

An Bord Pleanála
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AN BORD PLEANÁLA
LDG- 030502-20
ADP- _____
10 SEP 2020
Fee: € _____ Type: _____
Time: _____ By: post €5

8 September 2020

**RE: CONSTRUCTION OF THE BOYNE GREENWAY DROGHEDA TO MORNINGTON,
CO MEATH & CO LOUTH**

To whom it concerns,

We are business based in Drogheda Co Louth.

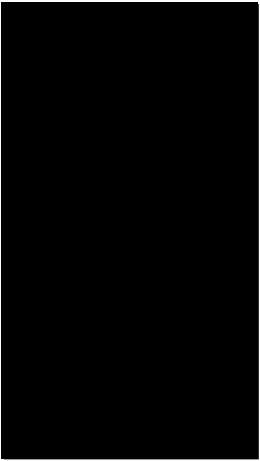
We fully support Meath County Council's application to An Bord Pleanála for this Greenway development.

This project has very strong support locally. We were one of the 2,500 that made a submission to Meath County Council in support of this development, during the public consultation period.

This development is necessary for the proper and sustainable development of the East Meath and Drogheda region.

It must proceed for the following reasons:

- Tourism Development - It will be fundamental in the development of a tourism offering for East Meath and Drogheda. It is key to the development of Boyne Valley Tourism. It will assist in the development of local employment, bike shops, coffee houses and restaurants and overnight accommodation.
- Connectivity with other routes. If this goes ahead, it will assist in the development of further developments in Fingal and Meath, leading to a 75km cycle route from Malahide to Navan, via LBM and Drogheda.
- It's government policy – nationally and locally – the programme for Government 2020, Climate Action Plan 2019 – Meath and Louth County Development Plans.
- Laytown, Bettytown, Mornington (LBM) and South Drogheda have been experiencing a population explosion. LBM's population alone is expected to grow from 11,872 (CSO 2016) to 19,000 by 2025 (a 60% increase). That's the same population as Sligo.
- Along with the population increase, school populations in the vicinity of the Grammar School are exploding – 1,000 more students will be attending schools on Mill Road in next 4 years, increasing the total school population to over 3,000 students.

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- Why build all these houses and have no amenity, parks, cycle routes, pedestrian walks? It's simply not fair on the citizens of Drogheda and East Meath.
 - The R150 / R151 (Drogheda to Mornington Road) is extremely dangerous. Between 2005 and 2016, there has been 1 fatal accident 3 serious accidents and 34 casualties arising from accidents.
 - The current road is not designed, with its narrow corridor for vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists. No responsible person would allow children to walk or cycle on this road. Cycling or walking should not be a dangerous pastime in Drogheda or East Meath.
 - Despite the projected population growth, the cycle and pedestrian infrastructure in this region is non-existent or very poor.
 - This development will improve the residential amenity of Drogheda and East Meath.
 - Best international practice. The coastlines of France and the Netherlands have cycle routes on the majority of coastline in their countries.

We welcome the opportunity to make a submission on this planning application, and trust the Board will give serious consideration to our submission and grant conditioned permission for this proposal.

