



# Galway Transportation Unit Business Plan 2008-2012

**transport21**  
progress in motion

  
Comhshaol, Oidhreacht agus Rialtas Aitíne  
Environment, Heritage and Local Government



## Galway City Council

  
Department of Transport  
An Roinn Iompair

  
NDP  
National Development Plan 2007-2013



# Transportation Unit



Galway City Council

# Contents

Chapter		Page
	Vision Statement	3
1	Galway Transportation Unit	4
2	Background and Context	5
2.1	<i>Policy Context</i>	5
2.2	<i>Public Transportation Strategies</i>	6
2.3	<i>Galway Strategic Bus Study</i>	7
2.4	<i>Implementation of Policy Objectives</i>	8
2.5	<i>Implementation Strategy</i>	10
3	Aims and Objectives	11
4	Function and Remit	12
5	Structure and Reporting Relationship	14
6	Communication and Marketing Strategy	15
7	Staff Complement and Competency	17
8	Office Accommodation	21
9	Funding	22
9.1	<i>Staffing and Operational Costs</i>	22
9.2	<i>Capital Schemes</i>	22
10	Multi-annual Work Programme	23
11	Monitoring and Review Mechanisms	28
12	The Way Forward	29





Vision

# Statement





**Galway City Council established the Galway Transportation Unit (GTU) to develop and implement an Integrated Transport Solution for Galway City in accordance with best practice and the objectives outlined in Transport 21. Working in partnership with transport stakeholders in the City, the Integrated Transport Solution will be developed and implemented to promote increased use of public and non-car based transport services, overcome existing congestion and delays in the network and promote a sustainable transport system for Galway City.**

**The Galway Transportation Unit aims to develop public transportation and other travel modes to the extent that the City will become a model for a sustainable traffic system in an urban environment.**





# 1. Galway Transportation Unit

Galway City Council established the Galway Transportation Unit (GTU) to accelerate the delivery of public transport infrastructure within the city and implement strategic traffic management initiatives that will improve traffic management for all road users in the city.

The establishment of the Transportation Unit is an essential requirement in the implementation of existing strategies and plans and in the preparation of on-going plans to cater for the continued development of the city and its hinterland. The unit will be in a position to co-ordinate the traffic and transportation strategies and targets of the City Council and other agencies and bodies.

Working in conjunction with other stakeholders, the City Council will build on the success of schemes carried out to date. In the roll out and development of new public transport schemes and traffic management measures, the Transportation Unit will establish Galway City as a model for a sustainable traffic system in an urban environment, drawing on the experiences and best practice in comparable cities in Ireland and abroad.

The objectives of the Business Plan will be achieved by the implementation of previously adopted transportation strategies for the City i.e. the Galway Transportation and Planning Study, the National Spatial Strategy, Galway City Development Plan 2005 - 2011, National Development Plan and the Gateway Innovation Fund (GIF).

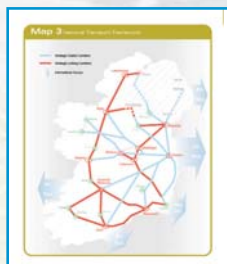
The Galway Transportation Unit will require a staff of 9 people with specialist transportation, traffic management and marketing skills.



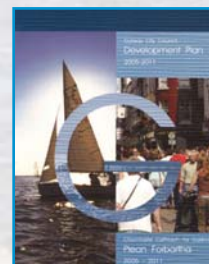
National Development Plan



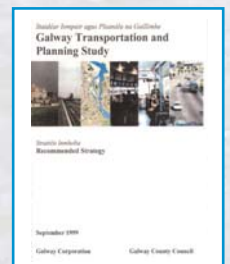
National Spatial Strategy



Gateway Innovation Fund (GIF)



Galway City Development Plan



Galway Transportation and Planning Study





## 2. Background and Context

Galway City serves as the regional capital of the Western Region and the greater Galway area. The City and its hinterland has been a regional success story in recent years.

Galway City is designated as a Gateway city in the National Spatial Strategy. The City currently has a population of 75,000 and the City Development Plan 2005 – 2011 projects that the population will increase to 85,000 during the course of the Plan.

In recent years the population growth in the City has been increasing faster than the other gateway cities outside Dublin. Labour force participation rates and the growth in total employment have also exceeded the other gateway cities outside Dublin.

The growth of Galway and its' hinterland is expected to continue. In the latest CSO population projections, the West is projected to be the fastest growing region outside the Greater Dublin/Mid East area.

The transportation system in Galway City has not kept pace with the rapid growth and the City is experiencing increasing transportation problems and levels of congestion.

Galway City is heavily dependant on private transport for travel to work and to schools with only 4% of commuters regularly using public transport. Journey times for the private car are increasing and the road network is close to saturation. This is posing problems at present for all modes of travel including public transport, and will lead to problems for future development of transportation, including public transport in the City.

### 2.1 Policy Context.

The Galway Transportation Unit has been established to deliver on the national, regional and local transportation policy aims and objectives. The function and remit, as outlined in Chapter 4, has it's origin in Transport 21. Similarly, the Work Programme as outlined in Chapter 10 is concerned with delivering the capital infrastructure associated with those aims and objectives.



Transport 21







A land use and transportation study, 'The Galway Transportation and Planning Study (GTPS)', was jointly commissioned by Galway City Council and Galway County Council in 1999. The study established the framework for the development of transportation in the City and its environs.

In the years 2001 – 2002 Galway City Council and Galway County Council carried out a review of the 1999 GTPS. The review document sought to integrate and have regard to strengthened national policies that were emerging in the form of The National Development Plan and The National Spatial Strategy.



