

Galway City BusConnects and CycleConnects Projects An Overview

July 2025



Section 1

Completed Projects



Droichead an Dóchais

- Formerly known as the Salmon Weir Pedestrian and Cycle bridge, this is 85m in length and has been constructed over the Lower River Corrib.
- The bridge is a low-level clear span bridge that crosses three separate water courses: Persse's Distillery River, the Lower River Corrib and Friar's River.
- Project included upgrade works of approx. 200m of existing footpaths on the western and eastern side of the river. Two new pedestrian crossings also delivered.
- Opened in May 2023.



Millers Lane

- Provides an apx. 1,100m long pedestrian and cycle link between Ragoon Road, Western Distributor Road and Kingston Road, connecting various residential areas and amenities. Provides off-road walking and cycling routes for residents, and for children travelling to school.
- This urban greenway provides enhanced permeability between Ragoon Road, Manor Drive and the surrounding areas.
- The completed scheme includes lighting along the route, and 2 no. pedestrian crossings at Gort na Bró and the Ragoon Road to improve connectivity.
- Millar's Lane links into the wider Galway City Cycle Network, supporting active travel beyond the Knocknacarra/ Ragoon area, and supports access to the Galway bus network.
- Formally opened in June 2023.



Martin Junction Upgrade

- Upgrade of the former Martin roundabout to a 4-arm signal-controlled junction, including new cycle lanes, bus priority measures, footpaths and associated landscaping.
- Works included the provision of 860m of segregated cycle lanes, 630m of footpath, 200m of shared walking and cycling pathways, and 265m of Bus Lanes.
- Crossings were provided for, and the junction was tightened to reduce the speed of turning vehicles.
- Works completed in June 2023.



Eglinton Canal Active Travel Scheme

- Galway City Council resurfaced apx. 900m of an existing shared pedestrian and cycle path along the West side of Eglinton Canal. Zebra crossing points with raised platforms were installed on the junctions with Presentation Road, New Road, Dominick Street and Fr Griffin Road.
- 11 publicly accessible, free to use cycle parking stands were installed as part of these works.
- This scheme was completed in 2023.



Doughiska Road South Cycle Scheme

- This scheme entailed upgrading the existing footpath and cycle infrastructure, as well as the provision of new footpaths & cycle infrastructure, junction treatments & upgrades.
- A total of 1,300m of footpaths were upgraded, and 1,100m of segregated cycle facilities have been installed.
- 3 no. new crossings were constructed, and junctions along the road were tightened to reduce the speed of turning vehicles.
- Works were completed in July 2023 and the scheme formally opened in February 2024.



N6 / N84 Junction (Kirwan Junction) Upgrade

- Replacement of roundabout with signalised junction, providing for safe access for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Improved traffic congestion issues.



