
**ORDINARY MEETING
OF
ANNUAL PLAN/LONG-TERM PLAN COMMITTEE
AGENDA**

Time: 1:30 pm
Date: Tuesday, 18 May 2021
Venue: Ngake (16.09) and Whataitai (16.11)
Level 16, Tahiwī
113 The Terrace
Wellington

MEMBERSHIP

Deputy Mayor Free (Chair)
Councillor Calvert
Councillor Condie
Councillor Day
Councillor Fitzsimons
Councillor Foon
Mayor Andy Foster (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Matthews
Councillor O'Neill
Councillor Pannett
Councillor Paul
Councillor Rush
Councillor Sparrow
Councillor Woolf
Councillor Young

Have your say!

You can make a short presentation to the Councillors at this meeting. Please let us know by noon the working day before the meeting. You can do this either by phoning 04-803-8334, emailing public.participation@wcc.govt.nz or writing to Democracy Services, Wellington City Council, PO Box 2199, Wellington, giving your name, phone number, and the issue you would like to talk about. All Council and committee meetings are livestreamed on our YouTube page. This includes any public participation at the meeting.

AREA OF FOCUS

The Long-term Plan and Annual Plan give effect to the strategic direction and outcomes set by the Strategy and Policy Committee by setting levels of service and budget.

The Committee is responsible for overseeing the development of the draft Annual Plan and Long-term Plan for consultation, determining the scope and approach of any consultation and engagement required, and recommending the final Long-term Plan and Annual Plans to the Council.

To read the full delegations of this Committee, please visit wellington.govt.nz/meetings.

Quorum: 8 members

TABLE OF CONTENTS

18 MAY 2021

Business	Page No.
1. Meeting Conduct	5
1.1 Karakia	5
1.2 Apologies	5
1.3 Conflict of Interest Declarations	5
1.4 Confirmation of Minutes	5
1.5 Items not on the Agenda	6
1.6 Public Participation	6
2. General Business	7
2.1 Long-term Plan Hearings	7

1. Meeting Conduct

1.1 Karakia

The Chairperson will open the meeting with a karakia.

Whakataka te hau ki te uru,	Cease oh winds of the west
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga.	and of the south
Kia mākinakina ki uta,	Let the bracing breezes flow,
Kia mātaratara ki tai.	over the land and the sea.
E hī ake ana te atākura.	Let the red-tipped dawn come
He tio, he huka, he hauhū.	with a sharpened edge, a touch of frost,
Tihei Mauri Ora!	a promise of a glorious day

At the appropriate time, the following karakia will be read to close the meeting.

Unuhia, unuhia, unuhia ki te uru tapu nui	Draw on, draw on
Kia wātea, kia māmā, te ngākau, te tinana,	Draw on the supreme sacredness
te wairua	To clear, to free the heart, the body
I te ara takatū	and the spirit of mankind
Koia rā e Rongo, whakairia ake ki runga	Oh Rongo, above (symbol of peace)
Kia wātea, kia wātea	Let this all be done in unity
Āe rā, kua wātea!	

1.2 Apologies

The Chairperson invites notice from members of apologies, including apologies for lateness and early departure from the meeting, where leave of absence has not previously been granted.

1.3 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

1.4 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 May 2021 will be put to the Annual Plan/Long-Term Plan Committee for confirmation.

1.5 Items not on the Agenda

The Chairperson will give notice of items not on the agenda as follows.

Matters Requiring Urgent Attention as Determined by Resolution of the Annual Plan/Long-Term Plan Committee.

The Chairperson shall state to the meeting:

1. The reason why the item is not on the agenda; and
2. The reason why discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

The item may be allowed onto the agenda by resolution of the Annual Plan/Long-Term Plan Committee.

Minor Matters relating to the General Business of the Annual Plan/Long-Term Plan Committee.

The Chairperson shall state to the meeting that the item will be discussed, but no resolution, decision, or recommendation may be made in respect of the item except to refer it to a subsequent meeting of the Annual Plan/Long-Term Plan Committee for further discussion.

1.6 Public Participation

A maximum of 60 minutes is set aside for public participation at the commencement of any meeting of the Council or committee that is open to the public. Under Standing Order 31.2 a written, oral or electronic application to address the meeting setting forth the subject, is required to be lodged with the Chief Executive by 12.00 noon of the working day prior to the meeting concerned, and subsequently approved by the Chairperson.

Requests for public participation can be sent by email to public.participation@wcc.govt.nz, by post to Democracy Services, Wellington City Council, PO Box 2199, Wellington, or by phone at 04 803 8334, giving the requester's name, phone number and the issue to be raised.

2. General Business

LONG-TERM PLAN HEARINGS

Purpose

1. This report asks the Annual Plan/Long-term Plan Committee to recognise the speakers who will be speaking to their submissions regarding the 2021-2031 Long-term Plan.

Recommendations

That the Annual Plan/Long-Term Plan Committee:

1. Receive the information.
2. Hear the oral submitters and thank them for their submissions.

Background

2. On 4 March 2021 the Annual Plan/Long-term Plan Committee approved the proposed draft consultation document for community consultation using the Special Consultative Procedure (section 83 of Local Government Act 2002).
3. Wellington City Council consulted the community on the city's 10-year plan proposals from 6 April 2021 to 10 May 2021.
4. Submitters who indicated that they wished to speak at oral hearings have been scheduled to speak to elected members during a three-week period in May 2021.

Discussion

5. Attachment 1 comprises the submissions of confirmed submitters who have indicated they wish to speak to their submissions in this meeting of the Annual Plan/Long-term Plan Committee.

Next Actions

6. Following Long-term Plan oral hearings and forums, elected members will deliberate on the information received from these hearings and all other submissions on 27 May 2021. The committee will recommend the final Long-term Plan document to Council for adoption on 30 June 2021.

Attachments

Oral submitters' written submissions

**ANNUAL PLAN/LONG-TERM PLAN
COMMITTEE**
18 MAY 2021

**Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council**
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Author	Cyrus Frear, Senior Democracy Advisor
Authoriser	Stephen McArthur, Chief Strategy & Governance Officer

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Engagement and Consultation

This report provides for a key stage of the consultation process – the opportunity for the public to speak to their written submission.

Treaty of Waitangi considerations

There are no Treaty of Waitangi considerations arising from this report. Submitters may speak to matters that have Treaty of Waitangi implications.

Financial implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report. Submitters may speak to matters that have financial implications.

Policy and legislative implications

There are no policy implications arising from this report. Submitters may speak to matters that have policy implications.

Risks / legal

There are no risk or legal implications arising from the oral hearing report. Submitters may speak on matters that have risk or legal implications.

Climate Change impact and considerations

There are no climate change implications arising from this report. Submitters may speak to matters that have climate change implications.

Communications Plan

Not applicable

Health and Safety Impact considered

Participants are able to address the committee either in person or via virtual meeting.

Democracy Services staff have offered full assistance to submitters in case of any unfamiliarity with using Zoom.

Tō mātou mahere ngahuru tau

Our 10-year plan

Oral submissions – 18 May 2021





Respondent No: 25

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Martin Krafft
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?**
Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Morning
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Morning
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 2. Enhanced investment (\$2.4bn - the Council's preferred option).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 4. Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 3. Sludge minimisation through Council funding (\$147m to \$208m capital investment, above debt limit, and higher rates)

Q16. **Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below**

not answered

Q17. **Your comments on the big decisions (optional)**

I am baffled how a long-term plan for a city does not include any mention of public transport. You want to electrify the fleet of individual transport vehicles (which replace oil usage by resources needed for batteries, and the difficulty of recycling those), and defer to the regional council on public transport. That is asking for failure. You need to take the lead and present an integrated plan to move this city into the future. It's nice to have cycleways, but they won't help reduce congestion, nor return the space currently wasted on cars to the people, and make our city more livable.

Q18. **You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)**

not answered

Q19. **Do you support the proposed budget?**

I strongly oppose the proposed budget.

Q20. **You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?**

I support keeping the budget the same but with some changes.

Q21. **Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?**

I am baffled how a long-term plan for a city does not include any mention of public transport. You want to electrify the fleet of individual transport vehicles (which replace oil usage by resources needed for batteries, and the difficulty of recycling those), and defer to the regional council on public transport. That is asking for failure. You need to take the lead and present an integrated plan to move this city into the future. It's nice to have cycleways, but they won't help reduce congestion, nor return the space currently wasted on cars to the people, and make our city more livable.



Respondent No: 106

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Jason Woodroofe
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** not answered
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Evening
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 3. Accelerated (\$3.3bn investment – higher rates and debt).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 3: High investment programme (\$120m capital investment - Council's preferred option)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option3. Strengthen now by increasing rates further (additional 1.79% rates increase).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

None of these

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

not answered

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I somewhat support the proposed budget.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

not answered

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

I would like to express my support for the WCC to enact the findings found in the Skate Community Engagement Survey. The WCC has an obligation to the Wellington skateboarding community that this survey shows is currently not being met. Tangible action needs to be taken by councilors in order for Wellington city to keep pace with the rate of progression that is happening across New Zealand Skateboarding. WCC should invest in facilities that are co-designed with the skateboarding community and wider skate experts within NZ. There is a large pool of skate construction companies in NZ (e.g. Premium Skate Park Designs and Acid Construction) and their work has already seen the sport grow rapidly, particularly in Auckland and the upper North Island. Wellington's facilities are far below the standard of these new purpose built parks, and do little to consider the impact that weather has on the sport in Wellington. If Wellington wishes to remain the progressive and inclusive city that it's image suggests, the council should act fast to support sports like skateboarding, which have always been at the forefront of youth culture. The current skate parks that Wellington has are far behind the progression of the sport. Waitangi park (apart from the bowl) is renown within the NZ skate community as one of the worst parks in the country. In contrast, tree tops and the hospital DIY park are both funded and constructed by skaters. These parks are not amazing, but the fact that they are some of the best in the region shows the lack of engagement WCC has had with the skate community over the last decade. This trend is simply not good enough, especially when considering that Wellington city reaps the rewards from major skate events such as Bowlzilla. The lack of support for the sport and yet the desire for events like this to continue show the lack of cohesion in a policy for skateboarding in Wellington.



Respondent No: 117

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Matthew James Sole
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** not answered
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Evening
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Don't know.
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Don't know.
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 4. Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 2. Medium investment with savings (\$25.4m investment, lower rates and debt).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** None of these options.
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

<p>Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below</p>	<p>Cycleways</p>
<p>Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)</p>	<p>Considering skateboarding is one of the fastest growing sports in nz and now involved in the olympics, I would like to see small aspects of these cycle ways dedicated to our community. We don't need expensive skateparks, we just would like to be kept in mind when design decisions are made. People love to stop and watch what we are doing, and we live it when they do so. Skateboarding is the most inclusive movement I've ever been a part of, race, age, skill..., not important to us. The growth of this sport is a much needed integration into society, the more places we have to go, the happier we will be. We don't need ridiculous amounts of money spent on us, we just want to be kept in mind.</p>
<p>Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)</p>	<p>not answered</p>
<p>Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?</p>	<p>Neutral.</p>
<p>Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?</p>	<p>I support increasing spend in the current budget.</p>
<p>Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?</p>	<p>See a few pages back for my input</p>



Respondent No: 178

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Jill Ford
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** not answered
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Afternoon
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 2. Enhanced investment (\$2.4bn - the Council's preferred option).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 4. Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 2. Medium investment with savings (\$25.4m investment, lower rates and debt).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** None of these options.
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

<p>Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below</p>	<p>Investment in three waters infrastructure Cycleways Te Atakura (climate change) Central Library</p>
<p>Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)</p>	<p>1. Water -many cities and towns in NZ meter water and charge for supply, in Kapiti since water was metered there has been over a 20% decrease in water usage. When things are free they aren't valued, and its pretty obvious we waste a lot of water, which then puts more water into sewage, storm water etc. By having some user charges would mean a lower rates increase. WCC charges for rubbish so why not water supply. 2. Central library - why do we need such a big library in centre of city. Ask first what are the services people want, how often and where. Digital books are growing, lower income people may well make far more use of suburban libraries than the central library. There is also a growing digital divide with many lower income people not having good / if any internet so these services should take preference over reference books that can be archived. Why not make it smaller (Christchurch City library is a good example). And expand some of the suburban libraries. The office space should be sold - people want the services of a library in a pleasant space, why then have office space owned by the council. When trends are that more people will work from home and less office space will be required in the CBD. 3. Te Atakura and Cycleways - given our biggest emissions are transport - cycleways (and better infrastructure for PT , ie more bus lanes) are hugely impt as a way to reduce our carbon emissions. The most densely populated part of Wgtn is southern and eastern suburbs. Many people from Island Bay and Kilbirnie drive through Newtown and the biggest employer is the Hospital. There needs to be an integrated network of cycle lanes from all parts of the city and through the CBD. So its crucial that we don't wait any longer for LGWM, for 5 years they and WCC have consulted and in 10 years we have 16km of new cycleways. There is no point 'upgrading' Island Bay cycleway if it goes nowhere. Its OK as is, what's MORE impt is that it goes via Newtown into the CBD. Also missing are routes from Karori, Northland, Aro Valley, Khandallah. Without an integrated network of cycle lanes you wont achieve Zero carbon. NOR will you achieve a compact, accessible city taht is environmentally sustainable. 4. Sludge - having an alternative means of treating sludge is vital to reduce carbon emissions and enable organic composting which will then reduce the amount of waste in the landfill (on average 30% of landfill is organic) which will save us building a new landfill. In Christchurch (who have had organic composting for 12 years)- Sludge is treated at The Waste Water Treatment Plant. They have anaerobic digesters that generate methane, which is then used to dry the material to create bio solids. These go to Living Earth. For the kitchen waste, it is a cost to ChCh Council to compost kitchen and garden waste at the organics plant. However, this is significantly cheaper than sending it to landfill. Also, when the material is composted, the carbon dioxide generated, is offset by the application of compost, as opposed to the methane gas generated from landfilling it, which would result in the much greater impact on emissions/climate change to boot.</p>
<p>Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)</p>	<p>not answered</p>
<p>Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?</p>	<p>I somewhat oppose the proposed budget.</p>
<p>Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?</p>	<p>I support decreasing spend in the current budget.</p>

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

No where in any of this is there consideration of cutting costs or having more user pays; 1. Staffing there seems to be unnecessary bureaucracy (as anyone who needs resource consent can tell you), staff seem to have jobs for life, why does the WCC need to run pools or sports centres, they can often be run more efficiently by commercial operators. When ever I go to the Pools or ASB centre there is a lot of staff doing very little. Contractors - road projects seem to take huge amount of time and when you go past sites you see why, invariably a significant % of the workers are doing nothing. More users charges - it costs to use a pool, or sports venue, go to the Zoo BUT nothing to go to the art gallery, Wgtn Museum, WHY? Why is TePapa free, in just about every other country it costs to go in a museum or Art gallery. Even in the UK (the only other country they are 'free', you have to pay for a plan of the place, the Nelson Museum isn't free, neither is the Otago Settlers Museum nor Auckland Museum. Parking fees - there is a huge amount of free parking in Wgtn, with very limited residents parking and what there is is VERY cheap. There needs to be far more residents only parking and an increase in fees. In many suburbs, eg Karori, Island Bay, Miramar, Strathmore a large % of homes have off street parking but its free and 'easier' to park on the road. Meaning cycle lanes arent put in, and council gets no income from people using roads to store their private property.



Respondent No: 1049

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- | | |
|---|---|
| Q1. Full name: | Jill Ford |
| Q2. Phone number: | not answered |
| Q3. Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation? | Individual |
| Q4. What organisation are you submitting on behalf of? | not answered |
| Q5. Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum? | No |
| Q6. If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer? | not answered |
| Q7. Oral forum time | not answered |
| Q8. Oral hearing time | not answered |
| Q9. Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision) | Option 3. Accelerated (\$3.3bn investment – higher rates and debt). |
| Q10. Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision) | not answered |
| Q11. Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision) | Option 4. Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates) |
| Q12. Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision) | Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option). |
| Q13. Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision) | not answered |
| Q14. Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision) | not answered |
| Q15. Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision) | Option 3. Sludge minimisation through Council funding (\$147m to \$208m capital investment, above debt limit, and higher rates) |

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Investment in three waters infrastructure
Cycleways
Te Atakura (climate change)
Sludge and waste minimisation

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

Cycleways comments I support option 4 committing \$226 Million over the next ten years to build a fully-connected cycling network by 2031 I support prioritising new cycling infrastructure in places that support journeys by children and other vulnerable road users I support doubling the Cycling Minor Works Budget to \$2 million per year I support creating a new dedicated funding category to deliver rapid changes to the urban environment, such as Low-Traffic Neighbourhoods, Parklets and Innovating Streets improvements I support ring-fencing the cycling budget so that money allocated for cycling is not used elsewhere Deliverability of Cycleways I support funding to hire more staff to increase the council's capacity to deliver cycling projects and other transport improvements I support streamlining and reducing the frequency of consultative processes in order to reduce the time, resources and budget spent to deliver cycling projects I support the reallocation of existing road space over the creation of new road space in order to minimise the costs of cycling projects Accountability I support the council setting clear and ambitious goals such as a target kilometers of new cycleways delivered and target percentage increase in cycling modeshare every year. These targets should be set higher than existing baseline levels I support the council providing better information around cycling expenditure, such as breaking down the cycling budget by project and providing clear and accessible information when the allocated budget is not spent Funding I support the council increasing rates further to fund essential infrastructure for cycling Three Waters I support the most ambitious option of accelerated Investment for three waters infrastructure. Te Atakura I support fully funding Te Atakura - First to Zero, the climate action plan for Wellington. Sludge I support investing in sludge minimisation to reduce sewerage waste to landfill and reducing the risk that sludge will need to be carried around the coast by truck. I support the council delivering this project through debt rather than an external funding model.

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

not answered

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

not answered

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

Other issues I support increasing parking fees to encourage mode-shift and improve parking availability and turnover. I support investing more into road resurfacing so that higher quality road surfacing is used that better supports comfortable journeys by bicycle. I oppose the provision of funding for carbon intensive projects such as the Wellington Airport expansion and new roads to enable suburban sprawl.



Respondent No: 368

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Susan Fields
- Q2. **Phone number:** not answered
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Morning
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** not answered
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** None of these options.
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 1. Finish started projects (\$29m capital investment, lower debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Don't know.
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 4. Sell to support development (no debt or rates impact)
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option3. Strengthen now by increasing rates further (additional 1.79% rates increase).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** not answered

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Central Library

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

Bring back the city heart - the Library!! Sell Airport shares

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I strongly oppose the proposed budget.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

not answered

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

Vote then all out!! 14% rates increase madness



Respondent No: 435

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. Full name: Mary Byrne
- Q2. Phone number: [REDACTED]
- Q3. Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation? Organisation
- Q4. What organisation are you submitting on behalf of? Flouride Free New Zealand
- Q5. Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum? Yes
- Q6. If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer? not answered
- Q7. Oral forum time not answered
- Q8. Oral hearing time not answered
- Q9. Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision) not answered
- Q10. Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision) not answered
- Q11. Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision) not answered
- Q12. Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision) not answered
- Q13. Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision) not answered
- Q14. Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision) not answered
- Q15. Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision) not answered

<p>Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below</p>	<p>not answered</p>
<p>Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)</p> <p>not answered</p>	
<p>Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)</p>	<p>https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/fa698609d57408e86d442afc8f592743fce905b1/original/1620017066/d1d57a24b636910f23c1f4935e70142d_Flouride_Free.pdf?1620017066</p>
<p>Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?</p>	<p>not answered</p>
<p>Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?</p>	<p>not answered</p>
<p>Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?</p> <p>not answered</p>	

25th March 2021

Feedback to Long Term Annual Plan 2021

Dear Mayor and councillors,

We understand that the Government is set to move decision making solely to the Director General of Health. However, councillors are elected and paid to represent and protect the community. Considering the growing research being carried out in fluoridated countries showing harm to health, and the increased pressures on council finances, we propose that Council take a serious interest in the health of the community and stop fluoridation.

Here are short summaries of just a few of the studies on neurotoxicity:

2006: The National Research Council published *Fluoride in Drinking Water*,¹ the most authoritative review of fluoride's toxicity. It stated unequivocally that "fluorides have the ability to interfere with the functions of the brain and the body."

2012: A Harvard-funded meta-analysis² found that children ingesting higher levels of fluoride tested an average 7 IQ points lower in 26 out of 27 studies. Most had higher fluoride concentrations than in U.S. water, but many had total exposures to fluoride no more than what millions of Americans receive. The same is true of New Zealand exposures. In fact the US level is now a maximum of 0.7ppm, whereas Hutt City levels are 0.85ppm.

2017: A National Institutes of Health (NIH) – funded study³ in Mexico covering 13 years found that every one half milligram per liter (mg/L) increase in fluoride in pregnant women's urine – approximately the difference caused by ingestion of fluoridated water⁴ – was associated with a reduction of their children's IQ by about 3 points. Leonardo Trasande, a leading physician unaffiliated with the study, said it "raises serious concerns about fluoride supplementation in water."⁵

2018: A Canadian study⁶ found iodine-deficient adults (nearly 18% of the population) with higher fluoride levels had a greater risk of hypothyroidism (known to be linked to lower IQs). Author Ashley Malin said "I have grave concerns about the health effects of fluoride exposure."⁷

2019: Another NIH-funded study⁸ published in *Journal of the American Medical Association Pediatrics* found every 1 mg/L increase in fluoride in Canadian pregnant women's urine was linked to a 4.5 decrease in IQ in their male children. The physician editor of *JAMA Pediatrics* said "I would not have my wife drink fluoridated water"⁹ if she was pregnant.

2019: A Canadian study¹⁰ found a nearly 300% higher risk of ADHD for children living in fluoridated areas. This reinforced earlier study linking fluoride to ADHD in Mexico (2018)¹¹ and the U.S. (2015).¹²

2019: A systematic review of 149 human studies and 339 animal studies by the U.S. National Toxicology Program¹³ concluded that “fluoride is presumed to be a cognitive neurodevelopmental hazard to humans.” The report is still in draft form, but NTP has also said there is little chance they will change their finding.

2020: Another NIH-funded study¹⁴ in Canada found that for babies fed formula mixed with fluoridated water, every additional 0.5 mg/litre fluoride reduced their IQ by 4.4 points. In NZ, where we typically fluoridate at 0.85 ppm and natural levels are very low, this represents a 7 IQ point loss (Half a Standard Deviation, which is significant),.. Losses of non-verbal IQ were even more serious, an average of 9 points.

We would like to speak to our submission if possible.

Regards

Mary Byrne

National Coordinator Fluoride Free New Zealand

www.fluoridefree.org.nz

██████████

REFERENCES FOR FLUORIDATION'S NEUROTOXICITY

1. National Research Council, Fluoride in Drinking Water, 2006, p. 222 <https://www.nap.edu/catalog/11571/fluoride-in-drinking-water-a-scientific-review-ofepas-standards>
2. Choi et al, Developmental Fluoride Neurotoxicity: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis, *Environmental Health Perspectives*, July 20, 2012 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3491930/>
3. Bashash et al, Prenatal Fluoride Exposure and Cognitive Outcomes in Children at 4 and 6-12 Years of Age in Mexico, *Environmental Health Perspectives*, Sept. 19, 2017 <https://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/ehp655/>
4. Till et al, Community Water Fluoridation and Urinary Fluoride Concentrations in a National Sample of Pregnant Women in Canada, *Environmental Health Perspectives*, Oct. 10, 2018 <https://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/doi/10.1289/EHP3546>
5. Dana Dovey, "Children's IQ Could be Lowered by Mothers Drinking Tap Water While Pregnant," *Newsweek*, Sept. 19, 2017 <https://www.newsweek.com/childrens-iq-could-be-lowered-drinking-tap-water-while-pregnant-667660>
6. Malin et al, Fluoride Exposure and Thyroid Function Among Adults Living in Canada: Effect Modification by Iodine Status, *Environment International*, Dec. 2018 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=till+malin+fluoride+thyroid>
7. Brian Bienkowski, "We Add It to Drinking Water for Our Teeth – But is Fluoride Hurting Us?" *Environmental Health News*, Oct. 10, 2018 <https://www.ehn.org/we-add-it-to-drinking-water-for-our-teeth-but-is-fluoride-hurting-us-2611193177.html>
8. Green et al, Association Between Maternal Fluoride Exposure During Pregnancy and IQ Scores in Offspring in Canada, *Journal of the American Medical Association Pediatrics*, Aug. 19, 2019 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6704756/>
9. Ben Guarino, "Study Raises Questions About Fluoride and Children's IQ," *Washington Post*, Aug. 20, 2019 <https://www.washingtonpost.com/science/2019/08/19/study-raises-questions-about-fluoride-childrens-iq/>
10. Riddell et al, Association of Water Fluoride and Urinary Fluoride Concentrations with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder in Canadian Youth, *Environment International*, Dec. 2019 <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0160412019315971?via%3Dihub>
11. Bashash et al, Prenatal Fluoride Exposure and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Symptoms in Children at 6-12 Years of Age in Mexico City, *Environment International*, Dec. 2018 <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0160412018311814?via%3Dihub>
12. Malin et al, Exposure to Fluoridated Water and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Prevalence Among Children and Adolescents in the United States: An Ecological Association, *Environmental Health*, Feb. 27, 2015 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4389999/>
13. National Toxicology Program, Draft NTP Monograph on the Systematic Review of the Fluoride Exposure and Neurodevelopmental and Cognitive Health Effects, Sept. 6, 2019 http://fluoridealert.org/wp-content/uploads/2019.ntp_draft-fluoride-systematic-review.online-Oct-22.pdf
14. Till et al, Fluoride Exposure From Infant Formula and Child IQ in a Canadian Birth Cohort, *Environment International*, Jan. 2020 (first issued online in 2019) <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0160412019326145?via%3Dihub>



Respondent No: 561

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Raewyn Hailes
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Organisation
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** CCS Disability Action
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Morning
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** not answered
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 2. Enhanced investment (\$2.4bn - the Council's preferred option).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** None of these options.
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 1. Finish started projects (\$29m capital investment, lower debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Don't know.
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Don't know.

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Cycleways

Central Library

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

The priority objectives of the LTP give mention to accessibility referenced to affordable Housing. It is important to consider access issues when planning how our communities and transport systems develop. Accessibility is an on-going goal rather than a set of minimal standards to be complied with. There is always room for improvement, especially as new and innovative approaches are constantly being developed. CCS Disability Action would recommend: 1) That access, - Universal Design - be applied to all projects and expenditure in the LTP, and that in housing, an aspirational level of no less than 15% of all new builds be fully accessible. That WCC consider how this could be applied through the building consent process. 2) That no one is left behind particularly in housing, transport and community, creative and cultural spaces. 3) That all the big decisions include a codesign process with disabled people. 4) We encourage Council to consider the needs of all their citizens, rather than focus narrowly just on efficient or cost-effective infrastructure and services. A narrow focus on efficiency can result in Councils cutting corners with access. This can have significant effects on the wellbeing of disabled people and our older population. 5) We recommend that Council collects regular accurate data on the ability of people with access needs to move around their community and access services (We can provide tools and advice to effectively do this). Disabled New Zealanders do not get a fair go. They do not get the same opportunities as non-disabled people. In the 2013 Disability Survey, disabled people compared to non-disabled people: were more likely to have no qualification and less likely to have a bachelor's degree or higher. had higher unemployment and lower labour force participation. were more likely to have lower incomes and live in lower-income households. were less likely to report a high level of life satisfaction. were less likely to feel safe at home or in their neighbourhood. were twice as likely to be the victim of violent crime. were more likely to report being discriminated against and more likely to be discriminated against more than three times over a twelve-month period. In the 2018 General Social Survey, disabled people under 65 compared to non-disabled people the same age: were 2.5 times more likely to experience material hardship. were 1.6 times more likely to say their housing was very unaffordable. were 2 times as likely to report being discriminated against. were 2.2 times more likely to rate their life satisfaction as a 6 or below (on a scale where 10 is the highest). were 1.9 times more likely to rate the wellbeing of their family as a 6 or below (on a scale where 10 is the highest); and were almost twice as likely to report being discriminated against.

Cycleways: Along with the planning for cycleways we recommend a significant investment in footpaths which gives many similar outcomes to cycling. That roading, cycleways, and pavements, become shared pathway conversations to meet the need of multimodal complete streets solutions. All prioritised users (that is pedestrians, public transport users, micro mobility users and cyclists) get benefit from the budgeted spend. Investment in maintenance of current pedestrian infrastructure should link to new projects to ensure full accessibility from home to destination. Additional budget for footpath maintenance is required to ensure a robust pedestrian infrastructure in the CBD and suburbs. Mobility car parks. We recommend that Council continue to provide Mobility Parking Spaces, especially in the the planning for the library, Civic Precinct and Michael Fowler Centre, and Let's get Welly Moving projects. That an increased number are provided, in the city and suburbs, to respond to the demands of the aging population growth and the changes to the Unitary Plan requirements for urban development. Information on the location of Mobility car parks should be easily found on Councils website along with any restrictions and costs. When considering Access, all types of mobility aides need to be considered. This includes motor vehicles adapted for mobility use. An aspirational number of mobility parking spaces could be included as close to 2 percent of all parking in line with Australian and Canadian cities. A lack of mobility car parks, plays a role in isolating people from their community and preventing them from accessing work, social, and educational opportunities. Information. Where possible this should include information being provided in a number of different ways, for example in Easy Read Format, providing opportunity for people with cognitive difficulties to be included in any consultation processes. It is also important to consider that many people who experience living with a disability or impairment may not always have access to technology due to a number of factors, therefore some citizens are excluded from having their say. Wellington City Council has a vital role in ensuring the growing number of people with access needs can participate, contribute, and be included in their communities. Unless Council proactively ensures the accessibility of the community, we risk cutting more and more people off from their community and the services they require to live their daily lives. The impact of the aging population growth will bring an increase in the numbers of people with impairments and increase the need for Universal Design standards and the ability to make Accessible Journeys. Access and Inclusion are needed in the Plan.

Q18. **You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)**

not answered

Q19. **Do you support the proposed budget?**

I somewhat support the proposed budget.

Q20. **You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?**

not answered

Q21. **Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?**

700km of footpaths to be maintained and upgraded will require significant budget increases.



Respondent No: 592

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Andrew Macbeth
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?**
Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Afternoon
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Afternoon
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** None of these options.
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 4. Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Don't know.
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).

Q15. Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)	Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)
Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below	Investment in three waters infrastructure Cycleways Sludge and waste minimisation
Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)	
I didn't support any of the three water options because I expected to see water meters introduced for all houses and properties, as many cities already do in NZ and overseas. This is a cost-effective way of finding (and then fixing) leaks and encouraging people to reduce their water consumption. Water is a scarce and expensive commodity, so why should it be "free"? Let's get a bit more ambitious with our cycleways plan. The money involved is peanuts compared with what we propose to spend on roads, including WCC's share of LGWM road and tunnel projects. I support either Option 3 or 4 (which cost the same), which are more expensive than 1 or 2. But I don't have a strong view as to the better funding model.	
Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)	not answered
Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?	I somewhat support the proposed budget.
Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?	not answered
Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?	
I think Council should consider other funding sources. In particular, why don't local councils get a share of GST, which all goes to central government? I hope that WCC and other councils are talking to the government about this. In addition, do churches and government departments pay rates on their land within Wellington? Are other land owners also given a rates holiday? This may be outside WCC's control, but if so, then what steps are we taking to address this obvious source of lost revenue? Another potential revenue source is on-street parking in residential areas, which should be charged for. If people want to store vehicles in the public realm, they should pay for it, rather than non-car owners (or property owners with garages) effectively cross-subsidising them (because they aren't getting any benefit from this "free" parking). Some streets (in inner suburbs) have residents' parking, but only a few, and the cost of permit parking is pitiful compared with the price people pay to rent parking spaces. I'd also like to see land owners in the central city charged high rates if they are "land banking" - not using land for productive urban purposes, such as retail, office or commercial purposes. Vacant lots used for surface car parking are a huge waste of space and result in a more spread-out city, undermining the urbanism the Council is trying to achieve, and that most people want. Already more people enter the central city during weekday rush hour by walking, cycling and public transport, than by private car. We need to do all we can to reduce car travel, and tackling parking is a key lever that Council can and should use.	



Respondent No: 609

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Cameron King
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Evening
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** not answered
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** None of these options.
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** None of these options.
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 4. Sell to support development (no debt or rates impact)
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** None of these options.
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** None of these options.

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Central Library

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

Sell the library.

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

[REDACTED]

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I strongly oppose the proposed budget.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

not answered

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

If my rates go up over 5% I will take you all to the court



Respondent No: 612

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Sam Black
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Morning
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** not answered
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** None of these options.
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** None of these options.
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** None of these options.
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** None of these options.
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** None of these options.
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** None of these options.
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** None of these options.

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

not answered

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

not answered

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

[REDACTED]

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I strongly oppose the proposed budget.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

not answered

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

We will pay 3% more in rates and no more! CEO and mayor to leave



Respondent No: 636

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Fredd Marshall
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** not answered
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Evening
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 2. Enhanced investment (\$2.4bn - the Council's preferred option).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 4. Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option3. Strengthen now by increasing rates further (additional 1.79% rates increase).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

not answered

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget? Neutral.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend? I support increasing spend in the current budget.

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

not answered



Respondent No: 664

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Shanti Mathias
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** not answered
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Afternoon
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** not answered
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 2. Enhanced investment (\$2.4bn - the Council's preferred option).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 4. Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Cycleways
Te Atakura (climate change)
Central Library

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

It is very important to me that the cycle network is extended, and that cycleparking is also built into the plans, so there are easy places to park your bike--sometimes the random light post just does not cut it! Investment in cycleways matters to me because I ride my bike on Wellington streets most day, and I often feel worried for myself, pedestrians, and drivers--there's just not places to go to stay out of each other's way, and everyone is frustrated with each other. I was also recently injured in a collision with a car in Newtown, and felt really scared to ride for a little while. Thanks to community bike projects like bike Space and Mechanical Tempest, I was able to fix my bike, but it reinforced to me that cycle systems--accessible service provision, effective routes on roads, and places to park would make my favourite form of transport way more fun and safe. I also really loved the Central Library building and spending lots of time there, and thought it was an effective place, to study, read, and feel hopeful and enthusiastic about the many ideas in the world, connected to the citizens around me. I especially liked the special archives and collections on the top floor. I'd love it to be open again soon. Despite changes to parking recently, I think it's really important to make low carbon options easier in Wellington, and that Wellington prioritises being a climate-thoughtful city, asking for transformation at social and commercial levels. I like the initial shape of the Te Atakura plan and I would love to see that developed further so that low carbon living is the best way to live in Wellington. I think it's really important that Wellington implements transformative response to climate change, because it's desperately important to make this city a world leader, and also more equal.

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I strongly support the proposed budget.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

not answered

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

not answered



Respondent No: 673

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Jessie Black
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Afternoon
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** not answered
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 2. Enhanced investment (\$2.4bn - the Council's preferred option).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 3: High investment programme (\$120m capital investment - Council's preferred option)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 2. Council to strengthen Central Library later (complete in 2028 instead of 2025, additional 0.83% rates increase).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Investment in three waters infrastructure
Cycleways
Te Atakura (climate change)
Sludge and waste minimisation
Te Ngākau funding for future work

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

Kia ora, I am submitting as an individual however my role as a chaplain at Victoria University means that I am writing with the perspective of the students that I come into contact with. I am aware that these students will be the people who will be most affected by the plan changes. First off, I am very aware that one of the highest priorities noted in the consultation document is Housing development however there are no decisions around this point. Increase in housing density will have affects on almost all of these decision in this plan, however none of them seem to consider how greater housing needs, and a greater proportion of renters who will bear rates increase via increase in rent. The higher demand on housing also will put higher demand on infrastructure, and the need to have alternate ways of transport. 1. investment in in three waters infrastructure: I support the council to improve the water pipes and making this a priority. I agree that the entire system cannot be upgraded straight away however I believe that it is very important that priority is given to investigation of pipes condition and taking into account housing zone changes and the importance of creating better, more liveable urban areas. 2. I strongly support investing highly in cycleways, including cycleways into northern suburbs. Ensuring that these cycleways are safe is very important, however simply building the infrastructure will not be enough. I think that funding of cycle re-homing programmes to get more people affordable bikes, and repair classes/workshops so that people can continue to cycle, are both important . In creating more car-free or low-car options, keeping a minimum accessibility for those who rely on private transport due to disability or other valid reasons, should be kept in mind. Further, when adding shared spaces/ Cycle ways, it is also important to keep accessibility and disability awareness in mind. Will there be safe crossing points on cycleways for pedestrians with low vision or hearing? I would also encourage the council to ensure integration with Waka Kotahi and Let's Get Wellington Moving to deliver the best outcomes. 3. Te Atakura should be fully funded. However, I believe it should be considered a first step rather than a final plan. It sets some ambitious goals however I think the council should be following closely further outcomes of groups like the climate Commission. would like to see information that shows the planned steps would actually meet the targets. As I mentioned above, vulnerable groups such as those on low wages or those with disabilities may not be able to participate fully in efforts to use lower-emission transport unless funding to make this happen is also included in the plan. 4. Sludge: I believe funding an option to deal with the sludge without relying on the landfill is important to align with Te Atakura, as otherwise it relies strongly on keeping sludge to 20 % of waste and therefore requiring us to produce waste. It is not a sustainable way to deal with our sludge, to treat it and still dispose of it via pumping and dumping. 5. Te Ngākau: I believe that the preferred option is a good one, however would like to note that public-facing organisations should be prioritised. This is because Te Ngākau is a community meeting space- a third space where there is an important ability to rest, work or be without the need to consume. in conclusion, i hope that you will consider the most vulnerable members of society when coming to decisions around the new ten year plan, as well as internal consistency on priorities of reducing waste and our reliance on landfills, and in keeping increasing demand on housing - particularly rentals and urban development- in mind when making decisions on infrastructure.

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I somewhat support the proposed budget.

Q20. **You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?** not answered

Q21. **Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?**

as previously stated.



Respondent No: 674

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Mika Hervel
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Afternoon
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** not answered
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 2. Enhanced investment (\$2.4bn - the Council's preferred option).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 4. Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Investment in three waters infrastructure
Wastewater laterals
Cycleways
Te Atakura (climate change)
Central Library
Sludge and waste minimisation
Te Ngākau funding for future work

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

I believe it is vital to invest in our pipes now so they don't cause more problems in the future. I would like to see option 2 implemented, but for more investment to go towards investigating the pipes and their current condition. I think it would be excellent for the council to take on wastewater laterals, and strongly support this proposal. For cycleways I strongly support the decision to work on and finish the cycleways over the next 10 years. This investment is vital for reaching national and local climate change goals, as it will incentivize more people to bike around the city and reduce people using cars as a mode of transport. Investing more into cycleways now will pay off later, as every dollar contributing towards climate change solutions now will save many more dollars, and lives, in the future. This is also why I believe the council's climate plan needs to be fully funded. This is an excellent first step towards tackling climate change at a local level, and should be the first of many such projects designed to combat climate change. Becoming 'net zero by 2050' is not ambitious enough, in my view, and the council should strongly consider further, more ambitious investments. This end goal is not, in my view, consistent with the state of emergency the council has declared and therefore it is crucial that this goal is reimagined to be more ambitious and strives to fight climate change as much as possible. However, I back the council's proposal to do whatever they can to combat climate change, and strongly support whatever investment is possible. Fixing the Wellington library is a great opportunity to create a community centered space with a focus on learning, collaboration and inclusivity. The library could be reimagined to be an interactive space, with activities to encourage the sharing of ideas and chances for the community to engage with local and national issues. This collaborative community hub could had a traditional library at it's center, to provide the foundation for this project. Potential ideas can be found here: <https://www.stuff.co.nz/nelson-mail/opinion/124979813/reimagining-a-new-nelson-library-as-an-ideas-factory> I strongly support option 4 for dealing with our sewage sludge. Minimizing waste is a vital component of combating climate change and finding more effective ways to deal with sludge could contribute well. Building a vibrant, inclusive community space needs to be a priority when rebuilding civic square. Care needs to be taken to ensure this place is accessible and safe for everyone. Some additional suggestions I would have are to fund existing sexual assault prevention organizations in the CBD to mitigate the harm done by sexual assault. I would also like to see the council collaborate (or put pressure on) VUW to use the Gordon Wilson flats.

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I somewhat support the proposed budget.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

not answered

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

I am very concerned about the cost of living and housing affordability in Wellington, and would like to see the council take action to make housing more affordable in Wellington. I am also concerned that the rate increases will disproportionately affect renters and lower income individuals and families, and I implore the council to ensure this does not happen.



Respondent No: 698

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Richard Osmaston
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Organisation
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** Money Free Party NZ
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?**
Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Evening
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Evening
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** not answered
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** not answered
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** not answered
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** not answered
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** not answered
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Don't know.
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** not answered

<p>Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below</p>	<p>None of these</p>
<p>Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)</p>	<p>The plan looks quite impressive. Well done. Council's task at this time is basically impossible if we are to retain our integrity. We have concerns about our basic operating system, ie the money system, that are not being addressed at all. The LTP has an overriding assumption that basically all is well and that we will be fine continuing basically as we are. Sadly this is not the case and I think we are all well aware of this. I won't list our failures here, but Climate change, Resource consumption, Stress, Inequality, Poverty and Technological Unemployment are a start.... We appreciate that historically there is only so much a Council can do and that time, resources, money and energy are limited. However, in times of such strife, with multiple threats to our wellbeing becoming ever more obvious, it behoves us all to not simply throw up our hands and say "we're doing all we can". We have a greater responsibility than that, and at some point will have to state "we will do whatever we have to". That fortunately will free us to admit the evident current failures and to look more forcefully and rationally at what may well initially be unimaginable proposals. Such as, of course, abandoning money. It is at the root of every problem that we face. We must be aware of the insidious creep of psychopathy as we are cornered by money into absolute acquiescence to it. Thanks very much for this opportunity. All the best. Richard Might Council be sufficiently bold to acknowledge our current fatal trajectory and to look at alternatives to the toxic monetary system such as the money free 'Resource Based Economy'?</p>
<p>Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)</p>	<p>not answered</p>
<p>Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?</p>	<p>not answered</p>
<p>Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?</p>	<p>I support increasing spend in the current budget.</p>

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

Council's task at this time is basically impossible if we are to retain our integrity. We have concerns about our basic operating system, ie the money system, that are not being addressed at all. The LTP has an overriding assumption that basically all is well and that we will be fine continuing basically as we are. Sadly this is not the case and I think we are all well aware of this. I won't list our failures here, but Climate change, Resource consumption, Stress, Inequality and Technological Unemployment are a start.... I appreciate that historically there is only so much a Council can do and that time, resources, money and energy are limited. However, in times of such strife, with multiple threats to our wellbeing becoming ever more obvious, it behoves us all to not simply throw up our hands and say "we're doing all we can". We have a greater responsibility than that, and at some point will have to state "we will do whatever we have to". That fortunately will free us to admit the evident current failures and to look more forcefully and rationally at what may well initially be unimaginable proposals. Such as, of course, abandoning money. It is at the root of every problem that we face. We must be aware of the insidious creep of psychopathy as we are cornered by money into absolute acquiescence to it. Thanks very much for this opportunity. All the best. Richard Might Council be sufficiently bold to acknowledge our current fatal trajectory and to look beyond our current monetary hypnosis? There are alternatives now. www.moneyfreeparty.org.nz



Respondent No: 711

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Mathias Corwin
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** not answered
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Afternoon
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 3. Accelerated (\$3.3bn investment – higher rates and debt).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Don't know.
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 4. Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Don't know.
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Investment in three waters infrastructure
Cycleways
Te Atakura (climate change)

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

I have selected options which favour the majority of the financial burden being paid for by this generation rather than attempting to spread the costs into the future. My reason for doing so is that I believe the decades of neglect to infrastructure should be paid for by the people who have benefited from this neglect. It is unfair to push these costs out to the next generation who will already be bearing significant financial stress and existential risks from climate change adaptation. The current issues are only going to get more expensive to solve, and the can must not be kicked down the road. Specifically, in support of cycleways, there is a lot of evidence that these have the most favourable cost-benefit ratios out of other transportation improvements. Cycling has historically been underfunded and has multiple co-benefits to peoples health and happiness. On a personal note, I feel like I am risking my life every time I am on my bike in traffic. I shouldn't have to risk my life just because I want to lower my carbon emissions and stay healthy and reduce air pollution!

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I somewhat support the proposed budget.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

not answered

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

The council should be spending even more to reach net zero targets! There are so many studies which show the economic sense of investing in climate change mitigation and adaptation. Happy to provide evidence if asked - but this is common knowledge folks!



