

ICON

Inner City West Neighbourhood Association
P O Box 4486, Christchurch



Submission to the Christchurch City Council's Draft Annual Plan 2006

This submission is made of behalf of ICON (Inner City West Neighbourhood Association), a residents association that has been in existence since 1980. It was incorporated in 1996 and is dedicated to representing the interests of those in the west of the inner city.

ICON believes that resident's groups and neighbourhood associations have an integral role to play in meeting the new requirements of the new Local Government Act, which places an increased responsibility on Council and community to work closer together. As such ICON recommends that the Council consider increasing its budget for public accountability to provide more funding towards residents groups administration costs (e.g. secretarial support, postage etc, newsletters).

ICON submits the following:

Environmental

- That the Council supports and values the protection of the unique water aquifers that exist within Christchurch.
- That the Council investigate and implement better designed light shades for street lights that enable more efficient use of the power.
- That the Council add objectives that highlight the importance of pedestrians and give a commitment to improving and enhancing pedestrian safety.
- That the Council work towards making its streets more user friendly for pedestrians especially those with disabilities and with limited mobility.
- That the Council increases the levels of service for better quality cleaning of footpaths, roads, and crossings. This is especially desired for glass that is left over from accidents and smashed bottles.

Heritage

- That the Council to develop better protections for character groups of buildings and houses.
- That the Council makes provision for development of the concept of a unique Heritage Precinct and provides incentives and benefit packages for those that maintain their heritage homes.

Public Transport

- That the Council makes provision for a shuttle route to serve the ICON area and east to west linking it with parking buildings among other things, thus reducing traffic and the need for people to park in the streets to visit the cultural attractions.

Car Parking

- That the Council develops a comprehensive plan to address resident's street parking priorities in regards to the negative impact of commuter parking in the central city.
- That the Art Gallery car park building be changed to allow for 1st hour free car parking. Anecdotal evidence suggests to us that this car park is operating well below capacity. As such it seems ludicrous not to have it maximized when parking is at such a premium in this area.

Street Cleaning and Rubbish Collection in the Central City

- That the Council develop a comprehensive plan for central city street cleaning and rubbish collection in conjunction with the local resident's groups. We have numerous problems with the way in which this is done at present. It occurs often at inappropriate hours of the night, rubbish is frequently not collected or recycled, and there is confusion about which rules operate where and when.

Yours sincerely

Therese Minehan
Deputy Chairperson
ICON (Inner City West Neighbourhood Association)
Phone 366 0435