The Galway Transportation and Planning Study (GTPS)

Having regard to national policy and the original GTPS recommendations, the Review, 'Galway Transportation and Planning Study (GTPS) Integration Study', was completed in 2002. Not only are the underlying principles in the GTPS Integration Study consistent with national policy, but they have also informed the Western Regional Authority's 'Regional Planning Guidelines', Galway City Development Board's Strategy 'Gaillimh Beo agus Bríomhar' and the City and County Development Plans.

## 2.2 Public Transportation Strategies

Among the recommended strategies that emerged from the policy principles in the original GTPS was the development of a significantly improved public transport system. This included:

- Bus based internal public transport loops in Galway City serving key destinations.
- A major bus priority initiative to accelerate bus timings on the city street network so as to offer an alternative to the car.
- The development of Park and Ride facilities at a number of strategic locations.

The policy principles that were used in the review of the Land Use and Transportation Strategy included:

- Use of transport corridors to focus critical mass in settlements.
- Using settlement strategy to promote sustainable public transport.







Having regard to the policies that informed the review, the Integration Study recommended the continued development of the bus network, including bus priority measures and the adoption and development of appropriate traffic management policies and demand restraint measures so as to:

- Achieve a 10 minute frequency along routes within the City
- Design routes and layouts in residential estates which would accommodate efficient provision of bus services.
- Produce a joint Bus Eireann / City Council Study for Bus priority measures
- Develop and implement City centre parking controls to operate alongside effective use of Park and Ride facilities.
- Extend the urban bus network to include Ardaun
- Improve bus interchange facilities at Eyre Square

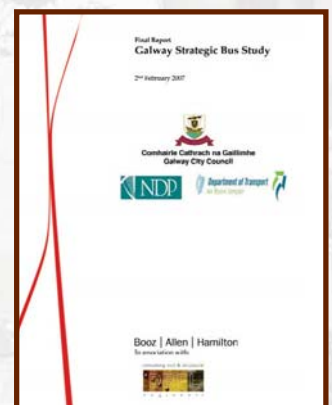
The Integration Study also included in its recommendations the development of:

- Commuter rail services.
- Cycling and walking.

### 2.3 Galway Strategic Bus Study.

The Galway Strategic Bus Study was commissioned in 2006. It established the strengths and weaknesses of the existing City Bus system and established a vision incorporating Quality Bus Corridors, Park & Ride proposals, General Traffic Management, Marketing and Planning Policy and Practice. It envisaged building a transport planning and traffic engineering team capable of:

- Integrated transport and land use planning
- Devising a strategy for the future use of roads
- Effective bus-supportive development control
- Roll-out of improved traffic management, including introduction of UTC
- Liaison with public transport stakeholders (both operators and Department of Transport)



Galway Strategic Bus Study







- Establishing and overseeing a project office to construct the quality bus corridors
- On-going maintenance of Quality Bus Corridors
- Progressing Park and Ride
- Dealing with other transport planning and traffic engineering issues.

All national, regional and local policies are complementary and have been adopted by the City Council.

## **2.4 Implementation of Policy Objectives**

Having established the policy context, Galway City Council has commenced the implementation of the aims and objectives notwithstanding the structure and staff of the City Council being primarily focussed on operation and maintenance issues. The lack of staff available for the advancement of forward transportation planning aims and objectives has been identified as an obstacle to the rollout of necessary transport initiatives and provided the rationale and impetus for the establishment of the Galway Transportation Unit.

Progress was nonetheless achieved by the City Council with a number of schemes being advanced. They included the City's first bus lane whereby approx. 800m of a new bus lane was provided on the Dublin Road in 2004. This was followed by the provision of an extension to the scheme in 2006 resulting in the construction of a new inbound section of bus lane – length 1800m – from the N6 towards the City Centre.



Existing Bus lane on Dublin Road

In addition, the City Council is delivering on a number of public transportation aims and objectives as follows:-

- The provision of a new bus interchange building for the use of private bus operators at a city centre location which is to be completed by Sept. 2008.
- Completion of the design of the Seamus Quirke Road inclusive of Bus lanes and integrated signalling.
- Construction of a new length of outbound bus lane on the Dublin Road with construction to commence in 2008.
- Advancement of the design and construction of the Doughiska Road to facilitate improved bus access and cycling facilities to tender stage.







- Submission of an application for public transport infrastructure under the Gateway Innovation Fund scheme linking Galway City with Ardaun.
- Inclusion in the City Development Plan 2005-2011 of provisions for the development of bus based public transport and policies and settlement strategies aimed at the development of non-car based transport within the city.
- Provision of Christmas Park and Ride schemes in the years 2005 – 2007.
- Development of a framework plan for a new town at Ardaun, an area to the east of Galway City that traverses the City and County boundary. The new town is to be designed so as to reduce the need for car based commuter traffic and with the provision of high quality public transport linkages to the City centre.

The bus priority measures that have been constructed to date are operating successfully and have afforded significant improvements in journey times to bus services on the route. Design work that has been carried out on the other schemes outlined above will deliver further public transport improvements and it is through the Galway Transportation Unit that the initiatives will be progressed.



