

Cork Area Transit System (CATS) Study

Presentation to Key Stakeholders

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An aerial photograph of a rugged, mountainous landscape. The terrain is characterized by steep, rocky slopes and deep, winding valleys. A prominent river valley runs through the center of the image, with a river visible at the bottom. The overall color palette is dominated by earthy tones of brown, tan, and grey, with some green patches indicating vegetation. The lighting creates strong shadows, emphasizing the topography.

Cork Public Transport Study (now called CATS) Requirements

Public Transport Study Requirements

- Support CASP Update to 2020;
- Determine longer term PT needs up to 2030 and beyond;
- Public Transport Network / Service Evaluation;
- Identify the measures required to meet existing and future transport demand in Cork Region;
- Determine appropriateness of rapid transit systems in Cork as identified within CASP Update in terms of a North-South and East-West corridor;
- Determine capital costs of implementing recommendations; and
- Undertake engineering, economic and environmental appraisal of proposed recommendations.



CATS Approach

CATS Approach

- Detailed assessment of current public transport service provision and Census 2006 data (population, employment, trip patterns etc.);
- Development of a current year transport model and future year models for 2020 (CASP Update) and 2030;
- Consideration of Public Transport options, and evaluation – leading to selection of preferred public transport solution;
- Engineering, Environmental and Economic Appraisal;
- Appraisal of rapid transit options; and
- Development of an Implementation Plan for recommended measures.



The need for CATS

Why is CATS needed?

History

- Historically low levels of bus use;
- Basic bus service;
- Access to employment and leisure activities are dependent on car;
- Low density development; and
- High levels of car use for commuting.

Going forward

- Population and employment growth as per CASP Update;
- Delivery of sustainable future development (Ballincollig / Science Park / Docklands / Mahon);
- More roads required and increasing car use;
- Increasing congestion in Cork Region.



CATS Recommendations

CATS Recommendations

An integrated package of measures which will provide for a state of the art public transport system to facilitate the future growth in the Cork Region to ensure that all road users can move around in a less congested environment.

These recommendations include:

- Phased introduction of a **BRT system** linking Ballincollig and Mahon, via the City Centre and Docklands, connecting:
 - Docklands;
 - Kent Rail Station;
 - Main Bus Station;
 - UCC, Bon Secours Hospital, CUH, Cork Co. Co. Offices, CIT and proposed Science Park.

Continued.....

CATS Recommendations, continued

- **Significantly improved bus services and priority measures** on the key north-south corridor linking the Airport to the City Centre and onto Ballyvolane;
- **Reconfigured bus network** with improved frequencies, better linkages and improved on-street priority throughout the Cork Region;
- Revised **Traffic Management** arrangements to improve accessibility, and facilitate introduction of improved public transport throughout the Cork Region;
- **Supportive Parking Strategies in the Cork Region** to achieve the desired study outcomes, and to support investment in public transport; and
- Implement **integration measures**, including:
 - park and ride,
 - High quality bus stop infrastructure with Real Time Information and mapping,
 - integrated ticketing/ fares, and
 - seamless interchange at Kent Station.



What is BRT?

What is BRT?

- Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is a *"high quality bus-based system that delivers fast, comfortable, and cost effective urban mobility through the provision of segregated right-of-way infrastructure, rapid and frequent operations, and excellence in marketing and customer service"*;
- BRT emulates the performance and amenity characteristics of modern rail-based transit systems but at a fraction of the cost;



What is BRT?



