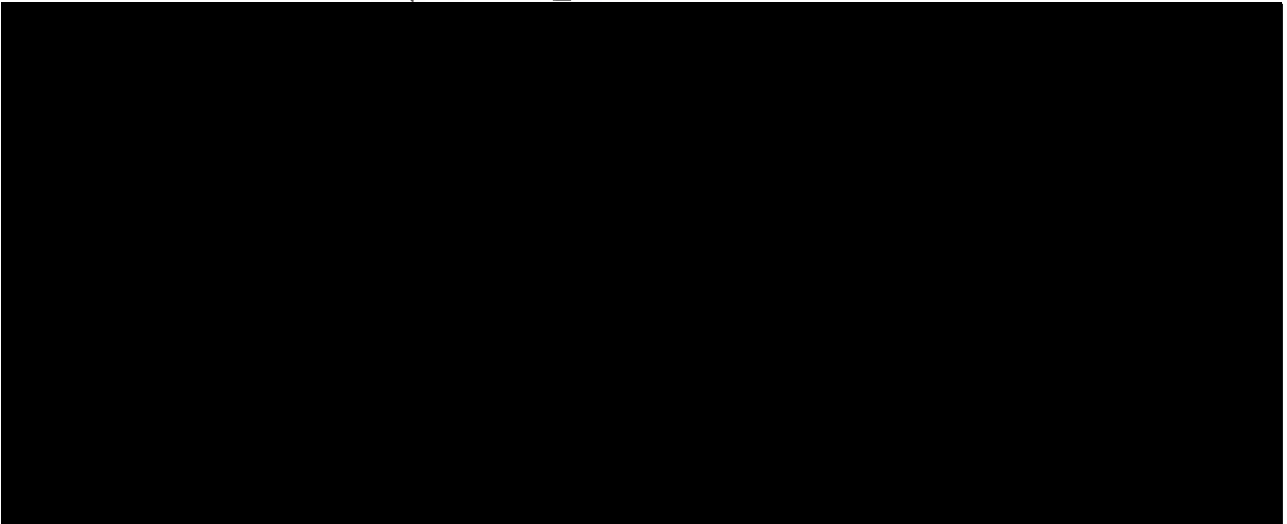


LDG-030213-20.

307652



An Bord Pleanála  
64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1  
D01 V902

31st August 2020

**AN BORD PLEANÁLA**  
LDG- \_\_\_\_\_  
ABP- \_\_\_\_\_  
**02 SEP 2020**  
Fee: € \_\_\_\_\_ Type: \_\_\_\_\_  
Time: \_\_\_\_\_ By: post *EH*

August 31<sup>st</sup> 2020

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

To whom it concerns,

\_\_\_\_\_ 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.

\_\_\_\_\_ to support startups and scaling companies in Drogheda, East Meath and South Louth, and has quickly expanded over the past 6 years. We now have over eighty people working here within 35 individual companies ranging from startups to emergent FDIs, and doubled our size to 15,000 sq ft in 2017. \_\_\_\_\_ has proven to be a huge success story for Drogheda signaling the latent capability and enterprise potential of the region.

We believe that the Boardwalk will offer opportunities for new startups and entrepreneurs to create enterprises. This has been the case where other Boardwalks have opened, and we believe that Drogheda and East Meath have a massive opportunity to develop tourism businesses. The recent success of the Fleadh in 2018 and 2019 has highlighted the potential to develop a viable tourism offering. This has been followed up with Failte Ireland and Louth Council designating Drogheda as a 'Destination Town', and awarding funding of €500,000 to develop that proposition

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 stakeholders 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 to 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.

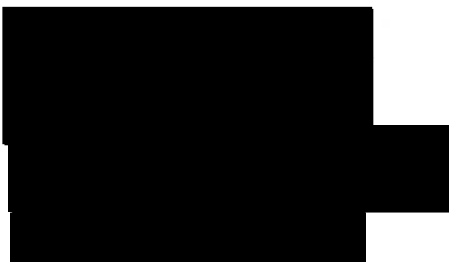
We have considered the current proposal for the construction of a greenway from Mornington to Drogheda and can confirm that we are strongly in support of this project.

We consider that this proposal will deliver substantial benefits to the business community 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 anyone 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 are confident that the positive aspects of this proposal will be very significant including the creation of regional jobs and healthier lifestyles. For that reason we request that An Bord Pleanala look positively at this proposal.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature and name of the sender.