Dear Representative.

As some of you may be aware, Transport Infrastructure Ireland plan to open a station for the Metro North project in the grounds immediately in front of Our Lady of Victories church, opposite the school. This project will take several years, (up to 9 years as we have been advised). The construction and enabling works ( re-alignment of drainage etc) that this will require will have a significant long term effect on the access to drop off / pick up area that is safe for the children in OLV schools, causing a massive knock on effect. This site will be only a matter of metres from the gates of the school.

The works will involve the following:

* Closure of the central traffic island in the construction phase and narrowing of footpaths.
* Closure ,by way of hoarding, the vehicular access off Ballymun Road to the back of OLV church.
* The excavation of a volume of earth and rock from the area in front of the church that will be a comparable size to that of Croke Park, with all of the consequential dust, noise and displacement of vermin etc that blasting and boring will require to construct the tunnel.
* Significant construction traffic- dumper trucks etc.
* Closure of the vehicular access from Ballymun Road into the Albert College estate, forcing all traffic down Collins Avenue into the back of the church.

All of these issues will have a significant and long-lasting effect on ability of the schools to operate as normal during this extremely disruptive and onerous process, and this will lead to disruption elsewhere once the current access arrangements cannot be used.

Despite the best efforts of residents groups in the area and of the combined school boards, alternative siting of the station in a small part of Albert College Park is not being given fair or active consideration by TII- the decision has been presented as a “done-deal”.

In the context of the agreement to move another station from Na Fianna in the last couple of years after pressure from the GAA Club, residents and schools in the area, this approach seems to me to be disproportionate and manifestly unfair. The consequences for residents in Wadelai, Albert College Estate and parts of Glasnevin Avenue and Collins Avenue are staggering- loss of access to Ballymun Road from Albert College, increased parking and congestion in Wadelai and parking / access issues across all affected areas have not been addressed.

In advance of TII’s application for a “Railway Order”, I, as your constituent and concerned resident very likely to be affected by this work, respectfully request that you use your position to express concerns at the highest level about this development. The alternative site at Albert College Park must be considered further. I would add that many technical queries around the site footprint, access and traffic management etc remain unresolved at this time.

This development has been ill conceived and does not take into account the consequential issues for the residents in the immediate hinterland around the construction site.

Your assistance in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Yours Sincerely

Name & address etc.