



Image 1: A design option concept sketch for the Hodson Bay Promenade by MKO.

HODSON BAY WATERFRONT PARK: PROJECT UPDATES NOVEMBER 2025

This project is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union through the EU Just Transition Fund.

PROJECT BACKGROUND



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The Hodson Bay Waterfront Park is a multi-disciplinary project aimed at enhancing the Hodson Bay area into a flagship tourism facility. The project is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union through the EU Just Transition Fund.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The Hodson Bay Waterfront Park Project aims to enhance the recreational, tourism and environmental value of the Hodson Bay area by:

- Strengthening its identity as a destination on the River Shannon and Lough Ree.
- Providing high quality public spaces and recreation facilities.
- Improving accessibility and sustainable travel connections.
- Protecting the sensitive ecological setting of Lough Ree SAC/SPA.

KEY PROJECT ELEMENTS

- Water Sports Pavilion - A new landmark building offering a cafe, changing facilities, wellness and meeting spaces, and potentially an accessible roof terrace.
- Marina Redevelopment - Expansion of the existing marina to approximately 50 berths, new pontoons and improved amenities for boat users.
- Public Realm - Creation of a continuous lakeside promenade, plaza and landscapes play, picnic and event areas.
- Sustainable Transport - Active travel improvements, traffic calming on the L2020 and reorganisation of car parking to improve visitor experience and safety.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION UPDATE

Roscommon County Council, in collaboration with Waterways Ireland, proudly hosted the first public consultation event for the transformative Hodson Bay Waterfront Park Project on Thursday, 23rd October 2025, at the Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone, Co. Roscommon.

This vibrant event marked a significant milestone in the project's journey, inviting the community to actively participate in shaping the future of the waterfront.

The consultation is a key part of the design process, promoting openness, collaboration, and community-led development. Held in a welcoming drop-in format, the event featured engaging exhibition panels, plans, and visualisations of the proposed redevelopment.

Attendees had the opportunity to speak directly with the design team and project partners, share ideas, and provide valuable feedback. The response was fantastic, with over 135 people attending - including local residents, business owners, recreational users, and community group representatives.

To ensure everyone has a voice, a Community Survey was launched alongside the event which closed on Friday, 14th November 2025. Whether you attended or not, your input is vital. All consultation materials and information are available online, stay up to date with the project's progress and upcoming consultation opportunities by visiting the [Hodson Bay Waterfront Park - Roscommon County Council](#) website.

PLANS FOR MONTH AHEAD

We will now take time to consider all the feedback gathered as part of this event and undertake a full optioneering exercise to explore potential design options. Following this, we will return to the public for a second non-statutory consultation, where we will present the preferred design option and invite further comments. Details of this event will be shared soon.

After the second consultation, all feedback will be brought together to inform the prelim design on the preferred option and this will be taken forward to the Environmental Impact Assessment stage to guide the next phase of the waterfront park's development.



Image 2: Non-statutory public consultation held on Thursday 23rd October 2025.



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