The new bus interchange building



Framework plan for a new town at Ardaun



Park and Ride schemes

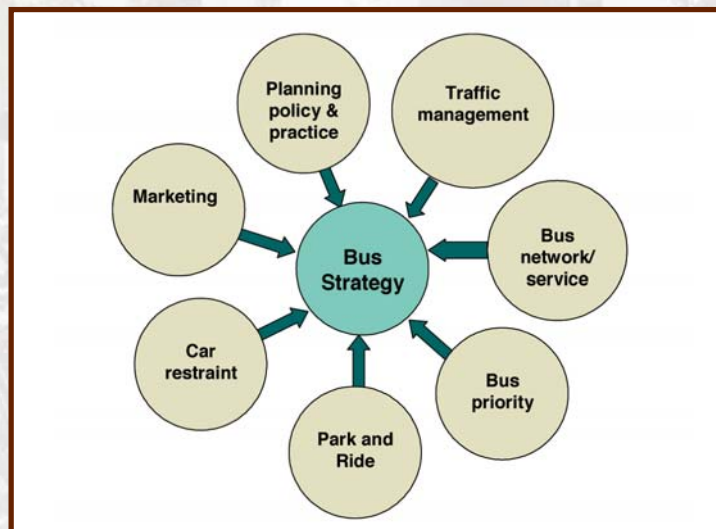




## 2.5 Implementation Strategy

The strategy for advancing the transportation aims and objectives is through the Galway Transportation Unit. The Unit will have a team of transportation specialists working under the direction of the City Manager and Director of Services and in consultation with the City Council, The Transportation and Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee, Integrated Transportation Co-ordinating Group and transport stakeholders in the City. It will be focussed on the aims and objectives of the GTU Business Plan and the development of the transportation infrastructure suited to the needs of Galway City. In this regard the GTU will implement agreed transport policies as outlined in Transport 21 and the GTPS and will maximise the draw-down of funding for those transportation strategies from national and local funds.

The Galway Transportation Unit will afford the City Council an opportunity to prioritise and advance capital infrastructural works. It will formulate a Marketing and Communications Strategy to assist in the rollout of the initiatives and projects and monitor implementation on an ongoing basis.



Strategic Bus Study Implementation







## 3. Aims and Objectives

The objectives of the Galway Transportation Unit are:

- To ensure that Galway has the necessary transport infrastructure and services to support its continued growth and development as a gateway and a regional centre
- To improve availability and potential usage of all modes of public transport.
- To develop other travel modes i.e. cycling and walking
- To influence public behaviour in relation to choice of travel mode and encourage the increased use of an appropriate and efficient public transport services both within the city and to and from the city.
- To engage in a marketing strategy that will promote a public awareness of the strategies being implemented and facilitate public acceptance of new measures being introduced.
- To improve journey times both within the city and to and from the city for all modes of transport.
- To effectively integrate different transport modes with particular emphasis on public transport.
- To minimise traffic congestion within the city.

The Transport Unit will operate within the Transportation and Infrastructure Directorate of the City Council and will report to the Director of Services in this Directorate.

The GTU will work closely with the City Council, the Strategic Policy Committee in the Transportation and Infrastructure Directorate and with the Integrated Transportation Co-ordinating Group in the implementation of its aims and objectives.





## 4. Function and Remit.

The Transport Unit is being established for an initial 5-year period. The timescale will enable significant delivery of existing plans such as the Strategic Bus Study, transport aspects of the Gateway Innovation Fund, actions identified in the GTPS including Park and Ride, the development of cycling and walking routes. It will facilitate the delivery of the feasibility study for a Luas-style light rail transit system for Galway as outlined in the Public Transport Section of the Programme for Government.

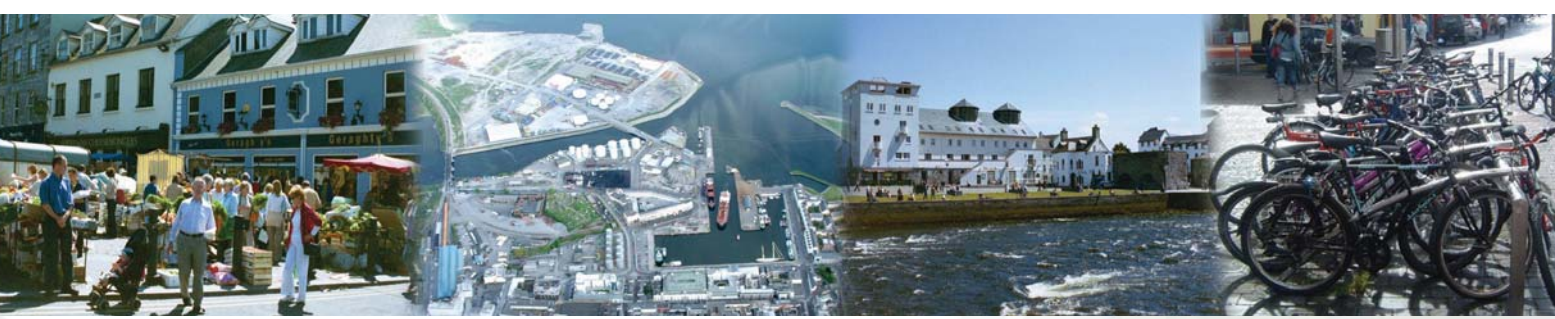
*Specifically, the actions to be delivered by the Galway Transportation Unit are to:*

