

Navan Railway

PREFERRED ROUTE

Public Consultation

NTA
Údarás Náisiúnta Iompair
National Transport Authority

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

TETRA TECH

ARCADIS

Iarnród Éireann
Irish Rail

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Your guide to the Preferred Route Consultation for Navan Railway and how your feedback can help shape the project's next stage

WELCOME TO THE PREFERRED ROUTE CONSULTATION

PROGRESSING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NAVAN RAILWAY

Iarnród Éireann is developing Navan Railway, a proposed new rail connection between Navan and M3 Parkway, connecting to the existing rail network towards Dublin. The Navan Railway is an extension of DART+, and the new rail line will provide frequent, reliable and sustainable public transport.

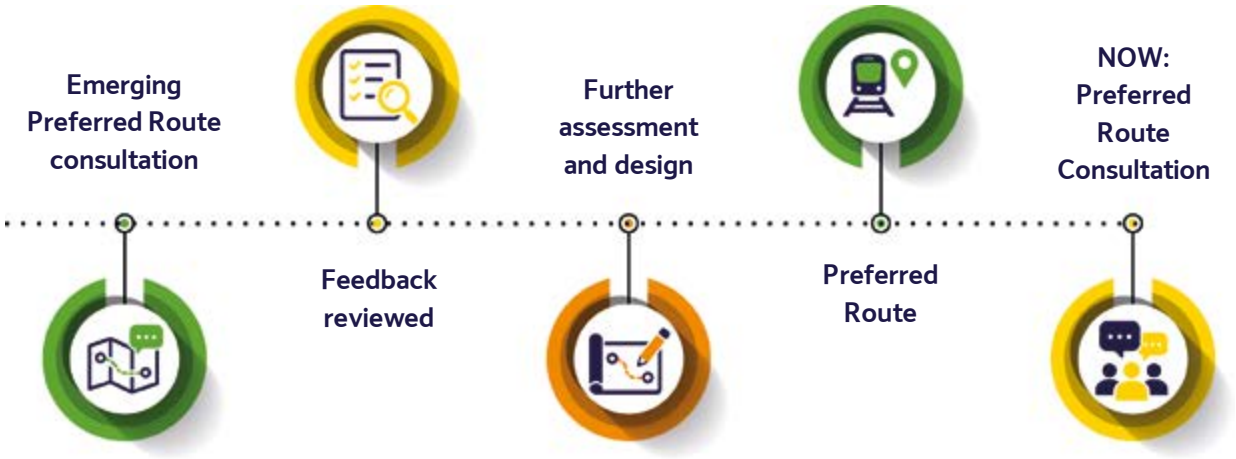
A public consultation on the emerging preferred route (EPR) took place between May and July 2026. Following the consultation, during which 1,520 submissions were received, further engineering, transport and environmental studies were undertaken. This work, together with the feedback received, has informed the Preferred Route presented in this brochure.

The project team is now inviting feedback on the Preferred Route as the project progresses to the next stage of design and assessment. The Emerging Preferred Route was the initial proposal presented following the option selection process, while the Preferred Route has been refined through further analysis and consideration of the feedback received. The Preferred Route is not the final design of railway, stations and associated infrastructure, and the project has not yet entered the statutory planning process.

Have Your Say

Iarnród Éireann invites you to review the Preferred Route for Navan Railway and provide feedback to help inform the next stage of project development, including preliminary design and environmental assessment.

The public consultation is open until Thursday 10 December



EMERGING PREFERRED ROUTE CONSULTATION

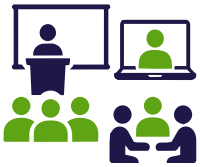
YOUR FEEDBACK, OUR RESPONSE

Between May to July 2026, Iarnród Éireann undertook a public consultation on the Emerging Preferred Route for Navan Railway. The consultation sought feedback on the proposed route, station locations and local issues that should be considered as the project develops and the feedback received indicated strong public recognition of the benefits of the Navan Railway.

The objective of first public consultation was to bring initial proposals to the public and identify any feedback, concerns or local knowledge before selecting the Preferred Route.



1,520
formal submissions received from members of the public, community groups, businesses, landowners, elected representatives and other stakeholders



4 in-person events,
1 webinar and
2 elected representative briefings



An attendance of over
690
people at events



50
one-to-one meetings with property owners and other key stakeholders



Carried out site visits along the proposed route

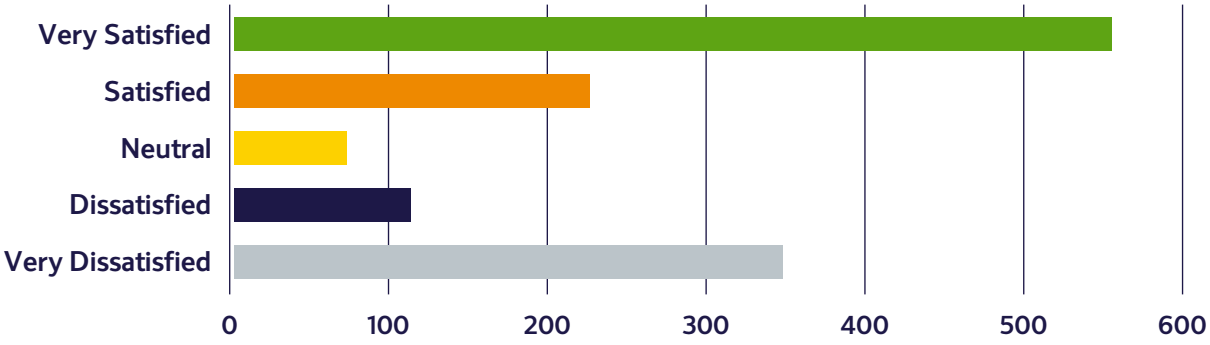


YOUR FEEDBACK

Need for the Railway	Project Delivery Programme
Route Selection Process	Route Alignment
Stations, Access & Parking	Environmental Considerations
Property, Farming & Business Impacts	Operational Considerations



Level of satisfaction with the Emerging Preferred Route



Following the consultation, the project team reviewed all submissions received, and undertook further technical analysis and assessments. This work helped identify opportunities to refine the project, respond to feedback raised during consultation and support the selection of a Preferred Route for Navan Railway, with a view to carrying out further analysis to address concerns.

