

Waitai Coastal-Burwood Community Board
Submissions Committee
MINUTES ATTACHMENTS

Date: Monday 24 January 2022
Time: 3.08pm
Venue: Audio/Visual Link

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
3. Water Supply, Wastewater and Stormwater Bylaw Review	
A. Waitai Coastal-Burwood Community Board - Submission - Water Supply, Wastewater and Stormwater Bylaw Review	3

SUBMISSION TO: Christchurch City Council

ON: Water Supply, Wastewater and Stormwater Bylaw Review

BY: Waitai Coastal-Burwood Community Board

CONTACT: Bebe Frayle
Chairperson, Submissions Committee
C/- PO Box 73023
CHRISTCHURCH 8154
021 852 645
bebe.frayle@ccc.govt.nz

1. INTRODUCTION

The Waitai Coastal-Burwood Community Board appreciates the opportunity to make a submission to the Christchurch City Council on the Water Supply, Wastewater and Stormwater Bylaw Review.

The Board wishes to be heard in support of this submission.

2. SUBMISSION

Comments on the proposed replacement bylaws:

Overall, the Board is happy with the intent of the update to the bylaw. Separating the Water Supply, Wastewater and Stormwater Bylaw into two bylaws makes sense, as wastewater requires quite different management than the other two waters, particularly in Christchurch.

While the general approach of the bylaws is good, the Board would like to make the following suggestions:

- It is important that there is adequate Council staffing to oversee and enforce the bylaws.
- An emphasis be given to educating property owners about their responsibilities regarding issues like tree root damage to underground infrastructure, 'excessively' watering of gardens, ensuring metres are accessible to metre readers, and navigating insurance companies and EQC when damage is found in underground infrastructure.
- It is good to see that the explanation of the bylaw changes have been written in plain English, but the issues relating to three waters are very complex. There are some explanatory notes, but we would like to see these expanded via specific pamphlets that provide more detailed information on some issues (see above for examples).

The Board notes the following in relation to specific issues:

Water supply and Wastewater Bylaw – Issue 7

While Clause 16.3 details what water 'waste' is, and what is considered 'excessive' the Board has a concern that this issue is still open to interpretation by Council staff assessing situations, and could lead to inequity for property owners.

Water supply and Wastewater Bylaw – Issue 9

The Board is concerned that it is difficult for property owners to comply with this clause as they may not realise that they are planting trees in places that may interfere with underground infrastructure, or may purchase a property with trees that create a problem in the future for

which they are liable. It isn't reasonable for property owners to cover the full cost of mitigation if tree removal is required. The Board suggests that a cost share be explored. The Board also notes that there are issues with trees on Council land causing damage on property owner's land and this should also be addressed in the bylaw.

Water supply and Wastewater Bylaw – Issue 11

Given the amount of damage caused to underground infrastructure during the Canterbury Earthquake sequence, the Board is concerned that many property owners will have damage that they are not aware of. We highlight this issue, and ask that the Council provide support and advice to property owners regarding insurance and EQC claims for earthquake damage.

Stormwater and Land Drainage Bylaw – Issue 3

The Board notes that there are retention basin drains in our Board area that are regularly clogged with weeds. If property owners are responsible for maintaining any devices on their property, the Council should also ensure that any stormwater infrastructure on public land is also regularly checked and maintained.



Bebe Frayle
Chairperson, Submissions Committee
WAITAI COASTAL-BURWOOD COMMUNITY BOARD

24 January 2022

Trim: 22/111337