**A** Increase the relative attractiveness of public transport and reduce congestion on the city road network by:

- *The delivery of the actions as detailed in the Strategic Bus Study. These actions are aimed at increasing the usage of the bus services within the City, the delivery of shorter journey times and improving the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of bus services, both public and private.*
- *Development of a variable messaging system for real time information on Car Park occupancy.*
- *The development of plans for the design and installation of an Urban Traffic Control System that will maximize the efficiency of the existing Road network and have the facility to provide priority to public transport at signalised junctions.*
- *Improved timetabling and ticketing for City bus services.*
- *The provision of Park and Ride facilities both by the City Council and also in conjunction with the private sector.*
- *Improved and more effective marketing of public transport services in the city and catchment area.*
- *The development of a new Town Centre at Ardaun with high-quality public transport linkages to the City Centre.*
- *Improved commuter rail services for Galway and also the delivery of the feasibility study for a Luas-style light rail transit system for Galway.*







**B** *Develop and promote the use of other non-car based modes of transport such as cycling and walking by:*

- *The preparation of a strategy for the development and promotion of cycling within the City*
- *The development of Cycle Tracks and cycle facilities that will increase the use of this mode of transport.*
- *The integration of measures that are aimed at promoting the use of cycling in new road and traffic management schemes and in major infrastructural projects within the City.*

**C** *Develop and maintain a software simulation traffic model for the city that will be used:*

- *In the assessment of new traffic management schemes for the city network.*
- *As a forward planning tool in the evaluation of major new commercial, retail and residential developments in the city.*
- *In the assessment of new public transport schemes within the city.*

**D** *Having regard to National and Local Policy, engage in strategic planning with the following stakeholders regarding the planning, funding and implementation of plans and strategies for the development of transportation in the City. The process will be facilitated by the use of existing structures such as the City Council, Strategic Policy Committee and the Integrated Transportation Co-ordinating Group. The stakeholders include:-*

- *Dept. of Transport*
- *Galway County Council*
- *An Garda Síochána*
- *National Roads Authority*
- *Galway City Development Board*
- *Galway Cycling Groups*
- *Residents Associations and other public interest groups*
- *Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government*
- *Galway City Chamber of Commerce and Industry*
- *Ireland West Tourism*
- *Bus Eireann*
- *Road Safety Authority*
- *Iarnród Eireann*
- *Private Bus Sector Operators*
- *Galway City Community Forum*

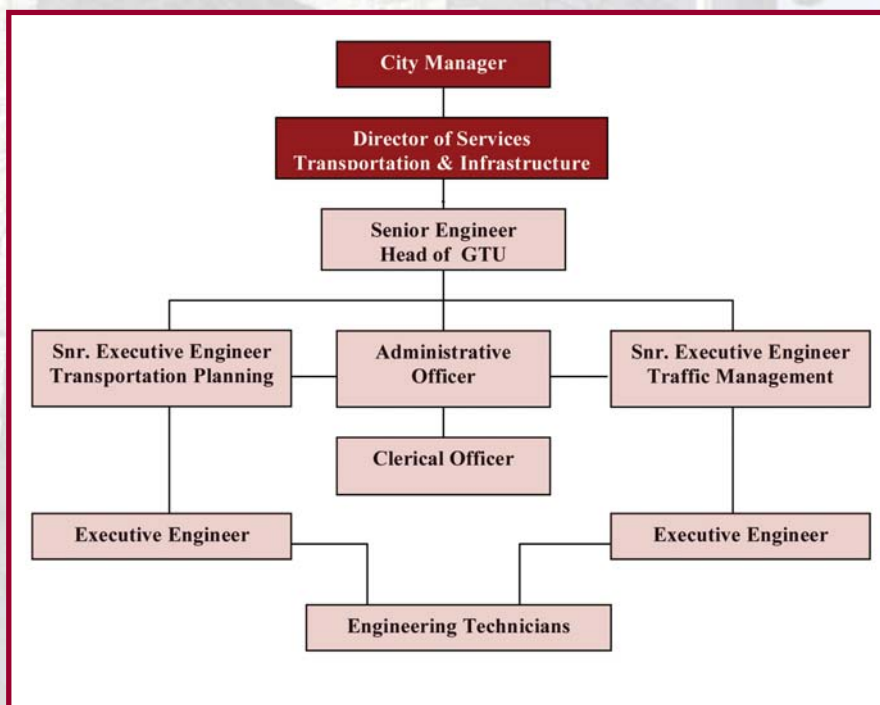


## 5. Structure and Reporting Relationship

The function and remit of the GTU as outlined in Chapter 4 will be delivered by a team with specialist transportation, traffic management and marketing skills. The Unit is headed by a Senior Engineer with extensive experience and expertise in traffic and transportation issues in Galway City.

The reporting relationship of the Senior Engineer is to the Director of Services for Transportation and Infrastructure, who in turn operates under the guidance and direction of the City Manager.

The GTU will work closely with Consultants in the design and delivery of schemes included in the multi-annual work programme. The delivery of the schemes will be carried out by a project management team for each project with this team reporting to the head of the GTU on an ongoing basis.







## 6. Communications and Marketing Strategy

The Galway Transportation Unit will provide leadership for the advancement of an integrated transportation solution for the City and will foster a broad-based understanding and ownership of the process. It will encourage stakeholder participation and acceptance of the plans on an ongoing basis.

The formulation of a Marketing and Communication Strategy will be an important tool in achieving this objective. It will:

- Facilitate communication and interaction among all stakeholders and encourage participation.
- Inform stakeholders and the wider public of the benefits of the proposals.
- Market City transport initiatives and the use of public transport, Park & Ride and other non-car based options.
- Encourage the development of public transport and traffic management schemes and facilitate consensus.
- Ensure the dissemination of relevant public information regarding commencement and completion dates for projects.
- Minimise the effects of disruption during construction.

