

Submission on our Community Plan

LTCCP Christchurch 2006

Community Boards

The functions and delegations of community Boards need to be included in the document. It is not clear to the public what role Community Boards have in the governance of the city. Page 25

Need for Council Standing Committees

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The Portfolio Groups should be replaced by standing committees. There are five reasons to support this:

- 1 Governance functions can be exercised in more detail and beyond the global level
- 2 Line items in the LTCCP and Annual Plans can be analysed according to their component parts rather than general areas of policy that have either been included in the budget or rejected as a whole. Many of the general areas of policy have specific projects that warrant consideration. Alternative community or government partnerships and staging proposals could have been considered if a forum and structure allowed for this break down. For example, none of a variety of projects included in the Ihutai Trust Management Plan were considered for funding on an individual basis. Library or learning centres and swimming facilities could be provided in partnership with schools in a number of suburbs. (eg. Shirley BHS) the budget would need to include provision for the percentage of community use in the partnership.
- 3 Committee Meetings are open to the public and accessible to community groups and individuals who want to make submissions.
- 4 The process of the standing committee is perceived to be transparent and democratic.
- 5 The interaction between Community Boards and Council would be improved by having a group available to hear representations on local issues.

Christchurch City Council Holdings

The transfer of assets and operations in the Port company should be opposed. Instead the Government should be approached to facilitate a New Zealand wide or South Island strategy to improve

the economic performance of New Zealand Ports and to rationalise their activities. Page 27

Social Deprivation Index

The formula for Community Grants and Community Board funding needs to reflect the different social needs of each Community Board area. For example, Boards with large areas of public housing and low income housing find it difficult to fund projects in other districts of their Board area. Page 33

Bus Exchange

A new bus exchange and infrastructure for the city is needed to cope with the increased demand for public passenger transport. Better facilities are also needed at New Brighton. Page 71

Programme of Streets and Transport Improvement

This large budget item of 187.3 million needs to be closely analysed for project savings or deletions. Page 73

Water Reuse

This is an important issue for residents in East Christchurch with sandy soil who do not wish to use the valuable resource on their gardens in summer because the demand is high. A pilot programme in rain water retention would benefit the environment and private gardens. The issue was raised by the Southshore Residents Association in their deputation last year. The Australian experience in this area of sustainable resource use needs to be tried in East Christchurch. Page 74

Avon Heathcote Estuary Ihuthai Trust Development

A variety of projects within the Trust's Management Plan deserve more detailed consideration by the council.

1 The removal of 9 million for the Green Edge Programme was with the proviso that the environmental values of the area were protected. The allocation of 50,000 for a Management Plan and consultation would provide some protection

and enable voluntary and community projects to go forward within a policy framework.

2 It is likely that minimum water quality standards in the future will require improvements in City Council storm water management. The use of traps and the retrofitting of drainage into the Avon and Heathcote rivers will need to be addressed. Budget provision needs to be made to clean up the rivers and the Estuary.
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Walkways Development

Specific projects need to be undertaken to ensure that public access is retained in the future. The Estuary edge needs to be surveyed. Consistent and branded interpretation and signage should be undertaken. The Redcliffs and Southshore areas in particular need budget provision for this work to be undertaken.

The Jubilee Walkway through South Brighton is becoming more popular and the South Brighton Residents Association has requested historical interpretation and signage. Progressively the Jubilee Walkway should be linked to the Locksley pathway. Page 74

Aranui Learning Centre

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The opportunity should not be lost to develop innovative learning facilities appropriate to the needs of this community. The Council should make budget provision to develop a proposal that will involve the costs of major facility and operational activities coming from the schools government and community partners. If budget provision cannot be made for a stand alone facility the opportunity for a community development role should not be eliminated.

Biodiversity Strategy

Page 75

One million dollars needs to be provided for the ecological restoration of significant sites. This could be critical in maintaining habitats for the future. Often voluntary groups will provide a multiplier effect by assisting with planting and weeding.

Regional Parks

Page 127

Funding needs to be made available to prepare an updated Management Plan for the South Brighton Domain. Aging and unsafe pines and macrocarpas need to be replaced in a planned way. The South New Brighton Residents Association has been asking for this and has offered to assist planting projects.

Waterways

Page 127

A second weed cutter is needed to cope with weed growth in our rivers. Every summer there is a problem for water sports at Kerrs Reach. Without an alternative water sports facility the maintenance of Kerr's Reach will continue to be important. The breakdown of the existing machine could jeopardise sport in this area.

Waste water Collection and Treatment

Page 161

Even if the costs of the tenders to build the ocean out fall pipeline are marginally higher, the Council should give preference to micro-tunnelling techniques over dig and lay construction. Micro tunnelling would reduce the environmental damage to the Estuary and disruption within the South Brighton District.

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I would like to speak to
this submission