ACTIONS TAKEN	Detailed review and assessment of submissions
	Further engineering and transport planning assessments
	Additional surveys and site visits along the proposed route
	Environmental studies

OUTCOMES	Identified and addressed key concerns raised in submissions
	Local insights to inform preliminary design development and environmental impact assessment
	Refinements informed by consultation
	Confirmed the Preferred Route

FURTHER ASSESSMENTS AND STUDIES

The issues raised by communities, landowners, stakeholders and members of the public informed a programme of further analysis and technical studies. This work sought to better understand the opportunities, constraints and local issues identified during consultation and support the selection of a Preferred Route for Navan Railway.

Quarryland / Rathregan

Alternative route alignments were assessed in response to feedback relating to land severance and flooding. As a result, the route has been adjusted to align closer to the original railway corridor.

Dunshaughlin Station and Park & Ride

Further assessments were undertaken to consider the location of Dunshaughlin station and Park & Ride. Following modelling and analysis, the station location remains the same as the Emerging Preferred Route. The Park & Ride has been moved closer to the station.

Leshemstown

Alternative route alignments were assessed in response to feedback on the proposed road realignment at Leshemstown Lane. As a result, the route has been adjusted to minimise impact on residential properties in Leshemstown.

Dunsany Area

Additional multi-criteria analysis was carried out of alternative routes in the Dunsany area were carried out in response to concerns about reinstating the original rail line through Dunsany Estate. The analysis indicated that the original railway corridor continues to be the preferred option.

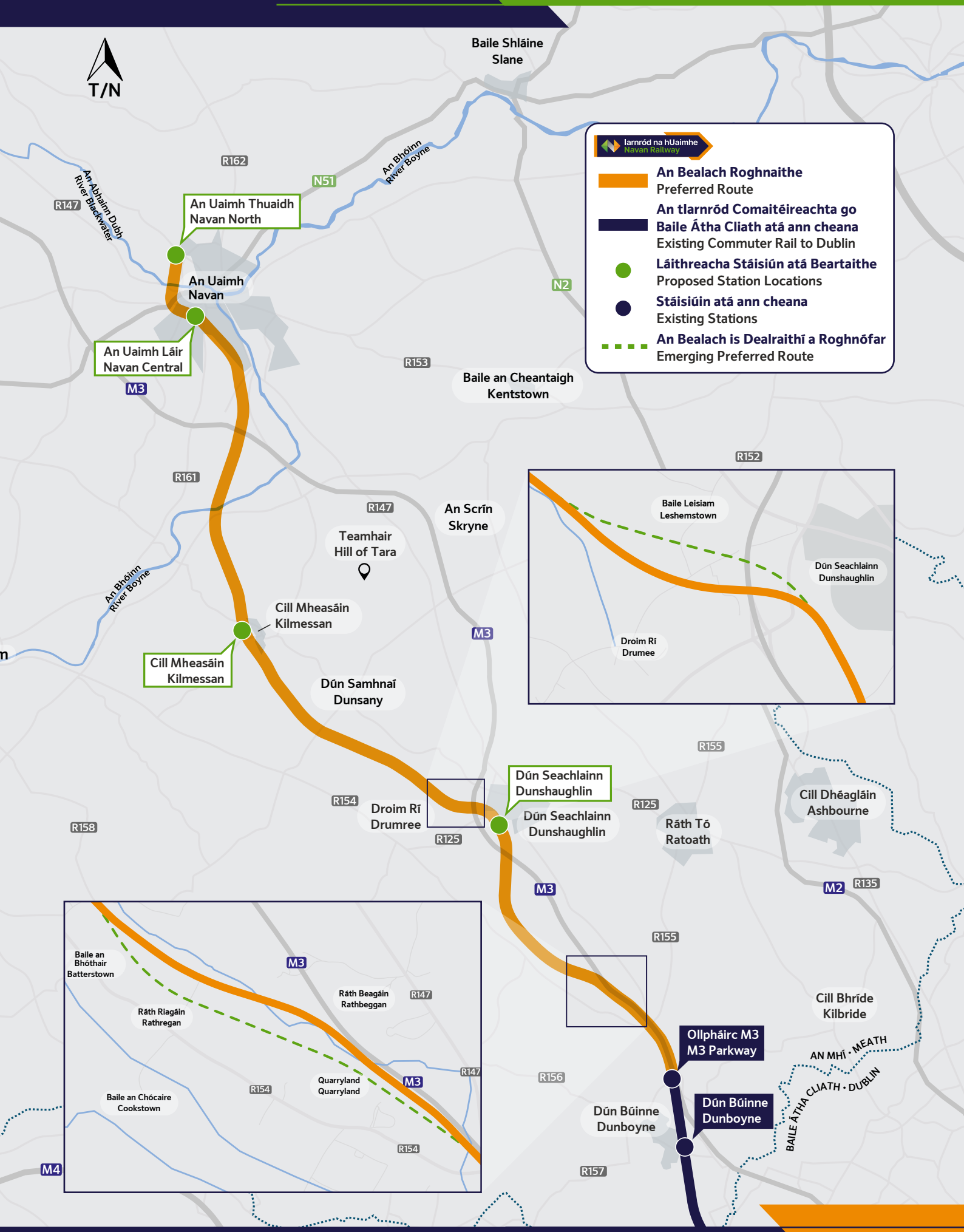
Navan South Station

Modelling and analysis were carried out to assess the need for an additional station serving the south of Navan. The analysis determined that an additional station in the south of Navan is not justified. However, passive provision has been provided for a future station in that location.