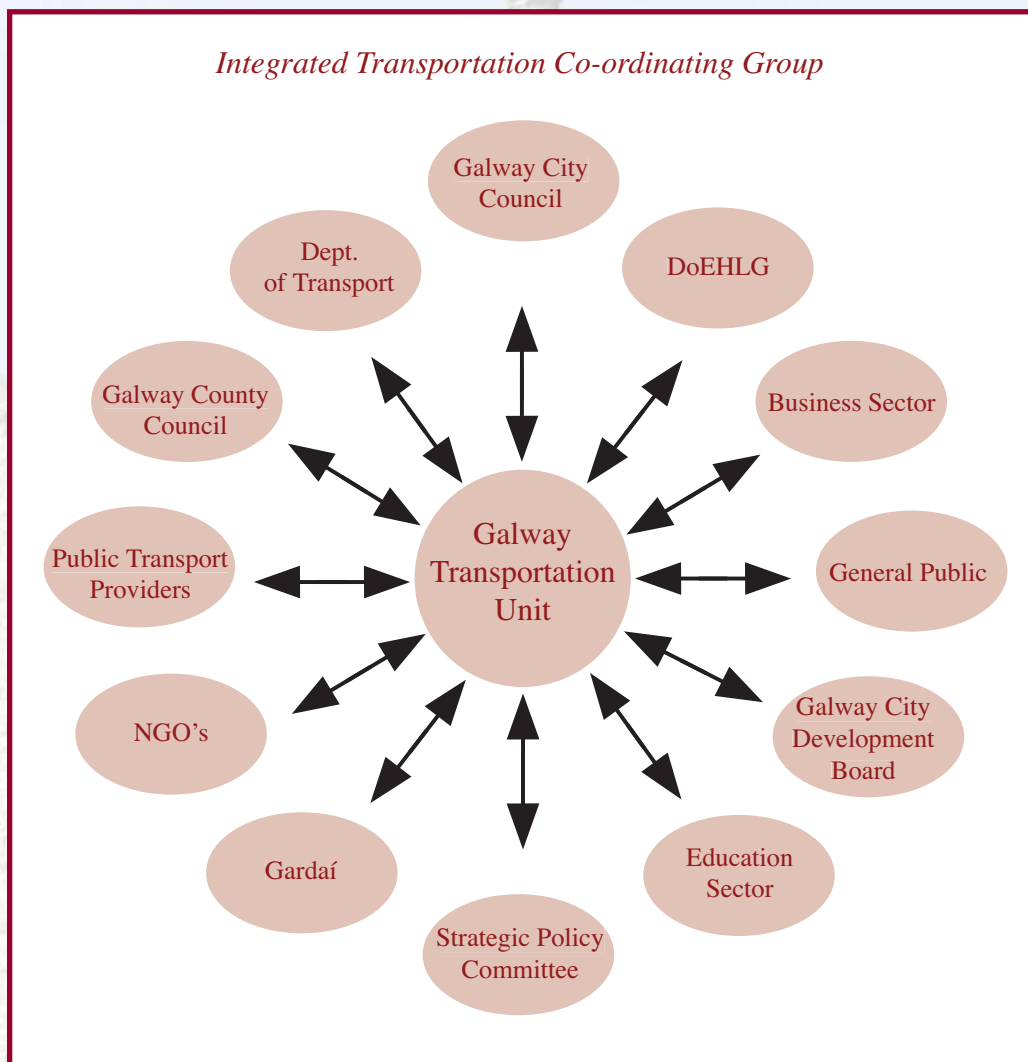
The Marketing and Communication Strategy will use established and new mechanisms and structures to achieve the Units' objectives. These will include:

- Democratic ownership and accountability through the Council Chamber and Strategic Policy Committee:
  - Formulation and adoption of policy
  - Formal planning approval of capital infrastructural works
  - Provision of quarterly updates
- City-wide ownership of the process through participation in the City Development Boards Integrated Transportation Co-ordinating Group
- Creation of a Galway Transportation Unit web site
- Household newsletters
- Press Releases
- Public Notices





The Integrated Transportation Co-ordinating Group will play a lead role in the process. It will be a forum whereby competing aims and aspirations can be analysed and discussed with a view to achieving consensus on solutions. It has a broad-based membership of key stakeholders and is the appropriate forum for the Transportation Unit to agree and advance transportation issues in Galway City.



Integrated Transportation Co-ordinating Group Membership and Relationships





## 7. Staff Complement and Competency

The GTU is a specialist Unit within Galway City Council. It is headed by a Senior Engineer with responsibility for managing a team with competencies and expertise in Transport Planning, Project Management, Engineering, Communications, Marketing, Information Technology and Transport Management.

The staff structure and reporting relationship is detailed in Chapter 5 above. It comprises Planning and Traffic Management Teams reporting to the Senior Engineer and includes technical and administrative supports. The specific competencies of the staff are outlined in Table 2.

