

First “Coca-Cola Zero Bike” unveiled – striking red-and-black design, automatic gear-change for users

Schemes in Cork, Limerick and Galway to launch to the public this autumn

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The first viewing of the new, specially-designed bike for the regional cities’ *Coca-Cola Zero Bikes* scheme took place in Cork’s City Hall this morning, where Minister Alan Kelly TD and the National Transport Authority were joined by the Lord Mayor of Cork, scheme sponsors Coca-Cola Zero and operators An Rothar Nua.

Featuring a distinctive black design with bright red accents, the new bikes will soon be a striking presence on the streets of Cork, Limerick and Galway, when the three public bikes schemes launch to the public in the autumn.

And uniquely amongst bike schemes world-wide, these bikes have built-in gear-shifting technology, enabling automatic gear-changes which will contribute towards easier and safer cycling for users.

Cllr Mary Shields, Lord Mayor of Cork said: “The public bike scheme is an important development in seriously improving the options we provide for people to cycle around Cork city, and for injecting a new energy into life in our city centre.”

Minister Kelly said: “We are becoming a nation of cyclists. Having bike-rental schemes will do more to improve and promote a cycling culture across the country than any other initiative. There is increased investment in cycling infrastructure with all junctions and streets becoming more cycling friendly. In Coca-Cola Zero, we have one of the world’s best marketing companies actively engaged in cycling promotion. The benefits to the cities of Cork, Limerick and Galway will be huge and I look forward to it taking off in these cities just as it has done in Dublin.”

Hugh Creegan, Director of Transport Investment for the National Transport Authority said: “Having developed and awarded the operation contracts and secured sponsorship, we are delighted to see these new bikes coming into production – launch day is within sight. With our partners in the local authorities we are confident that the schemes will be very successful – with locals and visitors alike – when they are launched later this year.”

Monika Grauer, Coca-Cola Ireland said: “Coca-Cola are delighted to partner with the government, the National Transport Authority, the local authorities and An Rothar Nua to help bring the Coca-Cola Zero Bike Scheme to Cork, Galway and Limerick. Today is an exciting milestone for the scheme and we’re very excited to be unveiling the bike here in Cork. Working with our partners, we hope to replicate the success of the Dublin Bike Scheme, helping to make cycling accessible to thousands of people throughout the country.”

Comprising 740 bikes in total, the scheme details are:

- Cork – 320 bikes, 31 bike stations and 635 bike stands
- Galway – 205 bikes, 19 bike stations and 395 bike stands and
- Limerick – 215 bikes, 23 bike stations and 445 bike stands.

Depending on the success of these schemes, additional schemes in other cities, such as Waterford, and other locations in Ireland may be introduced.

Ends

Background information

Coca-Cola Ireland is sponsoring the roll-out of the Regional Bikes scheme through an investment of €3 million over 5 years.

The National Transport Authority has designed the schemes, is funding all the capital investment from grants provided by the Department of Transport, and will continue as the managing client for the operation of these schemes. Rothar Nua is the consortium installing the bike scheme, providing the bikes and will operate the schemes .

Public Bike schemes are a low-cost way of renting a bike in a city to travel for short journeys. They are a cheap, fast option for getting around quickly and can help avoid traffic. Other similar schemes operate throughout Europe. The Dublin Bikes scheme is acknowledged as being one of the most successful in the world – something we are keen to replicate in other cities. In order to rent a bike you have various subscription options, but the cost is generally low.

Based in their size and city status, Cork, Galway and Limerick were assessed as suitable for new schemes.

The last census demonstrated that 200,000 people travel by car less than 4km per day. In order to encourage more sustainable transport, we have to incentivise people to look at other options to get around; including cycling, walking and using public transport.