Hospitality New Zealand

TO WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

**SUBMISSION ON
LONG TERM PLAN 2021-31**

30th April 2021

CONTACT DETAILS: Hospitality New Zealand
Contact: Adam Parker

www.hospitality.org.nz

About Hospitality New Zealand:

1. Hospitality New Zealand (“Hospitality NZ”) is a member-led, not-for-profit organisation representing approximately 3,000 businesses, including cafés, restaurants, bars, nightclubs, commercial accommodation, country hotels and off-licences.
2. Hospitality NZ has a 119-year history of advocating on behalf of the hospitality and tourism sector and is led by Chief Executive Julie White. We have a team of seven Regional Managers located around the country, and a National Office in Wellington to service our members.
3. Hospitality NZ has a Board of Management, made up of elected members from across the sectors of the industry, and an Accommodation Advisory Council, made up of elected members from the accommodation sector.
4. We also have 20 local Branches covering the entire country, representing at a local level all those member businesses which are located within the region. Any current financial member of Hospitality NZ is automatically a member of the local Branch.
5. This submission relates to the Long-Term Plan 2021-31 (“the Plan”).
6. Enquiries relating to this submission should be referred to Adam Parker, Regional Manager – Wellington, at [REDACTED].

General Comments:

7. Hospitality New Zealand welcomes the opportunity to comment on Wellington City Council’s Long-Term Plan 2021-31. We have a number of general concerns on issues that we believe will rear their head in the next ten years. These include infrastructure funding, local alcohol policies, short-term rental accommodation, and responsible camping.

Rates

8. Hospitality NZ urges caution around rates increases. While we are somewhat supportive of the projects assessed as the 7 ‘big calls’, we are wary of in many cases, businesses being asked to carry an unfair proportion of the rates bill considering that these main projects may not actually be of benefit to them at all.

Infrastructure Funding

9. Local Councils in some parts of the country have recognised infrastructure funding is a significant issue and are working towards change, some Councils are looking at targeted rates while others have openly criticised the funding investment options put forward by the Government.
10. In 2019, Productivity Commission undertook its report into Local Government Funding and Finance. The report recommended that “Better use of existing tools and central government funds should be enough to close the tourism funding shortfall. Given the small scale of the funding gap, introducing new funding tools would incur significant implementation, administration and enforcement costs and is unlikely to result in a net benefit to councils.”

11. We endorse those sentiments – rather than introducing new tools that target specific sectors, councils should make better use of existing tools to achieve their goals.
12. Hospitality NZ believes a consistent and fair nationwide approach to the funding of core infrastructure needs to be introduced.
13. Hospitality and accommodation sectors are viewed by local councils as an easy source of funds, via targeted rates on commercial businesses, or implementing bed taxes. Hospitality NZ opposes the introduction of bed tax as it targets only those people staying in commercial accommodation.
14. If a targeted rate or visitor levy is deemed necessary, Hospitality NZ believes these must be broad based taxes, and ensure that they are appropriately designed, are fair and equitable to those contributing, have community support, and are used solely for initiatives that benefit the visitor economy. Alternatively, those funds raised must be ring-fenced and used for the benefit of those contributing to the fund. However, Hospitality NZ's preference would be for any funding of tourism infrastructure to come from a centralised pool.
15. Hospitality NZ recommends further consideration is given to implement the Productivity Commission's report findings.
16. Prior to COVID, tourism was struggling to maintain social license in communities – in part given the infrastructure pressure tourism growth was placing on some regions. We recognise that tourism and hospitality use and benefit from a wide variety of mixed-use infrastructure. We now have a real opportunity to resolve some of these infrastructure issues and prepare for the rebuild of the sector.
17. Targeted rates and 'tourism' or 'bed taxes' concern our members, who assert:
 - These unfairly place the burden of funding infrastructure or promotion on just one part of the tourism/hospitality industry;
 - As ratepayers, businesses oppose increased rates to fund basic infrastructure they may not receive a direct benefit from i.e., infrastructure for freedom campers;
 - We would prefer to see Central Government funding of infrastructure, where local councils are unable to fund it themselves; and
 - If new funding schemes are required, there needs to be an emphasis on broad-based levying. They need to be fair and equitable and all businesses who will benefit from further infrastructure development should contribute.

Local Alcohol Policies (LAPs)

18. Hospitality NZ has and continues to be actively involved in developing LAPs, ensuring the sector, local communities and the viability of our members have the best fit settings and rules governing the sale and consumption of alcohol.
19. Hospitality NZ has actively contributed by submitting on all draft LAPs throughout the country. Some Councils have opted not to introduce a LAP and instead used the national default rules set out in the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 (SSAA).
20. Since the implementation of SSAA 2012 Act it has become apparent that some Councils often attempt to include rules within an LAP that are beyond their authority. This is a timely and expensive process.
21. The wider hospitality industry would like the process of LAPs to be either repealed or significantly amended.

22. Within the current District Licencing Committees system, there is the ability for each licence to have appropriate restrictions placed on it if deemed necessary by the committee. A shift in the system whereby DLCs administer appropriate restrictions would render the LAP process unnecessary.

Short-term Rental Accommodation (STRA)

23. The significant growth in short-term rental accommodation (STRA) through providers such as AirBnB or Bookabach, has raised a number of concerns for the sector, including:
- Peer to peer accommodation providers, particularly if they are operating in a highly commercial way, are often not meeting the regulatory requirements under the Building Act, taxation, health and safety or local government district plans that commercial accommodation providers are required to adhere to. Some of these regulations incur significant costs to businesses and this can create an imbalance in competition.
 - In some parts of the country, the preference for rental property owners to convert to AirBnB or similar, is resulting in a lack of available long-term rental accommodation for workers and families.
24. Traditional accommodation operators are seeking a fairer playing field with regard to commercial vs non-commercial rates and regulation. STRA operators do not require the same building and operational compliance and therefore do not attract the associated costs that commercial accommodation providers do. However, they do benefit from things like tourism promotion which is often funded from the tourism and accommodation sector. STRA operators also have an impact on the communities they operate in, contributing to housing shortages, noise impacts and loss of community.
25. There is a growing inequity in the regulation of short-term and long-term accommodation. Stats NZ estimated that for 2018, STRA gross revenue was between \$550-\$700 million, with guest nights between 6-10 million.
26. The STRA sector operates mainly in residential areas, only pays residential rates, operates with less regulation, and often escapes appropriate taxation. Where councils have tried to regulate STRA operators, barriers for regulation include identification of STRA properties, lack of cooperation in data capture from operators and booking platform providers, and consistent regulation between local councils.
27. As more people look to non-traditional STRA, safety standards, hygiene standards, and contact tracing becomes significant guest care factors and priorities post-COVID-19. We face negative impacts of an unregulated and substandard product offered to both local and international visitors.
28. Hospitality NZ alongside other sector associations submitted a letter to MBIE in July 2020 recommending a compulsory registration/data sharing system that allows for information collection from all operators of STRA and a consistent national regulatory framework.
29. Hospitality NZ would welcome the opportunity to work with you and related parties to:
- Define commercial accommodation in your area in a way that captures people who are benefiting from STRA house letting on a commercial level;
 - Ensure rates are appropriately collected from these businesses;
 - Ensure appropriate health and safety and compliance requirements on peer-to-peer house letting is set at a national level, removing the need for local councils to come up with the rules; and

- Advocate to Central Government to create a national register of short-term rental accommodation properties, moving towards fair regulation of STRA operators.

Responsible Camping

30. Freedom camping has been a part of New Zealand culture for many years. However, in recent years, freedom camping has attracted more attention as international tourism numbers have grown, and communities have expected higher standards from both domestic and international tourists. The proliferation of non-self-contained freedom campers parking up in non-compliant spots around the country has increased to the detriment of local's perception of visitors, the environment and to other visitors using these facilities.
31. The number of international visitors who did some freedom camping in New Zealand has been rising recently, from 54,000 in the year ended 2013 to around 123,000 in the year ended 2018. This followed a period of moderate growth from around 10,000 visitors at the beginning of the 2000's. Total estimated spending by visitors who did some freedom camping has also increased significantly in this period, from \$210 million in 2013 to \$540 million in 2018. The growth in numbers and spending from this group of visitors followed a similar pattern to that seen for total international visitors. However, even with this increase, only 3.4 per cent of visitors to New Zealand did some freedom camping in 2017 and 2018.
32. The definition of "self-contained" now means freedom campers wanting to stay in restricted areas will need a toilet that can be used inside the vehicle even when the bed is made up.
33. The wider industry feels their local councils need to do more to control this issue and are also concerned about the damage being done to scenic spots due to lack of appropriate facilities. When left unmanaged it effects the amenity of an area negatively through rubbish, waste and congestion in public areas.
34. Direct effects can be seen on smaller accommodation providers where freedom campers have the ability to stay in areas where no clear local rules have been established. Therefore, having the ability to stay centrally in their vehicles as opposed to staying at small to medium sized accommodation.
35. The Tourism Infrastructure Fund put public bathrooms in many popular tourism spots, and unintentionally created places where people could freedom camp – some of which were only a few kilometres from a holiday park. We do not believe this contributes to the type of high value visitor we want.
36. Businesses primarily impacted are holiday parks as these freedom campers would traditionally have stayed in these facilities. Currently issues for holiday parks include freedom campers using facilities without paying.
37. Hospitality New Zealand wants local government to develop and strengthen appropriate regulations for responsible camping, and create infrastructure cost support for the future.
38. Hospitality NZ would welcome the opportunity to work with you and related parties to:
 - Take greater leadership in managing the locations where freedom campers can operate;
 - Implement freedom camping bylaws through clear, honest, pragmatic consultation and feedback during its development; and
 - Lobby to ensure Central Government has a strategy to acknowledge the growth in freedom camping – accommodating responsible camping but not to the detriment of

other visitor experiences and other accommodation providers (i.e., Motels and Holiday parks).

Specific Comments:

39. Hospitality NZ also has a number of specific comments concerning the Council's Long-Term Plan.

Rates

40. HNZ believes Council should explore other financial avenues to reduce rates and debt rather than simply relying on ratepayers to fund projects. Most ratepayers – and certainly the business community – do not have confidence that Council is cutting costs or being business-like in the way it manages assets, debt or a changing economic environment. If ratepayers felt the Council was doing its utmost to minimise costs, rates increases would be more palatable.

41. Hospitality NZ notes that the differential in the proposed LTP is 3.25. In addition, the proposed rates increase is 13.5%. However, the actual increase for Wellington businesses is 44% which in our opinion, is unfair and unreasonable. A real-world example is if a resident is paying \$4.50 for a coffee, a small coffee business is paying \$6.48. No one will pay \$6.48 for a coffee and therefore these extra costs cannot be passed on to the consumer.

42. We would also like to remind council that both residential and commercial taxpayer are very aware of recent events involving various underground burst pipes, sinkholes and sewage leaks across Wellington. It's arguable that these events could have been prevented if council had chosen to renew its depreciated assets over recent years. Hospitality NZ feel that ratepayers are now being unfairly penalised with substantial rates increases for mistakes that could have been prevented, should council have chosen to follow the advice of central Government.

Key projects

43. Hospitality New Zealand are supportive of the investment in three waters infrastructure and waste water laterals. However, we do not support the substantial rates increase which is being placed on already struggling small business in order to fund this investment. We suggest council look at alternative ways of funding this investment in addition to a more reasonable rates increase for the small business sector.

44. Hospitality NZ is supportive of the cycleways project and the proposed option for funding. However, we would urge council not to eliminate any loading zones or access areas for supply trucks and delivery vehicles to get in to inner city small business.

Recommendation:

45. We recommend that the Council:

- a) Work with, and include Hospitality venues (*including bars, restaurants, cafes and commercial accommodation*) when considering how to increase the vibrancy and safety of Wellington city.
- b) Consider other funding options for the three-waters reform in order to prevent penalising small business for infrastructure repairs and maintenance.

Conclusion:

46. We thank Wellington City Council for the opportunity to provide input into the consultation.

47. We would be happy to discuss any parts of this submission in more detail, and to provide any assistance that may be required.



Long Term Plan Submission

Submission to the Wellington City Council
May 2021

About Sport New Zealand

Sport New Zealand (Sport NZ) is the crown agency responsible for contributing to the wellbeing of everybody in Aotearoa New Zealand by leading an enriching and inspiring play, active recreation, and sport system. Sport NZ's vision is simple - to get **Every Body Active in Aotearoa New Zealand**.

Our role as kaitiaki of the system focusses on lifting the physical activity levels of all those living within Aotearoa and having the greatest possible impact on wellbeing. We achieve our outcomes by aligning our investment through partnerships, funds and programmes to our strategic priorities set out in our four-year strategic plan.

Wellington City Council is important to the work of Sport NZ in the greater Wellington region.

The importance of Council

Wellington City Council is a major provider of sport and recreation facilities, activities and services in the Wellington region. We appreciate this support and investment – without it much of what happens in our sector would not be possible. Council investment has provided positive outcomes for a wide range of sports codes and community members from diverse cultures, ages, and abilities. We also acknowledge the commitment of council staff in supporting the sector.

Play, active recreation and sport make an enormous contribution to the health and wellbeing of all the residents of Wellington City, contributing to happier, healthier people and connected communities. Physical activity, its wide-ranging benefits and its importance to our communities are fundamental to meeting the outcomes identified in several Council plans and strategies.

We acknowledge the challenges Council faces with balancing the various competing demands such as growth, transport, climate change, water quality and the significant infrastructure projects that Council is undertaking through this plan. The impact of Covid-19 will be with us for some time to come, so too the decisions made in this 10-year Budget.

The importance of Nuku Ora (Formerly Sport Wellington)

Sport New Zealand invests into Regional Sports Trusts, like Nuku Ora for their regional leadership of the play, active recreation and sport system and consider them to be our significant regional partner and champion of our strategic vision. This aligns well with their own vision of '*Hauora. Everyone active, healthy, and happy*'. Nuku Ora work hard to build strong strategic relationships, particularly with Councils and have driven the development and implementation of *Living Well*, the regional physical activity framework for the Wellington Region, which is hallmarked by organisational collaboration in order to achieve regionwide strategic outcomes. We acknowledge Council's proactive stance and investment in supporting Nuku Ora for their regional leadership of the play, active recreation and sport sector and implementation of *Living Well*. With significant organisational change aligned to their new strategy now behind them Nuku Ora will need to gain additional momentum for the implementation of their strategy and continued support from Council will be an important enabler.

The impact of COVID-19 on the play, active recreation and sport sector

COVID-19 has placed significant pressure on Aotearoa New Zealand's play, active recreation, and sport system.

- Through our insights, we know the COVID-19 lockdowns has exacerbated inequalities, putting some population groups at even more risk regarding their physical and mental wellbeing.

- Analysis of media commentary also identified concerns about returning to previous activities in shared public spaces due to safety.
- Sector organisations which play a key role in enabling New Zealanders to be active were also impacted by COVID-19. These impacts include lost revenue, cash flow difficulties, reduced capacity and change of membership.

All these things have hit the sector hard, and Sport NZ is working with regional sports trusts, like Nuku Ora, Councils, and other local stakeholders to find solutions to help address these.

The Future of Play, Active Recreation and Sport

The impacts of Covid-19 have accelerated the need for our sector to consider the future state of play, action recreation and sport to position itself for the next 20 years and beyond. Over the last year work has been underway with the sector to better understand the challenges and create a more active future through a system that does things differently and better. Emerging themes from this work paint a picture of a system that is:

- Values-based, inclusive, equitable, fair, affordable, bi-cultural, multi-cultural, gender neutral/gender free, caring, strong sense of belonging, safe, affordable, universally accessible, universal design, cooperative and co-designed.
- Locally led and behaves as a dynamic network, which integrates action across many agencies / communities / regions and leverages systems thinking and practice.
- Collaborative through a high trust model with clear roles and incorporates new parties, innovative funding, distributed decision-making and continuously learns and adapts to changing needs, situations, and facts (data-driven).
- Giving effect to the principles of Tiriti o Waitangi through Mana Ōrite – partnership, Mana Maori – protection, Mana Taurite – participation.
- Caring and protective of the unique natural environment (mountains, lakes, seas, native bush, fauna and flora) in which people can be active, and contribute to environmental sustainability through safeguarding natural resources (air, water, land) and planning the physical environment to support activity, universal access and accessibility of spaces and places to be active.
- Achieving Mauri Tū, Mauri ora – ‘an active soul is a healthy soul’. Mauri ora describes a heightened state of physical, mental, emotional, spiritual wellbeing and cultural vitality. In physical activity it is when we are fully engaged, active, strong, and well.

Target audiences and activity areas

Sport NZ remains committed to making progress towards our primary goal of ensuring more tamariki and rangatahi (aged 5 – 18) have access to quality physical activity options. We aspire to reduce the drop off in activity levels of rangatahi from ages 12 to 18 and increase the levels of activity for those tamariki and rangatahi who are less active.

Wellington City Council investment in Play, Active Recreation and Sport

Sport NZ acknowledges the challenges faced by Council in providing community services through its sport and recreation assets and that these some of these assets are ageing and require significant renewal investment.

Sport NZ, Nuku Ora, and Wellington City Council officers have been working alongside representatives from all Wellington region councils and with the active recreation and sports sector to develop a co-ordinated and collaborative approach for future sport and recreation facility provision. The Wellington Region Spaces and Places Plan (2019-2022) provides Council with a clear strategic view of infrastructure needs for the region and the evaluation criteria to prioritise

investment and ultimately make better decisions. This plan is at a critical stage of implementation and we would urge Council to contribute, alongside other Councils in the Wellington region, to ensure Nuku Ora can provide the appropriate level of capability and capacity to lead this project which provides the opportunity to benefit all stakeholders as well as the community.

Sport NZ acknowledges the high level of commitment that Council has traditionally shown to maintaining quality recreational and sport infrastructure and notes the planned resurfacing of Hataitai netball and tennis courts and the proposed earthquake strengthening of Freyberg Pool. With such a significant programme of infrastructure development and renewals planned across Council activities for this 10-year period we would ask that Council continue the high standard set for maintaining recreational and sport infrastructure across the City including upgrades to parks and reserves, which remain such a catalyst for physical activity. This has been a hallmark of Council over many years and should not be compromised due to other significant infrastructure projects.

Planning for growth in the city is critical and it is pleasing to note that the development of the Grenada North Sports hub remains in the plan. Sport NZ has recently published a Sports Hub Development Guide which will be a useful resource for Council to utilise. The local sports hub examples of Toitu Poneke, Alex Moore Park and, slightly further afield Fraser Park Sportville, provide real life examples, of the opportunities and the challenges that sports hubs present and will be a rich resource of advice.

We note the plan to upgrade community facilities at Strathmore, Newtown, Aro Valley, Tawa/Linden and Karori and would suggest that Council views these developments through a wellbeing and physical activity lens. What opportunities can they provide as catalysts for increased physical activity and how will they engage with local communities to ensure that they meet local community physical activity needs?

The rising cost of participation continues to be a signification barrier, particularly for those members of the Wellington community living in higher deprivation areas and we note Council's intentions to review its fees and charges. We recognise the challenge for council here in what is often a contentious subject as any rise in such fees and charges will have a negative impact on community participation and wellbeing.

Wellington City Council's support for Play

Sport New Zealand's focus upon Play has grown sharply over the last few years to accommodate our strategic priorities. We have grown our workforce and steeply grown our investment into the sector.

Wellington City Council has been successful, not just in securing some of this investment as a catalyst for activation, but in steadily testing community play interventions which are informing the growth of play across the region, alongside Nuku Ora. We are delighted to see the creation and growth of specific Play roles within the Sport and Recreation projects team and we wish to thank those officers involved in supporting the development and testing of new or novel efforts to deliver play in public settings.

Play activations of this type serve to normalise play everywhere and promote the benefits and impacts of play to a growing cohort of New Zealanders. To consolidate upon this success, and to remain at the vanguard, we encourage Wellington City Council to now contemplate an integrated planning approach towards play. Doing so would mobilise teams across council in a child-friendly fashion and ensure there is more opportunity to activate spaces and places and create environments that encourage physical activity through incidental play. Wellington City Council clearly understand that play is not just playgrounds, and as such, have established firm footings to begin to plan for a child-friendly city.

Across our submissions we are encouraging councils to consider, how the interaction of investment, policy, programmes and the physical environment specifically support the physical wellbeing of residents, and in particular our tamariki and rangatahi.

Through our regional partner, Nuku Ora, Sport NZ can support council on the play journey.

Sport NZ recommendations/feedback on specific consultation topics

1. Cycleways

Sport NZ acknowledges the significant drive by Council to enhance Active Transport opportunities through the development of a more connected network of cycleways. Safer cycling options contribute to more connected communities, increased physical activity options and thus community wellbeing. Sport NZ also acknowledges that, given some significant infrastructure projects planned over the next 10 years that Council needs to balance priorities. We therefore support Option 3 with an investment of \$120m over the 10-year period as being a pragmatic yet significant statement of council's intentions and aspirations.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit to the Wellington City Council draft 10-year plan.

Ngā mihi

Sport New Zealand

Submission form

Kōrero mai mō te mahere 10-tau Have your say on our 10-Year Plan

All submissions must be received by **midnight Monday 10 May 2021**.

You don't have to give feedback on every decision – just choose the ones you're interested in. You can only submit once. You can include supporting information along with your submission.

Before you start, read about our priorities and projects in our consultation document. There are copies available at your local library and our Service Centre at 12 Manners Street, or visit wgtn.cc/1tp.

Why we're collecting this information

Your feedback matters. This plan is about the future of Wellington and it affects everyone who lives and works here. That's why we want to hear from as many people as possible. Your views will inform the next steps we take.

Privacy statement

All submissions (including names and contact detail(s)) are provided in their entirety to elected members. Submissions (including names but not contact details) will be made available to the public at our office and on our website.

Your personal information will also be used for the administration of the consultation process, including informing you of the outcome of the consultation.

All information collected will be held by Wellington City Council, 113 The Terrace, Wellington, with submitters having the right to access and correct personal information.

Full name: BERNARD O'SHAUGHNESSY		
Contact details		
Address: [REDACTED]		
Phone number: [REDACTED]		
Are you are making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?		
Individual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Organisation:	
What is your connection to Wellington? (tick all that apply)		
I am a Wellington City Council ratepayer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I live in Wellington <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I work in Wellington <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I own a business in Wellington	I study in Wellington	I am a visitor to Wellington
Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?		
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	
If yes - We are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. (Please tick which option(s) you would prefer?)		
Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Morning	Afternoon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)	Morning	Evening



Our seven big decisions

The next seven questions relate to the big decisions for the 10-year plan.

- **Decision 1:** Increasing spending on the three waters network to fix the pipes
- **Decision 2:** Taking responsibility for the ownership of wastewater laterals
- **Decision 3:** Increased investment in cycleways
- **Decision 4:** Implementing our Te Atakura, First to Zero action plan
- **Decision 5:** Choosing a plan for earthquake-prone Council Office buildings
- **Decision 6:** Funding the Central Library strengthening and upgrade
- **Decision 7:** Choosing a plan for sludge minimisation

Detailed information on these decisions are on pages 20 to 47 of the Consultation Document.

Question 8 in this submission form is a place for you to comment or provide any other feedback on the decisions.

You are also able to attach further information to your submission at the end of this form.

1. Investment in three waters infrastructure

There are three different levels of investment in the three waters network to consider. Our preferred level of investment is the **Enhanced** option, which focuses on improving the condition and reliability of the network in an affordable and sustainable way.

Problems with pipes have been a long time in the making, and we cannot fix everything at once. The Enhanced option represents a \$2.4b investment in our three waters network and is the middle-ground option that we are confident of being able to deliver in this plan. We will be able to review the level of investment in our next Long-term Plan review in 2024, when we will have more information on the network.

A summary of the proposed investment in the three waters network is on pages 22 – 26 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Enhanced (\$2.4b Council's preferred option)	Maintain (\$2.0b investment - lower rates and debt) ✓	Accelerated (\$3.3b investment - higher rates and debt)	None of these options	Don't know
--	---	---	-----------------------	------------

2. Wastewater laterals

Currently residents are responsible for the maintenance of the pipes connecting their property to the wastewater (sewerage) main underneath the road corridor. These are called wastewater laterals.

We propose that the Council takes ownership of the laterals between the property boundary and the sewerage main underneath the road corridor.

A summary of the proposal to take responsibility for wastewater laterals is on pages 28 – 29 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment) ✓	No change (no change in investment, rates or debt)	Neither of these options	Don't know
---	--	--------------------------	------------

3. Cycleways

Cycleways is an area where we have ambition to seriously lift our game – we'd like to build a network of connected and safe cycleways that allow Wellingtonians to be able to choose cycling as a mode of transport. Our full programme for the network can be viewed at transportprojects.org.nz and if all of the routes were progressed, there would be a \$226m investment across the 10 years of this plan.

Our preferred option is a \$45m or 60 percent increase in funding for cycleways than what was planned in the previous Long-term Plan. It will progress \$120m of the full \$226m programme

We believe the high investment programme option balances the need for increased investment in this area with what is affordable for Council and what we will be able to deliver. It allows time in the programme for robust community engagement and to build capacity in the Council and the sector for the full programme to be eventually delivered.

A summary of the proposed investment to build more cycleways is on pages 30 – 33 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

High investment programme (Council's preferred option, \$120m capital investment) *	Finish started projects (\$29m capital investment, lower debt and rates)	Medium investment programme (\$39m capital investment, lower debt and rates)
Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)	None of these options	Don't know

* except for Island Bay issues.

4. Te Atakura First to Zero (Climate Change)

Te Atakura – First to Zero is our response to the climate and ecological emergency we declared in 2019 but it is not yet funded.

Te Atakura is intended to ensure sufficient activity is undertaken in this decade to reduce our emissions. Council can do this by supporting the transport mode-shift projects, as well as encouraging the uptake of electric cars, providing seed funding to leverage businesses and community impact and supporting residents to be motivated to take action.

Our preferred option is to fully fund Te Atakura, which is included in our 5.3 percent average increase across 10 years.

A summary of the proposed investment in Te Atakura – First to Zero Action Plan is on pages 34 – 37 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Fully fund the programme (Council's preferred option, \$29.9m investment) ✓	Medium investment with savings (\$25.4m investment, lower rates and debt)	
Low level of funding (\$18.1m investment, lower rates and debt)	None of these options	Don't know

5. Te Ngākau Civic Precinct – Council office buildings

Te Ngākau Civic Square is the musical, creative and democratic heart of Wellington but it has significant resilience challenges.

While we are still working through finalising the framework for Civic Square, a specific decision is required in this Long-term Plan with respect to the future of the Council office buildings – the Municipal Office Building (MOB) and the Civic Administration Building (CAB).

As the two buildings are connected, and have similar resilience issues, it is important that the future of them is considered together.

Our preferred option is to demolish and rebuild the MOB and CAB buildings in partnership with private investment through a long-term ground lease for the site.

Combining a MOB and CAB development would enhance this opportunity and significantly decrease the need for additional Council borrowing and ratepayer funding to address these impaired buildings.

A summary of the proposed approach to developing of Te Ngākau Civic Square on pages 38 – 41 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option)		Proceed with base build proposal for public purposes (higher debt and rates)	
Retain and seek to repurpose (higher debt and rates)	Sell to support development (no debt or rates impact) ✓	None of these options	Don't know

6. Fixing the Central Library

Wellington's much-loved Central Library was closed in March 2019 following an engineering assessment saying that the way the floor was designed presented a high level of potential failure in a significant earthquake.

After hearing from Wellingtonians in the 2020 consultation, Council agreed to recommend the high-level remediation option to be part of this plan. This option makes the building resilient to future shocks and supports our ability to deliver an adaptable modern library service, while preserving the buildings heritage. It also allows us to mitigate some climate change impacts in the future.

Now there are choices about how to fund the \$187.4m library remediation project, and when the project should take place.

The preferred option, includes the Council agreeing to temporarily breach its debt limit of 225 percent to ensure the library can be refurbished in the original timeframe and remain in public ownership. Our debt level will remain at 225 percent, and Council has agreed to accept the breach in the first three years of this plan. This breach will be mitigated by any capital underspend being used for the library project rather than on new projects. Our debt level will be back below our limit by year 4 - 2024/25.

A summary of the proposed investment to fund the fixing of the Te Ngākau Civic Square Central Library is on pages 42 - 44 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% rates increase) ✓	Council to strengthen Central Library later (complete in 2028 instead of 2025, additional 0.83% rates increase)
Strengthen now by increasing rates further (additional 1.79% rates increase)	None of these options
	Don't know

7. Reducing sewage sludge and waste

One of the largest waste categories at the Southern Landfill is wastewater (sewage) sludge. This accounts for about a quarter of the waste that enters the landfill.

Through Te Atakura (our Zero Carbon Plan) and our Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan we have formally committed to reducing carbon emissions and reducing waste by a third. Minimising wastewater sludge is a necessary first step to achieving these objectives.

We need to break the link between the Southern Landfill and wastewater sludge and stop pumping sludge across the city, as 2020 highlighted the serious resilience issues and the significant consequences of failure.

Our preferred option is to invest in a sludge minimisation programme through another funding source. This means the project would not be funded by Council, but if it is funded through a Special Purpose Vehicle, a levy of about \$70-\$100 per year will be charged to each ratepayer.

A summary of the proposed investment in sludge and waste minimisation is on pages 45 - 47 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m-\$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)	No change in current practice (no change to investment, rates or debt)
Invest in technology at Southern Landfill (\$86m-\$134m capital investment and higher rates) ✓	Sludge minimisation through Council funding (\$147m-\$208m capital investment, above debt limit and higher rates)
None of these options	Don't know

8. Feedback on these decisions

Do you have any comments you would like to provide around why you selected your preferred option to any of these decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? If yes please indicate what decision/s you wish to provide comment on.

Investment in three waters infrastructure	Wastewater laterals	Cycleways ✓
Te Atakura (climate change)	Central Library ✓	Sludge and waste minimisation ✓
Te Ngākau funding for future work ✓	None of these	

If the space on the next page is not adequate for your comments, please feel free to attach supporting information to the submission. **Please be clear** what decision you are commenting on.

9. Proposed 10-year budget (see page 10 for details)

Our draft budget, has an average rates increase for the average ratepayer of 5.3 percent after growth across the 10 years of the plan. We also propose setting a limit on how much we can raise from general rates - \$465m for each year across the first 3 years of the plan and, \$630m each year across years four to ten.

The first year of the plan has a rates increase of 13.5 percent (after growth) and there is an average of 9.9 percent (after growth) over the first three years. This is higher than previous plans because of the **key challenges** faced by the city including infrastructure, housing, earthquake strengthening and and COVID-19 impacts.. Therefore, we now require a step up in the level of rates we charge. Details of the key challenges are on pages 20 – 47 of the **Consultation Document**.

Our proposed budget also represents our highest ever level of capital investment in Wellington. It addresses the need for increased investment in our three waters infrastructure and transport network and seismic strengthening of key buildings, along with making progress against all our other priority community objectives.

Our debt levels for this plan, including the value of uninsured assets, range from 134 percent to 239 percent of our annual income. Our proposed limit is 225 percent.

We think this is a sensible limit on our borrowing to ensure that the impact on affordability of rates is maintained and leaves enough 'headroom' to ensure we can repay our debt, and respond to expected but unfunded and unexpected future events and opportunities.

Do you support the proposed 10-year budget?

I strongly support the proposed budget	I somewhat support the proposed budget ✓	Neutral
I somewhat oppose the proposed budget ✓	I strongly oppose the proposed budget	Don't know

If you stated in Question 9 that you are neutral or do not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

I support increasing spend in the current budget	I support decreasing spend in the current budget ✓	I support keeping the budget the same but with some changes	Don't know
--	--	---	------------

10. Any other feedback on what is proposed for the 10-year Plan

Future decisions

The Consultation Document also signals other decisions that are coming up in the time of this plan, but that we do not have enough information on at this stage for a detailed consultation.

Other projects

We also have many other services and projects detailed in our Statements of Service Provision.

Council Fees and charges

We have also made changes to some of our fees and user charges. More information on these are available on our website wgtn.cc/ltp and available at our libraries and service centre.

Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

Yes.

Comments on the 10 year plan.

1) 3 Waters Infrastructure

Central Govt has made clear moves in this area, and hopefully a better outcome will be for all of NZ, including Wellington Region in regards capture, storage, supply, distribution of water and cost for ratepayers. But it looks like in Wellington City the chickens are coming home to roost with the inability of staff and Councillors over the decades to ensure our pipes and supply were protected.

I am strongly opposed to water meters on residential homes in this city. I was in a group who gathered signatures for a year of over 17000 people to oppose water meters. A Mr Frank Cook, gave a presentation to Councillors as to how he had traced and analysed where all the water leaks were. 90% is in the shoddy CBD so put water meters on them.

2) Wastewater laterals

I'm pleased to see the Council taking ownership of the laterals.

3) Cycleways

I'm please to see the ongoing development of safe cycleways. But LGWM is coming to a slow death on the major issues.

Apart from education (about biking and walking) I wish to see Council foster other ideas such as a greater degree of car/ride sharing. No cars in peak hours unless three persons inside. Also the parallel urgent need to have better, faster, and cleaner powered buses. Light rail is a non starter.

4) Te Atakura First to Zero

I'm please to see funding start on this very important policy. Climate is going to impact in many ways on our city.

5) Civil Precinct.

Lets see the plan. I suspect like many Council Officer plans it will overstate the benefits and understate the costs.

6) CBD Library

I submitted to Council that I was in favour as first choice of a new build. I still am. But in spite of the majority of Wellingtonians wanting that, Council, after some adjusted build costs by officers, resolved to stick with fixing up the present mess. Ok, so I still want to see the project started, and finished with urgency. The Library was the heart, and its not beating now, and looks like many years will pass before is opened. What shame!

7) Sludge and waste.

Yes, we need to jump ahead in this area. We are behind the pump. (pun).

8) Feedback on options:

I want to comment on all options – hence these notes – and my expected attendance at an Oral Forum.

9) Proposed 10 year budget

“I somewhat oppose the proposed budget” is my position.

In all my networks ratepayers are furious as to the predicament we are in. Basically any rate rise about 5% or 6% is sending citizens into revolt. Proposed rate increase is one of the highest in NZ. Appalling.

Where is the discussion about options other than accepting huge rate increases.

Let's have a DISCUSSION, debate on other options.

a) Sell the 34% of airport shares. Maybe \$300m there and freeing ourselves of the shackles of a private company growing their profit.

b) Once the Conference Centre is completed: sell it. It will become an elephant for ratepayers anyway.

c) Have a moratorium on all projects for 2-3 years in a bid to save \$20 to \$30million.
Or have the discussion to trim projects by 20%. The previous Mayor did work with the CEO and Management to gain savings on operations.

10) Other issues to comment on.

a) Fees increase.

All liquor Licensing matters should be user pay. That is, licensing fees must also include the full operations of the District Licensing Committee.

Dog Licenses are fully recoverable – so should Liquor Licensing be.

b) Local Alcohol Policy.

The city urgently needs one. The Hospitality industry shot down the previous attempt to gain a LAP.

I have been involved with communities in the CBD, Newtown and Kilbirnie, and also individually in 20 contested cases regarding alcohol to gain moderation and responsibility since the bad Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012. The Act's authors tout that it was supposed to be easier for communities to have a say which in reality is not the case.

A LAP should include:

1) one way door policy – once a punter is in after 11pm, they stay there and don't go off pub crawling. All pubs close at 3am rather than the present default hours.

2) Pubs lower their prices to encourage punters into bars, to reduce pre loading. But neither should licensees encourage excessive drinking.

3) Police step up to some pubs with known bad host responsibilities and close them down.

4) **ALL Off Licenses**, including supermarkets stop alcohol sales after 8pm both in the CBD and in all suburban areas. Council research showed that persons who brought booze from an Off License in the evening would drink it within 2 hours of purchase.

5) Then there is research that shows that crime and disorder increases within 800 metres of every Off License. (The Courtney Place mess).

6) Police pro actively police the Alcohol Ban areas more.

There is much more I could say – but will exercise restraint.

C) Social Housing:

O dear: This is a bit embarrassing to Council and Officers. (and us ratepayers).

The Independent Auditors is critical (page 72 of the Ten Year Plan). She references page 52 that Council Officers have calculated \$446 million is needed over 10 years to complete the legally required upgrade programme and to meet maintenance costs but only \$42.8 million has been included in Councils budget. Page 52 states “However City Housing will then become insolvent from June 2023.”

Well, Council seems to be chasing more \$ from Central Govt. Let’s hold our breath.
If Central Govt doesn’t front with the \$ what then?

Central to the issue is that the vast majority of ratepayers do not understand the complexity of this situation, but also Council Officers have been remiss at not informing the ratepayers of this disaster.

Some Councils in NZ have hocked off their social housing properties – to their public shame full peril. Other Councils have worked through the financial and political shortcomings.

What went wrong – who should be held accountable for this nightmare -who exercises oversight in this multi million dollar bungle.

Bernard O’Shaughnessy

May 21



Website:

www.historicplaceswellington.org

Email:

wgtm@historicplacesaotearoa.org.nz

Mail:

P.O. Box 12426

Wellington 6144

10 May 2021

Historic Places Wellington (HPW) wishes to make an oral submission, and to make the following requests:

Built Heritage Resilience

- Increase funding for Built Heritage Investment Fund. Wellington heritage buildings require funding support for earthquake strengthening. Progress has been made, but several key buildings require support: St Gerard's Monastery; Congregational Church (45 Cambridge Tce); Adelaide Hotel; and several buildings in Cuba St.
- Complete strengthening of WCC owned public buildings (Town Hall and St James Theatre).
- Begin strengthening of Central Library and Opera House. Do not sell Opera House, or Central Library. Do not fund the library project by putting a 17-storey building on top, or anything above a single extra floor.

Te Ngākau Civic Square

HPW puts those buildings at a higher priority than saving the Municipal Office Building (MOB).

Redevelop Te Ngākau Civic Square so that it is:

- a sunny space (is not overshadowed by new MOB or library buildings)
- green space with trees
- an area with weather shelter and with public art
- well lit with passive surveillance
- an area with active edges (e.g. cafes) linking with adjacent streets and with connections to the waterfront
- a public space which retains all existing public access and use rights.

Technical Built Heritage Support

Support building owners with technical information to adaptively re-use buildings. Give specific recognition to the benefits to climate of retaining old buildings and repurposing them.

Character & Heritage protection/Neighbourhood Planning/Signage

- Fund neighbourhood engagement in "place based" planning initiatives so that local communities are fully able to participate in consultation about District Plan matters; and in specific project development.

- Increase areas of character protection in heritage suburbs: Mt Victoria; Thorndon; Aro Valley; Mt Cook & Newtown/Berhampore in Draft District Plan. Establish heritage protection measures including set-backs and height limits to respect heritage buildings.
- Fund initiatives to better identify all places of heritage significance, including to Māori and to non-Māori.
- Add interpretation where a richer, more rounded story needs telling.
- Support the existing national programme of Blue Plaques within WCC signage policy.

Wellington Heritage Festival

Support an annual Wellington Heritage Festival.

Felicity Wong

Chair, Historic Places Wellington

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Note:

Historic Places Wellington is a not for profit society dedicated to the preservation of historic places in the wider Wellington region. We aim to promote the identification, protection and conservation of historic places and to inform, advise and educate the public of their significance. We work cooperatively with local councils, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga and other organisations concerned with the preservation of historic heritage.



Respondent No: 513

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Brett Longley
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Morning
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** not answered
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 2. Enhanced investment (\$2.4bn - the Council's preferred option).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 4. Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 2. Medium investment with savings (\$25.4m investment, lower rates and debt).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Cycleways

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

There is a significant gap between the Council's aims to promote cycling, reduce transport carbon emissions, and support community well-being and the what the Council actually does. While some progress has been made on cycleways between Miramar and the city, nothing has been done about high risk accessways between Island Bay and the city or the northern and western suburbs. If the Council wants to get people out of their cars and on to public transport, cycles and other mobility devices then follow through on the rhetoric and invest in safe cycle/mobility lanes.

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I somewhat support the proposed budget.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

not answered

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

No further comments



Respondent No: 555

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

- Q1. **Full name:** Paula Warren
- Q2. **Phone number:** [Redacted]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** not answered
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Evening
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** None of these options.
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** None of these options.
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 3. Retain and seek to repurpose (higher debt and rates)
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Investment in three waters infrastructure
Cycleways
Te Ngākau funding for future work

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

I would like to see the 3 waters work include a significant fund to move away from reliance on pipes, kerb and channel, etc and full implementation of the WSUD policy. Some years ago you wasted a large amount of money to add kerb and channel to San Sebastian St, instead of allowing spring water that comes up there to go into the adjacent green space. We need to get past this fixation with engineering control, and start living with natural systems. For example in Hutt Road, why did you not use narrow rainwater gardens to separate cyclists and pedestrians, Given that it is presumably a reclamation, it may not even have been necessary to have any fancy infrastructure, and simply allow the rain to soak into the ground, as it does in the adjacent green areas. All new builds and upgrades should include water harvesting. Pervious surfaces should be compulsory for things like carparks. I support funding of cycleways, but would like to see a significant fund for providing pedestrian infrastructure. I put forward a series of greenways proposals as part of LGWM, and then as part of the Thorndon Quay process that was unnecessarily stopped, and still nothing has been done to take the existing incomplete network of walking routes and make them into continuous and visible greenways. For example, all the Thorndon Quay to Kelburn one needs is a few assisted road crossings (zebra crossings or even just central islands) and some good signage. There also needs to be a ring-fenced budget for pedestrian fixes - improving the way pedestrians are treated at controlled intersections, improving wayfinding, fixing lighting on shortcuts, improving footpaths, etc. And a ring-fenced budget for pedestrian amenity - seats, toilets, supporting community restoration that is for walker amenity, artworks, etc. For Civic Square to become the community centre of the city that it should be, the buildings need to be owned by the public and used for public or semi-public purposes - school of music, theatres, public administration, galleries, etc. Not private exclusive spaces. It also needs to become more permeable - all hours connections to all the surrounding streets. The council also needs to be able to control what the buildings are used for to ensure that there is all hours activity to make the square a safe place at night and in the weekends. In terms of heritage/amenity value, I prefer the other two buildings to the library building, so I'm not sure why you are so keen to retain the library building and demolish these ones. Demolition is also generally not very carbon/environment friendly compared to re-use. I would have expected some detail in the consultation document on these, not just the options with little information. In terms of cost, if a developer can make a profit developing them, I can't see why the council (which can borrow at a lower rate) can't manage to retain ownership. Design briefs are all very well, but not as secure as being the owner. I'm not sure why you haven't asked me for my comments on the fees question. It's bad enough that you aren't providing a clear place for me to comment on the other budget items. Although I'm going to regardless. In terms of fees, why are you providing a discount to recidivist commuter parkers who clutter up my street. They should be punished not rewarded for turning up every day. The construction guys next door need the space for their vehicles. Tell the commuters to use PT or walk. You keep creating these nice sounding policies and then fail to follow through with TDM measures. In terms of funding of other things, that you haven't bothered to ask about. You need to increase the funds available for park rangers who support community groups. You have a ridiculously tiny cohort to support a large number of groups. It is now very difficult for me to get the services I need to do my projects. And please stop paying for roadside "vegetation management" that is just butchering plants, not helping pedestrians, making streets look like motorways, and annoying volunteers. Put that money into park rangers and actually communicate with your groups instead of constantly undoing their efforts. Last year I had to do another of those walk-throughs with poor Dean and the new Fulton Hogan contractors, pointing out the mess their workers had made. I raise this every year, and every year you make noises and do nothing. Transfer all the control of vegetation to the park rangers, employ some more, and get serious about transforming the ecology of the city. Predator free is all very well, but vegetation matters more for most species. And put some more money into enforcement of parking and other intrusions onto footpaths and into green spaces. And please fine people who blatantly park illegally, don't just give them a warning. I shouldn't have to report the same car on the same bit of footpath day after day in the hopes that at some point your staff will actually do something useful that stops the behaviour.

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan) not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget? I somewhat oppose the proposed budget.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend? I support increasing spend in the current budget.

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

I put it in the earlier section as you didn't say there would be a later place to put it. Rates are a small part of my annual spend, and deliver a lot of benefits. I'm sick of listening to people complain that the council doesn't do things for them, and then complain about rates. I expect you to be efficient in using my money, which mostly means I'd like you to sort out your internal silo system and pull a lot of work back from contractors to in-house expert staff. But I want you to provide the services - water, waste, pedestrian facilities, public transport facilities, libraries, green spaces, etc. Deal with the people who really can't afford rates by providing rate relief. Not by cutting services just because there are still people who believe that the private sector is more efficient (despite all the evidence to the contrary).



Respondent No: 556

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Michelle Rush
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** not answered
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Evening
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 3. Accelerated (\$3.3bn investment – higher rates and debt).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 1. No change (no change in investment, rates or debt).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 4. Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Investment in three waters infrastructure
Cycleways
Te Atakura (climate change)

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

Investment in three waters I submit that Council support option 3 - accelerated investment, for the following reasons: Wellington city has under invested in its pipe network in the past, and now we are facing a critical situation. If significant progress is not made, the city will be forced to continue to spend on emergency works, meaning that in some cases work will need to be done twice – both as immediate repairs, and then later as part of increasing capacity and/or modernising of the affected infrastructure. Wellington City is about to enter a period of growth, with the passage of the spatial plan. Indicative information provided by Wellington Water shows that a majority of the suburbs for which growth in density is forecast, require improvements in capacity and quality of their three waters infrastructure to cope with this. It is essential that this work be done in tandem with growth in those areas. Climate change and sea level rise is accelerating risks to existing infrastructure – further impetus for the need for additional investment. I submit that with adoption of option three, the city council explore with ratepayers the full range of alternative funding mechanisms, including catchment levies, targeted rates, a higher debt ceiling, and volumetric charging for water through a metering system. I was disappointed to see that the business case for water metering was not included with this long-term plan. Whilst I understand further work is needed before a business case can be presented to ratepayers, this work needs to be undertaken as a matter of urgency. It is essential that Wellingtonians improve the conservation of water, which is currently very poor, and that people are very clear how much water they are using. Some mechanism to enable Council to consider a business case for mandatory water metering sooner than the next long-term plan should be considered.

