

Rafi Miah

Dear Patrick Marfleet,

I live at 22 Ivor Street NW1 9PJ. My garden abuts a small yard next to the viaduct on which the Highline is planned.

I object to the proposal unless stringent conditions are applied which meet the concerns that I and other residents have about it. As it currently stands the proposal would significantly interfere with my privacy and increase the noise at the back of my property. I do not mind a Highline in principle but I have the following concerns which need to be met before the proposal can be agreed.

Noise

Apart from the noise of the trains (which are quiet as they slow down on entry to and exit from the station) my garden is remarkably quiet considering it is in central London. I would invite you to come round and stand in it. I have also made some recordings to demonstrate the noise levels. The proposal would change all of that particularly with the proposal to hold events on the Highline. The event space (for 90 people) is immediately outside the back of my home as is the adjacent area for 14 tables for 120 people. Amplified noise will disrupt the quiet that I and my family currently enjoy.

Licensed areas

I object to any proposal to allow the sale of alcohol on the Highline

Light

We already have problems with lights in the railway arches that are kept on all night. Additional high level lighting on the Highline would increase the light content. This makes it difficult for us to sleep. Unless the lighting is switched off at night, I object. I also point out that it is very bad for wildlife too.

Privacy

As currently planned there would be some trees planted to stop our houses being overlooked but this is simply inadequate. Someone on the Highline would be able to look into both of my bathrooms and a bedroom if they went to the edge of the platform. Some other screening should be considered.

Litter

We are concerned that people will throw bottles and wrappers and other rubbish off the Highline and into our gardens. This hasn't been addressed by the proponents of the scheme.

Filming

Apart from the privacy and lighting issues mentioned above, parking disruption in our road will be an additional consequence of this application as it stands. This will be another direct effect that we will suffer if this aspect is allowed.

Access at night to the Highline

Whilst this appears not to be intended under the plan I note that the access points are badly designed so that it would be relatively easily to gain entry after the doors have closed. What will be done to stop this and will the line be policed at night? What about people who are still on the Highline when it closes? The natural place for them to congregate will be the 'event space' and seating area at the back of my house.

Therefore I object as things stand.

I would not object if conditions could be imposed to protect us from the impact of the proposal listed above. It follows that I would not object to a modified Highline proposal which has the following conditions;

1. Is properly screened off from the back gardens of Ivor Street so that we retain our privacy
2. Has no event space/ tabled area, but is just a walkway
3. Has no amplified noise
4. Has no nighttime lighting
5. Is policed at night to ensure people are off it
6. Has no provision for filming after hours
7. Has more secure access points which make it impossible to climb up onto the Highline outside 'opening hours' to prevent antisocial behaviour and noise.
8. Where no alcohol is sold on the Highline.

Yours faithfully

Jo Rickards