Submissions to Ballina Town and Environs Issues Paper 2021-2027

For attention of: Forward Planning, Mayo County Council, Aras an Chontae, The Mall, Castlebar, Co. Mayo F23 WF90.

As Chairperson of the Quay Residents Association, Ballina, I would like, to submit four submissions (4 for consideration to be included in the drafting of Ballina Town & Environs Issues Paper 2021-2027

The following four submissions are:

- (1) Shipping/Maritime Museum, depicting the important role that shipping has played in the shaping of Ballina town, both from an employment and commercial point of view, and also how it is woven into the lives of local people of the Quay and surrounding ares, showcasing over 150 years of history. Also taking into account the role that the smaller ports played, like Ballycastle, Killala and Belmullet in the maritime and shipping history of the region. We would envisage that such a museum would use the most up to date technologies in showcasing this rich tapestry of life and times of a bygone era, and would be family and user friendly using touch screens, and would also be conducive to school tours.
- (2) Walk-way / Cycle-way from Ballina to the Quay and on to Enniscrone, an approximate distance 18 km. This would provide enormous tourism benefit and create many job opportunities. The first phase would commence from Ballina to the Quay, using some boardwalks and the widening of footpaths.
- (3) The former docks area to facilities an accredited Water Safety Centre, Government funded, with international standards, which would facilitate courses for both young and old using the river for both recreational and sporting activities. This centre would also provide certification courses for instructors, and people attaining to be instructors in water safety, and would be a national base centre facility.
- (4) **Proper facilities** for people using the river, such as wash-up, toilets, storage facilities. Also a facility to take account of people with disabilities, with proper vehicle parking.

Sincerely yours
Willie Nolan Chairperson of Quay Residents Association,
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