

Press Release

Meath County Council will commence a process of public consultation starting on Monday 27th of July on proposed new bus stops and related infrastructure for Navan, and is inviting the public to comment on the proposals. The proposals include the delivery of fifty new wheelchair accessible bus stops which, in addition to a number of existing bus stops, will facilitate the introduction of two new town bus services for Navan. The proposed new bus services aim to provide an increased level of service and reliability, with an extended timetable, and are intended to replace the current town bus services.

The proposed new bus stops will include better signage and information, and will form a network of stops to facilitate convenient travel across the town on the proposed new bus services. These bus services will connect with the Kennedy Road bus interchange facility, to be constructed next year as part of the Navan Town Scheme (Navan2030), providing potential interchange with regional bus services for onward travel to such destinations such as Trim, Kells, Drogheda, Dublin, Cavan and Dublin Airport, and also will help make Navan a more attractive and accessible place to visit and stay.

Once completed this new integrated public transport network will provide new opportunities for travelling around Navan, and will enable easier, more reliable and flexible travel. These new bus services will facilitate new ways to get to work, schools, healthcare facilities and leisure facilities. It will also support the transport network's capacity to cater for the planned expansion and development as the population of Navan expands in the future.

The proposed new bus routes, to be operated by Bus Éireann, are to be served by new low floor buses provided by the National Transport Authority. If approved and subject to funding, work on delivering the infrastructure could commence later this year, with the new bus services operational on the routes during the summer of next year.

Meath County Council Chief Executive Jackie Maguire commented; *“Navan is at a key stage in its development. As its population grows, the town must adapt to meet its needs. These proposed bus routes are part of that adaption, and will deliver a new, frequent, accessible and convenient public transport service for the town. They will make for a better experience for those living in and visiting the town, and will provide a real alternative to car trips around Navan, which will bring environmental and health benefits.”*

National Transport Authority Chief Executive Anne Graham remarked: *“The Authority has worked closely with Meath County Council on the town bus project. We have invested in improving the walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure in Navan in recent years and we anticipate further investment to meet Navan’s needs for sustainable mobility going forward. We have also invested in public transport services between Navan and a range of destinations across the region, for example, securing the express NX service, enhanced Route 190 services and Route 109a 24-hour services to Dublin Airport and City. Improving the local town service is the next step – providing for local movement for work, education, healthcare and retail purposes around the town as well as feeding / distributing to the network of commuter services. This addition to the network will contribute to enhancing the environment of Navan and will make the town a more attractive place to live, work, socialise in and visit.*

Further details of the proposals and of how to participate in the public consultation can be found at www.meath.ie from 27th July. Representations can be made up to 5pm on Wednesday 19th August 2020.