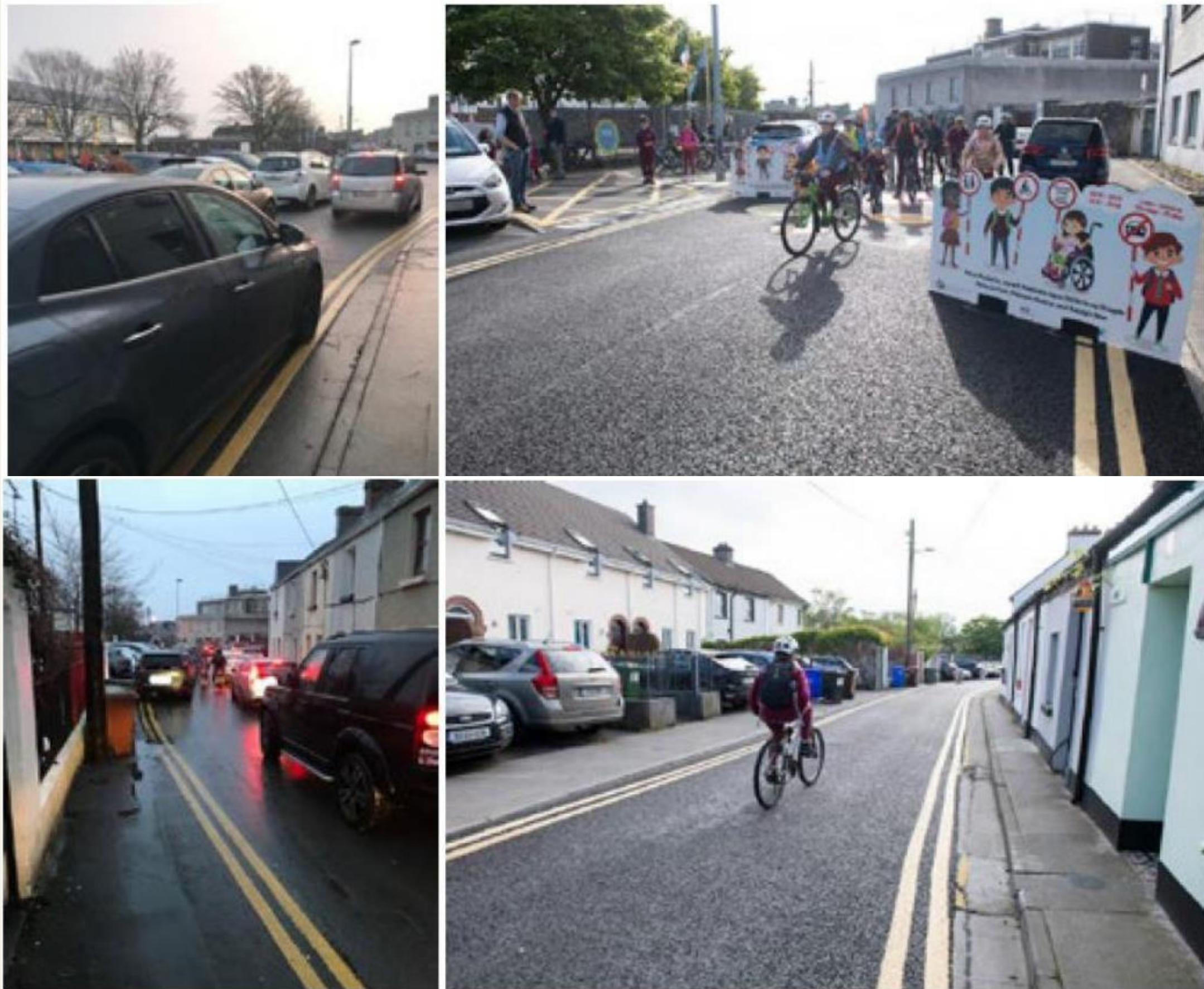
- Opened in July 2021.

School Street - Scoil Iognáid, Raleigh Row

- First city-centre school street in Ireland.
- The school street first opened in 2020/21, and quickly proved to be highly successful in meeting its objectives to encourage active travel.
- To further support the School Street at Scoil Iognáid, Galway City Council partnered with the school, the NTA and An Taisce on improvement works (completed in 2023), which have been funded by the National Transport Authority.
- Separately, Galway City Council has completed works at Scoil Fhursa, Nile Lodge, which had been approved for funding under the *Safe Routes to School* programme. Other schools identified for future works include:
 - St. Joseph's / Galway Educate Together National School
 - Colaiste Iognaid
 - Gaelscoil Dara
 - Scoil Caitriona, Renmore
 - Colaiste Einde
 - St. John the Apostle, Knocknacarra
 - St. Patrick's NS



School Street, Scoil Iognáid, Raleigh Row



An initial pilot found a 14% fall in daily car use to school, as well as increased in daily cycling (up 7%), walking (up 11%) and daily scooting (up 3%).

Staff also noticed better moods, behaviour, readiness to learn and physical activity levels among students.