Road realignments

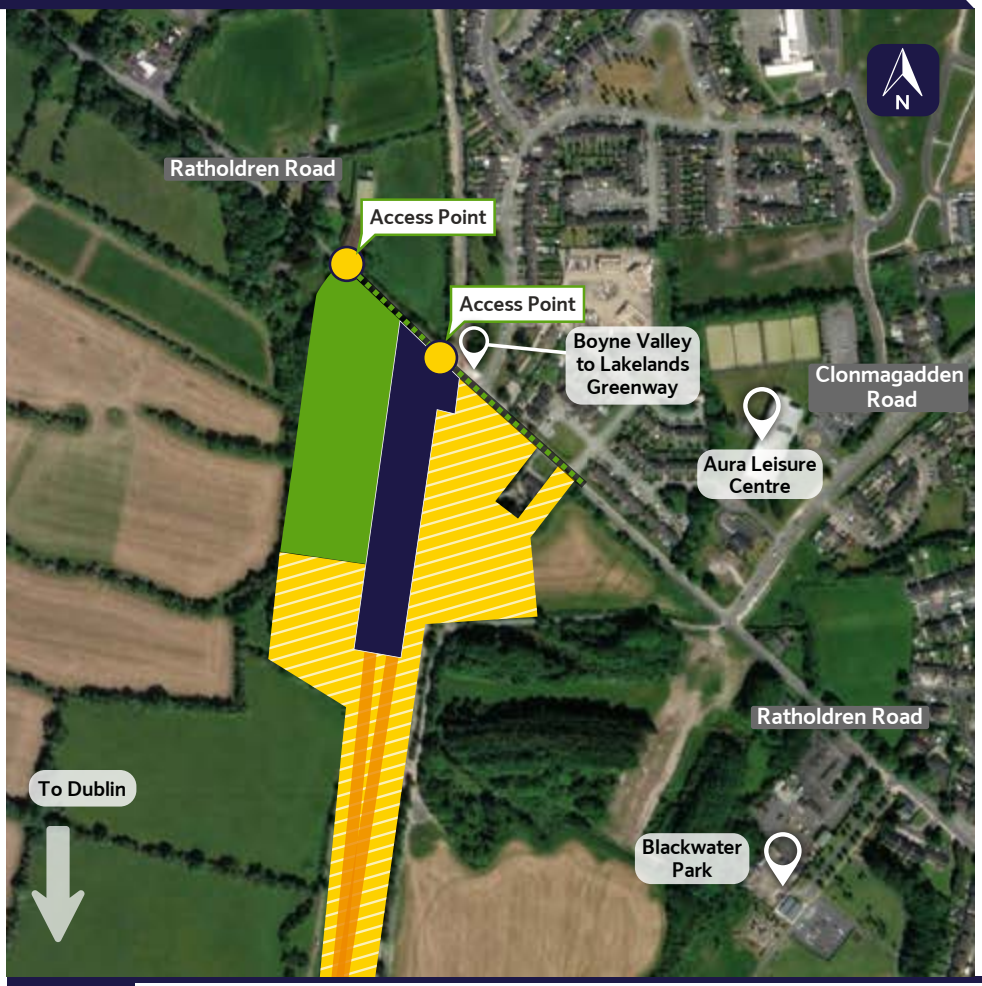
Further consideration has been given to the proposed road realignments of the L2209 at Rathregan and the L4010 in Kilmessan. Analysis was carried out to identify opportunities to avoid, reduce and mitigate potential impacts on nearby residents and properties. The analysis resulted in changes to the road realignments in these locations.

Further detail on the assessments and studies undertaken and the changes made to the proposed route is available in the Technical Review of Feedback on the Emerging Preferred Route (EPR) Report.


T/N
Baile Shláine
Slane
An Abhainn Dubh
River Blackwater
An Bhóinn
River Boyne
R162
N51
R147
An Uaimh Thuaidh
Navan North
An Uaimh
Navan
An Uaimh Láir
Navan Central
M3
N2
R153
Baile an Cheantaigh
Kentstown
Iarnród na hUaimhe
Navan Railway
An Bealach Roghnaithe
Preferred Route
An tIarnród Comaitéireachta go
Baile Átha Cliath atá ann cheana
Existing Commuter Rail to Dublin
Láithreacha Stáisiún atá Beartaithe
Proposed Station Locations
Stáisiúin atá ann cheana
Existing Stations
An Bealach is Dealraithí a Roghnófar
Emerging Preferred Route
R161
R147
An Scrín
Skryne
Teamhair
Hill of Tara
An Bhóinn
River Boyne
Cill Mheasáin
Kilmessan
Cill Mheasáin
Kilmessan
M3
Dún Samhnaí
Dunsany
R152
Baile Leisiam
Leshemstown
Dún Seachlainn
Dunshaughlin
Droim Rí
Drumee
R155
Dún Seachlainn
Dunshaughlin
R154
Droim Rí
Drumree
R125
Dún Seachlainn
Dunshaughlin
R125
Ráth Tó
Ratoath
Cill Dhéagláin
Ashbourne
R158
M3
M2
R135
R155
Baile an
Bhóthair
Batterstown
M3
Ráth Beagáin
Rathbeggan
R147
Ráth Riagáin
Rathregan
Cill Bhríde
Kilbride
Ollpháirc M3
M3 Parkway
AN MHÍ · MEATH
BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH · DUBLIN
R147
Quarryland
Quarryland
M3
R154
R156
Baile an Chócaire
Cookstown
Dún Búinne
Dunboyne
Dún Búinne
Dunboyne
R154
M4
R157