Informal services



Conventional services



Basic busways



Enhanced services

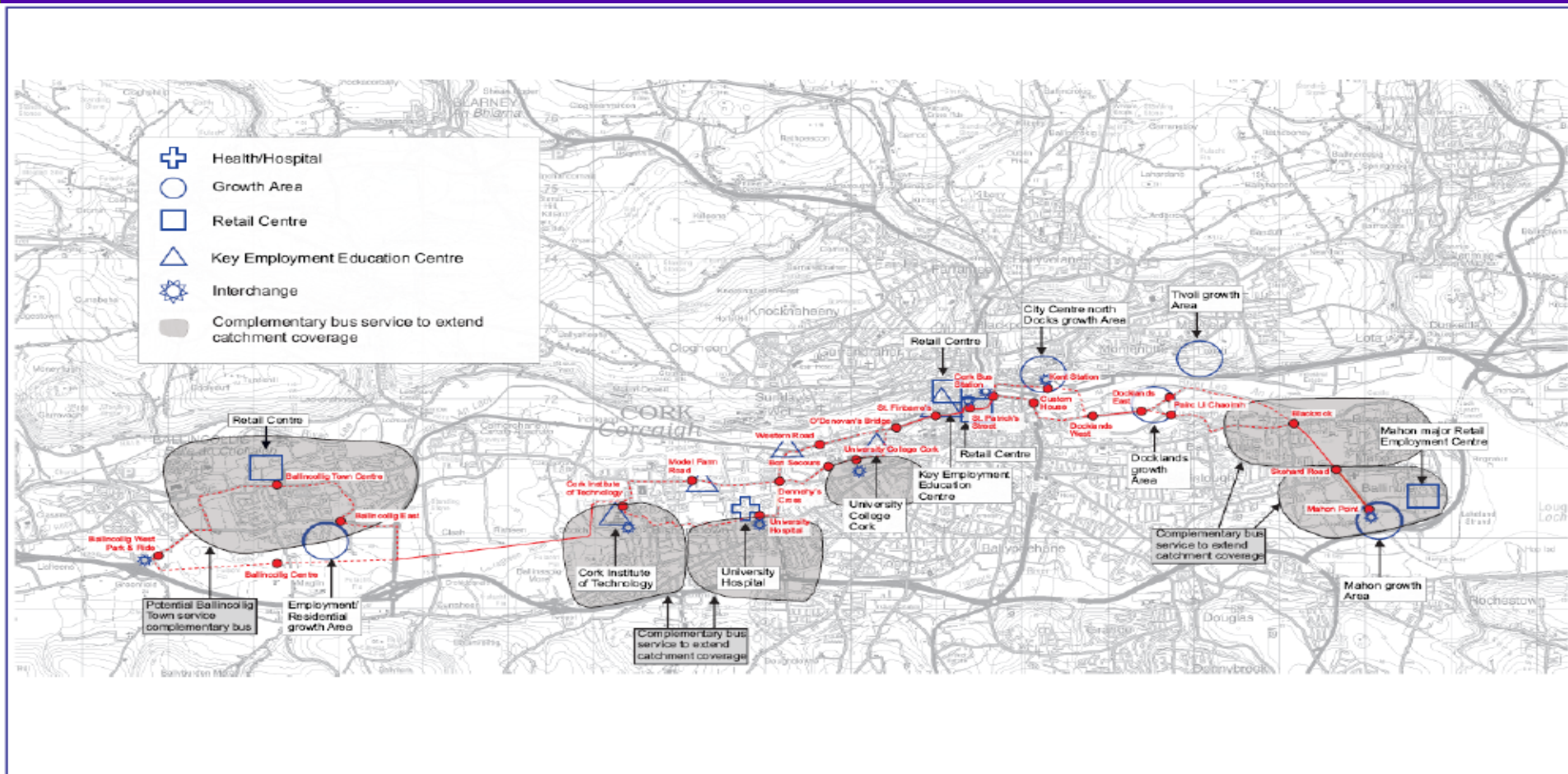


BRT



Full BRT

Proposed BRT Corridor



