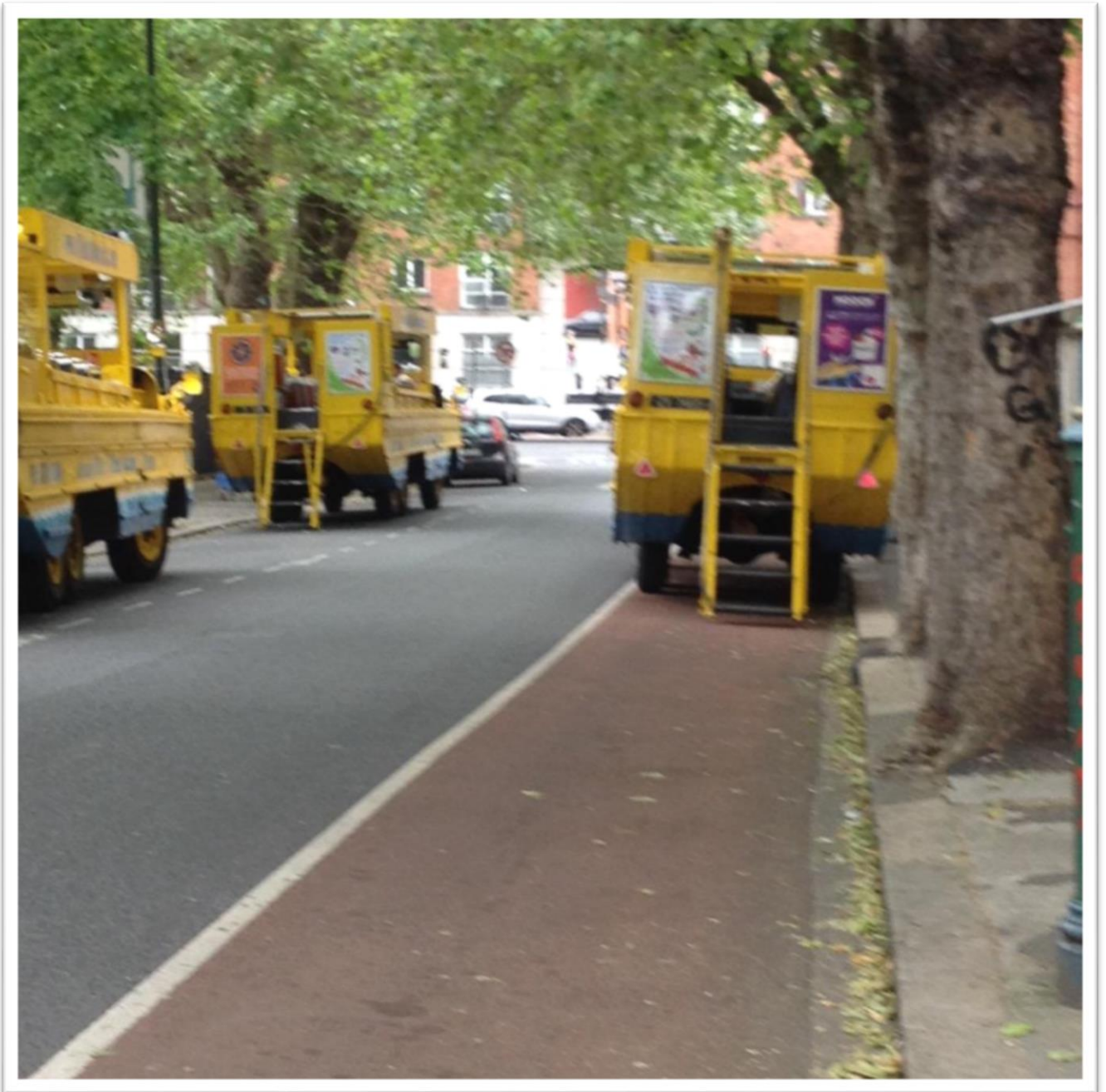


*Figure 13: Pearse Street, parking in solid white line cycle lane and on footpath. Blocking the way for all vulnerable road users*





*Figure 14: Parking in the Contra flow cycle lane which assists cycling along one way streets.*





*Figure 15: Parking in a contra flow on a corner. This is a one way street with a designated contra flow to enable safe cycling on one way streets*



*Figure 16: Parking in Phoenix Park near the Courts. A cycle lane to help cycling is filled with parking on a regular basis*

