

An aerial photograph showing a paved greenway path curving through a rural landscape. The path is bordered by dark green hedges and leads through fields of varying shades of green. The terrain is slightly hilly, and the overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

Tralee - Fenit Greenway

Keith Phelan
ITT Sustainable Tourism Seminar



Hello!

- Friends of the Tralee - Fenit Greenway (GST)
- Kerry Cycling Campaign
- Kerry Bicycle Festival
- Cyclist.ie (ECF)



Playground !

“

Greenways can be defined as “open space or natural areas that have a linear form”

- Smith and Hellmund, 1993.

A photograph showing a group of cyclists on a paved path. They are wearing various colors of cycling gear, including helmets and reflective vests. In the background, there is a white building with a sign that reads "TOP PART Car Parts Tools & Accessories Tel: 066 71 22700".

What is a greenway ?



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More generally a Greenway is a transportation route dedicated to non-motorised transport, mainly walking and cycling, but can also be used for other recreational activities, such as hiking, biking, in-line skating, jogging, running, and strolling.

They also provide a means of getting from home, work and school without the use of a car.

- Greenways make communities more liveable;
- improve the economy through tourism and civic improvement;
- preserve and restore open space and encourage biodiversity;
- provide opportunities for physical activity to improve fitness & mental health;
- and enhance property values.

Greenway Tourism

- Mayo €7.2 million to the local economy per year (?)
 - 26% of all overseas tourists engaged in some level of hiking or walking (2.3 million tourists PA, spending an estimated €1.3 bn during their stay in Ireland)
 - 451,000 overseas tourists took part in cycling activities.
 - Need for long distance, connected routes
 - Cycling is the new golf !
-
- Move from Dept of Transport to Dept. of Tourism
 - Tralee - Fenit unique benefits beyond tourism
 - Recreation/utility/commuter cycling
 - Ownership situation



History of the Railway(s)

History of the Railway

Tralee-Fenit



1887

The Tralee to Fenit railway was opened with grand ambitions of capturing some of the valuable Trans-Atlantic trade.

1935

Line is closed for regular passenger services, remains in use for goods traffic, the beat campaign as well as excursions and summer specials.

1978

Line is closed for all services.

2014

CIE issue abandonment order.

History of the Railway

North Kerry Line

1856 - 1880

Railway extended from Limerick

1963

Line is closed for regular passenger services, remains in use for goods traffic, the beat campaign

1977

Line is closed for all services.

1987

CIE issue abandonment order.

1988

CIE lift rails



1st
tourism project

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Railway Preservation Campaign



Great Southern Trail



Great Southern Trail

1987

Greenway (Continental style cycle path) first proposed

1988

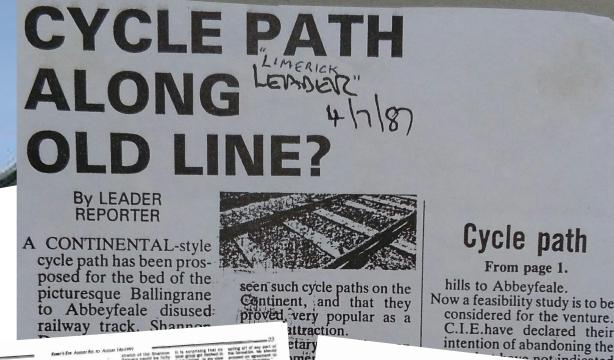
Shannon Development commission Sustrans (John Grimshaw) report

1991

Kerry CoCo Agree to purchase railway from CIE

Plan is shelved due to opposition

Great Southern Trail (GST) Group founded



Great Southern Trail

- Organise walks
- Fundraising
- Lobbying
- Licence from CIE
- Opened 40km from Rathkeale - Kerry Border
- European Greenway Association Awards
- Management of Greenway passed to Limerick CoCo
- Ultimately 85 km (Longest Greenway in Ireland)

