

Railway News from Eoin Madden

Ceannt Station

- Redevelopment of Galway's main train station has begun.
- This is the first expansion of the station since 1895!
- Expanding the number of platforms from 2 to 5. This will facilitate future expansion of the western rail corridor. Since 2008, I've been writing to Irish Rail to say any redevelopment of the station should include increasing the number of platforms.
- More space for bus bays.
- New façade, which will look more modern but retain some beautiful old stonework. The new roof will allow more natural light.
- New toilets and café.
- New stiles with leap card readers!
- Work is to be completed by end of 2026 and is costing approximately €20m.



Eoin Madden Candidate
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Working with MEP
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Oranmore Station

- Waiting for planning to be finalised on the passing loop.
- The government has allocated over 9 million euro for the development of 1km long passing loop at Oranmore. This will allow greater frequency of trains between Athenry and Galway.
- Next step will be a second platform. I'm also calling for the NTA to explore a 1km pedestrian walkway from the station to Oranmore Business Park and a walkway to Roscam.



Price drops!

- In Budget 2022 the Green party secured funded massive price decreases for all bus and train routes as part of a "Cost of Living" package.
- There was a 50% reduction in public transport prices for people aged between 19 and 23.
- The TFI 90 minute fare (in Dublin) was reduced to €1.
- I've asked Bus Connects to introduce this fare in Galway county.
- For most adults fares came down by 20% during this government, thanks to the Green Party.



Cycleway to Oranmore Train Station

- On February 7th, Minister Eamon Ryan announced funding €120,000 for a walkway (or "Active Travel Route") from Oranmore to the train station, however I'm sorry to say this money will be used for design & planning. I'm impatient and want to see delivery of this vital connection. I understand this route was announced by government in 2022 and 2023 but is not being progressed by the relevant bodies.

New carriages!

- In March you are now starting to see new carriages being introduced between Heuston and Galway.
- Irish Rail purchased 41 new carriages from Hyundai, which include a new **multi-purpose area** with far more bicycle space.