Investment in cycleways I submit that Council adopt option four: accelerated full investment program for cycleways for the following reasons: The lion's share of Wellington City's carbon emissions comes from the transport sector, and the council has committed itself to an ambitious carbon reduction target which will require a real transformation in residents' behaviour. Wellington is a space constrained city, and congestion will continue to get worse, if the number of vehicles using the narrow roadways we have is not reduced. Cycles use vastly less road space than vehicles: the more people cycling or using scooters, the more road space is freed up for those who genuinely require a vehicle, for example tradespeople. Council's own information shows that a majority of private vehicle trips within the city are short trips, carrying 1.2 people or less: trips of a nature that could be undertaken using active transport. Council's own information further shows that many people would cycle more often if safe cycling infrastructure to support that was in place. My daughters are in this category: both of them enjoy cycling, but neither of them feel safe on a bicycle around Wellington. For example, they like the Hutt Road cycleway, but getting to that cycleway down Ngaio Gorge without a separated safe cycle track makes them nervous, and then having to leave the cycleway to travel past the angle parking on Thorndon Quay puts them off. A comprehensive and connected cycleway network is important, and at an average of \$3 million a km compared to an average of \$30 million a km for new roading, it is surely worth it (and this figure doesn't include the significant health and local economic benefits that accrue from cycling). I submit that Council double the amount allocated for minor cycleway works, from \$1 million to \$2 million. I have been frustrated on a number of occasions recently, by the lack of bicycle parking, including outside Wellington City Council's own offices on the terrace, and in the areas outside of major government departments and businesses throughout town. Additional and secure options for visitor cycle parking around these areas is greatly needed, and having a minor works fund for this type of thing, plus other small improvements, could make a big positive difference. I submit that Council create a new fund to support rapid implementation cycling and safer streets projects, for example creation of play streets, addition of street furniture and parklets and so forth, similar to the Innovating Streets fund run by NZTA: changes are still taking far too long. I submit that Council change the priority afforded cycle improvements around Newlands schools, which has been downgraded. It is essential that investment in safe cycling and active transport infrastructure be prioritised around schools: if young people get into the habit of using active transport modes when they are young, the transition required across our

city to these modes in the coming decades will be a lot easier. There are also well proven public health and mental well-being benefits to this. I submit that council make good on the promises it made for Island Bay regarding its cycleway, and part and parcel of this, institute the cycle improvements recommended by the community advisory group convened in 2017 on the Island Bay - Newtown cycleway. The improvements that group recommended were reached by consensus, including local businesses, from a group who had spent considerable time hearing and assessing the views of many experts. Their recommendations should have been given the respect they deserved and found their way into delivery of safe cycling infrastructure as part of 'joining up' Island Bay, and improving things for Newtown residents. I submit that Council create a new category of fund to support seawall and resilience projects, so that the cycleway budget does not end up subsidising these expensive projects. Such resilience projects, essential as part of our climate change adaptation response, have other benefits and this should be recognised with them having their own fund. It is not acceptable that such a large chunk of the cycle fund be taken up on the expense of work required to improve the seawall's as part of the great harbour way initiative. This initiative has multiple benefits beyond cycling, and therefore its funding sources should reflect this. Sewage Sludge I submit that council implement the option for improvements to Moa Point to see sludge removed all together from the landfill: the landfill resource should not be wasted on this material, nor should energy be being wasted on its transport to the landfill from the Moa Point plant. If the alternative funding model isn't accepted, I would support the option for ratepayers to fund this, even if this means we have to raise the debt ceiling, and/or pay more rates. Sorting out waste water has to be a priority for council.

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)	not answered
--	--------------

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?	I strongly support the proposed budget.
---	---

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?	not answered
--	--------------

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?
--

My first additional message is that with all that the council is facing, it would be good for council to be looking at all funding options, and having discussions with residents about these: I personally do not believe our rates are too high compared with many other places - we are a well off population on the whole, and council can adopt policies to look after lower income families, as it does already with the schemes it has to cater for this part of our population. My second additional message is that in making my comment supporting the demolishing of the civic buildings and the land use for long term lease (Option 1), that council look to do this for a mixed use development, including with the music centre option, the opportunity for a developer to include both social and higher end housing, as well as office space and commercial areas so that this brings 'life' into civic square: it is not the best place to be at night: having a mixed use development including the music centre could transform this area into a nice space, day and night. Ensure, in any design, that the potential for basement and/or ground level inundation is 'built in' - some water sensitive design as part of a rejuvenated square around these new buildings perhaps?



Respondent No: 566

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

[Redacted] [Redacted]
[Redacted] [Redacted]
[Redacted] [Redacted]

- Q1. **Full name:** Sally Latham
- Q2. **Phone number:** [Redacted]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Organisation
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** Wadestown Toy Library
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Morning
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** not answered
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Don't know.
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Don't know.
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Don't know.
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Don't know.
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Don't know.
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Don't know.
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Don't know.

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below	not answered
---	--------------

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

not answered

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)	not answered
--	--------------

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?	Don't know.
---	-------------

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?	not answered
--	--------------

From: [Wadestown Toy Library](#)
To: [BUS: Long Term Plan Engagement](#)
Subject: Submission on the LTP
Date: 08 May 2021 21:56:06
Attachments: [image.png](#)

Hi,

We have submitted via the online form on the Council website, but in case there are any technical issues, please find our submission below.

SUBMISSION

The Wadestown Toy Library ("WTL") requests to submit on the proposal to sell the Wadestown Community Centre ("the Centre"), referenced on pp. 57 of the Council's Long Term Plan ("LTP").

WTL Contribution to Council strategic direction

The WTL has been successfully servicing Wadestown families out of the Community Centre for 37 years.

Our purpose is to loan educational toys to aid in the mental, physical and social development of children.

With an active membership base, the WTL benefits many families that are members on a regular basis and many more through hiring larger toys like a bouncy castle to non-members or in providing shorter-term rentals in instances where local residents have younger extended family members coming to stay.

By asking members to volunteer either on the Committee or by assisting the Toy Librarian in session at least three times every year, we also facilitate relationships between young families in the area.

Whilst based in Wadestown we have a catchment covering multiple neighbouring suburbs.

The WTL contributes to the Council's community outcomes framework for Wellington and its environmental, social, cultural and economic objectives of the LTP by providing the opportunity for young families to access a wide range of toys, to save money, build a community, and be kind to the environment by re-reusing our toys.

Environmental: A sustainable, climate friendly eco capital	Social: A people friendly, compact, safe, and accessible capital city	Cultural: An innovative, inclusive, and creative city	Economic: A dynamic and sustainable economy
A city where the natural environment is being preserved, biodiversity improved, natural resources are used sustainably, and the city is mitigating and adapting to climate change – for now and future generations	An inclusive, liveable, and resilient city where people and communities can learn, are connected, well housed, safe, and healthy	Wellington is a vibrant, creative city with the energy and opportunity to connect, collaborate, explore identities, and openly express, preserve, and enjoy arts, culture, and heritage	The city is attracting and developing creative talent to enterprises across the city, creating jobs through innovation and growth while working towards an environmentally sustainable future.

Community Centre Sale

We agree the Centre is not fit for purpose for the community generally or for our Toy Library members; whilst storage and space allocation works well for WTL, access is poor and the Centre's layout does not maximise the potential for wider community use.

To this end, we are supportive of the sale of the Centre provided:

- the funds from the sale are ring fenced for a future Wadestown community space; and
- that community groups such as the WTL are supported to find appropriate and financially viable space(s) in a timely manner if a permanent community solution is not in place before the Centre is sold.

If the Council sells the Centre and does not support the WTL with accommodation until a permanent solution is in place, or if the Council doesn't provide a permanent solution for Wadestown, we will be forced to close.

As a small Not-For-Profit we survive on Membership income, Lotteries Grants and the income from renting out our Bouncy Castle to young families, we do not have the financial means to build or buy a storage unit for our toys from which to operate and any significant increase to the current monthly rent would also put the WTL future in serious doubt.

Operating purely online eliminates any wider community connection the WTL currently provides to members so is not desired by members or the WTL.

Through ongoing communication with other local community bodies such as The Wadestown Residents Association and the Highland Park Residents Association we are aligned and supportive of a new community centre solution that enhances wider community outcomes.

Solution

We propose a temporary solution if the sale goes ahead before a new community space is built. However, it could work as a permanent solution.

We propose the WTL operates independently out of the Wadestown Public Library, as occurs in some other Council areas (e.g. Carterton, Martinborough, Stokes Valley, Kerikeri).

This would be a “win-win” for the Toy Library and the Council Library, as it would increase foot traffic/patronage for both organisations, encourage greater community connectivity and make great use of the existing Library asset.

Better parking options, access, and opportunities to engage with new customers by being more visible within the community would significantly aid the WTL and the impact it can have for the local communities in and around Wadestown.

Increased foot traffic, opportunities to engage with new visitors, and a visit to the library becoming an extended family outing for families to borrow books and education toys at the same time is all positive for the Council library.

Key facets of the proposed system include:

- Toys stored in a room in library/shed/cabin outside
- WTL Members browse the WTL’s website which tells them what toys are available (<https://wadestowntoylibrary.mibase.co.nz>)
- WTL maintains current hours (Saturday mornings 10am-12pm) and during this period the WTL-employed Toy Librarian works at the Council library and brings a selection of toys out into the seating area near the library entrance or to the children’s area for viewing and then issues toys there from the existing WTL laptop and database. Toy Librarian also cleans any toys returned during the past week to WCC librarians.
- During the week toy library members can come in and request specific toys to be retrieved by WCC librarians. They would tell the WCC librarian the toy and description. No ‘browsing’ of the storage room to reduce time for WCC librarians.
- Members can already browse the entire WTL catalogue on our website on the public computers at the library, or on their own device.
- WCC librarians would have a login to the WTL cataloguing system “Mibase” to issue toys to members.
- WCC librarians not asked to discuss fines, memberships etc with members.

WCC librarian provides WTL contact details or asks people to return 10am Saturday mornings to discuss with the Toy Librarian.

- Sign ups to the WTL only allowed via the Toy Librarian on Saturday mornings.

We believe this solution is a cheap, efficient and elegant solution and helps both the WTL and the Council, and more importantly, assists the Wadestown and wider community.

We request a meeting with Councillors and officials to discuss this proposal.

Regards

Wadestown Toy Library

--

Wadestown Toy Library Committee
Wadestown Community Centre, 46 Pitt Street.

<https://wadestowntoylibrary.mibase.co.nz/home/index.php>

<http://www.facebook.com/WadestownToyLibrary>

We'd rather only send email to those who want to receive it. If you do not want to receive email from us, reply to this email with *Remove* in the subject line.



Respondent No: 572

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Barbara Mckenzie
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** not answered
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Afternoon
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 1. Maintain current funding level (\$2.0bn investment - lower rates and debt).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Don't know.
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 1. Finish started projects (\$29m capital investment, lower debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 1. Low level of funding (\$18.1m investment, lower rates and debt).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 4. Sell to support development (no debt or rates impact)
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** None of these options.
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Don't know.

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Cycleways
Te Atakura (climate change)
Central Library
Te Ngākau funding for future work

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

1) Fiscal responsibility: The economy has taken a hit from the covid response. It is appropriate to show restraint and fiscal responsibility rather than borrowing and taxing to finance vanity projects 2) Library and Civic Square: It is time for the Council to live up to its claims of wanting a vibrant city. This will not be achieved simply by forcing people into apartments and creating child-friendly cafes. The Council has an opportunity to make Civic Square a major focus and a desirable meeting point in the city. The Library should be rebuilt so that it faces Civic Square rather than a dreary part of Victoria Street (while keeping access from Victoria St, of course). Council offices should be replaced with shops and eateries. 3) Cycleways: The Council's cycleway projects are expensive, ill thought out, dangerous to cyclists and frustrating to motorists. As a very regular cyclist, I try to avoid them. 4) "Climate change": - Looking at geological history, it is apparent that we are still at a low point in terms of temperature and atmospheric CO2, which continued to rise over the past year or so despite covid response measures). There is no reason to believe that humanity's contribution to atmospheric CO2 has brought us to crisis point, or indeed that additional CO2, whether derived from human activity or from nature (the far greater part), will be anything but beneficial. Multi cellular life first developed during the Cambrian explosion, when high levels of atmospheric CO2 coincided with high temperatures (Image attached, "Geological time scale"). Unfortunately we appear to be headed for a Maunder minimum, with record low temperatures and snowfalls in the last two Northern Winters - northern hemisphere snow mass is currently an historic 700 gigatons above average - with low temperatures and long ski seasons also being recorded in Australia . - For Wellington, or New Zealand, to aspire to compensating for eg China's 200 new coal-fired power stations is simply ludicrous. - It is a serious worry that so much of the Council's decision-making in this regard is based on unreliable projections. Take, for example, its claim that "30cm of sea level rise is expected to occur in New Zealand over the next 40 years". Data from the gauges at Wismar, Germany, and Fort Dennison, Australia, as well as analyses of measurements from the world's best long-term coastal tide gauges indicate that the global average rate of sea-level change is around 1.4 to 1.5mm per annum, and decelerating. In the New Zealand context, members of the School of Surveying, Otago University and GNS NZ have analysed tide gauge records and vertical land movements for New Zealand, and found an average annual sea level rise of 0.9 mm over four main NZ centres, once subsidence is taken into account (slide from their presentation at the International Surveyors Conference in Helsinki 2017 attached, "Sea level"). So we're talking about an inch or two in 40 years, less if deceleration continues, and this is ignoring the possibility of a major earthquake which will raise the land in Wellington. In sum, WCC should not be spending money or making zoning changes, or making any other decisions, based on junk science. Sweden has vetoed at the last minute a project to fill the atmosphere above the country with calcium carbonate particles to stop the sun and shield us from "global warming". Can we rely on our Council, or our government, to be equally responsible?

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/053bad742773f4400c24f50637a942b912b23152/original/1620499007/1ae970630a2e571b881886163a54f786_Images.PNG?1620499007

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

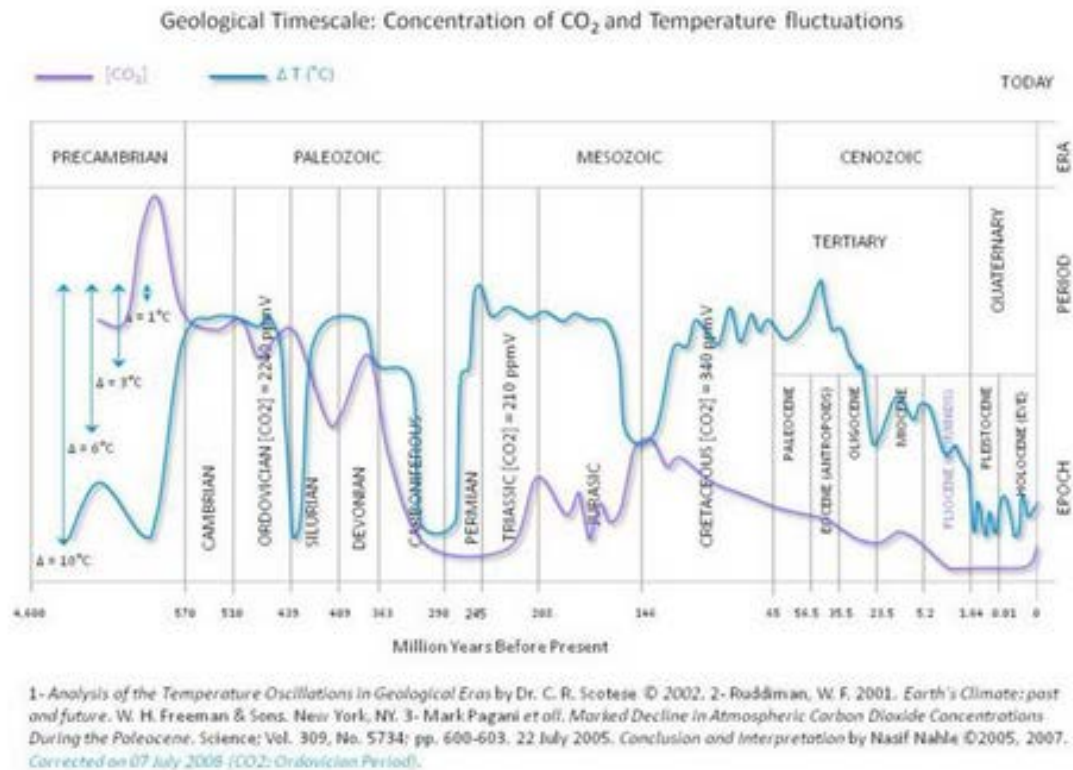
I strongly oppose the proposed budget.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

I support decreasing spend in the current budget.

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

not answered



Sea Level

	Velocity (mm/yr)					Corrected
	RSL	GPS	SSE/EQ	Local	Sum	
Auckland	+1.55	-0.6			-0.62	+0.93 ± 0.09
Wellington	+2.14	-3.0	+1.0	+1.0	-1.12	+1.02 ± 0.19
Lyttelton	+1.98	-0.5		-0.3	-0.84	+1.14 ± 0.19
Dunedin	+1.36	-1.2	+0.5		-0.67	+0.69 ± 0.20
Mean :	+1.7					+0.9 ± 0.16



Respondent No: 598

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

[Redacted] [Redacted]
[Redacted] [Redacted]
[Redacted] [Redacted]

- Q1. **Full name:** Andrew Roderick Meehan ONZM
- Q2. **Phone number:** [Redacted]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Organisation
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** OBRA (Oriental Bay Residents Association
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Morning
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** not answered
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 2. Enhanced investment (\$2.4bn - the Council's preferred option).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** None of these options.
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

<p>Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below</p>	<p>Cycleways Central Library Te Ngākau funding for future work</p>
<p>Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)</p>	<p>I have attached a document which I circulated to the Committee Members of OBRA as the person asked to prepare a view on the WCC" big decisions"; in my capacity as incoming President of OBRA. This memorandum was reviewed by the Committee and unanimously supported. Within the document it outlines the issues we have with the long term plan; specifically the Cycleways issue. We are totally against the Council's preferred option for reasons stated therein. Depending on the outcome of the Cycleways expenditure, then it would have consequential impacts on our view of the Council's preferred option in respect of the Te Ngakau Civic Precinct. If the Cycleway expenditure were substantially reduced then there is the option of the developement being undertaken by WCC. (The long term cost of the preferred option of a sale and leaseback would exceed a self developement) Please advise urgently if you are unable to open the attached file.</p>
<p>Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)</p>	<p>https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/57a25b2464be38a22243a77ac05e48b6730eeeb7/original/1620523192/9c900129612c8de925f5bb4d1dd2f1ec_WCC_Long_Term_plan_copy_copy.docx?1620523192</p>
<p>Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?</p>	<p>I somewhat oppose the proposed budget.</p>
<p>Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?</p>	<p>I support keeping the budget the same but with some changes.</p>
<p>Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?</p>	<p>Please see the OBRA document attached to this submission. We have strong views in respect of the proposed changes to the CBD parking fees.</p>

I said that I would put together some reference notes for OBRA's response to the WCC 10 year long term plan...having read it, below are my comments;

The WCC Long term plan essentially asks for feedback on 7 questions in terms of alternatives available to provide or mitigate the following;

- 1) Water pipes repair
- 2) Wastewater laterals
- 3) Cycleways
- 4) Climate change action plan
- 5) Civic Square
- 6) Central library
- 7) Sewage & Sludge

Plus proposals to increase a wide range of council fees.

I have attached below the relevant website which deals in some detail with each of these issues; and provides the WCC preferred option for each. I'm impressed with the iterative nature of the plan in so far as there is an online response option; as well as a form to print, fill out and post/deliver. It would not be at all difficult for the Committee to each respond with the online version; and perhaps for there to be in addition a formal OBRA response if there were to be a consensus.

My view in regard to each of the above issues; plus comments on the proposal to increase fees for WCC services, is as below;

I should add as a pre amble that we do face a Tsunami of problems created by historical shortsightedness; and that doing nothing, or doing part of what needs ultimately to be done slowly and therefore inefficiently, is in my view not an option.

- 1) Water pipes repair

The council's preferred option is to recognise the extent of the problem; but take a considered view on reparation (you don't know what you don't know); as opposed to throwing the kitchen sink at the problem. On balance I support their preferred option.

- 2) Wastewater laterals

Agree with the preferred option which is of little consequence anyway

- 3) Cycleways

I think the council has been disingenuous in this proposal. There are 4 options, basically from 1) completing existing commitments (\$29m); 2) the first option plus completing the Island Bay cycleway (total \$39m); 3) Option 1+2 plus most of the remaining corridors (Eastern corridor/ Northern connection/Southern connection/Western connection totaling \$120m); option 4) all of option 3 plus more of each of the components through to full completion so that “people shift their main mode of transport to cycling “ ... totaling \$226m. Given what we know about the Council’s lack of historical ability to deliver either that which works; or in a timely cost effective manner; then allowing the council to have a 10 year free reign on \$220m of cycleways seems to me to be a bridge too far. Yet, there is no half way house...the difference between option 2 and option 3 need not be \$100m. There should be a staged approach about midpoint between the two (Eastern and Southern; or Northern and Western; but why all four ?)...so I’m not voting for their preferred option 3.

4) Climate change action plan

This is to fully fund an action plan for the consequences of climate change. At a cost of \$9.3m for the preferred option, I agree.

5) Civic square

Essentially the issue here is as to whether the two council admin buildings in Civic square (which are red stickered) should be fixed and owned by the Council; or the land (leasehold interest) sold to a developer, buildings demolished, and new purpose built admin offices built on a design and leaseback basis to the Council. All things being equal, the Council should retain ownership and retain any development margin; however as a result of the council nearing it’s debt cap, then the option to sell to a developer (even though suboptimal and is the Council’s preferred option); should probably be supported.

6 Central Library

This is all to do with the way in which the repairs are financed; and the timing of; the fixing of the Central Library in the amount of circa \$190m. The options are to borrow and do it now, but exceed the WCC debt cap; do it now but finance it through a rates levy of 3%; or defer it by 3 years until it then fits within the debt cap. The Council’s preferred option is option 1...and I probably agree with that, particularly if there is a midpoint in the cycleway expenditure which would remove the need to exceed the debt cap.

7) Sewage & Sludge

This is a legacy of incompetence for decades where WCC “sweated the assets” with the \$200m cost to repair now front and centre. Doing nothing is clearly not an option (First world capital city trucking sewage daily from broken pipes to a landfill hardly meets any aspirational message we may want to convey; let alone meet our carbon footprint obligations) So, the lesser of the two evils is the Council’s preferred option, borrow within a special vehicle designed for Local Authorities who have made such a hash of their fiscal management that there is simply no other option.

8) Council Fees

Basically the Council is proposing to increase the cost of all facilities and services they provide/administer by between 15-25%...Addressees of this email should carefully look at the schedule of proposed increases because they impact on every area of the City we enjoy.

In particular there are two items that I will comment on; firstly, a plus with the proposal to significantly increase the daily parking charges, which removes a cost anomaly; but then a negative with a proposal to increase the hourly rate for weekend parking in the CBD as if retail isn’t hard enough already...Interesting that these significant Council fee cost increases were added to the consultation document as almost an afterthought with no request to comment formally.

Conclusion

I would encourage Committee Members to respond via the online document. The ease of use is probably the best part about the plan.

Wouldn’t it have been great if the Council were to be asking us about a proposed \$1b of expenditure for productive/positive projects that would grow Wellington rather than this expenditure necessary to clean up the mess of a successive lot of issues that were never adequately addressed as they occurred.

Happy to receive your feedback



Respondent No: 600

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** louise Catherine tong
- Q2. **Phone number:** +[REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** not answered
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Evening
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** None of these options.
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** None of these options.
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 2. Medium investment programme (\$39m capital investment, lower debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** None of these options.
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** None of these options.
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

<p>Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below</p>	<p>Investment in three waters infrastructure Wastewater laterals Cycleways Te Atakura (climate change) Central Library Sludge and waste minimisation</p>
<p>Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)</p>	<p>Better information is needed before making these big decisions - what is the cost of carbon abatement for the various options? What is the cost - benefit analysis? What are the alternative options not shown? In addition - given pending three waters reform, NO decision should be made on this aspect of council operations at this stage. The council also needs to go back to the drawing board on the library. WHY do we need to own the building? I understand there is an ideological desire to "have control" but I would argue that having flexibility (at end of lease, council can decide if the space is fit for purpose or not) and devolving the risk of building ownership to an entity that is more expert at managing that risk outweighs any perceived benefits from ownership/control. The council should think a bit more creatively to resolve this issue - eg: could the council partner with, for example, VUW or Massey to develop a co-shared space that is more optimally utilised (and more cost effective).</p>
<p>Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)</p>	<p>https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/31b1a14540b2416f5f2b7b29703034b06810bd26/original/1620525763/70bf85df267de6010528ed2d4491b237_WCC_Long_Term_Plan_-_Louise_Tong.pdf?1620525763</p>
<p>Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?</p>	<p>I strongly oppose the proposed budget.</p>
<p>Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?</p>	<p>I support decreasing spend in the current budget.</p>
<p>Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?</p>	<p>not answered</p>

WCC Long Term Plan (LTP) Consultation

Submission from Louise Tong

8 May 2021

In addition to my comments on the "big decisions" (for completeness, repeated here):

"Better information is needed before making these big decisions - what is the cost of carbon abatement for the various options? What is the cost - benefit analysis? What are the alternative options not shown?

In addition - given pending three waters reform, NO decision should be made on this aspect of council operations at this stage.

The council also needs to go back to the drawing board on the library. WHY do we need to own the building? I understand there is an ideological desire to "have control" but I would argue that having flexibility (at end of lease, council can decide if the space is fit for purpose or not) and devolving the risk of building ownership to an entity that is more expert at managing that risk outweighs any perceived benefits from ownership/control. The council should think a bit more creatively to resolve this issue - eg: could the council partner with, for example, VUW or Massey to develop a co-shared space that is more optimally utilised (and more cost effective). "

I have several other concerns regarding the LTP.

Unprecedented challenges require a new approach

As noted in the LTP, WCC has to make some big decisions on how to address many significant challenges we face. In light of this, it is necessary to step back and think holistically as well as strategically - considering *all* the options available – not following a well-trodden path of simply raising rates in response.

WCC needs to take a long, hard look at *all* the areas of activity in which it is involved and ask some fundamental questions. It is important that in doing so, old ideologies – particularly those with little basis in fact or rationale – are dropped and a fresh perspective is brought to bear. Innate scepticism of commercial or market solutions is not constructive.

We cannot continue to do (and fund) more and more ad infinitum. What can we stop doing?

We cannot continue to add and add and add to WCC's areas of focus and expenditure. We need to revisit existing activities, question whether they're appropriate and/or affordable. With so many challenges ahead, WCC needs to narrow its focus on the things that really matter. Team NZ's mantra was "only do what makes the boat go faster". I'd like to see WCC adopt a mantra of "only do what makes our city better".

One stark example that illustrates this point is the zoo.

Total expenditure over the LTP is \$70m opex (after taking into account revenue) and \$13m capex. This far outstrips the support given to Zealandia (\$19m opex, nil capex). One organisation is focused on exotic animals, housed in cages in an environment that is a far cry from their natural habitat. The other hosts our precious native species, our taonga, many of which are on the brink of extinction. Zealandia has brought life to our city, provides rich opportunities for visitors, residents and researchers alike. The zoo is a colonial folly. Spending \$83m of ratepayers' money to provide an opportunity for the public to see a bear in a cage, lions on a concrete rock, or monkeys swinging on bare branches in a cage is wrong, on so many levels.

We could take that \$83m and, say, keep pool fees affordable, keep turf fees at a minimum, and redirect the balance to getting the basics right, without causing our rates to go through the roof. The zoo area could be turned into the country's best playground (akin to the Margaret Mahy playground in Christchurch) – providing a valuable asset for residents, an attraction for visitors, and requiring far less ongoing expenditure.

WCC needs to act as a kaitiaki of our city – and of ratepayers' money

Every line-item in the LTP needs deep scrutiny and testing to ensure that ratepayers' money is well spent and delivers value. As kaitiaki of the city, and of ratepayers' funds, WCC needs to exert best practice judgement over every dollar spent – and adhere to best practice transparency on where that money is spent and why.

For example, the cost of the cycleway projects (\$120m for recommended option) seems extraordinarily high, I'm sure this would be particularly so if it was assessed on a user or per km basis (unfortunately this data is not actually provided). Are they being scoped correctly, or might a more affordable option be perfectly acceptable and functional and effectively deliver the same benefits?

As per the comment below under "Transparency", it is hard to judge the value of many large expenditure items as very little information is provided eg: what is the \$8.5m Begonia House cost for (you could pretty much get a whole new building for that!), EV Fleet Transformation \$5.25m – what does this provide, is the fleet shrinking, are you leasing or buying; what does the \$28m for Maori engagement relate to; what is the \$35m for EV charging and home energy audits for (it seems strange to lump these two items together);

WCC needs to use ratepayer funds as a last resort when other options are unavailable. For example, WCC should seek third party grants (EECA, Meridian and other parties offer these) to support its fleet conversion – this money is readily accessible and should be sought ahead of (or alongside) ratepayer funding. Could congestion charges fund investment in cycle lanes, while also supporting uptake of public/active transport and a reduction in peak hour vehicle traffic. Could a third party investor provide funding for the landfill projects – and user pay fees be adjusted so they are more reflective of the total long-term cost of this facility.

A new approach – rethinking old ideologies

WCC needs to adopt a principal that for many assets, ownership is not necessary, and recognise that ownership is in fact undesirable in many circumstances, due to the complexity in managing, associated risks and required skillsets and organisation focus. This is particularly so for large infrastructure assets such as commercial buildings – but could be extended to the port, airport and water infrastructure.

The library is a prime example. No-one enters a library and makes a judgement on its merits based on who owns the walls and ceiling. It's the service, books, facilities, amenities, and location that matter. Owning the building exposes WCC (and therefore ratepayers) to a myriad of risks, as we are all too aware : earthquake strengthening, insurance risk, construction/development risk, leaky building risk, climate risk etc. In contrast, leasing would provide flexibility – to change location if desirable, to downsize/upsize, to change the way the activity is undertaken (eg; moving to a shared space), to demand a level of sustainability from the building (eg; require the building WCC leases to be Greenstar6, or upgraded to a higher standard in the future). WCC would be an attractive tenant to a prospective developer/owner, allowing it to have a strong negotiating position as a tenant. This would support, for example, long term rental certainty, ability to negotiate attractive terms etc.

Given the unprecedented challenges we face as a city, I think it is an appropriate time to review ownership of all assets. What benefit does WCC get from owning the port? Might they be derived by an option other than ownership? What are the associated risks? What other assets does the council own that it doesn't need to – Farms? Childcare centres? Buildings? Parking meters? Landfill?

By removing the need to manage a large, complex pool of assets this will allow WCC to narrow its focus, and provide better delivery on the basics, as well as execution of the responses to the challenges it faces.

Scope

WCC needs to carefully consider the activities it is involved in. Many of the large expenditure areas are actually the responsibility of Central Government, not WCC and its ratepayers. We all pay tax, so paying rates to fund investment that our taxes should be used for is a double impost.

To illustrate, I would highlight three key areas where this applies – transport, climate change and social housing. There may well be other areas that this applies – a lens should be applied to all expenditure to ensure it is within WCC's remit and not that of Central Government, or able to be funded or already being provided by other parties.

a) Transport

The LTP has the following LGWM expenditure :

- Ngauranga to Airport Corridor	\$40m	Is this not SH1 and therefore Central Govt responsibility?
- City Streets Bus Priority	\$193m	What does this relate to (not covered in the consultation doc?
- LGWM Early Delivery	\$7M	" "

As a general comment, WCC needs to ensure that Central Government pays for any investment in the highway corridors, as well as providing support for adoption of low carbon transport, or transport generally, equivalent to the support that it makes in other centres (eg: 50% funding of CRL in Auckland). WCC, with our relatively low population base, simply cannot afford a light rail or MRT investment.

b) Climate action

Much of what is proposed in WCC's climate action plan is not the responsibility of WCC to fund. EV charging is being provided by private companies already – Contact Energy, Meridian, Chargenet etc. Why is WCC proposing to use ratepayer money for this activity? WCC's role should be limited to facilitating (eg: making consenting for installation of EV charging easy, seamless and affordable, perhaps making special carparking available etc).

Why does WCC offer home energy audits (LTP has \$35m for EV Charging and Home Energy Audits)? This is already provided by the private sector, in many cases for free (eg: smarthomes, Harrisons and the Sustainability Trust all provide free assessments and the Green Building Council has a free online assessment).

Could third party sponsorship be sought for WCC's proposed business climate action support (Zero Carbon Challenge and Climathon funded)? Many public, private and NFP organisations are keen to be seen to be supporting this sort of initiative.

c) Social housing

WCC currently has a large social housing portfolio. It is almost unique amongst councils in this regard, with most others having sold their social housing to Central Government and/or community housing providers.

Owning and managing social housing is NOT a core competency of WCC.

I understand there is an agreement with the Government that makes sale of this portfolio more difficult – but I would assert that it does not make it impossible – it's a matter of reaching agreement with Government.

Burdening ratepayers with the cost and considerable risk of owning such a large and complex portfolio – when it is Central Government's role to support those in need of social housing – just doesn't make sense. Particularly when the consequence is that rates will nearly double – this will push up rents, and put home ownership further out of reach, which merely serve to force MORE people into social housing.

The current LTP has not provided an comprehensive, aggregate picture of the implications for ratepayers of owning social housing, but from what I can glean the required expenditure is as follows:

- \$17m to upgrade to current healthy home standards
- \$27m housing upgrade capex
- \$25m housing investment programme capex
- \$27m housing investment programme opex (net of income)
- \$83m community housing operations and maintenance

\$179m total expenditure

I understand that this does not include full funding of the maintenance/upgrades required and that there is a c\$400m shortfall. This simply serves to underline the risk – and cost – of providing this service.

Ironically, WCC does not receive sufficient funding from Government to provide the same level of rent relief that the Government will provide the same tenant directly. Unless further subsidisation is provided by ratepayers, *tenants are worse off in a WCC rental property.*

WCC should immediately come to an agreement with Government to enable WCC to sell its social housing portfolio and focus on providing a city that is attractive and affordable to live and do business in.

Debt

The consultation documents state: "Our debt levels for this plan, including the value of uninsured assets, range from 134 percent to 239 percent of our annual income. Our proposed limit is 225 percent."

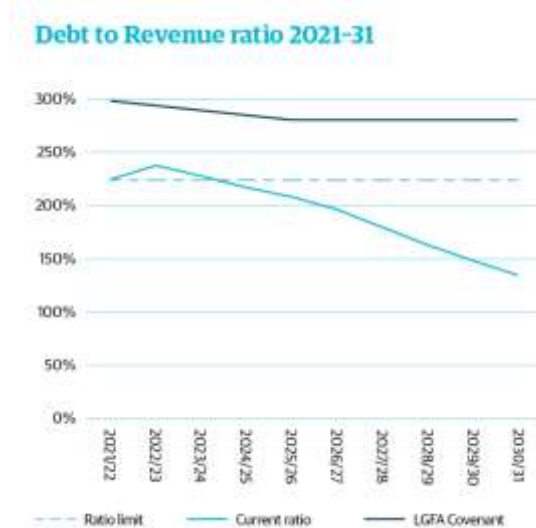
I think this means you have calculated your debt ratio as :

$$\frac{\text{Total debt + value of uninsured assets}}{\text{Annual income (what does this include?)}}$$

The value assumed for uninsured assets is important as it limits WCC's ability to borrow. What are the uninsured assets? How exposed are they to risk? Does WCC need to own them? If they were impacted by an event, would WCC need to rebuild to the same value (or at all)?

You state the Council's proposed debt/revenue limit is 225% to meet the LGFA covenant ratio. Is this a more restrictive limit than that set by S&P to preserve your AA credit rating? Why does the LGFA covenant ratio change in 24/25?

What is an acceptable long-term stable debt level – the graph in the LTP shows debt continuing to reduce sharply from a peak in 22/23 that is only just over the limit. Given the long-term nature of much of the investment, why is debt being repaid so rapidly and so far below the limit shown?



Transparency

There is a lack of clear, accessible data on which people can easily make truly informed judgements. I would like to see :

- cost benefit analysis (including impacts and relevant metrics such as cost per cyclist/per km, subsidies per unique visitor etc). WCC is asking its ratepayers to invest considerable amounts (\$600m p.a. by 2031, \$250m p.a. more than current) without a shred of cost benefit analysis.
- carbon abatement cost. Contribution to reducing our emissions is cited as a supporting factor for some of the proposed investment options. But how can we choose between investing more in cycleways or not, without seeing the cost of carbon abatement? How can we choose between sewerage treatment options without seeing the relative carbon costs? What is the carbon abatement cost of the proposed investment in EV infrastructure, charging and fleet transformation?
- more detail is required on what WCC expenditure relates to eg: what is the \$8.5m Begonia House cost for (you could pretty much get a whole new building for that!), EV Fleet Transformation \$5.25m – what does this provide, is the fleet shrinking, are you leasing or buying; what does the \$28m for Maori engagement relate to; what is the \$35m for EV charging and home energy audits for; what does the \$43m “capital replacement fund” relate to?
- there needs to be a clear summary of revenue, opex and capex for each category of activity eg: what is the total revenue, opex and capex for social housing, parks and reserves, zoo, landfill operations etc This information is presented in disparate areas across various consultation documents making it very hard to get a clear understanding of the funding for each area of focus.
- the financial data needs to be provided all in one place and in excel spreadsheet form to support analysis. I've spent more of my weekend than I'd like manually adding up lines of data on a calculator!

WCC might find some useful insights and practices from looking at the nature and presentation of the data released to support other councils' LTP (eg; Auckland Council).



Respondent No: 609

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Neil Deans
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** not answered
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Afternoon
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** None of these options.
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 4. Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 1. Low level of funding (\$18.1m investment, lower rates and debt).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Don't know.
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below	Investment in three waters infrastructure Cycleways
---	--

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

General Wellington is a rapidly growing capital city, but is geographically constrained and facing significant infrastructural investment challenges; alongside a stated 'climate emergency'. Decisions made now will shape future living and economic opportunities and need to ensure a sound foundation for the city's development. The city needs a clear vision and determination to deliver to meet our future needs and create a vibrant future. A key risk is taking leadership and not merely looking backwards at old technology to solve our future problems. Changes, such as 'densification' of our suburbs must retain the liveability of our neighbourhoods, by keeping and extending links, networks, biodiversity and green spaces and the ambience of suburban centres. Cycleways As a 60-year-old working in the central city who lives in Khandallah I have recently changed to cycling to work 95% of the time. I had formerly used public transport but find cycling more convenient and healthier to get to my place of work across the CBD. I have also noted a significant increase in the numbers of my fellow cyclists due partly to the convenience of e-bikes. It is also a cheaper and more practical option than perpetually investing in more infrastructure to incentivise use of cars; especially for those who live close enough to be able to use alternative access networks to the central city. The cycleway network is good in some areas, but is patchy and is particularly dangerous in the central city. It needs to be better integrated and connected, without parts of the network suddenly stopping and starting (eg along Featherston St across Whitmore). Certain areas of the 'cycleways' are intrinsically dangerous (eg the Hutt Rd northbound where cycles are squeezed between angle parked cars reversing out and busy vehicle traffic; and crossing the southbound vehicle lane to get onto the cycleway at the Tinakori Rd intersection). My preferred option is option 3, although I seek better connections not just to the CBD but also through it. 3 Waters Infrastructure investment is a key, if often neglected and under-promoted, role of local government. I support better long term investment; but note that this aspect of local government should operate as an internalised service delivery; asset management model. Where necessary, the Council should be able to borrow against the value of the infrastructure to fund and pay off that investment; possibly by taking out infrastructure bonds or by similar funding arrangements. This should have a long term asset management approach and be funded by residents in terms of the services required. I would also like to ensure that adequate provision is made for stormwater management, so favour a combination of options 2 and 3, with greater emphasis on stormwater, but perhaps not as much as proposed in option 4. Related to this, I would like to see better integration of water sensitive urban design incorporated into the Council's RMA and infrastructure asset management plans to ensure that development appropriately caters for the effects of brownfields urban development and densification. If not, the current moderate high value of the Council's reserves and waterways will likely be irreversibly impacted, or which would be very costly to remediate, as Auckland is now finding through the 'daylighting' of its streams. This means controlling ground infiltration, esplanade provisions and maintaining riparian margins to reduce impacts of urbanisation, especially in suburban Wellington.

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)	not answered
--	--------------

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?	I somewhat support the proposed budget.
---	---

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?	not answered
--	--------------

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

not answered



Respondent No: 620

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Anna Pendergrast
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?**
Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Morning
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Morning
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 2. Enhanced investment (\$2.4bn - the Council's preferred option).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 3: High investment programme (\$120m capital investment - Council's preferred option)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 2. Proceed with base build proposal for public purposes (higher debt and rates)
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 3. Sludge minimisation through Council funding (\$147m to \$208m capital investment, above debt limit, and higher rates)

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Investment in three waters infrastructure
Sludge and waste minimisation
Te Ngākau funding for future work

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

I found making this submission quite difficult, as there was not a huge amount of detail about some of the options. Further, it seemed like the criteria that was given most weight was staying under the council's self-imposed debt limit. I would have like to seen options that allowed higher borrowing, especially as experts in this area have supported allowing higher borrowing at low interest rates. My comments on specific 'big decisions' are below: Three waters infrastructure: I was surprised and angered to see that money put aside for depreciation of the asset was spent elsewhere by the council over a long period. This short-sighted "out of sight, out of mind" approach is unacceptable. I expect a significant shift in how these assets are managed. I want to see the maintenance of these assets prioritised, replacement infrastructure built to enable easy inspection, and technology used to help assess the state of the network and model options for future investment. Te Ngākau Civic Precinct, Council Office Buildings: I chose option 2 here, but to be honest, didn't have the information I needed to make a properly informed decision. I don't think that Wellingtonians can make a proper decision without more information. For example, in scenario 1, would the council be looking at leasing space back for council use -- and if so, what would be the operational cost? If the Council could borrow more, would option 2 be the preferred option? In option 1, what is the risk that no business would be interested in the lease of the space, especially with the Council controlling the design brief? In option 2, what are the risks of significant damage in future earthquakes given the fact they will not be able to be 100% of the NBS?) Sludge minimisation: I support the investment in new infrastructure as per options 3 and 4. However, I am not sure about the funding mechanism. There was not enough information about the funding mechanism under the Infrastructure Funding and Financing Act for me to make a decision. I worry that if Option 4 is picked, and alternative funding is not approved, then this will open the door for a public-private partnership, which I do not agree with, or pause work on this completely until the next LTP project.

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I somewhat oppose the proposed budget.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

I support increasing spend in the current budget.

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

not answered



Respondent No: 637

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Henry Lockhart
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Afternoon
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** not answered
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 2. Enhanced investment (\$2.4bn - the Council's preferred option).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 3: High investment programme (\$120m capital investment - Council's preferred option)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Wastewater laterals
Central Library

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

Kia ora. I don't feel best placed to speak to most of these technical issues, but as a student who moved to Wellington last year from Auckland I can attest to the importance of a quick rebuild of a prominent central library and sufficient water investment. In Auckland the central library is a well known location people suggest as meeting places etc, and now as a student I'm sure that many of us would engage with a central library if it was there. I'm vaguely aware of alternative libraries but there definitely isn't good knowledge of these. Greater engagement with a central library would also expose people to the face of the council, likely improving (particularly young, disabled, and old) people's democratic engagement. On waste water, I'm not privy to the technicals but it's widely felt that the Council's screwed up water infrastructure and it really does damage trust in the Council. Also, the harbour is a huge attraction to young people especially new students in the Summer months and it's really disappointing that people can't be confident of the safety of jumping in off the waterfront or swimming at oriental. These are the little things that make the Welly uni experience! Also disruptive roadworks for water breakages are really annoying!

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I strongly support the proposed budget.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

not answered

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

I think it's great to see a youth strategy and the other social whatever one! Also, glad to see a lanaced approach with rates and debt. I'm worried of the effect of rates increases on rents for students and housing affordability but it seems that incomes are the primary driver of rent rises rather than costs, and the proposed funding is all really important!