Parkmore Road Bus Priority Scheme

- New southbound bus lane, apx. 600m in length, along Parkmore Road from the Business Park roundabout to the Monivea Road junction.
- Project also includes six new bus stops along Parkmore Road, and pedestrian safety improvements including new crossings and footpaths.
- Upgrade works also completed at Monivea Road junction.
- Construction commenced in February 2024 and works were completed ahead of schedule in December 2024.
- The project will facilitate the extension of key bus services further into Parkmore Business Park, benefitting thousands of workers.



Wolfe Tone Bridge II

- New cantilever bridge constructed on the southern side of Wolfe Tone Bridge
- This mirrors an existing bridge on the northern side of the bridge.
- The new walkway provides a safe, segregated crossing of the River Corrib for walkers.
- Opened in May 2024.



The Crescent / Sea Road

Junction Upgrade

- This project will enhance pedestrian safety through a range of measures including a new footpath on The Crescent, two pedestrian crossings at The Crescent and Fr. Griffin Avenue, as well as junction tightening works and installation of raised tables.
- Safety improvement works at Scoil Fhursa were carried out as part of this scheme.
- New rain gardens have been installed to improve drainage and enhance biodiversity.
- Works began in October 2024 and were completed in Q1 2025.



Section 2

Projects Under

Development



Ballybane Road and Castlepark Road Cycle Network Scheme

- This scheme will improve cycling and walking facilities along the length of both Ballybane and Castlepark Roads.
- 2.9km of cycle tracks and high-quality footpaths will be constructed along both sides of each road. Raised crossings will be installed along each side road to reduce vehicle speeds and to prioritise active travel.
- Signalised junctions will be installed at two junctions.
- Construction began in February 2025 and this project is scheduled for completion in Q3 2026.
- This project will serve ATU and a range of local amenities, as well as residents and businesses. It will also tie in with future schemes on Dublin Road and Monivea Road.



Bóthar Stiofáin Cycle Network Scheme

- 870m of raised, adjacent cycle lanes on both sides of Bóthar Stiofáin, connecting Western Distributor Road with Ragoon Road.
- Raised zebra crossings and upgraded footpaths will also be included.
- Connects residential areas with Gateway Retail Park, employment hubs, Gaelscoil Mhic Amhlaigh and Galway Bohemians FC.
- This project received Part 8 Planning Approval in May 2024 and is proceeding towards construction. Construction on this scheme will begin in Q3 2025.



Increased Provision of Cycle Parking



There are now parking spaces for **over 1,600 bikes** in Galway City at publicly accessible on-street and off-street stands. The vast majority of these have been constructed since 2016.

Bus Stop Improvements



27 bus shelters have been upgraded since 2020.