### Description No. of Staff Competency

Snr. Engineer

1

Senior Management Position requiring skills in:

- *Motivation*
- *Communication*
- *Project Management*
- *Target setting*
- *Delegation*
- *Persuasion*
- *Negotiation*

### Description No. of Staff Competency

Snr. Exec. Engineer

1

Senior Transport Engineering position leading the Transport Planning Team and requiring expertise and skill in:

- *Transportation Planning or equivalent.*
- *Project Management skills to take projects from initial design to construction.*
- *Team leadership focusing on delivery of key projects.*
- *Communication and negotiation skills in context of integration, planning and delivery of bus and rail proposals.*





**Description**  
**No. of Staff**  
**Competency**

Snr. Exec. Engineer

1

Senior Transport Engineering position leading the Traffic Management Team requiring expertise and skill in:

- *Traffic Management*
- *Information Technology skills pertaining to a modern traffic management team and environment*
- *Team leadership focusing on delivery of key projects*
- *Project Management and Technical support for team with responsibility for the development of modern traffic management measures including the development and installation of an Adaptive Urban Traffic Control (AUTC) system and Variable Messaging Signposting System.*

**Description**  
**No. of Staff**  
**Competency**

Executive Engineer

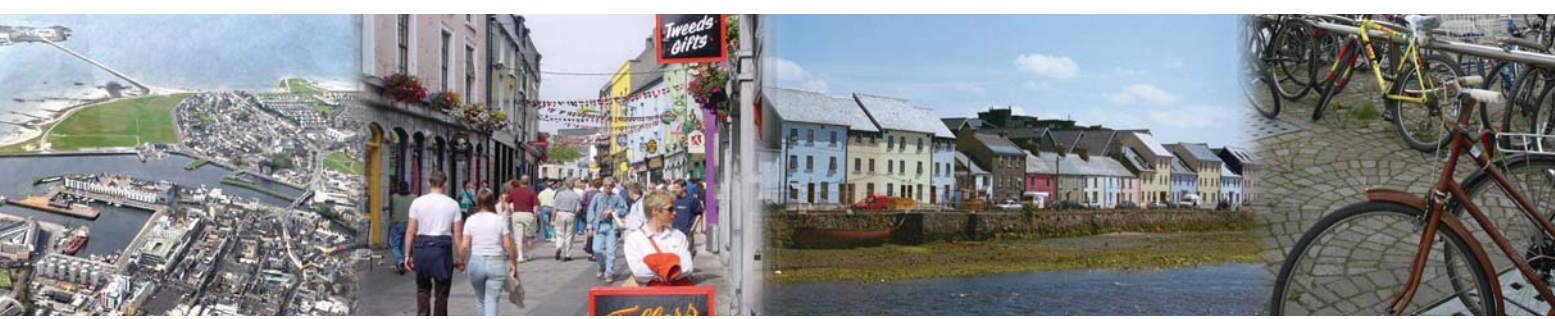
1

Engineering position with qualifications and experience in:

- *Information and Communication Technology and specifically:*
  - *Traffic modelling programmes*
  - *Junction simulation programmes*
  - *Junction design software*
- *Report writing and analysis*
- *Project Management*
- *Communication with Consultants, Contractors and Public*







**Description**  
**No. of Staff**  
**Competency**

Executive Engineer

1

Engineering position with traffic engineering qualifications and experience in:

- *Design, management and delivery of improved bus based public transport*
- *Project management and communication to deal with Consultants and Contractors in the delivery of a phased programme of bus priority measures*
- *Project Management*
- *Communications*

**Description**  
**No. of Staff**  
**Competency**

Administrative Officer

1

Middle management position with experience and expertise in:

- *Marketing and Promotion*
- *Communications and Public Relations*
- *Administrative and organisational skills to support the Transportation Planning and Transport Management Teams*
- *Financial management*
- *Report writing*





**Description**  
**No. of Staff**  
**Competency**

Clerical Officer

1

Clerical and secretarial position:

- *Provision of administrative support to Administrative Officer and Engineering Team*

**Description**  
**No. of Staff**  
**Competency**

Technicians Grade II

2

Technical positions to support Transportation Planning and Traffic Management Teams with a focus on:

- *Roll out of Bus Lane network*
- *Development of Urban Traffic Control Centre*
- *Design and development of Variable Messaging Signposting Scheme*
- *Junction design proposals*







## 8. Office Accommodation

The Transportation Unit is located in an annexe at the Grammar School adjacent to City Hall. Although independent of City Hall, it is strategically located with the Transportation and Infrastructure Directorate. It will benefit from co-location with the Roads Operation and Maintenance Department and from the support structure available within the Directorate.

The office layout facilitates a team-working environment in its own dedicated space, is equipped with state-of-the-art ICT infrastructure to meet the specialist needs of the Unit and has suitable consultation/meeting room facilities.

ICT backup and support is provided by the ICT Department in the City Council located in the adjacent City Hall.

Proposals are presently being advanced to extend the City Hall and to incorporate an Traffic Control Centre for the operation and monitoring of the Urban Traffic Control and Variable Messaging Systems.

Accordingly, the Transportation Unit has the benefit of suitable office accommodation for the medium term and proposals are being advanced to provide for the specific office and ICT requirements over the long term.





## 9. Funding

Galway Transportation Unit funding is provided for under two categories:

- (a) Staffing and operational costs
- (b) Capital schemes

### 9.1 Staffing & Operational costs:

Galway City Council has secured the commitment of the Department of Transport for 50% of the Unit's costs are being met by the Dept. of Transport subject to a number of stipulations including:-

- Salary costs being capitalised as part of the cost of Bus Priority and other traffic management measures.
- Acceleration of the delivery of agreed Bus Priority measures as recommended in the Galway Strategic Bus Study.
- Overseeing the Rapid Transit feasibility study for Galway in the context of the existing land use and transportation strategy.
- Close co-operation with Galway County Council on the progression of an integrated strategy for Bus Priority measures for both functional areas.

The remaining 50% funding has been committed by Galway City Council for the five-year period.

### 9.2 Capital Schemes

Public transport and traffic management capital schemes will be funded by the Department of Transport in accordance with Transport 21 and the City Council through Development Levy contributions.

Other schemes will be funded by a combination of grants, local government fund and City Council revenue funding.

