



## Submission to Christchurch City Council's Draft Annual Plan for 2007–2008

From the Avon Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust (AHEIT)

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We wish to speak to our submission.

We ask that the officer comments on our submission be emailed to the Contact Person at least two working days prior to our attendance at the hearing. When this has not been possible in the past a very lopsided and unbalanced discussion ensues as we try to grasp the tenor and direction of the officers views without the opportunity to give them the due consideration they deserve.

### The AHEIT - Christchurch City Council relationship.

1. We wishes to thank the Council for their dedicated commitment to developing the good working relationship that has evolved with the Trust over the past few years. We look forward to making our contribution to growing the commitment that has fostered relationship and made it the success it is.
2. In particular we have found the outcomes achieved through the Ihutai Plan Implementation Group to be of significant benefit to all concerned. The Council's continued support through their Trust Board representative and liaison person continues to provide both timely and effective communication that have greatly increased the value of the beneficial outcomes from all points of view. The end result has been improved efficiency that has allowed better outcomes for lower inputs and greatly increased liaison and co-operation between the Trust, CCC and Ecan.
3. The best example of this is the adoption of the Healthy Estuary and Rivers of the City water quality and ecosystem health monitoring programme.
4. This is closely followed by the Council's the committing to GIS Mapping project.

### 2007 Amendments to the Long Term Council Community Plan 2006/16

Page 43 – 3.3.1 Cash as opposed to Land for Development Contributions for Reserves.

5. We strongly support Development Contributions of land rather than Cash in relation to developments around the Estuary margins and along both the Heathcote and Avon rivers for the following reasons listed on Page 44 of the above document.

6. • The purchase or acquisition of land for district reserves in areas where there are existing or potential deficiencies in the provision of them.
7. • The purchase or acquisition of land for local reserves in areas where there are existing or potential deficiencies in the provision of them.
8. • The purchase or acquisition of land of ecological or conservation value where there is a need to protect such areas by way of public ownership.
9. • The purchase or acquisition of regional reserves including coastal areas, the plains, wetlands and the Port Hills, for the protection and conservation of natural, cultural and heritage landscapes, ecology and features and to contribute to the 'Garden City' image.
10. • A linkage, or potential linkage, along or to significant natural features, or between other areas of public open space and community facilities.
11. • Protection or enhancement of significant mature trees, significant areas of indigenous vegetation, indigenous wildlife habitat, margins of waterways or other significant natural features.
12. • Protection or enhancement of historic or cultural features of significance to the City's population.
13. • A usable area of open space for planting as visual relief from a built or highly developed environment.

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### *Development Contributions Policy Part 2*

2. Where land offered by the developer is accepted by the Council as environmental compensation for development opportunities, generally in addition to, and not instead of, development contributions of cash and/or land for reserves. It is the Council's policy to apply the concept of 'environmental compensation' where land of high landscape or natural value is protected or made available for public use and/or significant public benefit will be gained from hazard mitigation measures which would substantially enhance amenity values, e.g. planting and wetland protection; and

3. Where a major infrastructure development project is being undertaken, e.g. some types of project carried out by Christchurch International Airport Limited or by Transit New Zealand.

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14. We would like to see the Council's policy of Environmental Compensation applied in the present Ferrymead Bridge widening project, the proposed widening of McCormacks Bay Causeway and the strengthening of the rock wall along Humphreys Drive (with the possibility of encroachment on the Estuary margin). We consider that it is important that a mechanism be put in place to respect the Estuary as a whole and that for each reclamation an area of land is returned to the Estuary. Where this is not practical, alternative compensation should be negotiated, possibly extending Wetlands, more walkways, particularly linking up existing Walkways, improved landscaping or improved access/facilities for recreational users.

## **DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2007/08**

### **Page 20 Capital Expenditure Summary**

15. We are encouraged to see the Budget for parks, Open Spaces & Waterways has been increased slightly. We look forward to this addressing our concerns expressed on the low priority in the LTCCP 2006/16 given to Trust development projects. In particular we look forward to being consulted on the \$40,000 Green Edge Margin Reserves Project.

