

2007/08 DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN AND 2007 AMENDMENTS TO THE LTCCP 2006-16 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:

For yourself

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

Name:

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Organisation:

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Date:

9/5/2007

Your Submission:

What the council needs to consider?

The poor health of the Heathcote River resulting from CCC discharges (both stormwater and wastewater). This waterway is used as an open drain by CCC and the environmental and amenable value of this waterway is severely reduced.

By poor health I am referring to the poor water quality and associated risks to residents who come into contact with it, especially children. I am also referring to the increased sediment load and flows in the river after rainfall events. The flooding events are frequent in our neighbourhood and the CCC LTCCP is inaccurate when it describes 99% of residential dwellings as being free of flooding, especially along the Heathcote River.

I am also concerned that the ecosystem value seems to be ignored in the LTCCP. On page 124 LTCCP, the statement for work on waterways and drainage is "do the same" with the measurement of achievement stated "satisfaction with appearance of waterway". In my opinion, the visual appearance of the Heathcote River is poor and I believe most people in my neighbourhood would agree. On page 226 of the LTCCP, the options to address the state of the water quality refer to ICM's, which I know are only to be attempted for new subdivision areas in the upper Heathcote River catchment. This plan makes no specific commitments to improving the Heathcote River in established areas like Beckenham. The fact that the city is pursuing short-term consents to delay the need for action on the exiting stormwater network is unacceptable and reflects the lack of real commitment the city council has to improving stormwater quality and reducing stormwater discharges into the Heathcote River across established areas.

The CCC could be doing a lot more to reduce or delay, and treat the stormwater in existing areas when entering the Heathcote River. There are a multitude of modern systems such as soakage systems, development of swales where grassed verges already exist, rain-gardens, subsidised roof-water tanks that could be looked at and implemented. Auckland is light years ahead of the CCC when it comes to sustainable and smart stormwater infrastructure.

The above points generally relate to pages 224-226 and 122-129 of the LTCCP.

In summary, the CCC is doing nothing in my neighbourhood of Beckenham to improve the health of our most important natural asset - the Heathcote River.

<p>Your Submission (Cont'd):</p>	<p>What specific action is required by the council?</p> <p>The council needs to implement design and construction of a modern stormwater system for Beckenham. On my street, Martin Ave, we already have grassed road verges, which drain into a gutter, which then exits directly via a culvert into the Heathcote River. These grassed verges could easily be converted into grassed swales which would provide some treatment and retention prior to discharge. The discharge could even be mostly avoided by soakage or wetland systems.</p> <p>The council should provide subsidies and support for installing roof-water collection systems. Currently the consenting process including building guidelines and design specifications for residential collection systems is non-existent or not obtainable for the public. Rain gardens could also be incorporated into residential landscaping and the council could provide design assistance or standards, and subsidised plants or landscape materials to those who wish to reduce kerb and channel discharges through sustainable landscape design that reuses onsite stormwater.</p> <p>Also, discharges from new subdivisions should be limited especially on the hill areas.</p>
<p>Which principles and/or provisions of the Draft Amended Development Contributions Policy (DCP) do you support and why?</p>	
<p>Which principles and/or provisions of the Draft Amended DCP do you oppose and why?</p>	
<p>What exactly do you want the Council to do about the Draft Amended DCP?</p>	
<p>Any other remarks/comments:</p>	<p>What the council needs to consider?</p> <p>The poor health of the Heathcote River resulting from CCC discharges (both stormwater and wastewater). This waterway is used as an open drain by CCC and the environmental and amenable value of this waterway is severely reduced.</p> <p>By poor health I am referring to the poor water quality and associated risks to residents who come into contact with it, especially children. I am also referring to the increased sediment load and flows in the river after rainfall events. The flooding events are frequent in our neighbourhood and the CCC LTCCP is inaccurate when it describes 99% of residential dwellings as being free of flooding, especially along the Heathcote River.</p> <p>I am also concerned that the ecosystem value seems to be ignored in the LTCCP. On page 124 LTCCP, the statement for work on waterways and drainage is "do the same" with the measurement of achievement stated "satisfaction with appearance of waterway". In my opinion, the visual appearance of the Heathcote River is poor and I believe most people in my neighbourhood would agree. On page 226 of the LTCCP, the options to address the state of the water quality refer to ICM's, which I know are only to be attempted for new subdivision areas in the upper Heathcote River catchment. This plan makes no specific commitments to improving the Heathcote River in established areas like Beckenham. The fact that the city is pursuing short-term consents to delay the need for action on the exiting stormwater network is unacceptable and reflects the lack of real commitment the city council has to improving stormwater quality and reducing stormwater discharges into the Heathcote River across established areas.</p> <p>The CCC could be doing a lot more to reduce or delay, and treat the stormwater in existing areas when entering the Heathcote River. There are a multitude of modern systems such as soakage systems, development of swales where grassed verges already exist, rain-gardens, subsidised roof-water tanks that could be looked at and implemented. Auckland is light years ahead of the CCC when it comes to sustainable and smart stormwater infrastructure.</p>

Any other remarks/comments:	<p>The above points generally relate to pages 224-226 and 122-129 of the LTCCP.</p> <p>In summary, the CCC is doing nothing in my neighbourhood of Beckenham to improve the health of our most important natural asset - the Heathcote River.</p> <p>What specific action is required by the council?</p> <p>The council needs to implement design and construction of a modern stormwater system for Beckenham. On my street, Martin Ave, we already have grassed road verges, which drain into a gutter, which then exits directly via a culvert into the Heathcote River. These grassed verges could easily be converted into grassed swales which would provide some treatment and retention prior to discharge. The discharge could even be mostly avoided by soakage or wetland systems.</p> <p>The council should provide subsidies and support for installing roof-water collection systems. Currently the consenting process including building guidelines and design specifications for residential collection systems is non-existent or not obtainable for the public. Rain gardens could also be incorporated into residential landscaping and the council could provide design assistance or standards, and subsidised plants or landscape materials to those who wish to reduce kerb and channel discharges through sustainable landscape design that reuses onsite stormwater.</p> <p>Also, discharges from new subdivisions should be limited especially on the hill areas.</p>
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