

**From:** Grahame Cleary [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 08 November 2017 22:08  
**To:** National Planning Framework  
**Subject:** National Planning Framework Policy public submissions

To whom it concerns,

As part of the National Planning Framework Ireland 2040 I would like to make the following submission.

To develop the Western Rail Trail from Collooney to Athenry.

As a keen cyclist from Ballyhaunis I can see the benefits in developing this amenity in terms of the health of walkers runners and cyclists (young and old) who could enjoy the outdoors in a safe and sustainable way. Also the existing Greenways from Westport to Newport and from Dungarvan to Waterford have significantly benefited the local economies in terms of increased tourist numbers; thus only strengthens the case for developing the Western Rail Trail.

Finally, a greenway on the closed railway from Athenry to Collooney will not only protect this publically owned route in perpetuity, it will help fulfil National Policy objective number 6 and in particular national policy objective 23 as detailed in National Planning Framework draft policy document.

I am asking that the Western Rail Trail becomes a named and specified project as part of the Finalised National Planning Framework policy document.

Yours sincerely,

Grahame Cleary

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