

## Your submission

You may use this form for your submission on our draft Community Plan if you wish. Whether you use this form or not, please include your name, address and contact telephone number with your submission.

Tick one	<input type="checkbox"/>	I do NOT wish to present my submission at the hearing, and ask that this written submission be considered			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	OR			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I wish to talk to the main points in my written submission at the hearings to be held between Thursday 25 May and Wednesday 7 June 2006			
Are you completing this submission:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For yourself	<input type="checkbox"/> On behalf of a group or organisation		
If you are representing a group or organisation, how many people do you represent?		<input type="text"/>			
My submission refers to:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full version	<input type="checkbox"/> Page No.	<input type="checkbox"/> Summary version	<input type="checkbox"/> Page No.
Do you also want to respond to:		<input type="checkbox"/> Development Contributions	<input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

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4<sup>th</sup> May 2006

Our Community Plan  
Christchurch City Council  
PO Box 237  
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## COMMUNITY PLAN SUBMISSION – BARBARA STEWART

### General Comment

I believe the Government should be held to account more for the passing of work and costs onto local Government. This should become a major discussion at the local Government conference where some form of rationale fairness, principally from the point of view of the costs which are being passed on to ratepayers, should be reduced. In the Annual Plan the public should be made aware of the extra amount of costs that they are being required to contribute.

Rates – The Council must make far greater endeavor to reduce the rate demand and I believe the fact that elections fall on year 2007/08 and that the projected rate demand is 6.68%, the lesser of all three years, is unacceptable. There should be a better smoothing between the years and overall further work to reduce the percentage required.

Community Grants – There should be a continual persuasive pressure brought to organizations doing similar, but separate work, to work together and therefore hopefully reduce the requirement of overheads.

As a broad summary, I support the ongoing renewal and addition of tree planting, they are essential to the beauty and environment of this City. I wish to comment broadly that citizens have observed no improvement in maintenance standards. Scattered rubbish is still a problem and corner street plantings are looking scruffy. Although overall the upgrade of Fendalton Road has been a great success, nevertheless the side plantings are very poorly maintained. I have contacted the Council over the past 18 months to record snapped and broken trees and nothing has been forthcoming to replace these trees. Footpaths are badly maintained.

Central City and the upgrade of Central City Council must encourage by every means 24/7 living. Shopping is no longer the reason for citizens to come to visit the central city.

### Page 18 – Development Contributions Policy

I support “growth should fund growth” policy. The funds generated from this policy must not go into the general Council funds, but into a specific development fund where it can be clearly registered and used solely towards development.

### Page 18 – Revenue and Financing Policy

I support the liability management proposal to repay loans on assets over a longer term of 30 years in order to spread costs over the generations who benefit from it.

### Page 34 – The Garden City

3,000 hectares of park land in Christchurch ... this is an significant area devoted to parks and although a great benefit and pleasure, the City must not succumb to the pressure of buying up every little plot available, as the costs of maintaining them is major. On page 69 there are four line items against park purchases.

**Page 159 – Cemeteries**

I believe the time has come to be more creative in the need for new cemeteries and increased demand for parks. You could try an experiment of accommodating the living and the dead in one space and doing it sympathetically. Old traditions may need to be challenged.

**Page 66 – Water Re-Use**

With the increasing problem of overuse of our water supplies, I support a project which would investigate the possibility of re-using water, such as grey water. (No costs put against this).

**Page 73 – Aquatic Facilities Plan**

I support aquatic facility and school gym at Papanui High School. In a 'birds eye view' of the city there must be a fair distance between each of these facilities in order that the residents have a balanced opportunity and transport to use these major facilities.

