

7343

Your submission

If you wish, you can present your submission at a hearing. If that is the case, please tick the appropriate box below. The hearings will be held from 11 May 2009 to 18 May 2009. Five to ten minutes will be allocated for speaking to your submission, including time for questions from the Councillors. The Council will confirm the date and time of your hearing in writing, by email or by telephone call.

Tick one: *

- I do NOT wish to discuss my submission at the hearing, and ask that this written submission be considered
- I wish to discuss 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
- On behalf of a group or organisation

If you are representing a group or organisation, how many people do you represent?

Your Name	James Sheehan *
Organisation Name (if applicable)	Lake Isaac Watersports Park Trust
Organisation Role (if applicable)	
Contact Address	c/- Octa Associates Ltd PO Box 2506 Christxchurch *
Postcode	
Phone No (day)	021 315 480 *
Phone No (evening)	
Email (if applicable)	
Date	15 April 2009

Please be as specific as possible to help us understand your views.

What do you want the Council to consider? What specific action you think the Council should take? Why should this be done?

As ATTACHED.

Submission to Council

Draft Long-Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) 2009-19

There can be no denying that Christchurch would benefit from a purpose-built, flat water facility. This Trust represents 24 sports and recreational groups, and has endeavoured over the last 8 years to lobby councillors for inclusion on its long term plan.

Previously the Council, for very good reasons, considered a flat water facility to be top priority, and in 2003 it did include an \$11 million provision (being 1/3 of the then estimated cost) for this purpose in the LTCCP. The need for this facility has not gone away in the intervening 6 years, as the demand for water sports participation has continued to grow. Overcrowding, water quality and safety at existing facilities remains problematic. Yet the Council has downgraded a flat water facility to secondary priority, and removed any funding provision in the proposed LTCCP.

The Lake Isaac proposal remains the only possible site for a flat water facility in Christchurch. There are good reasons why the Council should reconsider its inclusion in the LTCCP.

- 1 The proposed flat water facility would be sited within the Diana Isaac Wildlife Trust Conservation Park. This area is now appropriately zoned for the intended, passive sporting and recreational activities.
- 2 The economic benefits to the region during the current “economic recession” arising from infrastructure development and employment opportunities.
- 3 With the proposed motorway extensions and roading improvements being planned for Canterbury, the opportunity to address the imminent shortage of suitable aggregate would be advantageous.
- 4 The lost economic opportunity arising from not having a suitable venue for events (see attached), coupled with the fact that a similar facility is included in the Tasman District Council’s LTCCP.

- 5 The original birdstrike report (jointly commissioned in 2002 by CIAL and the Trust) concluded that “*should there be no viable alternative site then the construction of Lake Isaac could proceed with a full compensatory risk mitigation programme.*”
Council officers have now (in 2009) confirmed there are no viable alternative sites.
- 6 There is clear evidence that the bird management protocol in operation at Clearwater Resort for over five years, has been very effective in keeping bird numbers within the prescribed numbers.
- 7 The fact that the new location for the lake (within the same general area) has yet to be investigated. It is further from the airport than the previous site, and is compliant with international aviation industry guidelines.

Our request of Council is in two parts;

- To allocate funding to engage and brief a panel of independent experts to review the Trust’s proposal, and to confirm how the facility could be safely constructed and operated without increasing birdstrike risk at the airport.
Nominally & exclusive GST. \$ 100,000
- To reinstate in the LTCCP the original capital funding for a flat water facility in Christchurch, pending the satisfactory outcome of the independent expert review.
Inflation adjusted since 2003 & exclusive GST. \$ 12.9 million

There are many positive reasons to include a flat water facility in the LTCCP and only one objection, from the airport. Statistics show that the risk of injury or fatality due to birdstrike is infinitesimal in comparison with that faced everyday by users of public roads. A fair and independent investigation of the current proposal would bear this out. The proposal needs to be reconsidered as the potential community benefits are significant.

COPY

From: Brendan O'Dea [mailto:ryanodea@xtra.co.nz]
Sent: Sunday, 12 April 2009 2:14 p.m.
To: 'dunningken@yahoo.com.au'
Subject: South Island Masters Games - Rowing.

Hello Mr Dunning.

I write to you as President of the Union Rowing Club in Christchurch.

We have received from the Canterbury Rowing Association your request to organize a Masters Rowing Regatta for the South Island Masters Games to be held in October this year in Christchurch.

Unfortunately we are unable to agree to under take the organization of such an event.

The reason for this is simply that there is no rowing venue available in Christchurch at which such an event can be held.

You maybe aware that the Lake Isaac Trust has for some years been in negotiation with the Christchurch City Council to build a water sport facility on land donated by Lady Isaac to the west of the city.

Approval from the City Council for this project to commence is still being sought and until such a facility is available, the city of Christchurch is unable to host any events such as the South Island Masters Rowing.

I would appreciate if you would highlight in your report to the City Council the lack of a water sport facility as the reason why South Island Masters Games cannot include rowing as one of the sports.

From my experience of attending Masters Rowing events in the South Island I would have expected up to 200 participants to attend if a suitable venue were available.

I regret we are unable to assist.

Regards,

Brendan O'Dea.