

Christchurch City Council MINUTES ATTACHMENTS

Date: Thursday 2 May 2024
Time: 3pm
Venue: Council Chambers, Civic Offices,
53 Hereford Street, Christchurch

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AGE
CONCERN
CANTERBURY



Our Population is Ageing

It's estimated that 23% of people living in Christchurch will be aged 65+
by 2048

Our population of 80+ will grow by 283% in the next 30 years
Our population of 95+ will grow by 700% over this same period.



Accessibility



Housing Affordability



Christchurch needs a Positive Ageing Strategy



Our ageing population is also
our greatest asset

Skateboarding is an Olympic sport

However, we are under resourced in Christchurch.



- We need adequate facilities for our youth to progress to the level they need to compete internationally. These facilities need to be up to the required specifications to hold national events.
- We need more consultation on the proposed allocation of funds for future skate park projects.
- We need consultation on the contractors used for these projects.



Need for facilities

- We need a vert ramp in Christchurch for training, and so we can hold national level vert skating competitions.
- We need a destination skatepark up to the specs required to hold national level competitions.



- We need more consultation on the proposed allocation of funds for future skate park projects.
- We need consultation on the contractors used for the projects.



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Submission form

Te Mahere Rautaki Kaurera

OUR DRAFT LONG TERM PLAN 2024-2034

We'd like your feedback on the Draft Long Term Plan 2024-34 and the matters we have raised in our Consultation Document. **Tell us what you think by Sunday 21 April 2024.**

Your details

We require your contact details as part of your feedback – it also means we can keep you updated throughout the process. Your feedback, name and contact details are given to the mayor and councillors to help them make a decision.

Your responses, with names only, go online when the decision meeting agenda is available on our website.

If requested, responses, names and contact details are made available to the public, as required by the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

If there are good reasons why your details and/or feedback should be kept confidential, please contact our Engagement Manager on 03 941 8999 or 0800 800 169 (Banks Peninsula).

First name* SANDRA Known as SANDY

Last name* BRAGG

Email*

Street name
and number

Suburb

Town/City

Postcode

*Name required, plus **either** email **or** street name and number



MAY

I would like to speak to the Council about my feedback.

Please provide a phone number so we can arrange a speaking time:

If you are responding on behalf of a recognised organisation, please provide:

Name of organisation

Your role

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What matters most?

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Our overarching proposal is to focus on a deliverable capital programme that helps drive our city forward, with particular investment in roads and transport infrastructure and in protecting and upgrading our water networks. We're borrowing for new projects that have long-term value and ensuring that the debt repayments are spread fairly across the generations of ratepayers who will benefit from them. We're maintaining enough financial flexibility to be able to handle unplanned events, and we're finding permanent efficiencies in our day-to-day spending. *OPERATIONAL AND CAPITAL*

Overall, have we got the balance right? *NO. FOR REASONS I AM OUTLINING IN THIS SUBMISSION OBVIOUSLY I ENDORSE, ESPECIALLY IN THE FIRST 3 YEARS, THE NECESSARY SPENDING ON DAILY NEEDED COMMODITIES - DRINKING WATER, STORMWATER & FLOOD PROTECTION, WASTEWATER, WASTE & RECYCLING, OF EQUAL IMPORTANCE, IN MY OPINION, LOOKING AFTER OUR NETWORK OF ROADS AND FOOTPATHS, ENHANCED SAFETY FOR OUR RESIDENTS, AND NEW BUS INFRASTRUCTURE. NO COST CUTTING ON OUR RECREATION AND SPORT FACILITIES WITH PROPOSED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FULLY FUNDING THE NECESSARY IDENTIFIED WORK AT JELLIE PARK. THE 20 LIBRARIES AND LIBRARY SERVICES, SUCH AN ESSENTIAL AND APPRECIATED PART OF EVERY DAY LIVING FOR OLD AND YOUNG, WITH AMAZING RESOURCES, EDUCATIONAL AND EVER EXPANDING SERVICES TO BENEFIT FROM AND ENJOY.*

Rates

Given that both the Council and residents are facing significant financial challenges, **should we be maintaining our existing levels of service and level of investment in our core infrastructure and facilities**, which will mean a proposed average rates increase of 13.24% across all ratepayers and an average residential rate increase of 12.4%?

