

LTCCP 2006-16 SUBMISSION

Submissions close on 5 May 2006

I do NOT wish to present my submission at the hearing, and ask that this submission be considered.

I am completing this submission:
For yourself

Number of people you represent:

My submission refers to:
Full Version of the LTCCP

Page Number:
see below

I also want to respond to: Aquatic Facilities

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Your Submission: **Do you have any comments on the major projects in our Draft Community Plan?**

P. 150 (Streets and transport)

The proposal to create bus-only lanes along Papanui Road is not explicitly mentioned in this section. I write in full support of this proposal, as it will help with congestion and encourage more reliable public transportation. With the developments happening in the north of the City (Styx Mill, Northwoods, as examples), the traffic in Papanui Road has increased markedly. Please action the institution of bus-only lanes urgently.

p.134 (Recreation & leisure)

I fully support the proposal for a new aquatic facility in Papanui, in partnership with the Northlands Mall and the Papanui High School. The northwest of the City is in need of such a facility and the proposed location will enable access by the main arterial roads and public transport. My only concern is that the facility be built using ozonation rather than chlorination for water treatment. Chlorination is linked to respiratory diseases and skin disorders and should be avoided - particularly given the community outcomes around health.

p.121 Parks, open spaces and waterways

I have previously submitted to Council against the removal of the dog park at the Styx Mill Conservation Reserve. If I understand the plan, further changes to Styx Mill have not made the capital plans of the Council. However, I should further works at Styx Mill be added to the LTCCP as a result of the submission process, I wish the Council to fully and openly consult on any proposals to remove the dog park facility.

p.117 Economic development

I write in opposition to the measures and targets being used for economic development. Specifically the 'number of business start-ups per year' and the hours of 'business mentoring and coaching' are not good indicators of economic development.

**Your Submission
(Cont'd):**

The Council must be tracking the business startups that survive over the critical 5-year period and not simply the number of startups in each year. It has been proven that most startups fail within the first 5 years. Therefore, if we are concerned with economic development, you must measure the progress of all startups.

With regard to business mentoring and coaching, this is a measure of 'busy-ness' and not performance. Any number of matches with mentors can be made but there is no link to actual performance of those businesses supported by the service. Council dollars could be directed to better areas of service to the community.

Projected rates (p. 3 of summary document).

It is very disappointing that the Council cannot keep its rate rises to the level of the Consumer Price Index. This is not surprising given the demands on local government. However, no where in the summary document or the full document does the Council commit itself as part of its outcomes toward "Democracy and Governance" to lobbying Central Government for tax relief. The problem with our ability to pay ever-increasing rates does not lie so much with local government as it does with Central Government. We have some of the highest income taxation rates in the western world and yet most of us see nothing in the way of services from Central Government. We are only asked to pay more locally through rates for the services that matter to us. Please commit the Council to joining forces with other local authorities to lobby Central Government to free up the middle class from its tax burden - to allow us to pay for services in our local communities. This is an area where the Council members can have real influence; please take up the challenge.

Do you have any comments on groups of activities (The activities and services the Council provides?)

Do you have any other comments or suggestions you want to make?