



Roscommon County Development Plan 2021-2027

Submission on the Draft Roscommon County Development Plan 2021-2027

Submission Date: May 31, 2021 6:54 PM

Name

Donal O Connor

What is the topic of the submission?

Infrastructure, Transport and Communications, Climate Action, Energy and Environment, Social, Community and Cultural Development

Submission

Or

Attached Submission

Draft Development Submission.docx, 0.01MB

Dear Sir/Madam,

I hope you can accept this as a Draft Development Plan submission. I tried to make a submission through the appropriate link on the draft Development Plan page but failed.

[REDACTED]. While I have been physically active all of my life I have never been a competitive sports person nor ever had a desire to be. However I need to tell you about how wonderful my exercising has been in particular over the last year or so.

Since the opening of the greenway from Boyle to the Lough Key Forest Park I have used this path almost on a daily basis for both cycling and walking purposes. I have noted that the physical strength which I lost over the years has to some extent returned or at the very least the reduction in strength due to aging has been arrested and slowed. My mental health has never been better. This has occurred I have no doubt due to the removal of the stress of daily work but neither have I any doubt that my daily exercising on the greenway has in no small way helped me in this area.

The purpose of this submission is to impress upon your planners the incalculable benefit which greenways are to a community. I have noted during our various lockdowns over the last year that the greenway in Boyle has become by far the busiest "street" in the town. The well-being obtained from this piece of inexpensive infrastructure is enormous. The safety and comfort for users, being removed from motorised traffic, is incredible. You have proved that your commitment to the provision goes beyond aspirational. I would ask that your commitment extend to providing a network of greenways within the county to the extent where inter-town cycle journeys could be a possibility. Believe me people would cycle from Boyle to Roscommon or even to Athlone if a traffic free cycle-path existed. With the arrival of the electric bike it is surely time to consider an alternative form of individual transport. A greenway network would benefit environmentally as well as from a population health viewpoint.

Thank you for reading this, I hope to see a network of greenways through out the county and country before I pop my clogs. .

All the Best

Donal

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