PROPOSED STATIONS

NAVAN NORTH STATION



Accessed via the Ratholdren Road, near the disused Kingscourt railway line

Approx. 1 hour journey to Dublin City Centre

Up to 800,000 passenger movements forecasted each year

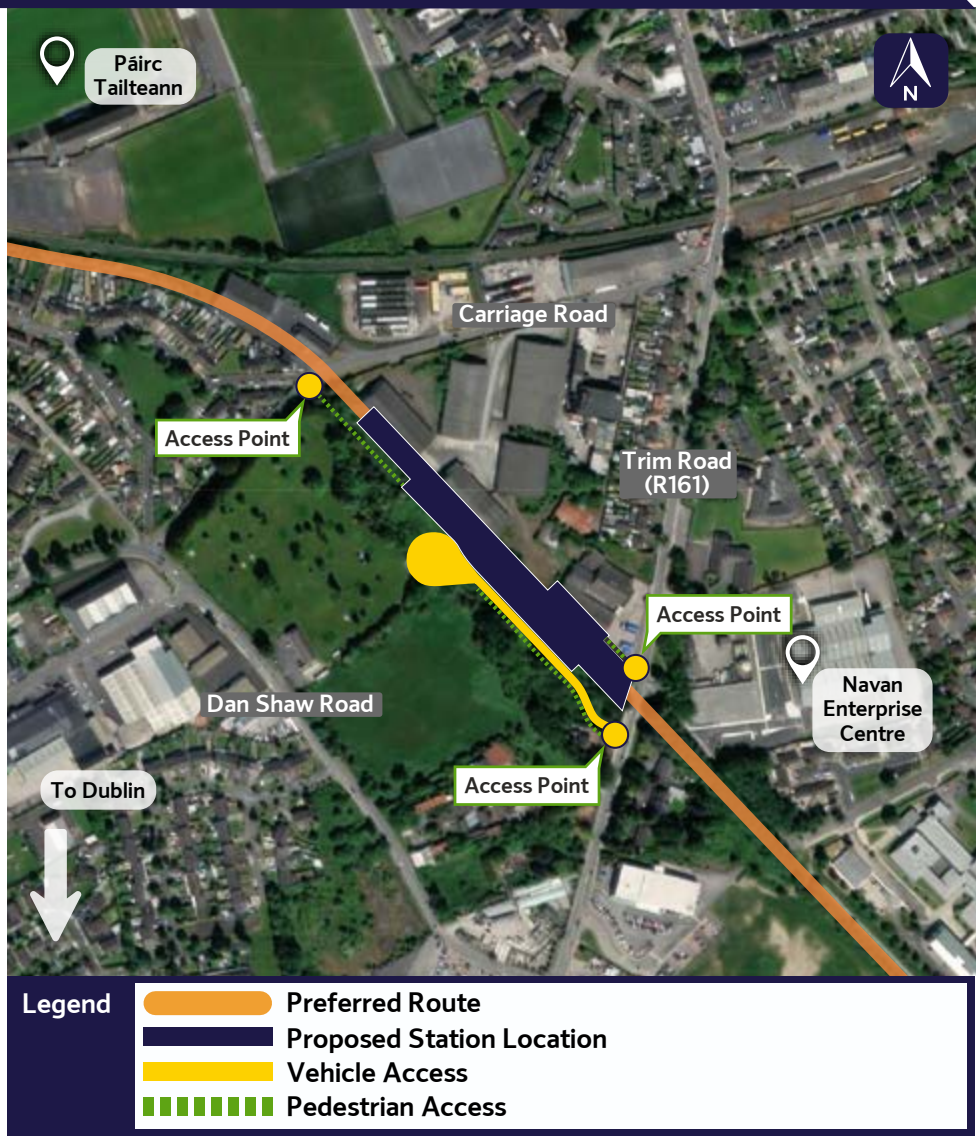
Direct access to the Boyne Valley to Lakelands Greenway

Legend

- Preferred Route
- Proposed Station Location
- Proposed Park & Ride
- Railway Facilities and Parking Area for Trains
- Pedestrian Access

Local Accessibility	Situated in the northern part of Navan's urban area, this station will serve a large population, with nearly 39,000 residents within a 30-minute walk or cycle of the proposed station location.
Local Park & Ride Facilities	A large car park is proposed at this station, expanding the station's catchment area to nearby commuters north of Navan.
Access to Amenities	Navan North station will provide access by train to local attractions and amenities, including the Boyne Valley to Lakelands Greenway, Blackwater Park and Aura Leisure Centre.
Growth and Development	The station will support growth in the area, and will facilitate social, economic and residential development.

NAVAN CENTRAL STATION



Located between Carriage Road and Trim Road (R161)

Approx. 1 hour journey to Dublin City Centre

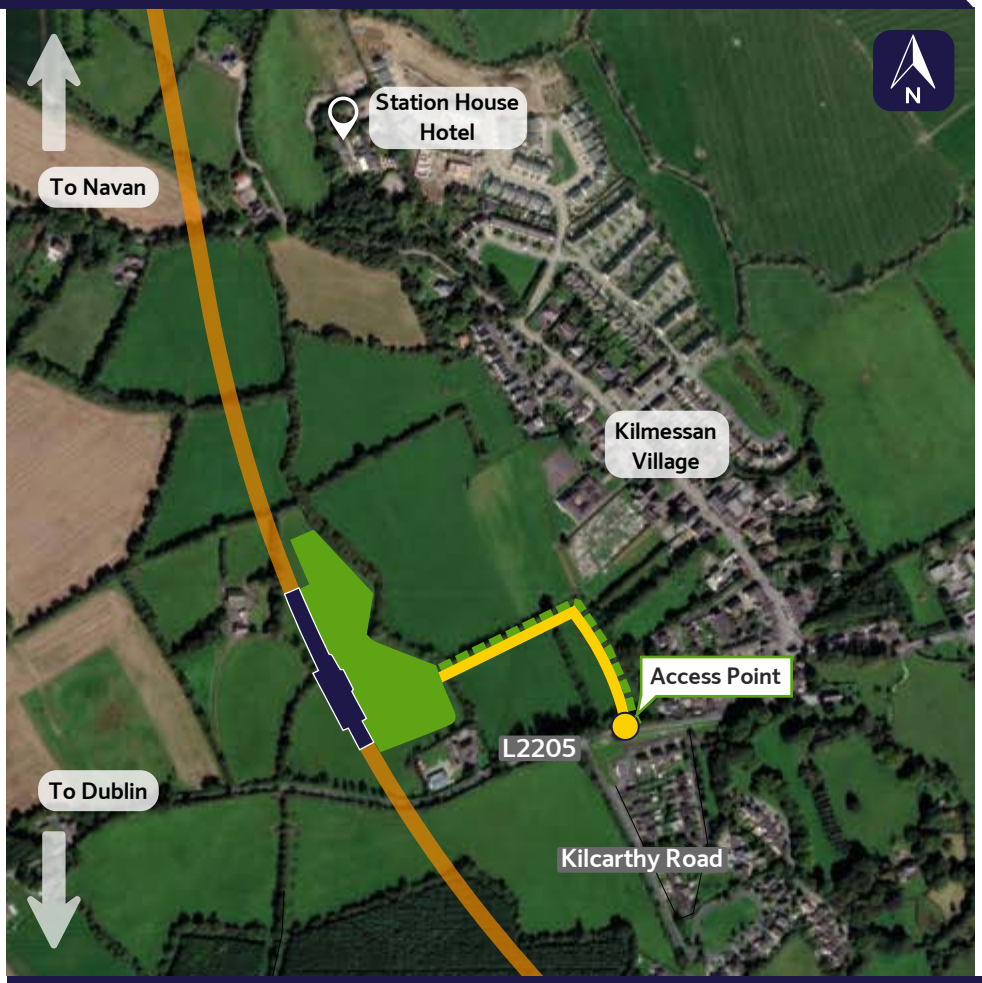
Up to 1,900,000 passenger movements forecasted each year

