

# Abha na Láinne droichead-bhíomaí/Laney River Bridge Beams

N22BBM

15 Eanáir, 2021

Bhain an príomhchonraitheoir, *Jons Civil Engineering/John Cradock JV Ltd. (CJV)*, clochmhíle suntasach amach ar thionscadal an N22BBM le déanaí. Tá siad an-mhóralach gur éirigh leo suiteáil go slán sábháilte a dhéanamh ar na droichead-bhíomaí coincréite is faide dá gcineál a suiteáladh riamh in Éirinn agus sa Ríocht Aontaithe, trasna ar Abha na Láinne, i Maigh Chromtha.

Is bíomaí den cineál *W19* iad na 7 mbíomaí seo atá 50m ar fhaid agus 2.5m ar airde, le meáchan de 155 tona i ngach ceann acu. Tógadh na bíomaí seo le comhoibriú dlúth idir fhoireann struchtúr droichead Bhonneagar Iompar Éireann, na déantúsóirí Banagher Precast, an dearthóir Barry Transportation, Comhairle Contae Chorcaí lena gcomhairleoirí teicniúla Mott McDonald agus an Príomhchonraitheoir.

Obair chasta a bhí i suiteáil na mbíomaí gan aon amhras agus cuireadh i gcrích í de thoradh mhionphleanála na foirne ar fad, obair a bhí sár-chúramach agus sár-chruinn, lena n-áirítear an déantúsóir Banagher Precast, an tarlóir Whitten Transport agus an soláthraí craenacha Gabriel O'Brien Crane Hire Ltd.,



**Dúirt Pat O’Sullivan, Bainisteoir Rannóige le CJV:** *“Sular cuireadh isteach na bíomáí seo i dtreo deireadh mhí na Nollag, bhí foireann CJV i dteannta ár ndearthóirí, ár soláthraí earraí réamhtheilgthe, ár speisialtóirí iompair agus ar gcuideachta craenacha ar fad ag obair as lámha a chéile maidir le pleanáil agus gníomhú na hoibre seo le 5 mí anuas.” An toradh a bhí air seo ar fad ná go bhfuil na droichead-bhíomáí ar fad go sábháilte i bhfearas anois. Ba mhaith linn ár mbuíochas a chur in iúl do Chomhairle Contae Chorcaí, an Garda Síochána, Oifig Innealtóra Ceantair Áitiúil Mhaigh Chromtha agus iadsan ar fad a chabhraigh linn an clochmhíle seo a bhaint amach.”*

**Dúirt Paul Moran, Bainisteoir Réigiúnach le Bonneagar Iompar Éireann(TII):** *“Is deacair do dhaoine scála ollmhór na n-oibreacha a thuiscint ar siúl ar an taobh eile den bhfalla nó den chlaí, agus b’féidir ná tuigfidh daoine é sin go dtí go mbeidh an bóthar críochnaithe agus oscailte, bíodh san mar atá, is iontach an rud é na hoibreacha seo a fheiscint ag teacht chun cinn, go háirithe na droichid go léir a thugann daoine agus gnó le chéile. Is mian le TII buíochas ó chroí a ghabháil leis na daoine go léir ar an suíomh atá i mbun na sár-oibre, táimid ana-bhuíoch daoibh ar fad.”*

**Dúirt Mary Flynn, Bainisteoir Tionscadail le Comhairle Contae Chorcaí:** *“Is dul chun cinn iontach é na droichead-bhíomáí a bheith curtha i bhfearas don tionscadal bóthair N22 Baile Bhuirne go Maigh Chromtha, agus tá moladh mór ag dul don gConraitheoir agus an mhórfhoireann tionscadail trí chéile as an chéim seo a chur i gcrích go sábháilte agus go rathúil. Tá an Scéim seo á pleanáil le mórán blianta agus nuair a bheidh sí críochnaithe ar fad, cuirfear feabhas mór ar an N22, i dtéarmaí sábháilteachta bóthair, sábháil ar amanta aistir agus nascacht fheabhsaithe idir Chorcaigh agus Chiarraí.”*

Ceann de na dúshláin ba mhó a bhain leis seo ab ea na bíomáí fada seo a thabhairt chomh fada leis an suíomh. Baineadh amach an sprioc seo le cúnamh ó na húdaráis Áitiúla éagsúla ar an slí ó Bheannchar i gContae Uíbh Fhailí, An Garda Síochána a chuir an tionlacan ar fáil dúinn agus na cónaitheoirí áitiúla a éascaigh na gluaiseachtaí míne a theastaigh chun na bíomáí a bhogadh ón N22 isteach go dtí ár bpríomh-shuíomh tógála taobh le hAbha na Láinne. Tugadh na bíomáí chomh fada leis an áit thar cheithre oíche idir an 4 Nollaig agus an 14 Nollaig, 2020. Socraíodh na bíomáí iad féin ina n-ionad ceart ar an 15 agus 16 Nollaig.



