

An Bord Pleanála 64 Marlborough Street Dublin 1 D01 V902

8th September 2020



Dear Sirs

Re: 307652 - Proposed Construction of the Boyne Greenway Drogheda to Mornington, Co. Meath & Co. Louth

fully support the development of a greenway from Mornington to Drogheda and consider it an essential piece of our local infrastructure and also an important local facility to support physical and mental health and tourism development.

represents the within Drogheda and its hinterland in Louth and Meath. Drogheda is one of the most rapidly expanding urban centres outside of Dublin City.

Due to the current pandemic and the shock to our way of living and working we see considerable change to the way workspaces and associated amenities will be provided and are working with all other to support the business community through that process.

The alteration from workers congregating in the city in early mornings and returning late evenings to more sustained working from homes or hubs will deliver a "covid positive" of more sustainable transportation modes and more appropriate and flexible working times. To facilitate this, it will be important that appropriate facilities such as pedestrian and cycling facilities are available which would allow workers located in the predominantly residential areas of Laytown, Bettystown and Mornington access office and co-working spaces in Drogheda. It is also important that in the additional down time available through the elimination of commuting, that healthy leisure alternatives are available.

We have considered the current proposal for the construction of a greenway from Mornington to Drogheda and can confirm that we are strongly in support of this project.

We consider that this proposal will deliver substantial benefits to the and to the wider community by:

- Providing a sustainable, safe, and healthy mode of transportation for many workers to co-working spaces
- Promoting a modal shift to walking and cycling and displacement of car journeys
- Providing a safe means of engagement in healthy leisure activities with resulting benefits in physical and mental health
- Providing a suitable tranquil space to allow enlightened consideration of difficult business development matters
- Providing access to the river and the associated ecosystems and biodiversity to assist in the awareness of these elements and in doing so help to protect our natural environment
- Providing a further asset to demonstrate the available quality of life of the area for any one business seeking to set-up or relocate to the region
- Providing a much-needed economic development boost to the area as has been demonstrated by the other developed greenways
- Providing a much-needed tourism boost to the area and capitalise on the current focus of "staycations" which will remain popular for the next number of years.

We fully accept that all developments will have an impact, both positive and negative, on the area where they occur, we are confident that the positive aspects of the proposal will significantly outweigh any considered negative impacts and for that reason we request that An Bord Pleanála look positively at this proposal.

