

SAMRA



Sandymount & Merrion
Residents Association

Spring 2023 Newsletter

SAMRA is Dublin's oldest residents' association -
serving the community for 60 years.

SAMRA



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Residents Association

SAMRA.ie

AGM

Monday
24th April @ 7.30

The Sandymount Hotel

Updates on:

- Planning & development
- Traffic
- Flood risks
- Pedestrianisation
- 2023 priorities

All local
residents welcome!

Come & join SAMRA

SAMRA.ie

Strand Road Cycle Route

The Court of Appeal has completed its hearings in relation to the appeal brought by the Dublin City Council against the High Court's ruling in July 2021 that the proposed cycleway on Strand Road must be subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment and, therefore, must follow the normal planning process. It is not yet known when its decision will be handed down.

JOIN US

We would really appreciate if you could join SAMRA.

It will greatly help our very active lobbying activities directed at local and national decision makers. These include Dublin City Council executives and committees, and local Councillors, TDs and Ministers.

If they know we represent the interests of the vast majority of residents they are more likely to advocate on the issues we raise.

And we'll continue to keep you up to date on issues we are work on, on your behalf.

You can sign up here by choosing the plan that suits you best.

<https://www.samra.ie/join-us>

We are also eager to continue to extend our reach through Twitter and it would be good if you would follow, share and like posts at the SAMRA account:
[@SAMRASandymount](https://twitter.com/SAMRASandymount)

Please do share this link with friends, neighbours and family. We need more members to join.

<https://www.samra.ie/join-us>

Annual General Meeting – 24th April 2023

Sandymount and Merrion Residents Association (SAMRA) is holding its 61st Annual General Meeting in The Sandymount Hotel on 24th April 2023.

All local residents are welcome,. We have invited our local Public Representatives, TDs, An Garda's Community Unit, adjoining Resident Association representatives and Sandymount Tidy Towns. We hope to see you there, to contribute to the current agenda and our priorities going forward.

At the AGM we will endorse the new Committee for 2023/24 and at present we have vacancies – so please step up if you want to get involved!

In particular, we are looking for a "Youth Member" to come and join us. We think this could be a great opportunity to develop committee skills and contribute to SAMRA on the many new generational areas of thinking.

Proposal to build largest ever container storage facility overlooking Sandymount beach

Dublin Port Company has announced the 3rd part of its expansion of port facilities. It is open to receiving observations and submissions up to 28th April. This will be followed by a planning application for the proposed developments.

This is a Major Infrastructure development of €400M. It will add another Liffey Bridge dedicated to port and HGV traffic and will start construction in 2026 and last until 2036.

Dublin Port's 3FM development plan proposes to use 20 acres of land (more than 5 times the size of Croke Park) adjacent to an accredited UNESCO Marine Biosphere and an EU Conservation Area noted for its rare and internationally important habitats and species of wildlife, to build a container storage facility and boiler station.

This proposed facility will be visible to tens of thousands of people from the Pembroke Quarter Development, visitors to the area, and residents across Dublin Bay.

SAMRA is seriously concerned about aspects of this proposal which will use vast areas of the unique Poolbeg Peninsula. It made its views known to the Dublin Port Company in December 2021 but they have not been taken on board.



Area marked in red is proposed area on Poolbeg Peninsula for largest container storage facility in Ireland and boiler facilities which will overlook Sandymount Bay.

This development will make the peninsula a permanent industrial quarter contrasting harshly with Dublin City Council's vision for this area which is that it be a new neighbourhood reflecting the area's unique location.

Turning this area into the largest container storage facility in Ireland just 3km from the city centre, which also has a housing crisis, hijacks that vision.

SAMRA is calling for an international ports comparator study to be carried out to show that such expansion is necessary and that there are no better other less visually intrusive options.

SAMRA followed up the formal announcement of 21st March with a press statement and will be making a submission – see samra.ie.

Motions passed calling on Dublin City Council to lead a Dublin Bay south east area taskforce

SAMRA has lobbied over the last 9 months, meeting Ministers Eamon Ryan and then Patrick O'Donovan with James Casey, Head of Ireland's Flood Defences. Our call has been for a Task Force to combine work planned for Strand Road, starting with the delayed Flood Defence Enhancements programme, the sewage discharge problems and the off road cycle lane.

We know from your many emails and responses to our survey in 2021 that is your most pressing concern.

We said "...a single task force is the solution which will ensure that all three projects can be fully integrated at source into a combined optimised scope and can deliver the best possible outcome".

It is anticipated that the agencies involved in the delivery of these projects are Irish Water, Dublin City Council, OPW and EirGrid.

There is a concern that without this level of coordination there will be a never-ending cycle of piecemeal development. Associated with that will be the ongoing disruption and potentially a series of disconnected projects which fall short of what could ultimately be achieved.

We have received a commitment at the Dáil December meeting, facilitated by Councillor Geoghegan, from Minister for OPW, Patrick O'Donovan and Ireland's Head of Flood Defences James Casey.

Since then, a motion at the Pembroke SEAC Meeting on 13th February received all councillor party backing to move this into action. We are interacting and keenly watching developments as the Task Force organisation takes shape.



SAMRA's Chairman David Turner (3rd from left) and Head of Planning Niall McElroy (far left) met Minister Patrick O'Donovan (Minister for Office of Public Works) (far right) and local Councillor James Geoghegan (2nd from left on 14th Dec 2022).

Pedestrianisation - Village Green



There is clearly an appetite to further increase the vibrancy and feel at the Village centre. The increased pedestrian area at the east of the green, with outdoor seating and dining, proved to be very popular over the last 2 years and we are working with DCC in its efforts to achieve the optimum formula, which makes the best use of the available space while meeting the needs of all residents and businesses.

Watch this space!

DIARY DATES

AGM – 24th April 7:30pm at the Sandymount Hotel

Yeats Day – 13th June 11-12pm at the Village Green, coordinated by Joseph Lynch on behalf of Anthony Jordan

SAMRA Committee:

Chair: David Turner, Secretary: TBA, Treasurer: Jeremy Humphries, Niall McEllroy, Joan McArthur, Irene Duffy Lynch, Karl Anderson, Liam Handy, Mark Wheeler, Patrick Smyth, P J O'Gorman, Kristin Hadfield; Michael J Duncan, Margaret Brindley