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Dear Sir/Madam,

Glasgow City Council (Queens Park Area) Footway Redetermination Order, to shared pedestrian and cycle use

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this proposal.

GoBike wishes to register an objection to this proposal, which, in our opinion, is flawed. You state that "It is considered necessary to make (this) Order for facilitating the passage of cyclists through the area".

However, cyclists currently use Pollokshaws Road and Langside Avenue and people who cycle already will not use this redetermined footway. It is too short to be useful, lacks priority for cycling at junctions, and is obstructed by street furniture. It is unclear as to whether cycling would only be permitted for south and east bound cyclists or for both directions. In either case, it presents a hazard for cyclists as they move off the main carriageway and then back on to the carriageway. It will fail to attract new people to cycling, for the same reasons. People who are nervous about cycling on city streets already have the alternative of cycling through the adjacent park.

Furthermore, it is rarely appropriate to permit cycling on city footways, as this causes conflict between cyclists and pedestrians. People walking on urban footways do not want to share space with cyclists, and some can perceive even the relatively low speed of cycles as threatening. We recognise that this is a wide footway and relatively little-used by pedestrians (probably because of the adjacent park) but this is no reason to deter some pedestrians from using it. Shared use paths are not a common feature of mass cycling cities, where there is a strong preference for separation.

The A77 is a major commuter route to and from Glasgow city centre, which is well-used by cyclists. High-quality, dedicated cycling provision on both sides of the entire length of the road, clearly separated from both the carriageway and the footway, is, in our view, the appropriate type of cycling provision for such a route. We trust that you will reconsider this unnecessary Order and progress the provision of cycle lanes along this major arterial road.

We look forward to discussing this with you further.

Yours sincerely

Convenor, GoBike!