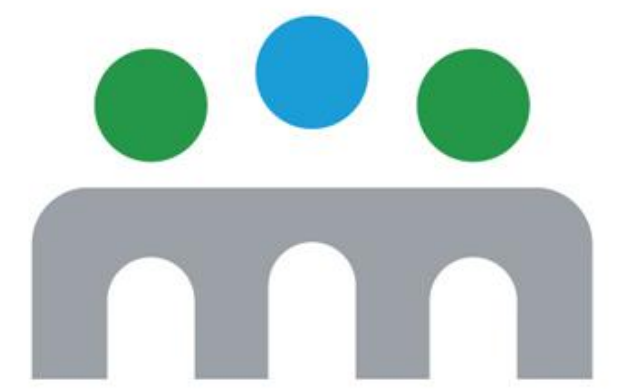
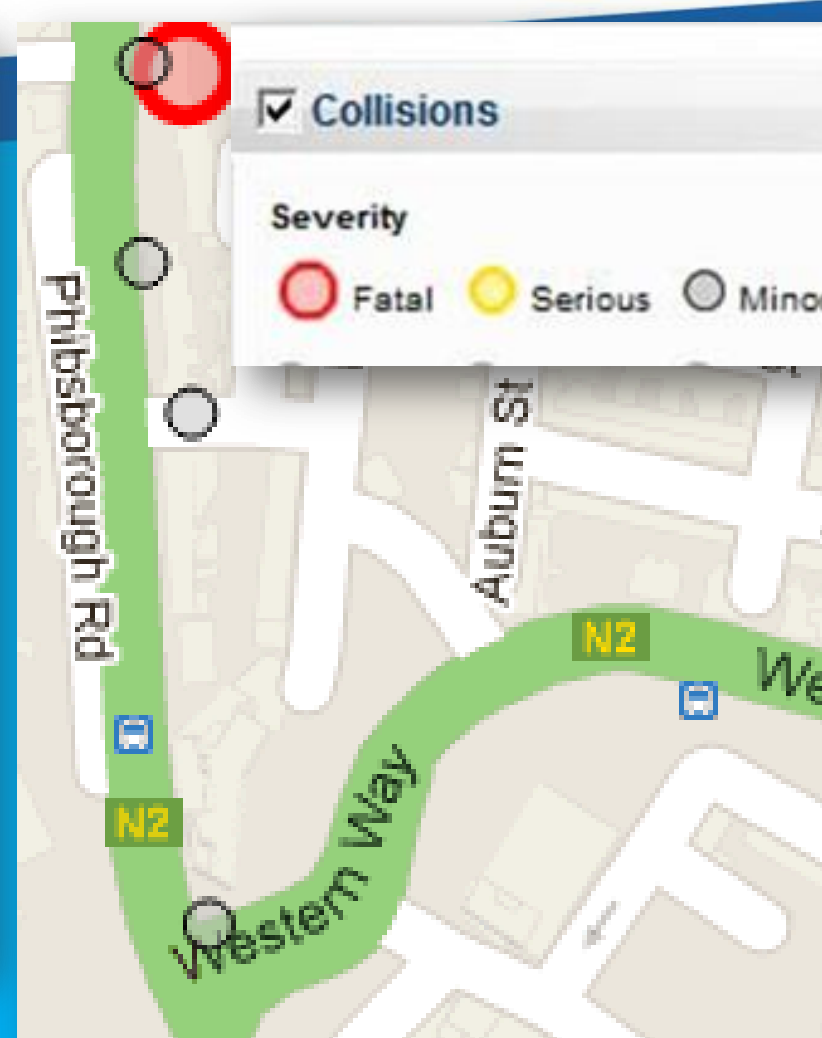