CATS - Study

Cork City Council
December 2009

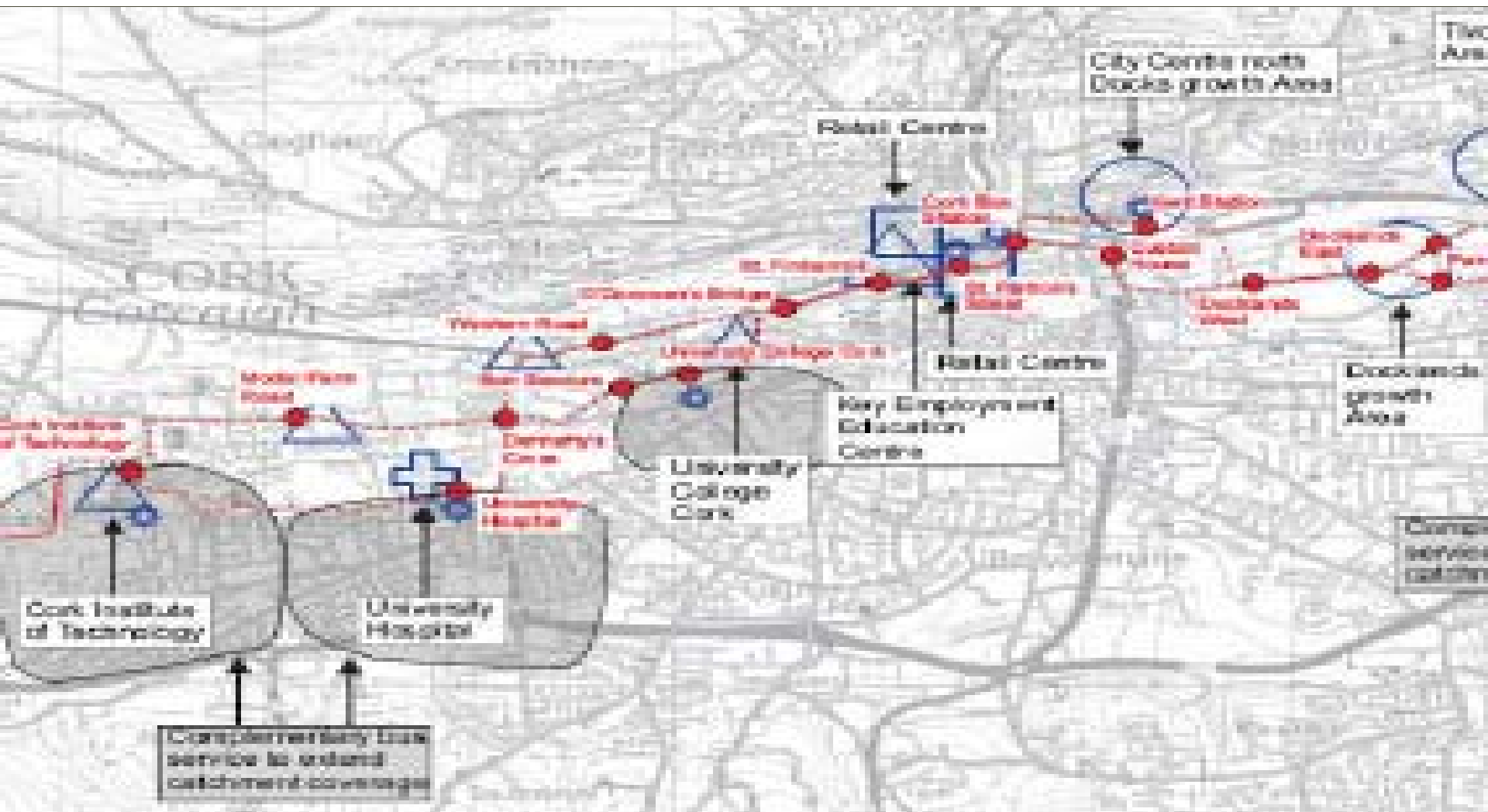
Project No. C8116100

East - West Rapid Transit