Galway City Council and the Transportation Unit will be pro-active in sourcing funding from other sources such as the Gateway Innovation Fund and Public Private Partnerships.

In this regard, the new Bus Interchange facility in the City centre is being delivered by a Public Private Partnership while an application under the Gateway Innovation Fund is being progressed for a major public transport route linking Galway with Ardaun to the east of the City.







## 10. Work Programme

The Progress of the Transportation Unit will be measured over a five-year timeframe. The period will facilitate progress through the planning, procurement, tender and contractual processes and other time lags involved in advancing projects from conception to completion.

The complexity and varied nature of initiatives comprising major infrastructural construction projects, feasibility studies, ICT based initiatives and inputs into Local Area and Framework Plans, has informed the Unit's Five-year Work Programme. The programme below details the Programme and achievable milestones set for each of the years 2008 to 2012.

The Programme builds incrementally on the successful schemes and initiatives that the City Council has implemented to date and is subject to monitoring and review as detailed in Chapter 11.



**Year**  
2008

### **Work Programme**

- Develop an Integrated Transport Plan for the City
- Provision of outbound Bus Lane on Dublin Road From Moneenageisha to Renmore Rd. Junction
- Widening of outbound traffic lane on Dublin Road from Renmore Rd to Ballybane Rd to facilitate cyclists
- Appoint Consultants to prepare preliminary report on a Variable Messaging System to provide real-time car park information in the City and recommend options for the delivery of the scheme.
- Work with developer in completing and commissioning the new Bus Terminal building for private Bus/Coach operators at the Fairgreen Road/Forster Street Junction.
- Establish a programme for the provision of bus shelters on all routes within the city.
- Commence construction work on the Doughiska Rd. improvement scheme.
- Secure funding and invite tenders to upgrade Seamus Quirke Rd. (inclusive of bus lanes).
- Provide technical assistance on transportation issues in relation to the development and completion of the Headford Road Framework Plan.
- Progress the development of a new bus route from the Dublin Road to Doughiska and Ardaun, through HSE lands at Merlin Park.
- Identify suitable sites for the provision and development of Park and Ride facilities.







## Year

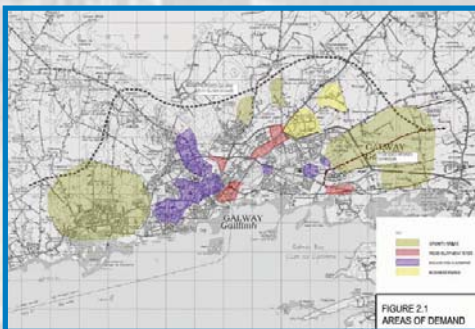
2008 continued

## Work Programme

- Advance the design of the Tuam Road Dual Carriageway proposal in conjunction with the NRA and Galway County Council.
- Examine options for the development of a bus corridor along the railway line between the City Centre and Roscam.
- Agree a Brief, in conjunction with the Dept. of Transport, for a Galway Rapid Transit feasibility study.
- Formulate a Galway Transportation Unit Communication and Marketing Strategy.
- Examine the feasibility for a pilot bus priority scheme on College Road in conjunction with other stakeholders.
- Complete work on the design of a software simulation traffic model for the city transport network and maintain the model up to date.

2009

- Appoint consultants for the detailed design of City Centre bus priority measures at:
  - Merchants Road
  - Prospect Hill
  - Dock Road
  - College Road
  - Spanish Parade
- In conjunction with the County Council, appoint consultants for the preparation of E.I.S. for the Tuam Road dual carriageway proposal that includes bus lanes.
- Progress the construction of the Seamus Quirke Road improvement scheme.
- Appoint Consultants to prepare design and tender documents for the construction of a new dedicated two way bus route through HSE lands at Merlin Park to the Doughiska Road and Ardaun.
- Having regard to the Consultants recommendations, progress the design of the Variable Messaging System, source funding and proceed to tender and construction.
- Engage traffic consultants to carry out an assessment of the traffic signal installations throughout the City and prepare a strategic plan for the development and installation of an Adaptive Urban Traffic Control system for the signalised junctions in the City road network.
- Having regard to the transportation recommendations of the Headford Road Framework Plan, engage consultants to prepare designs and tender documents for the provision of measures identified in the Plan and commence Phase 1 of such works.







## Year

2009 *continued*

## Work Programme

- Advance the design and planning for the construction of a new transport link along the railway line between the City Centre and Doughiska.
- Complete the Galway Rapid Transit feasibility study in conjunction with the Dept. of Transport.
- Engage consultants to formulate a strategy for the development of cycling and walking routes and for the promotion of such modes of travel.
- Progress the design and construction of Park and Ride schemes at strategic locations on approach roads to the city
- Implement Communications and Marketing Strategy in consultation with the Department of Transport, public transport operators and statutory agencies.
- Raise public awareness of the availability of public transport services, provision of improved timetable information, development of attractive ticket packages and the delivery of improved customer service.

---

2010

- Advance design and construction of City Centre bus priority measures.
- Engage consultants to prepare designs for the provision of Bus lanes on the corridor from Seamus Quirke Road to Moneenageisha via the Quincentenary Bridge, Sean Mulvoy Road and Moneenageisha Road, including modifications to Cemetery Cross and Moneenageisha Roundabouts.
- In conjunction with the NRA and Galway County Council, progress the planning, tendering and construction of the four-lane upgrade of the Tuam Road to include bus lanes.
- Having regard to the Consultant's recommendations, commence work on phase 1 of the implementation plan for the A.U.T.C. system for the traffic signals on the City Road Network.
- Continue the construction and installation of the Variable Message Signposting System
- Engage consultants to advance the implementation of bus priority measures for the Headford Road, the Tuam Road, the Monivea Road and the N6 dual carriageway between the Tuam Road and the Parkmore Road junctions.
- Continue works on Phases 2 and 3 of the transport recommendations in the Headford Road Framework Plan.
- Commence work on the provision of cycle routes and within the city in addition to those delivered by means of new bus lanes.
- Continue works on the provision of a new bus corridor along the railway line.
- Advance transportation works included in the Gateways Innovation Fund.







