

**SUBMISSION FROM
THE PETERBOROUGH STREET HOUSING COOPERATIVE
ON THE LONG TERM COMMUNITY PLAN**

Date: 29th April 2006
Group: Peterborough Street Housing Cooperative
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The Peterborough Street Housing Cooperative represents 11 adults and 6 children. We live at 173 to 181 Peterborough Street in an 'intentional community'. The houses and land are owned by Otakaro Land Trust. The Community was founded in 1981 on principles of sustainability, whanaunatanga, and community.

We wish to submit the following as a response to the Long Term Community Plan to be considered by Council.

We do not wish to speak to this submission.

**This submission is in response to the Summary of the Draft of Our
Community Plan 2006 - 16**

Major projects and proposals

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Tree Renewal

We support Council spending on tree renewal and encourage the planting of natives wherever possible, with consideration to the naturally occurring species for this area.

We request immediate attention to the poplars along the Avon River between Madras and Manchester Streets. They are a stunning asset to the city, and we are concerned that at present there are no trees being planted to replace them. We request that something is done as soon as possible to address the future loss of these trees. We support replanting of poplars along this part of the river, along with native grasses etc on the banks.

Fit-out for new Civic Offices

We request that the following be added to the plan in relation to the fit-out for new Civic Offices;

- That the offices are built and fitted out using sustainable principles and eco design and be used as a model of best practice for commercial building design (An existing example is the Landcare Research Office in Auckland which employs such principles and was as cost effective as a conventional building)
- We would like to see a cap on the project costs

Council's proposal to save money on its services

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We oppose the closing of Edgware Community pool. It is a resource utilised by many children and adults, and is a valued community asset. The savings are minimal compared to other council projects.

City Development

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We support attracting more people to the Central City but oppose the amount of spending proposed for the renovation of the city mall. A targeted rate may force even more businesses out of the city, given the number of empty spaces currently. The 'revitalisation' of the square has demonstrated that aesthetics is not the reason people do not use a space. We oppose the kind of misspending and poor decision making that occurred with the resurfacing of the square and encourage more consultation and responsiveness to public opinion.

Community Support

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We support spending on an increase in council rental housing including joint initiatives with community groups and developers. We request that the council uses eco-building and sustainable design wherever possible including passive solar heating, solar water heating, insulation, and building that encourages a sense of community and belonging. Council housing also provides an opportunity to demonstrate innovative housing design and initiatives around eco-design.

The Council needs to continue to fund, and extend the current Refugee and Migrant Centre where services for settlement and support of new residents are located in one place.

Economic Development

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Employment Advocacy services for Refugees and Migrants should be a priority for the council as the city faces skill shortages, and an increasing number of disenfranchised people who are unable to access employment through a lack of networks and employment gaining skills.

We'd like to see the Council support the maintenance of employment of refugees and migrants through the promotion of workplace literacy programmes and funded follow-up support to address cultural, language and other issues which may arise.

We'd like to see the Council offer incentives to employers to employ people from refugee and migrant communities.

We'd like to see the City Council model best practice employment processes by employing people from refugee and migrant communities and provide workplace literacy programmes for those it does employ.

We'd like the Council to include in the Long Term Plan a goal to work towards best practice employment behaviour by engaging in consultation, conflict resolution, mediation, and positive communication. There is concern among our community and beyond about the current climate at the Council and the loss of institutional knowledge and skill.

Recreation and Leisure

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As regular users of the Centennial Pool complex, we'd like the council to extend the activities available to include fitness classes such as those available at Pioneer and QE2 complexes.

Refuse minimisation and disposal

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We support increasing council spending on waste minimisation to reach the goal of zero waste.

We request that the following be included in the plan;

- Curb side collection of organic waste
- User pays for rubbish bags
- An increase in rates to reach this goal (if necessary)

Public transport

We support the council's intention to continue to provide and improve public transport related services and suggest the following to be included in the plan;

- more incentives for people to use buses; for example; cheaper fares for short distances, and a longer turn around option for reusing tickets i.e. back to 4 hours, or even three. The two hour turnaround is not long enough for both shopping and engaging with community.
- Buslanes in Papanui, Riccarton and Colombo Streets.
- More clean fuelled buses (electric)

Cycle lanes

We applaud the work done in past years on developing cycle lanes and are concerned that this work may cease. Christchurch is an ideal city for cyclists and in the interests of the environment, health and smooth running traffic, the provision of safe routes is essential.

Safety

As residents of Peterborough Street and witnessing the local activity at night, we advocate the installation of security cameras on intersections in Manchester Street as far up as Bealey Avenue to enable monitoring of under-age sex workers and their clients, as well as for general safety purposes. More street lighting would enhance the safety of these areas also.

Rubbish bins

There need to be more rubbish bins around the Avon River between Barbados Street and Fitzgerald Avenue. At present a member of the Avon Loop community collects rubbish on a weekly basis, keeping the area relatively tidy. Rubbish bins may assist this work.

Water supply

We are conscious of the precious resource that Christchurch water is and support any council initiatives to encourage the saving of water and the preservation of its world class quality.

We suggest the following be added to the plan to ensure the preservation of this resource;

- Regulations that require the collection of roof water for garden use for any new dwelling and incentives for installation on existing dwellings of the ability to collect rain water for garden use
- Spending on research and design of effective grey water systems
- Incentives for installation of grey water systems for individuals and private enterprise
- Modelling of grey water systems for all council building

We strongly oppose the fluoridisation of the Christchurch Water Supply.