

Waitai
Coastal-Burwood Community Board Submissions
Committee
MINUTES ATTACHMENTS

Date: Wednesday 31 March 2021
Time: 3.30pm
Venue: Boardroom, Corner Beresford and Union Streets,
New Brighton

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
3 Draft Long Term Plan 2021-2031 and Draft Development Contributions Policy 2021 - Board Submission	
A. Waitai/Coastal-Burwood Community Board Draft Development Contributions Policy 2021 - Board Submission	3
B. Waitai/Coastal-Burwood Community Board Draft Long Term Plan 2021-2031 - Board Submission	4

SUBMISSION TO: Christchurch City Council

ON: Draft Development Contributions Policy 2021

BY: Waitai/Coastal-Burwood Community Board

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Waitai/Coastal-Burwood Community Board appreciates the opportunity to make a submission to the Christchurch City Council on the Draft Development Contributions Policy 2021.

The Board does not wish to be heard in support of this submission.

2. SUBMISSION

The Waitai/Coastal-Burwood Community Board broadly support the Proposed Development Contributions Policy 2021.



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

31 March 2021

SUBMISSION TO: Christchurch City Council

ON: Long Term Plan 2021-31

BY: Waitai/Coastal-Burwood Community Board

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Waitai/Coastal-Burwood Community Board (the Board) appreciates the opportunity to make a submission to the Christchurch City Council on the Long Term Plan 2021-31.

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

2. SUBMISSION

Have we got the game plan right?

Our overarching proposal is to focus on a deliverable capital programme that helps drive our city forward, with particular investment in roads and transport infrastructure and in protecting and upgrading our water networks. We're borrowing for new projects that have long-term value, and ensuring that the debt repayments are spread fairly across the generations of ratepayers who will benefit from them. We're maintaining enough financial flexibility to be able to handle unplanned events, and we're finding permanent efficiencies in our day-to-day spending. We've managed to do all of this while keeping rates increases as affordable as possible.

Have we got the balance right? Have we prioritised the right things? If not, what changes would you like to see?

Board Comments:

The Board believe that the Council have got the balance right considering the impact of COVID-19 and the commitments that the organisation has made in large infrastructure projects.

Rates

We've considered a range of options for how best to achieve what we need to achieve while also keeping the average rates increase as affordable as possible.

What do you think of this plan for an average residential rates increase of 5 per cent for 2021/22 and an overall rates increase of 4 per cent over the next 10 years?

Board Comments:

The Board believes the Council has struck a good balance to deliver what is necessary to the City without unduly burdening ratepayers with a large rates rise.

Proposed changes to existing rates, and new targeted rates

We're proposing a range of changes to existing rates, including the land drainage targeted rate and how we define remote rural properties. We're also proposing some new targeted rates, including a targeted rate specifically for the Arts Centre Te Matatiki Toi Ora, a heritage targeted rate to show the proportion of rates you already pay towards specific heritage projects, and an excess water targeted rate for households that use more than 700 litres a day.

What do you think of these changes to existing rates, and new targeted rates? Have we got it right? If not, what changes would you like to see?

Board Comments:

In principle, the Board supports the proposal of targeted rates.

The Board accepts the need for excess water use charge for households in order to highlight the need to conserve water in our city. However, we have concerns that a change in the political climate in Christchurch could see future reductions in water allocations and increase the number of households charged for excess water use. This would have a significant financial impact on households in our Wards. Water user charges are of particular concern to Burwood and Coastal as they are sand-base areas which are more porous and do not retain watering.

Investing in upgrading and protecting our city's water networks

We have a responsibility to provide and maintain the wells, pipes, reservoirs, treatment plans and pump stations for drinking water, and manage the collection, treatment and disposal of wastewater and Stormwater.

We are proposing to invest 41 per cent (\$2.329 billion) of our capital spend on water infrastructure. Have we got the balance right? If not, what changes would you like to see?

Board Comments:

The Board supports this proposal.

Investing in our transport infrastructure

We've heard from residents that transport is a top priority. It's also the city's biggest contributor to carbon emissions. We want to give people better options for getting around, whether by car, public transport, on foot, on a scooter or on a bike. We also want to ensure our networks are safe.

We are proposing to invest 25 per cent (\$1.445 billion) of our proposed capital spend on transport infrastructure improvements. Have we got the balance right? If not, what changes would you like to see?

Board Comments:

The Board supports the development of new cycleways and the focus on active travel. However, the Board has concerns about the cost associated with some of the new cycleways, as they appear to be over engineered in some places. We would like to see some of our cycle network developed in a more cost-effective way and using innovative thinking – for example, the Ferry Road cycleway trial. This would allow Council to develop more cycleways across the city.

Rubbish, recycling and organics

In 2020 the Council adopted a new Waste Management and Minimisation Plan that focusses on changing our 'throwaway' culture and reducing the amount of waste we send to landfill. Implementing the actions in that plan are the key drivers of our operational and capital spending.

We're proposing to spend \$25 million on organics infrastructure (which includes upgrades to the organics processing plant), \$18.5 million on transfer station infrastructure and \$18.4 million on recycling infrastructure. Have we got the balance right? If not, what changes would you like to see?

Board Comments:

The Board broadly supports this proposal.

Our facilities

We're proposing to invest 19 per cent of our capital spend on community facilities. We're also proposing some changes to levels of service. This includes changes to libraries, service desks and the Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū to reflect how and when residents use these facilities, and to acknowledge the impact that COVID-19 has had on visitor numbers. It also includes closing the Riccarton Road Bus Lounges.

What do you think of our proposed investment in Council-owned facilities across Christchurch and Banks Peninsula, and in our changes to levels of service? Have we got the balance right? If not, what changes would you like to see?