Corridor Alignment

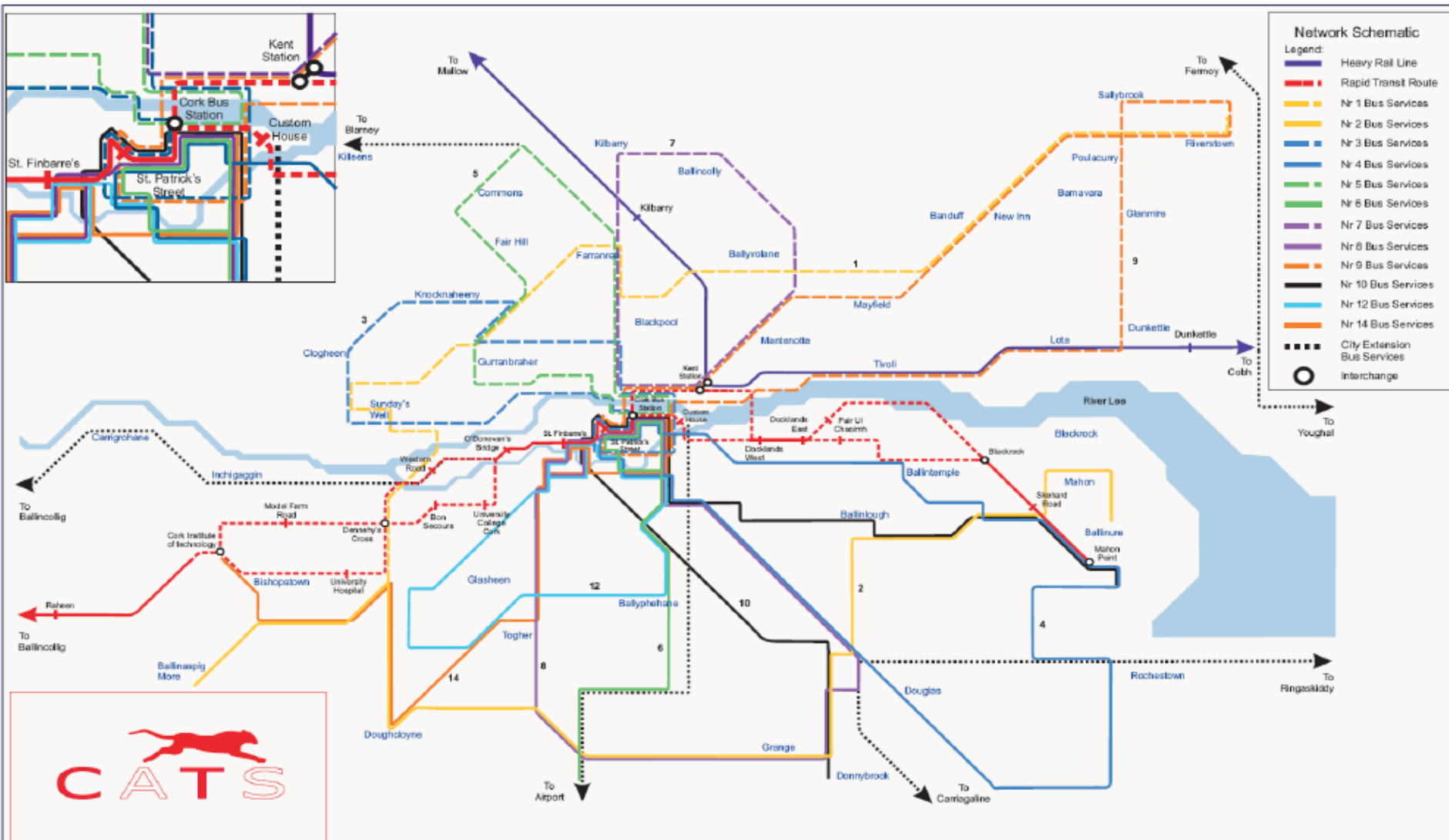
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Proposed BRT Corridor through City Centre Area



