

// PUBLIC CONSULTATION 3

Emerging Preferred Route Corridor

Monaghan County Council is working in partnership with Louth County Council and in association with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to develop a scheme to upgrade a 32km section of the N2/A5 Dublin – Derry Road. The proposed project is in Counties Monaghan and Louth, between Ardee and Castleblayney. This project is called the N2 Ardee to Castleblayney Road Scheme.

Monaghan County Council now has appointed Jacobs Consulting Engineers to advance the project through the planning and design process. Subject to funding, the design process will be developed in stages, with opportunities for the public to participate in the decision-making process at each stage.

A second period of public consultation on the 'Route Corridor Options' began in November 2019. A Post-Consultation Report outlining the feedback received can be viewed on the project website www.N2MonaghanLouth.ie. Feedback and submissions received through the 'Route Corridor Options' public consultation have been considered by the project team as part of the Option Selection process, and an Emerging Preferred Route Corridor has now been identified.

The Emerging Preferred Route Corridor will be published at 6pm on Monday, 24th August 2020 on the project website www.N2MonaghanLouth.ie. Details of the Emerging Preferred Route Corridor will also be published through local media and social media that week. A third period of non-statutory public consultation seeking feedback on the 'Emerging Preferred Route Corridor' will begin on Tuesday, 25th August 2020 and will run for six weeks until 5th October 2020.

Registered landowners who have land within the Emerging Preferred Route Corridor will receive an information pack by post on or after the 25th August 2020. The information pack will include drawings and maps of the Emerging Preferred Route Corridor, information on the Option Selection process to date and details of this third public consultation process.

A leaflet will be delivered to properties within the Route Corridor Options on or after the 25th August 2020 advising that the Emerging Preferred Route Corridor has been identified and that the public consultation process has commenced.

Public Consultation Format

Due to the threat COVID-19 poses to human health, it is not planned to hold large scale public events as part of the 'Emerging Preferred Route Corridor' public consultation process. In response to the COVID-19 restrictions, an online public consultation experience has been developed on the project website www.N2MonaghanLouth.ie – this will go live at 6pm on Monday 24th August 2020. This online public consultation experience will allow stakeholders and the general public to view maps, project information and express their opinion in a safe and accessible environment.

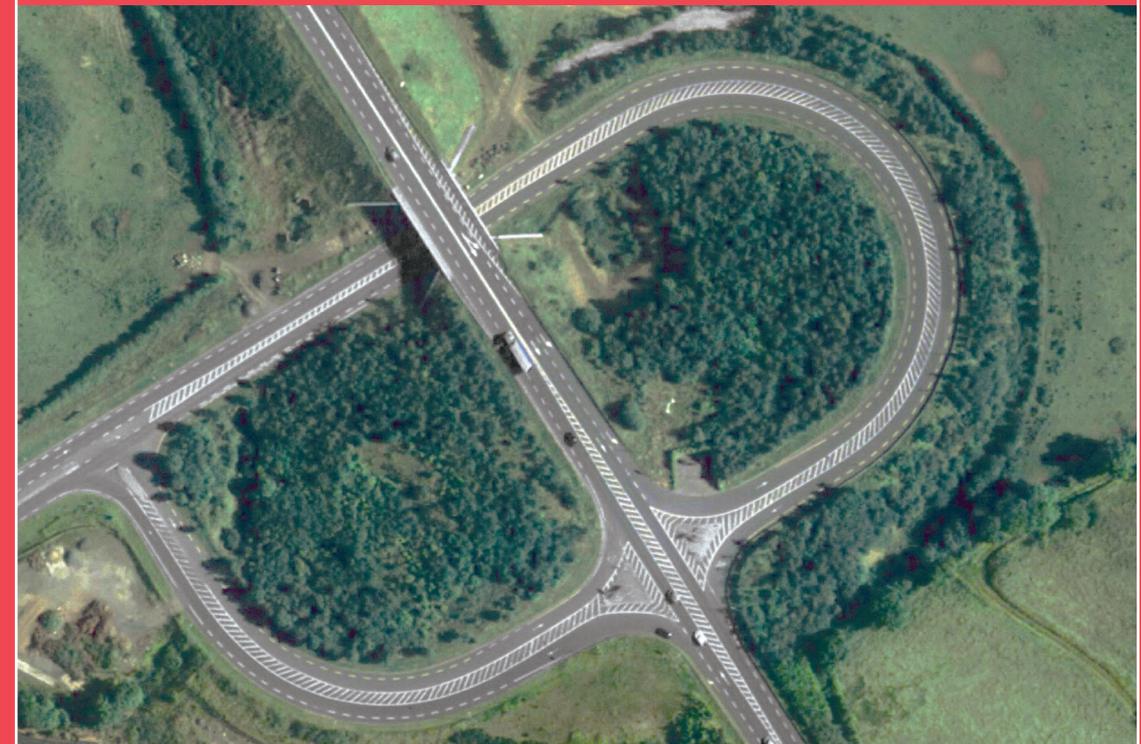
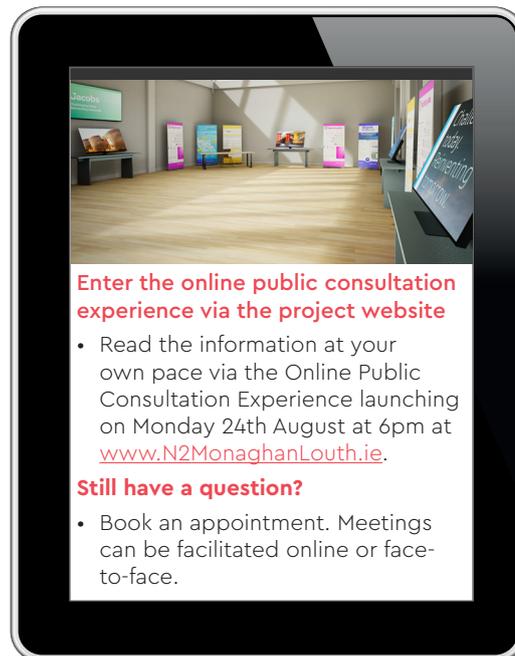
It is understood that online information cannot be accessed by everyone, and to this end a range of options will be available for people to speak directly with and meet members of the Project Team during the public consultation period, including:

- Through the project phonenumber, where members of the team will be available to give an overview of the project and answer general questions.
- Email queries will be accepted throughout the public consultation period.
- During the first 3 weeks of the public consultation period, 25th August – 11th September, members of the public can arrange meetings with a member of the Project Team by phone or using digital technologies.
- During the second 3 weeks of the planned consultation period, 14th September – 2nd October, in-person meetings will be available by appointment at venues in Monaghan Town and Carrickmacross. These in-person meetings will allow for social distancing and will adhere to all COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions to safeguard the health of the public and staff.

Once the Emerging Preferred Route Corridor has been published, anyone affected by the Emerging Preferred Route Corridor or with an interest in the scheme is encouraged to make an appointment to speak with or meet the Project Team, and to submit feedback through the public consultation process.

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