

# ICON

Inner City West Neighbourhood Association  
P O Box 4486, Christchurch



## **Submission to the Christchurch City Council's draft Our Community Plan Christchurch O-Tautahi 2004/2014**

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 funding towards residents groups administration costs (e.g. secretarial support, postage etc, newsletters).

### **Strong Communities and Neighbourhoods (Volume 2 - page 14)**

Add the word "resource" to the second bullet point under *What we'll do differently* So that it reads "Promote, resource, and develop skills of neighbourhood leaders and groups".

### **Sense of Identity and Place (Volume 2 – page 14)**

ICON endorses the outcomes expressed in this section. However we express concern at way in which the Council's city plan process and decisions are counter-productive to achieving these objectives.

As a local resident's group we have been forced to take the Council to the Environment Court to twice in the past 12 months to try and have our sense of identity and place recognized. This has lead to a huge burn out amongst our members and saddled us with huge costs.

We would like to see you add some outcomes and/or objectives in this section about a City Plan that reflects peoples/community desires. At present there is huge burden on resident groups to try and preserve their identity through the city plan process.

### **City Development – Heritage Protection (Volume 2- page 38)**

ICON endorses these objectives. However we would encourage the Council to increase community access to expert witnesses/planners. We would also encourage the Council to develop better protections for character groups of buildings and houses.

## **City Development – Supporting the City Centre (Volume 2 – page 39/40)**

ICON expresses concern at the Council's exclusion of Social and Cultural outcomes in this section. The economic measures are seen as significant yet the residential are ignored. We submit that the Council needs to urgently address this issue.

Add "A Liveable City" as an outcome and also add a section on the importance of creating residential harmony and coherence in the central city to the contributing statements.

### **General Issues**

ICON submits the following items for consideration:

#### **Heritage**

- That the relocation of the Centennial wall and the gates into the Botanic Gardens remain off the budget.
- That there is provision for development of the concept of the Heritage Precinct and the incentives and benefits packages for those that maintain their heritage homes.

#### **Public Transport**

- That there is provision for a shuttle route to serve the ICON area 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 a comprehensive plan be developed 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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

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