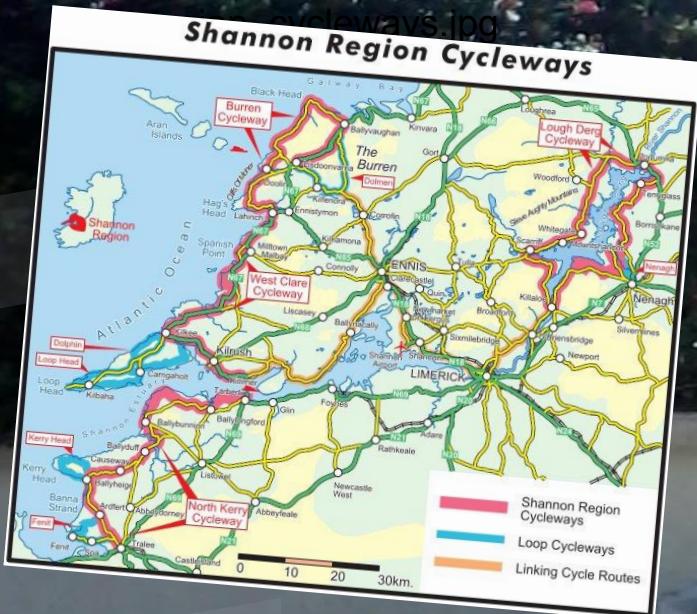


Great Southern Trail

Fenit - Ballingrane



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cycleways.jpg



Shannon Region Cycleways



Tralee - Fenit Greenway

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Timeline

Friends of the Tralee Fenit Greenway



2009

Spa/Fenit Community Council secure Leader funding in order to develop the Spa to Fenit section of the line

2010

Kerry CoCo begins route clearance
Work stopped due to objections/threats

2013

Rock Street to Mounthawk Tralee opened and is an immediate success.

2015

Rock Street to Casement Station opened.

2018

Part 8 planning for approved unanimously

Tralee - Fenit Greenway

Route



From Casement Station in the heart of
Tralee
to the Blue flag beach at Fenit

Tralee - Fenit Greenway

Route - School / Public Transport



NCPF

Obj. 4.1 aims to Provide
Cycling-Friendly Routes To All Schools
Obj. 8.1 aims to ensure proper integration between cycling
and public transport.