Respondent No: 653

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Social Change Collective
- Q2. **Phone number:** not answered
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Organisation
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** Social Change Collective
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** not answered
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Evening
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 3. Accelerated (\$3.3bn investment – higher rates and debt).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 4. Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Don't know.
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option3. Strengthen now by increasing rates further (additional 1.79% rates increase).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

not answered

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

The Social Change Collective ran a workshop for approximately 50 young Wellingtonians on 6 May, to help them to uncover their vision for Wellington's future. Our network's vision is for liveable, affordable sustainable cities. Young people in Wellington know that there is precious little time left to adjust our cities to become climate-resilient. We are aware of decades of under-investment in our infrastructure and community spaces. We want to be able to swim safely in our waterways, spend time in community spaces like our Library, safely use active modes of transport like cycling, and have peace of mind that our future is being protected against climate change. Our network supported the Long Term Plan's overall objectives of increased infrastructure investment to tackle the big problems of growth, climate change, housing, transport, and waste minimisation now rather than later. Participants supported the most ambitious options for cycleways, Te Atakura, and three waters infrastructure. We questioned why the overall rates and debt levels weren't specifically consulted on. In our view, it has never been cheaper or a better time to raise debt to renew our critical infrastructure and prepare for the future. We support spreading the cost of investment over the lifespan of assets through debt. It is cheaper to invest now than to delay and produce capacity bottle-necks. But it's not all about finances. Given that the council has declared a climate emergency, we questioned why each proposal isn't transparently assessed against its climate impact, in the same way that fiscal cost is clearly labelled. We ask Councillors to make this a truly long-term plan by considering the impacts decisions today will have on us - the rangatahi of Wellington, who will bear the impacts one way or another.

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/8db7414c2520746fb6c10671acc040090efee34e/original/1620551192/ad6f4815ece245493aae56a738fa1376_Social_Change_Collective_-_workshop_results.docx?1620551192

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I strongly support the proposed budget.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

not answered

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

The Social Change Collective ran a workshop for approximately 50 young Wellingtonians on 6 May, to help them to uncover their vision for Wellington's future. Our network's vision is for liveable, affordable sustainable cities. Young people in Wellington know that there is precious little time left to adjust our cities to become climate-resilient. We are aware of decades of under-investment in our infrastructure and community spaces. We want to be able to swim safely in our waterways, spend time in community spaces like our Library, safely use active modes of transport like cycling, and have peace of mind that our future is being protected against climate change. Our network supported the Long Term Plan's overall objectives of increased infrastructure investment to tackle the big problems of growth, climate change, housing, transport, and waste minimisation now rather than later. Participants supported the most ambitious options for cycleways, Te Atakura, and three waters infrastructure. We questioned why the overall rates and debt levels weren't specifically consulted on. In our view, it has never been cheaper or a better time to raise debt to renew our critical infrastructure and prepare for the future. We support spreading the cost of investment over the lifespan of assets through debt. It is cheaper to invest now than to delay and produce capacity bottle-necks. But it's not all about finances. Given that the council has declared a climate emergency, we questioned why each proposal isn't transparently assessed against its climate impact, in the same way that fiscal cost is clearly labelled. We ask Councillors to make this a truly long-term plan by considering the impacts decisions today will have on us - the rangatahi of Wellington, who will bear the impacts one way or another.



**Results of a workshop with approximately 50
young Wellingtonians on Wellington City
Council's Long Term Plan**

- ✓ community spaces
- ✓ accessibility

Library and Civic Square

Should we strengthen it now (2025 opening) or a little later (2028 opening)?

↳ 2028 - later, therefore have money to spend on other issues that are more pressing.

What does the central library mean to you?

accessibility + inclusion of lower socio-economic status

don't want to ↑ rental prices more

Should we pay for its restrengthening through debt or rates?

An increase in rates will impact renters while paying for it through debt would negatively impact renters.

The physical space wouldn't mean as much to me as making sure the group are supported

Option 1: Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding the debt limit (preferred)	Option 2: Council to strengthen Central Library later	Option 3: Strengthen now by increasing rates further
This option repairs the building's structural issues to the highest extent possible. It includes base isolating the building. Base isolation means the building would likely be safe to occupy during and after a significant earthquake. The building's heritage value will be retained, and it will integrate more with Te Ngākau Civic Precinct. In this option our debt level will remain at 225%, but Council has agreed to accept the breach in the first three years of this plan to enable to project to be completed. This breach will be mitigated by any capital not spent being used for the library project rather than on new projects. Our debt level will be back below our limit by year 4 – 2024/25	This option will repair the building's structural issues in the same manner as in Option 1, however this option does not exceed the Council's debt limit. As in Option 1 the full costs of this project will fall to Council, but in this option the project would be delayed until a period of the Long-term Plan when there is sufficient borrowing capacity, for the project to go ahead. This means Council would remain under its debt limit with this option. In this option the Central Library would reopen in 2028, instead of 2025.	This option will repair the building's structural issues in the same manner as in Option 1, and allows for the remediation to happen as per the original timeframe (open 2025). However, this option does include an extra 3% rates increase above the 12.5% in year 1. The increase in rates will allow the Council to rapidly pay down more of the additional debt that it has taken on
★★★	★★★	★★★

There are too few free community spaces - wifi, open parking - community

Do people have access to facilities?

Pop up libraries are cool but quite corporate/stark like CAB



Two buildings in Civic Square need strengthening. Should the Council demolish and sell a long-term ground lease? Sell it outright? Or retain it and strengthen it (at considerable cost)?

Demolishing them at the cost of the building value is a better option. The ground lease is a better option than the building value, especially if it can be put to use in a more productive way.

Is the heritage value of these buildings important to you? What is your vision for Civic Square?

the current plan for the town hall is for a venue space + when the venue is done for orchestra wellington to be there there are need spaces between 500-700 (mid size venues) and more spaces for community arts/local arts accessible + rehearsal spaces.

Sewage sludge & waste

Sewage sludge makes up 20% of what goes to the Southern Landfill. The Council actually needs household waste (4-1 ratio) to mix with the sludge. If we continue as normal, we need to expand our waste at a greater rate than we might like!

Other materials / research into this?

important step to addressing/minimising waste

Does investing in a waste water treatment plant at Moa Point sound good? (no sludge pipes)

Once sludge minimisation is in place we need to go hard on waste minimisation.

Or is better technology at the landfill the answer?

Why not both?

Option 1: No change in current practice	Option 2: Invest in technology at Southern Landfill	Option 3: Sludge minimisation through Council funding	Option 4: Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (preferred)
The cheapest course of action would be to keep pumping raw wastewater across the city and disposing of it in the landfill. This is a feasible and affordable choice.	We could invest in better infrastructure at the Southern Landfill. For example, we could install a thermal drier (estimated additional total expenditure around \$86-134m) and this would go some way to reducing the volume of sludge to be disposed.	In option 3 we invest in the existing wastewater treatment plant site at Moa Point. It would mean that sludge would not need to be pumped to the Southern Landfill and would help the city meet its environmental objectives.	Option 4 delivers the same service and benefits as Option 3. However, this option is our preferred option, because the cost of the project will be delivered and funded through an external fund enabled by the Infrastructure Funding and Financing Act 2020. It means that the project would not be funded by Council debt and we would not exceed our debt-to-income cap as in Option 3.
Capital cost and debt impact: No change	This option reduces some of the sludge volume to landfill, but leaves a significant remaining volume of sludge to be disposed of at the landfill. In addition, the pumping of sewage across the city would continue. Capital cost and debt impact: \$86m to \$134m	Option 3 would be a long-term investment that would better reflect our aspirations on carbon and waste reduction. Capital cost and debt impact: \$147m to \$208m in first 10 years	The same asset will still be constructed as Option 3 (at a value of \$147m-\$208m). Capital cost and debt impact: Same as Option 3, but through alternate funding, so no cost to Council.
Rates change: None	Rates change: 0.39% 3 year average increase	Rates change: 1.05% 3 year average increase	Rates change: None, but a levy of approx. \$70 to \$100 per residential ratepayer collected per year from year 4

Wastewater treatment in NZ kinda out. What's the guarantee that effluent coming out of the treatment plant doesn't contain heavy metals etc?

Through rates or through a residential levy?

It doesn't seem fair that everyone would have to pay the same amount in a levy regardless of income



fair to different income earners? No!

The current system is holding us back from making impact in other areas of environmental concern e.g waste. Make high 0 carbon + low waste!



Respondent No: 655

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Vanessa Rushton
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Organisation
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** Wellington Waste Managers
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?**
Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Morning
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Morning
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** None of these options.
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Don't know.
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 4. Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Don't know.
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Don't know.

Q15. Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)	Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)
Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below	Investment in three waters infrastructure Te Atakura (climate change) Sludge and waste minimisation
Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)	not answered
Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)	https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/317c0ee2ed4d698e27b22843abf1ab3a2b6864a1/original/1620551903/32d3dda1bccad719c4474934ac700cce_Joint-Submission-on-WCC-LTP.pdf?1620551903
Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?	Don't know.
Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?	not answered
Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?	not answered



2021–2031 | Long-term Plan Consultation

This joint submission has been prepared by the group of zero waste advocates listed below. We are passionate about circular economy, eliminating waste and valuing resources; with this focus, responses have been prepared to Question 1, 4 and 7 in the Long-term Plan consultation document.

Caroline Arrowsmith, *Sustainability Trust*

Hannah Blumhardt, *The Rubbish Trip*

Sophie Brooker, *Wellington Waste Managers*

Sue Coutts, *Zero Waste Network*

Polly Griffiths, *Sustainability Trust*

Ali Kirkpatrick, *Waste-ed*

Karina McCallum, *Wellington Waste Managers*

Careoline-Charlotte Michael, *Organic Wealth*

Liam Prince, *The Rubbish Trip*

Te Kawa Robb, *Para Kore Marae Inc*

Susie Roberton, *Sustainability Trust*

Kate Walmsley, *Kaicycle*

Question 1 – Investment in three waters infrastructure

Which of these options do you prefer?

	Enhanced (\$2.4b investment – the Council’s preferred option)
	Maintain (\$2.0b investment - lower rates and debt)
	Accelerated (\$3.3b investment – higher rates and debt)
	<u>None of these options</u>
	Don’t know

Question 4 – Te Atakura First to Zero (Climate Change)

Which of these options do you prefer?

	<u>Fully fund the programme (Council's preferred option, \$29.9m investment)</u>
	Low level of funding (\$18.1m investment, lower rates and debt)
	Medium investment with savings (\$25.4m investment, lower rates and debt)
	None of these options
	Don't know

Question 7 – Reducing sewage sludge and waste

<u>Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m-\$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)</u>
No change in current practice (no change to investment, rates or debt)
Invest in technology at Southern Landfill (\$86m-\$134m capital investment and additional 0.39% rates increase)
Sludge minimisation – through Council funding (\$147m-\$208m capital investment, above debt limit, and additional 1.65% rates increase)
None of these options
Don't know

Comments

Please note we have only responded to Question 1, 4 and 7 due to the remit of our group.

QUESTION 1

None of the options presented in the LTP have provided any major review or analysis of the resilience or sustainability of the three waters network as a whole. The enormous size, complexity and importance to a well-functioning city of three waters infrastructure requires its future to be very carefully considered. As highlighted by the work of Transition-HQ, the world is looking at a future where we will have no choice but to live more efficiently on less energy - big infrastructure depends on high energy inputs to run.

While we understand that historic underinvestment has left Council with little choice but to increase investment in critical upgrades and maintenance now, there is an enormous missed

opportunity to rethink the system for the genuine long-term (beyond ten years). Given the size of the infrastructure and the huge costs (expenditure, energy etc.) of running and maintaining it, we must begin to explore opportunities that consider how to better address the climate and local environmental impact of the system as it is now, while building more resilience and efficiency into our water systems. These opportunities can be developed through applying circular economy frameworks to the way we use, move, reuse and dispose of water.

We fully support the submission by the Poo Breakfast Club on the need to start exploring the feasibility of an alternative system for managing human waste/biosolids that does not rely on the wastewater system. Using water to transport biosolids increases the contamination of both the biosolids, and the water.

Instead, solids and wastewater should be kept separate (thus uncontaminated). In such a system, biosolids can be processed either at a local level or collected and processed at a centralised composting facility separate from the wastewater treatment plant. While this is a long-term issue, budget must be allocated now to investigate and help develop a source-separated wastewater/sanitation system, as it may take decades to phase in completely. We recommend some waste minimisation funding for organics goes towards pilot and feasibility studies for decentralised, source-separated sanitation systems.

The consultation supporting documents identify the following action “*Making investment in green infrastructure business as usual with mātauranga Māori guiding delivery where it is practicable in relation to the impacts of stormwater.*” We recommend that tikanga should also guide delivery, and we recommend deleting the words 'where it is practicable'. The idea that tikanga Māori might not be considered for reasons of practicality is not itself, tika - all responses need to be informed and guided by mana whenua and tikanga Māori. It's not for Council to determine, but to ensure mana whenua are supported to guide.

Council must also consider smaller-scale initiatives that can improve environmental outcomes and reduce load on the infrastructure in the short-term. Such initiatives include:

- Prohibiting the disposal of food waste into the wastewater system in order to reduce pressure on the wastewater network and mitigate waste-related emissions. This would include banning new installations of waste disposal units in households (e.g. [Insinkerator](#)) and technologies that process commercial quantities of food waste to be disposed of in wastewater (e.g. [ORCA](#) and [lugis](#)). Any existing systems should be phased out akin to the Climate Change Commission's proposed phase-out of gas connections.
- Installing litter traps at key stormwater outflow sites, in consultation with ecologists with relevant expertise (e.g. the pathways of migratory fish), could help reduce the incidence of plastic pollution in the marine environment and would also provide a good opportunity to collect data on litter concentrations and types.
- Alternative approaches that improve efficiency of water usage and retention must be considered as part of investment in the three waters infrastructure. For example, enhanced education, tools and incentives to encourage and, in some cases, require

water conservation activities; effective and strategic water metering; encourage, incentivise and ultimately require greywater recovery; invest in and implement sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS). The [Hutt City Long Term Plan Consultation](#) acknowledges that reducing water consumption is vital for the region for environmental protection and fair distribution of water, and we support metering to provide information to help us understand water demand, find leaks and target water usage reduction activities.

QUESTION 4

We support the full funding of Te Atakura. However, we believe its scope is much too narrow. While energy use and transport are important, Wellington City's response to the climate and ecological emergency must be much broader, encompassing zero waste and circular economy frameworks, water use reductions, resilient urban redesign, biodiversity, and community resilience, among others.

It is particularly crucial that the transition to a zero-waste, circular economy is embedded in Te Atakura and its funded workstreams for the next ten years. We strongly support the Council investigating the inclusion of circular economy concepts into the Council's policy framework, as stated on p. 47 of Te Atakura, and encourage Council to go further and develop a full circular economy action plan as part of its core work on climate action. The transition to a circular economy presents one of our best opportunities for slashing Wellington's consumption-based emissions, as well as building in long-term resilience and creating employment.

We cannot overstate the importance of shifting to a circular economy as part of climate action. As much as 45% of global emissions are associated with making products, and circular economy strategies are needed to tackle these emissions. Furthermore, the recent *Circularity Gap report* outlines how simply reducing emissions in line with our Nationally Determined Contribution is not enough. Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) overwhelmingly focus on the energy transition and moving to non-fossil sources. Even if all NDCs are implemented, the rise in temperatures is still forecast to hit 3.2-degrees this century. By implementing a shift to a circular economy alongside meeting NDCs, global warming can be kept to 1.5 degrees.

We note the proposed workstream, under all proposed options, to measure Council and City greenhouse gas emissions and urge the council to include within this workstream a measurement approach that goes beyond the limited focus on production-based emissions. Taking only a production-based approach to measuring Wellington's emissions (let alone national and global emissions measurements) is a misleading representation of the climate impact of our city. It is crucial that the measurement of Council and City greenhouse gas emissions under Te Atakura incorporates consumption-based emissions and includes measurement of circularity. This will make the importance of a transition to a circular economy much clearer (for more detail on these points, see the [Zero Waste Network's submission on the Climate Change Commission's draft advice here](#)). Having this information inform Te Atakura's work and funding is critical.

While Te Atakura itself may not be able to stretch across all aspects of responding to the climate emergency, it should be well-connected with relevant Council-led initiatives, such as the Sustainable Food Network Action Plan, as well as community-led initiatives, to proactively avoid operating in a siloed manner. It is critical that the adaptation planning workstream of Te Atakura involves food and water security and resilience. The Wellington Climate Lab in particular presents a great opportunity to explore cross-sectoral, multiple-duty and paradigm-shifting solutions to the challenges our city faces.

We believe Te Atakura will have much greater success in achieving WCC's Priority Objectives 5 (an accelerating zero-carbon and wastefree transition) and 6 (strong partnerships with mana whenua) through formal integration of community input and advice into the work programme. We recommend that the delivery of Te Atakura involves community advisory panels/reference groups, e.g. for waste, emissions, circular economy, as there is substantial knowledge and skill in these areas in our community that can be drawn on (see also our response to Decision 7). Partnering with communities is also crucial for adaptation planning that will affect everyday people and businesses long into the future. Community partnership will help generate actions that are fit-for-purpose and well-accepted by Wellingtonians, and have long-term positive impacts.

Business and community funding provided through Te Atakura should be managed strategically to generate the most holistic, cost-effective outcomes possible. We believe the top-down funding approach results in a hodge-podge of siloed projects being funded. Te Atakura should facilitate and support collaboration between multiple sectors, including business, social enterprise, community organisations, mana whenua, and other stakeholders, in order to achieve greater impact and better outcomes per dollar spent of the limited funds available.

Having well-thought-out funding priorities and programmes will help amplify outcomes. For example, the Climate and Sustainability Fund should be made available to help advance circular economy models and initiatives, such as repair, reuse and sharing economies. We support the proposed workstream to provide support for car sharing and believe this support could be extended to provide support for the sharing economy more generally for a wider range of goods and services, from tools and clothes through to appliances and other goods. These could operate through peer-to-peer sharing platforms (such as Mutu), through community-run initiatives such as the Wellington Tool Library, or business models such as laundrettes. Formalising and expanding the sharing and service economy has been recognised as a key way in which high-income countries can reduce high levels of climate intensive material consumption.

Wellington has a fantastic opportunity to show leadership in the climate action space, both nationally and internationally, by placing the transition to a circular economy at the heart of climate action. WCC has a crucial role to signal and lead this transition, and facilitate and support collaboration.

QUESTION 7

We agree there is an urgent need for a solution that stops the need for sludge disposal at the Southern Landfill. We welcome the Council's commitment to addressing this issue urgently.

We fully support the submission by the Poo Breakfast Club on the need to start exploring the feasibility of an alternative system for managing wastewater and biosolids/human waste in the longer term that will build in true resilience. While this is a long-term issue, budget must be allocated now to investigate and help develop a source-separated wastewater and sanitation system, as it may take decades to phase in completely. We recommend that some of the waste minimisation funding earmarked for organics goes towards pilot and feasibility studies for decentralised, source-separated sanitation systems.

The current situation, requiring each tonne of sludge to be mixed with 4 tonnes of general waste for disposal, has been a significant barrier to Council action on waste minimisation. We have been repeatedly told that progress on waste diversion from landfill is dependent on removal or minimisation of the sludge. Now that a solution has been identified, we urge the Council to be ambitious and plan to avoid the need for future expansion of the landfill. Given the large investment of money to remove the sludge, the findings from the strategic review of waste, and the additional waste levy income, must be used to prepare and take action now rather than further delay.

We support the Council investing in the proposed infrastructure needed to reduce the amount of sludge that must be sent to landfill. However, we note that this is not a forever solution and is better understood as one that buys us the much-needed time to investigate, develop and build a more resilient and ecological, source-separated sanitation system that is ready to go before the ~50 year lifespan on the proposed infrastructure expires. We urge the Council not to continue kicking the can down the road on this issue, and to take the opportunity of time that the present infrastructural investment represents.

We note too the reference in the LTP to the potential that after sludge has been processed through the proposed infrastructure, that it could become "a product that could potentially be diverted from the landfill for beneficial re-use". We are concerned about this statement given the sludge will be contaminated with microplastics, heavy metals, persistent organic pollutants and other toxins as a result of being mixed with wastewater. We do not see a viable pathway for this sludge to be reused, safely. Again, the proposed infrastructure is not a long term solution to our sludge problems, it merely buys us time to develop a more resilient, source-separated system that will allow for safer beneficial reuse of the biosolids.

We urge the Council to involve the community in Waste Minimisation/zero waste beyond the formal consultation processes. One way this could be achieved would be by establishing a community advisory panel. For example, the recently established Waste Free Wellington group consists of individuals, organisations and businesses advocating and acting on zero waste in Wellington; there is substantial knowledge and capacity that can be drawn on. Community partnership will help generate actions that are fit-for-purpose and well-accepted by

Wellingtonians, and have long-term positive impact. This approach aligns with the Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (LM.6: Collaborate with private sector and community to work with local groups and waste companies).

Many of the groups who have come together to co-author this submission are part of the Waste Free Wellington group, which has three priority areas: community-scale composting; reuse economy; and building a resource recovery network. These priority areas align with actions already in the WRWMMP (for example, LM.3: Industry-based reuse). The group is supportive of the increase in landfill fees that will come in alongside the increase in the landfill levy and believe this can provide more funding for waste minimisation directed to developing solutions with business and the community.

We support Council plans to allocate more funding for organic waste diversion. The primary purpose of the organics fund should be to divert existing organic waste, particularly food scraps, not to support compostable packaging. Investment in packaging solutions are better aimed higher up the waste hierarchy - i.e. developing reusable packaging systems that have far more beneficial environmental and economic outcomes than single-use packaging systems (including compostables and recyclables). The uncertainties and risks associated with compostable packaging (including toxic chemical additives) should halt our use of such packaging until New Zealand has a much stronger regulatory and certification system for it.

We note that there is nothing explicitly in the LTP consultation about supporting the reuse economy beyond car sharing. Any funding should focus on the top of the waste hierarchy where there is the greatest potential to reduce waste. We are disappointed that work on the resource recovery centre is delayed until year 4; we know there is community appetite for more services in this area and opportunities coming through the Government's regulated product stewardship schemes (e-waste and potential container return scheme). There is the chance to work with the community now, to plan for further resource recovery capacity across the city and to implement this sooner. We are also disappointed about the lack of mention of construction and demolition waste, which makes up over 50% of waste going to landfill.

The current proposals are very centred on the waste that goes to the Council-managed Southern Landfill. The Council's waste minimisation focus needs to transcend that and consider waste generated by, and/or disposed within, the city as a whole. The new waste bylaw is a positive step and we look forward to seeing this being implemented and enforced, and appropriate Council funding allocated to enable this. Waste is a cross-cutting issue that should not be siloed in one department, otherwise the focus will remain on treating symptoms rather than turning off the tap and creating circular systems. The Council has the ability to lead and influence - particularly through procurement, funding and use of Council land - the creation of a circular Wellington. Waste is a climate issue far beyond the direct emissions from landfill, with nearly 50% of global carbon emissions being related to the consumption of products and materials. Focussing on a circular economy will reduce emissions, and bring additional co-benefits including job creation, resilience and community building.

See also our response to Decision 1 and 4.



Respondent No: 667

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Fiona Barker
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Afternoon
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** not answered
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 3. Accelerated (\$3.3bn investment – higher rates and debt).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 3: High investment programme (\$120m capital investment - Council's preferred option)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

<p>Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below</p>	<p>Investment in three waters infrastructure Cycleways</p>
<p>Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)</p>	<p>Functional and reliable water infrastructure is crucial for the life (and reputation) of the city. I think the most active approach possible should be taken to improve this infrastructure. I noted the Council preferred the third option so as to also gather information in the first period, but I would support setting aside the biggest amount possible in the budget for three waters infrastructure, so that all relevant work can be undertaken once information is gathered. As a Northern Suburbs resident I am highly supportive of plans to develop cycleways in this part of the city, as it seems to have received very little investment in this kind of infrastructure so far. A good cycle path along the Johnsonville to Ngaio, eg, could reduce a lot of traffic (and thus emissions, time cost etc) in this busy corridor and at the same time encourage young peoples' activity . I am unsure about the WCC money committed to LGWM - this project seems to be so troubled that I would be more inclined to support investment in public transport and active transport infrastructure that could occur outside of that and directly via WCC, but I don't fully understanding the funding mechanisms for these.</p>
<p>Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)</p>	<p>not answered</p>
<p>Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?</p>	<p>I somewhat support the proposed budget.</p>
<p>Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?</p>	<p>not answered</p>
<p>Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?</p>	<p>I urge the Council to prioritise basic, but key community infrastructure, such as library services, open green spaces, sports fields and parks, and community centres, as these types of amenities bring residents together, enable people to live active lives, and offer community spaces for people to spend time regardless of their housing situation. The social divided is so high on these types of amenities and investment in them will make the city and its suburbs more liveable. I also support greening and pedestrianising the central city as much as possible to make it an attractive area for residents of all parts of Wellington to come to.</p>



Respondent No: 673

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Perrine Gilkison
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Evening
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** not answered
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 3. Accelerated (\$3.3bn investment – higher rates and debt).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 4. Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Don't know.
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 3. Sludge minimisation through Council funding (\$147m to \$208m capital investment, above debt limit, and higher rates)

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

not answered

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

I think that Wellington has a lot of catching up to do, following years of underinvestment in key infrastructure. We need to seriously invest in three waters infrastructure in order for our city to be functional and healthy, and we really, really need to invest in cycleways (and routes for other non-motorised transport) in order to be a functional, healthy, and a vibrant modern city - the current lack of cycleways is both dangerous to the population and discourages so many people from making choices that are smart for their health, communities, and the climate. We are a long way behind in many aspects of our spending, and I do not want us to forego other important services in order to catch up in these investments. I think the council needs to seriously consider debt limits and rates increases in order to get to be the city we want to be.

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I somewhat support the proposed budget.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

not answered

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

I note that the long-term vision put forward in this LTP is very narrow in scope and I (and others) would like more opportunities to be involved in more holistic city-wide planning - in ways that are more accessible to a greater range of people too.



Respondent No: 680

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- | | |
|---|---|
| Q1. Full name: | Daniel McGaughran |
| Q2. Phone number: | [REDACTED] |
| Q3. Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation? | Individual |
| Q4. What organisation are you submitting on behalf of? | not answered |
| Q5. Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum? | Yes |
| Q6. If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer? | Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters) |
| Q7. Oral forum time | Evening |
| Q8. Oral hearing time | not answered |
| Q9. Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision) | Option 2. Enhanced investment (\$2.4bn - the Council's preferred option). |
| Q10. Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision) | Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment). |
| Q11. Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision) | Option 2. Medium investment programme (\$39m capital investment, lower debt and rates) |
| Q12. Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision) | Option 1. Low level of funding (\$18.1m investment, lower rates and debt). |
| Q13. Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision) | Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option). |
| Q14. Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision) | Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates). |
| Q15. Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision) | Option 3. Sludge minimisation through Council funding (\$147m to \$208m capital investment, above debt limit, and higher rates) |

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Investment in three waters infrastructure
Cycleways
Te Atakura (climate change)
Sludge and waste minimisation
Te Ngākau funding for future work

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

Three waters: It is apparent that Option 1 won't be adequate, given the critical nature of the task at hand. Option 3 is way too expensive, especially if this is on top of the proposed 13.5% rates increase. It is a tough decision, yet Option 2 seems to be the best trade-off in this bad situation. Cycleways: Sure, finish the projects that you started (so at least it meets the goals of being safer for cyclists in those areas). Compared to other big decisions, this takes a lower priority in my book, and can wait. The extra funding should be allocated more pragmatically - top of my mind is addressing Aro Valley & the hill that leads to Kelburn, as it is frustrating being held up by slow cyclists (ditto for Salamanca Road past the squash centre). I haven't observed the impact of cyclists in the Eastern Corridor (except for the cycle lane on Crawford Rd, which has conveniently removed them from the road lanes), though having previously lived in Brooklyn I found the road wide enough, especially with the passing lane, to accommodate cyclists and make it easy for vehicles to pass - therefore that can be held off for a while. Given the presence of cycle lanes on southern Victoria St, I believe that road should have its speed limit restored to 50km/h since it is a major traffic route like Taranaki St. Climate change: I note that the programme can be adequately delivered with the lowest level of funding. Given the encouragement of increased uptake of public transport and cycling, I would expect council staff & councillors to adopt these modes of transport, rather than incur a huge expense in upgrading to electric vehicles. A pragmatic approach to vehicle funding should be adopted, e.g. council contractors who carry tools, such as groundskeepers. Parking enforcement could pay for their own EVs as they save up their income from infringement fines and parking charges (though it would be exceedingly arrogant to increase parking charges significantly to fund this). I don't know much about the Home Energy Saver audits, though expect that the current level of funding can maintain this offering. Sludge/waste minimisation: Based on my current rates, a \$70-\$100 annual levy would cost more than a 1.65% increase on my current rates, so Option 3 would work better for me than the levy proposed in Option 4 (which I assume would increase towards the \$100 over time). The first two options aren't adequate in order to address our ecological need. Civic Square / MOB & CAB: Definitely demolish and rebuild - we need a clean slate so that we're not encumbered by increasing costs of strengthening work over time and as Murphy's Law rears its head (which appears to be the track record). And this time, get it right - we've known for decades about Wellington's seismic hazards, and whoever designed the CAB and Library building should've known better than to specify such poor design details such as a 5cm overhang of floor sections on their supporting pillars (for example). I'm not attached to the design of the CAB building (although it's nice), and definitely not the MOB building, so I won't be sorry to see that go. I support the design & development of a suitable venue for the NZSM/NZSO music centre, and would rather not see that be lost to some general commercial office development.

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I strongly oppose the proposed budget.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

I support decreasing spend in the current budget.

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

The proposed parking fee increase on weekends (i.e. nearly doubling it) is excessive, as well as coupon parking and trade parking (which would very likely lead to significant cost increases for trade services). The proposed increase of various building consent fees of 27-28% is very large - and contradicts the intention to make housing more affordable. There doesn't seem to be an acceptable explanation for a 13.5% general rates increase before the add-ons such as a further 2.51% increase for the recommend water infrastructure option are considered. Even if this is just for the first year, that increased amount is maintained forever after (unless rates decrease in future years). By 2029, based on the proposed annual increases, I calculated that the average rates bill would be 1.66x the amount paid for the 2020-2021 year - which is obscene. Once these projects are delivered, when are we going to see a rates reduction? Also, the distribution of the rates increases based on capital value should have a wider differential, so that owners of \$2million-plus residential properties can shoulder more of the increase, while those of us getting by with a more modest property value aren't unfairly disadvantaged. This is especially given the general rapid increase of house prices, which does not reflect typical incomes that are rather inelastic in comparison. My impression is that the more expensive properties would be owned by households with the sufficient disposable income to shoulder more of the burden of these rates rises.



Respondent No: 684

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Richard Moore
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Organisation
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** MegaVision Ltd trading as Poly Palace
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** not answered
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Evening
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Don't know.
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Don't know.
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Don't know.
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Don't know.
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Don't know.
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Don't know.
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** None of these options.

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Sludge and waste minimisation

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

The sludge removal must be done at Moa Point, because the existence of Southern Landfill for sludge disposal, must change to allow for emissions reductions and waste minimisation. Assumption is the mother of all stuff ups. For years it has been assumed Southern Landfill is going to be the one mega landfill into the future when all others in the Wellington Region are closed. This assumption is based on market share, revenue, basically the same landfill centric thinking that has seen Wellington have 3 class1 landfills within forty minutes drive of the CBD in a small geographic area as each council focuses on revenue generating assets, and market share in the waste stream. I myself was surprised when an ex-council asset manager said part WCC owned Spicer Landfill would be a better site for the one future regional landfill south of Bonny Glen. Improvements to Wellington Motorways, the trucking of sludge, Spicer's more central location mean that if Spicer's capacity and extendability are suitable this becomes the blatantly obvious future solution for the one future Regional landfill. However blatantly obvious solutions take for ever to happen in waste in this region and our Region. Eg: look how long it has taken since after Auckland's Redvale landfill instituted a volume based charge for polystyrene waste, (early 2000s) before Wellington Region landfills did. The fact is the management of our regions landfills is far short of private sector decision making, vision and wisdom even about this relatively simple aspect of landfill management. When Southern landfill extension was being consulted on we were told there was no suitable alternative within 10 years hence the landfill must be extended and yet now we are consulting on sludge dewatering and trucking to landfill. That is therefore the level of respect I have for your capability to plan for 10 years in a period where we need change. Your current capacity to drive change is best seen with the lack of progress to targets and in waste that is the abysmal progress towards your 10 year waste target (gone backwards with volumes increasing?) and this should give clear concern about meaningfully progressing towards climate change targets. With three council owned class1 landfills within 40 minutes drive of the CBD and the region's recycling controlled by Chinese owned interests there is a lack of a private sector recycling ecosystem (the buying and selling of waste derived products beyond greenwaste) in the Wellington region of a scale to effect landfill volumes. Where are our innovations like Auckland's Green Gorilla?. Why are most of Poly Palace's 100% recycled polystyrene sales being sold outside this region? It is because of the lack of a strong vibrant LOCAL recycling ecosystem at scale focused on LOCAL products and markets. and that is what our council owned landfill and offshore owned public recycling is depriving our region of as our councils in this region that own the class1 landfills progress towards 1950 waste solutions not 2050 zerowaste. So WCC please get your shit sorted at your earliest opportunity and close Southern when it's full. (Try implementing a smaller volumetric size for your minimum polystyrene fee in the interim. Everything from a few bags to a B- train of consumer packaging polystyrene is less than your current 1/2 ton minimum fee.....Doh! If you can't operate a landfill economically you shouldn't own one. That goes for Hutt City and Silverstream as well so as a region we can't even get the simple decisions on waste right. And it's been this way for decades. #Welcome to Wellington the coolest little landfill capital in the world.

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

Don't know.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

not answered

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

Close Southern Landfill. We don't need it. If you do then change and close it.



Respondent No: 685

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Ian Turk
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Organisation
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** Ngaio Crofton Downs Residents Association
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** not answered
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** Afternoon
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** not answered
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** not answered
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** not answered
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** not answered
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** not answered
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** not answered

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

not answered

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

not answered

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

Neutral.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

I support increasing spend in the current budget.

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

not answered



Ngaio Crofton Downs Residents Association
36 Chelmsford St
Ngaio, Wellington
info@ngaio.org.nz

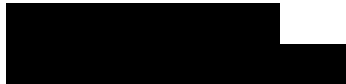
10 May 2021

To: Wellington City Council

Submission on the draft Long Term Plan

By: Ngaio Crofton Downs Residents Association

Contact Details: Ian Turk, Chairperson



INTRODUCTION

Ngaio Crofton Downs Residents Association represents the interests of, and advocates for, residents in the suburbs of Ngaio and Crofton Downs. From the 2018 census, the total number of residents in these suburbs is 7,275.

It is the view of NCDRA that the plan as presented focusses on a reaction to the current situation that Wellington is in with very little information relating to the longer term direction, or a vision of what Wellington City will work towards.

We appreciate that there are a number of large issues that must be addressed immediately and must be provided for over the next few years. However there are also longer term projects that Council must not lose sight of if our city is to become the dynamic attractive city fit for the future, for which Mayor Foster says he is hoping to lay the foundation.

It is our view that the seven decisions that Council is seeking feedback on are very specific, and our residents will hold varying views as they are entitled to. We are not submitting a preference for most of these decisions but are instead encouraging our members to submit their own personal choice from the options that are offered.

The Seven Major Decisions

We do make the following comment on each:

Three waters – clearly this is one of Wellington’s major issues, and one that must be addressed with urgency so that Wellington development is not continually hindered by water infrastructure failures.

We believe however that investment in Three Waters must keep the Spatial Plan in mind. The Spatial Plan is already sufficiently developed to highlight areas of population growth – and will be adopted mid-year, which is only a couple of months away. Any investment in the Three Waters infrastructure must be mindful of future requirements that arise through the Spatial Plan.

Ownership of Wastewater Laterals – it is our view that Council Ownership of wastewater laterals is a preferred option, but to make this change is of less urgency to make at a time when there are other significant budget demands. While a cost in increased rates is obvious, the analysis appears short in showing a probable overall reduction of costs to rate payers. Individuals who would otherwise be faced with wastewater lateral maintenance will make significant personal savings. We expect that a central and regular maintenance programme will over time be less expensive than the current situation in which repairs are one-offs in an ad-hoc (when there is a failure) manner.

More Cycleways – Council says the community is telling it to make this a priority. We believe that encouragement of low emission transport options will contribute to an active attractive city but individuals’ submissions will tell the story of whether rate payers want to continue high investment in cycleways while there are many other demands on the rates dollar.

Te Atakura – First to Zero. This is most definitely a decision of strategic importance for the City – a climate and ecological emergency has been declared and must be funded so that actions can be taken.

Sustainability is an issue that is dear to the hearts on residents in Ngaio and Crofton Downs, and we have our own programme underway to reduce the carbon footprint of our suburbs. NCDRA strongly supports funding of Te Atakura and encourages our community to support it.

Resilience in Te Ngākau, and funding the Central Library rebuild. Both of these issues deal with use of land and buildings in central Wellington, which have a role to play in the heart of the city. Individual’s opinions on the options vary widely and are often emotionally held. NCDRA will not present a preferred option, again encouraging residents to submit their own preferences. We do however support that the decisions need to be made with some urgency, in line with the community’s preferences.

Reducing Sewage waste and sludge: while the direct impact on Northern suburbs may be less obvious, it is clear that improvements must be made to the way that the city manages sewage. Failures in the current system in recent times indicate that this is another decision that requires urgency, and individual’s preferences should drive the option which is adopted. As

an executive we believe that the best, and most sustainable option is that preferred by Council – sludge minimisation through alternate funding.

Changes to fees and user charges. We accept the principle that users should pay for the services that are covered by the list of user charges. We submit that charges should be reflective of actual cost of providing those services, but with an overlying social support to provide assistance where necessary. Again individual preferences should be the guide for changes to user charges.

Other Decisions

There are some areas in the long term plan that concern NCDRA for their absence.

City safety. There has been recent publicity around city safety – and we believe that this is a significant issue that WCC must plan to address urgently. Recent oral submissions to Council made very powerful arguments for the need to address city safety with urgency. The Council's recent treatment of volunteers relating to Camera Base, and the failure to recognise significant community input shows a terrible lack of empathy towards its community. This is something that can be, and must be, addressed swiftly.

Spatial Plan: Clearly the spatial plan is indicating significant growth in the Wellington population, which will not occur evenly throughout the area. While we understand that the spatial plan is still in draft form, it will come into effect during the next 10 years.

Council must be confident that the decisions it makes in relation to the Long Term Plan, and which will extend over multiple years, leave the city in a position where it can adequately respond to changes that are signalled through the long term plan. The city must be able to provide the infrastructure that the population growth will require. This includes not only transport, water, sewage etc, but social amenities such as open space, recreational facilities, and schooling.

Transport. Linked in with population growth is the provision of adequate transport. Is Lets Get Wellington Moving, which focusses on the Ngauranga to Miramar/ airport corridor, still relevant given suburban growth indicated by the spatial plan.

The spatial plan will encourage growth along the Johnsonville line (and others), but will the line have capacity to cope with the increase. Other transport bottlenecks are the Mt Victoria tunnels and Karori tunnel – these will be issues, how is WCC thinking ahead to them.

An effective cycleway network combined with an efficient transport system will go a long way to mitigating Wellington's traffic bottlenecks and meeting our sustainability goals.

We want to see WCC demanding more from LGWM so that it is actually addressing Wellington transport issues not extolling that it is **investigating** options for a walking and cycling crossing

over Cobham Drive, or **reviewing** speeds on State Highway 1 east of Mt Victoria. There are major strategic issues facing Wellington that need to be addressed urgently.

Social Housing. NCDRA notes the audit opinion which states that “In our view the underlying information should include the remaining (social housing) estimated costs of \$403.2 million and the Council should address how these costs will be funded”. We understand that it is working on options for how this will be funded and has included \$42.8 million of the total \$403.2 million in the Council’s budget.

It is our view that while Council is hopeful that alternate funding will be found for a large proportion of the total social housing sum, this is a significant sum that will impact hugely on the budget if hoped for outcomes are not achieved. Council has not been up front with significant risks to the long term plan, and residents will not be able to make their decisions with the degree of confidence that should be expected.

Ian Turk

Chairman

Ngaio Crofton Downs Residents Association.



Respondent No: 898

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Miria George
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Organisation
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** Tawata Productions & Kia Mau Festival
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Afternoon
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** not answered
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 2. Enhanced investment (\$2.4bn - the Council's preferred option).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 3: High investment programme (\$120m capital investment - Council's preferred option)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Te Ngākau funding for future work

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

Ka mihi ki ngā uri o te rohe nei! Kia ora koutou! Kia orana tātou! As John Key once said, Wellington is dying! As acknowledged here, Te Ngākau is bereft of life and as a City - a Capital City - our creative and cultural heart is left wanting. This means the communities that added balance to the Central City in particular are not present - artists, audience members, industry professionals. This has led to a Wellington City that has instead prioritised big out of town visitation numbers; international events purchased and then presented here in our City. In short, Wellington has become an event city - led by event administrators. It has not been an Arts City for many, many years. An Arts City is nurtured and developing by an arts community and industry. Wellington City Council has not significantly invested in the artists that nurture and grow the creative and cultural heart of this City - choosing instead to import events, artists and crews. It is entirely untruthful for Wellington City to identify as a cultural and creative city. The ever increasing incidences of violence in the Central City is because there is no longer a wider more complex culture of creative audiences spending the night in town to meet with friends and whānau, take in a theatre show and seek out a late night coffee to follow. As long-time and very active members of the local theatre and dance industries, we have long been aware that the increase in violence is because there is no longer a visible and engaged theatre going audience populating the Central City at night. As a Wellington creative business leader, the City has prioritised the artforms of our colonial past - including the ballet, the orchestra and a monolithic arts festival. Our Māori and Pasifika led arts companies, festivals and organisations need only look at the carpark of the Michael Fowler to see the value system of Council reflected to us. This shallow and mono-cultural value system has left our City lacking in any 'diversity' - with the in recent years the hashtag #WellingtonSoWhite often accompanying arts discourse of Wellington City. Despite the lack of value from Council - and the overwhelming prioritisation of the Pākehā-led entities in this Capital City - the Māori and Pasifika theatre industry has continued to grow - despite this lack of vision. As artists, organisations, festivals and companies, we, as Indigenous peoples, are global by nature. In Wellington, we need only look to our Kia Mau Festival as an example of a possible future - a dynamic, diverse and innovative ecology, growing economy- that without major resource from this city - continues to attract the world here. Like Tawata Productions too, we are global by nature, yet deeply rooted in Te Whanganui-a-Tara, with a focus on Wellington City and Wellingtonians. We implore the Wellington City Council to be bold - think locally and by it's very nature, act globally. We have the opportunity to make a bold decision, to engage with local Māori and Pasifika led creative companies and artists to prioritise and enhance a unique and world leading creative ecology. The 'rich traditions' that exist in our city are also creative traditions - Wellington is the birth place of both contemporary Māori and Pasifika theatre. We have a live performance ecology in this city that is acknowledged globally - and continues to be looked to as a meeting place of leading artists and companies from around the world. Wellington is a Capital City - yet it lacks the mana of a capital city. The answers to this City's future start right here in Pōneke - in fact, the solution have already begun, it's long past time for the Wellington City Council to catch up! Kia kaha! Miria George Co-Director, Tawata Productions Executive Director, Kia Mau Festival

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

Neutral.

Q20. **You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?**

Don't know.

Q21. **Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?**

not answered



Respondent No: 917

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Kevin Francis
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Evening
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** not answered
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 1. Maintain current funding level (\$2.0bn investment - lower rates and debt).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 1. No change (no change in investment, rates or debt).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 2. Medium investment programme (\$39m capital investment, lower debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** None of these options.
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** None of these options.
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Cycleways
Te Atakura (climate change)
Central Library
Te Ngākau funding for future work

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

I have included a document below (16) that expresses both my concerns and ideas about the areas I've selected above (14). I have invested a huge amount of time and energy into this document and would appreciate it being read and my ideas considered. There are two main underlying points I am trying to get across in my document: 1. An opportunity and full potential will be missed by not having an overarching Urban Design Plan linking both The Long Term Plan and Let's Get Wellington Moving (LGWM) ideas together. 2. I urgently want to see Skateboard facilities and the experience provided for skateboarders drastically improved in Wellington City by: - Upgrading Waitangi Park so it meets current Olympic standards, and can hold local, regional, national, and Olympic qualifying events - Creating a central city 'Skate Friendly Street Plaza' and including skate-able features in future urban projects While the first part of my document relates to LGWM it is still connected and rooted in The Long-Term Plan. Please Read my whole document. The second part of my document (Page 9 onward) pertains to the areas of the Long-Term Plan mentioned above. Particularly in regards to Skateboarding and the connection to Cycleways, Te Ngākau (Civic Center) and the Central Library. I argue that skateboarding should, and could be included in these developments for no extra cost. Page 9 of my document highlights how an opportunity is being missed to include and integrate other diverse forms of human-powered, sustainable forms of transport (Skateboarding for example) into Cycleways Page 14 onward addresses how Skateboarding could restore vibrancy into the city by reintegrated it back into the fabric of the city through creating a number of 'Skate-friendly' urban designed public spaces spread out around the city (Just like in other famous/vibrant cities around the world such as Barcelona, Paris, London, New York, Melbourne, Copenhagen, Berlin, and Auckland as examples). Again this doesn't have to be hugely costly exercise and would add many benefits which I hope I will have the opportunity to share.

