



**SUBMISSION ON PUBLICLY NOTIFIED CHRISTCHURCH CITY
COUNCIL – OUR COMMUNITY PLAN –CHRISTCHURCH O-**

To: Our Community Plan
Christchurch City Council
PO Box 237
Christchurch

Name of Submitter: Belfast Community Trust (BCT).

1. This is a submission on the following draft Policy:

Christchurch City Council – Our Community Plan – Christchurch
O-Tautahi 2006/16 Volume 1 Draft (the "Policy").

2. BCT's submission is:

2.1. BCT **opposes in part** the Policy.

2.2 **Capital Works Programme - City Mall Renovation &
City Development (page 73)**

- BCT believes that the Policy of the Council to drive the increase of inner city business development by 50% by 2009, with the vision to supersede city wide business development by 2015, is in conflict with good urban design practice.
- BCT supports the concept that people like to work, play and live within close proximity. This encourages closer, safer communities and benefit's the well being of the people.

- This Policy is to the detriment of existing and future suburban business and will discourage expansion and innovation in the suburbs. BCT believes that Belfast will benefit greatly from further sport, community, business and retail development in Belfast.

2.3 Capital Works Programme New Leisure Centres (page 73)

- With \$1.9 billion provided over the next 10 years for proposed capital projects, BCT believes that provision of \$12.5 million, or 1.52% for redevelopment and new aquatic facilities is inadequate.
- BCT does not support the closure of a Belfast Pool. This type of facility is beneficial on many levels, both social and physical. The Belfast School will be greatly affected by the closure, and would mean that they will incur the transportation of the pupils to the Papanui Pool. It is inconceivable that CCC would believe that it is safe for children to attempt to bike to Papanui, negotiating the Styx Mill bridge, a huge safety issue.
- With child obesity being at all time high, BCT believes that the Council should have a policy of promoting child health through exercise. Swimming is good exercise.
- The proposed savings of \$130,000 by closing four suburban pools is far outweighed by the impact on the health of those affected.
- BCT believes that Belfast should have a new indoor, heated pool.
- The traveling distances to the nearest Aquatic facilities:

from the corner of Johns Rd/Main North Rd Belfast: to Kaiapoi is 10.74km, to QEII is 9.41km, to Jellie Park is 8.62 Km and to Papanui, if a proposed facility, eventuates is 6km. The proposed facility is only 2.89km from the yet to be upgraded Jelly Park. These excessive distances faced by Belfast residents hinder the ability for many to frequent the facilities.

- The Council promotes Christchurch as "A city for Recreation, Fun and Creativity...", and yet the Council's policies contradict this. The BCT believe the Council should put more focus on Community Facilities and less on infrastructure.

2.4 Capital Works Programme - School safety zone infrastructure (page 72)

- BCT believes the provision of \$1.05 million per year for the funding of School safety zones is inadequate. Child safety is paramount.
- Belfast urgently needs a safer more accessible entrance to the Belfast school and Sheldon Park. BCT would like this to be prioritized by the Council.
- BCT believes that the Council could direct a portion of any Development Contributions towards the improvement of school safety issues in the area of where the contribution derived.

2.5 Capital Works Programme - Streets & Transport Improvements (page 73)

- BCT believes that Belfast is divided due to traffic issues, and supports the prioritization of:
 - a. Northern Roothing Option (Northern Arterial).
 - b. Western Bypass. BCT believes the best routing for this is following the NW outskirts of Clearwater going direct to the Airport.

2.6 Capital Works Programme - Walkways

- BCT believes the Council's policy of \$2.1 million over 10 years is inadequate.
- BCT believes that any Development Contributions for reserves derived from the Belfast area, should be directed to improving the quality of the Groynes, and upgrading the walkways.

2.7 Councils Proposed Savings - Community Hall Closures (page 86)

- The closure of 20 Community halls for a saving of \$397,000 again will greatly affect the communities which utilize these facilities. They provide a basis for social interaction, which does not have a monetary value.
- BCT believes that Belfast greatly needs a Community Hall/Facility, to incorporate the fast growing population and its needs. Belfast urgently requires a facility to mesh together the divides of the community, and to provide a means for growth, with the ability for more continuing education classes and activities.

2.8 Councils Proposed Savings - Rationalization Of Libraries (page 86)

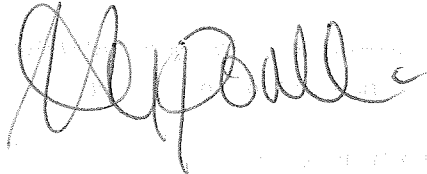
- Again the Council's policy to saving \$450,000 by closing the libraries at Redwood, Bishopdale and Spreydon and a further saving of \$80,000 for the mobile service closure, is not supported by the BCT. No monetary value can be put on peoples' learning and further education, via these facilities.
- The Council's policy states "A City Of Life Long Learning. And that it sees the Library Network as a strategic asset".
- BCT believes that Belfast requires a Public Library. At present Belfast has no library facilities. With the indication that the Redwood library shall close, it would leave this part of the City unprovided for. A library would be further serviced by being attached to the Community Hall/Facility for maximization of utilization by the Community.

2.9 Cemetery & Crematoriums (page 202)

- The Council has stated "there is sufficient capacity within existing cemeteries for the next 20 years".
- Belfast cemetery is at capacity now, and there is no indication in the Policy, that provision has been made for a new one in Belfast.
- BCT requires the policy to provide for a new cemetery within close proximity to the existing one. This is a high priority.

3. **The BCT wishes to be heard in support of the submission.**
4. If others make a similar submission, it will consider presenting a joint case with them.

For Belfast Community Trust



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Date: 5 May 2006

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