

Submission

To: Christchurch City Council 2006 Draft Annual Plan

From: Antony T. Gough

Contact Telephone: 379-2259
or Cell: 0274 331 428

C/- Hereford Holdings Ltd
Suite 3 1st flr 77 Cashel St.

Email: a.gough@herefordholdings.co.nz

Submission Details

1. Avon River Bank Enhancement

Christchurch has no harbour or sea vista and so it is important we maximize our parks and water way (Avon River) running through the central city. I applaud the past improvements done along the Avon River Bank between Cashel Street and Gloucester Street and also around Victoria Square.

With the stated aim of council to specifically assist the central east of the city I wish funding be provided to allow detailed design and costing to be done to up light the only line of Poplars along the Avon River between Manchester and Madras Streets. This section is often featured in Christchurch marketing but at night is so dark that it invites an undesirable cliental and city life.

Your council offices should be able to advise on what should be allowed for to properly investigate and design various options for up lighting this important part of Oxford Terrace.

I wish to ask the council to provide some funding to properly research and cost this next improvement program.

2. Central City Marketing

I wish to thank the council for allocation \$850,000 + GST per annum to promote the central city and I fully support this initiative.

I also fully endorse the first hour free parking program in some council parking buildings. This is the single most effective initiative for central city revitalization the council or anyone has ever done in Christchurch.

3. Draft Annual Plan 2006 Document

I found this document great on words but far too light on detailed expenditure areas making it very difficult to properly analysis and constructively comment on. I would ask this panel to give directions for next year's plan to include details of finances for each section of council spending as was done in the past with forward projections for

the next five years. These are not in the papers I obtained from council and I believe fall short of what is required under the legal government act for openness and accountability.

4. Rates Differential

The council should be aiming to do away with the commercial/residential rates differential over a fixed period of years. I can see no good reason to maintain this differential, which acts to drive commercial operations out of the central city. As rating is on capital value the greater level of improvements in commercial properties allows for the greater level of services required.

Most other councils around New Zealand have a program to do away with the commercial/residential rates differential over a fixed number of years. I ask that Christchurch City Council start this process before it gets a serious legal challenge and is then publicly forced to justify it or disband it.

I wish to speak to my submission.

Yours sincerely,



Antony T. Gough