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:	Page Number:
Summary Version of the LTCCP	4 & 8

I also want to respond to: Other

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Draft Community Plan?

On reading the proposal to spend \$59.5 million on a new bus exchange seems preposterous, fit out of new civic offices of \$4.3 million seems to be rather extravagant and as for spending \$187.3 million on streets and transport improvements - you could stop narrowing so many streets which causes traffic delays.

Trimming 1% off these major project budgets would more than enable the community libraries, including the mobile library to continue providing the excellent service to the community that they have been doing for many years. 1% would be much more than the amount you wish to save by the proposed library closures and this benefits the whole society of Christchurch.

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

I am most concerned at your proposal to close some community libraries and the mobile library. Libraries are essential in a civilised and educated community and are a community place where people can meet with friends and neighbours and are a way of continuing with life long learning which helps the community and society. I am particularly concerned about the effect on elderly residents who are unable to participate in many of the activities they used to and to whom reading has become a significant and enjoyable pastime in their older years.

I am also aware that there are a number of voluntary libraries funded by the Council and the draft plan makes no mention of their closure. I am appalled that you would even consider closing professional services that you have developed and supported while still continuing to fund these voluntary libraries which have become an anachronism in this day and age. I suggest that there is no longer any need to fund these libraries as they were established in the days when there were not Council suburban libraries.

Your Submission (Cont'd):

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

As for the stupid traffic lights on the corner of Bealey and Fitzgerald Avenue, with the arrow that turns red even when there is no traffic coming off Fitzgerald Avenue, when turning from Whitmore Street into Bealey Avenue seems to be absolutely ludicrous. I have seen many near misses on this intersection as drivers get frustrated at unnecessary delays.

Trimming 10% off the major project budgets would more than enable the communityh libraries, including the mobile library to continue providing the excellent service to the community that they have been doing for many years.