Cork Locations of Bike Stations

Initial Scheme	Docking Station ID	Street Address	Docking Station Name	Number of Docks
Cork	2-01	College Road	Gaol Walk	20
Cork	2-02	Mardyke Walk	Fitzgerald's Park	15
Cork	2-03	Dyke Parade	Dyke Parade	40
Cork	2-04	Mardyke Walk	St. Joseph's School	20
Cork	2-05	Henry Street	Mercy Hospital	15
Cork	2-06	Lancaster Quay	Lancaster Quay	20
Cork	2-07	Griffith Bridge	Griffith Bridge	20
Cork	2-08	North Main Street	North Main Street	15
Cork	2-09	Grattan Street	Court House	15
Cork	2-10	Wandesford Quay	Wandesford Street	30
Cork	2-11	Bishop Street	Bishop Street	20
Cork	2-12	Popes Quay	St. Mary's Cathedral	20
Cork	2-14	Corn Market Street	Corn Market Street	20
Cork	2-15	St Patricks Street	Patricks Street	20
Cork	2-16	South Main Street	Bishop Lucey Park	10
Cork	2-17	Grand Parade	City Library	20
Cork	2-18	South Mall	Grand Parade	20
Cork	2-19	Sullivan's Quay	Griffith College	20
Cork	2-20	Coburg Street	Bridge Street	30
Cork	2-21	Emmet Place	Crawford Street	15
Cork	2-22	South Mall	South Mall	30
Cork	2-23	Fr. Mathew Quay	College of Commerce	30
Cork	2-24	St Patricks Street	Merchants Quay	15
Cork	2-25	Union Quay	School of Music	15
Cork	2-26	St Patricks Quay	St Patricks Quay	10
Cork	2-27	Parnell Place	Bus Station	40
Cork	2-28	Lapp's Quay	Parnell Bridge	30
Cork	2-29	Anglesea Street	City Hall	15
Cork	2-30	Lower Glanmire Road	Lower Glanmire Road	30
Cork	2-31	Custom House Quay	Custom House	10
Cork	2-32	Lower Glanmire Road	Kent Station	25

Limerick Locations of Bike Stations

Initial Scheme	Docking Station ID	Street Address	Docking Station Name	Number of Docks
Limerick	3-01	Clancy Strand	Thomond Bridge	20
Limerick	3-02	Nicholas Street	Kings John's Castle	20
Limerick	3-03	St Augustine Street	City Hall	20
Limerick	3-04	Island Road	Island Road	20
Limerick	3-05	Bank Place	Hunt Museum	20
Limerick	3-06	Clare Street	Abby Bridge	20
Limerick	3-07	O Callaghan Strand	Sarsfield Bridge	20
Limerick	3-08	Bedford Row	Bedford Row	10
Limerick	3-09	Arthur's Quay	O'Connell Street	20
Limerick	3-10	Mungret Street	Mungret Street	20
Limerick	3-11	St John's Square	St John's Square	10
Limerick	3-12	Roxborough Road	Roxborough Road	20
Limerick	3-13	The Bishops Quay	Bishops Quay	20
Limerick	3-14	Glenworth Street	Glenworth Street	15
Limerick	3-15	Roches Street	Roches Street	20
Limerick	3-16	Dominick Street	Dominick Square	20
Limerick	3-17	The Crescent	The Crescent	20
Limerick	3-18	Pery Square	Peoples Park	20
Limerick	3-19	Parnell Street	Limerick Colbert	20
Limerick	3-20	O Connell Ave	Clontarf Place	10
Limerick	3-21	O Connell Ave	Verona	20
Limerick	3-22	Summerville Ave	Mary Immaculate College	20
Limerick	3-23	O Connell Ave	Mount Gerard	20

Galway Locations of Bike Stations

Initial Scheme	Docking Station ID	Street Address	Docking Station Name	Number of Docks
Galway	4-01	University Road	University Hospital	30
Galway	4-02	Headford Road	Headford Road	30
Galway	4-03	University Road	Cathedral	20
Galway	4-05	Wood Quay	Wood Quay	15
Galway	4-06	Prospect Hill	County Hall	15
Galway	4-07	Forster Street	City Hall	20
Galway	4-08	Newtownsmith	Mean Scoil	15
Galway	4-09	Eyre Square	Eyre Square North	20
Galway	4-10	Fairgreen Road	Forster street	15
Galway	4-12	Maingaurd Street	St. Patricks School	15
Galway	4-14	St Augustine Street	City Library	15
Galway	4-15	Merchants Road	Merchant's Gate	20
Galway	4-16	Fairgreen Road	Ceannt Station	20
Galway	4-17	Raven Terrace	Dominick Street	20
Galway	4-18	Quay Street	Fish Market	30
Galway	4-19	New Dock Street	New Dock Street	15
Galway	4-20	Gaol Road	Gaol Road	20
Galway	4-21	Father Griffin Road	Father Griffin Road	20
Galway	4-22	Eyre Square	Eyre Square South	15