

Summary submission form

Instructions

You may send us your submission...

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.

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 the draft Our 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 one I do NOT wish to present my submission at the hearing, and ask that this written submission be considered 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 Mrs. Lois Farrow

Organisation name (if applicable) _____

Contact Address 39A Middleton Road,

Riccarton

Phone No. (day) 341-6391 Phone No. (evening) same

Email (if applicable) delof@clear.net.nz

Signature L. M. Farrow. Date 1.5.06

Lois Farrow,
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Riccarton. Phone 341-6391

email: delof@clear.net.nz

SUBMISSION ON COMMUNITY PLAN 2006 – 16

Page 1

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Thank you for providing the draft summary of the community plan so we can make our comments. I believe that the Council needs to develop an approach that is:

- a. Long term
- b. Holistic – seeing the whole picture
- c. Mindful of the repercussions of present decisions on future realities.
- d. Understanding the core function of Council

My comments are based on the draft summary of the community plan.

In the following pages I have commented on various issues as follows:

Page 2	Major projects and Proposals	Draft Summary Page 4.
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I hope this expensive exercise of consultation is not wasted as it was in the recent issue of waste minimisation.

Yours truly,

L. m. Farrow.

Lois Farrow.
2 May 2006

Major projects and proposals: Page 4.

Essential projects: Tree renewal \$17.2 million. This figure seems excessive. Is this really needed, and will it really cost this much?

Proposals to Save Money: Page 8.

LIBRARIES:

Proposal to close Redwood, Bishopdale and Spreydon libraries: These libraries must not close! The proposed savings are minimal, and these are important community assets.

On Page 7 you say Council priorities include promoting

- Increased involvement in lifelong learning
- Encouraging healthy and active lifestyles
- Balancing the needs of people and the environment.

Retaining the suburban libraries is essential for learning, an active mind, and meeting the needs of the people in their environment where they can walk to the local library, particularly the elderly, disabled, and mothers with young children.

CITY SCENE:

Reducing the number of issues is a good idea; maybe even down to 6 issues a year, saving even more money.

RAISING PARKING CHARGES IN THE INNER CITY:

If you want more people in the central city, then increasing parking costs is a dumb thing to do.

City Development Page 9.

Your proposals here are very vague, and the central city issue seems to go round in circles. The fact is that Christchurch has many great suburban malls with the advantages of being covered (therefore all weather), and having free parking. You say you want more people in the central city, but increase bus fares, parking charges, and central city rates, thus driving the locals away. Tourists are there, the festivals are great, and if the city is humming then no budget is needed for marketing – the people will come. How to get it humming? I don't know, but it needs a cohesive and long-term plan.

Community Support: Page 10

Is it really a core function of the Council to provide and operate early learning centres? Perhaps these would be better owned and operated by private concerns, and council could save more money.

Streets and Transport: Page 18.

You say we want safe, easy and comfortable access to homes, shops, businesses and recreational and leisure destinations.

SAFETY:

In recent times the council has pursued the UNSAFE practice of **road narrowing**. To turn a two-way road into a one-way slalom course causing conflicting traffic flow is insane, unsafe, and I suspect – illegal. (e.g. Hanrahan Street, Riccarton and Fairview Street, Cashmere.) If kerb build outs are constructed to slow traffic entering a side street, then it is essential that a slow lane is created for the turning traffic, or else a very unsafe situation develops on the feeder road. Narrowed roads full of build-outs and humps make access for emergency vehicles such as fire engines and ambulances almost impossible.

Cycle lanes are one of the most unsafe practices on our roads, giving the cyclist a false sense of security. Cars constantly have to traverse the cycle lanes for parking, at intersections, and turning into private or business car parks. Is it possible to design a 'spider web' network of OFF-road cycle lanes? This would give our cyclists ease of travel, safety, incentive and speed, and I am sure would dramatically increase cycle use.

Congestion: Congestion is rapidly reaching unacceptable levels, especially on the four main corridors into the city. Solutions need to be planned and implemented sooner rather than later. Delays only increase cost. I have always avoided Riccarton Road if possible and used Blenheim Road instead. Now with increasing businesses and traffic lights on Blenheim Road, it too is getting difficult and slow. This is a prime example of flow-on effect of decision making without due regard to the holistic view. With Blenheim Road now at a crawl at peak times, (especially the Curletts Road intersection), the need for the southern motorway extension is very urgent. I was dismayed to see it suggested recently that this should be delayed. Delays only increase costs.

Conflicting messages are constantly given. We are told to take the bus, and then told to get off the bus at peak times. We are told to come to the city, then bus fares and city parking costs increase. We are told to increase bus patronage, and then told the bus exchange can't cope. Traffic management needs to be planned with the whole picture in view, and the following things in mind.

Cars are here to stay – get real and accept it. Our bus system is good and getting better, but there are many times and situations when they just don't suit. When I take my car out I plan as many messages as possible in one trip, and no bus route can suit the million individual needs of our citizens. New subdivisions and infill housing increase traffic on our roads. That is a fact. It needs to be planned for and roading provision made. Saying 'everyone should take the bus' is unrealistic.

Buses – priority measures are essential for people to become regular bus users, particularly at peak times. Three corridors are being considered for priority – Riccarton Road should be included also. I used to use the bus more when the 4-hour return ticket was available.

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Parks, open spaces and waterways: Page 14

These are a great part of our Garden City, and is money well spent, although I do question the \$17.2 million cost of tree renewal. This seems excessive.

Cleaning and maintenance of the Avon and Heathcote Rivers is essential for beauty, recreation and health.

The upgrade of the Botanic Gardens is important, but does it need to cost nearly \$11 million?

Refuse minimisation and disposal: Page 16

This is a core council function, and as such needs to be done well for our clean, green image and for the health of our citizens.

It is essential that the following things be considered:

- a. Green waste should be collected. Many residents are not able to compost.
- b. Recycling options are extended and publicised.
- c. Issues such as non-recyclable packaging are investigated, and maybe banned.
- d. Adequate rubbish bins are placed around the city and emptied regularly.