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Dear Sir/Madam,

SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL, PROPOSED “UPGRADE” OF STEWARTFIELD WAY

Thank you for the opportunity, outlined on your website to comment on the proposals for an upgrade of Stewartfield Way.

We have read through your proposals and some of our members have responded to the on-line survey, but our overall view is one of disappointment.

Your proposals include a desire for sustainability and to maintain and encourage business development in East Kilbride. Very few would argue with that, but we see no attempt to encourage public and active travel. At the very least we would expect the additional lane that you propose to construct to be a bus lane for existing and hopefully new bus services to link into all local destinations. It is unfortunate that, by widening the road, new motor traffic will be generated and soon congestion will be back at its current levels.

The alternative solution is for some of the people currently using this route transfer to public transport or active travel modes and for this to happen your proposals fall far short. It seems, from the information available that there is a bike path some distance from the main route, so it is unlikely to be well maintained and cleared of leaves or ice as required for reliable and safe travel. We also note that the roundabouts on the route will simply become larger, with no allowance for people to negotiate them when walking or cycling.

Junctions are the very areas of our roads system where collisions are likely to happen, as is well reported in incident statistics. We would very much like to see, particularly in East Kilbride, where there are so many roundabouts, Dutch principles of roundabout design employed. Here's a link to the general principles of this type of design:

<https://bicycledutch.wordpress.com/2015/10/13/explaining-the-dutch-roundabout-abroad/>

Thus, despite some of the wording in your proposals we find that the design simply encourages use of the motor vehicle and, even worse, will deter rather than encourage people to walk or cycle. This is completely contrary to current policy and we object to such expenditure.

Yours sincerely



Tricia Fort
for Consultations, GoBike