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't know *THE RATES INCREASE IS TOO HIGH. I READ DETAIL OF WASTEFUL SPENDING IN MANY OF THE PROPOSALS - COUNCIL SHOULD CONCENTRATE SPENDING WHERE THE NEED IS STRONG. COUNCIL CLAIM THAT*

Comments: *IF THE PROPOSED AVERAGE RATE INCREASE RESULTS FROM PRUDENT CAREFUL INVESTIGATION OF ALL FACETS THEN I URGE COUNCIL TO URGENTLY RE-VISIT THE PARKS & FORESHORE AND HERITAGE PROJECTS/COSTINGS. I HAVE TO PRIORITISE MY SPENDING, TO CHOOSE WHAT I CAN/CANNOT AFFORD. SHOW ME AND ALL OTHER RATEPAYERS DESERVED RESPECT, STOP WASTEFUL SPENDING AND BE AWARE THAT AN ADDITIONAL RATE INCREASE WILL NOT BE AFFORDABLE FOR MANY.*

We're proposing some changes to how we rate, including changes to the city vacant differential, rating visitor accommodation in a residential unit as a business, and changes to our rates postponement and remissions for charities policies.

Do you have any comments on our proposed changes to how we rate?

YES I CONCUR WITH THE COUNCIL'S NEW RATING CATEGORY (7/2022) RELATING TO COMMERCIAL ZONED VACANT LAND IN THE CBD AND OTHER ZONES (NAMED) ACCOUNTING FOR MORE THAN 10%. COUNCIL SERVICE THESE LOCATIONS YET THE OWNERS PAY A FRACTION OF THE RATES PAID BY OWNERS WHO HAVE INVESTED IN PERMANENT DEVELOPMENT, DESPITE ENJOYING AN INCREASE IN VALUE OF THE LAND AND THE BENEFIT OF ACTIVITIES, SERVICES AND PROJECTS PROVIDED TO RESIDENTIAL RATEPAYERS. WHY SHOULD FULLY PAYING RATEPAYERS AND THOSE PAYING SO MUCH LESS BENEFIT EQUALLY?

Fees and Charges

Do you have any comments on our proposed changes to fees and charges (e.g. our proposal to introduce parking charges at key parks)?

THANKFULLY COMMONSENSE PREVAILS IN THIS ASPECT OF COUNCIL PROPOSALS. I AGREE THAT RESIDENTS AND VISITORS SHOULD BE HAPPY TO PAY FOR PARKING AT HAGLEY PARK, THE BOTANIC GARDENS AND PERHAPS OTHER WELL ATTENDED VENUES. A \$2 TO MAXIMUM \$4 CHARGE AND EFFECTIVE SECURITY CAMERAS INSTALLED WOULD ALSO ENCOURAGE THOSE WHO PAY TO PARK THERE.

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Operational spending

Operational spending funds the day to day services that the Council provides. Our operational spending is funded mainly through rates and therefore has a direct impact on the level of rates we charge. Everything we build, own and provide requires people to get the work done. For example, ongoing costs to operate a library, or to service our parks and waterways, includes staff salaries and maintenance and running costs, such as electricity and insurance.

Are we prioritising the right things?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

Comments:

RATEPAYERS HAVE LIMITED CHOICE IN RESPECT OF OPERATIONAL SPENDING. HOWEVER, I HAVE COMMENTED (SEE UNDER RATES) ON THE \$725MILLION QUOTED FOR PARKS & HERITAGE AND WILL ADDRESS THE 'WHEELS TO WINGS HAREWOOD ROAD PROPOSED CYCLEWAY' AND SO CALLED INTERSECTION CHANGES UNDER THE CAPITAL SPENDING TRANSPORT PROGRAMME HEADING.

I DO NOT SUPPORT ANY CUTS TO OPERATIONAL SPENDING FOR THE 20 LIBRARIES/LIBRARY SERVICES.

Capital programme

In this Draft LTP we have focused on developing a deliverable capital programme.

We're proposing to spend the \$6.5 billion over the next 10 years across a range of activities, including some key areas that you've told us are important through our residents' surveys, and our early engagement on the Draft LTP:

- \$2.7 billion on three waters (drinking water, wastewater and stormwater) (31.5%)
- \$1.6 billion on transport (24.9%)
- \$870 million on parks, heritage & the coastal environment (13.4%)
- \$286 million on Te Kaha (4.41%)
- \$140 million on libraries (2.16%)
- \$137 million on solid waste and resource recovery (2.11%)

Are we prioritising the right things?

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Don't know

A GOOD REVIEW OF THE PROPOSALS AND EXPENDITURE IS NECESSARY AND THAT SHOULD RESULT IN REDUCED SPENDING. MANY OF THE PROJECTS ARE NOT OF IMMEDIATE PRIORITY, THE CONSTANT CHANGES, TRAFFIC DISTURBANCES AND THEN UNWORKABLE RESULTS ARE CAUSING UNNECESSARY STRESS.

