

LTCCP 2006-16 SUBMISSION

Submissions close on 5 May 2006

I do NOT wish to present my submission at the hearing, and ask that this submission be considered.

I am completing this submission:
For yourself

Number of people you represent:

My submission refers to:
Summary Version of the LTCCP

Page Number:

I also want to respond to:

Name:

Dave Evans

Organisation:

Daytime Phone:

385-5829

Evening Phone:

same

Email:

ccdievans@xtra.co.nz

Address:

50 Banks Ave
Dallington
Christchurch

Your Submission:

Do you have any comments on the major projects in our Draft Community Plan?

Though I know it is little likelihood this will be read since I do not reference the massive plan or the long summary as well as fail to present it myself, I hope some councillors make the time to hear one voice.

With all the submissions as well as emotion hitting councillors left, right, and center, I will endeavor to keep my points brief in outline form. Clearly, you know the details far better than me, but there are a lot of trees in that forest.

1. Services vs Capital projects. Libraries and Pools are an essential part of "community."
Comparing 187 million dollars for street and transport along with 59 million for bus terminal revisions vs "cutting" 2 million for services so key to many people and holding strong emotional value is not wise. That's not even to mention that the lost services are less than 1% of these "upgrades"...

2. Raising parking (again) in the central city will do more to drive away people than 10 million to "improve" the city mall -- or 100 million. If you want to bring people into the central city, make parking free. And get the buses out of the central city core.
And to keep the tourists coming back, get rid of the weekend hoons.

3. Street and Transport along with the revisions to the new bus exchange is 50% of your long term plan's budget. Oil/Petrol will only rise indefinitely; the World of the car will change at a minimum to alternative fuels (also high priced). A council with a vision will put a large part of that money into developing alternative mass transit or even better bicycling routes that do not compete with vehicles (including buses that do not emit clouds of diesel).

Do you have any comments on groups of activities (The activities and services the Council provides?)

Services vs "Capital Improvements." If a referendum was held on the Blenheim Road deviation vs improving the clean-up of broken glass city-wide, picking up trash daily in the central city, or solving the continual tagging problem, I am sure that the public vote would be 80-90% against the deviation.

**Your Submission
(Cont'd):**

And likely other things as well.

Just because routine services appear dull and below the limelight, they are also what makes this the "Garden City" image vs what is now dropping away from it...

Pls put the effort into maintaining what we have and employing good people to be doing it.

Do you have any other comments or suggestions you want to make?

My wife and I are immigrants. I'm American (from our sister city, Seattle). My wife is Chinese from the heartland of industrial Guangdong (just north of HongKong). We have lived in 6 countries across 3 continents over 20 years, as well as significant time in western Europe while speaking local languages. We moved her for 3 main reasons:

1. Seattle transformed itself from the most liveable city in North America or Europe to just another sprawling, congested, polluted, and with a large drop in 'quality of life -- like so much of today's world. It took less than 10 years starting in the late '80s.

2. Christchurch was an true international city in every sense of the concept, but small enough to hold the values of "small town" that allow parents the best environment to raise a family.

3. Christchurch had/has a solid mix of economic factors: strong agriculture, manufacturing, knowledge based industries, education, and tourism that gave (and give) it both the Opportunity to use Vision to grow in the Future, as well as NOT to REPEAT the mistakes the rest of the World has and is doing while it grows.

And it had/has the finances to do it.

After 6 years living in Christchurch, my wife and I fear for that now.

-- Burning wood and coal as a primary heating source for most of the city is mind boggling.

-- Arguing over which corners the city should cut versus putting in the best water treatment facility and supporting sewers/stormpipng in the world (while cleaning up the esturary and improving tourism) is a once in a century opportunity lost.

-- Allowing building codes to favor nearly continous growth (ie sprawl) while allowing beautiful old houses to be replaced by cheap apartments or high rises in the wrong place is not visionary. Christchurch is moving down the same path as Seattle, Auckland, or the worst of Asia/Europe.

Please use your energy that got you elected as well as the willingness to improve our community that first motivated you to join the Council to use this once in a generation opportunity to keep Christchurch as the most liveable city in the World.