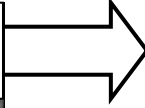


# Save the Bristol & Bath Railway Path



**Real**



**Unreal - artist's fantasy**



**It doesn't make sense!  
Stop the council destroying  
this safe, green path**

A 2-lane bus route is planned along the Railway Path

**This will:**

- **Discourage** walking, cycling and leisure use
- **Concrete** over greenway and destroy wildlife habitat
- **Divide** communities and **Restrict** access to the path
- **Threaten safety** for users, especially children

**This won't** ease road congestion

Buses are great but they belong on or alongside roads

**Please help us fight this proposal by visiting the web site and:**

Sign the e petition

Write to your councillor and MP

Donate money or time

Join us on the path on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March

**Read more overleaf**



# Railway Path Plans: The Facts

The 'Save the Railway Path' campaign has come into being to fight proposals to run buses along the Bristol & Bath Railway Path from the city centre to Emerson's Green. The 'West of England Partnership', which includes Bristol City Council, has been quietly planning this **for over a year**. They make several false claims:

## CLAIM #1 – The plans are needed to cut congestion

Not true. The path is used for **2.4 million** journeys per year (Sustrans data). If cyclists and pedestrians are reduced to sharing a narrow concrete corridor, devoid of all vegetation, with large buses running past every two-and-a-half minutes (the council tell us) this number will inevitably plummet. The plans are more likely to **increase** Bristol's traffic congestion by forcing cyclists and pedestrians back into their cars!

## CLAIM #2 – The only opposition is from cyclists

Not true. The path is not just a safe, fast route used by cyclists to commute to work. It is also an important, **traffic-free** way for pedestrians to get to work; **hundreds of children** use it to get to school each day. It is used throughout the day by **pensioners, disabled people** and others who find it a sanctuary from the traffic-choked hustle and bustle of Bristol's streets. The path is a **"linear park"** – an important green space in this part of the city. We have seen the plans and they clearly state that **all the vegetation** (and therefore everything living) **would be removed** and replaced with concrete.

## CLAIM# 3 – The plans will help get extra Government money for improving Bristol's transport

Not true. In fact, the plans are likely to hinder Bristol's bid for £800m from the Government's 'Transport Innovation Fund', as well as its bid for money to become the UK's first 'Cycling Demonstration City'. Just three months after a quarter of a million Britons voted to give £50m of lottery money to extend the National Cycle Network, our council is proposing to **destroy** the very first part of the Network ever built. This iconic Bristol feature is a unique green space that attracts people from all over the country. **It is impossible to understate how stupid this will make Bristol look in the eyes of national Government.**

## CLAIM# 4 - There is no alternative

Not true. The consultants that drew up the plans have themselves suggested running buses along the hard shoulder of the M32. This would not affect cyclists, pedestrians or motorists. But if the Council are not made to listen by their next full meeting on April 1<sup>st</sup>, the plan to use the path will become harder to stop.

## **If you haven't already – please act now.**

Sign the e petition at: <http://epetitions.bristol.gov.uk/activepetitions.php>

Write to your local councillor and MP visit [www.railwaypath.org](http://www.railwaypath.org) for links and help

Offer help with time or donations to the campaign:

Email us at [enquiries@railwaypath.org](mailto:enquiries@railwaypath.org) Mail us at: PO Box 1, Booty, 82 Colston St, Bristol BS1 5BB

Join us on the path on **Sunday afternoon, 30<sup>th</sup> March** in a **Celebration of the path**. A slow procession with music will travel from fishponds to the city centre. Times and details to be announced.