Submission on draft Annual Plan 2007/08 and Long Term Council Community Plan 2006-2016

Re Alternative Road Access to Lyttelton Port

Introduction

- 1. Submitter: Lyttelton Engineering Limited (Company)
- 2. The Company is a specialist marine and industrial engineering/fabrication business that has been operating in Lyttelton since 1953. It is now one of Canterbury's largest engineering firms.
- This submission concerns the inclusion in the Long Term Council Community Plan 2006-2016 (LTCCP) of the proposal to construct a new road for heavy traffic to access the Port's container area. The LTCCP states that funding of \$4.2 million is allocated for the period 2007-2012 for the project.
- 4. No funding has been allocated for the alternative road project in the draft Annual Plan, however, Lyttelton Engineering Limited understands that the Lyttelton Community Association Inc will be submitting in support of the alternative road and seeking its inclusion in the Annual Plan. Lyttelton Community Association Inc's submission does not represent the views of Lyttelton Engineering Limited.
- 5. The Company opposes the construction of a new road for heavy traffic to access the Port's container area for the reasons outlined later in this submission.

Background

6. The LTCCP provides at p.83 as follows:

"Lyttelton Port alternative access, \$9.6 million has been allocated over the period 2007-2012 to build a new access road to the proposed marina and for the construction of a new road way for heavy traffic to access the Port container area."

- 7. At p.18 of the LTCCP, there is a reference to the Council having given the "green light" to the listed projects including the alternative access road to the Port.
- 8. The draft LTCCP when distributed for consultation contained no reference to the alternative access road project. It did however provide for \$5.5 million in funding for "Lyttelton marina roading."
- 9. However, submissions were made by other parties supporting the alternative access road and seeking its inclusion in the LTCCP.
- 10. When the LTCCP was published it included provision for funding for the alternative access road (as set out in paragraph 6 of these submissions).
- 11. The Company understands that the most recent Council action in relation to this was a resolution passed at the extraordinary general meeting of the Council on Friday 23 February reading:

"It was further resolved that staff be requested to report back to the Council on the possible utilisation of all or part of the \$4.2m currently budgeted for a new road way for heavy traffic to access the Port container area, to cover the cost of other Banks Peninsula capital works".

The Company's concerns - alternative access road

- 12. The Company considers that the proposal for the alternative access road lacks justification and would be detrimental to Lyttelton township.
- 13. The current Port access road, Norwich Quay has always been a commercial thoroughfare. This character continues to be appropriate as the businesses fronting Norwich Quay are largely of a commercial and industrial nature.
- 14. Moving the Port access from Norwich Quay would have a detrimental effect on the character and development of London Street, Lyttelton's town centre.
- 15. The alternative access road would be an inefficient and wasteful use of the scarce resource of flat land adjacent to the Port. The Company has already encountered difficulties with the scarcity of land in Lyttelton, having to purchase land in Christchurch to expand its business.
- 16. Development of potential Port-related tourist activities would not be affected by the continued use of Norwich Quay as a Port access route as they are likely to centre around the Western Harbour Redevelopment or the Magazine bay Marina, well away from Norwich Quay.
- 17. The Company acknowledges that the Council has given this issue some consideration and that no funding has been allocated under the draft Annual Plan. In light of the circumstances surrounding the issue however, the Company wishes to publicly note its position and have the issue properly and publicly addressed.

Action sought

- 18. The Company requests that the Council take the following action:
 - ensure that no funding is allocated for an alternative Port access road in the Annual Plan for 2007/08; and
 - that the Council commence the special consultative procedure to amend the LTCCP to delete all references to the alternative access road project and its funding.
- 19. The Company wishes to be heard in support of its submission.

LYTTELTON ENGINEERING LIMITED by its solicitors and authorised agents LANE NEAVE

Per:

DC Caldwell / MRL Silverwood

Date,

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