

12. 11. 2012

BURWOOD/PEGASUS COMMUNITY BOARD

**SUBMISSIONS COMMITTEE
17 OCTOBER 2012**

**Minutes of a meeting of the Submissions Committee
held on Wednesday 17 September 2012 at 12 noon
in the Meeting Room, Shirley Service Centre, 36 Marshland Road.**

PRESENT: Linda Stewart (Chairperson), Tim Baker, David East and Julie Gorman

APOLOGIES: An apology for absence was received and accepted from Tim Baker.

The Committee reports that:

PART C – DELEGATED DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE COMMITTEE

1. CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL'S DRAFT WASTEWATER STRATEGY – BOARD SUBMISSION

At its meeting on 17 September 2012 the Board decided that its Submissions Committee be convened to prepare a submission for the Board on the Christchurch City Council's Draft Wastewater Strategy.

The Committee reviews the draft strategy and prepared the **attached** submission for consideration and adoption by the Board.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That the submission prepared on the Christchurch City Council's Draft Wastewater Strategy, be adopted.

The meeting concluded at 1.55pm.

SUBMISSION TO: Christchurch City Council

ON: Draft Wastewater Strategy 2012

BY: Burwood/Pegasus Community Board

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Burwood/Pegasus Community Board appreciates the opportunity to provide this response to the Christchurch City Council on its Draft Wastewater Strategy 2012.

The Board **does** wish to be heard in support of this submission.

2. BOARD SUBMISSION

2.1 General Comments

With the Burwood/Pegasus ward being both the receiving area and the ocean discharge point for the city's wastewater, the Board's expectations are that all matters relevant to the effective treatment and discharge of wastewater are to be carried out to the highest standards and that as a consequence, there are no detrimental effects on its community.

In this regard the Board will continue its overview of the current standards of discharge to ensure that the qualities of the local environment are maintained.

Being the aquatic ward with an abundance of natural features - the Avon River corridor, the Avon/Heathcote Estuary, coastal beaches and wetlands, it is the Board's strong expectation that the Strategy will afford high levels of protection for these natural features.

The changing demographics in the ward will, in the Board's view, mean that these natural attributes will become a priority environmental component in the post earthquake recovery for this important coastal area of Christchurch.

While the intent of the Strategy is sound, the Board does have reservations about the circumstances that will still see emergency discharges occurring into local waterways throughout the city that ultimately end up in the Board's area.

Should the Selwyn and Waimakariri District Council get agreed access to the city's network in the future, then the Board would seek that their wastewater be pre treated at source prior to entering the city's system.

2.2 The responses below follow the format of the Questionnaire provided in the Draft Strategy.

1. *Overall do you support the direction of the Draft Strategy?*

Yes, but the Board would like to see the timeframes outlined in more detail in the final version.

2. *How much do you agree or disagree with the aim, vision and guiding principles?*

Generally agree.

On page 13, clause 2.2 Vision, the Board would request that '**environmental**' be added so that the vision statement becomes more encompassing.

In clause 2.3 Guiding Principles on page 13, the Board would also request that a greater emphasis and commitment be given to pre treatment measures prior to discharge.

3. *How much do you agree or disagree with the goals and objectives?*

Agree.

4. *How much do you agree or disagree with the key issues?*

(a) Sewer System Resilience

Strongly agree.

(b) Wet Weather Overflows

Strongly agree.

(c) Long Term Treatment of Wastewater

Agree, although the Board does have some unease with the 100 year planning horizon as being somewhat speculative and unclear.

The Board favours a satellite approach (Belfast and Rolleston) for treatment facilities rather than a reliance being placed just on the CWTP treatment facility in the long term. Partnerships with adjoining Council's in the provision of satellite facilities within the 35 year planning horizon for the CWTP is the Board's preference.

The recent media reports on the Ministry for the Environment's published water quality standards, inter alia, for our beaches made for interesting reading. Our local beaches rated as Good whereas Woodend was rated as Very Good.

This result would indicate that the treatment of wastewater to bathing standard before its release to sea at 200 faecal coliforms, is working successfully in relation Waimakariri District Council's discharges and in the Board's opinion, is an important issue for Christchurch to emulate.

(d) Banks Peninsula

Agree.

(e) Reuse of Treatment Products

Strongly agree with the proposed expansion of the CWTP water reuse scheme but continue to explore other reuse methods such as incineration.

5. *Which two recommendations do you think are the most important?*

Controlling overflows, and

Reducing/improving discharges to marine environments.

6. *What are the best aspects of the Draft Wastewater Strategy?*

The Council is commended for the readability of the strategy document and the stated intent for ongoing reviews and changes where needed.

7. *What are the aspects of the Draft Strategy that need the most improvement?*

The Board reiterates its view that environmental elements should be at the forefront of the Strategy.

As mentioned, as Burwood/Pegasus ends up with the wastewater, it is the Board's expectation on behalf of its community, that environmental impacts are the Strategy's top priority, that monitoring procedures are robust and that the information resulting is readily accessible and capable of being understood by the community.

Linda Stewart
Chairperson

BURWOOD/PEGASUS COMMUNITY BOARD

29 October 2012