

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

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

~~I do not wish to discuss the main the main points of my submission at the hearings~~

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Signature 

Date 16 April 2009.

Integrated Plan for the use, enjoyment, and preservation of the lower Heathcote River

I request that the LTCCP include provision for the development of an integrated plan for the use, enjoyment, and protection of the lower Heathcote River.

Over the years there has been much development along the banks of the Heathcote River upstream from the Ferrymead Bridge:

- Commercial development at Ferrymead (with high rise accommodation)
- Walkways on both sides
- Sports grounds in the Heathcote valley
- The Historic Park
- Waterway management system and ponds
- Golf course and driving range

All of these developments have happened without overall direction. In other words it is very much ad hoc change. I believe that it is time there was some plan to integrate any man made changes with the need to protect and preserve the special features of the lower reaches of the river:

- The salt marshes
- The bird breeding and roosting sites
- The many historic sites (they ought to be marked and have information plaques)

Following the recent track upgrade along the South side of the river gravel was dumped over the riverbank as though to make a beach; something that is quite out of place and inappropriate in this river. An integrated plan would provide guidelines to mitigate against such events.