Board Comments:

The Board accepts the rationale for changes being proposed but has some concerns in relation to the closing of Aranui library on Sundays. Aranui Library is more than a place to go to borrow books. It is used by the community as a gathering point, and to support young people. We would like to see Aranui Library retain its Sunday opening hours for this reason.

Our heritage, foreshore and parks

Christchurch has a long and proud history of protecting and respecting our heritage. Over the past decade we've carried out a massive programme of repairs and restorations, but we still have some work left to do. In the next 10 years we will continue to restore our own buildings and support private development of heritage buildings. We will also be maintaining and improving our parks and foreshore.

We're proposing to invest 11 per cent of our capital spend on our heritage, foreshore and parks. Have we got the balance right? If not, what changes would you like to see?

Board Comments:

The Board generally supports this proposal.

Funding for the Arts Centre Te Matatiki Toi Ora

We are proposing to provide the Arts Centre with a capital grant of \$5.5 million. We would do this via a targeted rate that would recover the grant cost over 10 years, and would phase in over two years, so the targeted rate would be smaller in 2021/22 than in subsequent years. We're proposing that every ratepayer will pay this rate and it will be calculated as a number of cents per dollar of capital value.

Do you support the Council funding \$5.5 million for the Arts Centre? This proposal is currently accounted for in our proposed rates increase. If a decision is made not to proceed, rates would drop by 0.04 per cent.

Yes

Board Comments:

The Board have no comment to make.

Funding for base isolation of the Robert McDougall Art Gallery

Canterbury Museum considers the base isolation of Robert McDougall Art Gallery to be a key part of the Museum's redevelopment. In July 2019, the Council agreed in principle to support the base isolation of Robert McDougall Art Gallery at a cost of \$11.8 million, subject to public consultation in the Long Term Plan 2021–31.

Do you support the Council funding base isolation of the Robert McDougall at a cost of \$11.8 million? This proposal is not currently accounted for in our proposed rates increase. If a decision is made to fund base isolation, rates would increase by 0.07 per cent.

Board Comments:

The Board have no comment to make.

Potential disposal of surplus Council-owned properties

We have a small number of properties, including two heritage buildings, that are no longer being used for the purpose they were originally acquired for. These surplus properties make up less than 1 per cent of Council's overall property portfolio.

Help us decide their future – what do you think of this proposal to dispose of surplus properties?

Board Comments:

The Board supports the proposal to dispose of surplus properties.

Any other comments:

Community Board Plan/Annual Plan 2020 Community Board Submission:

Make our place appealing and attractive for all

Levels of Service:

The Board accept that there needs to be budget cuts in this Long Term Plan but would not like to see levels of service drop in our area because of this – the Board already has concern about the current levels of service in our wards and do not want to see this reduced further. Instead, we suggest that efficiencies that can be made in the way that services are delivered, for example having multiple tasks completed in an area at the same time (rubbish removal,

mowing, gardening). We would like the Council to consider ways in which to streamline its service delivery to create savings so that levels of service do not drop.

Roads and Transportation links

The Board is pleased to see the Pages Road Bridge (Project ID: 27273) on budget for 2022/23/24. It is critical that this work is not further delayed as this project is very significant to our Coastal communities.

The Board is eager that the transport links into the Coastal Ward be upgraded in conjunction with the Pages Road Bridge Project, and request that staff investigate and provide advice on including the repair of New Brighton Road into the next Annual Plan/Long Term Plan.

Work with the Council to improve service delivery at Taiora: QEII

The Board have received feedback from the Community and as included as a priority in our Community Board Plan, the Board kindly requests that the Council include a budget for retrofitting new accessible changing rooms and toilets at Taiora: QEII. The Board has previously received a design and cost estimate for this project.

Support the community-led action plan for Brooklands

The Board acknowledges the allocation of \$21 million to the Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor (Project ID: 58672) a portion of which will support future plans for Brooklands.

Supports the transformation and activation of the Red Zone

The Board are happy to see the line items budgeted on the Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor (Project ID: 58672).

Burwood/Mairehau Intersection Improvements

The Board are pleased to see Mairehau Road (Burwood to Marshland) (Project ID: 42010 and Burwood and Mairehau Intersection (Project ID: 2034) on the Long Term Plan.

Other:

The Board is pleased to see the following projects on budget, as these are an important part of our ongoing regeneration:

New Brighton Roading and Transport (Project ID: 61030)

New Brighton Public Spaces (Project ID: 45165)

Marine Parade and Oram Ave Open Space Link (Project ID: 63360)

QEII Masterplan (Project ID: 61787)

Ōtākaro Avon Major Cycleway (Anzac Dr Bridge to New Brighton) (Project ID: 26603)

Ōtākaro Avon Major Cycleway (Swanns Rd Bridge to Anzac Dr Bridge) (Project ID: 26602)

Ōtākaro Avon Major Cycleway (Fitzgerald to Swanns Rd Bridge) (Project ID: 26601)

Red Zone Regeneration Parks (Project ID: 61723)

Community Funding

The Board does not support the proposed 5% cut to community funding.

The Board regularly hears from community organisations that are doing great work with people within our Wards, providing a whole range of services for people from all walks of life. A good example of this is ACTIS, that provides numerous and valuable services to the community in Aranui. A funding cut to organisations like these is a false savings if the impact

is that more people in these communities need intervention from health, social welfare or police services.

Our community funding also funds several large and popular local events that are attended by people all over the city, for example I Love Brighton, Parklands at Play, Affirm and many other small community events. These are so important for developing a sense of belonging and pride in our community and it is crucial that funding for these are not cut.



Bebe Frayle
Chairperson, Submissions Committee
WAITAI/COASTAL-BURWOOD COMMUNITY BOARD
31 March 2021