**Page 75 – Services and Activities Considered for Reduction**

There has been considerable pressure to keep the Redwood and Bishopdale Community libraries open. At the time of development of the New Brighton and Parklands library there was an understanding that smaller libraries would eventually be closed but replaced with the excellent facilities we have now seen developed. Nevertheless, there is no doubt that the libraries of Christchurch continue to be a great success and the decision will become political rather than financial. I am aware that Bishopdale was always a successful part of the Bishopdale shopping area, I do not know the numbers attending Redwood. The Council analysis of figures of increasing patronage of Fendalton library and Parklands library versus Bishopdale and Redwood needs to be clearly understood. It may be the political solution is to give a longer term warning of these closures in order to see how the numbers of customers either grow to support these libraries or reduce.

From memory, the Spreydon Community library was forewarned that the opening of the Christchurch South library would mean the eventual closing of the community library.

**Page 75 – City Scene Issues**

City Scene issues could be reduced to six issues, one every two months.

**Page 76 – Council Car Parking Charges**

Support the increase per hour. I often wonder at the requirement for two people attending the car park entry/exit area is necessary when wages are a significant cost. I also question why the Tuam Street and the Art Gallery car park are not in line with the other car parks and why they do not have the first hour free.

**Page 93 and 93 – Art Gallery**

Once the Art Gallery was completed, the Council moved onto other major capital and operational requirements. But in order to hold leading exhibitions, major funds were required for long-term bookings. I question that the costs required for quality visiting gallery programmes were provided, as this budget is not itemised in the plan.

Art acquisitions, year 1 - \$263,000 through to year 3 – \$299,000. With the price of the work of top artists these funds will barely cover two to three works per year.

The Christchurch Art Gallery is not Te Papa, which is a huge Museum, the top floor of which displays art. There is a separate City Art Gallery in the Wellington Civic Square. We have the Canterbury Museum so be aware that it will provide the citizens with museum education and

displays and do not downgrade and degrade the Christchurch Art Gallery and confuse these two institutions.

**Page 98 – Democracy and Governance**

Community Boards work, according to the agenda and minutes recorded, appears to have been drastically reduced. Is this part of a process leading towards getting rid of them?

**Page 105 – Economic Development**

Government and local Government should let businesses get on with their businesses. Unfortunately, the constant additional rules and regulations and costs are making business in this country more and more difficult. CDC should be very aware there is a fine line between the subsidises supplied to CDC in contrast to other businesses which are standalone, but nevertheless competing in the same field.

**Page 138 – Cycle and Pedestrian Ways**

Continue to improve safety for cyclists.

**Page 181 – Waste Management Strategy**

In the debate on options, the difficulties of handling wheelie bins by the elderly, infirm and disabled should be recognized. They would be very hard to manage on shingle drives and steep drives and apartment living, as well as the space required for storage, when apartment living simply does not have extra space.

**Page 187 – Christchurch City Holdings Limited**

The ordinary dividends of 31.5 million are recorded, but there is no mention of the expectation of capital dividends and yet the City has so far received in recent years several hundred million dollars. What is the expectation over the next ten years?

**Page 226 – Uniform Annual General Charge**

I believe over the next ten years it is reasonable to suggest an increase to be built in, considering the delivery of services accepted by residents across the city. I suggest it could rise to \$200.00 eventually.

**Page 228 – ECAN**

I believe one envelope should contain two completely separate pages of rate demands so the citizens recognise the difference. This will barely increase the costs.

**Page 267 – Policy on Partnership with the Private Sector**

Your private partner arrangements must be totally moral and clearly understood long-term. They must suffer from no political interference, which has been the case in the past.

**Page 272 – Development of Maori Contribution to Decision Making**

I accept the requirement of consultation with Maori, but do not accept the requirement for a specific provision of \$122,374 in the 2006/07 year. This should be simply included in the general consultation process which the Council holds with various groups within our citizens. This type of separation can create resentment which should be avoided.

**Page 278 – Capital Endowment Fund**

Unspecified economic development – what is this towards?

Barbara Stewart

I wish to reserve the right to speak to other items in the Annual Plan as I gather further information