

## **Appendix 2 - BRT**

The Council strongly support the introduction of the Belfast Rapid Transit system as it is considered that it would greatly improve the quality of public transport in Belfast and could be a driver for regeneration as well as provide high quality access to and linkages between jobs, hospitals, schools and colleges in different parts of the city. An aim of the Council's Belfast Agenda is to develop "a vibrant, attractive, connected and environmentally sustainable city. The agenda sets out a number of stretch goals including the target to increase the use of sustainable transport in the city by 15 per cent by 2021. It is considered that the implementation of the BRT scheme will contribute towards this goal.

The Council is supportive of the proposals for the Bus Lane Orders in the City Centre and Belfast Rapid Transit, East and West corridors with the exception of the proposal for Donegall Square East, to revoke and replace the existing bus lane. The Council has grave concerns about traffic congestion in the City centre, particularly at the back of City Hall, resulting from the arrangement for the prohibition on vehicles (except buses and emergency services) going from the bus lane on Donegall Square East into Adelaide Street from 7.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m.

The Council would request that the Department reconsider the Order to replace the existing bus lane in Donegal Square East and remove the prohibition on vehicles entering Adelaide Street from 7.00am to 7.00 pm.