**Dúirt Kevin Dennehy, Gníomhaire Struchtúr JVC:** *“Tugann sé ana-shásamh dúinn ar fad toradh na míonna mion-phleanála ón bhfoireann tógála a fheiscint ag teacht le chéile le*

*suíteáil shábháilte na mbíomaí. De bharr na bíomaí a bheith chomh hollmhór, i dtéarmaí faid agus meachána, bhí ar gach uile céim den tasc seo, ó sheachadadh go stóráil agus sheachródú, go dtí an t-ardú deireanach a bheith pleanáilte go rí-chúramach agus tá creidiúint ag dul do gach duine a bhí páirteach toisc gur éirigh chomh maith leis an obair. Ceann de na dúshláin ba mhó ab ea na bíomaí a thabhairt isteach an 400m ón N22 atá ann cheana go dtí an láthair na craenach. Bhí orainn na bíomaí a chúlú trasna ‘Droichead Nua’ an R618 atá ann cheana nuair nach raibh ach ceintiméadair le spáráil go minic chomh maith le teacht timpeall ar lúb dian chun iad a chur in áit. Arís, de thoradh dea-phleanála agus anailíse, cuireadh an chuid seo de na hoibreacha i gcrích gan mórán dua.*

**Dúirt Jonathan Noonan, Oifigeach Idirchaidrimh Tionscadail:** *Tá áthas ar Chomhairle Contae Chorcaí go bhfuil an clochmhíle mór seo sroichte, go háirithe go bhfuil na droichead-bhíomaí coincréite is faide anois in áit againn mar chuid den scéim bhóthair is mó sa tír agus gur baineadh é seo amach le linn paindéime domhanda. Is mian linn ár mbu iochas a chur in iúl do mhuintir Mhaigh Chromtha, úsáideoirí bóthair an N22, ach go speisialta cónaitheoirí áitiúla as a gcuid foighne agus a dtacaíocht do thógáil na scéime. Ba mhaith linn ina theannta sin aitheantas a thabhairt do mhór-iarrachtaí agus do n tacaíocht a fuaireamar ón Garda Síochána as iompar na mbíomaí a éascú.”*



**Deireadh an Nóta**

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N22BBM

15<sup>th</sup> January 2021

A significant milestone was recently achieved on the N22BBM project by the Main Contractor, Jons Civil Engineering/John Cradock JV Ltd (CJV), who are proud to have safely installed the longest ever concrete bridge beams of this type in Ireland and the UK, over the Laney River, at Macroom.

These 7 no. beams are 50 metres long, 2.5m high W19 beams as supplied by Banagher Precast, each weighing 155 tonnes. The development of these beams was a close collaboration between Transport Infrastructure Ireland's bridge structures team, the manufacturer Banagher Precast, the designer Barry Transportation, Cork County Council with their technical advisors Mott McDonald and the Main Contractor.

The beam installation itself was no small feat and this was achieved by the meticulous planning of the overall team comprising the manufacturer Banagher Precast, the haulier Whitten Transport, the crane provider Gabriel O'Brien Crane Hire Ltd., and the Main Contractor's construction site team.



**Pat O'Sullivan, CJV Section Manager commented:** *"Prior to the installation of these beams in late December our CJV team, along with our designers, our precast supplier, our transport specialists and our crange company, have been working on the planning and execution of this operation for the past 5 months. This has resulted in a very efficient and safe operation with the bridge beams safely in position. We would also like to thank Cork County Council, the Gardai, the Macroom Local Area Engineers Office and all those who helped us achieve this milestone".*

**Paul Moran Regional Manager for Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) commented:** *"It's hard for people to see the enormity of the works going on behind the hedges and walls, and maybe people won't until the road is finished and open, however it is fantastic to see the*

*works and in particular, all the bridges that connect people and businesses, taking shape. TII wants to sincerely thank all the people on site doing a really great job, you are greatly appreciated."*

**Mary Flynn Cork County Council Project Manager commented:** *"The placement of bridge beams over the River Laney represents great progress on the N22 Baile Bhuirne to Macroom road project, and huge credit is due to the Contractor and the wider project team for delivering this aspect safely and successfully. This scheme has been many years in planning and when complete, will result in a significant improvement of the N22, in terms of road safety, journey time savings and enhanced connectivity between Cork and Kerry."*

One of the key challenges involved was the delivery to site of these very long beams. This was achieved through the assistance of the various Local Authorities along the route from Banagher in Offaly, An Garda Síochána who provided the escort, and the local residents who facilitated the very delicate movements required to get the beams from the N22 into our construction compound adjacent to the Laney River. These beams were delivered over a period of four nights between the 4<sup>th</sup> Dec and the 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 2020. The beam installation itself was carried out on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020.



**Kevin Dennehy, CJV Structures Agent commented:** *"It has been hugely satisfying to witness the months of detailed planning from the construction team come together with the safe installation of these beams. The sheer size of these beams, in terms of both length and weight, meant that every aspect of the operation from delivery to storage and shunting, to the final lift, had to be carefully planned and it's a credit to all involved that it went smoothly. One of the greatest challenges was delivering the beams the final 400m from the existing N22 to the crane pad, which necessitated reversing them over the existing R618 'New Bridge' with centimetres to spare and negotiating a tight bend to get them into position. Again, with sufficient preparation and analysis, this aspect of the works was delivered with minimal fuss."*

**Jonathan Noonan Cork County Council Project Liaison Officer commented:** *"Cork County Council is delighted to have reached this significant milestone, especially having the longest concrete bridge beams as part of the largest road scheme in the country which was achieved during a global pandemic. We would like to thank the people of Macroom, N22 roads users, but in particular local residents for their patience and support with scheme construction. We would also like to acknowledge the significant efforts and support of An Garda Síochána in facilitating the delivery of the beams."*



End of Note