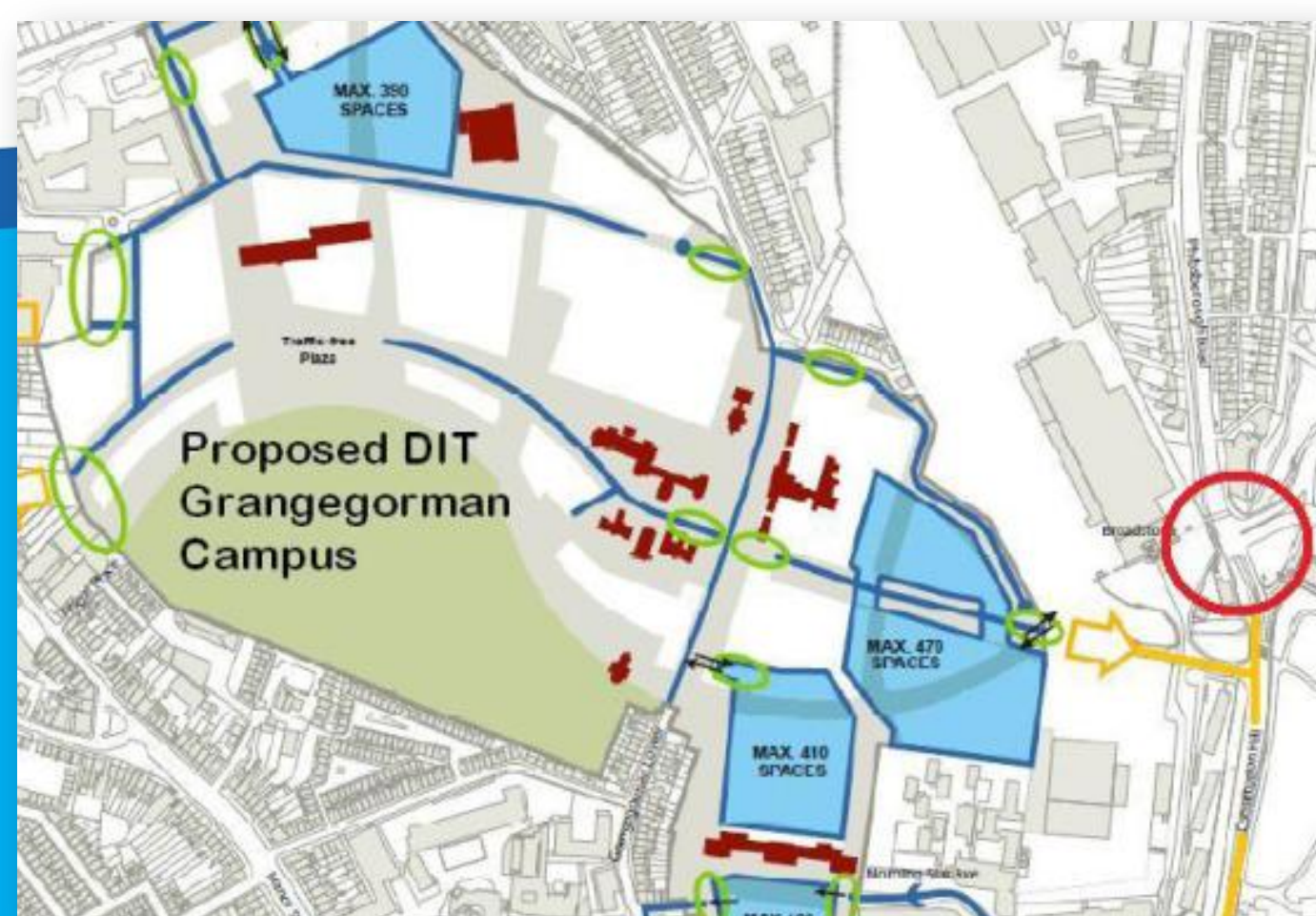