DESPITE THE COUNCIL BEING RELIANT ON 51% FROM NZTA WAKA KOTAHI PLUS GOVERNMENT FUNDING (BOTH UNSUPPORTED/UNANNOUNCED AT PRESENT) I CONFIDENTLY STATE THAT STAKEHOLDERS, EMERGENCY SERVICES, BUSINESSES AND HUNDREDS OF RESIDENTS, INCLUDING MYSELF, STRONGLY OPPOSE THE 'WHEELS TO WINGS' CYCLEWAY STILL PROPOSED ON THE RECENT CCC INFORMATION SHEETS REGARDING HAREWOOD ROAD.

Is there anything that you would like to tell us about our proposed specific aspects of our capital spend or capital programme?

IT HAS BEEN IMPOSSIBLE, AS AT THIS DATE, TO ASCERTAIN THE COSTINGS FOR THE CYCLEWAY YET COUNCIL MUST BE PRIVY TO THIS INFORMATION! I NEED REASSURANCE THAT RATEPAYERS WILL NOT BE EXPECTED TO CONTRIBUTE FINANCIALLY FOR THIS CONTROVERSIAL PROJECT.

THE 'WHEELS TO WINGS PAPANUI ki WAIWHETU CYCLEWAY' IS INCLUDED IN THE CURRENT HAREWOOD ROAD INVESTIGATION WORK AND UNDER THAT HEADING IT STATES "WORK IS NOT PROGRAMMED TO BEGIN UNTIL LATER IN 2024" WHAT IS GOING ON? A CLEAR INDICATION FROM GOVERNMENT SAID THAT THIS CYCLEWAY IS UNLIKELY TO RECEIVE FUNDING.

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Additional opportunity and options to our main proposal

We're working hard to reduce the impact of rates rises on residents while ensuring that Christchurch and Banks Peninsula continue to be great places to live. To do this we have had to balance the impact of rates rises with the investment needed to care for our city and assets. However, there are some additional things that we could do that would accelerate work on some projects and programmes, or we could continue to explore ways to bring down our proposed rates increases.

Which of the following do you think should be our focus for the 2024–2034 Long Term Plan?

- ☐ Deliver what we have proposed in the Draft Long Term Plan (e.g. maintain existing levels of service and invest in our core infrastructure and facilities that keep Christchurch and Banks Peninsula running).
- ☒ Explore other ways to bring down our proposed rates increases across the Draft LTP (e.g. reduce or change some of the services we provide, review our grants funding, increasing fees and charges for some services).
- ☐ Accelerate work on some projects and programmes, with a focus on balancing the needs of today's residents with the needs of future generations (e.g. spending more on climate change adaptation, boost the funding for major events).
- ☐ Don't know.

Additional savings and efficiencies

Are there any areas where you feel we should be reviewing the services we provide to reduce our costs throughout the LTP 2024–2034?

NO. I BELIEVE CURRENT COUNCIL BUDGETS ARE OUT OF DATE (PERHAPS THEY STILL MATCH 2019?) AND IT IS DECEPTIVE FOR COUNCIL TO WITHHOLD CRUCIAL INFORMATION AND FORGE AHEAD WITH PIPEDREAM PROJECTS/COSTINGS.
MANY OF THE SERVICES ARE ESSENTIAL AND MUST NOT BE CUT. HOWEVER, THE TIMEFRAMES FOR SOME NEED RE-EVALUATION AND INPUT OF WORKABLE TIMEFRAMES AND APPROPRIATE COSTINGS.

Major event bid funding

Should we leave bid funding for major and business events at current levels in the Draft LTP, as proposed?
Or should we increase the bid funding?

- ☐ Leave the bid funding for major and business events at current levels in the Draft LTP, as proposed.
This expenditure is included in the proposed rates increase. While it may not have an impact on rates, it could have implications for our ability to attract major and business events in the short term.
- ☒ Increase the bid funding. This means we will be able to continue to attract new major international sports, business and music events, but would also mean an additional rates increase of 0.42% in year one of the LTP, 0.04% in year two, and 0.14% in year three.

Do you have any comments on the additional event bid funding proposal?

ALREADY VENUES OTAUTAHU INDICATE IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO RE-PRIORITISE ITS OPERATIONAL BUDGET TO SAFEGUARD THE VENUES NAMES. WHENEVER CHRISTCHURCH IS FORTUNATE TO HOST MAJOR SPORTS, BUSINESS AND MUSIC EVENTS IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE ARE PREPARED, READY AND PERFECTLY RESOURCED TO HOST, ACCOMMODATE AND WELCOME EVERY LUCRATIVE APPROACH.

TE KAHA STADIUM MUST SURELY START HOSTING FROM ITS OPENING DATE AND APPROPRIATE FUNDING PRE-APPROVED FOR THAT AS IT HAS AMAZING POTENTIAL TO BRING SIGNIFICANT MONEY AND INVESTMENT TO OUR CITY.