Section 3

Planning / Preliminary Design Stage Projects

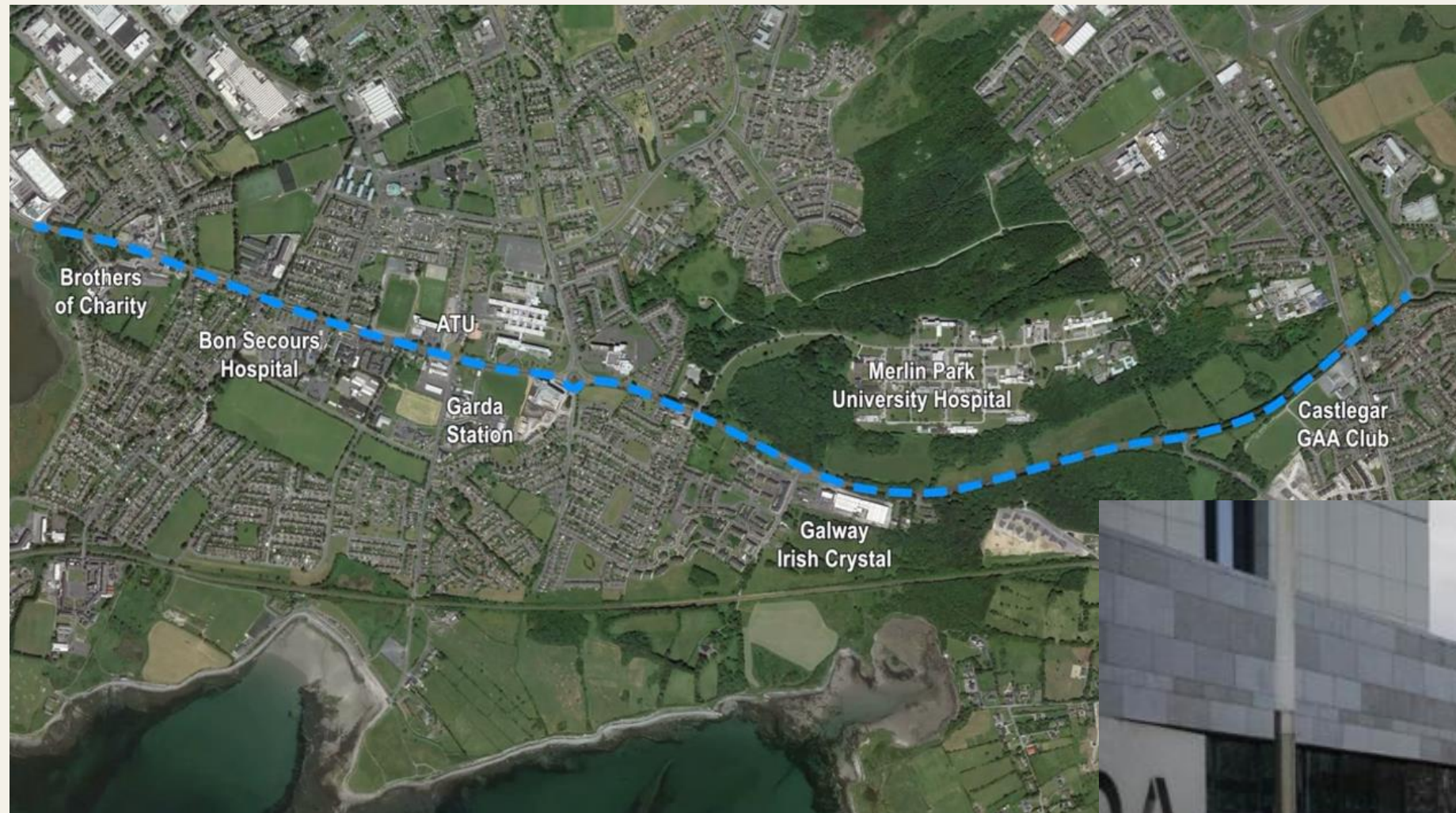


BusConnects Galway: Cross-City Link



- Improved walking, cycling and bus infrastructure on a key access corridor in Galway City.
- This will enable and deliver efficient, safe, and integrated sustainable transport movement along the corridor.
- The scheme includes enhanced bus priority measures, and significant public realm improvement works across the centre of the city.
- Planning permission granted in October 2024. This decision of ABP is now subject to ongoing judicial review.

BusConnects Galway: Dublin Road



Planned 3.9km continuous corridor of high-quality public transport, pedestrian and cycle facilities.

Consent application lodged with An Bord Pleanála in February 2025.



Western Distributor Road



The Western Distributor Road (WDR) is 2.9km in length and has been identified as an Urban Primary cycle route in the CycleConnects Proposed Urban Cycle Network Plan.

GCC is progressing plans to develop new and upgraded walking and cycling infrastructure along the road, including a number of roundabouts.

A planning application was lodged for this project in June 2025.

In addition, further projects on **Monivea Road** and **Clybaun Road** are in the early stages of planning.

Quietways



As part of plans for **Quietways** in Galway, new cycleways and walking routes will be developed to allow for safer and more comfortable access to the city centre using active travel methods.

This project is under development, and has been allocated €465,000 in funding by the NTA for 2025.

Park and Ride



The provision of Park & Ride sites on multiple approaches to the city will be important in encouraging more people to complete their journeys using public transport, reducing congestion.

Preliminary designs are substantially complete on a new Park and Ride facility for the West of the City and we expect this project to ensure into the planning process in 2025.

Other potential corridors for Park & Ride have also been identified as part of the redesign of the city bus network.

