

“Have your say

We want to hear your views”

Getting the information you need

This plan contains all of the information you'll need to understand our programme. You can get more copies of the full plan or the summary from libraries, service centres, Council offices, or by phoning **499 4444**. You can also download copies from our website www.Wellington.govt.nz

We're holding meetings to discuss our plans, answer questions and hear feedback. These will take place between 16 April and 18 May. Visit our website or watch the *Our Wellington* page in the Thursday editions of the Dominion Post to find out the closest meeting to you.

Making a submission

There are three main ways you can have a say:

- make a written submission – send a letter, write an email, make an online submission, or use the form from this document or our monthly *Absolutely Positively Wellington* newspaper
- come to a meeting to discuss our plans or contact a councillor directly
- if you've made a submission, you can come and talk to a panel of councillors between 25–28 May 2009.

Submissions can be:

- mailed to Long-term Plan, Wellington City Council, PO Box 2199, Wellington
- emailed to Longtermplan@Wellington.govt.nz
- faxed to 801 3681
- made online at www.Wellington.govt.nz.

When do submissions have to be in by?

Submissions will be accepted anytime from 16 April to 5pm on Monday 18 May 2009.

Then what happens?

We appreciate the submissions we get, and we do take them seriously.

The mayor and councillors are given copies of all submissions. We also prepare reports on the submissions, so that councillors know things like how many there are, and what issues are coming up often. The Strategy and Policy Committee is scheduled to meet on 16 June 2009 to discuss the submissions and make recommendations to the Council. Then the Council meets to make final decisions. We'll publish our final plan in July.

And if you've gone to the effort of making a submission, we'll write to you and let you know what's happened.

We worked with the community to prepare this draft long-term plan

The preparation of this plan follows a broad engagement exercise that was designed to raise awareness of the planning process and provide councillors with an early indication of what Wellingtonians want for their city.

We were particularly keen to reach people who haven't previously participated in our processes. To achieve this, we used a number of new tools and worked with others, such as the Federation of Progressive Associations, to promote the process.

Between late December 2008 and February 2009 we, held roadshows, created a Facebook page, ran a 'hotline' and ward clinics so residents could talk directly with the mayor and councillors, established a website including discussion boards and a budget simulator, published booklets highlighting our overall approach and held meetings and hui to discuss those.

We also established a residents' panel – a forum of 40+ residents to discuss the key issues facing the city. They have met twice and will do so again during the formal consultation process. The members were selected with a view to composing a diverse panel that reflected broadly the demographic characteristics of the Wellington community. They were selected in three ways: (i) from Council stakeholder groups; (ii) self nominated; and (iii) drawn from the community by a research company.

We've been delighted by the interest Wellingtonians have shown in the process. It has resulted in many discussions and a wide variety of views being expressed. Some key themes have emerged; Wellingtonians by-and-large support the overall approach the Council is proposing and are hesitant to see reductions in levels of service that impact on people's access to services.

The process has affected the decisions of the Council. We had, for instance, proposed to reduce evening hours of libraries and charge out of town residents for entry to our galleries and museums. But following consideration by committee these are no longer recommended.

We hope that this early engagement has stimulated interest in the process and will result in a greater number of people being aware of the Council's overall approach to this planning process.