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/96442fc9536ffd35f2c4d82521851e223c618137/original/1620643582/256a6d61f1c9bd02f19ee3e5280fb90d_Wellington_Urban_Plan.pdf?1620643582

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

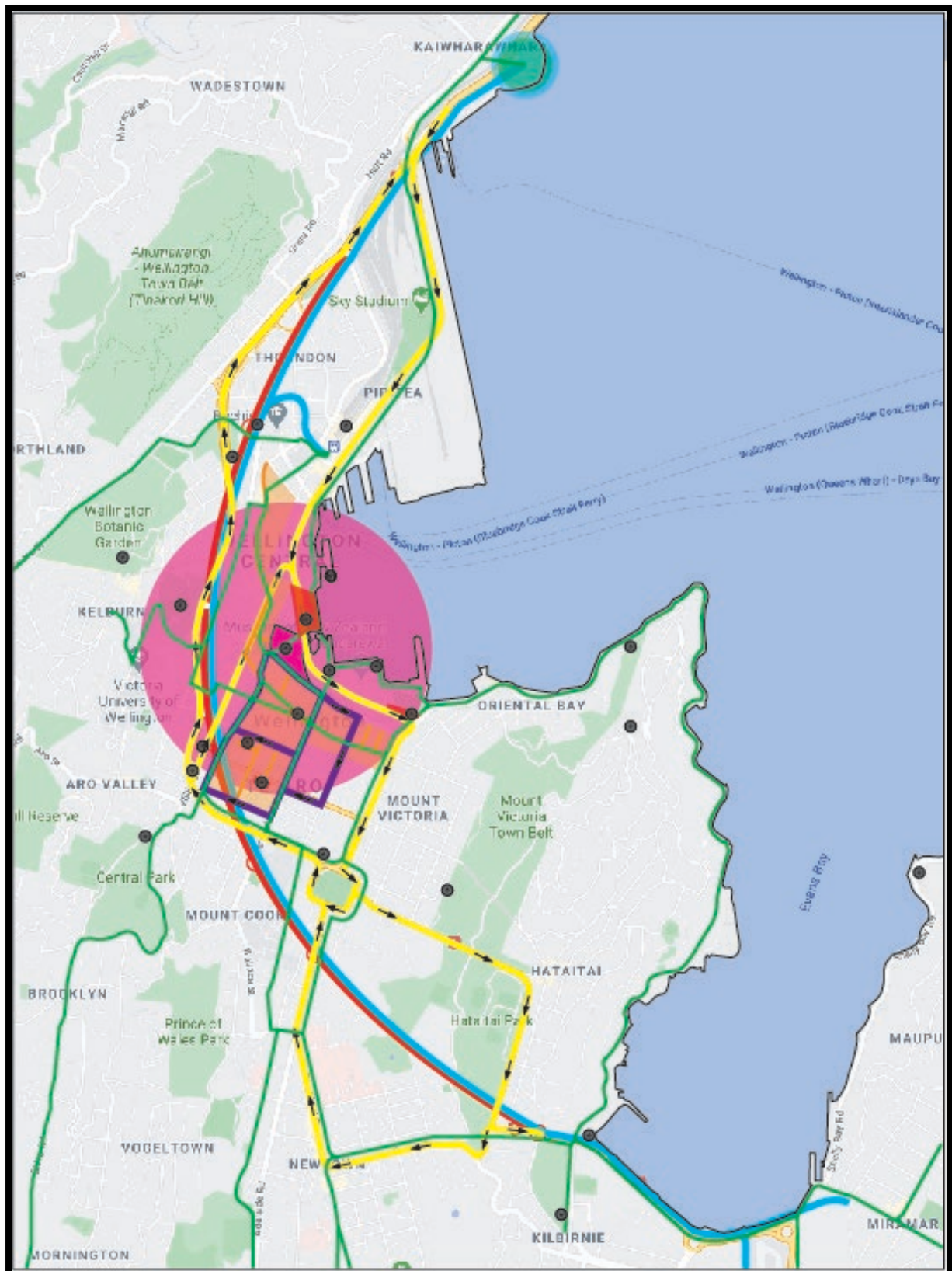
Neutral.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

Don't know.

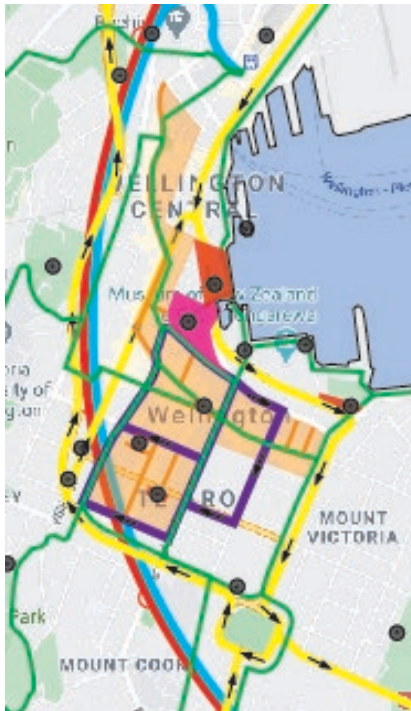
Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

Please see my Comments on Question 15



City Urban Design Proposal, and Feedback on Wellingtons 10-Year Plan and Let's Get Wellington Moving Plans

By Kevin Francis 15/04/2021



INTRODUCTION

The Wellington City Council and the Lets Ge Wellington Moving (LGWM) group are currently in the midst of making major decisions about the future of Wellington City. These decisions will reshape both the landscape and vibrancy of the city for many generations to come.

The combined cost of all these separate projects runs into billions of dollars and will cover large areas of the central city. Three different groups are in charge of overseeing and making a plan that will ensure these projects are a success. They are Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, Wellington City Council, and the Greater Wellington Regional Council.

With billions of dollars being spent and the sheer scale and scope of all these projects combined, there is huge potential to rebuild Wellington into a vibrant, sustainable city of the future that could benefit further by being both an example and a leader for other cities around the world to follow.

However, the success, benefits and full potential of these projects may never be reached for two main reasons. Firstly, as each one of these projects are seemingly being developed, and approached separately as individual projects, the huge potential and benefits for linking all projects and budgets together under an overarching plan is being missed. This approach is short-sighted and the equivalent of using band-aids to fix a much bigger problem.

A brief example of how connecting projects together under a master plan could compliment and flow together is: The Civic Square redevelopment could be linked with the Frank Kitts Park redevelopment and the LGWMs new transport plan. This could lead to creating a cut and cover tunnel running the length of Frank Kitts Park and Civic Centre. Positives would: allow for car traffic to flow freely along the waterfront while creating more open space in the heart of the city; and providing inviting, easy access from the CBD (Golden Mile) and The Civic centre directly to the waterfront (Wellingtons biggest asset). Another example that could restore vibrancy to the city is by combining both the proposed 'Bike Lanes', 'Car free inner city streets' and 'Public Spaces/Skateboarding/Scooter'. Rather than just 'bikelanes' a bigger idea that is more inclusive could include other alternative user-groups, communities, and modes of transportation such as skateboarders, longboarders, rollerskaters, rollerbladers, and scooters etc.

The second reason the success, benefits and full potential of these projects may never be reached is because neither Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, the Wellington City Council, Greater Wellington Regional Council or the LGWM seem to be working together (A)(B).

It is greatly concerning that it seems no one is connecting the dots and is able talking about the bigger picture. Failure to realise this opportunity will mean the full potential and possibilities to completely redesign Wellington into a vibrant and sustainable city (that sets the precedent for future cities) will be missed.

It is highly likely the opportunity to transform the city on such a large and grand scale will never come around again. Certainly not in our children's, or our grandchildren's lifetime.

The Solution and Benefits

These concerns and issues could be overcome through employing an 'Urban Design' team with the experience to link all these different ideas and projects together.

An obvious example to use would be 'Isthmus' which already has experience working with the Wellington City Council on the walking and biking paths connecting Miramar to Oriental Parade and has been leading other projects connected to the wider Wellington Region such as "Ngā Ūranga ki Pito-one project that will deliver a step-change for cycling and walking between Wellington and Lower Hutt", and "RiverLink is a partnership between Greater Wellington Regional Council, Hutt City Council, and Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency" (<https://isthmus.co.nz/journal/>).

Just a few other projects where Isthmus has been instrumental includes: creating Invercargill's City Centre Masterplan; Te Ahu a Turanga "Manawatū Tararua Highway will create 11.5km of new highway between Ashhurst and Woodville, including six new bridges and structures and the planting of over 2 million trees and shrubs" which has just won the prestigious NZPI Best Practice National Award for excellence in consultation and participation from the New Zealand Planning Institute. It makes perfect sense that Isthmus has both the experience and values needed to ensure everyone is consulted, listened too and heard ensuring each and every one of these projects are a success.

Some ideas about different projects connected to the central city and wider region include:

- Removing cars from The Golden Mile and Central City Streets
- Building a Network of Bike Lanes (Evans Bay Cycleway etc)
- The Hutt River Link
- Ngā Ūranga ki Pito-One shared path
- A second Mount Victoria Tunnel
- A new central city public transport system
- Frank Kitts Park redevelopment
- Redeveloping Te Ngākau-Civic Square
- Repairing the central Library
- Demolishing and rebuilding new municipal council office buildings
- Developing Te Aro Park
- Restore vibrancy to the central city
- as well as creating more creative public spaces that will bring vibrancy and creative energy back to the heart of the city
- Making the city friendly for other diverse and creative user groups such as skateboarders, longboarders, rollerskaters, rollerbladers, scooters, free running (parkour), hacky sackers, artists, and musicians

Currently there is no system in place that creates an opportunity for wider ideas and possibilities to be heard and considered by members of the public.



Tunnel Bypass (Option 1)

The biggest concern I have regarding Lets Get Wellington Moving (LGWM) is the plan to build a second Mt Victoria tunnel. While I agree that a second tunnel is necessary, I would argue that only having it go through Mt Victoria is extremely short sighted.

The biggest problem with Wellington City's traffic is the inner-city congestion. While there are many factors at play here including: areas where two lanes merge into one (entrances to the Terrace tunnel and Mt Victoria tunnel); slow moving traffic caused by multiply sets of traffic lights; the biggest problem occurs where the traffic flow of people zigzagging across the city has to merge with or crosses the path of people trying to get through the city to reach both essential parts of Wellington such as: the airport and hospital), or popular entertainment, recreational and sporting areas such as: the Weta Cave; the Zoo, the southern coast (surfers/beach goers etc); and sports centres, fields and swimming pools in Kilbirnie and

Island Bay. These are just a few examples.

It cannot be ignored that future plans and developments at the Southern side of the city such as: residential development at Shelly Bay; Lyall bay/Island Bay parks; Kilbirnie sports field and recreational centre; a future airport expansion; and a growing population is going to greatly contribute to amount of traffic heading to this area of the city. While it is vital to have a network of safe pathways for foot traffic and other diverse transport users (bikes/scooters/skateboarders etc), it is impractical to think that somebody coming from the wider Wellington area to go to a the surf beaches, Lyall Bay Retail Park, Weta Cave, the Zoo, the airport, or hospital etc are going to either 'ride a bike all the way there' or pay the huge cost of parking centrally and then using public transport.

I have been driven to speak up due to not having heard anyone else raise these issues in relation to a new tunnel that only goes through Mt Victoria and how the same problem will still exist where traffic traveling across town is running into traffic trying to get through town. *The obvious solution that no one is mentioning is building a tunnel that will 'bypass' the city completely.* I cannot believe that no one sees this? mention that the tunnel

The biggest failure I see with LGWM is not building a second tunnel that creates a direct route under the city to the airport (with key strategic exits). This tunnel could potentially start in Thorndon then arc up through key parts of the city (Upper Terrace, Te Aro, Mount Cook, Newtown Hospital) and finally coming out at the sky needle in Kilbirnie. I have worked out this would = 5.73km of tunnel, which in comparison is still less than Auckland's 2.4km Waterview Tunnel (\$1.4 billion), and 3.45km twin-tunnel Auckland City Rail Link project (totalling \$4.419 billion) combined. That is still less than the 6.4 billion Wellington transport plan currently on the table.

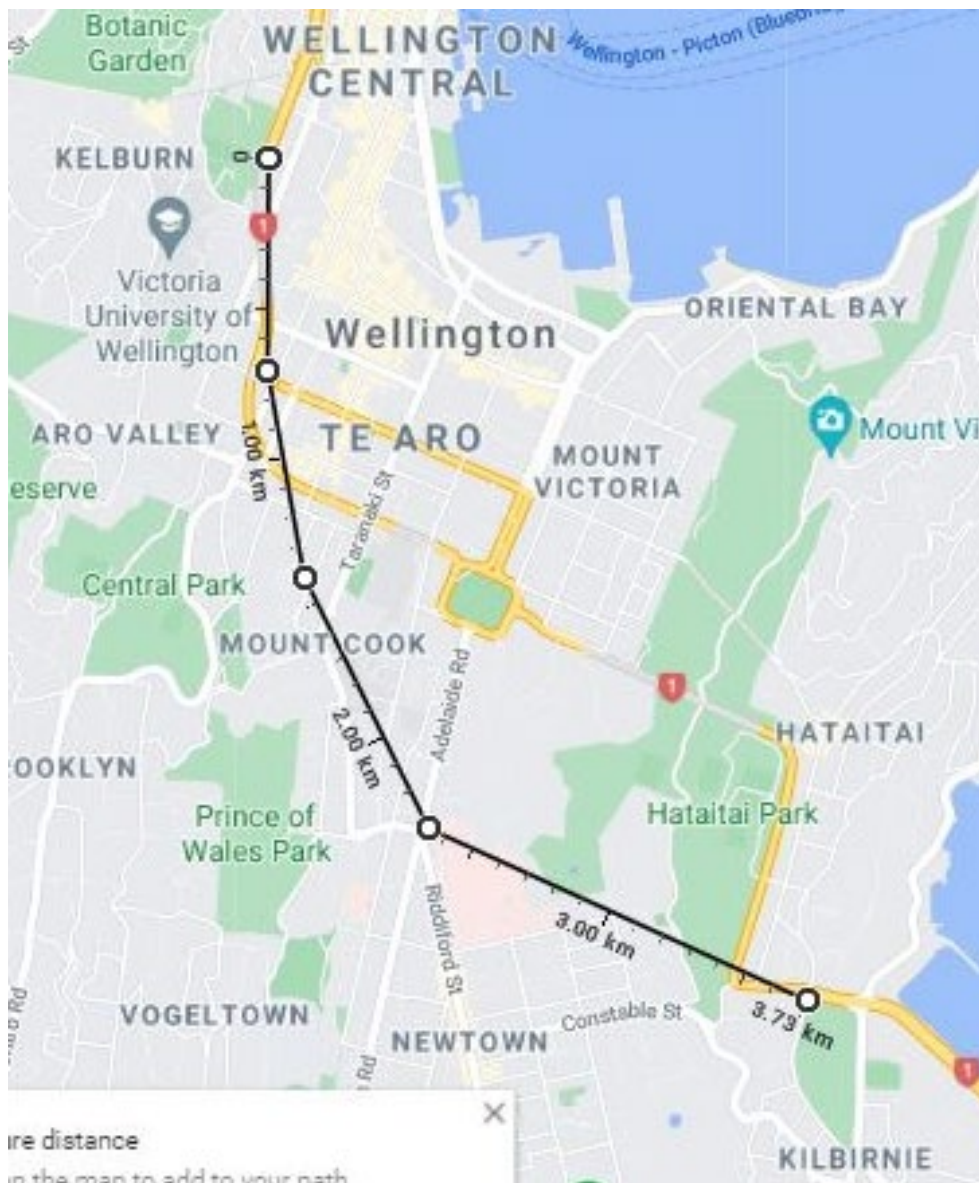
This would solve a lot of issues both short and long term, and combined with creating both a new transport-loop around the city (see below), a new public transport line (also below), and a connection of alternative transport routes (bikes/scooters/skateboarders etc), it would make Wellington a well prepared city for the future.



Tunnel Bypass (Option 2)

A shorter and what should be a cheaper option would be to start the tunnel next to the current Terrace Tunnel.

At 3.73km this would be 2km shorter than the 5.73km tunnel I proposed in option 1 and is closer to the 3.45km twin-tunnel Auckland City Rail Link project (totalling \$4.419 billion).





Outer City Traffic Loop

Another important idea to consider while a second tunnel is being constructed could be the central city streets being reconfigured to create a 'loop' that sweeps around the outer city. This would be very effective because of the Wellington's small size.

Other cities around the world, particularly more recently the small Belgian city of Ghent which famously and dramatically changed the traffic circulation in 2017. Again, I know Isthmus quite recently studied and held a workshop to learn about 'The Ghent Circulation Plan'.

Interestingly enough 'Greater Auckland' have also been looking to Ghent - "It seems that rather than "build it and they will come", Ghent used the concept of "return it to the people and they will come". When road space is at a premium – as in Ghent, or Auckland –

trying to magic up new space and protection for all the neglected modes is futile, and expensive.

Much more can be achieved within a limited budget by removing the ability of cars to dominate"

(<https://www.greatauckland.org.nz/2020/01/21/modeshift-targets-critical-lessons-from-ghent/>).

More information here shows that Ghent managed to achieve the very goals both the Wellington City Council and LGWM are aiming for:

<https://filmfreeway.com/TheInnovativeWayGhentRemovedCarsFromTheCity>,

<https://stad.gent/en/mobility-ghent/circulation-plan>).

In Wellington this could be achieved by widening the motorway turn-off at Kaiwharawhara (next to the Interisland Ferry Terminal) to two lanes so it creates a two-lane express route that would run in a loop down the waterfront up Kent Terrace through two lanes through Mt Victoria tunnel all the way to the airport, or around and back through Newtown and then either connecting with the Arras Tunnel, or heading down Willis Street to loop back around again. The idea would be to make it quicker to get around the city by using the 'loop' rather than trying to zigzag and weave across Wellington's inner-city streets. This could be achieved by making the 'loop' 70-80kmh and removing any barriers such as traffic lights through the use of 'cut-and-cover tunnels' and overbridges.

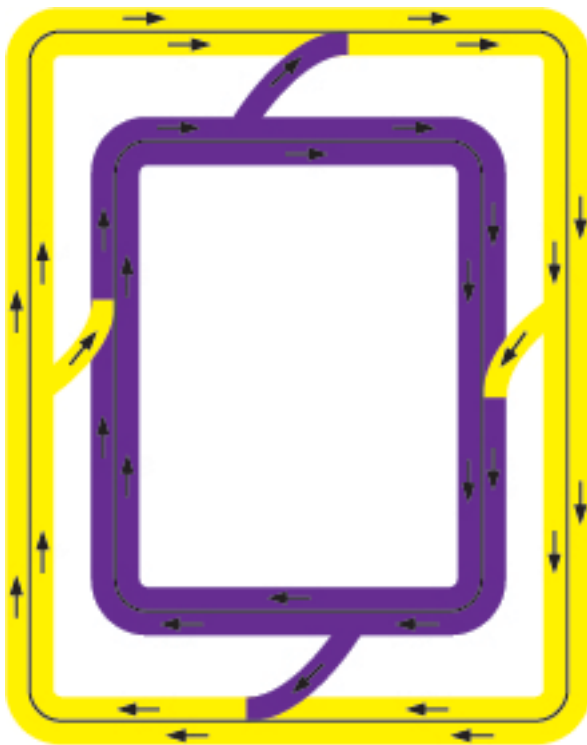
As mentioned at the start of this document, combining ideas, projects, and budgets could create opportunities and benefits that are not otherwise being realised. In this case placing the road on the waterfront underground (ideally from the railway station until Kent Terrace) would allow the redevelopment of Frank Kitts Park and Te Ngākau-Civic Square to be enlarged - creating more public space, providing direct access from the city to the waterfront (Wellington's best asset) and ensuring Te Ngākau-Civic Square as the heart of the city.



Inner City Traffic Loop

A second Inner City Loop would compliment the Outer City Loop by working in the same manner.

By changing the traffic direction within the inner city a smaller inner-city loop would work as a spiral ensuring all traffic flows in the same direction as the outer city loop. All other inner-city streets could be car-free (except for slow 20kmh zones for residents and service/delivery vehicles only). While I have yet to thoroughly think this through – traffic flow could potentially come down Victoria St, along Jervis Key, and then back up either Taranaki St, Kent terrace or both.



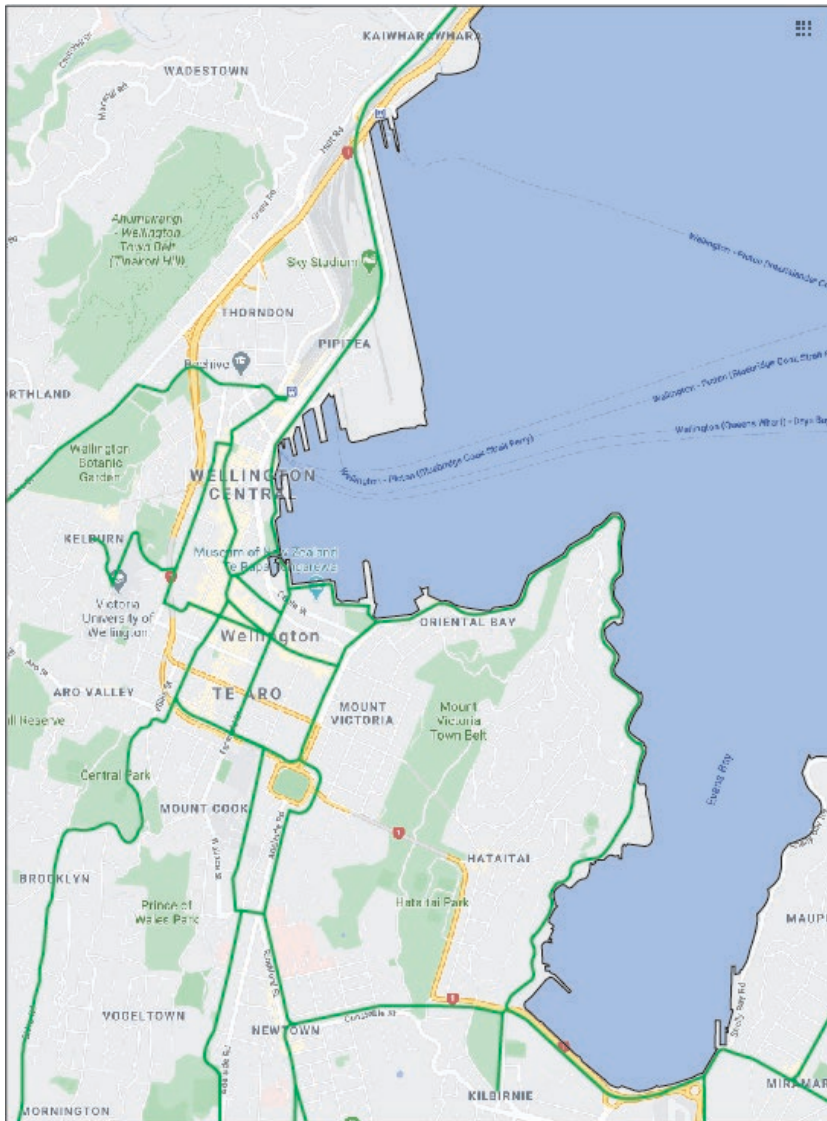
How the Loop would work

This would create a situation where car users would have to travel to the Outer City Loop road on the city outskirts, while not making it impossible to use a car it would motivate shorter trips to be done via human power or mass transit.

- A continuous double lane road would incircle the outer city, while a continuous double lane road would surround the inner city.
- Strategic entry and exit points would consist of merging lanes separate from each of the double lanes.
- All traffic would flow in the same direction.
- Tunnels and overpasses could be used to remove roadblocks such as the need for traffic lights.

Benefits and Links to Other Projects

- This would create a clear inner-city centre, and a sense of the city having a 'heart'. This could be reinforced and linked to the redevelopment of Civic Centre, Frank Kitts Park and the public Library.
- Bike Lanes (alternative modes of transport). Again, car users would be forced to drive a loop around the city rather than weaving across it for shorter trips, hence encouraging the use of human power and sustainable forms of transport. Furthermore, by removing cars from the inner city, barriers such as traffic lights would no longer be needed making it easier and quicker to move around the inner city through walking, biking, skateboarding, or scootering.



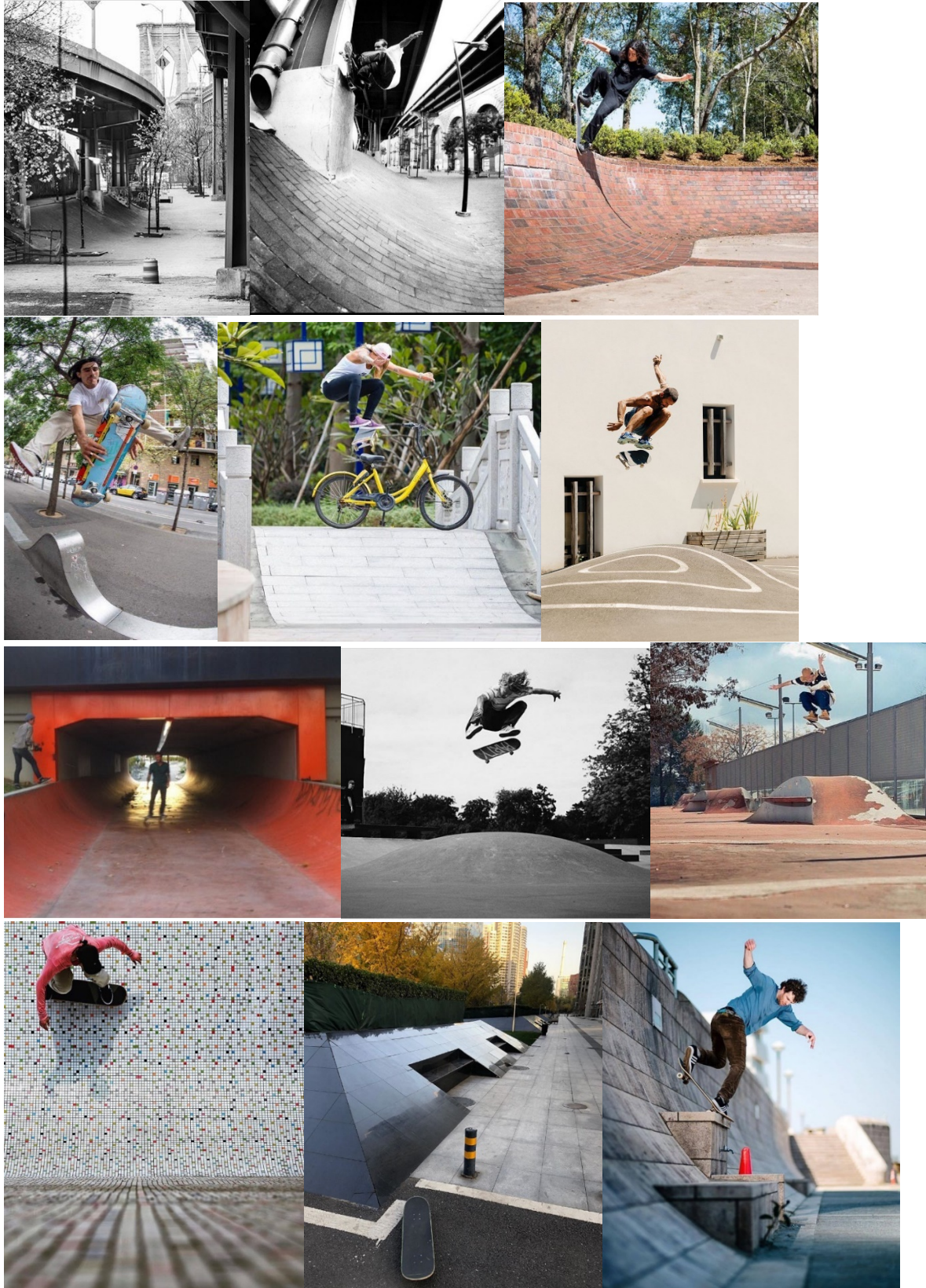
Bike Lanes (and alternate forms of transport)

Again, it is vital to have a network of safe pathways for foot traffic and other diverse transport user groups such as bikes, scooters, and skateboarders. However, an enormous opportunity is being missed by only considering people on bikes. A small city like Wellington is perfect for other forms of transport, especially skateboarding. I can speak from personal experience. For almost thirty years I used my skateboard as a way to get around the city. However, the experience is no longer what it used to be. Whereas once I used to catch a train into town and be able to 'skate' across town quite quickly and stress free – the past twenty years has seen

many areas of the city that used to be smooth replaced with harsh bumpy tiled footpaths or rough ground. This mixed with a larger city population and less spacious public areas has made it difficult and unenjoyable getting from A to B. As a skateboarder, now you must crisscross the city to avoid ground that you cannot skate safely or comfortably on or get off and walk. This is a huge shame as in many other countries and cities (Barcelona, Copenhagen for example) city streets are being opened up for all users – not just individuals with bikes.

Again, it bothers me that some people living in central Wellington tend to ignore the fact that many people who use and love the city live in the wider region. The reality that not everyone only can afford a bike, or that it is not practical riding a bike very long distances from the wider Wellington region. I know what it is like as a single parent to not be able to afford a bike for myself let alone my children. When I grew up, once I got to my teenage years it was either a bike or my skateboard – my parents could not afford both and my interest in skateboarding was more than just using it as a form of transport. Later in life I have found my own children in the same situation. I am saying this to highlight that not everyone is always going to have access to a suitable bike – but they may however have another form of transport they can use or prefer. One of my children for example catches the train into town and then skates to his classes at Massey University.

Furthermore, another opportunity being missed to encourage users to leave their cars at home (or park their car and commute around the city) is by not making 'bike lanes' more fun, exciting and enjoyable. The smallest of features can open up a whole world of possibilities, exploration and excitement (see pictures below). Other cities that have added these features are famously known as 'vibrant', fun and exciting cities where tourists will travel to experience.



Even with 'bike lanes' the reality is Wellington is extremely vulnerable to the elements a large proportion of the year. People will not walk or ride their bikes long distances in bad weather – they will drive. While I am a strong advocate for a sustainable city the reality is 'bike lanes' alone will not fix Wellington's transport problems. The future is not car-less but it will have electric cars, alternative modes of sustainable transport (bikes, scooters, skateboards), and environmentally friendly forms of public transport.

There is no reason why fun and enjoyment can be added into this equation at no extra cost. Especially considering the vibrancy it would add.





Golden Mile/City without Cars

As mentioned above there is a connection and huge opportunity to integrate elements of the projects mentioned above into both The Golden Mile and removing cars from the Inner-City streets such as: Bike Lanes (alternative modes of human powered transport), Inner/Outer City Loops, and an Inner-City Metro line.

All consideration should be giving for connecting the Central City Train Station to the heart of the city (Civic Centre). A large open route of smooth ground should run directly from the train station to the Civic Centre that connects with other smooth laned car free routes.

Special care should be given to ensure that all the ground is smooth and well brightly light up at night.

Furthermore, creative urban design should integrate areas for creativity and recreation to bring vibrancy to the city. For example, as I have mentioned above and will go into more detail below, I have been advocating for 'skateable' architecture to be included and spread throughout the city. This idea has been well implemented in other parts of the world, especially in European cities such as Barcelona, Copenhagen, Berlin, London, Paris just to name a few. This idea has been picked up by other vibrant cities around the world such as Melbourne, Sao Paulo, New York, and even to a degree Auckland. I will explore this more at the end of the document.

Another vital element nobody is talking about is the need for a 'Well Lighten-up' route the runs directly from the Central City Train Station into the heart of town. Currently there is no direct route that flows from the Train Station into the city centre (Civic, Cuba, Courtney Place etc). Anyone walking, biking, scootering, or skateboarding will take completely different routes which are largely dependant on factors such as: the time of day, weather conditions (rain/wind), and safety.

The Golden Mile offers an opportunity to create a well lighten-up, easy to navigate, and well monitored path directly to the cities heart that feels both vibrant and safe. This would also benefit the Retail sector as it would bring the pedestrian traffic flow right past there doors, rather than many people heading down Waterloo Quey, Jervois Quey and Featherston St which is currently the case.



- If the road is lowered and covered as mentioned above ('Jervois Quay') in front of Frank Kitts Park, the Civic Centre, and The Michael Fowler Centre inside a 'Cut and Cover' tunnel', the extra space would allow for an abundance of new possibilities such as an expansion of Capital E.
- The City to Sea bridge could be removed complete with the money needed to strengthen it redirected towards other developments.
- The large grass space in the picture below situated next to the art gallery could be transformed to provide a safe and inclusive plaza area that can be used by skateboarders, roller-skaters, scooters etc. As well as bringing added vibrancy to the area, this would give the skate community something they have been seeking for a long time.



Furthermore, if done right it would become an icon and well-known feature of Wellington both Nationally and Internationally. This concept isn't new and can be found in many of the more progressive cities around the world such as: MACBA (the museum of contemporary and modern art of Barcelona) and Le Dome in Paris (Palais de Tokyo, Museum of Modern Art of the City of Paris), (see examples below).





Skateboarding, Skateparks, and Urban Areas

Since the Council upgraded Waitangi Park 15 years ago, they have inadvertently silently waged a campaign against skateboarding. As well as the upgrade of Waitangi Park seeing a significant reduction in the size of the area provided compared to the previous park, it is also important to note that it was poorly designed and flawed in its construction. Currently Waitangi Park is the only place in Wellington City provided to skate, and not being much bigger than 2 Netball courts, it is completely inadequate in size to meet the demands for a diverse user group that has continued to grow.

More concerning however, since the Council redeveloped Waitangi Park, it has been used as an excuse to reduce and remove other skate facilities (such as Wellington's only indoor Ramps from Kilbirnie Rec Centre) and actively campaigned to remove skateboarding from all central city public areas such as Midland Park by spending money on 'No Skateboarding' signs, 'Skate-Stopper' knobs, and physically altering popular areas (replacing smooth ground with rough ground for example).

This is in complete contrast to what is happening globally. Everyday skateboarders in Wellington are reminded via social media of the amazing facilities provided and experienced by skaters all over the world. While over the past 15-20 years skateboarding has been accepted and embraced for all its positive qualities in other parts of the world, in Wellington the experience of being a skateboarder has progressively worsened due in part to negative dispositions held by some past councillors and their unwillingness to prioritise and treat skateboarding equally as important and valued as any other culture or sport.

This is hugely disappointing and highlights that Wellington has gone backwards in this regard by making it harder for individuals to access and have experiences that are easily accessible in other cities around the world. While discussions with the Council have been ongoing the fact remains, there are no plans to do anything significant in the next 10 years.

PLEASE DO NOT MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO INCLUDE SKATEBOARDING IN THE LONGTERM PLAN



LEFT: Joseph Whaanga one of New Zealand's most well know professional skateboarders skating what was Wellington's most icon spots - at Midland Park. 2006. Midland park had been the centre of the Wellington skateboard scene since the early 90s. After this photo was taken, the ground was altered to stop skateboards skating the stairs and ledge. As well as being a great skate spot, Midlands was a central meeting point where you could meet other skaters. From there you would go explore other spots around the city and often end up back at Midlands at the end of the day. Midlands became a proving ground, and played a key role in the progression of both skaters ability, and in helping grow a community.

I am arguing that within all the planned redevelopments and future projects there is both the opportunity and room to 'Make Wellington one of the best cities in the world to be a skateboarder'.

Despite efforts to remove skateboard from the inner city, a lack of adequate and new skate facilities for almost 20yrs, and the removal of old worn-out facilities – skateboardings popularity has continued to grow. Furthermore, the recent explosion of Female and Gender diverse skateboarders have seen the number of users explode.

This year will also see skateboarding making its debut at the Tokyo Olympic games where it is set to take centre stage. Whereas other sports have become somewhat uninspiring, are inaccessible for many people or contain negative discourses such as: 'winning is everything', you must wear a uniform and conform to rules, and there are 'winners and losers' – skateboarding has provided an exciting alternative and juxtaposition. Individualism and diversity can flourish in the skate culture. This is why the numbers will keep growing as more and more Female, Gender diverse, and individuals that don't 'fit-in' with other sports find skateboarding.

The problem facing Wellington's skate community simply cannot keep being ignored. Not being treated the same as other cultures or sports will not stand. In no other public areas of the city will you see signs signalling out a certain group of people.



Including provision for skateboarding in the Long-Term Plan won't only encourage people to get out the house and exercise, if done right, Internationally Wellington would become to be regarded as one of the 'skate capitals' and draw people here from all over the world. What is better is it would not have to cost a lot of money relatively speaking.

To achieve the goal of making Wellington one of the best cities in the world to be a skateboarder, there are two main areas to be addressed.

1. Upgrading Waitangi Park so it meets current Olympic standards, and can hold local, regional, national, and Olympic qualifying events.

Creating a central city skate park easily accessible by using public transport (and without the need for a car) by anyone living in all areas of the greater Wellington region. This can be achieved by upgrading Waitangi Park to cater to all levels of ability (beginner, intermediate and advanced) and types of skating (Park and Street courses), meeting current Olympic standards, and holding local, regional, national, and Olympic qualifying events.

2. Creating a central city 'Skate Friendly Street Plaza' and including skateable features in future urban projects (including 'Bike-Lanes')

A central city 'Skate Friendly Street Plaza' that provides a safe area for skaters to meet and skate together (and again which is easily accessible by using public transport by anyone living in all areas of the greater Wellington region. This is a vital ingredient for any healthy skate scene and would help restore the heart of Wellingtons skate scene.

Putting a system in place to ensure opportunities to include 'skateboarding' in future infrastructure projects that could benefit the city are not missed. This goal is achievable and does not have to be hugely costly.

There are many examples of central city skate plazas all around the world such as Love Park in Philadelphia, The Brooklyn Banks in New York, South Bank in London, and Peoples Plaza in Shanghai just to name a few. Even Auckland Cities own Aotea Square is famously known around the world for it's skate friendly culture and skateable features.

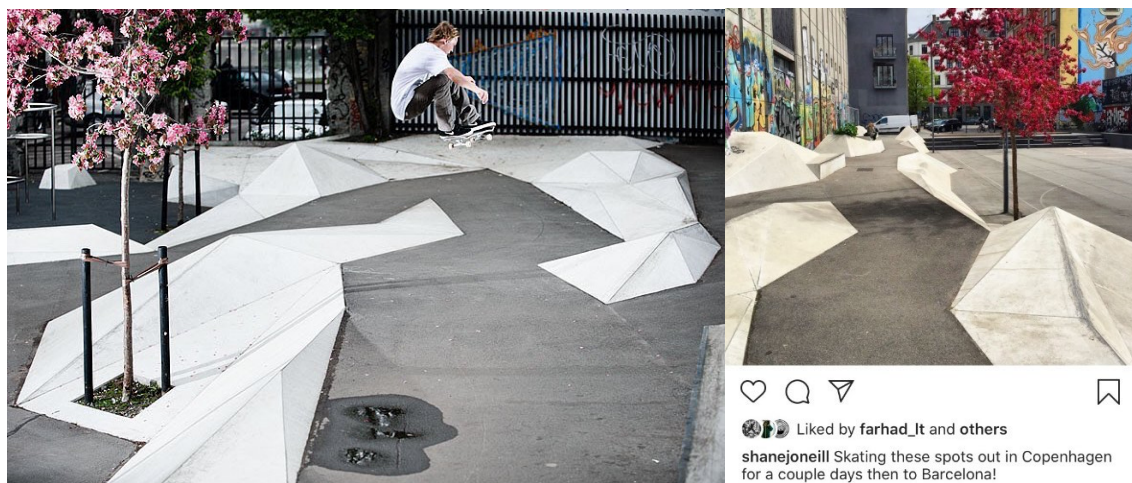


Left: Arguably the worlds most famous skate plaza, Embarcadero (EMB) in downtown San Francisco became the first urban 'plaza' taken over in the early 90s by skateboarders.

EMB became the proving ground in the early 90s for modern street skateboarding and set the standard for what makes a city a 'skate capital'. While a large effort was made to stop skateboarding it still exists today, with skaters still travelling from all over the world to visit this hallowed ground, despite it's poor state from a lack of maintenance.

Future redevelopment of public urban spaces over the next 10-years including Frank Kitts Park, Te Aro Park, and The Civic Centre all provide an opportunity for skate-able features to be included in certain areas. This could be in the form of a perfect ledge, bench, or set of stairs as examples. This idea is now a common practice in many cities around the world (just like Bike-Lanes) and has been used to great effect in cities such as Copenhagen and Malmo (pictures below)

By having a plan, and being open for creative ideas, these features could be included in the budget and design for little to no extra cost. Furthermore, I would say it is the smartest thing to do as time-and-time again efforts to stop skateboarding do not work – skateboarders still find ways to interpret and find a challenge to overcome. All design features such as using rough ground or using ‘skate-stoppers’ achieves is limiting the fun and potential of an urban area. Good design would instead re-direct skateboarders to areas more suited (such as away from the front of business and out of the flow of foot traffic), while maintain the vibrancy and positivity that including skateable areas brings.



Skate Spots (Urban Design)

Designing and providing skateable spots (or urban architecture) around the city is the idea I am most passionate about seeing come to life. It would not only achieve the goal of making Wellington a city like Barcelona, Copenhagen, or Paris (as just a few examples), it would also restore key aspects of the city that made the Wellington skateboarding scene so special and well regarded in the first place, and once again adding to the rich history and culture of skateboarding in Wellington City. It would also significantly do wonders for Wellington’s image internationally by:

- Creating interest, publicity, and character in International media and sub-cultures
- Highlighting Wellingtons creative and progressive approach to urban design
- Become well known for creative architecture
- Taking a step towards making Wellington a fun, exciting city to live and visit by bringing in tourism
- It could also help clean up areas such as Te Aro Park that has become a magnet for violence and sexual assault (D) by bringing vibrant, vigilant positivity to the area

One of the best things about this idea is for the amount of positivity and good that would come from it, not a lot of money would have to be spent in comparison to the amount of money that has been thrown at other endeavours and rendered somewhat unsuccessful/negative results (Island Bay Bike lanes for example?). Furthermore, with good communication, building costs could be reduced by using recycled materials and partnerships with local community members and groups.

For example, \$1 million dollars could provide upto 10 small scale spots around the city per year for ten years. This could be in the form of anything as simple as a perfect bench, natural bank, or set of stairs, to more elaborate 'plaza' spaces, skateable sculptures, or landscaped terrain. The million dollars would be split up into (10x \$10,000 per year, totalling \$100,000 per year and \$1,000,000 over ten-years). 10 spots per year, over a 10-year period would equal 100 spots.

This would not only create a uniquely skateable city, it would also create international 'marketability' and attract pros and companies from all over the world. 100 spots spread over the Wellington city and Region would achieve the goal of making Wellington a 'skateable' city just as good as, if not better than Malmo or Barcelona.

This is just using a low estimate (compared to how much is spent on other projects) to demonstrate how much potential, enjoyment, creativity, and long-term benefit could be provided and result from just \$1 million dollars. I strongly feel much more money could be allocated to this cause considering its benefits. For example, better more elaborate spots could be created with the same budget used to upgrade Christchurch's Washington Way skatepark (\$3.2 million).



