

Constraints Study



What is the problem?

It is essential at the outset to establish the cause of the existing problems and issues in order to develop appropriate and effective solutions. Initial work has focused on extensive data collection, travel surveys, traffic analysis and delay assessment on the existing network to establish a set of tangible measurable indicators or key performance indicators (KPI) to define the existing problems and ultimately with which to compare future potential solutions. The outcome of this initial examination of the transportation issues in Galway City and environs has shown that the following are worthy of further study and analysis:

- Congestion on routes in the city;
- Journey time unreliability due to uncertain quantum of delay;
- Journey time variability throughout the day;
- Peak hour traffic delays;
- By-passable traffic is in conflict with internal traffic;
- Inadequate transport links to access markets within the city;
- Inadequate transport connections from Galway onwards to Connemara, and
- Lack of accessibility to the Western Region as a whole.

In essence the existing network is congested, with substandard provision in terms of capacity both on links and junctions, all of which leads to unreliable journey times, delay and a lack of access. The provision of a good quality route from the east to the west of Galway will allow Galway function as a unit to become the gateway of the Western Region and become an effective counter pole to the Greater Dublin Area. This is compatible with Government policy at national, regional and local level, as is reflected in policies in the National Spatial Strategy, Smarter Travel, Regional Planning Guidelines and Galway City and County Development Plans.

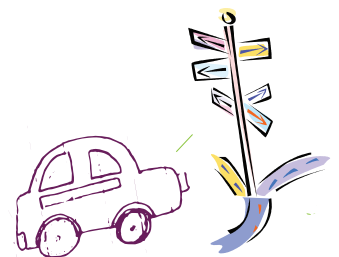


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A comprehensive constraints study has been carried out which addresses all constraints including human beings, archaeology and cultural heritage, agronomy, landscape and visual, hydrology, hydrogeology, ecology, geology, material assets, planning policy, noise, air and climate. However, it is evident from this study that ecology as well as the physical form of the city is a key constraint. This has necessitated extensive ecological surveys to prepare detailed habitat mapping, which is on-going throughout the study area.



**TELL US
YOUR VIEWS**
by returning the
comment sheet by
31 July 2014



Solution focused on public transport including BRT is likely to leave substantial congestion.

Reuse of existing N6 is technically challenging and requires further design to fully consider impacts.

Outer option is likely to impact on designated habitat.



What Happens Next?

- Following this Constraints Study options to solve the transportation problems for Galway will be developed.
- Another public consultation will be held later this year to show details of the developed options.
- Options will be compared and a solution recommended.

If you are unable to attend the public consultation exhibition the proposals may be viewed by appointment, at the address below until 31 July 2014.

N6 Galway City Outer Bypass Project Office

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