Integration with local public transport

Short walking distance from the centre of Navan Town

Centrally Located	Located a short distance from the centre of Navan, this station will serve a significant population with approximately 36,000 people living within a 30-minute walk or cycle.
Pedestrian-Friendly Access	Navan Central Station will provide safe pedestrian and cyclist access. Given the station's urban location, parking facilities are anticipated to be limited however the station will feature a taxi / car drop-off area and will be fully integrated with modern and accessible pedestrian and cyclist facilities.
Interconnectivity	This station supports integration with local bus services and multimodal connectivity.
Enhanced Access to Navan	Navan Central Station will improve public transport connections to Navan's urban core, allowing passengers to access amenities including the Solstice Arts Centre and Páirc Tailteann. This station will support the town's economy and encourage travel to Navan for work, leisure or tourism.

KILMESSAN STATION



Located west of Kilmessan village and accessed via the L2205

Less than 1 hour journey to Dublin City Centre

Less than 10 minute journey to Navan Central

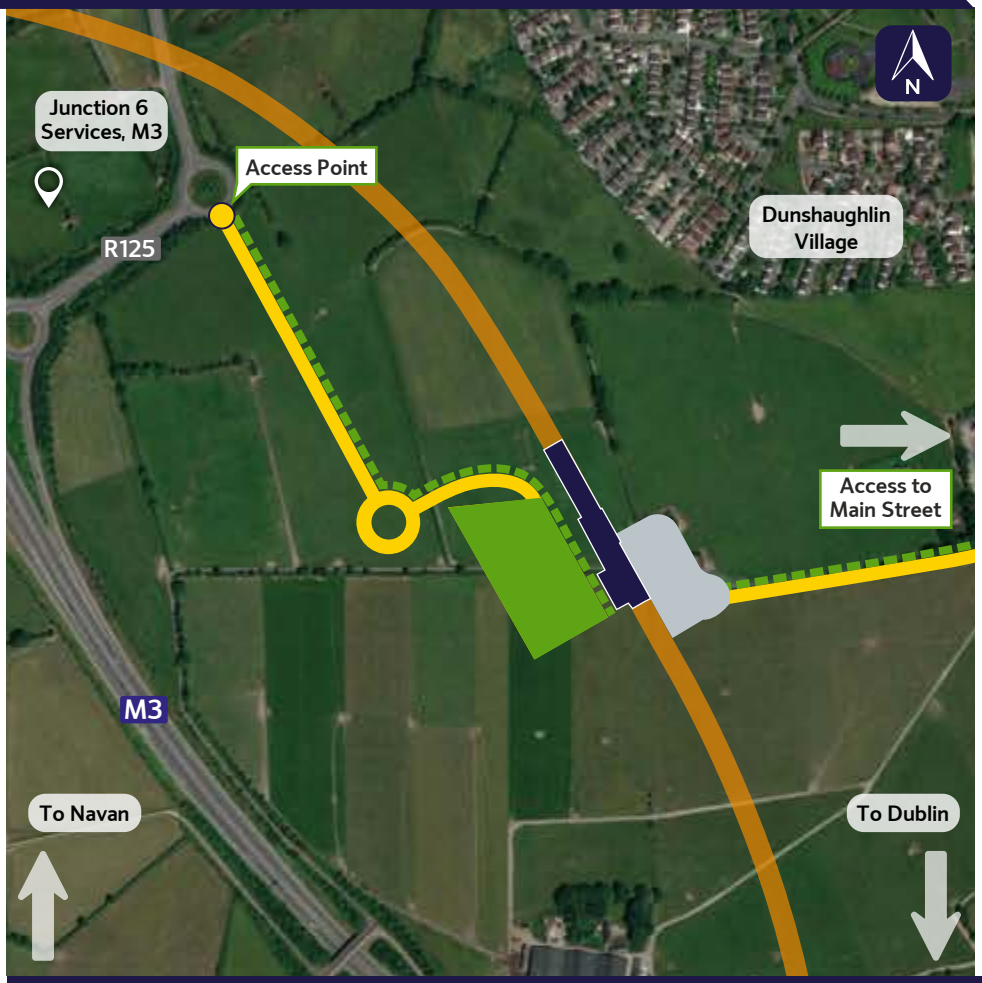
Up to 200,000 passenger movements forecasted each year

Legend

- Preferred Route
- Proposed Station Location
- Proposed Park & Ride
- Vehicle Access
- Pedestrian Access

Boosting Local Connectivity	This station will significantly increase the frequency and reliability of public transport services in Kilmessan.
New Station	This new station is proposed to be located on a different site to where the former Kilmessan station was. This is to reflect development at this site since the original station was closed.
Local Park & Ride Facilities	A large car park will enable residents from surrounding towns and villages to travel to Kilmessan and park there before onward travel to Navan or Dublin.
Enhanced Connectivity	Kilmessan station will enhance access to other urban centres by public transport including Navan, Dunshaughlin and onward to Dublin City Centre and beyond, expanding access to education, healthcare and employment opportunities.
Unlocking Future Development	This station will unlock growth potential in Kilmessan and facilitate future housing delivery.