I strongly feel the money is already there and going to be spent regardless on Urban Projects such as Civic Centre, Frank Kitts Park, Te Aro Park, Car Free Streets, and the Golden Mile. Again, it would cost very little if any extra to include skateable features into these projects by including it in any design

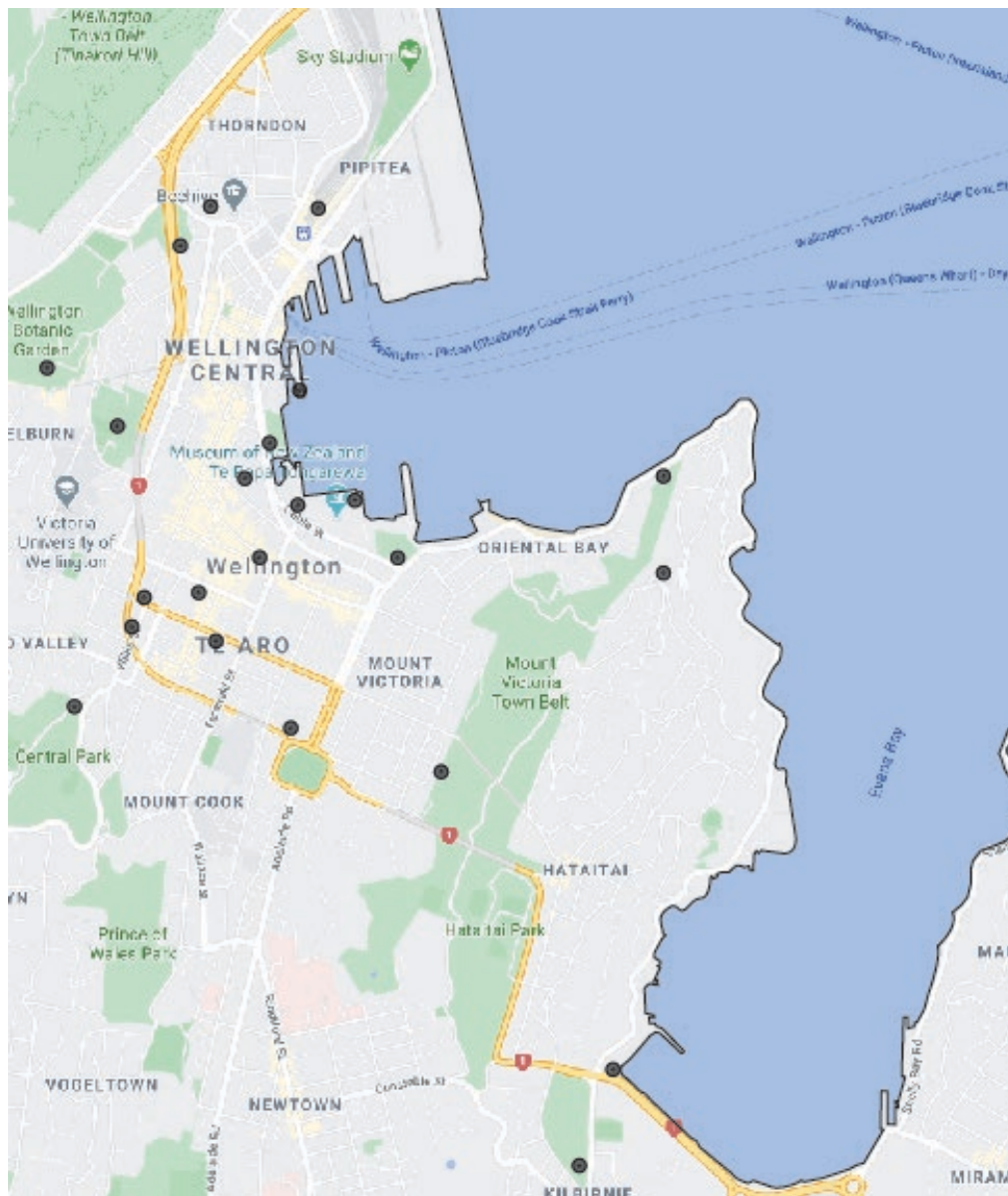
brief. Funds and Financing for an upgrade to Waitangi park could be separate and come from the sports and recreation budget *not* playgrounds.

I feel potentially anywhere from \$10-20 million dollars could be allocated towards transforming skateboarding in Wellington over the next 10yrs in conjunction with help and support from the central government, and the 'Get Wellington Moving' initiative. The long-term benefits this would have for the economy would not just benefit Wellington, but the Country as a whole. Especially if this concept was rolled out Nationwide.

Skateboarding Spots

Below is a map of some key areas that skateboarders already frequent and co-exist with the public in the city, and areas where skateboarders could add life and vibrancy to either a run-down or ignored urban area. As mentioned above, these are areas that could be drastically improved and made into something unique, and special with very little investment and work.

Below the map are photos of a few of these potential 'Spots'.



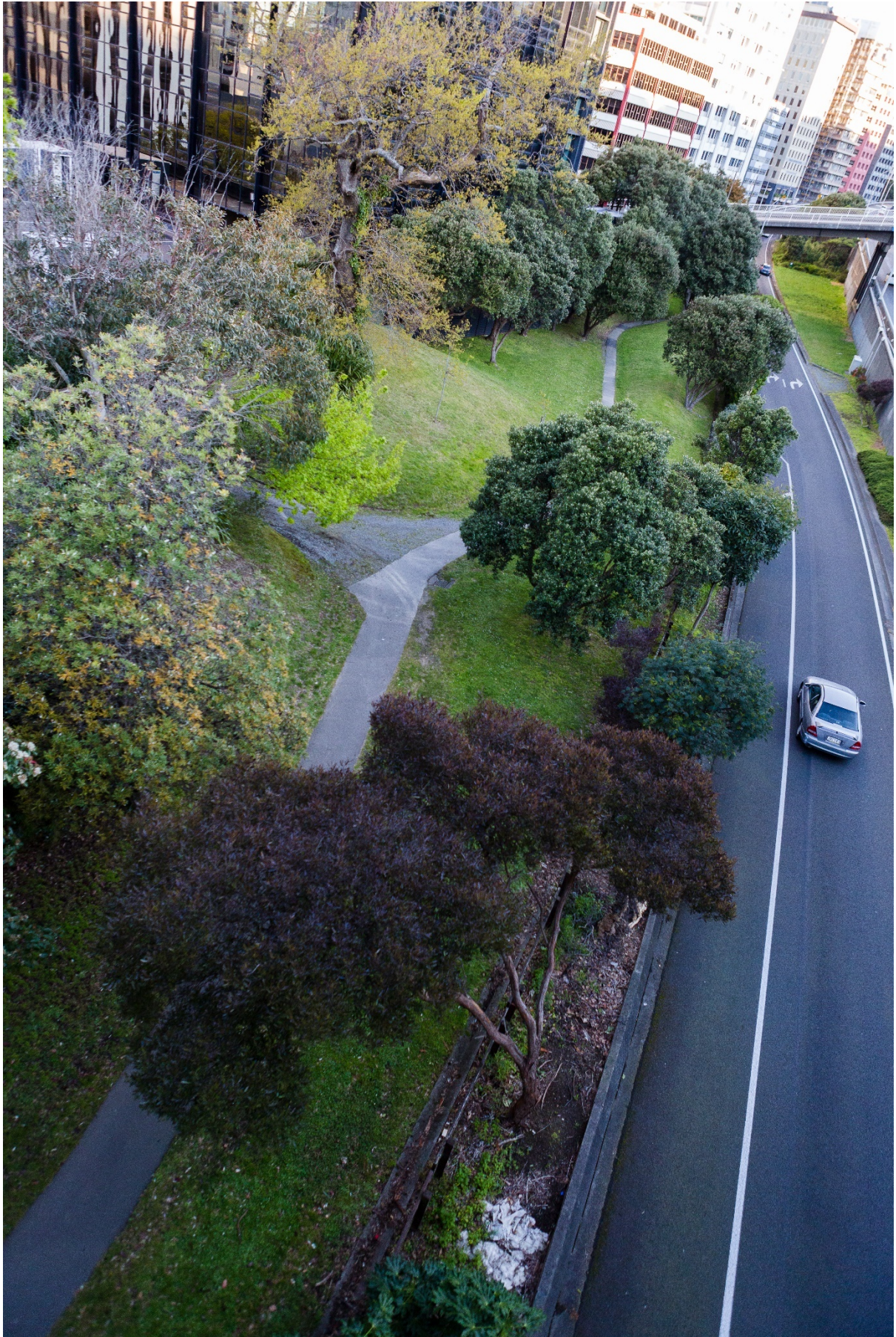
















References:

- A. <https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/124812949/lets-get-wellington-moving-spending-millions-on-nothing-city-councillor>
- B. <https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/124224616/leaders-reject-advice-to-pause-64b-wellington-transport-upgrade-warning-public-would-be-apoplectic>
- C. <https://isthmus.co.nz/journal/>
- D. <https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/122869163/every-hour-of-every-day-the-central-wellington-park-thats-a-magnet-for-violence-and-sexual-assault->

Other Resources and Sources:

<https://ourauckland.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/articles/news/2020/07/new-public-spaces-in-auckland-s-city-centre-coming-to-life-this-summer/>

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/wellington/123223131/public-backs-most-radical-plan-to-remove-cars-from-wellingtons-golden-mile>

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/business/123297060/fulton-hogan-makes-222m-profit-pays-dividend-takes-wage-subsidy>

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/124775178/nine-councillors-back-removing-private-vehicles-from-wellingtons-central-city-by-2025>

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/122869163/every-hour-of-every-day-the-central-wellington-park-thats-a-magnet-for-violence-and-sexual-assault->

<https://pullias.usc.edu/blog/groundbreaking-study-redefines-skateboarding-culture/>

<https://pullias.usc.edu/skate/research/>

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-02-26/skateboarding-improves-mental-health-helps-build-diverse-relationships-usc-study-says>



Respondent No: 919

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Jonathan Coppard
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Afternoon
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** not answered
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 3. Accelerated (\$3.3bn investment – higher rates and debt).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Option 4. Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 3. Fully fund the programme (\$29.9m investment - Council's preferred option).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** None of these options.
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option3. Strengthen now by increasing rates further (additional 1.79% rates increase).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 3. Sludge minimisation through Council funding (\$147m to \$208m capital investment, above debt limit, and higher rates)

Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below

Investment in three waters infrastructure
Wastewater laterals
Cycleways
Te Atakura (climate change)
Central Library
Sludge and waste minimisation
Te Ngākau funding for future work
None of these

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

I support the Cycle Wellington submission.

Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I strongly oppose the proposed budget.

Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

I support increasing spend in the current budget.

Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

not answered



Respondent No: 921

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** William Guest
- Q2. **Phone number:** [REDACTED]
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** Individual
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)
- Q7. **Oral forum time** Afternoon
- Q8. **Oral hearing time** not answered
- Q9. **Which of these options do you prefer? (3 waters decision)** Option 3. Accelerated (\$3.3bn investment – higher rates and debt).
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Option 2. Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment).
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** None of these options.
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 1. Low level of funding (\$18.1m investment, lower rates and debt).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** None of these options.
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** None of these options.
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 3. Sludge minimisation through Council funding (\$147m to \$208m capital investment, above debt limit, and higher rates)

<p>Q16. Do you have any comments you would like to provide on why you selected your preferred options to any of these big decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? Please indicate what decision you are commenting on by selecting from the list of item(s) below</p>	<p>Investment in three waters infrastructure Cycleways Te Atakura (climate change) Central Library Sludge and waste minimisation Te Ngākau funding for future work</p>
<p>Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)</p>	
<p>not answered</p>	
<p>Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)</p>	<p>https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/6f32b38e19169fbbc851bfa5615df4b455b9807e/original/1620647790/ca754381c73a1309187797a810335fb0_WCC_Long_Term_Plan_Notes_May2021.docx?1620647790</p>
<p>Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?</p>	<p>I somewhat oppose the proposed budget.</p>
<p>Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?</p>	<p>I support keeping the budget the same but with some changes.</p>
<p>Q21. Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?</p>	
<p>not answered</p>	

Additional Submission on the Wellington City Council Draft Ten Year Plan 2021

William Guest

1. The requirements for the long-term plan are laid out the Local Government Act 2002. Broadly, the discussion document issued by Council appears to comply with those requirements, but two issues should be noted:
 - a. The office of the Auditor-General notes that \$403.2M of funding for social housing has not been included in the budget although Council has an obligation for this expenditure under an agreement made with the government some years ago.
 - b. The plan includes \$270M over 10 years for the maintenance of city streets but notes that the LGWM project may yet require a Council contribution of \$1.4B.
2. When the sums from 1a and 1b above are included, it is clear that ratepayers are going to have to dig very deep over the coming decade. Council has already been somewhat disingenuous in talking about a 13.5% rates increase, while also adding a “levy” item for sludge treatment to the rates while pretending that that the levy is something else. It takes little calculation to show that all residential ratepayers with a property with a capital value of \$900,000 or more will pay 14%+ to Council in the coming year.
3. Council’s consultation document claims that there are seven important questions on which it wants to consult citizens. It sidesteps many issues. In the next paragraphs some other issues are laid out for consideration.

4. Improve the Performance of Council:

For several years ratepayers have observed dysfunctional behaviour on Council. Poor decisions have been made (e.g., failure to fund drain renewals in good time, cycleway squabbling, subsidy paid to Singapore Air, etc etc). There are strong indications of poor governance of Wellington Water Ltd by Council, and of the Let’s Get Wellington Moving project. Several major projects have overrun their budget estimates by huge amounts for reasons that prove hard to explain. It is suggested that a program be devised to lift the performance of Councillors by providing training in governance, and elective training in specialist topics such as transport, three waters, urban planning, project management, etc. A salary incentive should be paid for undertaking an approved program.

5. Improve the Performance of Officers

The Local Government Act 2002 reorganised how local governments run and required a much greater reliance on contractors and consultants over in-house staff. It now appears (and has done so for some years) that this has weakened the ability of Councils to plan strategically and experimentally. Not only have professional staff numbers been reduced, but “corporate memory” has faded over time. Not all high-level strategic thinking can be parcelled up and handed out to consultants. Further, there has been a string of extremely

high project cost overruns that point to deficiencies in the project management ability of Council staff.

It is suggested that Council arrange a major review of the numbers, qualifications and experience of in-house staff to ensure that they are right.

There also appears to be a need for a Quality and Audit function within Council, charged to (1) review projects and programmes for efficiency and effectiveness, and (2) to receive and review complaints from residents about Council activities.

6. Transport Network

Priority Objective 3 of the consultation document is laudable. Choices, safety, efficient, productive – all good words. Why then has no mention at all been made of the critical need for improved road access to the western suburbs? The major blockage is Karori Tunnel, which “serves” around 25,000 residents of Karori, Northland, Wilton, and Makara. The train wreck of LGWM has not included Karori Tunnel in its poorly selected group of ill-defined projects. Wellington City Council must take a firmer view on the needs of the city, and not leave them to nebulous and badly governed project teams. The interests of NZTA and GWRC are not necessarily coincident with those of Wellington City.

Karori Tunnel and its approach roads are not safe for cyclists, while the tunnel itself is impassable for pedestrians with disabilities, caregivers with all but the smallest of child pushchairs, and even passing pedestrians.

The mixing of electric scooters and cyclists with pedestrians is becoming a significant hazard, both on city footpaths, and on shared walkways in the green belts. More work is needed to ensure the safety of pedestrians throughout the city.

The long-term plan should give stronger recognition of the need for roads to support commercial activities within Wellington.

7. The Spatial Plan and District Plan

Citizens are still waiting for the completion of the spatial plan (a disaster as it was first presented) and the draft revision of the district plan. As these documents will significantly affect the long-term development of the city, it is deplorable that the long-term plan is being consulted upon before the spatial plan is released.

8. Climate Change and Environment

The move to EV's by Council is supported, as is the installation of a good network of EV charging points around the city. The conversion to electric buses from diesels by GWRC should be supported.

The sludge minimisation project should reduce some greenhouse gas emissions. Good management of the landfill including recycling improvements will also help.

More could be done to encourage the development and care of our “urban forest” – green spaces, especially those with trees and shrubs. Council is projecting another 18,000 residents within inner-city Wellington – where will they walk, relax, and play in green surroundings? Where will corridors for birds and insects be across the city?

Council should be looking to clean up urban streams, remove weeds more aggressively, and remove the old and ugly pine trees that are eyesores in the green belts.

In all other respects, the lead on climate change should be taken by government. Council cannot tackle this issue alone. Declaring an emergency might be symbolic, but practical and clear-headed programs will contribute to results.

9. Buildings, and Civic Square

Knock down the old council buildings. Develop an imaginative open space that is attractive to all residents but especially to the growing population of Inner-City Wellington. Link this concept to a redevelopment of Capital E and the refurbishment of the Bridge to the Sea. Include the woeful space at the corner with Harris Street (where Circa once stood). Shift the awful rugby statue to the Stadium.

Do not build or own buildings when the space can be leased. In other words, shift the Council offices into leased space in the city. Sell any Council land that does not have a clear need for retention within 30 years.

Do not do anything “because we are the capital”. If the government want to enhance the capital, let government pay. Do things to enhance the liveability of the city for the citizens.

10. Social Housing

Further to the comment in paragraph 1a above, social housing should primarily be a government issue. Council should review any past agreement with government to ensure that it is fair and reasonable. The currently projected rates increases far exceed the income increases that most ratepayers have received over the past few years. The appalling rise in house prices of the past decade is not reflected in incomes, leaving many ratepayers “asset rich but cash poor” which is hardly their fault.



William Guest

10 May 2021

Submission #: 1495



Submission of Wellington Skateboarding Association

To the

Wellington City Council

On the

10 Year Plan

BACKGROUND

1. This submission is made on behalf of Wellington Skateboarding Association (WSA).
2. We wish to make an oral submission.
3. WSA is a non-profit incorporated society formed in 2017 with the purposes of:
 - a) Promoting involvement in skateboarding and running competitions and other events;
 - b) Promoting and facilitating the construction of skateparks; and
 - c) Promoting equal access to skateboarding for everyone and advocating against systemic and cultural barriers such as poverty, sexism and homophobia.
4. The WSA represents skateboarders across the Greater Wellington region. We have free membership and engagement with approximately 1 100 skateboarders on Facebook and 900 on Instagram.
5. Our submission is primarily focussed on the Council's oversight that the Long Term Plan (LTP) has no provisions for any development and funding of skateboarding over the next 10 years, despite this going against the Council's own recommendations set out in its 2017 Play Spaces Policy¹ and 2020 Skate Engagement Survey². This is a serious missed opportunity to make our city a 'live and play' city.
6. We recommend that the Council review its draft LTP and amend it accordingly to ensure that there is funding set aside for:

¹ <https://wellington.govt.nz/~media/your-council/plans-policies-and-bylaws/plans-and-policies/a-to-z/play-spaces/play-spaces-policy.pdf?la=en>

² <https://wellington.govt.nz/~media/recreation/enjoy-the-outdoors/skate-community-engagement-report.pdf?la=en&hash=3A5ACDF1169EE06C65C50710DF0BDE16F2A21291>

- a) Construction of a indoor facilities;
- b) Construction of a large inner city skatepark and additional or redeveloped suburban skateparks;
- c) Development of skateable “spots” around central Wellington in conjunction with other urban design and redevelopment projects; and
- d) Funding projects and events that encourage further participation of women and minority groups in skateboarding.

SKATEBOARDING IN WELLINGTON

7. Skateboarding has been around since the late 1960s and saw two major booms at the end of the 1980s and 1990s. Since the start of the new millennium skateboarding has remained steadily popular.
8. Different styles of skating are all popular and can briefly be described as:³

Style	What?
Street	Street style skaters use public spaces such as plazas, forecourts, squares, streets and footpaths. They use typical urban street furniture such as kerbs, benches, rails and walls to ride, grind and slide on.
Park	Park style skaters use dedicated skate parks and spaces designed for skating. Much like street skaters, these skaters use skate park obstacles such as fun-boxes, manual pads, banks to ride, grind and slide on.
Transitional	Transitional style skaters (also known as bowl or vert skating) utilise dedicated skate parks with transitional and bowl elements.
Longboarding	Longboarders utilise public spaces such as wide park paths, streets and footpaths. These skaters do not generally grind or slide on furniture.

9. Scooter riding, which is very popular with younger kids, uses largely the same facilities as skateboarding and the above definitions, bar longboarding, suit scooter riding as well.
10. Skateboarding is not like a traditional sport that requires a team, coach, uniform, rules, playing times and schedules. Skateboarders can skate at any time, with whoever they want, without any rules or regulations in how it must be done. This provides opportunity for people from all walks of life to take part and encourages participation. Additionally, there is also a competitive side which some skateboarders choose to take part in. This competitive side is likely to gain in popularity with the introduction of skateboarding to the Olympics.

³ Above n1. Play Spaces Policy

11. Because skateboarding is accessible to most people, there is high participation in groups that often face systemic barriers to participation. Amongst 5 to 17 year olds in Wellington who skate, 46% are Māori or Pacifica and 25% come from high deprivation backgrounds.⁴
12. While skateboarding has traditionally been heavily male dominated, participation from women, girls and gender diverse communities has seen a dramatic increase in the last decade. Amongst skateboarders 17 and under, 30% are girls.⁵ This is likely to continue to increase with the assistance of current programmes actively encouraging the participation of women, girls and gender diverse communities.
13. Approximately 31% of children aged 5 to 17 years old ride a skateboard or scooter.⁶ Anecdotal evidence suggests that children who ride scooters often switch to skateboarding in their teenage years.
14. Skateboarding in Wellington is not just for young people: 54% of adults that skate are aged over 25, with 33% aged over 34 years old.⁷
15. In the late 1980s and early 1990s Wellington had a world-class indoor skate facility called the “skate pit”. This was privately run and located in a large warehouse near where the Sky Stadium is today. At the time skateboarding had not developed in popularity enough to maintain this as a viable business, but it serves as a good model of what should be looked at today for a top of the line indoor facility that could be used for recreational skating, Olympic training and national and international competition.
(see appendix 1)
16. Since the Skate Pit was removed in the early 1990s, Wellington has lacked adequate skateboarding facilities and has not kept pace with the rest of the country, or the rest of the world. For the most part our skateparks are badly designed, badly built, small, and outdated. This means that these parks never

⁴ <https://sportnz.org.nz/resources/active-nz-survey-2018/>

⁵ Above n4, Active NZ Survey

⁶ Above n1, Play Spaces Policy

⁷ Above n4, Active NZ Survey

reach the potential user numbers that they should have. Some are completely disused.

17. Wellington has historically viewed skateboarding negatively and tried to ban or restrict skateboarding from much of the central city. By-laws have previously been introduced in order to ban skateboarding from the roads and then from the footpaths with large fines imposed.
18. In recent years the relationship between skateboarders and the Council has improved dramatically. The Council appears to have come around to the view that skateboarding is here to stay and that it can have a positive impact on the community, but Wellington still falls well behind the rest of the country and the world in terms of skatepark building and incorporating skateable architecture into its urban design.
19. One of the reasons for this lack of investment is that Skateboarding is not funded under sports and instead sits under play spaces. While there is technically nothing preventing further funding as play spaces, we believe that not recognising skateboarding as a sport has led to it not being taken seriously and treated as a 'problem' rather than a high-performance activity.
20. Over the last 20 years Wellington has seen a decline in the number of skate facilities due to the following actions:
 - a) The Kilbirnie Recreation Centre removed its vert ramp and mini-ramp and re-floored its rink with a slippery plastic that makes the facility largely un-skateable. This was the only indoor facility for skateboarding in Wellington.
 - b) The redevelopment of Chaffers Park into Waitangi Park reduced the size of the skatepark by about two-thirds.
 - c) Onslow Bowl was filled in and covered with grass. This was not a Council asset but the city and skaters benefitted from it.
 - d) Karori skatepark was removed completely.

21. In comparison, Auckland City developed a skate strategy in 2001⁸ that saw major investment in new skateboarding facilities over the proceeding 20 years. Auckland now boasts high quality skateparks like the Victoria and Valonia parks.



Valonia skatepark, Auckland

22. It is telling of the underinvestment in skateboarding in Wellington that two of the most popular skateparks are DIY projects where skateboarders have had to pay for and build their own parks.

⁸ <https://at.govt.nz/media/imported/4989/skatestrategy.pdf>

WELLINGTON'S SKATEPARKS

23. Wellington currently has seven Council funded skate facilities and two DIY facilities funded by skateboarders. Many of the facilities are largely unusable and not fit for purpose. The facilities are:

a) **Waitangi Park**

The skate bowl is excellent, but other parts of the park have not been well built and areas such as the mini-ramps are largely unusable and rarely skated. It is too compact and not fit for purpose as a large city-wide skatepark.



Waitangi Park

b) **Island Bay skatepark**

The mini-ramp well designed and built is fit for purpose and of reasonable design and quality. The rest of the park (aside from the recent “taco” built with input and design from skateboarders) is badly designed and built. It is largely unusable by all but the most experienced skateboarders and is better suited to bikes.



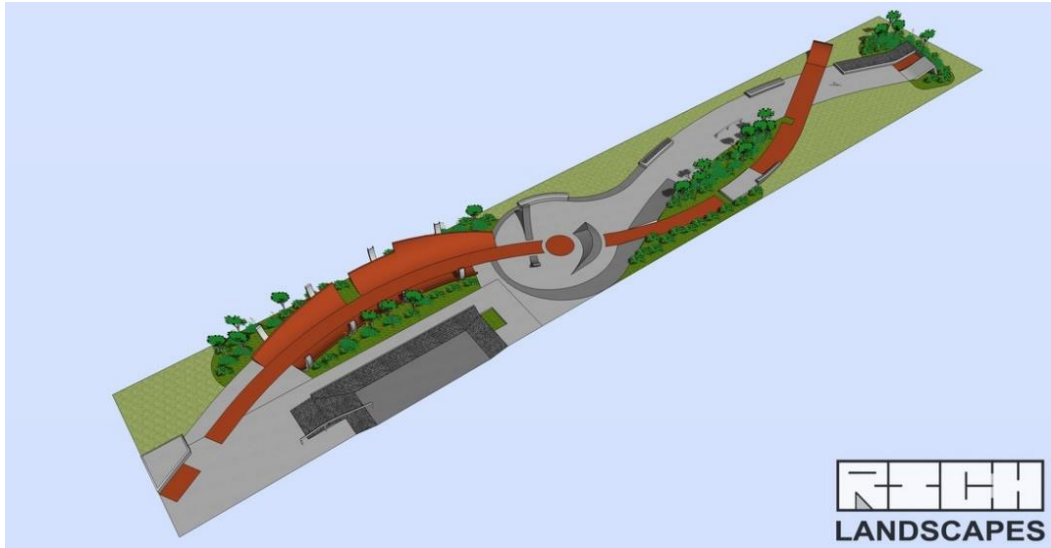
Island Bay skatepark

c) **Rongotai Skatepark**

Construction was stopped on Rongotai skatepark when it was less than one-third developed. Because of this it is too small and not fit for purpose.



Rongotai skatepark



Rongotai skatepark plan that did not get completed

d) **Karori skate ramps**

The mini ramp is well designed and built and the vert ramp is adequate. There is no need for alterations to what is already there but there is opportunity for the large unused grass area behind the ramps to be developed.



Karori skate ramps



Unused land behind Karori skate ramps

e) **Nairnville ramp**

It is misleading to class this as a skate facility. Around 25 years ago the original wooden vert ramp was cut in half (this does not work with skate ramp design and is akin to cutting a rugby field in half and still calling it a playable field). Around 5 years later the ramp was covered in concrete, quickly cracked and became unusable. It has sat dishevelled and largely abandoned ever since.



Disused Nairnville ramp

f) **Newlands skatepark**

Newlands park is currently being revamped with input from skateboarders and is set to be the best skatepark outside of Waitangi park.



Newlands skatepark

g) **Tawa skatepark**

The obstacles in the park were badly designed and constructed and many parts are largely unusable. It is currently not fit for purpose. The Tawa Residents Association has worked with WSA to develop plans for a new park. Unfortunately there is no Council funding to make those plans a reality.



Tawa skatepark



Tawa skatepark concept design

h) **Kilbirnie Recreation Centre**

Through the 1990s this was an excellent facility for skateboarding, containing a vert ramp and mini ramp (where “tiny town is now) and street obstacles (in the rink area). Unfortunately around 20 years ago the vert ramp was removed, the mini ramp destroyed and the rink covered in slippery plastic coating. It is no longer fit for purpose.



Kilbirnie recreation centre



Kilbirnie recreation centre when it used to have a min ramp and vert ramp (background)



Old Kilbirnie recreation centre mini ramp that was removed and destroyed

i) **“Treetops” DIY skatepark**

This is located in Newton/Berhampore and was developed by skateboarders placing ramps and other obstacles in the largely unused overflow carpark for Newtown Park. It has since become one of the most popular skate spots in Wellington. It caters largely to “street” skaters as it doesn’t have mini/vert ramps or bowls. It receives no council funding as a skate facility.



Treetops DIY skatepark

j) **Owen street DIY skatepark**

Another skatepark developed by skaters due to the lack of council facilities. This park sits behind the hospital and contains permanent concrete ramps and obstacles. It suits more experienced skaters, but parts of the park cater to all skill levels. It receives no council funding as a skate facility.



Owen street DIY skatepark

THE COUNCIL'S PLAY SPACES POLICY AND SKATE ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

24. The 2017 Play Spaces Policy (PSP 2017)⁹ lacked information on skateboarding. This was recognised at the time and it was agreed as part of that policy that further engagement with the skate community would take place to “plan, prioritise and consider funding for skate facilities.” This led to the development of the 2020 Skate Engagement Survey.¹⁰

25. Even without the necessary level of detail, the PSP 2017 was clear that more needed to be put in place for skateboarding. The policy noted:

- a) That the Council has a responsibility to ensure opportunities for play spaces are improved where possible in the public realm.
- b) That diversifying the use and improving the quality skateparks over time will maximise use of these facilities.
- c) That opportunities for development of a network of five skateable “spots” around central Wellington will be explored through an assessment of potential spaces and through inclusion of skate opportunity in the design brief for all new public space upgrades.
- d) That skateboarding will be promoted as an activity that benefits participants and the city.

26. None of these actions have been implemented. By taking no steps to include funding for skateboarding in the LTP, the Council is not even following its own policy.

27. The 2020 Skate Engagement Survey (SES 2020) was a more thorough attempt to engage with the skateboarding community and make recommendations.

28. It is clear from the SES 2020 that Wellington is in need of the following:

⁹ Above n1

¹⁰ Above n2

- a) A large, centrally accessible skatepark that caters to all ages and skill levels.
- b) An indoor facility that is usable all year round, particularly in winter when skaters tend to head to car park buildings as the only skateable areas under shelter.
- c) Development of skate friendly spaces in urban design throughout the city.
- d) Improvement of current facilities, many of which are not fit for purpose and largely unusable.
- e) A world class facility to support skaters intending to skate professionally/semi-professionally, on the international stage and/or at the Olympics.
- f) Support and funding to increase the participation of women, girls and gender diverse communities.

29. We were appreciative of the Council for undertaking this survey, actively engaging with skaters and identifying the needs of the community. Unfortunately, without funding through the long-term plan, this engagement becomes largely tokenistic and pointless. The depth of feeling amongst the skateboarding community is very strong because we feel we have been led to believe the Council is finally going to give skateboarding the attention it requires and are now being betrayed.

30. There have already been excellent opportunities that have been missed where skateable spots could have been incorporated into public space upgrades. A good example is the Oriental Bay to Kilbirnie cycleway. The wide footpaths and smooth surface would have been perfect for incorporation of small skateable ramps, benches and other facilities.

31. With the LTP having a large focus on the development of cycleways, the Council should be thinking broader than just cycling. These provide great opportunities for skateboarding facilities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

32. The 2001 Auckland City Skate Strategy (ACSS 2001)¹¹ identified a three-tier hierarchy of skate facilities:

- a) One city-wide skatepark – centrally located.
- b) At least three medium size skateparks spread between core regional areas (e.g. North Wellington, South Wellington, Eastern Wellington).
- c) Smaller neighbourhood skateparks as necessary.

33. We largely agree with that assessment. It is easy to see how this could be developed in conjunction with the recommendations of the SES 2020.

34. Additionally, as Wellington moves to more high density building, kids need places to play, exercise and be part of the community. Skateparks are ideal for this because they can be built to a variety of sizes and areas where it would not necessarily be appropriate to put other sports fields or facilities.

35. We suggest the adoption of 6 long-term recommendations and 9 steps that can be taken immediately to invest in the future of skateboarding in Wellington.

¹¹ Above n8

Long Term Recommendations

1. The city-wide skatepark be developed into a world-class facility open to all skill levels and used for international competition and as an elite training facility and skate school for beginners.
2. Either the city-wide skatepark or one of the medium sized skateparks be located indoors.
3. New urban design includes skateable spots so that the central city becomes a world-class skate city along the lines of popular “skate” cities like Barcelona.
4. Current skateparks are redeveloped to make them fit for purpose and ramps or other facilities are placed indoors or under shelter wherever possible.
5. Skateparks include lighting and public toilets to make them safer and more accessible to women, girls and gender diverse communities.
6. Funding for skate schools such as Waa Hine skate and Girl Skate NZ to further encourage the participation of women, girls and gender diverse communities.

Immediate steps that can be taken

1. Incorporate a world class skate facility into the Grenada North Sports Hub development or the Kilbirnie Park redevelopment. This could be indoors, see Olympic level and international competition as well as provide a training facility and skate school.
2. Expand Waitangi Park by re-designing the mini ramps and extending the surrounding area.
3. Fund the Tawa skatepark, which has already been designed.
4. Incorporate smaller indoor mini ramps into upcoming projects like the Alex Moore Park Sports Hub building or the redevelopment of Aro Valley community facilities (an adequate size would be approximately 9 x 6 metres).
5. Complete the Rongotai skatepark (there is a full park design but only one-third was built).
6. Give Treetops and Owen Street DIY spots Council designation as skateparks and funding to include toilet facilities, lights, seating and bins, while allowing for skaters to develop their own skate facilities (thereby keeping the DIY aesthetic).
7. Develop the unused large grass area behind the Karori ramps into a “street” skatepark area.
8. Replace the disused Nairnville ramp with a new fit for purpose mini-ramp.
9. Incorporate skate spots into urban design when opportunities arise and follow through on Council policy to incorporate five skateable “spots” around central Wellington and include an assessment of skate opportunities in the design brief of all new public space upgrades.

36. If done correctly, these steps could put Wellington as one of the top skateboarding destinations in the world within ten years. This is not only good for the development of local skateboarding and national competitions but would lead to economic benefit from national and international tourism. Prior to Covid, New Zealand had become a popular spot for international skate teams. This led to many areas of New Zealand featuring in videos on sites like *thrashermagazine.com*, where the videos receive hundreds of thousands of views. Unfortunately, pro-teams have often bypassed Wellington altogether on these tours because of its lack of skate facilities.

37. We hope the Council will take on board our recommendations and make Wellington a world leader as a skateable city.

Appendix 1 – Wellington’s “Skate Pit” and other indoor facilities

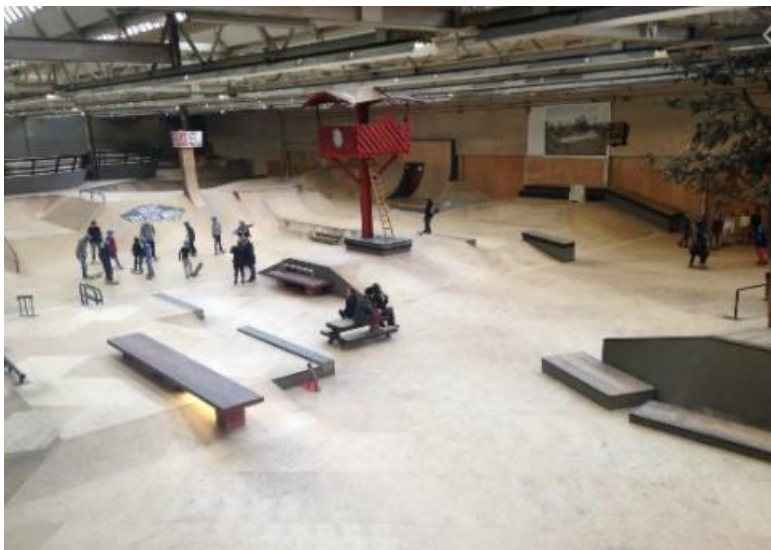




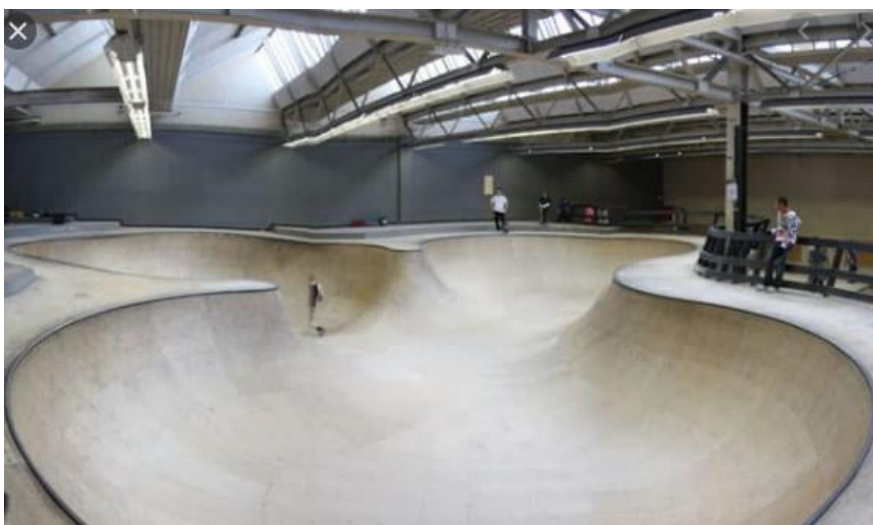
The Skate Pit was a world-class facility containing a vert ramp, spine ramp, mini ramp, snake run and bowl and large street area. While some of the facilities wouldn't meet today's standards, the size of the facility and amount of ramps is what is needed if Wellington is going to provide an Olympic quality facility for Wellington skateboarding.



The “Berrics” indoor facility in California.



Eindhoven skatepark Netherlands





Skatehalle Berlin



"Amazing Square" Tokyo

Appendix 2 – incorporation into urban design



Riddiford Gardens Lower Hutt



Paris



Napier



Sydney



Barcelona



Barcelona



Barcelona



Barcelona



Barcelona



Barcelona

Submission #: 1496



Submission
by the
Victoria University of Wellington
Students' Association
on the
WCC Long-Term Plan 2021

Prepared by

Michael Turnbull, Ralph Zambrano, Sophie Dixon, Zoë Simpson

Victoria University of Wellington Students' Association (VUWSA)

Level 4, Student Union Building, Kelburn Parade

VUWSA also wishes to make an oral submission.

Contact

Michael Turnbull

President

Contact Address: President@vuwsa.org.nz

To	Wellington City Council
From	Victoria University of Wellington Students' Association (VUWSA)
Date	9th of May 2021
Subject	Wellington City Council Long-Term Plan
Contents	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduction2. Water Ways3. Laterals4. Cycleways5. Te Ngakau Civic Precinct, Council Office Building6. Library7. Te Atākura8. Sludge9. Key upcoming decisions10. Consultation11. Conclusion

1. Introduction

Students want to live in a city that is sustainable, creative, and safe. Students want organised and comprehensive public transport, healthy and affordable housing, and a city which brims with job opportunities and culture. An increasing number of students want to see decisions made with and by mana whenua and Māori. The formation, development, and implementation of the Wellington City Council (WCC) Long Term Plan can bring into effect each of these important kaupapa. It is a crucial document, which can help to solve some of Wellington City's most acute issues, from leaking pipes to lacklustre public participation.

Below are the views of Victoria University of Wellington Students' Association, on behalf of the students of Te Herenga Waka - Victoria University of Wellington. We have focused on areas we believe are particularly central to the student experience. In addition, our focus has also expanded to the wider Wellington region, and the groups most impacted by public development and infrastructure. As active members of the Wellington Central City, students are particularly interested in ensuring that those groups most acutely impacted by Wellington's infrastructural systems are highlighted as key stakeholders. This includes our disabled community, tāngata whenua, migrants, renters and, of course, students.

Victoria University of Wellington Students' Association represents all 22,000 students studying at Te Herenga Waka-Victoria University of Wellington. We believe in direct and empowering democracy, and are particularly interested in areas of Wellington City Council's infrastructure such as public transport, water supply, and housing. These areas of key concern recur throughout our submission below, and we hope to continue to work with WCC, and other local bodies, to make genuine change on these ongoing issues.

2. Water Ways

VUWSA believe that the Wellington City Council should undertake option three – accelerated investment. The three waters system operated by Wellington City Council relates to all four of the community outcomes outlined at the beginning of the consultation document - environmental, social, economic, and cultural. Our current system impacts our environment through its pollution of local waterways, directly affecting Wellington's awa and whenua. It's poor structure and leaks are costing ratepayers thousands of dollars, impacting on our city's economic viability. Water is also of deep

significance to our mana whenua and taura Māori, and the clarity of our streams and adequacy of our pipes also contributes to the overall hauora of Wellington's residents.

VUWSA acknowledges the Council's view that there is not enough information currently gathered to understand the full scope of investment needed to accelerate the improvement of Wellington's water ways. While we understand that there is not a clear way forward, VUWSA believes that a robust and modern three waters network is an important requirement for Wellington's environmental and economic sustainability, and should be further prioritised through accelerated investment. By choosing option three, Wellington City Council is committing itself to find robust and creative ways to address issues with our three waters system. It also allows for a more than sufficient section of the overall budget to be put aside to address this issue.

An expanded and more efficient water infrastructure in Wellington presents the opportunity for further development of houses. Students desperately need low-cost housing, and any changes to the current infrastructural standing of Wellington's water ways should be focused on providing further infrastructure to support the development of high-density housing within the central city. It is the responsibility of WCC, alongside central government, to begin addressing this issue immediately, or risk losing the lifeblood of their city – students.

VUWSA supports the Council's focus on reducing future maintenance costs, and believe that accelerating the process of understanding the water ways pipes carbon footprint would help Wellington to meet its obligations under Te Atakura. Another necessary change to our water system in order for Wellington to fall in line with its Te Atakura framework is the improvement of our wastewater system. Our current wastewater system pollutes every stream within Wellington. Not only is this unacceptable for Wellington, as the capital and leading city of New Zealand, this ongoing pollution is disrespectful to our local iwi and hapu, and those who rely on our rivers as a source of cultural connection and livelihood.

VUWSA also supports the continued usage of green space to soak up stormwater. An increase in greenspace is to the general benefit of our city's natural environment, and VUWSA believe that these green areas should also prioritize native flora, to the benefit of our whenua and biodiversity. VUWSA also support the focus on increased planning requirements, as this will work to ensure that there is more adequate future planning around our three water systems. In regards to the overall distribution of funding within the Wellington City Council investment under option three, we approve of the over 400-

million-dollar investment in waste water, as this is a crucial part of fixing wellington's infrastructural issues.

Water and awa hold deep importance in te ao Māori, and to Wellington's tangata whenua and iwi. It is also a section of public infrastructure which impacts every aspect of our city – from environment to public health. Students want to know that they live in a city which is sustainable, and where their Council are taking reasonable steps to protect the future of Wellington's water infrastructure and environment, a city they will look to live, work and contribute to post-study. Given this, it is crucial that Wellington City Council prioritise an accelerated investment in the City's three-waters system.

3. Laterals

VUWSA prefer option two. We believe that the management and upkeep of Wellington's laterals is most efficiently done through the Council.

4. Cycleways

VUWSA's preferred option on building more cycleways is option 3: High Investment.

Whilst a majority of students, when transitioning between campuses, prefer to utilise public transport, VUWSA believes that the current lack of student uptake around cycling is due to routes being inaccessible and unsafe.

We believe that improving the safety of cycleways should be a priority funding allocation. Students who utilise cycleways are prone to unsafe conditions when travelling on sparsely illuminated and narrow cycleways. This risk is exacerbated during the winter when it gets dark much earlier during the day and weather conditions are more extreme.

VUWSA would like to see cycleways well lit, so that the entire route is completely illuminated, and wide enough to comfortably accommodate cyclists and pedestrians. In any instance, cycleways should not come at the expense of pathways. We believe that creating physical and clear barriers separating cycleways and walkways greatly reduces the risk of an accident. Paths purposefully allocated for a particular use avoids traffic confusion and reduces path congestion.

We implore Council to include central city cycling feasibility, within any programme to build more cycleways, as this will increase accessibility for cycling between campuses and the inner-city suburbs. The absence of cycleways surrounding Te Herenga Waka, Victoria University Campuses at Kelburn, Pipitea and Te Aro, doesn't make cycling to university accessible or appropriate. Currently, students who cycle onto campus are required to cycle on the main road with motor vehicles. This is a significant safety hazard for students, particularly during peak hours, and prohibits our ability to opt in favour of cycling to, from and in between campuses.

We do however want to note, that while increasing accessibility and safety of cycleways is of importance, as students continue to get pushed out of the central city, public transport will continue to be the primary mode of transportation and more must be done to make such accessible for students.

VUWSA believes there is great environmental and wellbeing value in any effort to make Wellington more accessible and less car focused.

5. Te Ngakau Civic Precinct, Council Office Building

VUWSA advocates for Option 1: the demolition of the MOB and CAB buildings and construction of new buildings in their place. This is because it would avoid the exorbitant costs involved in strengthening the current buildings, while filling the gap left by the futile buildings in this important Council area.

VUWSA sees a benefit in housing the Te Kōi School of Music within the new MOB buildings. This places the NMC in Wellington's cultural and artistic centre, revitalizing the Civic Square. Students are attracted to Wellington as it is the cultural capital, and has a bustling creative sphere. Therefore, we want to affirm the importance of restoring the CBD's cultural institutions.

6. Library

VUWSA's preferred option for Decision 6 is Option 3: strengthening the library now by increasing rates further.

VUWSA supports the option of fixing the library as soon as possible as the loss of the library has been a great detriment to the student community over the past few years. We would like to see the library re-opened by 2025 rather than 2028 as this is a gap that needs to be filled. The library provides a safe, warm space for students to study in and to participate in group work. There are no comparable facilities

in Te Aro that are easily accessible to all students, particularly for those who do not live near their university campus, or who are not university students.

