

**From:** Minister  
**Sent:** 20 March 2017 14:30  
**To:** National Planning Framework  
**Subject:** FW: Ireland 2040 Plan

From: [REDACTED]  
To: "[simon.coveney@oireachtas.ie](mailto:simon.coveney@oireachtas.ie)" <[simon.coveney@oireachtas.ie](mailto:simon.coveney@oireachtas.ie)>,  
Date: 20/03/2017 12:20  
Subject: Fwd: Ireland 2040 Plan

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Dear Minister

I sincerely hope that you will become Taoiseach soon and wish you all the best.  
As a Minister based in Cork, together with Minister Noonan based here in Limerick, I know that you are keenly looking at the issue of Cork/Limerick/Shannon/Galway being a logical area to counter-balance the unsustainable growth in the Dublin/East region.

I would appeal to you to consider the attached submission I have made to the Ireland2040 plan. In particular I ask you to look at two particular issues, one being the Limerick/Foynes potential with the Shannon Estuary having the second deepest harbour in Europe together with a ready to go rail line to Limerick. The other very important issue is the vital connection required between Cork and Limerick by motorway, to complete the corridor all the way to Galway. I believe that a Public - Private partnership would be the most economical way to go and that a single Toll on the route would be acceptable to any right thinking person.

As a 72 year old I probably won't benefit much from my proposal! However, my children and grandchildren based at both ends of the Cork/Limerick route will!

I thank you and wish you all the best for the future and I know you will give consideration to my suggestions.

Gerry McCormack

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]  
Date: Thu 23 Feb 2017 at 15:58  
Subject: Ireland 2040 Plan  
To: [npf@housing.gov.ie](mailto:npf@housing.gov.ie) <[npf@housing.gov.ie](mailto:npf@housing.gov.ie)>

From Gerry McCormack, ordinary retired citizen  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Submission:

In formulating the plan I believe it is vital that the overdevelopment of Dublin and environs should be counter-balanced by major investment in the development of the Western corridor of Galway/Shannon/Limerick/Cork.

The over-expansion of the Eastern region has led to traffic chaos, lack of and cost of affordable housing and unacceptable commuting distances for many workers. The mantra that "people will follow the jobs" can be countered by the fact that people prefer to stay where they are and the jobs will follow them if the infrastructure is there.

I set out a proposal how major investment along the West coast, linking the three major cities there, would create the perfect counterpoint to the overdevelopment in the East.

GALWAY has third level colleges, a cluster of IT companies and major tourist facilities and will soon be linked by the M18 to Shannon and Limerick.

SHANNON, with a major transatlantic airport and a cluster of manufacturing, services and aircraft maintenance companies.

LIMERICK, With third level colleges has a cluster of IT, services and pharmaceutical companies. In addition, 40k away is FOYNES, the second biggest port by weight in the State, and having the second deepest harbour in Europe, capable of handling the largest cargo vessels. It is planned to reopen the existing rail line link to Limerick.

CORK has third level colleges and a large cluster of IT, pharmaceutical and services companies, together with an international airport.

\* All of these areas have large amounts of much cheaper development land for industrial, commercial and home building land. There are large numbers of highly skilled and educated workers ready and willing to work and live at home, rather than have to emigrate to Dublin!

To link these major areas, ripe for expansion, connectivity is vital and it is strategically important that the Cork/Limerick Road is upgraded to Motorway status, and urgently.

Finally, this is a very important opportunity to correct the East-West imbalance in the ongoing development of the country.

It can only be achieved by imagination, good planning and , above all, with the Political Will.

We cannot afford to miss this opportunity before it's too late.

Thank you

Gerry McCormack

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