

Response ID ANON-2EN2-MB94-K

Submitted to **Crossrail 2 - October 2015**

Submitted on **2016-01-08 17:44:45**

Proposals - overall

1 Do you have any comments on the proposals for Crossrail 2 overall?

Overall comments:

Turnpike Lane / Alexandra Palace / Wood Green

5 Do you have any comments about the proposals for a Crossrail 2 station at Turnpike Lane?

Comments:

No comment.

6 Do you have any comments about the proposals for a Crossrail 2 station at Alexandra Palace?

Comments:

The Alexandra Park and Palace Charitable Trust (APPCT) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the next stage of development of route alignment options for CR2, and in particular, the option of either a single station option (Wood Green) or a two-station option (Alexandra Palace and Turnpike Lane).

Set in 196 acres of parkland, Alexandra Palace is an iconic North London destination of important historical significance. Opened as the 'People's Palace' in 1873, it remains a significant recreational community resource for the London Borough of Haringey and wider area. Our thriving events business sees over 500,000 people visit the Palace each year to enjoy a varied programme of live sport, exhibitions and music gigs. On events days, there can be anything between 10,000 and 50,000 people coming to the Park and Palace, many of whom arrive via public transport. In the summer of 2015 the Red Bull 'soapbox derby' drew an audience of over 25,000. And in November 2015 the APP-run fireworks festival event saw 35,000 tickets sold. In conjunction with the variety of events on offer, the Park and Palace boast a range of family-friendly and community activities, including a year-round ice rink, a pitch and putt golf course, boating lake, public house, playground and skate park.

In response to previous consultations on CR2 and the route alignment, APPCT has supported the regional option proposal for CR2 and the provision of a station at Alexandra Palace. The short extension from Alexandra Palace to New Southgate was also welcomed, as it would provide additional interchange opportunities at New Southgate. With a PTAL rating of 2, it is of great importance to APPCT to increase the Palace and Park's accessibility. This is absolutely vital for the Park and Palace to become more financially sustainable, which will in turn create more job opportunities in the local area. A more sustainable Park and Palace will deliver an enhanced offer to an even larger number of visitors from the wider London area.

The current consultation offers two options for routes of alignment in the Wood Green area. APPCT is of the view that a CR2 station at Alexandra Palace would support and improve on the existing transport options serving Alexandra Park and Palace, offering more inter-change options with Great Northern services. Furthermore, a CR2 station at Alexandra Palace would help strengthen the regional and national profile of Alexandra Park and Palace, making it more accessible to visitors, and a more attractive prospect for potential funders and investors, which will in turn have a positive impact on the local economy with the potential for new jobs to be created. A station at Alexandra Palace would:

- Boost trade and tourism in the local and wider area, increasing employment opportunities, and in turn benefiting the local economy;
- Improve the overall perception of transport accessibility to the Park and Palace, Haringey and North London in general;
- Improve local residents' access to jobs, services, facilities and other social and life opportunities;
- Improve the strategic link with the Central Activities Zone;
- Improve access to a key recreational and community resource, offering a range of educational, learning and volunteering opportunities;
- Increase Londoners' accessibility to the historic environment of the Palace and one of London's largest open spaces;
- Assist in the Trust's aspirations to cement the Park and Palace's local and regional status, with a long term aim to become a well-utilised, sustainable national asset.

7 Do you have any comments about the proposals for a Crossrail 2 station at Wood Green?

Comments:

The London Borough of Haringey are in the process of preparing an Investment Framework for Wood Green, a comprehensive and coherent plan that will determine how to deliver growth, homes and jobs, as well as securing the investment needed to enable this. As a key partner and stakeholder, APPCT will be working closely with colleagues at London Borough of Haringey on this Investment Framework to ensure improved and new links are made (visually and physically) between Wood Green town centre and the Park and Palace (which is currently cut-off by the Great Northern Railway Line and the New River). It is worth noting that the Trust supports the option set out in the early Investment Framework consultation to improve connectivity via the Cultural Quarter and via an extended New River Path, which will allow people to access Alexandra Park and Palace via a much more direct and pleasant route.

APPCT understands and appreciates the benefits of having a CR2 station at Wood Green, instead of Alexandra Palace and Turnpike Lane.

Whilst the station option at Alexandra Palace will deliver more inter-change options and some opportunity for development around the station site, the Trust recognises that a CR2 station at Wood Green would allow for the unlocking of regeneration and growth opportunities presenting themselves in Wood Green.

With an ever-increasing events business and visitor offer it is important the Trust enhances and upgrades access to the Palace and Park. The Trust is currently embarking on an ambitious restoration project at the eastern end of the Palace which will see the former BBC Studios and Victorian Theatre repaired and refurbished, allowing public access to the most historically significant spaces and securing the Palace's future as a leading heritage and leisure destination. Post-2018, APPCT expects to see a significant increase in daytime visitors, and with it a number of new job opportunities created. Accessibility to these events, activities and jobs, as well as accessibility to the rich history of this iconic part of London, is not only extremely important to the Trust and the London Borough of Haringey, but also to the wider London area.

In conclusion, the Trust feels that there are significant benefits of a CR2 station at Alexandra Palace; it does however acknowledge that the location of a CR2 station at Wood Green may have greater strategic economic impact potential. We also recognise that if the Wood Green station is chosen, when combined with improved linkages between Wood Green and the Palace (both visually and physically) this has the potential to achieve equivalent or greater benefits, for the Park and Palace, than from a CR2 station at Alexandra Palace. The Trust would welcome further studies on the likely growth impact projections and would welcome the opportunity to input into future consultation exercises and workshops.

8 Do you have any comments about the proposals for a shaft at Downhills Recreation Ground, between Wood Green and Seven Sisters stations?

Comments:

No comment.

About you

41 What is your first name?

First name:

Louise

42 What is your surname?

Surname:

Johnson

43 What is your email address?

Email:

louise.johnson@alexandrapalace.com

44 Please tick this box if you would like to receive project updates when available.

Tick if you would like to receive project updates when available:

Yes

45 Please provide us with your full postcode?

Postcode:

N22 7AY

46 In what capacity are you responding to this consultation?

Other

47 If you are responding on behalf of a business, educational establishment or other organisation, please provide us with the name.

Name of business, educational establishment or other organisation:

Alexandra Park and Palace Charitable Trust

48 Please tell us what you think about the quality of this consultation (for example, the information we have provided, any printed material you have received, any maps or plans, the website and questionnaire etc.)

Comments:

No comment.