The pop-up libraries that have been implemented in the interim are far from sufficient as they do not nearly have as many resources as the Central Library did. They do not house sufficient seating space, charging ports, and other facilities for students to use. Therefore, they do not spend as much time as desirable in them.

Another reason VUWSA would like to see the library restored soon is that it provided an inclusive space for university students, high school students, tutors and the general public to work in. It is advantageous for those who attend schools and universities or polytechnics that do not have adequate facilities to support all of their students. In this way, it is an inclusive excellent resource for all members of the community, but its absence has been felt by students in particular.

Although it is a politically risky decision, VUWSA would like to advocate for increasing rates to fund the strengthening of the library, rather than surpassing the debt limit (Option 1). We want to see Council make sustainable economic decisions, and leave room for future Councils to use the money they have to tackle important issues that will arise in the future. We do not want to see Council focusing on reducing its level of debt, instead of concentrating on bigger issues at stake.

7. Te Atākura

We support the full funding of the action plan for Te Atākura – First to Zero - Option 3. Anything less than this is simply not acceptable in 2021. Students deserve a city that is fully committed to reducing carbon emissions. We especially support the funding into the climate change response team and urge the Council to work collaboratively with communities on the front lines. Overall, we submit that the plan itself does not seem to go far enough.

Te Atākura – First to Zero should be a primary consideration in every major and minor decision the Council makes, and we have not seen enough of this throughout the LTP document. Sustainable procurement principles should guide infrastructure decisions. Adapting for the climate crisis should not mean that dealing with sludge allows other waste minimisation actions, like a strong focus on the circular economy, to fall by the wayside. A focus on Te Atākura also aligns with improving the reliability, efficiency, accessibility and safety of our public transport system.

8. Sludge Minimisation

VUWSA supports Option 4: sludge minimisation through alternative funding. This is an urgent problem that we strongly support swift action on. We need to reduce waste going to landfill, and stop pumping sludge across the city. 2020 demonstrated the risks of failing to act quickly on this problem. VUWSA understands that action on waste minimisation has been consistently curtailed by the ratio requirements for safe sludge management, and we are urging the Council to plan to avoid further expansion of the landfill and continue exploring better waste management streams, given the limited lifespan of this proposed infrastructure. We support research and planning into source – separated waste water and sanitation systems, as outlined in the submission of zero waste advocates in Wellington.

VUWSA has chosen to support Option 4, as we want the Council to embrace alternative funding streams. However, we have two primary concerns. Most importantly, if the intended funding stream becomes unworkable, we would want reprioritisation of funding to ensure that this project remains viable. It is crucial for creating a city that is focused on including circular loop principles, and to remove the current hurdles that limit proper waste minimisation for other waste streams. Secondly, we do not want the cost of the ratepayer levy being passed onto students through rent increases, given the levy will be collected for thirty years from Year 4.

Overall, we want to see waste systems that work for a city truly committed to Te Atākura - First to Zero. Waste is a climate change issue that goes far beyond emissions from landfill. This looks like embracing resource recovery centres, and addressing construction and demolition waste streams. We would have wanted to see more consultation on these elements, which we know are issues important to students and the Wellington community.

9. Key Upcoming Decisions

Affordable Housing

The current state of housing in Wellington is abysmal, particularly for students, who are often forced to rent low-quality, expensive flats. As rental prices continue to rise and housing availability falls, students are being forced further and further out from the central city, reducing their time and ability to contribute to the culture, economy, and vibrancy of Wellington. The lack of affordable housing is not

only a disincentive to students coming to study in Wellington in the first instance, but also to remain in Wellington permanently after their studies. If Wellington wants to remain a vibrant and student-friendly city, it must make urgent decisions in the area of affordable housing.

We urge the City Council to center the perspectives of students and youth, those who will contribute to the future of Wellington, in their Spatial Plan and Housing Strategy. We commend the work Wellington City Council are undertaking in their Te Mahana (Homelessness Strategy), however believe that the homeless community should be actively involved in these conversations. Any solutions to the problem of homelessness must be co-designed alongside the homeless community of Wellington. Progressive and genuine partnership is the most effective means for long-lasting and progressive change.

Let's Get Wellington Moving

Public transport that is accessible for all is pivotal for Wellington's student's population, who often rely on public transport and safely-lit pedestrianized areas to get around. The former will only continue to be of growing importance to students as they are pushed further out of the City Centre with the ongoing housing crisis. As the WCC implements the Let's Get Wellington Moving programme in the first few years of the LTP, we hope to see ongoing consultation and engagement with those stakeholder groups particularly impacted by the current state of Wellington's public transport, including students. VUWSA supports the ongoing commitment to improving Wellington's transport infrastructure, and the decision to shift to an increased focus on people and culture in the design and implementation process.

10. Consultation

VUWSA would like to acknowledge the extent to which the Wellington City Council have attempted to make their consultation accessible. The long-term plan was broken down into several simple sections, which allowed groups not already engaged with Council processes to gain a fairly robust understanding of the potential changes to our city. We are also deeply appreciative of the Council's attendance of local areas and bodies, and believe that this is a highly accessible and democratic form of consultation.

However, we believe that more work can be done from the Council's end in proactively liaising and collaborating with major community organizations to support them in gathering the viewpoints and perspectives of Wellingtonians. For example, if the Wellington City Council had spent more time proactively engaging with both the University and the Student Association of Te Herenga Waka, student consultation would have deeply benefitted.

We believe that this fits into a wider discussion as to the level of engagement the general public has with WCC. More engagement and co-development of engagement strategies with local community organisations brings the power back to the citizens of Wellington, and ensures consultation and engagement are legitimate and empowering. This is an area VUWSA is particularly interested in further exploring with Wellington City Council.

11. Conclusion

Wellington is a city with great potential to become a student-focused, progressive and environmentally and economically sustainable capital. The current proposals in the Wellington City Council's long-term plan are steps in the right direction towards ensuring that we continue to lead New Zealand in sustainability, cultural vibrancy and citizen satisfaction. Alongside the decisions outlined in the Long-Term Plan, VUWSA believe that the council must take urgent action on a number of key issues. In particular, our current housing crisis, lack of adequate public transportation, and inefficient waste systems.

We urge the Wellington City Council to take into account the perspective of the Wellington student population as they go about solving these growing issues. We believe that the options highlighted within this report will present the best outcomes for students, and will help to ensure that Wellington remains a liveable city for generations to come.



Submission on the Wellington City Council Long Term Plan **From the Living Wage Movement Wellington Network**

We would also like to make an Oral Submission on the Wellington City Council Long Term Plan.



'Wellington City Council is a diverse organisation. The skills required to run a city are numerous and ever changing. The retention and development of these skills is vital for the council. Remuneration is one part of that plan. **Lifting the lowest wages to that of the living wage rate is one signal that the council values the contribution its people make to the operations of the city.**' - Wellington City Council¹

¹<https://wellington.govt.nz/-/media/your-council/meetings/committees/governance-finance-and-planning/2013/12/20131211-report-2-implementation-of-a-living-wage-rate.pdf>



Your decision to become a Living Wage Employer changes lives

In 2018, the Wellington City Council became Aotearoa's first accredited Living Wage council. Since then, you have proudly worn the Living Wage trademark, as an Accredited Employer. Wellingtonians working at WCC like cleaners, parking wardens, security guards, library, pool and recreation staff who are now being paid the Living Wage have benefited not only from the security the Living Wage offers but also, through accreditation, the knowledge that they will be paid a wage they can live on for years to come.

Other City Councils in New Zealand are following the lead of WCC. Your proud status as an accredited employer in this way is also part of improving the lives of workers nationwide, alongside other iconic Wellington Employers like Garage Project, MEVO, Six-Barrel Soda, Rogue and Vagabond and so many more.

Our submission to the Long Term Plan asks you to continue to champion the Living Wage in our city:

- **By maintaining Living Wage Accreditation**

By continuing to pay directly employed and contracted workers the Living Wage, committing to this within the Long Term Plan, workers at Wellington City Council continue to have the security the Living Wage offers them. As well as this, WCC continues to be a positive influence on other employers city, region, and nationwide.

- **By supporting local employers to pay their staff the Living Wage through the \$300,000 per annum allocation to the grants fund**

The inclusion of this allocation shows that WCC is serious about making Wellington a Living Wage City. The \$300,000 p/a allocation to top up the wages of staff working events ran by employers receiving a grant will encourage employers to pay the Living Wage and will support workers who work these events, such as those in the arts sector.



Living Wage Movement

Aotearoa New Zealand

- **By working towards all council and council supported events paying the Living Wage**

WCC runs and supports a series of fantastic events each year, such as Diwali, Matariki, and concerts in the park during the summer. By committing to auditing these events, finding out where workers are not being paid the Living Wage, and then lifting their wages, WCC can ensure that all workers at it's events are being paid the Living Wage.

Conclusion

We are proud of our city council's progress with the Living Wage. We are proud of the council members and mayor for looking after their workers, and we are also proud of the staff who work to ensure their colleagues are being paid enough to live on. Now it is time to keep up the good work, and champion the Living Wage to make Wellington Aotearoa's first Living Wage city!



About us



Living Wage Movement
Aotearoa New Zealand

Living Wage Wellington is a local network of Living Wage Movement Aotearoa. We are Wellingtonians from faith groups, community organisations, and unions. Just like you, we want an inclusive, sustainable and creative capital for people to live, work and play.

Contact:

Marlon Drake – Living Wage Movement Organiser for Wellington Region



Property Council New Zealand

Submission on the Wellington City Council's Long Term Plan 2021-2031

10 May 2021

For more information and further queries, please contact
Liam Kernaghan 

Wellington City Council's Long Term Plan 2021-2031

1. Recommendations summary

1.1 Property Council New Zealand (Property Council) generally supports the Wellington City Council's Long Term Plan 2021-2031. Property Council makes the following recommendations:

- Recommend realigning the six priorities for the next decade, and adding a seventh around economic growth;
- Address a number of the concerns highlighted by the Auditor in relation to expenditure;
- Reduce the proposed rates increases over the first two years and spread the increases across the decade more evenly;
- Use more alternative funding vehicles and reduce the debt increases proposed;
- Introduce water meters on residential properties;
- Delay all major decisions regarding waste-water and associated infrastructure until final decisions by the Government and the Council have been made in regards to Three Waters reform;
- Align the cycleway priorities with Lets Get Wellington Moving;
- Ensure more transparency around climate change goals and ensure there are incentive structures in place to help change behaviours;
- Do not strengthen the Central Library as is, and instead re-engage with the community and re-examine other options for library services to be delivered;
- Consider the asset stock and assess whether divestment of unnecessary assets can occur.

2. Introduction

2.1 Property Council welcomes the opportunity to submit on the Wellington City Council's Long Term Plan 2021-2031.

2.2 Property Council's purpose is "Together, shaping cities where communities thrive". We believe in the creation and retention of well-designed, functional and sustainable built environments which contribute to New Zealand's overall prosperity. We support legislation that provides a framework to enhance economic growth, development, liveability and growing communities.

2.3 Property is currently New Zealand's largest industry with a direct contribution to GDP of \$29.8 billion (13 per cent). The property sector is a foundation of New Zealand's economy and caters for growth by developing, building and owning all types of property.

2.4 Property Council is the leading not-for-profit advocate for New Zealand's largest industry- property. Connecting people from throughout the country and across all property disciplines is what makes our organisation unique. We connect over 10,000 property professionals, championing the interests of over 600 member companies have a collective \$50 billion investment in New Zealand property.

3. Overview

3.1 Property Council is supportive for further investment into Wellington's infrastructure to address some of the long standing issues Wellingtonians have been facing. Many – including three waters and transport – are well traversed in the media and do not need further addressing. However, other issues about the commercial viability of assets and the management of some of our public spaces and services will be addressed throughout this submission.

3.2 Fundamentally, Property Council hopes local and regional authorities throughout New Zealand will get on with doing the core basics well and focus harder on delivering the services communities expect. To that end, Property Council broadly agrees with the six priorities the Council has set for this long term plan. However, we would reorder them as follows in terms of importance to communities and to the property sector:

- Improving three waters infrastructure
- A safe, resilient, reliable transport network
- Wellington has affordable, resilient and safe housing
- The city has resilient and fit-for-purpose community, creative and cultural spaces
- An accelerating zero-carbon and waste-free transition
- Strong partnerships with mana whenua

We would also advocate for a seventh overarching priority – ensuring continued economic development and growth in Wellington. While Council cannot regulate for economic growth, it can create the conditions and the environment where people want to live, work and play within our city. We absolutely agree with the long-term plan at page ten, where it says “Council's primary role is the provision of core infrastructure – the foundations of a city that allows communities, the environment and businesses to thrive.”

3.3 Property Council is supportive of the \$2.7b capital investment programme across the 10 years. However, we hope the Wellington City Council commits to this level of capital investment even if three waters reform progresses. Investment across many different portfolios is needed to stay ahead of infrastructure capacity issues into the medium-long term.

3.4 We are concerned at a number of the points raised by the Auditor. They will be discussed throughout our submission but, in summary, our concerns include:

- The Council does not use information about the condition of its three water assets to cost and direct its investment in its three waters networks;
- The renewal of assets has been forecast based on the age of the assets, capped by what the Council considers is affordable;
- The Council has not included the remaining estimated costs for social housing of \$403.2 million, or how this will be funded, in the information and assumptions underlying its consultation document;
- The Council has assumed that external funding contributions will be obtained through use of the Infrastructure Funding and Financing Act 2020 to invest in the existing wastewater treatment plant site. The external funding contributions are currently uncertain because funding agreements are not yet in place; and
- Delivery of three waters infrastructure and of all the work planned may, due to other large infrastructure projects within the region and nationally which are competing for

limited resources, be at risk. This, coupled with the uncertainty of Covid-19, could result in the Council failing to deliver its capital programme in future years which could impact on service levels.

4. Rates

- 4.1 Ratepayers continue to face significant financial pressure due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic. While New Zealand has weathered the short term implications relatively well compared to our international counter-parts, the continued impacts of our isolated position are still being felt by residential and commercial landlords. As you know, on 25 March 2020 we wrote to all local authorities and the Minister of Local Government recommending councils minimise proposed rates increases to a level that is financially prudent.
- 4.2 We do not support the trajectory Wellington City Council proposes of a first year rates increase of 13.5 per cent and an average of 9.9 percent over the first three years. For many this is a cost which cannot be justified given some of the priorities in the long-term plan (for instance, the Central Library). While rate increases decline over the ten-year period, in our experience this never eventuates.
- 4.3 To give certainty and transparency to ratepayers, we would support a reduced rates increase in the first three years but a more consistent increase across the ten years. Our estimation would suggest rate increases of between 3 and 4 per cent each year for the next ten years should suffice.
- 4.3 Property Council supports the use of targeted rates as a fairer, more transparent funding vehicle to general rates increases – so long as targeted rates replace and do not supplement the overall ratings take.
- 4.4 We are opposed to any increase in the ratings differentials. We note the proposed increases in commercial rates which is higher than residential and, given capital gains in residential, consider this to be inequitable.

Debt

- 4.5 Property Council supports Councils reducing their debt as a percentage of revenue over the medium-long term. We are not supportive of the Council's decision to allow a breach of the debt limit in years 1–3 to allow the Library to be built over years 1–5. Property Council does not support the rebuilding of the Library and would prefer the Council to re-engage with the community about other options.

Business rating differentials

- 4.6 As a matter of principle, Property Council has always opposed the business rates differential as a rating tool due to the lack of transparency of funding. In particular, rates differentials are collected as general rates and are added to the overall pool of money, making it near impossible for businesses who pay the rating differential to track the total charges and where it is spent. This results in a lack of transparency for commercial ratepayers as it is unclear what their additional rates are funding and whether it is beneficial to their business needs. Often the level of business rates paid is disproportionate to the level of services received.

- 4.7 Under the Local Government Act 2002, Councils must ensure prudent stewardship of resources and undertake a robust cost benefit analysis for fulfilling their functions. On this basis and in the principle of transparency we request that the Council releases a copy of this analysis publicly so that businesses can assess whether the rating differential is fair.
- 4.8 Our position on transparency is consistent with the 2019 New Zealand Productivity Commission report on local government funding and financing which found that “councils’ rating practices are too often not transparent.” The report recommends councils should make better and more transparent use of their rating and other funding tools.
- 4.9 Abolishing rates differentials is also consistent with Central Government’s 2007 Local Government Rates Enquiry which recommended that in the interest of transparency, rates differentials should be abolished and replaced with alternative funding mechanisms. This includes targeted rates, user charges (i.e. congestion charges), public-private partnerships and special purpose vehicles.

Targeted rates

- 4.10 Property Council is supportive of targeted rates that improve certainty and transparency to ratepayers and consumers. We think the Wellington City Council should consider using more targeted rates to help fund projects across the community to provide assurances to Wellingtonians that the projects the Wellington City Council chooses to fund will in fact be funded.

Water meters

- 4.11 Similarly, Property Council endorses the use of water meters on residential properties for two reasons. The first being it allows Wellington Water to get a more granular picture of where leakages and over-use exists across the city, and then to deploy better services and resources to fix the leakages and gaps in the infrastructure. Secondly, it allows Wellington Water and Wellington City Council to get a better understand of where the demands on infrastructure exist across the network to better plan for future investment in water infrastructure. Property Council would support the trialling of the use of water meters in the next three year period to measure the benefits water meters would bring to better understanding the demands on our water pipe infrastructure.

Alternative funding methods

- 4.12 Property Council advocates for all territorial authorities throughout New Zealand to investigate alternate funding methods. This will more accurately reflect the rating base and allow the Council to deliver much needed infrastructure. Our recommendation is consistent with the Productivity Commission inquiry into local government funding and financing. We support amending the Development Contributions policy and make further comment later on regarding your specific proposals.
- 4.13 Alternative tools may include user charges (e.g. water charges and congestion charging), targeted rates, public-private partnerships and special purpose vehicles. In particular, special purpose vehicles involve debt sitting off the Council’s balance sheet and is helpful for those Council’s that are approaching their debt limits. It has been successfully implemented internationally and became a foundation for the Infrastructure Funding and Financing Bill, which the Property Council supports.

5. Investing in upgrading and protecting our city's water networks

- 5.1 Property Council supports investment in infrastructure networks in our city. The advent of the Three Waters reform is timely for local authorities in terms of their water infrastructure.
- 5.2 Property Council welcomes the substantial increase in the level of three waters investment, including a 23.2 percent operational expenditure and 41.1 percent capital expenditure increase above what was in the 2018 Long-term Plan. We agree with the Council when they admit that "...while there remains a risk with this option that some service levels may continue to decrease and therefore increase operating costs, this option includes additional funding to better understand the condition of the network, and this will improve our ability to renew and invest in the network."
- 5.3 We do note though that Local Government New Zealand has recommended Councils across New Zealand work on the understanding that Three Waters Reform won't be delivered and Councils will maintain responsibility for their water infrastructure. We recommend that Council provide an alternative package – i.e. as if Three Waters reform is delivered – to provide certainty around (a) the ratings requirements in a different model and (b) how that impacts on capital expenditure over the next decade.
- 5.4 At a national level, Property Council is actively engaging with Minister Mahuta and officials on the design of the water entities and their key performance indicators. Property Council believes the success of water services and infrastructure in the future will be dependent on the success and design of the entities themselves. To that end, Property Council will continue to work with central and local government to ensure the entities are fit for purpose.

6. Wastewater laterals

- 6.1 Property Council notes the Council's preferred option to take responsibility for the section of the wastewater lateral beneath the legal road to the property boundary be consistent in the region and New Zealand. We also note the Council believes this will create efficiencies in maintenance by allowing us to plan their renewal alongside wastewater mains.
- 6.2 We recommend decisions on this be delayed until the announcement of the design of the Three Waters entities and further decisions by the Council are made about the long-term management of our three waters infrastructure throughout Wellington. It does not make sense to make a decision on this so close to decisions being announced by the Government.

7. Cycleway priorities

- 7.1 Property Council is supportive of further use of public transport, and cycleways to encourage the public to help contribute to the Government's proposed climate mitigation and adaptation goals.
- 7.2 However, with the uncertainty around Lets Get Wellington Moving, we recommend Council support Option Two over Option Three. As noted by Council, "what we progress and when ... will depend on which routes are delivered as part of LGWM."

To our mind, it makes sense to work towards more certainty around Lets Get Wellington Moving and then commit to further projects. While Option Three would deliver further cycleways currently unplanned, Option Two allows for more flexibility in regards to what the Government and Council might agree to in the long term in regards to Lets Get Wellington Moving.

8. Te Atakura – First to Zero

- 8.1 One of Property Council's priorities is climate change adaptation, mitigation and resilience planning. We are supportive of Council's across New Zealand taking proactive measures to work with their people to reduce emissions whilst helping incentivise local industries and communities to change behaviours.
- 8.2 We are concerned that the Council's proposed Te Atakura – First to Zero is not linked up with the advice that the Government has received from the Climate Change Commission, nor been well canvassed with the public. It has serious repercussions right across our communities and more work should be done with regards to some of the major policy decisions. We note a number of them below:

Measurement of Council and City greenhouse gas emissions

- 8.3 Property Council is supportive of the Council measuring the greenhouse gas emissions. However, we are concerned the recently legislated powers that Councils now may take a climate lens to consenting will stifle growth and mean Councils will effectively veto projects they do not agree with from a climate perspective. The Emissions Trading Scheme should do the heavy lifting here and, where projects have the appropriate credits available to them, emissions should not be used to decline consents.

Climate change response team funding

- 8.4 Property Council is supportive of response teams but the current information provided by the Council is insufficient for us to understand the depth and breadth of this team, their powers and functions and what their performance indicators will be.

WCC EV Fleet project

- 8.5 Property Council supports the Council replacing our vehicle fleet with electric vehicles, over a ten year period. We would like to understand what partnership opportunities exist with central government to support this – including whether used/second hand electric/hybrid vehicles not used in the central government fleet can be re-purposed for local government use.

Home energy audits, Workplace Travel Planning, Community climate action support and business climate action support

- 8.6 We are broadly supportive of these measures but more detail is necessary to ensure these policy decisions will have meaningful reductions in emissions across the City and our communities rather than just add extra charges and costs on to ratepayers.

9. Te Ngākau Civic Precinct, Council Office Buildings

- 9.1 Property Council supports the preferred decision to demolish both the MOB and CAB buildings and new buildings developed in their place, through the sale of a long-term ground lease and private funding to develop the replacement building. We believe this presents the best opportunity for ratepayers to receive the greatest benefit from the land in the future.
- 9.2 We would want to understand whether interest has been received for long-term ground lease opportunities. Property Council has submitted recently on Christchurch City Council's long-term plan and noted – in regard to empty spaces in the central city – that “good development throughout the City which contributes to its liveability and viability, not hurried development for the sake of it” should be incentivised and that “Council should consider a requirement for some beautification of empty sites” at least in the short term.

10. The Central Library

- 10.1 Property Council submitted on the future of the Central Library in September 2020, saying the Council should do further work and allows ratepayers to have another opportunity for consultation on the preferred option alongside the Long-Term Plan consultation process before determining the future of the Central Library. Our position was – and is still – that demolishing the building and rebuilding a new library is the best use of capital.
- 10.2 We are disappointed the only options being considered is strengthening the current building, rather than looking at different opportunities that exist. These could include:
- The option to rebuild the Central Library and demolish the existing building;
 - Continue with the popular pop-up libraries across the city and provide more bespoke, local community services which make sense to our vast communities; and
 - Considering providing more library services online and reducing the size and scope of the Central Library to reduce costs.
- 10.3 Property Council notes that delaying work on the current site and re-evaluating other options will provide enough headroom to prioritise water infrastructure and avoid unnecessary debt. This is preferable to ensuring services continue to be funded and the Council can maintain its credit rating.

11. Upcoming decisions

Social and affordable housing

- 11.1 One of the Property Council's priorities is delivering housing that enhances communities. To that end, Property Council is keen to see the development of social and affordable housing through various different providers who are best placed to develop and build houses.
- 11.2 We are concerned at the Auditors comment on page 72 that while the Council has “calculated the expected cost for a full capital upgrade and maintenance of its social housing to be \$446 million over the 10-year period of the long-term plan,” that only “\$42.8 million has been included in the Council's budget. The Council has not

included the remaining estimated costs of \$403.2 million, or how this will be funded, in the information and assumptions underlying its consultation document.”

- 11.3 We agree with the Auditor that it is unreasonable to omit these costs and associated funding for social housing from its underlying information. The underlying information should include the remaining estimated costs of \$403.2 million and the Council should address how these costs will be funded. Some costs could be absorbed by accepting some of the recommendations in previous paragraphs.

Community infrastructure Investments

- 11.4 Property Council supports the Council’s work to look across the current network of community infrastructure to see if Wellington has the right facilities in the right places to best meet community needs now and for the future. Doing this will help Council ensure that Wellingtonians are getting maximum benefit from the assets the Council owns.
- 11.5 We would want to see Council consider divesting some of those assets where they do not meet community or commercial sense. To that end, we would want communities consulted once the work programme has identified the various assets which could be divested from Council ownership.

12. Conclusion

- 12.1 Property Council generally supports the direction the Wellington City Council is taking with its Long Term Plan 2021-2031. We do make the following recommendations:
- Recommend realigning the six priorities for the next decade, and adding a seventh around economic growth;
 - Address a number of the concerns highlighted by the Auditor in relation to expenditure;
 - Reduce the proposed rates increases over the first two years and spread the increases across the decade more evenly;
 - Use more alternative funding vehicles and reduce the debt increases proposed;
 - Introduce water meters on residential properties;
 - Delay all major decisions regarding waste-water and associated infrastructure until final decisions by the Government and the Council have been made in regards to Three Waters reform;
 - Align the cycleway priorities with Lets Get Wellington Moving;
 - Ensure more transparency around climate change goals and ensure there are incentive structures in place to help change behaviours;
 - Do not strengthen the Central Library as is, and instead re-engage with the community and re-examine other options for library services to be delivered;
 - Consider the asset stock and assess whether divestment of unnecessary assets can occur.
- 12.2 Property Council would like to thank the Wellington City Council for the opportunity to provide feedback on the 2021-31 Long Term Plan as it gives our members a chance to have their say in how Wellington is shaped, today and into the future.

12.3 Any further queries do not hesitate to contact Liam Kernaghan, Senior Advocacy Advisor, [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

Paul Robinson

Paul Robinson
Property Council New Zealand Wellington Branch President
10 May 2021

WCC LONG TERM PLAN

Submission on the need for a Street Trees Planting Policy

In an article on the benefits trees bring to our environment the *Listener* magazine reported that Wellington was one of very few capital cities in the developed world that does not have a roadside trees planting policy. While mayor Andy Foster when asked contested that statement, a senior WCC staff member has since confirmed by email the current position:

WCC doesn't have a policy that specifically just covers roadside trees.

WCC does have various strategies, policies, plans and guidelines that help guide decision making on street trees and roadside vegetation. These include:

- *Verges Policy*
- *Street tree planting requirements in reserves agreements and resource consent for new subdivisions*
- *Central City Framework*
- *Northern Growth Framework*
- *Our Natural Capital includes road corridor planting*
- *Road Encroachment and Sale Policy include consideration of natural values in road stopping assessments*

Apart from the second document listed, the benefits from street tree planting requirements rate only an indirect mention. Mental wellbeing, temperature reduction in built up areas, and the sheer enjoyment of being in tree-lined streets are not considered. None of the other documents provides specific guidance to staff or sets out expectations which would guide communities in discussing with council particular local needs.

As a result, tree planting along city roads is random and sometimes meets with mixed success. In the CBD, wonderful results have been achieved. Obviously, budget constraints prevent such planting more widely across the city, but constraints and priorities need to be defined. Many streets are devoid of trees where verges are available for planting. A constructive framework is needed to beautify such areas; a significant challenge for the council to face.

Within the limits of developer contributions, new streets are being planted. There is a distinct reliance on single species which is perhaps unwise, given that outbreaks of disease both here and elsewhere in the world have devastated single species. Perhaps a guiding policy would have led to a varied approach.

The council's present level of appreciation of roadside planting is illustrated by a most extraordinary statement from a WCC staff member. New streets are now being built in higher areas which regularly experience strong winds. The standard two stake and tie system may fail to give adequate support and saplings are being lost as a result. In a discussion on improving the support system, a council email contained words to the effect that "*we are considering whether our budget will permit the use of three stakes to each tree*". Here we have New Zealand's capital city unable to afford a few wooden stakes! I hope councillors are as stunned as I was on first reading that. (Current plantings along exposed streets continue with two stakes per tree.)

I ask our councillors to align us with other capital cities and give street trees their due by implementing a guiding policy as part of the LTP to move towards a time when Wellington can fairly be described as a tree-lined city. (As climate change continues to turn up the heat, future residents will be grateful.)

I would like to speak in support of this submission.

John Tiley 9 May 2021

WCC LONG TERM PLAN

Submission on a Larger Community Centre for Churton Park

The Churton Park community has for several years repeatedly emphasised to senior council staff, Mayor Andy Foster (meetings in 2019 and 2021) and Northern Ward Councillors that a facility much larger than the present one is needed to provide reasonably for community needs. The Plan must make proper provision for such a facility, acknowledging not only that present needs are not being met but that the planned expansion of the community, both within the present built-up area and in Stebbings Valley, will increase demands even further.

The council's records will show that many regular bookings have been discontinued as user organisations grow and find the present limited space no longer adequate. Some users have compromised and used the present facility even though e.g. no changing rooms are available for performers. Storage space is minimal, with stacked chairs taking up hall floor space. Potential users express interest then decline on discovering how limited the available space is.

On page 57, the draft consultation document pointedly omits any larger community centre for Churton Park even though upgrades for other suburbs including Tawa/Linden are included. Neither is the draft consistent with the provision in the Draft Spatial Plan to "carry out a community centre assessment (for Churton Park) ". That provision refers to a "small" community centre, failing to recognise the reality of current demands, space – or rather the lack of it – being the issue.

As drafted, the Plan unreasonably disadvantages Churton Park residents. I request the Plan include provision for a larger community centre, consistent with the many approaches to the council in recent years, noting also the pressing need which will require completion in the plan's early stages.

John Tiley

Churton Park

May 9 2021

Long Term Plan 2021- 2031 Submission To Wellington City Council

May 2021

We would like to appear in person to support our submission

Contact person:

Laura Jackson, Chair
Wellington City Youth Council

c/o Wellington City Council
PO Box 2199, Wellington 6140

Wellington City Youth Council
Te Rūnanga Taiohi o te Kaunihera o Pōneke

Introduction

1. The Wellington City Youth Council (Youth Council) welcomes the opportunity to submit on Wellington City Council's Long Term Plan 2021-2031 to help shape the future of Wellington.
2. We recognise that this Plan marks a crucial turning point for Wellington - if drastic measures are not taken in the next ten years to address many of the major issues we currently face, Wellington will face the consequences of inaction with degraded infrastructure and a city struggling to attract talent.
3. As young people in Wellington, we are particularly motivated in ensuring that the decisions made now are not going to negatively impact our futures irreversibly.
4. Youth Council recognises the delicate balance and bind that Council must consider in this Long Term Plan, with competing spending interests, limited additional capacity, debt constraints, and balancing rates rises with household costs.
5. However, significant levels of investment into our city are critical to enabling Wellington to thrive and maintain its competitive position as a powerhouse of vibrancy and activity. Without taking action is not taken in the short term, our future generations will bear the consequences of this decision making irreparably.
6. The submission by Youth Council on the Long Term Plan 2021-2031 will focus on the following points.
 - a. Council must ensure that it delivers safe, accessible, and affordable housing to Wellingtonians as a critical outcome to strive towards, and the Long Term Plan must work to enable this goal.
 - b. Significant investment is needed to improve our three waters infrastructure. Getting safe drinking water to homes, and safely removing wastewater, is fundamental and foundational to the running of a city.
 - c. The development of a Youth Hub in the central city needs to be progressed at pace as a priority for Council and is the primary way that Council can demonstrate its commitment to young people.

- d. Council needs to focus on ensuring that Wellington has a thriving central city built around community, through the redevelopment of Te Ngākau Civic Square and the Central Library.
7. Youth Council acknowledges that not all projects can be fully funded within the spending limitations of the Long Term Plan, and that Council faces tough decisions to balance community views to ensure a viable financial plan for the city.
8. However, we urge Council to focus spending on the areas that are literally bursting at the seams, such as fixing our water systems, improving cycleways, and getting the Central Library back up and running. Wellingtonians are making their views heard and expect to see action.
9. This Long Term Plan must consider how decisions now will affect our future. With this challenge in mind, now is the time for significant funding to be placed into the Te Atakura action plan in order to ensure that we have a liveable environment for future generations to enjoy.

Supporting our communities into healthy, accessible homes

10. Youth Council urges Council to focus more on the ways that Council can support better housing outcomes by increasing high-quality housing supply in Wellington, such as through accommodating an increase in intensification and new developments.
11. Other Council actions underway are expected to boost housing supply into the future. But the Long Term Plan provides Wellington's budget and spending intentions for the next decade, and it is outrageous that there is no focus on housing in the LTP.
12. Council has not budgeted for its requirement to upgrade and invest in City Housing, which is concerning, and we urge Council to take action to both upgrade its own housing stock and invest more to unlock more housing citywide.
13. Housing is an issue that will not go away if we just try to ignore it, and it is irresponsible for Council to ignore the costs of upgrading City Housing.
14. A lack of action on housing now will further lock out young Wellingtonians from the housing market, will put further pressure on already sky-high rents, and will harm Wellington's position as a city into the future.

15. Youth Council has strongly and repeatedly urged more action from Council to do all it can on housing. We again submit this advice.

More spending for fixing the water pipes

16. The state of Wellington's water infrastructure is of serious concern and are embarrassing for a capital city. Youth Council urges Council to keep an unrelenting focus on repairing and upgrading Wellington's literal foundations.
17. Youth Council recognises that a failure to have a future-minded view and make significant long-term investments now will only transfer the fiscal burden to future generations.
18. Due to this, Youth Council strongly advises against 'kicking the can down the road' by simply maintaining current levels of funding.
19. Youth Council supports a balance between Options 2 and 3, to allow for an ambitious and comprehensive investment to address Wellington's failing infrastructure.
20. Youth Council notes that information around Wellington's water networks, and the City's ability to direct investment in water assets to support a growth plan, limit the level of immediate investment that can occur, which in part underscores the Council preference for Option 2.
21. Youth Council understands these constraints, but urges Council to put a more ambitious investment track to address water issues in Wellington, with greater levels of funding from Year 3 onwards in the LTP.
22. By that time, Council must have a better expectation of water asset conditions and an ability to direct investment to support growth.
23. A lack of ambitious funding intentions risks under playing the issues and consequences at stake of having Wellington's water assets failing further - a clear signal must be sent now that Council is serious about addressing Wellington's infrastructure deficit and intends to invest to correct this.
24. A modified Option 2, to allow for more ambitious spending in the out-years of the LTP, allows for Council to get better information before embarking on investment.
25. But Option 2 by itself risks knowing that more investment is needed but neglecting to fund this increase until full details are known about exactly what pipe needs to be replaced.

26. With 30% of water supply and 20% of wastewater pipes already past their use-by date, and all of Wellington's water bodies failing to meet national standards, the issues are laid bare. These issues require a comprehensive investment.
27. Youth Council has split views on water metering.
 - a. On one hand, Youth Council sees water metering as a way to ensure water conservation is considered, smaller households don't subsidise larger water users, and a way to monitor, assess, and fix leaks in the water system.
 - b. On the other hand, Youth Council also is concerned about the impact of metering on low income households, larger families, and ownership of water assets.
28. We note that water supply at present is not "free", but paid for generally through rates without recognition of the use of water of the volume consumed.
29. We also note that privatisation of water provisioning is not possible under current legislation, and that previous analysis from Auckland pointed toward lower income households not being large water users.¹
30. Overall, Youth Council recommends the Enhanced Investment option as we believe this more or less balances the long term outcomes with the short term fiscal costs.

Ownership of wastewater laterals

31. Youth Council supports the preferred option, Option 2, which could see Council take ownership of wastewater laterals.
32. Option 2 will bring Council's policy in line with the rest of the country, and create efficiencies in maintenance.
33. Youth Council supports a Wellington where water assets are well maintained, and Option 2 provides the best ability to see this outcome occur.

¹ https://www.waternz.org.nz/documents/other/111118%20_metering%20_overview.pdf

34. Option 2 takes the burden off property owners, who may be unaware of their responsibilities or not be able to undertake repairs when needed.
35. Just as importantly, the change in policy would ensure Council can be responsible and proactive in managing all water assets, instead of getting into a position where Council could be hindered from maintaining water assets by disagreements on responsibility of laterals.

Building more cycleways across the city

36. Youth Council strongly supports Council's preferred Option 3 for the cycleways decision.
37. The prioritised full programme will ensure that Wellington gets the high-quality cycleway network it needs, but still remaining within the capacity of the construction sector.
38. In particular, Youth Council supports Council's intention to link Tawa and Johnsonville with a high-quality cycleway. This part of the network is the only break in the cycling infrastructure between Porirua and the Airport, and connecting it up will be a significant improvement for cycling access across the Northern Suburbs and into Wellington as a whole.
39. More generally, Youth Council supports Council's vision in terms of tactical urbanism, active and public transport, and a higher-density city with fewer cars.
40. Safety is often one of the primary reasons why young people don't cycle around Wellington, and the projects included in Option 3 go a long way to alleviate this concern.
41. Of course, if the construction sector had more capacity, and if Council had more funding headroom, Youth Council would also support an accelerated programme of works.
42. However, Youth Council feels that if more construction capacity and funding headroom is found, other unfunded programmes should be a higher priority for that increased capacity - for example, the youth hub proposed by the Children and Young People Strategy.

Paying for the Te Atakura action plan

43. Youth Council wholeheartedly supports the full funding of the Te Atakura action plan, and endorses the preferred option, Option 3.
44. A priority for young people is climate justice and the full funding of the action plan is a must-do in order to see this happen - anything less than full funding is Wellington turning its back on the climate and the commitments we have already made as a city.
45. Young people will live through the effects of climate change, and the city's ability to respond to the impacts of climate change is very important to ensure a sustainable future.
46. Investigating new actions through the full-funding of the action plan will ideally allow for a more just transition for all to a rapidly changing world.
47. Option 3, compared to Option 2, allows Council to take more of a leadership role in taking action through itself as an organisation transforming its operations.
48. Option 3 allows for greater focus on transport emissions from Council's own car fleet by increasing EV purchases and enables better charging infrastructure around Wellington with more EV chargers.
49. Option 3 also provides for greater levels of community funding to support Wellingtonians to themselves reduce emissions - Youth Council also supports this funding.
50. Youth Council views Option 3 as significantly preferable to Option 2 to enable a more comprehensive response and a "leading" rather than "following" position when it comes to undertaking current commitments to reduce carbon emissions.
51. Youth Council strongly opposes Option 1, which would represent a weak attempt to address climate change in Wellington - Wellington needs bold action.

Resilience issues to Te Ngākau

52. Youth Council generally supports Council's preference for Option 1 - demolishing the damaged buildings and having the site developed through a long-term ground lease.

53. We believe that Option 1 is the best balance of financial and earthquake-stability considerations. As Te Ngākau is an area with great potential development, we believe that the time-delay involved in rebuilding the space rather than simply renovating is a worthy sacrifice in comparison to the future benefits a new space could have.
54. The additional steps required to gain resource consent to demolish MOB due to its consideration as part of the Heritage Civic Precinct is seen by Youth Council to be a worthy action in order to achieve the best possible outcome for the space.
55. Although we agree with Council in the preference to demolish and develop the site, we believe that more specification and consideration needs to be taken into which tenants are to fill the buildings in this area.
56. If Council wishes for Te Ngākau to be the creative and musical heart of the city, then the type of tenants which Council leases the land to is crucial.
57. As a starting point, housing the National School of Music in a new MOB building will bring life and music to the square, drawing in members of the community from all walks of life and enhancing the atmosphere of Te Ngākau.
58. Other space within the Te Ngākau square buildings should be leased to tenants with a community focus, such as community groups, NGOs, not-for-profits, or youth-focused entities such as the Youth Hub.
59. Te Ngākau Civic Square has the potential to be a thriving community hub for Wellington City's centre by ensuring that the space is utilised in a way that focuses on all Wellingtonians, rather than simply the businesses which occupy the space during the weekdays.
60. In particular, if the space is leased to businesses who only operate on a Monday-Friday schedule, then Te Ngākau has the potential to become another abandoned area of the city on weekends, as much of The Terrace is outside of traditional working hours.
61. Although the public-benefit sentiments of the suggestion to focus the Te Ngākau redevelopment to specific tenants may be possible through Option 2 (base build proposal for public purposes), the consequences of Option 2 are not desirable.
62. Youth Council believes that it is not acceptable for Council to progress an option which includes both MOB and CAB having extremely poor earthquake ratings. As the land is already unstable and uncertain due to its proximity to

the harbour, it is unacceptable for Council to knowingly develop and invest public funds in its assets only to have an outcome with earthquake ratings of 67% and 50% at best.

63. Option 3 is undesirable as it loses the benefit which Option 2 has of being able to house the National School of Music - Youth Council sees little benefit from Option 3.
64. Similarly, Option 4 does not appear to provide any benefits to the city beyond the lack of spending associated with the sale.
65. Overall, Youth Council supports Option 1 (Council's preferred option), but urges Council to consider mandating or overseeing the type of tenants which these buildings will hold in order to ensure that this space is able to be community-focused and retain its reputation as a musical and cultural hub for the city.

Funding the Central Library rebuild

66. Youth Council supports the preferred option, Option 1, to strengthen the Central Library now by temporarily breaching Council's self-imposed debt limit of 225%.
67. Youth Council has been vocal on a rapid solution to having lost the Central Library, and with it, a key piece of Wellington's social infrastructure for young people.
68. The Central Library is a key landmark and is integral to the cityscape.
69. In previous decisions involving the Central Library, Council has made the speed of action a constant area of importance.
70. To live up to its previous commitments and focus on a rapid resolution on the library, Youth Council strongly submits that Option 1 should be pursued to get the Central Library operational as swiftly as possible.
71. Youth Council considers it to be a better solution to have one project completed, and make other projects wait, than to have many half-complete and unfinished projects across Wellington for an extended period of time.
72. Option 2, with multiple projects taking slower to complete, would see Wellington with an unacceptable level of partially complete works - it is better to concentrate efforts to reopen parts of Wellington's infrastructure sooner by prioritising action.

- 73. A temporary breach of Council's debt limit, in the early years of the Long Term Plan, will still leave capital investment space towards the end of the Long Term Plan period for unallocated spending items.
- 74. Council, and the Wellington community, have identified the Central Library as a critical priority - it deserves the rapid and complete funding demanded by the community to get community assets back into operation as soon as possible.

Reducing sewage sludge and waste

- 75. Youth Council supports the preferred option, Option 4, to achieve sludge minimisation using alternate funding mechanisms.
- 76. However, if Option 4 turns out to not be possible, we support Council needing to prioritise funding again to ensure that Option 3 occurs.
- 77. Youth Council understands that the objective of both Option 3 and 4 are the same, but the funding systems underpinning the options are different.
- 78. Youth Council supports Council's focus on the minimisation of sludge and submits that Council should work to reduce overall sewage sludge.
- 79. Youth Council supports Council's plan to reduce both carbon emissions and waste as part of Te Atakura and the Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan.
- 80. Youth Council supports Options 3 and 4 as these options work to achieve the plans noted above.
- 81. Overall, Option 4 achieves the outcome Youth Council desires in the most financially feasible way for Council.
- 82. However, we also note that Option 4 requires the use of an external fund enabled by the Infrastructure Funding and Financing Act (IFFA) - also known as using a "special purpose vehicle" (SPV) for specific debt-funded projects.
- 83. Using an SPV would still see Wellingtonians pay, it's just that the money would be ring-fenced to pay for this project and therefore sit off the Council's books, allowing for more Council debt funding for other projects.
- 84. If Council needed to fund Option 3, this would require either higher borrowing (which is limited) or further prioritisation of Council funding.

85. As Council documentation makes clear, Options 1 and 2 do not make significant inroads into addressing already well-documented concerns and costs from current practice around sludge.
86. Youth Council does not find it favourable to keep waste levels to the landfill up so that we have enough rubbish to mix with sludge - it makes a mockery of Wellington's focus to reduce our impact on the environment.
87. Youth Council supports Option 4 (or otherwise 3) to enable a "long-term, strategic investment that would leapfrog short-term options and better reflect our aspirations on carbon and waste reduction."²

Changes to fees and user charges

88. Whilst it is noted that Councillor's intend for the current policy of free under 5's admission to Council swimming pools to continue, Youth Council wishes to strongly endorse that this position is maintained both through this planning process and into the future.
89. Introducing a \$3.90 admission charge for under-5s swimming will not just have long-term negative effects on water safety, but it will also disproportionately affect low-income whānau and their tamariki, which is a significant equity issue.
90. The impact of free swimming for under-5s is insignificant for Council's balance sheet, but massive and important for the whānau who need it the most.
91. As the suggestion to remove free swimming from under-5's had been raised as a change to user charges in initial stages of the Long Term Plan, Youth Council implores Councillors to rule this out as a possibility going into the future.