**Year**  
2011

**Work Programme**

- Continue the installation, expansion and development of the Adaptive Urban Traffic Control system
- Continue to increase the number of Park and Ride schemes either through the provision of such schemes by the City Council or through arrangements with private operators.
- Continue work on the provision of the new public transport link along the railway line from the City to Doughiska.
- In conjunction with the County Council continue the development of the Ardaun Town Centre, with integrated land use and transport planning policies and with high quality public transport linkages to the City Centre
- Prepare a strategy for a post Galway City Outer By-pass scenario when the existing national routes within the city will be de-classified. The GTU in liaison with other stake holders will develop an overarching plan as to how these roads should function in the future that will have regard to both development planning and traffic/transportation decisions.
- Promote measures aimed at increasing the use of public transport and a reduction in private car use by the development a programme of car restraint measures such as a review of parking charges, affording more road space to buses, the reduction in parking provision for new developments and the development of mobility management plans for workplaces.
- In the context of the future City Development Plan, develop a new transportation strategy that will provide for the expansion of the existing bus priority and public transport network for the next development plan period.







Year  
2012

## Work Programme

- Complete the implementation of the measures contained in the Strategic Bus Study aimed at increasing bus patronage in the City.
- Prepare a plan in conjunction with Bus operators and the Dept. of Transport for the expansion of bus services and bus routes to the developing areas of the City
- In conjunction with Employers and agencies such as the IDA, promote the development of mobility management plans for workplaces.
- In conjunction with Bus Eireann, advance a feasibility study for the provision of Real Time information for City services on bus shelters.
- Continue the development of public transport links in the new Ardaun area and promote sustainable land use and transportation planning.
- In conjunction with Irish Rail, promote the provision and usage of commuter rail links to the City utilising the existing Galway – Athenry – Balinasloe line and also maximise the potential for commuter rail along the Western Rail Corridor

**VDL Groep**

**Advanced Public Transport Systems**

**APTS**

**PHILEAS, a tram on tyres**

**PHILEAS**





## 11. Monitoring and Review Mechanisms

Achievements will be measured against the targets set in the Transportation Units' Work Programme. The City Manager, Director of Services and Senior Engineer of the Transportation Unit will, as the senior management team, monitor and review progress on a monthly basis.

Within the Transportation Unit, the Senior Engineer will manage and lead the Traffic Management and Transportation Planning teams by planning the annual operational programmes, establishing achievable targets, delegating responsibility and using the Performance Management Development System as a tool to monitor individual and team performance. He will monitor and evaluate the progress of individual projects on an ongoing basis with the team members, project leaders and external consultants as necessary.

Monitoring and evaluation criteria will be established and stakeholders defined on a project by project basis within the overall framework as set out in the Business Plan.

Subject to the guidance and direction of the Department of Transport, policy will be reviewed on an ongoing basis within the Transportation and Infrastructure SPC and City Council and will be revised and updated as required.

Reporting to the City Development Board, the Integrated Transportation Co-ordinating Group will monitor individual stakeholder participation and input on a quarterly basis.







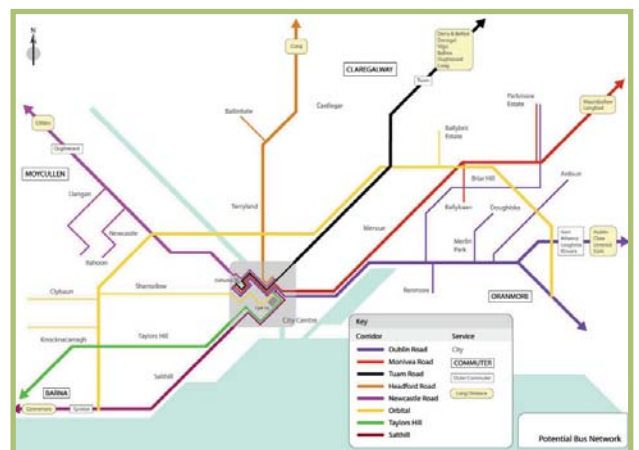
## 12. The Way Forward

The Transportation Unit will take the lead role in advancing initiatives provided for in the Business Plan. The Plan recognises the role for other stakeholders in the provision of funding, delivery of transportation infrastructure, rollout of public transport initiatives and the implementation of traffic management and enforcement measures.

It establishes a strategy for consultation between stakeholders and identifies the Integrated Transportation Co-ordinating Group as an appropriate forum for consensus building. It takes account of the democratic legitimacy provided by the City Council, Transportation and Infrastructure SPC and City Development Board.

The challenge for the Transportation Unit is to actively engage all stakeholders in the process, measure progress and review and revise strategy as necessary.

The effective operation of the Galway Transportation Unit will facilitate the continued growth of Galway City as the Regional Capital and Gateway City through the implementation of well-defined transportation strategies. In this context, it is the appropriate body to meet the challenges and enable Galway City to provide for it's future transportation needs in a well planned, strategic manner.



Potential Bus Network