DUNSHAUGHLIN STATION



Located west of Dunshaughlin, near the M3 motorway

Less than 50 minute journey to Dublin City Centre

Approx. 15 minute journey to Navan Central

Up to 1,400,000 passenger movements forecasted each year

Legend

- Preferred Route
- Proposed Station Location
- Proposed Park & Ride
- Vehicle Access
- Pedestrian Access
- Active Travel/Public Transport Interchange

Strategically Located	The proposed station is located between Dunshaughlin town and the M3 Motorway. It will be accessible from the main street in the town and from the roundabout at M3 Dunshaughlin Service Station.
Supporting Local Development	A direct public transport connection will improve travel into Dunshaughlin and will help the area evolve as a self-sustaining growth town. The station will support economic expansion, create new job opportunities and encourage compact development.
Local Park & Ride Facilities	This station will offer parking spaces, expanding its catchment area so commuters from nearby towns and villages can access the new railway.
A Thriving Commuter Town	Dunshaughlin's proximity to Dublin makes it a prime commuter location. This station will provide the town with a reliable and direct link to the city centre, unlocking access to employment, amenities and services for residents, and supporting future development.

KEY FEATURES OF NAVAN RAILWAY

Connecting communities along the route with Ireland's integrated and expanding rail network

Direct services to Dublin City Centre

Extension of the DART+ Network to Navan

APPROX. 1 HOUR JOURNEY from Navan Central to Dublin City Centre

Services up to every 15 minutes at peak times

Services up to every 15 minutes at peak times



Up to **63,000 PEOPLE** within a 30 minute walk, cycle or drive of a station

Up to **4,400 PASSENGERS** per direction, per hour

Up to **4 MILLION** passenger movements each year by 2050

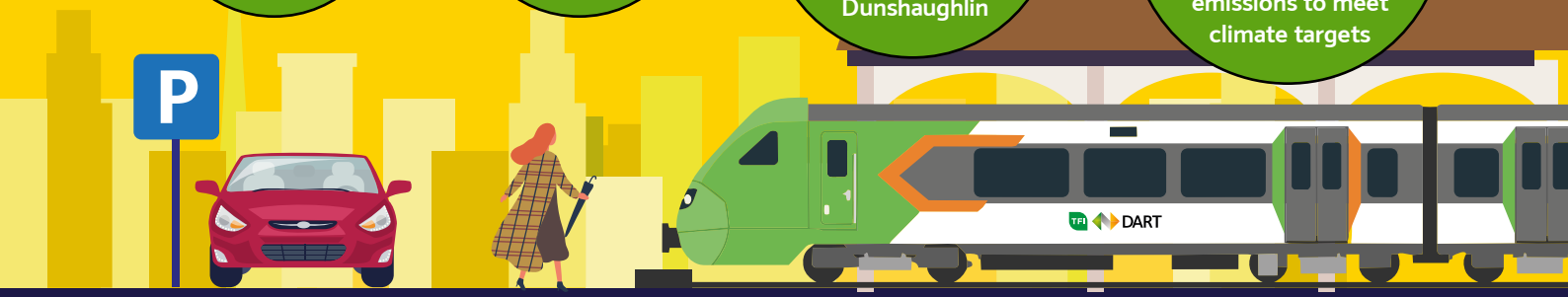


FOUR NEW STATIONS

34KM OF NEW TRACKS

THREE PARK & RIDE LOCATIONS at Navan North, Kilmessan and Dunshaughlin

ELECTRIFIED RAIL NETWORK reducing our carbon emissions to meet climate targets



1 TRAIN = 15 BUSES = 1,028 CARS





WHAT NAVAN RAILWAY COULD DELIVER

BENEFITS OF NAVAN RAILWAY FOR COMMUNITIES, CONNECTIVITY AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

Navan Railway will provide a frequent, reliable and sustainable public transport option enhancing connectivity, enabling growth and reducing carbon emissions.



Extension of DART+ to Navan

Navan Railway will be an extension of DART+ from M3 Parkway that will bring high frequency and high-capacity electrified rail services to Navan.



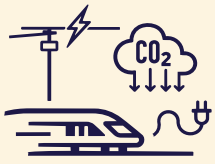
Enhanced Connectivity

Navan Railway will connect communities along the route with Ireland's integrated and expanding public transport network. Navan is the largest town in Ireland not currently on the rail network.



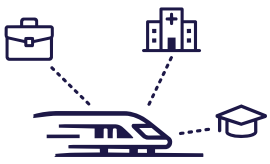
Enabling Growth & Development

Navan Railway will enable the delivery of housing, as well as economic development for communities along the proposed route.



Electrified Rail Travel

The electrified Navan Railway will encourage sustainable transport choices, supporting the transition to a low-carbon, climate resilient society and reducing dependency on private cars.



Expanded Access to Services

The Navan Railway will expand local communities' access to employment, education, healthcare and other services across the proposed route. This project will also facilitate travelling by public transport to County Meath for commuting, leisure and tourism.

PROJECT HISTORY

1862
The original Navan to Clonsilla Railway line opened.

1947
Passenger services stopped.

1963 - 1967
Goods services stopped in 1963, the railway was dismantled and the lands were sold.

2008 - 2011
Works were carried out to reopen the M3 Parkway (Dunboyne) to Clonsilla section of the railway. Early-stage works began on the Navan to M3 Parkway section however, the project was put on hold in 2011 due to the economic challenges that Ireland faced at that time.

2023
Work resumed to progress the Navan to M3 Parkway project on publication of the Greater Dublin Area Transport Strategy. A Design Team was appointed in November 2024.

2026
Summer 2026: Emerging Preferred Route Consultation

Winter 2026: Preferred Route Consultation.

Navan Railway is a new project. The planning and development for it started from the beginning to comply with current Irish and EU legislation, as well as Government policies. Many route options were considered and analysed, as well as population growth since 2011, as part of this process to identify the Preferred Route.

The Preferred Route follows a similar route to the original railway, making use of the disused railway corridor where possible.



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PROJECT OBJECTIVE

WHY NAVAN RAILWAY IS BEING DEVELOPED

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The overarching objective of Navan Railway is to deliver a frequent, reliable, integrated, sustainable, and attractive public transport option that provides safe and high-capacity inter-connectivity for existing and future demand between Navan, the Greater Dublin Metropolitan Area, and intermediate urban areas.

Project Sub-Objectives

Enable consolidation of compact sustainable economic development and population growth in the study area.