students learning with communities



Students Learning with Communities

College Awareness of Road Safety (CARS) and DIT Civil Engineering Students



Background

CARS or College Awareness of Road Safety is a successful cross-disciplinary project that is carried out in collaboration with the Garda Road Safety Unit.

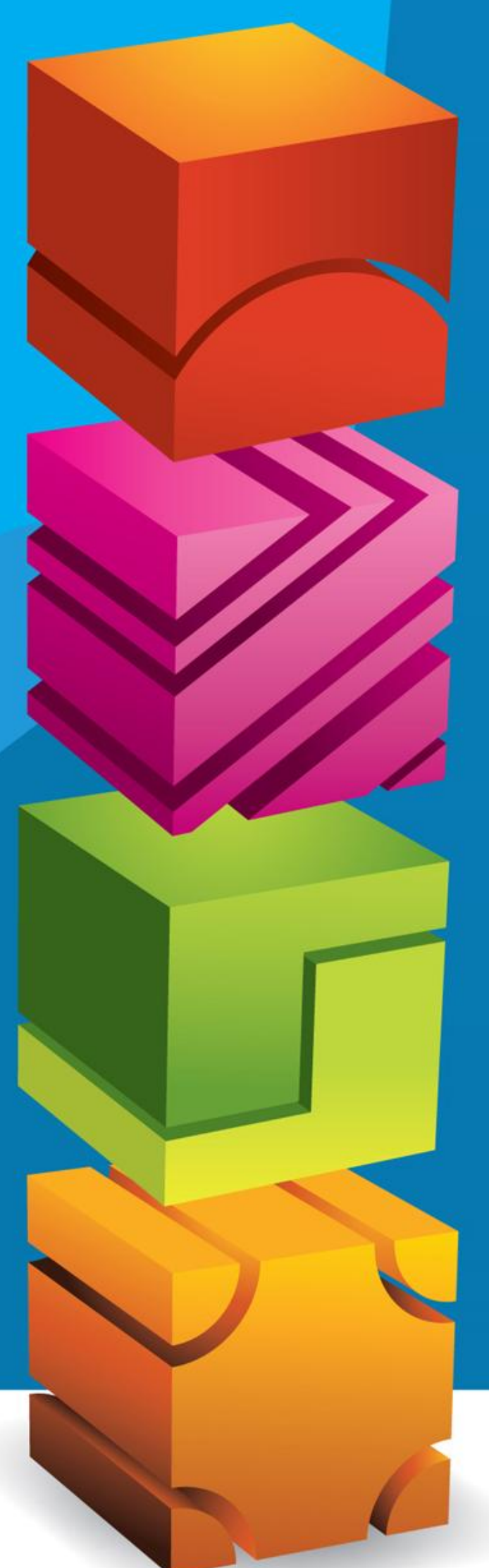
The aim of the project is to raise awareness of road safety amongst the 17-24 age category, as historically this age group has accounted for a disproportionate share of the country's road fatalities.

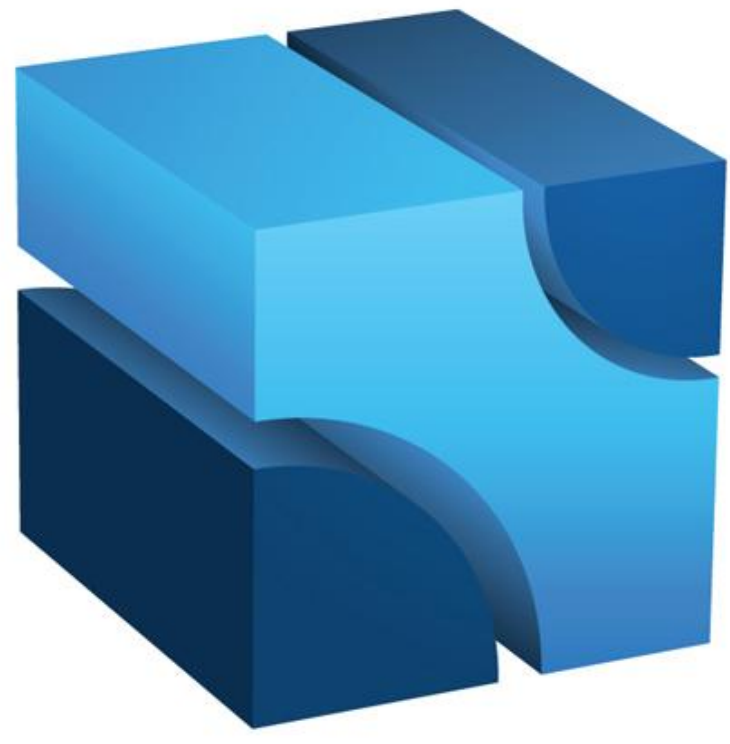
This year's focus for CARS was to raise awareness of the vulnerability of road users such as pedestrians and cyclists, and a call to all road users, especially drivers, to share the road safely.