CATS Map



CATS Study

Cork City Council
January 2009

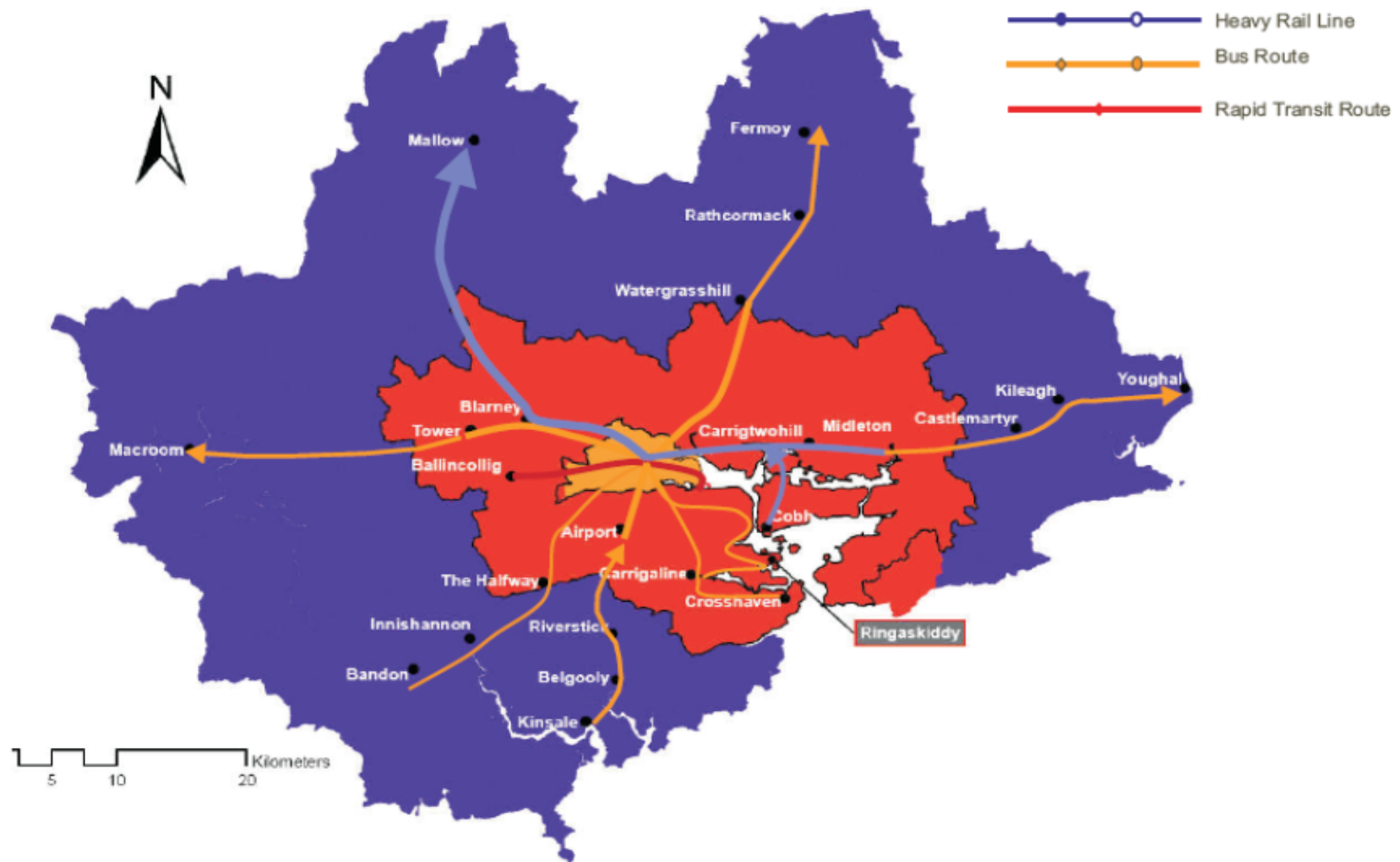
Project No. C8116100

Cork Area Transit System

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CATS Map – Outer Area





Why BRT and not LRT (Luas)?

Why BRT and not LRT for Cork Region?

- BRT will meet the current and future transportation needs of Cork Region;
- BRT can be delivered in a relatively short timeframe;
- Can be delivered incrementally;
- Implementation of BRT is less disruptive;
- System attributes of a high quality BRT system are similar to Light Rail and so it gives the same transportation and environmental benefits; and
- More cost effective than Light Rail and as a result the economic return is greater (BRT for Cork Region will cost ~€300m, LRT will cost ~€1bn).



BRT Examples?

- Australia



- Holland



BRT Examples?

- Germany



BRT Examples?

- France



BRT Examples?

- UK



BRT Examples?

- USA



Stop Infrastructure



Stop Infrastructure



Stop Infrastructure





CATS Benefits

CATS Benefits

CATS will deliver the following benefits to the Cork Region, including:

- Bringing high-quality State of the Art Transportation package to the Cork Region;
- Encourage significant inward investment into the Cork Region;
- Reinforce image of the Cork Region (internationally) as a progressive and attractive area to live, work and play;
- Significant tourism benefits;
- Able to deliver more sustainable development in the Cork Region not dependent on the Car;
- Significantly reduce congestion levels thereby ensuring environmental targets are achieved;

Improved public transport, in particular BRT, is therefore critical to the future growth and development of the Cork Region.

Without CATS?

Without CATS:

- CASP Update cannot be realised;
- Cork Region will lag behind other regions in terms of attracting inward investment both nationally and internationally;
- Development proposals for Docklands, Mahon, Ballincollig and Science Park will be in jeopardy;
- Traffic congestion will reach unacceptable levels.