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More investment in adapting to climate change

Do you think we should bring forward to 2024/25 the additional \$1.8 million spend currently proposed to commence in 2027/28, to accelerate how we address climate risks? The early investment would bring forward a rates increase of 0.29% to 2024/25 from 2027/28.

- ☒ Yes – bring \$1.8 million forward.
- ☒ No – don't bring \$1.8 million forward.
- ☒ Don't know – not sure if we should bring \$1.8 million forward.

Should we create a Climate Resilience Fund to set aside funds now to manage future necessary changes to Council assets, including roads, water systems, and buildings, in alignment with our adaptation plans? Implementing this fund would result in a rates increase of 0.25% per annum over the LTP period. How this fund would be established, managed and governed, and the criteria of how the fund will be used, all require further work. As part of that process there will be further opportunity for residents to have their say.

- ☐ Yes – create a Climate Resilience Fund.
- ☒ No – don't create a Climate Resilience Fund.
- ☐ Don't know – not sure if we should create a Climate Resilience Fund.

Do you have any comments on our additional proposals to invest more in adapting to climate change?

THIS PROJECTED COST COULD BE MINIMISED ON REMOVAL OF THE CYCLEWAY COSTINGS SPECIFICALLY INCURRED BY THE COUNCIL TO DATE, THE PARKS & GARDENS AND FORESHORE AND HERITAGE COSTINGS, AND THE FAR HIGHER RATES THE COUNCIL COULD DERIVE FROM OWNERS OF VACANT ZONED COMMERCIAL LAND.

I SUGGEST YOU GET YOUR IN-HOUSE EXPERTS TO THINK OUTSIDE OF THE SQUARE AND TREAT THIS PROPOSAL, NOT IMPACTING ON THE BUDGETRY PROJECTS, RATHERMORE OPEN TO CHANGES SOME OF WHICH I HAVE IDENTIFIED IN THIS SUBMISSION.

Our Community Outcomes and Priorities

Our LTP is guided by the Council's Strategic Framework 2024–34 – it's the cornerstone for our long term vision, steering how we dedicate our energy and resources. Our community outcomes and priorities have shaped all our proposals in this Draft LTP ensuring that every initiative, project, and effort resonates with our commitment to build a thriving, inclusive, and sustainable city for all.

Do you have any thoughts on our vision, community outcomes and strategic priorities?

COUNCIL SEEMINGLY, IN MY OPINION, FORCE PROPOSALS AND DECISIONS ONTO ITS RATEPAYERS, SHARING LITTLE, WITHHOLDING A GREAT DEAL MORE.

DISTRUST AND RELUCTANCE TO ENGAGE ARE OBVIOUS UNDERSTANDABLE REACTIONS FROM THE RATEPAYERS.

RESIDENTS HAVE TO MAKE TOUGH DECISIONS TOO, AND MAKE SACRIFICES WITH HOUSEHOLD BUDGETS SOMETIMES RESULTING IN SAD OUTCOMES, THE COUNCIL MUST DO THE SAME.

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Potential disposal of Council-owned properties

What do you think of our proposal to start formal processes to dispose of five Council-owned properties?

YES PREPOSTEROUS COST TO RATEPAYERS – THE CURRENT SHORTLISTED 46 PROPERTIES NEED URGENT ASSESSMENTS (FROM COUNCIL EXPERTS OR OTHER QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS). 40 PROPERTIES TO BE IDENTIFIED AND PUBLICALLY ANNOUNCED – THE PROCEEDS TO REDUCE THE 2024-2034 TOTAL.

What do you think of our proposal to dispose of other Council-owned properties which includes former Residential Red Zone Port Hills properties?

THE SAME AS ABOVE

YES OBVIOUSLY THE YALDHURST RURAL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION EXPECT TO BE GIFTED THIS MEMORIAL HALL AND WOULD THUS TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL ASPECTS OF ITS LONGEVITY.

What do you think of our proposal to gift Yaldhurst Memorial Hall to the Yaldhurst Rural Residents' Association?

Anything else?

Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about the Draft Long Term Plan 2024–2034?

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PROVIDE FUNDING/MAINTENANCE/ALL OF THE NECESSARY UTILITIES AND STAFF RATIOS AND WAGES TO OUR LIBRARIES, PARKS & GARDENS, SPORTS VENUES, SWIMMING POOLS, ENTERTAINMENT VENUES.

I URGE COUNCIL TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT THE ARTS CENTRE AND ORANA PARK. BOTH IN FINANCIAL STRIFE.

THESE ARE TREASURED FACILITIES AND PROMOTE COMMUNITY GATHERINGS, EDUCATION, CONFIDENCE, WELL BEING AND STIMULATE MENTAL HEALTH FOR ALL WHO ENJOY AND APPRECIATE THEM.

Thank you for your submission.