From: Paul Corbett [mailto:paul@cbotransport.co.uk]
Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2013 9:31 AM
To: Daniel Hyde
Subject: A556 Knutsford to Bowden Environmental Improvement

Dear My Hyde

Please find attached correspondence regarding the above Scheme. I would be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt.

We believe the contents of the letter are highly relevant to the current Acceptance stage for this application as the Highways Agency is promoting an improvement to M56 junction 7 which is of direct relevance to the Scheme through a separate and unconnected process.

I would be grateful if you could advise whether the Acceptance team will be able to consider the contents of this letter or if they are aware of the M56 junction 7 proposal in any event.

Best Regards

Paul Corbett Director

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Our ref: CBO-0049-025

BY EMAIL & POST

Daniel Hyde Assistant Case Officer National Infrastructure Directorate The Planning Inspectorate Temple Quay House Temple Quay Bristol BS1 6PN

Dear Mr Hyde

9th May 2013

A556 KNUTSFORD TO BOWDEN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT

We understand that the above scheme is currently in the Acceptance phase and we hope in this context that the officers involved will be able to consider the contents of this letter.

We would like to draw to your attention the fact that the Highways Agency has recently announced as part of the Governments Pinch Point initiative an improvement scheme to the merge from the A556 to the M56 at M56 junction 7. The Highways Agency's description of the scheme given in the recent press release (10th April 2013) is referenced below. The timing of the announcement was far too close to the submission of the application for the Scheme for affected parties, and we would suggest yourselves, to properly consider its implications.

M56 junction 7 eastbound (map ref. 84)

The scheme will add a lane to the eastbound carriageway of the M56. The new lane will start from the merge with the A556 at junction 7 and will continue for a distance of approximately 1km to the Ashley Road footbridge over the M56. This improvement will increase capacity on this section of the network, as well as reducing the impact of the traffic merging from the A556, by allowing a greater distance for traffic to merge.

This scheme will support growth in the vicinity of the Airport City enterprise zone and also supports the Trafford MBC Core Strategy. The improvement has the potential to help facilitate the delivery of around 4,780 jobs and 4,300 homes by 2020 and supports access to Manchester airport, a key international gateway.

Cost: £4.2m

Scheme start: 2014. Scheme completion: 2015.

This improvement will have a direct impact on the A556 Knutsford to Bowden Environmental Improvement Scheme and we believe should have been promoted as part of the Scheme. As we understand, it has formed no part of any public consultation associated with the scheme, is not included in the scheme drawings nor formed part of the traffic modelling or the Environmental Assessment.



The improvement is very similar to the Highways Agency's proposal for the M6 junction 19 southbound merge which was added to the A556 Scheme after the public consultation. We note the Planning Inspectorate's own concerns regarding this element of the scheme in the context of appropriate consultation. At least, we assume, this element of the scheme has been included in the application even if the consultation on it was inadequate.

The attempt to introduce the M57 junction 7 merge improvement by stealth is a further example of the inappropriate consultation process the Highways Agency has followed.

We hope you will be able to take account of the contents this letter during the acceptance phase of the application.

Yours sincerely

PAUL CORBETT MEng CEng MICE MIHT Director CBO Transport Ltd

On Behalf of:

The Trustees of the Millington Estate The Tatton Estate