



Public Consultation Information

In accordance with the TII Code of Best Practice for National and Regional Greenways, the route corridor options under consideration are being put on display for the second Public Consultation for this project. Figure 2 illustrates the route corridor options being considered within the wider study area (Sections B – G) and Figure 1 shows the route options being considered in Ennis. More detailed maps of these routes are available on Clare County Council's website www.clarecoco.ie/services/capital-projects/greenways/. These drawings will be on display, with this brochure and a comment form, at the following three locations from Friday 10th February to Friday 3rd March 2023:

Clare County Council, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare

Corofin Public Library, Corofin, Co. Clare

Ennistymon Library, The Square, Ennistymon, Co. Clare

Information sessions will be held on Monday 20th of February in Ennistymon, Tuesday 21st in Ennis and Wednesday 22nd in Corofin at the above-mentioned locations, from 3:30pm to 8:30pm on each day. Members of Clare County Council and the scheme consultants ROD will be in attendance. Individual landowner consultations can be facilitated during the information sessions for potentially affected landowners.

We need your input

The project is for your area, and for the people of your area. We would therefore like to hear your views:

- Do you have any comments regarding the route corridor options, or the route selection process?
- Is there other relevant information you think should be shared and/or considered in relation to the options identified in Figure 1 & 2?

Have your say

We invite members of the public and stakeholders to make a written submission to provide your feedback on the information provided. A hard copy comment form is available alongside the display information at the libraries in Ennis, Corofin and Ennistymon. Alternatively, the comment form can be downloaded from Clare County Council's website and returned by email to WCRGEnnistomEnnistymon@rod.ie or by post to:

West Clare Railway Greenway Section 2 PC2,

PMO,
Clare County Council,
Buttermarket Building,
Drumbiggle Road,
Ennis,
Co. Clare,
V95 RR72

GREENWAY GUIDE TO PROCESS

WE ARE HERE

Route Corridor Options

- Scenic / Segregated / Sustainable / Strategic / See and Do (Five S)
- Environment / Economic / Engineering
- Public Consultation No 2
- Independent Agronomist in place for project duration

Constraints Study

- Map State-owned lands and stopping points
- Environmental / Physical / Archaeological
- Highlight opportunities and concerns
- Public Consultation No.1
- Project Agronomist (PA) in place for project duration

Preferred Route Corridor

- Farmer Agronomists / Property Advisors available to landowners
- Consultation meetings with individual landowners
- Public Consultation No 3

Preliminary Design

- Horizontal and vertical alignment established to determine precise land acquisition requirements
- Accommodation works agreed with landowners and / or representatives
- Voluntary Land Acquisition Process commences

Preferred Route

- Farmer Agronomists / Property Advisors available to landowners
- Consultation meetings with individual landowners and / or representatives
- Accommodation works outlined and discussed / agreed

Environmental Evaluation

- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
- Appropriate Assessment (AA)
- Natura Impact Statement (NIS)

Application to An Bord Pleanála

- Completion of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report/ Natura Impact Statement (NIS) where required
- Application Submitted to ABP including notice of the making of Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO)
- Voluntary Land Acquisition Process continues

Oral Hearing

- An oral hearing may be held by ABP to examine issues and concerns raised by persons with objections to / issues with the proposed Greenway
- Voluntary Land Acquisition Process continues

ABP Decision

- ABP either approves the scheme, rejects the scheme or approves the scheme with modifications
- Where scheme is approved by ABP Voluntary Land Acquisition Process continues where applicable

Construction of Greenway

- If the scheme is successful at the planning stage, the project promoter will proceed to construction, subject to Government funding



West Clare Railway Greenway

Section 2: Ennis to Ennistymon Public Consultation No.2

Public Consultation

Clare County Council is currently progressing Section 2 of the West Clare Railway Greenway project which will provide a recreational greenway between the towns of Ennis, Corofin and Ennistymon, following the route of the former West Clare Railway, where feasible.

Public Consultation 1 was held from Friday 7th October to Friday 28th October 2022, which displayed the study area for the project. A map of State Owned lands and Designated Sites within the study area was also put on display. As part of Public Consultation 1, the public was invited to submit their feedback in respect of the project, the study area, and, in particular, if there are any constraints within the area shown, of which the project team should be made aware. In

parallel, various desk studies were undertaken by specialists of the physical and environmental constraints within the study area. A Constraints Report has been published on the Clare County Council website.

Following on from Public Consultation No.1, Clare County Council, together with the scheme consultants ROD, have developed route corridor options for the project, taking into account the constraints identified to date and the concerns and comments received from Public Consultation No.1.



Figure 1: Ennis Options

Route Corridor Options

A map illustrating the potential route corridor options is included in Figure 2 overleaf. The end-to-end route corridor options from Ennis to Ennistymon have been broken into 7 sub-sections to assist the route corridor selection process as follows:

- Sub-section A - Ennis Options
- Sub-section B - Ennis to Ballygriffy South
- Sub-section C - Ballygriffy South to Ballykinnacorra
- Sub-section D - Corofin Area
- Sub-section E - Ballykinnacorra to Craggaunboy
- Sub-section F - Craggaunboy to Cullenagh
- Sub-section G - Cullenagh to Ennistymon

Where practicable, these route corridor options will make use of public land, local roads, existing trails, farm boundaries or field boundaries to minimise impacts on land-holdings.

These route corridor options, referenced by sub-section, are shown on the map in different colours. The colour of each route corridor option has no significance, other than to differentiate it from other route corridor options. Each option has been assigned an identifying label in the form of Option; B-1, B-2, etc. to assist you in referencing a particular route corridor option in your submission. In some areas, there have been some local variations identified – these are referenced as B-1(i), B-2(i) etc., illustrated with dashed outlines in Figure 2.

In subsection A, in the environs of Ennis, the options connecting the greenway to the town centre are shown as linear route options rather than wide route corridor options

to show it is generally intended to follow or connect existing transportation corridors in the urban area. Where route options are located along existing streets they will require urban realm works to improve active travel facilities. A more detailed view of the route options being considered in Ennis is shown in Figure 1.

Next Steps

Following this public consultation, the information and submissions received will be reviewed by Clare County Council together with the scheme consultants ROD. This information will assist in informing the selection of the Preferred Route Corridor as part of a qualitative appraisal of the route corridor options. The qualitative appraisal of the route corridor options shown in Figures 1 and 2 will be carried out in accordance with the TII Project Appraisal Guidelines as a Multi-Criteria Analysis under the following set criteria:

- Environment
- Safety
- Economy
- Accessibility & Social Inclusion
- Integration
- Physical Activity

A draft Feasibility and Options Selection Report will be prepared, which compares the relative advantages and disadvantages of options, while also highlighting areas that might warrant further thought and consideration. This process will result in the selection of the Preferred Route Corridor, which will be subject to a further public consultation at a later date.

Figure 2: Route Corridor Options

