

Our Community Plan Submission Form

Instructions

Please read before completing your submission

It will help us process your submission if you clearly state the issue you want the Council to consider, what specific action you think the Council should take, and why that should be done.

If you wish, you can present your submission at a hearing. (If that is the case, please tick the box). The hearings will be held between Thursday 25 May and Wednesday 7 June 2006. Generally, 10 minutes are allocated for hearing each submission, including time for questions.

It will help us if your submission also refers to the page of either the full version or the summary version.

Please note: We are legally required to make all written or electronic submissions available to Councillors and to the public. This includes the name and address of the submitter. All submissions will be published on the Council's website from 10 May 2006.

No anonymous submissions will be accepted.

You may send us your submission:

By mail

Please mail your submission (no stamp is required) to:

Freepost 178
Our Community Plan
Christchurch City Council
PO Box 237
Christchurch 8003

By email

Please email your submission to:
ccc-plan@ccc.govt.nz
Please make sure that your full name and address is included with your submission.

On the internet

You may enter your submission using the form provided on the Council's web site at
<http://www.ccc.govt.nz>
Please follow all the instructions on the web site.

Please remember to indicate if you wish to present your submission in person at one of the hearings.

Please ensure your submission arrives no later than Friday 5 May 2006.

Your submission

You may use this form for your submission on our draft Community Plan if you wish. Whether you use this form or not, please include your name, address and contact telephone number with your submission.

Tick I do NOT wish to present my submission at the hearing, and ask that this written submission be considered
one OR
 I wish to talk to the main points in my written submission at the hearings to be held between Thursday 25 May and Wednesday 7 June 2006

Are you completing this submission: For yourself On behalf of a group or organisation

If you are representing a group or organisation, how many people do you represent?

My submission refers to: Full version Page No. Summary version Page No.

Do you also want to respond to: Development Contributions Aquatic Facilities Other

Contact Name IAIN CLARK

Organisation name (if applicable) CANTERBURY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY INC

Contact Address P.O. Box 369
CHRISTCHURCH.

Phone No. (day) 3666 937 Phone No. (evening) _____

Email (if applicable) chsi@xtra.co.nz

Signature [Signature] Date 2/5/06



Canterbury Horticultural Society Incorporated

P.O. Box 369, Christchurch, New Zealand.
Telephone (03) 366-6937, Fax (03) 365-2759, Email chsi@xtra.co.nz
Office and Horticultural Centre, Hagley Park - South, Riccarton Avenue, Christchurch.

2 May 2006

Our Community Plan
Christchurch City Council
P O Box 237
Christchurch 8003

Dear Sir/Madam,

Our Community Plan 2006 to 2016 (LTCCP)

Concerning Parks, Open Spaces and Waterways

The operating budget planned for the future allows annual increases of approximately 2.5% to 3.4%. This, in many cases, is less than inflation and allows for no expansion to the current levels of operating expenses. In the case of parks and gardens it is the Canterbury Horticultural Society's contention that the level of maintenance is far below what it should be and what is necessary to ensure a quality of gardens that the Garden City requires.

The capital budget allowing for replacement and new acquisitions is not large. Never the less there is clear, and a quite correct, intention to acquire new assets. With every new asset however, there are additional maintenance and operational costs. These have not been allowed for in the operational budget. This will result in a lesser quality of maintenance over all as the operating budget per \$ of capital asset is eroded. This, unfortunately, is already visible at the Halswell Sister City Garden Park, a new and extremely valuable asset acquired by the City in 2000 as a result of the Millennium project, where there has been a declining effort in maintenance and development as resources and staff availabilities have been eroded. This is a serious situation that should not be allowed to continue. As with the Botanic Gardens we believe the Halswell Sister City Garden Park should have its own dedicated budget.

This draft report includes references to the incomplete Hagley Park/Botanic Gardens development plan, which has been in progress now for several years without resolution. It highlights the lack of follow through, in a timely fashion, by the City Council in this particular area. The implications relating to the Hagley Park/Botanic Gardens review are far reaching and will impact on parking, park users, sport, the hospital, schools, waterways, and much more. It is important, we believe, that this review is part of the LTCCP plan and budget. It is worth noting that there are recommendations of Reviews previously adopted by the CCC that have never been implemented and it is concerning to think that unless included in the LTCCP report

this next Hagley Park/Botanic Gardens review may also lack a commitment to be followed through.

While budgets are set against annual dates there is no time-line for the completion or even undertaking of projects. In the case of the Botanic Gardens Visitor Centre, this was highlighted in 2004. We are now considering 2006,7,8 with no commitment to this project. It is important that ratepayers know when these projects will take place, and that Council follows through on the commitments they make in the various reviews, plans etc.

We refer you to the Council Vision ...the most attractive city in New Zealand and ... a must see for visitors to New Zealand. "Our Garden City is second to none.....". Without commitment by Council and council staff these visions will never be realised. Such commitment should be transparent within the LTCCP report.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Iain Clark', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Iain Clark
Manager