

2007/08 DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN SUBMISSION

Submissions close on 11 May 2007

I wish to talk to the main points in my written submission at the hearings to be held between Monday 28 May 2007 and Tuesday 5 June 2007.

Are you completing this submission:

On behalf of a group or organisation

If you are representing, how many people do you represent?

7

Name:

Riccarton/Wigram Community Board

Organisation:

Christchurch City Council

Contact Address:

CCC

Daytime Phone:

03 941 5112

Evening Phone:

Email:

emma.davison@ccc.govt.nz

Date:

11/5/2007

Your Submission:

SUBMISSION OF THE
RICCARTON/WIGRAM COMMUNITY BOARD

ON

THE DRAFT CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL'S 2007/08 ANNUAL PLAN

The Riccarton/Wigram Community Board (the Board) makes the following submissions on the draft 2007/08 Annual Plan.

The Board would like to be heard in support of its submission.

1. New Leisure Centre - With the closure of Sockburn Pool, the Riccarton/Wigram area is not served by any substantial aquatic facility. The Long Term Council Community Plan has identified a new aquatic facility in the 2015/16 financial year for the south-west/ west area. The Board considers this timeframe to be unacceptable. The south-west and west areas of the City are showing significant long term growth in residential development, possibly more so than any other area within the City boundaries. The Board believes that there is a pressing need for a new facility now in the south west/west area or at the very least, a facility should be built much earlier than 2015/16.

2. Trading Activities - The Board wishes to acknowledge the positive benefits that ratepayers enjoy from the financial returns of Council trading companies and submits that if there was an increase in the airport departure tax, paid by passengers, on international flights then this would result in an increase in revenue.

3. Social Housing Partnerships - The Board supports the establishment of partnerships with central government and its agencies to build and provide social housing. The Board further encourages the Council to look at establishing partnerships with non-government organisations, such as Ngai Tahu, not-for-profit groups and charitable trusts to build local social housing complexes.

4. Community Boards' Funding - The Board requests that the Council consider an increase in Community Boards' funding to reflect inflation. Core overhead costs for community and voluntary organisations have increased and there are increasing demands on community and voluntary organisations. These organisations are an essential part of society and need to be supported.

5. Current Council Policy on Development Contributions - The Riccarton/Wigram ward has significant traffic and intensification of land use issues, and the Board submits that the current policy should be changed so that development contribution payments be allocated to local associated infrastructure projects in the area they are derived from.

6. Light Rail System - The Board encourages the Council to make provision for introducing a light rail system. The people of Riccarton, Ilam, Avonhead, Sockburn, Hei Hei, Hornby, and Halswell need an affordable public transport system to gain access to key employment, educational, and social facilities. Adequate planning needs to be undertaken to accommodate city growth. The Board believes that an area in Denton Park could be used as a transport hub and further include the provision for light rail.

7. Southern Motorway - The Board urges the Council to bring forward the Stage 2 Southern Motorway extension, and recommends that the Council liaise with Transit New Zealand to obtain designation. The southern corridor will provide a vital link to the city. It will reduce the amount of traffic using the local road network and will help to address Christchurch's growing traffic demands.

8. Rezoning of Special Purpose Awatea Zone - The Board requests that the Awatea area be rezoned, with urgency, under the current City Plan to allow development of the area.

9. Service Levels - The Board congratulates the Council on the current excellent level of service for street cleaning but believes that there needs to be greater enforcement of litter and graffiti.

10. Strategic Land Purchases - The Board is supportive of such purchases, particularly in the south-west area. The Board has identified two locations in the Riccarton area where land is available and user pays parking could be introduced. The demand for parking in the Riccarton area cannot always be met by on-site facilities and the Council should look to periphery parking sites from which people can then commute.

11. Streets & Transport - The Board is supportive of the transport strategy for the University of Canterbury and of introducing ideas such as pedestrian and cyclist subways.

12. Elected Member Representation - The Board is grateful that provision has been made for reimbursement of broadband costs to all elected members but believes that consideration needs to be given to total communication allowance for all members as is given to Board Chairpersons and Councillors i.e. telephone costs.

13. Crime Prevention & Reduction - The Board continues to be concerned at the levels of crime in local communities and encourages the Council to support the Police and authorities in promoting crime prevention. Crime ruins the sense of the community and this is an issue of social concern, which has to be taken seriously.

14. Waterloo Road - The Board would like to express its concern on the poor condition of Waterloo Road, from Pound Road. The road surfaces are rough and require maintenance. This is a safety concern and the Board would like to see this workbrought forward in the Capital Programme.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft 2007/08 Annual Plan.

For the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board

PETER LALOLI
CHAIRPERSON