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CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

Draft LTCCP 2009-19

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Submissions close on 16 April 2009

I wish to talk to the main points in my written submission at the hearings to be held between Monday 11 May 2009 and Monday 18 May 2009.

Are you completing this submission:	For yourself
If you are representing, how many people do you represent?	
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Date:	16 April 2009
Your Submission:	<p>The first issue I have is with the proposed extension to the tram tracks in the inner city. While I appreciate that this is an attractive option for tourism, I believe that money for the extension of the tram route is to come from the transport budget. If correct, this is outrageous. The tram does not benefit any citizen or ratepayer of Christchurch, nor does it enhance their transport options. If the council believes in light rail, then it should put it's money towards that, not a cop out like this.</p> <p>Secondly, as a proud, young citizen of Christchurch, I would like to live in the central city. I know that the council would like it if I lived in the central city. I know that central city businesses would like it if I lived in the central city. So why is it so hard to live in the central city? If we want to attract clever, young professionals to our city - and I believe we do - then we need to make accomodation inside the four avenues far easier than it currently is. Despite the downturn, despite the streets full of 'For Lease' signs, finding a place to reside in the most central part of the city is nigh-on impossible. While the council is reluctant to be a developer, a handful of well-executed projects, perhaps using the controversially-purchased spaces bought from Dave Henderson last year, could convince other developers that there is potential - and money - to be made in converting all that empty office space into trendy, desirable residential spaces. With a vision like that, the council's target of having 30,000 people living inside the four avenues could be revised up to something like 100,000 people.</p>