

KILKENNY NORTHERN RING ROAD EXTENSION

**Kilkenny County Council Monthly Meeting
21st June 2013**



Kilkenny
County Council

View from N77 Castlecomer Road Roundabout



View from N77 Castlecomer Road Roundabout



View from R693 Freshford Road



Planning Context

- **Kilkenny County/City Development Plan 2008 - 2014**
 - 'Reserve free from development the proposed line of the western by-pass for the City from the Castlecomer Road to the Callan Road including for a river crossing.'
 - To seek the upgrade of the Regional Road R693, which provides an important link between the M8 and M9, to National Secondary status.
- **Regional Planning Guidelines**
 - The Regional Authority will support the completion of the Kilkenny Ring Road.
 - The Regional Authority will support the upgrading of the R693 which provides an important link to the M8/M9 and an important link between the hubs of Kilkenny and Wexford.

Funding/Resources

- **2013 – 2015 Adopted Capital Budget**
 - Northern Ring Road Extension (1.5km) €14 million
 - Total Local Funding €1million
 - Total Govt. Grants €13million
- **Completion of Ring Road Castlecomer Rd. to Callan Rd.?**
 - Total Length 7km
 - Total Estimate for delivery €41.5million
 - Longer term horizon for full delivery
 - Unlikely to attract NRA grant aid from Freshford Rd. to Callan Rd.

KNRRE Works Completed to Date

- Consultants (Clifton Scannel Emerson) appointed in 2007
- Route Selection and Constraints Report (November 2008)
- Hydrology Study on River Nore and Flood Plain (June 2011)
- Preliminary Design of Preferred Route
- Direction sought by Kilkenny County Council from An Bord Pleanala to determine if an Environmental Impact Statement must be prepared (February 2012)
- Direction from An Bord Pleanala to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (June 2012)
- Draft EIS (June 2013)
- CPO (June 2013)

KNRRE Need for the Scheme

- Positive economic impact on Kilkenny City and County and the South East Region
- Improved connectivity between the M8 and M9
- Improved connectivity between M8 and R693, N10, N76, N77, N78 and R700
- Provides a reduction in through traffic in Kilkenny City
- Provides for a reduction in HGV's within Kilkenny City
- Complements the Kilkenny Central Access Scheme
- Provides an additional crossing of the River Nore
- Assists with Smarter Travel projects within and around Kilkenny City
- Reduces the burden on Greens Bridge
- Enhances road safety
- Cost to Benefit Ratio 3.66

KNRRE Major Issues from EIS

- **Traffic Modeling and Predictions**

- 2012/2013 traffic volumes and traffic forecasts based on traffic growth associated with specific development patterns.
- Modeling confirms the need for the scheme to alleviate traffic congestion in Kilkenny City.
- Modeling confirms that KNRRE and KCAS are complementary in providing for sustainable traffic volumes in the City Centre and on John's Bridge and Green's Bridge.
- Modeling demonstrates significant traffic relief on Dublin Road, Hebron Road, Castlecomer Road and Freshford Road.

	John's Bridge	Green's Bridge	N10 Ring Road Bridge (Ossory Bridge)	Central Access Scheme	Northern Ring Road Extension (NRRE)
2013 Existing Traffic Volumes	9,815	14,120	23,700	-	-
2019 No KCAS or NRRE	11,011	15,010	28,380	-	-
2034 No KCAS or NRRE	19,227	18,090	29,570	-	-
2019 With KCAS but with no NRRE	7,049	11,956	27,900	10,388	
2019 With KCAS and NRRE	6,988	9,383	28,160	7,350	7,705
2034 With KCAS but with no NRRE	15,814	17,854	28,790	21,541	-
2034 With KCAS and NRRE	14,424	12,734	27,970	15,925	15,925

KNRRE Major Issues from EIS

- **Flora and Fauna**

- River Barrow and Nore cSAC

- Habitat Loss
 - Plant species impacted are widespread in the river valley
 - No areas of Annexed Habitat

- Special Protection Area (Kingfisher)

- No adverse impact

- Badger survey – Badger Underpass

KNRRE Major Issues from EIS

- **Hydrology**

- 300m wide floodplain
- Three span bridge (45m + 2 x 22.5m)
- 20 No. 10m wide x 3.6m high Arched Culverts
- Reinforced embankments at steeper grade reducing the road footprint through the flood plain
- 30mm increase in upstream water levels (100 year storm) – negligible impact

KNRRE CPO

- 5 Affected Landowners
 - 3 main land holding
- Approximately 13 acres to be acquired

KNRRE Next Steps

- Seeking Members Approval to submit the completed EIS and CPO to An Bord Pleanala and to place public notices inviting submissions in respect of the proposed scheme.

Kilkenny Central Access Scheme - Need

- To create a compact city centre meeting the challenges , present and future, including those related to vehicular, cycling and pedestrian access
- To encourage and facilitate the redevelopment of brownfield sites thereby consolidating the City Centre and reducing pressure for development at the edge of the urban area
- Upto 90% of city vehicular trips are generated within the city
- Reduces the burden on Greens Bridge and Johns Bridge which operate in excess of capacity at peak times
- Complements the NRRE
- Facilitates the implementation of City Centre Smarter Travel and Traffic Management initiatives

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2034 No KCAS or NRRE	19,227	18,090	29,570	-	-
2019 With KCAS but with no NRRE	7,049	11,956	27,900	10,388	-
2019 With no KCAS but with NRRE	9,724	10,550	28,410	-	7,480
2019 With KCAS and NRRE	6,988	9,383	28,160	7,350	7,705
2034 With KCAS but with no NRRE	15,814	17,854	28,790	21,541	-
2034 With no KCAS but with NRRE	18,057	15,040	26,000	-	18,080
2034 With KCAS and NRRE	14,424	12,734	27,970	15,925	15,925