The study area is centred around the new DIT Grangegorman Campus. The new Campus is forecast to attract increased numbers of pedestrians & cyclists to the study area. By the opening year, it is predicted that 25% of DIT students will commute to college by bike or foot.

Civil Engineering Project Objectives

- Identify a traffic junction in proximity to the Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) new Grangegorman Campus where a high number of road collisions have occurred involving vulnerable road users.
- Identify the characteristics of the junction's vulnerable road users. Determine via surveys how vulnerable road users currently navigate the junction.
- Tourism & Marketing students surveyed vulnerable road users to understand how they currently navigate/cross the junction.
- Based on the use (or misuse) of the junction by vulnerable road users – prepare design proposals to improve the safety & operation of the junction to prioritize the safety of vulnerable road users.



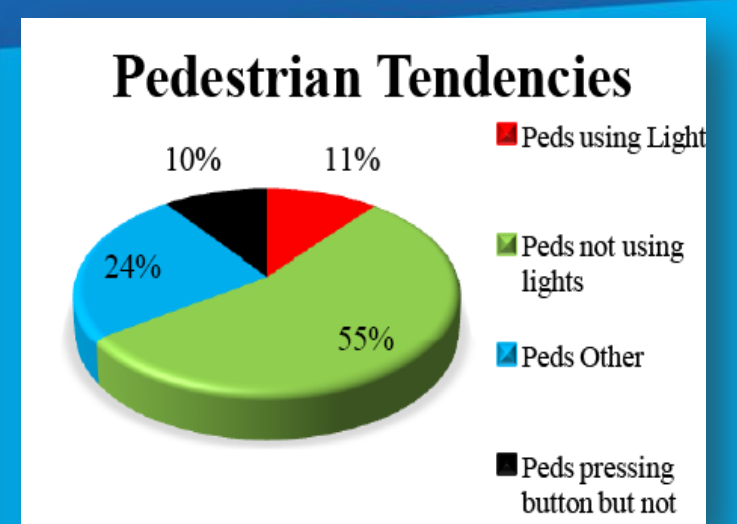
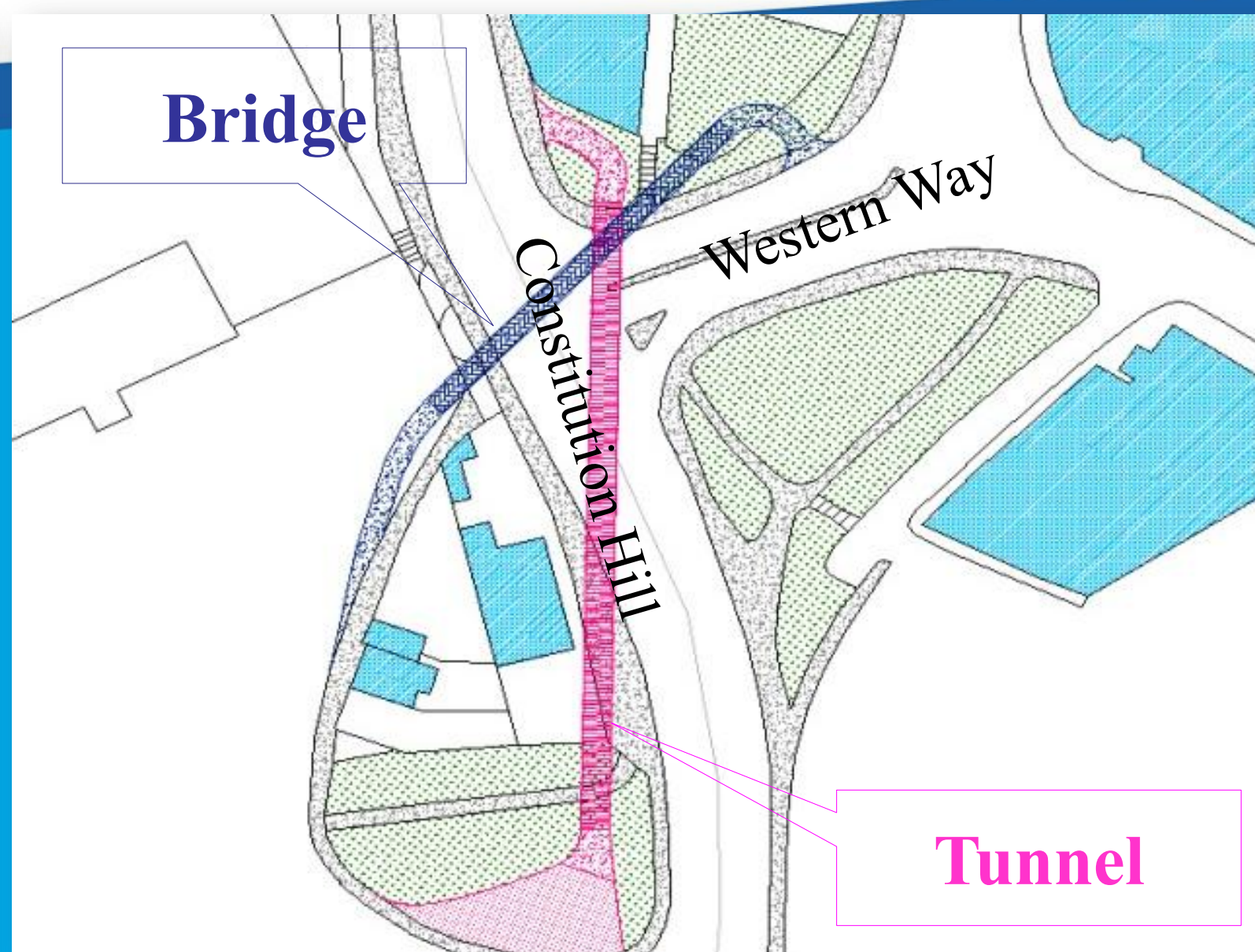