Reduce reliance on the private car, congestion and related environmental impacts. Deliver sustainable travel options attractive to users (including in terms of journey time, punctuality, frequency, inclusivity, comfort and personal security) when they are choosing how to access employment, education and services in Navan, the Dublin Metropolitan Area, and elsewhere in the study area.

Contribute towards national, regional and local policy goals in relation to 2050 decarbonisation targets.

Minimise the impact during delivery and operation of the scheme on the local environment, mitigating any residual impacts.

Contribute to transport safety by reducing the annual vehicle mileage on the road network (with a corresponding reduction in the number of recorded collisions total vehicle mileage) and limiting any increase in the number of conflict points.



POLICY CONTEXT

Navan Railway is strongly supported by national, regional, and local policy.

National Policy

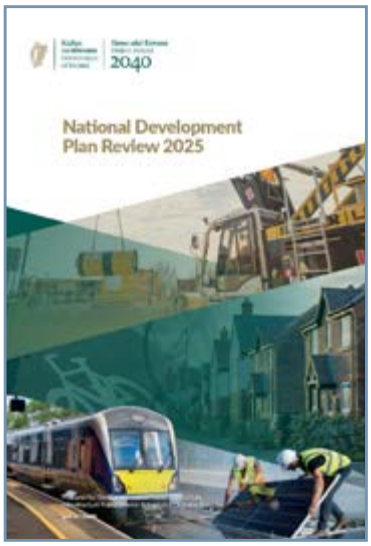
This project will support key policies including the National Development Plan Review 2025, the Climate Action Plan 2025 and the All-Island Strategic Rail Review. The project will contribute to Ireland's ambitions to decarbonise public transport, enhance regional and rural connectivity, and enable compact growth and economic development.

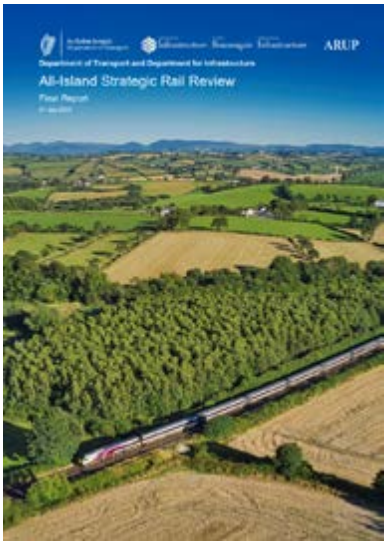
Regional Policy

Delivering Navan Railway is an objective of the Greater Dublin Area (GDA) Transport Strategy 2022 - 2042, which aims to develop 100km of new electrified rail line. The project is also recognised as important to economic growth and development of the wider Eastern Midlands region.

Local Policy

Navan Railway aligns with the Meath County Development Plan and other local plans and policies by contributing to the development of a well-connected and low-carbon society that supports social and economic growth.

