

SUBMISSION ON CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL ANNUAL PLAN
2005/6

From Doug Craig
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1. URBAN DESIGN IMPLEMENTATION

Christchurch City Council has recently signed the Urban Design Protocol which commits it to "creating quality urban design and setting out a series of actions to achieve this." (p26)

In addition it is presently part of a wider strategic group of local authorities seeking input on an Urban Development Strategy for greater Christchurch region. This will involve it, inter alia, in encouraging and inviting informed debate on directions for future urban development

These pre-requisites need to be recognised within the current plan.

On p34, it indicates that Council will provide advice to applicants on resource consents on design and layout but this seems to not have influenced some current developments within the city. There needs to be some stronger mechanisms to encourage developers, planners and others to aim towards better urban design. This could include certain requirements and concessions made to good quality developments.

Likewise there is a need to engage the local communities in the process of urban renewal. At present, communities are presented with a *fait accompli* at the resource consent application stage and often can not submit as the application is non-notified. Work needs to be done on setting out protocols for notification which are transparent and accountable.

2. Support for Community programmes and facilities (refer p 38)

There is cut in funding mooted to these facilities this coming year. It is essential that community centres and programmes continue to serve the residents and public of Christchurch adequately. This funding needs to be restored to its previous level.

3. River Warden or Guardian scheme. (refer p 34 & p36)

The proposal for a revival of the River Guardians is supported to increase public community voluntary involvement in the rehabilitation, monitoring and pollution control aspects of local streams and rivers in Christchurch. Mechanisms to do this should be worked out with Resident groups throughout the city such as Styx river Guardians and Te Ihutai Avon Heathcote Trust.

PS I would like to be heard at Public hearings
Doug Craig