Tralee - Fenit Greenway

Aerial Views

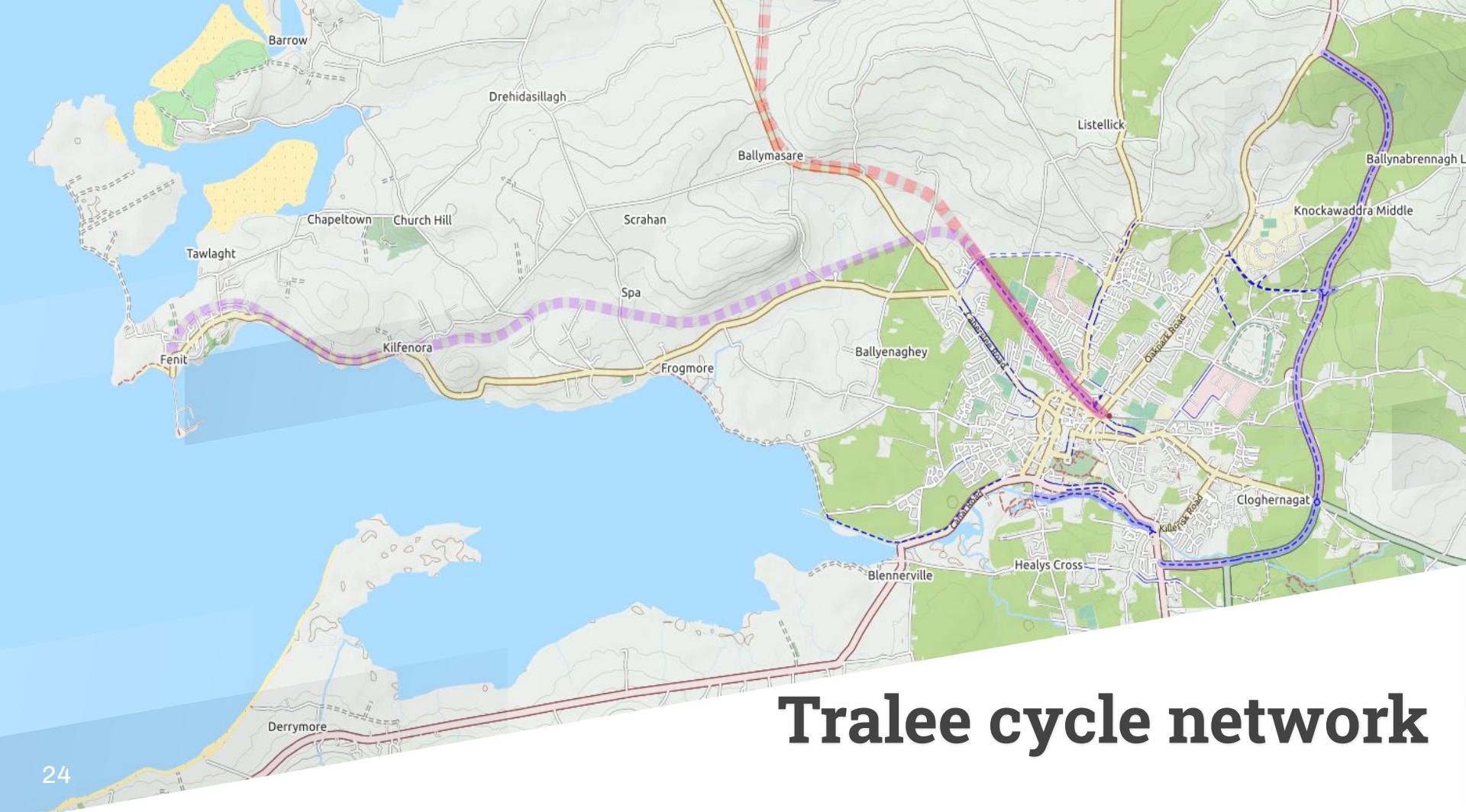




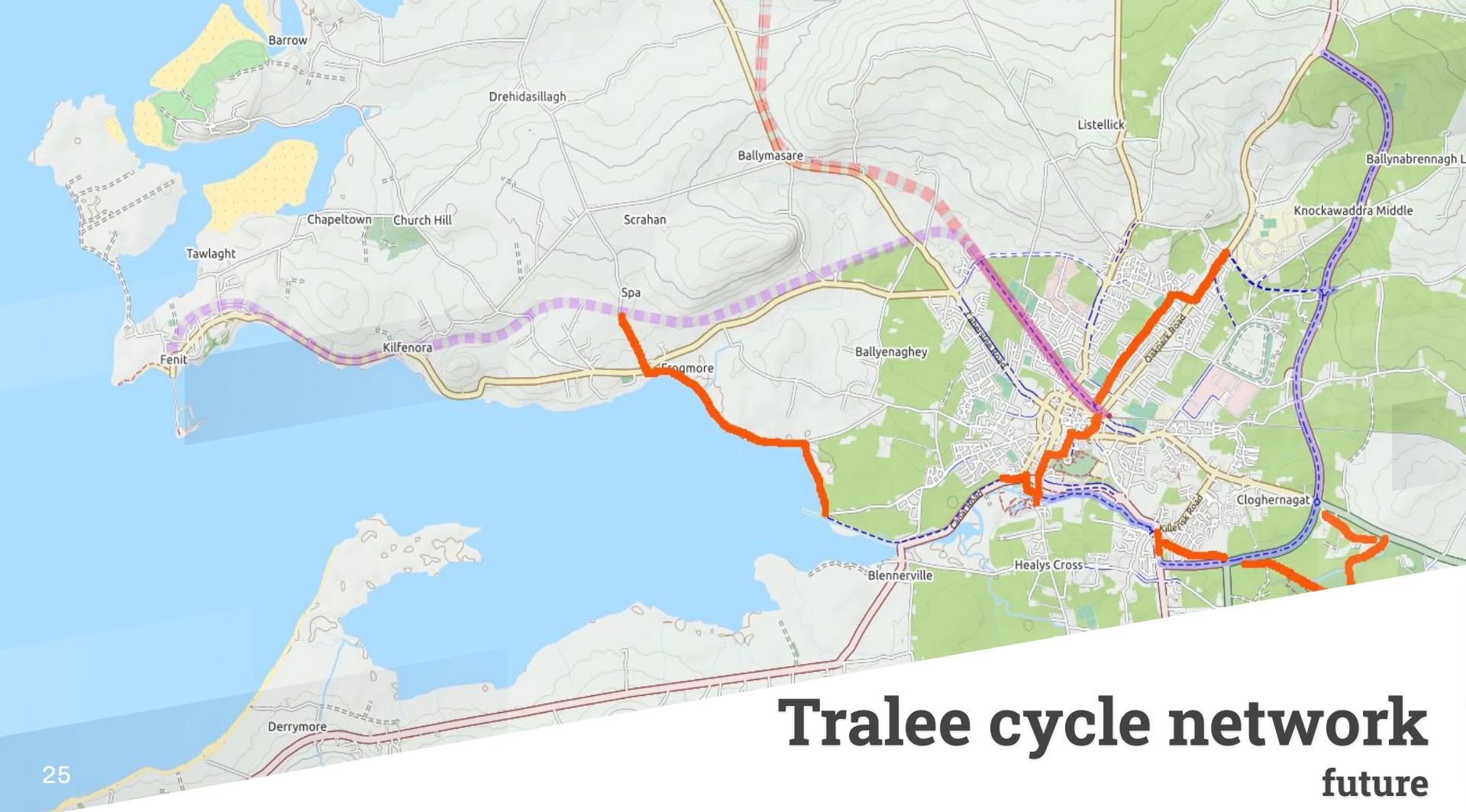
Part of a network



Great Southern Trail/Greenway



Tralee cycle network



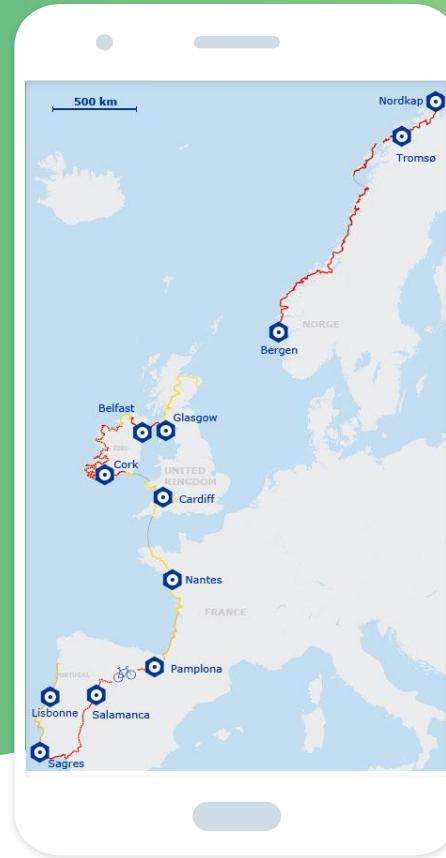
National Cycle Network

NCPF recognises the need to support and encourage all types of cycling, including recreational and tourist cycling. "Recreational routes", says the policy, "in and around urban areas, which in turn link to rural areas, are very important."



EuroVelo 1

The **Atlantic Coast Route** combines for around 9,100 km Following Europe's mighty western border from Norway through the United Kingdom, Republic of Ireland, France, Spain and Portugal





Community Orchard

“ The best time to develop a greenway was 30 years ago.

The second best time is now.

TRALEE TO FENIT
GREENWAY



Thanks!



TraleeFenitGreenway.com

 @traleefenit

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