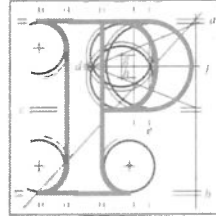


Our Case Number: ACP-323410-25



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Irish Cycling Campaign
c/o Colm Ryder
5 Foster Place
Dublin 2
D02 VOP9

Date: 14 October 2025

Re: Proposed Limerick City Greenway (UL to NTP)
Within the townlands of Dromroe, Sreelane, Newcastle and Castletroy, Co. Limerick.

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Coimisiún Pleanála has received your recent submission (including your fee of €50) in relation to the above-mentioned proposed road development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter.

Please note that the proposed road development shall not be carried out unless the Commission has approved it or approved it with modifications.

If you have any queries in the mean time, please contact the undersigned officer of the Commission at laps@pleanala.ie

Please quote the above mentioned An Coimisiún Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Commission.

Yours faithfully,

Breda Ingle
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737291

HA02

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Irish Cycling
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The Member for Ireland of ECF, the European Cyclists' Federation

Addressee: An Coimisiún Pleanála Case Number 323410

Date: 9th October 2025

Title: **Limerick City Greenway (UL to NTP)**



Proposed layout at Groody River Bridge area - see comments below in Section 2.5

1 Introduction

The Irish Cycling Campaign (formerly Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cycling Advocacy Network-ICAN), is the national advocacy body for cycling in Ireland with Local Groups operating on a countrywide basis. It is the Irish member of the European Cyclists' Federation and a member of the Irish Environmental Network.

Our vision is for an Ireland with a cycle and pedestrian friendly culture, where everyone has a real choice to cycle and move about safely, and is encouraged to experience the joy, convenience, health and environmental benefits of cycling and walking. We promote cycling as an integral part of both our natural and built environments—a practical and sustainable way to encourage physical activity and social cohesion in our daily lives.

The Irish Cycling Campaign warmly welcomes the proposed project of approximately 4.25km in total, which is essentially an extension of the very successful Limerick City to UL Boathouse greenway that was developed in 2017, and an upgrade on the existing narrow pathway. The upgrading of this existing pathway is a critical element in the overall Limerick Cycle Network Plan, and this route serves a major student and business area, as well as the outlying villages/suburbs of Castletroy, Monaleen, Dromore, and Annacotty. The option to extend a further greenway to Killaloe from the Plassey Mills river crossing also remains open.

The proposed project route will also ensure that there is a high quality walking and cycling route all the way from Limerick City Centre to the University and Business campuses.

2 General Comments

2.1 Environmental Assessment

As attested in the obligatory and comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), this proposed project is the best solution in environmental terms for this proposed route close to and crossing a number of SACs. The report itself states categorically that, with mitigation measures in place, no significant environmental impact is anticipated from the proposed works. These mitigation measures are outlined in the accompanying documentation.

2.2 Structural Variation

We note the variation in structural build up of the greenway path subgrade along its length, depending on ground conditions and environmental requirements. This is a welcome level of detail at this project stage, that takes into account the many varied local conditions along the route. The consistency of the 20mm surface macadam and 55mm base course above the varying subgrade specifications will ensure a high quality and long lasting riding surface.

2.3 Greenway Widths

The Cycle Design Manual (CDM) outlines in its Table 2.2 (Width Calculator), that the minimum desirable 2 way cycling/active travel width in a high use environment, which this is likely to be, is 5 metres. However, the proposed general width of 3.5 metres (and for a short section beyond Chainage 2+500 of 4 metres width) for the greenway, in consideration of the constraints encountered, is within the absolute minimum width scenario and thus deemed acceptable.

We note also that the greenway is narrowed at a number of points along its length for various

reasons, such as tree retention, or existing narrow bridges. These pinch points do not affect the overall efficacy of the proposed design.

2.4 Cycle Path Standards

We note that the latter sections of the proposed route through Kilmurry Village and from the Castle Troy area are proposed to develop separated cycle paths as well as footpaths along existing roadways. The varying widths of the proposed cycle paths and footpaths vary in standard, and are generally below the recommended desirable minimum widths from CDM Table 2.2. These might be reviewed in greater detail at the detailed design stage.

2.5 Greenway Features

We note and welcome the various features proposed along the greenway to provide added value to this strategic project, including increased tree planting, biodiversity features, benches, and bike parking racks. These features will add to the enjoyment and richness of the overall experience.

However, we are confused by the proposal at the very beginning of this project at the River Groody, as outlined in the photomontage above, which appears to show a complete blockage of the existing riverside path to other than pedestrians, and even at that, for pedestrians it would appear entrance would be with some difficulty? This design needs to be clarified.

3 Summary/Conclusion

Overall the Irish Cycling Campaign welcomes this proposed strategic greenway-cycle route development, connecting Limerick City with the UL Campus, with potential links to other villages and a proposed River Shannon greenway to Killaloe. We commend the level of detail supplied in the documentation, and hope to see this project progressing to construction stage in the near future.

Colm Ryder
Infrastructure Coordinator
Irish Cycling Campaign

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www.irishcyclingcampaign.ie