students learning with communities



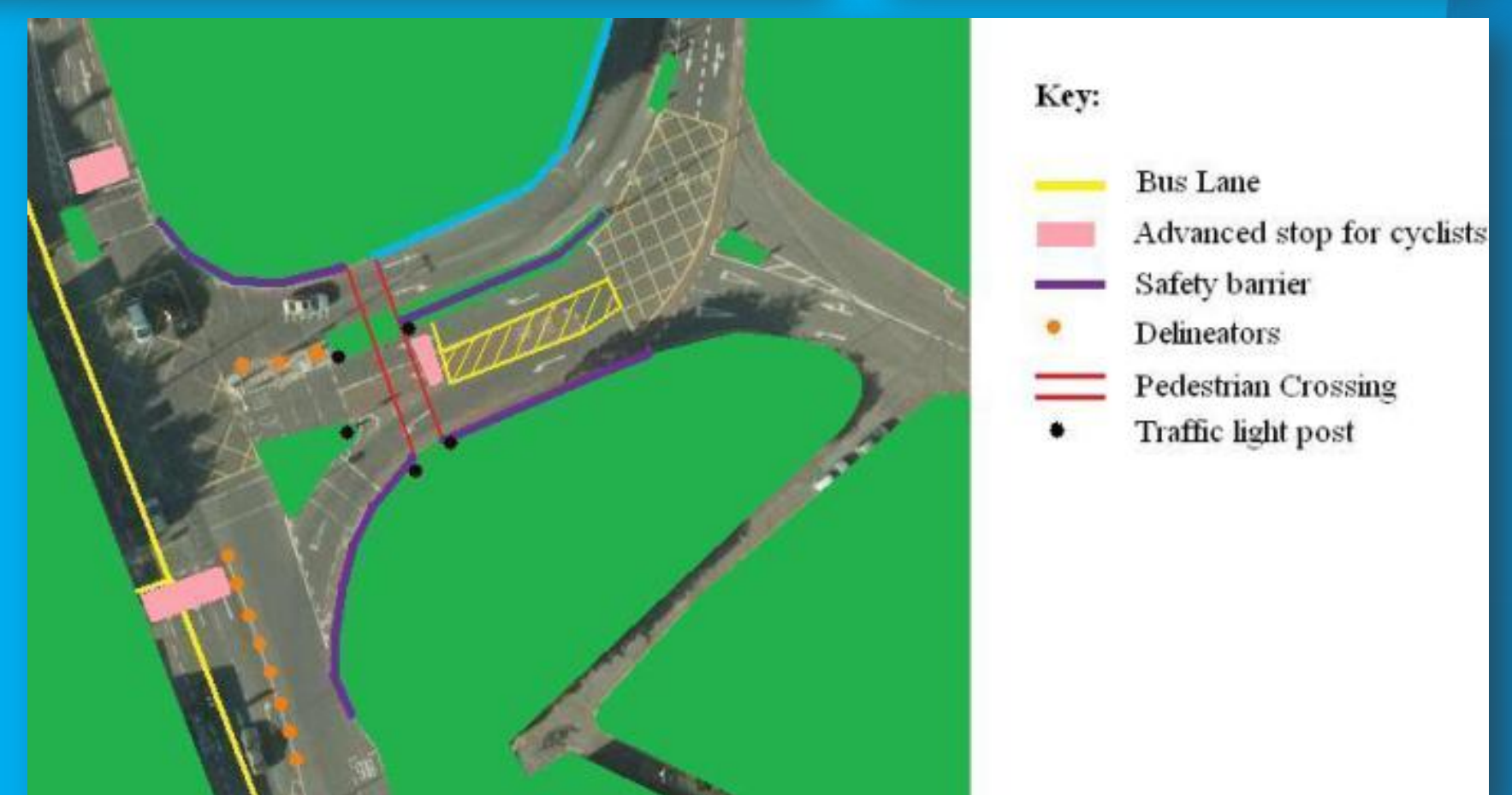
Students Learning with Communities

College Awareness of Road Safety (CARS) and DIT Civil Engineering Students



Benefits to Students

- The Civil Engineering students completed their design with guidance from their lecturer and were required to defend their design proposal amongst their peers.
- Several proposals were developed and teased out by the Civil Engineering students. Amongst them upgrading the junction layout to improve driver awareness and to separate pedestrian movements from vehicular traffic.
- The Tourism & Marketing students within the context of their marketing research module, gathered information directly from the 'consumer/user' of the junction and communicated this to the Civil Engineering students.
- Students engaged with the built environment and increased their awareness of road safety for vulnerable road users.
- Students from the third year Civil Engineering class won the DIT overall 2012 CARS award. The group comprised of: Mr. Alex Browne, Mr. Mark Kennedy, Mr. Niall Dolan & Mr. Carlo Selman.



Active Parties

- DIT Civil Engineering students - third year
- DIT Tourism & Marketing students - second year
- Garda Road Safety Unit
- Ms. Valerie Fenton BE MSc CEng MIEI MCIHT - Department of Civil & Structural Engineering DIT
- Ms. Deirdre Quinn PhD - College of Arts & Tourism DIT

