

Our Community Plan Submission - Received by Email

Name:	Graham Zanker [graham.zanker@canterbury.ac.nz]
CC:	
Sent:	Thu 6/05/2004 16:30
Your Submission:	<p>We wish to make the following submission on the Council's deliberations over the proposed flat-water sports venue at Lake Isaac.</p> <p>The current venue for rowing, kayaking, dragon-boating and outrigger-canoeing at Kerr's Reach is seriously overcrowded. The river is used as a tip by the Christchurch populace: we removed no less than a couch from outside Avon Rowing Club boathouse last Sunday, and shopping trolleys are commonly found abandoned in the river as it runs past Brighton. The river is narrow and bendy. In certain weather-conditions the incoming tide regurgitates this rubbish and other objects like trees and branches back up the river. All these factors make boating very dangerous, and hinder our athletes' effective training. Christchurch therefore needs a viable alternative course for training in such craft.</p> <p>No international racing can take place on the present course: it is simply beneath international standards. This is a serious handicap for all the highly talented boating athletes domiciled in the Canterbury region and learning to compete under international conditions. An international rowing course would both benefit these athletes and potentially bring revenue to Christchurch in the event of the staging of international regattas.</p> <p>Lake Isaac would fill all these desiderata perfectly.</p> <p>The matter of bird-strike and the aircraft negotiating Christchurch airport has been seen as a prime objection to the site. However, birdstrike is a problem caused principally by the neighbouring rubbish-tip: remove that from the proximity of the airport (as it should be in any case), and the case against Lake Isaac disintegrates automatically. It is the dump that must be relocated.</p> <p>The City is, finally, unwise to discountenance philanthropical gestures like Diana Lady Isaac's in gifting 170ha of her land and help from her earth-moving fleet. She has saved the City an enormous amount of money in solving a problem the City cannot ignore any more.</p> <p>Yours faithfully,</p> <p>G.Zanker, 34 Rosedale Place, Avonhead; 3588693 P.Westbury, 34 Puriri Street, Riccarton: (027) 2535796 N.Bleaken, 34 Puriri Street, Riccarton: ((012) 1275029</p>