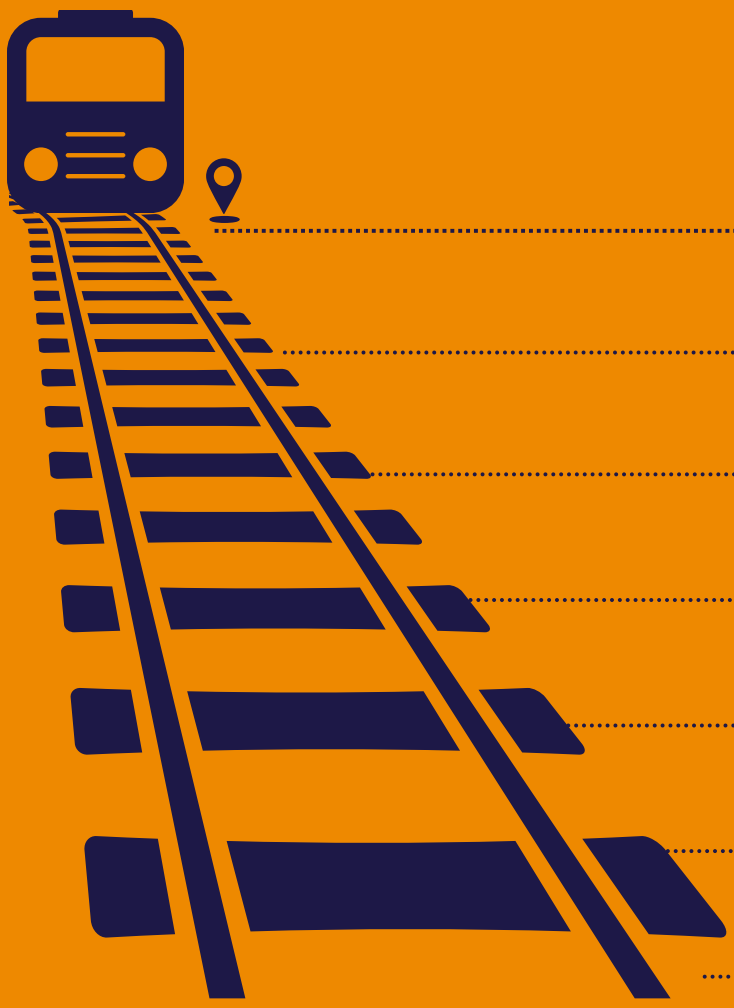








NEXT STEPS TO DELIVER NAVAN RAILWAY

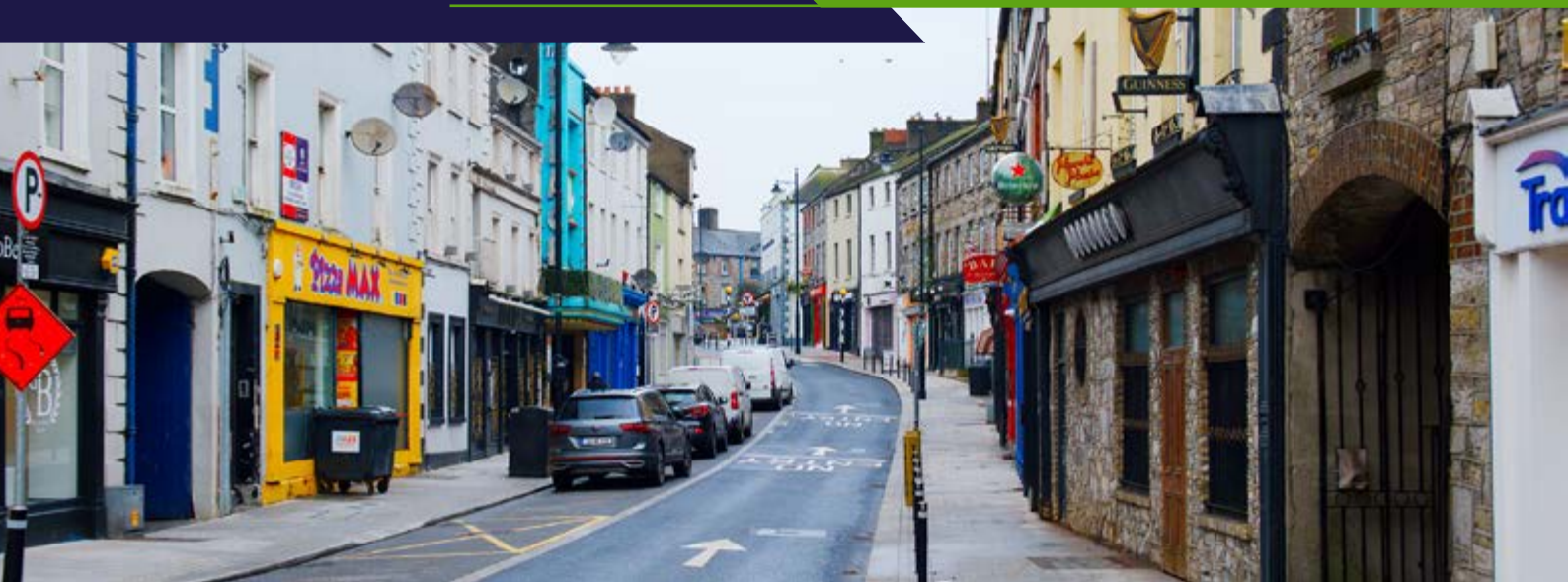


1. Option Selection Process — PROJECT CURRENTLY HERE
2. Preliminary Design & Environmental Assessments
3. Railway Order Application
4. Decision on the Railway Order Application
5. Tendering and Procurement
6. Construction & Commissioning
7. Commence Passenger Services

The Navan Railway project has now progressed to the Preferred Route stage. Over the coming months, all feedback submitted during this public consultation will be considered and further design development, environmental assessments and technical studies will be undertaken.

During this next phase, the project team will refine the Preferred Route and advance the preliminary design. Environmental assessments will be undertaken and engagement with property owners and stakeholders will continue.

A Railway Order application (similar to a planning application) will then be prepared and lodged with An Coimisiún Pleanála. Iarnród Éireann will endeavour to keep all stakeholders updated and informed as the project progresses through the phases of development.



HAVE YOUR SAY

This consultation provides an opportunity to review the Preferred Route for Navan Railway and provide feedback. Your feedback, insights and local knowledge on the Preferred Route, proposed stations and associated infrastructure are important in helping to inform the next stage of project development. In particular, feedback is sought on:

- The Preferred Route and refined corridor boundary
- Changes made since the Emerging Preferred Route Consultation
- Associated infrastructure, including proposed road realignments, crossings and utility diversions
- Environmental considerations
- Community and property considerations
- Local knowledge that may help inform the next stage of design
- Other opportunities or constraints that should be considered

Following this consultation, all feedback received will be reviewed and considered by the project team.



INFORMATION TO SUPPORT YOUR FEEDBACK

Route Changes and Refinements

Further studies were undertaken in response to feedback received during the Emerging Preferred Route Consultation. These studies informed the Preferred Route and identified where changes were required and where the original proposals remained the most appropriate option.

Your feedback is welcomed on the Preferred Route and any changes or refinements made since the Emerging Preferred Route Consultation.

Updated Corridor Drawings

More detailed technical drawings showing Preferred Route corridor have been published as part of this consultation. The project team invite you to review these drawings and submit any feedback you may have in relation to Preferred Route.

Our project team will be available at the consultation events to explain the drawings to you should you wish.

Station Locations and Accessibility

The Preferred Route includes four proposed stations at Navan North, Navan Central, Kilmessan and Dunshaughlin.

Feedback received during the previous consultation highlighted the importance of station accessibility, parking provision, walking and cycling connections, and integration with surrounding communities. Your feedback is welcomed on the proposed station locations and how accessible they are for you.

Property and Land Impacts

Developing Navan Railway may require the acquisition of land and could affect nearby properties, farms and businesses.

Further design and assessment work will continue as the project progresses. The project team welcome any information or local knowledge relating to property, access, agricultural activities or local communities that should be considered.

Environmental Considerations

The project may affect biodiversity, landscape, cultural heritage, watercourses, noise and vibration.

Environmental assessment will continue during the next stage of the project. Your feedback is welcomed on any environmental issues, opportunities or local knowledge that you believe should be considered.

Useful Documents and Reports

Visit the project website to view:

- The first Non-Statutory Public Consultation Findings Report
- The Technical Review of Feedback on the Emerging Preferred Route Report
- Technical drawings showing the new corridor boundary, a vertical profile indicating the height of the proposed railway and information on required earthworks
- An interactive map of the Preferred Route

Iarnród na hUaimhe
Navan Railway

HAVE YOUR SAY ONLINE

Complete and submit our quick and easy online feedback form at: bit.ly/Navan-Railway-PR-Feedback

VIEW THE DOCUMENTS

The consultation drawings and documents are available for you to view and download on our project webpage at www.irishrail.ie/navan-line

EMAIL US

navan@irishrail.ie

CALL US

(01) 703 4451

WRITE TO US

Navan Railway Project,
Iarnród Éireann,
Haymarket House,
Smithfield,
Dublin 7, D07 CF98

How your feedback will be processed

Navan Railway project team will consider all of the submissions made during the public consultation period.

The feedback received will be used to inform the project's design and environmental assessments to progress towards the next stage of development to identify a Preferred Route. A report will be published summarising the feedback received during this consultation and how it informed the design development.

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