### **Page 21 Capital Works Programme – Waterways & Track Development – Wetlands Restoration**

16. It is good to note that Bexley Wetlands, Charlesworth Wetlands and Jubilee Walkway have all been budgeted for in 2007/8 but we would like to know where Community requests for action on a walkway along RS309, Redcliffs is on the Council's active action list.

### **Page 22 Capital Works Programme – Ferry Road/Humphreys Drive Roundabout**

17. The current draft plan for this project is out for Public Consultation. Due to its close proximity to the Humphreys Drive exit from Woolworths, the High Rise Building being erected and Ferrymead Bridge, the roading layout looks extremely complex and will quickly earn the title of "Spaghetti Junction". This is another example of where piecemeal projects are considered in isolation rather than as part of an integrated management plan. We suggest the Council formulate a policy to ensure a great deal more work is put into integrated planning for the long-term benefit of our City.

### **Page 23 Ocean Outfall Pipeline**

18. Our Trust representatives were delighted to attend the recent Groundbreaking Ceremony to celebrate the beginning of Micro-tunneling.

19. We compliment the Council for establishing the Ocean Outfall Community Liaison Group. This is already providing a very prompt and cost effective method of resolving concerns on construction issues identified by affected residents.

### **Comments on Presentation, Format & Content of CCC Draft Annual Plan 2007/08**

20. We do not find this Draft Plan very user-friendly. From informal comments from members of other Community groups, others share our view.

21. It would be helpful if projects were listed separately and geographically to enable submitters to readily locate Council activities that directly affect/interest them. This would save a lot of valuable Council staff time supplying additional requested information.

22. See below a copy of a page from the CCC Draft Annual 1999/00 which illustrates our point. We would appreciate comments on the feasibility of such a format in future, bearing in mind that the relevant information is already available to each Council Unit.

## SCHEDULE OF CAPITAL WORKS - FERRYMEAD WARD

Map Ref	Description	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
F68	Scarborough/Taylor's Mistake Walkway Walkways/Track Development (Track development)			3,000		
F92	Smith St restraints Neighbourhood Improvement Works	60,000				
F9	Station Rd (Flavell - Martindales / Est) Kerb and Channel renewals Sullivan Ave			1,020	101,400	
F11	(Ensors - Whittington / Bth) K&C renewals				4,794	316,200
F12	(Whittington - Richardson / Bth) K&C renewals					7,038
F48	Sumner Croquet Reserve New Reserves Development (Develop new reserve)		40,000			40,000
F55	Sumner/Scarborough Beach Park Foreshore Development Works (Beach landscape and works)	15,000				
F73	Sumner/Scarborough Esplanade - Toilet Buildings/Equipment Replacement (Replace toilet)				100,000	
F38	Sumnervale Reserve Development New Reserves Development (Develop new reserve)	35,000		20,000		
F56	Taylor's Mistake Beach Park Foreshore Development Works (Beach landscape and works)	30,000				
F20	Taylor's Mistake Rd (Improvements) New Construction/New K&C/Paths	153,000	153,000			
F6	Wakefield Ave (Stoke - Nayland / Est) Kerb and Channel renewals			1,530	102,000	
F13	Wildberry St (Manning - Hopkins / Bth) Kerb and Channel renewals				4,284	285,600
F69	Woolston Park Irrigation systems (new) (Auto irrigation for sports fields)		25,000			

21. We have starting to look into the issues that will take priority for the next round of the LTCCP. Of particular note is the restoration and maintenance of life sustaining flows in the City's rivers and streams. We see it as vitally important that we find a mechanism to restore the headwater streams that have been damaged as the city has spread north, west and south.

22. This issue is closely related to how we view the management of storm water runoff across the city. While there are a number of notable success stories, these are badly compromised by the plethora of failures of planning, design and the execution of good management and maintenance strategies.

23. We do however, wish to acknowledge the commitment and efforts being made to improving the sewer infrastructure and see this as a positive contribution to eventually solving stormwater issues.

22. In conclusion, we appreciate the opportunity to make this Submission and look forward to continuing co-operation with the Christchurch City Council in the search for appropriate solutions to the issues we have raised.

*AB Ouyedab* 4/5/07