Conclusion

92. Youth Council generally supports the direction that the Long Term Plan points Wellington towards.

² Wellington City Council (2021). *Decision 7 Sludge and waste minimisation*. Wellington City Council. <https://www.letstalk.wellington.govt.nz/sludge-minimisation> (Retrieved 27 April 2021)

93. We urge a much greater focus on housing to ensure that Wellington has high-quality housing options that allow Wellington to attract and retain people who add to the vibrancy of the city.
94. Youth Council supports a modified Option 2 for spending on water assets, with a more ambitious focus on water needed to address current failing infrastructure.
95. Youth Council supports Option 2 for ownership of wastewater laterals as a common sense approach to bring Wellington in line with the rest of New Zealand.
96. Youth Council supports Option 3 for building more cycleways across Wellington to ensure that our active transport network allows Wellingtonians to move around safely.
97. Youth Council supports Option 3 for paying for Te Atakura action plan to ensure Wellington is serious about addressing climate change.
98. Youth Council support Option 1, with caveats around the tenants for Te Ngākau, for resilience issues in Te Ngākau to ensure Wellington regains the beating heart of the city
99. Youth Council supports Option 1 for funding the Central Library rebuild, to ensure a swift return for a critical piece of Wellington's social infrastructure
100. Youth Council supports Option 4 for reducing sewage sludge and waste, with an endorsement to take action under Option 3 if funding options for Option 4 prove to not be viable, to enable Wellington to reduce our burden on the environment.
101. Youth Council supports the retention of free swimming fees for under 5s.



Submission by the New Zealand Centre for Sustainable Cities on the Wellington City Council's 10-Year Plan to 2031

Assoc Professor Ralph Chapman, Professor Philippa Howden-Chapman¹

10 May 2021

In the attached submission form, we offer our views on the 'Big Decision' Questions 1,3, and 4; in addition we provide comment under Question 8 and some more strategic comment under Question 10. Thank you for the opportunity to provide our views.

Submission form

Kōrero mai mō te mahere 10-tau Have your say on Our 10-Year Plan

All submissions must be received by midnight Monday 10 May 2021

You don't have to give feedback on every decision – just choose the ones you're interested in. You can only submit once. You can include supporting information along with your submission.

Before you start, read about our big decisions and the other supporting information in this consultation document.

Why we're collecting this information

Your feedback matters. This plan is about the future of Wellington and it affects everyone who lives and works here. That's why we want to hear from as many people as possible. Your views will inform the next steps we take.

Privacy statement

All submissions (including names and contact details) are provided in their entirety to elected members. Submissions (including names but not contact details) will be made available to the public at our office and on our website.

Your personal information will also be used for the administration of the consultation process, including informing you of the outcome of the consultation.

All information collected will be held by Wellington City Council, 113 The Terrace, Wellington, with submitters having the right to access and correct personal information.

Full Name: Assoc Professor Ralph Chapman; Professor Philippa Howden-Chapman

¹ Ralph Chapman is Director, Environmental Studies Programme, Victoria University of Wellington, and a co-director of the NZ Centre for Sustainable Cities; Philippa Howden-Chapman is at the Dept of Public Health, University of Otago Wellington, and Director of the NZ Centre for Sustainable Cities.

<div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div>					
Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation? <input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Organisation: NZ Centre for Sustainable Cities					
What is your connection to Wellington? Tick all that apply					
I am a Wellington City Council ratepayer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I live in Wellington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I work in Wellington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I own a business in Wellington	<input type="checkbox"/>	I study in Wellington	<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a visitor to Wellington	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?					
Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>		
If yes - We are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please tick which option(s) you would prefer?					
Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Morning				
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Afternoon				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Evening				
Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)	<input type="checkbox"/> Morning				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Evening				

Our seven big decisions

The next seven questions relate to the big decisions for the 10-year plan.

- **Decision 1:** Increasing spending on the three waters network to fix the pipes
- **Decision 2:** Taking responsibility for the ownership of wastewater laterals
- **Decision 3:** Increased investment in cycleways
- **Decision 4:** Implementing our Te Atakura: First to Zero action plan
- **Decision 5:** Choosing a plan for earthquake-prone Council Office buildings
- **Decision 6:** Funding the Central Library strengthening and upgrade
- **Decision 7:** Choosing a plan for sludge minimisation

Detailed information on these decisions are on pages 21 to 46 of the Consultation Document.

Question 9 in this submission form is a place for you to comment or provide any other feedback on the decisions.

You are also able to attach further information to your submission at the end of this form.

Question 1 – Investment in three waters infrastructure

There are three different levels of investment in the three waters network to consider. Our preferred level of investment is the **Enhanced** option, which focuses on improving the condition and reliability of the network in an affordable and sustainable way.

Problems with pipes have been a long time in the making, and we cannot fix everything at once. The Enhanced option represents a \$2.4bn investment in our three waters network and is the middle-ground option that we are confident of being able to deliver in this plan. We will be able to review the level of investment in our next Long-term Plan review in 2024, when we will have more information on the network.

A summary of the proposed investment in the three waters network is on pages 23-27 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Yes	Enhanced (\$2.4b investment – the Council's preferred option)
	Maintain (\$2.0b investment - lower rates and debt)
	Accelerated (\$3.3b investment – higher rates and debt)
	None of these options
	Don't know

Question 2 – Wastewater laterals

Currently residents are responsible for the maintenance of the pipes connecting their property to the wastewater (sewerage) main underneath the road corridor. These are called wastewater laterals.

We propose that the Council takes ownership of the laterals between the property boundary and the sewerage main underneath the road corridor.

A summary of the proposal to take responsibility for wastewater laterals is on page 28 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

	Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment)
	No change (no change in investment, rates or debt)
	None of these options
	Don't know

Question 3 – Cycleways

Cycleways is an area where we have ambition to seriously lift our game – we'd like to build a network of connected and safe cycleways that allow Wellingtonians to be able to choose cycling as a mode of transport. Our full programme for the network can be viewed at transportprojects.org.nz and if all of the routes were progressed, would be a \$226m investment across the 10 years of this plan.

Our preferred option is a \$45m or 60 percent increase in funding for cycleways than what was planned in the previous Long-Term Plan. It will progress \$120m of the full \$226m programme

We believe the High investment programme option balances the need for increased investment in this area with what is affordable for Council and what we will be able to deliver. It allows time in the programme for robust community engagement and to build capacity in the Council and the sector for the full programme to be eventually delivered.

A summary of the proposed investment to build more cycleways is on pages 30 -33 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

	High investment programme (Council's preferred option, \$120m capital investment)
	Finish started projects (\$29m capital investment, lower debt and rates)
	Medium investment programme (\$39m capital investment, lower debt and rates)
Yes	Full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)
	None of these options
	Don't know

Question 4 – Te Atakura First to Zero (Climate Change)

Te Atakura – First to Zero is our response to the climate and ecological emergency we declared in 2019 but it is not yet funded.

Te Atakura is intended to ensure sufficient activity is undertaken in this decade to reduce our emissions. Council can do this by supporting the transport mode-shift projects, as well as encouraging the uptake of electric cars, providing seed funding to leverage businesses and community impact and supporting residents to be motivated to take action.

Our preferred option is to fully fund Te Atakura, which is included in our 5.3% average increase across 10 years.

A summary of the proposed investment in Te Atakura – First to Zero Action Plan is on pages 34 -37 of the Consultation Document

Which of these options do you prefer?

Yes	Fully fund the programme (Council's preferred option, \$29.9m investment)
	Low level of funding (\$18.1m investment, lower rates and debt)
	Medium investment with savings (\$25.4m investment, lower rates and debt)
	None of these options
	Don't know

Question 5 – Te Ngākau Civic Precinct – Council office buildings

Te Ngākau Civic Square is the musical, creative and democratic heart of Wellington but it has significant resilience challenges.

While we are still working through finalising the Framework for the Square, a specific decision is required in this Long-term Plan with respect to the future of the Council office buildings - the Municipal Office Building (MOB) and the Civic Administration Building (CAB).

As the two buildings are connected, and have similar resilience issues, it is important that the future of them is considered together.

Our preferred option is to demolish and rebuild the MOB and CAB buildings in partnership with private investment through a long-term ground lease for the site.

Combining a MOB and CAB development would enhance this opportunity and significantly decrease the need for additional Council borrowing and ratepayer funding to address these impaired buildings.

A summary of the proposed approach to developing of Te Ngākau Civic Square on pages 38 -41 of the Consultation Document

Which of these options do you prefer?

	Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option)
	Proceed with base build proposal for public purposes (higher debt and rates)
	Retain and seek to repurpose (higher debt and rates)
	Sell to support development (no debt or rates impact)
	None of these options
	Don't know

Question 6 –Fixing the Central Library

Wellington's much-loved Central Library was closed in March 2019 following an engineering assessment saying that the way the floor was designed presented a high level of potential failure in a significant earthquake.

After hearing from Wellingtonians in the 2020 consultation, Council agreed to recommend the high-level remediation option to be part of this plan. This option makes the building resilient to future shocks and supports our ability to deliver an adaptable modern library service, while preserving the buildings heritage. It also allows us to mitigate some climate change impacts in the future.

Now there are choices about how to fund the \$187.4m library remediation project, and when the project should take place.

The preferred option, includes the Council agreeing to temporarily breach its debt limit of 225% to ensure the library can be refurbished in the original timeframe and remain in public ownership. Our debt level will remain at 225%, and Council has agreed to accept the breach in the first three years of this plan. This breach will be mitigated by any capital underspend being used for the library project rather than on new projects. Our debt level will be back below our limit by year 4 – 2024/25.

A summary of the proposed investment to fund the fixing of the Te Ngākau Civic Square Central Library is on pages 42 -43 of the Consultation Document

Which of these options do you prefer?

	Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option additional 0.79% rates increase)
	Council to strengthen Central Library later (complete in 2028 instead of 2025, additional 0.83% rates increase)
	Strengthen now by increasing rates further (additional 1.79% rates increase)
	None of these options
	Don't know

Question 7 – Reducing sewage sludge and waste

One of the largest waste categories at the Southern Landfill is wastewater (sewage) sludge. This accounts for about a quarter of the waste that enters the landfill.

Through Te Atakura (our Zero Carbon Plan) and our Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan we have formally committed to reducing carbon emissions and reducing waste by a third. Minimising wastewater sludge is a necessary first step to achieving these objectives.

We need to break the link between the Southern Landfill and wastewater sludge and stop pumping sludge across the city, as 2020 highlighted the serious resilience issues and the significant consequences of failure.

Our preferred option is to invest in a sludge minimisation programme through another funding source. This means the project would not be funded by Council, but if it is funded through a Special Purpose Vehicle, a levy of about \$70-\$100 per year will be charged to each ratepayer.

A summary of the proposed investment in sludge and waste minimisation is on pages 45-47 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

	Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m-\$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)
	No change in current practice (no change to investment, rates or debt)
	Invest in technology at Southern Landfill (\$86m-\$134m capital investment and additional 0.39% rates increase)
	Sludge minimisation – through Council funding (\$147m-\$208m capital investment, above debt limit, and additional 1.65% rates increase)
	None of these options
	Don't know

Question 8 – Feedback on these decisions

Do you have any comments you would like to provide around why you selected your preferred option to any of these decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? If yes please indicate what decision/s you wish to provide comment on.

Yes	Investment in three waters infrastructure
	Wastewater laterals
Yes	Cycleways
Yes	Te Atakura (Climate change)
	Central Library
	Sludge and waste minimisation
	Te Ngākau funding for future work
	None of these

If this space is not adequate for your comments, please feel free to attach supporting information to the submission. Please be clear what decision you are commenting on.

Q1: Comment on Three Waters investment proposal:

- We consider it vital to improve the condition and reliability of the network in an affordable and sustainable way, for resilience, health and well-being.

Q3: Comment on Cycleways proposal:

- A high quality cycling network is a vital part of our City's transport system. With e-biking and e-scooter growth, this investment will help transform city transport.
- It is a critical enabler for carbon emission reduction, health (cleaner air, reduced noise, enhancing physical activity), social development (enabling more community activity and events, enhancing cohesion), and the local economy (congestion reduction, enabling other essential traffic). Taking account of all these co-benefits means the investment will have a high overall return.
- The proposed spend is modest at \$22.6m per year for 10 years, and compared with other strategic investments such as LGWM and other roads-related projects.
- We are confident Council has the capability to gear up quickly to manage this level of investment wisely.

Q4: Comment on Te Atakura (climate change) proposal:

- Climate change has appropriately been declared an emergency by WCC and the Government. If necessary steps to mitigate climate change are not taken urgently, we will not be effectively pulling our weight in a global crisis. The consequences could be hugely challenging for Wellington and NZ.
- We strongly support option 3 (fully funding the programme). Even this option, costed at \$2.08m per year for 10 years, is very modest given the importance of action in this area.
- However, fully funding the programme will be a step forward, *in conjunction with fully funding the cycleways* programme (Q3 above), and exploring additional ways of cost-effectively reducing emissions in the community (for example by supporting public transport and active travel, and discouraging car use)

Question 9 – Proposed 10-year budget (See section “what this plan will cost” p13. of the Consultation Document for details)

Our draft budget, has an average rates increase for the average ratepayer of 5.3 percent after growth across the 10 years of the plan. We also propose setting a limit on how much we can raise from general rates - \$465m for each year across the first 3 years of the plan and, \$630m each year across years four to ten.

The first year of the plan has a rates increase of 13.5 percent (after growth) and there is an average of 9.9 percent (after growth) over the first three years. This is higher than previous plans because of the **key challenges** faced by the city including infrastructure, housing, earthquake strengthening and COVID-19 impacts. Therefore, we now require a step up in the level of rates we charge. Details of the key challenges are on page xx of the **Consultation Document**.

Our proposed budget also represents our highest ever level of capital investment in Wellington. It addresses the need for increased investment in our three waters

infrastructure and transport network and seismic strengthening of key buildings, along with making progress against all our other priority community objectives.

Our debt levels for this plan, including the value of uninsured assets, range from 134 percent to 239 percent of our annual income. Our proposed limit is 225 percent.

We think this is a sensible limit on our borrowing to ensure that the impact on affordability of rates is maintained and leaves enough 'headroom' to ensure we can repay our debt, and respond to expected but unfunded and unexpected future events and opportunities.

Do you support the proposed 10-year budget?

<input type="checkbox"/>	I strongly support the proposed budget
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I somewhat support the proposed budget
<input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral
<input type="checkbox"/>	I somewhat oppose the proposed budget
<input type="checkbox"/>	I strongly oppose the proposed budget
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know

Question 9.a) – If you stated in Question 1 that you are neutral or do not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

<input type="checkbox"/>	I support increasing spend in the current budget
<input type="checkbox"/>	I support decreasing spend in the current budget
<input type="checkbox"/>	I support keeping the budget the same but with some changes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know

Question 10 – Any other feedback on what is proposed for the 10-year Plan

Future decisions

The Consultation Document also signals other decisions that are coming up in the time of this plan, but that we do not have enough information on at this stage for a detailed consultation.

Other projects

We also have many other services and projects detailed in our Statements of Service Provision.

Council Fees and charges

We have also made changes to some of our fees and user charges. More information on these are available on our website: <https://wgtn.cc/ltp> and available at our libraries and service centre.

Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

The NZ Centre for Sustainable Cities supports initiatives by WCC which take a strategic, long-term view of Wellington City's future, particularly programmes

which will strengthen environmental sustainability, resilience, health and well-being.

For example, we support a high level of spending on Three Waters infrastructure, but oriented where possible in a way which provides greater support for central and city-fringe Wellington areas. This will mean more sustainable and resilient housing development in central and city-fringe areas is facilitated. We also believe in introducing water meters for all houses and properties. Many cities in NZ and abroad already have metering. This is a cost-effective way of finding leaks and encouraging people to reduce their water consumption.

We do not support Council funding programmes that have predictably low returns, such as Convention Centre spending, or spending in support of outer-suburban greenfield developments which necessarily entail a high carbon footprint due to car-dependence. It is important that the Council lean against such carbon-intensive and costly peripheral developments.

Thank you very much for your submission!

Submission form

Kōrero mai mō te mahere 10-tau Have your say on Our 10-Year Plan

All submissions must be received by midnight Monday 10 May 2021

You don't have to give feedback on every decision – just choose the ones you're interested in. You can only submit once. You can include supporting information along with your submission.

Before you start, read about our big decisions and the other supporting information in this consultation document.

Why we're collecting this information

Your feedback matters. This plan is about the future of Wellington and it affects everyone who lives and works here. That's why we want to hear from as many people as possible. Your views will inform the next steps we take.

Privacy statement

All submissions (including names and contact details) are provided in their entirety to elected members. Submissions (including names but not contact details) will be made available to the public at our office and on our website.

Your personal information will also be used for the administration of the consultation process, including informing you of the outcome of the consultation.

All information collected will be held by Wellington City Council, 113 The Terrace, Wellington, with submitters having the right to access and correct personal information.

Full Name: Angela Rothwell					
Contact details: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]					
Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation? <input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Organisation: Mt Victoria Residents' Association					
What is your connection to Wellington? Tick all that apply					
I am a Wellington City Council ratepayer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I live in Wellington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I work in Wellington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I own a business in Wellington	<input type="checkbox"/>	I study in Wellington	<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a visitor to Wellington	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?					
Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>		
If yes - We are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please tick which option(s) you would prefer?					
Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Morning				
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Afternoon				
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evening				
Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)	<input type="checkbox"/> Morning				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Evening				

Our seven big decisions

The next seven questions relate to the big decisions for the 10-year plan.

- **Decision 1:** Increasing spending on the three waters network to fix the pipes
- **Decision 2:** Taking responsibility for the ownership of wastewater laterals
- **Decision 3:** Increased investment in cycleways
- **Decision 4:** Implementing our Te Atakura: First to Zero action plan
- **Decision 5:** Choosing a plan for earthquake-prone Council Office buildings
- **Decision 6:** Funding the Central Library strengthening and upgrade
- **Decision 7:** Choosing a plan for sludge minimisation

Detailed information on these decisions are on pages 21 to 46 of the Consultation Document.

Question 9 in this submission form is a place for you to comment or provide any other feedback on the decisions.

You are also able to attach further information to your submission at the end of this form.

Question 1 – Investment in three waters infrastructure

There are three different levels of investment in the three waters network to consider. Our preferred level of investment is the **Enhanced** option, which focuses on improving the condition and reliability of the network in an affordable and sustainable way.

Problems with pipes have been a long time in the making, and we cannot fix everything at once. The Enhanced option represents a \$2.4bn investment in our three waters network and is the middle-ground option that we are confident of being able to deliver in this plan. We will be able to review the level of investment in our next Long-term Plan review in 2024, when we will have more information on the network.

A summary of the proposed investment in the three waters network is on pages 23-27 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Enhanced (\$2.4b investment – the Council's preferred option)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintain (\$2.0b investment - lower rates and debt)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated (\$3.3b investment – higher rates and debt)
<input type="checkbox"/>	None of these options
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know

Question 2 – Wastewater laterals

Currently residents are responsible for the maintenance of the pipes connecting their property to the wastewater (sewerage) main underneath the road corridor. These are called wastewater laterals.

We propose that the Council takes ownership of the laterals between the property boundary and the sewerage main underneath the road corridor.

A summary of the proposal to take responsibility for wastewater laterals is on page 28 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment)
<input type="checkbox"/>	No change (no change in investment, rates or debt)
<input type="checkbox"/>	None of these options
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know

Question 3 – Cycleways

Cycleways is an area where we have ambition to seriously lift our game – we'd like to build a network of connected and safe cycleways that allow Wellingtonians to be able to choose cycling as a mode of transport. Our full programme for the network can be viewed at transportprojects.org.nz and if all of the routes were progressed, would be a \$226m investment across the 10 years of this plan.

Our preferred option is a \$45m or 60 percent increase in funding for cycleways than what was planned in the previous Long-Term Plan. It will progress \$120m of the full \$226m programme

We believe the High investment programme option balances the need for increased investment in this area with what is affordable for Council and what we will be able to deliver. It allows time in the programme for robust community engagement and to build capacity in the Council and the sector for the full programme to be eventually delivered.

A summary of the proposed investment to build more cycleways is on pages 30 -33 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	High investment programme (Council's preferred option, \$120m capital investment)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Finish started projects (\$29m capital investment, lower debt and rates)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medium investment programme (\$39m capital investment, lower debt and rates)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)
<input type="checkbox"/>	None of these options
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know

Question 4 – Te Atakura First to Zero (Climate Change)

Te Atakura – First to Zero is our response to the climate and ecological emergency we declared in 2019 but it is not yet funded.

Te Atakura is intended to ensure sufficient activity is undertaken in this decade to reduce our emissions. Council can do this by supporting the transport mode-shift projects, as well as encouraging the uptake of electric cars, providing seed funding to leverage businesses and community impact and supporting residents to be motivated to take action.

Our preferred option is to fully fund Te Atakura, which is included in our 5.3% average increase across 10 years.

A summary of the proposed investment in Te Atakura – First to Zero Action Plan is on pages 34 -37 of the Consultation Document

Which of these options do you prefer?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fully fund the programme (Council's preferred option, \$29.9m investment)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Low level of funding (\$18.1m investment, lower rates and debt)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medium investment with savings (\$25.4m investment, lower rates and debt)
<input type="checkbox"/>	None of these options
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know

Question 5 – Te Ngākau Civic Precinct – Council office buildings

Te Ngākau Civic Square is the musical, creative and democratic heart of Wellington but it has significant resilience challenges.

While we are still working through finalising the Framework for the Square, a specific decision is required in this Long-term Plan with respect to the future of the Council office buildings - the Municipal Office Building (MOB) and the Civic Administration Building (CAB).

As the two buildings are connected, and have similar resilience issues, it is important that the future of them is considered together.

Our preferred option is to demolish and rebuild the MOB and CAB buildings in partnership with private investment through a long-term ground lease for the site.

Combining a MOB and CAB development would enhance this opportunity and significantly decrease the need for additional Council borrowing and ratepayer funding to address these impaired buildings.

A summary of the proposed approach to developing of Te Ngākau Civic Square on pages 38 -41 of the Consultation Document

Which of these options do you prefer?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Proceed with base build proposal for public purposes (higher debt and rates)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Retain and seek to repurpose (higher debt and rates)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sell to support development (no debt or rates impact)
<input type="checkbox"/>	None of these options
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know

Question 6 –Fixing the Central Library

Wellington's much-loved Central Library was closed in March 2019 following an engineering assessment saying that the way the floor was designed presented a high level of potential failure in a significant earthquake.

After hearing from Wellingtonians in the 2020 consultation, Council agreed to recommend the high-level remediation option to be part of this plan. This option makes the building resilient to future shocks and supports our ability to deliver an adaptable modern library service, while preserving the buildings heritage. It also allows us to mitigate some climate change impacts in the future.

Now there are choices about how to fund the \$187.4m library remediation project, and when the project should take place.

The preferred option, includes the Council agreeing to temporarily breach its debt limit of 225% to ensure the library can be refurbished in the original timeframe and remain in public ownership. Our debt level will remain at 225%, and Council has agreed to accept the breach in the first three years of this plan. This breach will be mitigated by any capital underspend being used for the library project rather than on new projects. Our debt level will be back below our limit by year 4 – 2024/25.

A summary of the proposed investment to fund the fixing of the Te Ngākau Civic Square Central Library is on pages 42 -43 of the Consultation Document

Which of these options do you prefer?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option additional 0.79% rates increase)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Council to strengthen Central Library later (complete in 2028 instead of 2025, additional 0.83% rates increase)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strengthen now by increasing rates further (additional 1.79% rates increase)
<input type="checkbox"/>	None of these options
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know

Question 7 – Reducing sewage sludge and waste

One of the largest waste categories at the Southern Landfill is wastewater (sewage) sludge. This accounts for about a quarter of the waste that enters the landfill.

Through Te Atakura (our Zero Carbon Plan) and our Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan we have formally committed to reducing carbon emissions and reducing waste by a third. Minimising wastewater sludge is a necessary first step to achieving these objectives.

We need to break the link between the Southern Landfill and wastewater sludge and stop pumping sludge across the city, as 2020 highlighted the serious resilience issues and the significant consequences of failure.

Our preferred option is to invest in a sludge minimisation programme through another funding source. This means the project would not be funded by Council, but if it is funded through a Special Purpose Vehicle, a levy of about \$70-\$100 per year will be charged to each ratepayer.

A summary of the proposed investment in sludge and waste minimisation is on pages 45-47 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m-\$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)
<input type="checkbox"/>	No change in current practice (no change to investment, rates or debt)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Invest in technology at Southern Landfill (\$86m-\$134m capital investment and additional 0.39% rates increase)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sludge minimisation – through Council funding (\$147m-\$208m capital investment, above debt limit, and additional 1.65% rates increase)
<input type="checkbox"/>	None of these options
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know

Question 8 – Feedback on these decisions

Do you have any comments you would like to provide around why you selected your preferred option to any of these decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? If yes please indicate what decision/s you wish to provide comment on.

1.	Investment in three waters infrastructure
	Wastewater laterals
2.	Cycleways
3.	Te Atakura (Climate change)
4.	Central Library
	Sludge and waste minimisation
	Te Ngākau funding for future work
	None of these

If this space is not adequate for your comments, please feel free to attach supporting information to the submission. Please be clear what decision you are commenting on.

1. This is promising. How does this plan interact with the GWRC LTP?
2. We support cycleways entirely. We'd like to go further – to see a Complete Streets approach implemented throughout Wellington. Or if not throughout all of Wellington, then how about in Mt Victoria??
The proposed change to enforcement policy around cars that park on the footpath has illuminated opportunities for streets to be redesigned so that they can more successfully accommodate all modes of transport, and all users.
3. The Te Atakura plan is disappointing. EVs are still the same size as their petrol or diesel counterparts on the road, so there's no sense of true modal shift – we need more space for safe and connected cycleways and pedestrian spaces, and we need to be able to completely revamp and redesign areas like the Golden Mile – as LGWM has already concluded. How does this plan interact with the GWRC LTP, LGWM and WCC's own Spatial Plan?
4. We're very keen to see the central library rebuilt and made available to the public again. We miss it for so many reasons – the books, films, archives and so forth, the internet services and availability of computers for public use – but also, and maybe even more importantly, as a social hub for people of all ages and interests. The central library was a great place to meet, play, create and discuss, as well as a refuge from grotty weather for our vulnerable residents.

Question 9 – Proposed 10-year budget (See section “what this plan will cost” p13. of the Consultation Document for details)

Our draft budget, has an average rates increase for the average ratepayer of 5.3 percent after growth across the 10 years of the plan. We also propose setting a limit on how much we can raise from general rates - \$465m for each year across the first 3 years of the plan and, \$630m each year across years four to ten.

The first year of the plan has a rates increase of 13.5 percent (after growth) and there is an average of 9.9 percent (after growth) over the first three years. This is higher than previous plans because of the **key challenges** faced by the city including infrastructure, housing, earthquake strengthening and COVID-19 impacts. Therefore, we now require a step up in the level of rates we charge. Details of the key challenges are on page xx of the **Consultation Document**.

Our proposed budget also represents our highest ever level of capital investment in Wellington. It addresses the need for increased investment in our three waters infrastructure and transport network and seismic strengthening of key buildings, along with making progress against all our other priority community objectives.

Our debt levels for this plan, including the value of uninsured assets, range from 134 percent to 239 percent of our annual income. Our proposed limit is 225 percent.

We think this is a sensible limit on our borrowing to ensure that the impact on affordability of rates is maintained and leaves enough ‘headroom’ to ensure we can repay our debt, and respond to expected but unfunded and unexpected future events and opportunities.

Do you support the proposed 10-year budget?

<input type="checkbox"/>	I strongly support the proposed budget
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I somewhat support the proposed budget
<input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral
<input type="checkbox"/>	I somewhat oppose the proposed budget
<input type="checkbox"/>	I strongly oppose the proposed budget
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know

Question 9.a) – If you stated in Question 1 that you are neutral or do not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

<input type="checkbox"/>	I support increasing spend in the current budget
<input type="checkbox"/>	I support decreasing spend in the current budget
<input type="checkbox"/>	I support keeping the budget the same but with some changes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know

Question 10 – Any other feedback on what is proposed for the 10-year Plan

Future decisions

The Consultation Document also signals other decisions that are coming up in the time of this plan, but that we do not have enough information on at this stage for a detailed consultation.


Other projects

We also have many other services and projects detailed in our Statements of Service Provision.

Council Fees and charges

We have also made changes to some of our fees and user charges. More information on these are available on our website: <https://wgtn.cc/ltp> and available at our libraries and service centre.

Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for users to provide comments or feedback.

Thank you very much for your submission!

Submission form

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Kōrero mai mō te mahere 10-tau Have your say on our 10-Year Plan

All submissions must be received by **midnight Monday 10 May 2021**.

You don't have to give feedback on every decision – just choose the ones you're interested in. You can only submit once. You can include supporting information along with your submission.

Before you start, read about our priorities and projects in our consultation document. There are copies available at your local library and our Service Centre at 12 Manners Street, or visit wgtn.cc/ltp.

Why we're collecting this information

Your feedback matters. This plan is about the future of Wellington and it affects everyone who lives and works here. That's why we want to hear from as many people as possible. Your views will inform the next steps we take.

Privacy statement

All submissions (including names and contact details) are provided in their entirety to elected members. Submissions (including names but not contact details) will be made available to the public at our office and on our website.

Your personal information will also be used for the administration of the consultation process, including informing you of the outcome of the consultation.

All information collected will be held by Wellington City Council, 113 The Terrace, Wellington, with submitters having the right to access and correct personal information.

Full name: <u>Henry James</u>		
Contact details		
Address: [REDACTED]		
Phone number: [REDACTED]		
Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?		
Individual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Organisation:	
What is your connection to Wellington? (tick all that apply)		
I am a Wellington City Council ratepayer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I live in Wellington <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I work in Wellington <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I own a business in Wellington	I study in Wellington	I am a visitor to Wellington
Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?		
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	
If yes – We are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. (Please tick which option(s) you would prefer?)		
Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)	Morning	Afternoon Evening <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)	Morning	Afternoon Evening



Our seven big decisions

The next seven questions relate to the big decisions for the 10-year plan.

- **Decision 1:** Increasing spending on the three waters network to fix the pipes
- **Decision 2:** Taking responsibility for the ownership of wastewater laterals
- **Decision 3:** Increased investment in cycleways
- **Decision 4:** Implementing our Te Atakura, First to Zero action plan
- **Decision 5:** Choosing a plan for earthquake-prone Council Office buildings
- **Decision 6:** Funding the Central Library strengthening and upgrade
- **Decision 7:** Choosing a plan for sludge minimisation

Detailed information on these decisions are on pages 20 to 47 of the Consultation Document.

Question 8 in this submission form is a place for you to comment or provide any other feedback on the decisions.

You are also able to attach further information to your submission at the end of this form.

1. Investment in three waters infrastructure

There are three different levels of investment in the three waters network to consider. Our preferred level of investment is the **Enhanced** option, which focuses on improving the condition and reliability of the network in an affordable and sustainable way.

Problems with pipes have been a long time in the making, and we cannot fix everything at once. The Enhanced option represents a \$2.4b investment in our three waters network and is the middle-ground option that we are confident of being able to deliver in this plan. We will be able to review the level of investment in our next Long-term Plan review in 2024, when we will have more information on the network.

A summary of the proposed investment in the three waters network is on pages 22 – 26 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Enhanced (\$2.4b Council's preferred option)	Maintain (\$2.0b investment – lower rates and debt)	Accelerated (\$3.3b investment – higher rates and debt)	None of these options ✓	Don't know
--	---	---	-------------------------	------------

2. Wastewater laterals

Currently residents are responsible for the maintenance of the pipes connecting their property to the wastewater (sewerage) main underneath the road corridor. These are called wastewater laterals.

We propose that the Council takes ownership of the laterals between the property boundary and the sewerage main underneath the road corridor.

A summary of the proposal to take responsibility for wastewater laterals is on pages 28 – 29 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment)	No change (no change in investment, rates or debt)	Neither of these options ✓	Don't know
---	--	----------------------------	------------

3. Cycleways

Cycleways is an area where we have ambition to seriously lift our game – we'd like to build a network of connected and safe cycleways that allow Wellingtonians to be able to choose cycling as a mode of transport. Our full programme for the network can be viewed at transportprojects.org.nz and if all of the routes were progressed, there would be a \$226m investment across the 10 years of this plan.

Our preferred option is a \$45m or 60 percent increase in funding for cycleways than what was planned in the previous Long-term Plan. It will progress \$120m of the full \$226m programme

We believe the high investment programme option balances the need for increased investment in this area with what is affordable for Council and what we will be able to deliver. It allows time in the programme for robust community engagement and to build capacity in the Council and the sector for the full programme to be eventually delivered.

A summary of the proposed investment to build more cycleways is on pages 30 – 33 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

High investment programme (Council's preferred option, \$120m capital investment)	Finish started projects (\$29m capital investment, lower debt and rates)	Medium investment programme (\$39m capital investment, lower debt and rates)
Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)	None of these options	Don't know

4. Te Atakura First to Zero (Climate Change)

Te Atakura – First to Zero is our response to the climate and ecological emergency we declared in 2019 but it is not yet funded.

Te Atakura is intended to ensure sufficient activity is undertaken in this decade to reduce our emissions. Council can do this by supporting the transport mode-shift projects, as well as encouraging the uptake of electric cars, providing seed funding to leverage businesses and community impact and supporting residents to be motivated to take action.

Our preferred option is to fully fund Te Atakura, which is included in our 5.3 percent average increase across 10 years.

A summary of the proposed investment in Te Atakura – First to Zero Action Plan is on pages 34 – 37 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Fully fund the programme (Council's preferred option, \$29.9m investment)	Medium investment with savings (\$25.4m investment, lower rates and debt)	
Low level of funding (\$18.1m investment, lower rates and debt)	None of these options	Don't know

5. Te Ngākau Civic Precinct – Council office buildings

Te Ngākau Civic Square is the musical, creative and democratic heart of Wellington but it has significant resilience challenges.

While we are still working through finalising the framework for Civic Square, a specific decision is required in this Long-term Plan with respect to the future of the Council office buildings – the Municipal Office Building (MOB) and the Civic Administration Building (CAB).

As the two buildings are connected, and have similar resilience issues, it is important that the future of them is considered together.

Our preferred option is to demolish and rebuild the MOB and CAB buildings in partnership with private investment through a long-term ground lease for the site.

Combining a MOB and CAB development would enhance this opportunity and significantly decrease the need for additional Council borrowing and ratepayer funding to address these impaired buildings.

A summary of the proposed approach to developing of Te Ngākau Civic Square on pages 38 – 41 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option)		Proceed with base build proposal for public purposes (higher debt and rates)	
Retain and seek to repurpose (higher debt and rates)	Sell to support development (no debt or rates impact)	None of these options	Don't know

6. Fixing the Central Library

Wellington's much-loved Central Library was closed in March 2019 following an engineering assessment saying that the way the floor was designed presented a high level of potential failure in a significant earthquake.


After hearing from Wellingtonians in the 2020 consultation, Council agreed to recommend the high-level remediation option to be part of this plan. This option makes the building resilient to future shocks and supports our ability to deliver an adaptable modern library service, while preserving the buildings heritage. It also allows us to mitigate some climate change impacts in the future.

Now there are choices about how to fund the \$187.4m library remediation project, and when the project should take place.

The preferred option, includes the Council agreeing to temporarily breach its debt limit of 225 percent to ensure the library can be refurbished in the original timeframe and remain in public ownership. Our debt level will remain at 225 percent, and Council has agreed to accept the breach in the first three years of this plan. This breach will be mitigated by any capital underspend being used for the library project rather than on new projects. Our debt level will be back below our limit by year 4 - 2024/25.

A summary of the proposed investment to fund the fixing of the Te Ngākau Civic Square Central Library is on pages 42 - 44 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% rates increase)	Council to strengthen Central Library later (complete in 2028 instead of 2025, additional 0.83% rates increase)
Strengthen now by increasing rates further (additional 1.79% rates increase)	None of these options 
	Don't know

7. Reducing sewage sludge and waste

One of the largest waste categories at the Southern Landfill is wastewater (sewage) sludge. This accounts for about a quarter of the waste that enters the landfill.


Through Te Atakura (our Zero Carbon Plan) and our Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan we have formally committed to reducing carbon emissions and reducing waste by a third. Minimising wastewater sludge is a necessary first step to achieving these objectives.

We need to break the link between the Southern Landfill and wastewater sludge and stop pumping sludge across the city, as 2020 highlighted the serious resilience issues and the significant consequences of failure.

Our preferred option is to invest in a sludge minimisation programme through another funding source. This means the project would not be funded by Council, but if it is funded through a Special Purpose Vehicle, a levy of about \$70-\$100 per year will be charged to each ratepayer.

A summary of the proposed investment in sludge and waste minimisation is on pages 45 - 47 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m-\$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)	No change in current practice (no change to investment, rates or debt)
Invest in technology at Southern Landfill (\$86m-\$134m capital investment and higher rates)	Sludge minimisation - through Council funding (\$147m-\$208m capital investment, above debt limit and higher rates)
None of these options 	Don't know

8. Feedback on these decisions

Do you have any comments you would like to provide around why you selected your preferred option to any of these decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? If yes please indicate what decision/s you wish to provide comment on.

Investment in three waters infrastructure	Wastewater laterals	Cycleways
Te Atakura (climate change)	Central Library	Sludge and waste minimisation
Te Ngākau funding for future work	None of these	

If the space on the next page is not adequate for your comments, please feel free to attach supporting information to the submission. **Please be clear** what decision you are commenting on.

Comments

9. Proposed 10-year budget (see page 10 for details)

Our draft budget, has an average rates increase for the average ratepayer of 5.3 percent after growth across the 10 years of the plan. We also propose setting a limit on how much we can raise from general rates - \$465m for each year across the first 3 years of the plan and, \$630m each year across years four to ten.

The first year of the plan has a rates increase of 13.5 percent (after growth) and there is an average of 9.9 percent (after growth) over the first three years. This is higher than previous plans because of the **key challenges** faced by the city including infrastructure, housing, earthquake strengthening and and COVID-19 impacts.. Therefore, we now require a step up in the level of rates we charge. Details of the key challenges are on pages 20 - 47 of the **Consultation Document**.

Our proposed budget also represents our highest ever level of capital investment in Wellington. It addresses the need for increased investment in our three waters infrastructure and transport network and seismic strengthening of key buildings, along with making progress against all our other priority community objectives.

Our debt levels for this plan, including the value of uninsured assets, range from 134 percent to 239 percent of our annual income. Our proposed limit is 225 percent.

We think this is a sensible limit on our borrowing to ensure that the impact on affordability of rates is maintained and leaves enough 'headroom' to ensure we can repay our debt, and respond to expected but unfunded and unexpected future events and opportunities.

Do you support the proposed 10-year budget?

I strongly support the proposed budget	I somewhat support the proposed budget	Neutral
I somewhat oppose the proposed budget	I strongly oppose the proposed budget ✓	Don't know

If you stated in Question 9 that you are neutral or do not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

I support increasing spend in the current budget	I support decreasing spend in the current budget	I support keeping the budget the same but with some changes	Don't know
--	--	---	------------

10. Any other feedback on what is proposed for the 10-year Plan

Future decisions

The Consultation Document also signals other decisions that are coming up in the time of this plan, but that we do not have enough information on at this stage for a detailed consultation.

Other projects

We also have many other services and projects detailed in our Statements of Service Provision.

Council Fees and charges

We have also made changes to some of our fees and user charges. More information on these are available on our website wgtn.cc/ltp and available at our libraries and service centre.

Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

14% up

No Way =

This makes us very angry -
we are let down by
Council & staff!!

1st fold here – fasten here once folded

Staple here

2nd fold here

Free Post Authority Number 2199

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

7 MAY 21
Free



FREEPOST 2199
Long-term Plan
Policy and Reporting
Wellington City Council
PO Box 2199
Wellington 6140

Submission form

**Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council**
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Kōrero mai mō te mahere 10-tau Have your say on our 10-Year Plan

All submissions must be received by **midnight Monday 10 May 2021**.

You don't have to give feedback on every decision – just choose the ones you're interested in. You can only submit once. You can include supporting information along with your submission.

Before you start, read about our priorities and projects in our consultation document. There are copies available at your local library and our Service Centre at 12 Manners Street, or visit wgtm.cc/ltp.

Why we're collecting this information

Your feedback matters. This plan is about the future of Wellington and it affects everyone who lives and works here. That's why we want to hear from as many people as possible. Your views will inform the next steps we take.

Privacy statement

All submissions (including names and contact details) are provided in their entirety to elected members. Submissions (including names but not contact details) will be made available to the public at our office and on our website.

Your personal information will also be used for the administration of the consultation process, including informing you of the outcome of the consultation.

All information collected will be held by Wellington City Council, 113 The Terrace, Wellington, with submitters having the right to access and correct personal information.

Full name: IAN WILLIAM PATERSON		
Contact details		
Address: [REDACTED]		
Phone number: [REDACTED]		
Are you are making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?		
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Individual	Organisation:	
What is your connection to Wellington? (tick all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am a Wellington City Council ratepayer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I live in Wellington	<input type="checkbox"/> I work in Wellington
<input type="checkbox"/> I own a business in Wellington	<input type="checkbox"/> I study in Wellington	<input type="checkbox"/> I am a visitor to Wellington
Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?		
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No	
If yes – We are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. (Please tick which option(s) you would prefer?)		
Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Morning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Afternoon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evening	
Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)	Morning Afternoon Evening	



Our seven big decisions

The next seven questions relate to the big decisions for the 10-year plan.

- **Decision 1:** Increasing spending on the three waters network to fix the pipes
- **Decision 2:** Taking responsibility for the ownership of wastewater laterals
- **Decision 3:** Increased investment in cycleways
- **Decision 4:** Implementing our Te Atakura, First to Zero action plan
- **Decision 5:** Choosing a plan for earthquake-prone Council Office buildings
- **Decision 6:** Funding the Central Library strengthening and upgrade
- **Decision 7:** Choosing a plan for sludge minimisation

Detailed information on these decisions are on pages 20 to 47 of the Consultation Document.

Question 8 in this submission form is a place for you to comment or provide any other feedback on the decisions.

You are also able to attach further information to your submission at the end of this form.

1. Investment in three waters infrastructure

There are three different levels of investment in the three waters network to consider. Our preferred level of investment is the **Enhanced** option, which focuses on improving the condition and reliability of the network in an affordable and sustainable way.

Problems with pipes have been a long time in the making, and we cannot fix everything at once. The Enhanced option represents a \$2.4b investment in our three waters network and is the middle-ground option that we are confident of being able to deliver in this plan. We will be able to review the level of investment in our next Long-term Plan review in 2024, when we will have more information on the network.

A summary of the proposed investment in the three waters network is on pages 22 – 26 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Enhanced (\$2.4b Council's preferred option)	Maintain (\$2.0b investment – lower rates and debt)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accelerated (\$3.3b investment – higher rates and debt)	None of these options	Don't know
--	---	---	-----------------------	------------

2. Wastewater laterals

Currently residents are responsible for the maintenance of the pipes connecting their property to the wastewater (sewerage) main underneath the road corridor. These are called wastewater laterals.

We propose that the Council takes ownership of the laterals between the property boundary and the sewerage main underneath the road corridor.

A summary of the proposal to take responsibility for wastewater laterals is on pages 28 – 29 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change (no change in investment, rates or debt)	Neither of these options	Don't know
---	--	--------------------------	------------

3. Cycleways

Cycleways is an area where we have ambition to seriously lift our game – we'd like to build a network of connected and safe cycleways that allow Wellingtonians to be able to choose cycling as a mode of transport. Our full programme for the network can be viewed at transportprojects.org.nz and if all of the routes were progressed, there would be a \$226m investment across the 10 years of this plan.

Our preferred option is a \$45m or 60 percent increase in funding for cycleways than what was planned in the previous Long-term Plan. It will progress \$120m of the full \$226m programme

We believe the high investment programme option balances the need for increased investment in this area with what is affordable for Council and what we will be able to deliver. It allows time in the programme for robust community engagement and to build capacity in the Council and the sector for the full programme to be eventually delivered.

A summary of the proposed investment to build more cycleways is on pages 30 – 33 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

High investment programme (Council's preferred option, \$120m capital investment)	Finish started projects (\$29m capital investment, lower debt and rates)	Medium investment programme (\$39m capital investment, lower debt and rates)
Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates) ✓	None of these options <i>+ Enhancements</i>	Don't know

Fix it stations - Pump & Tools

4. Te Atakura First to Zero (Climate Change)

Te Atakura – First to Zero is our response to the climate and ecological emergency we declared in 2019 but it is not yet funded.

Te Atakura is intended to ensure sufficient activity is undertaken in this decade to reduce our emissions. Council can do this by supporting the transport mode-shift projects, as well as encouraging the uptake of electric cars, providing seed funding to leverage businesses and community impact and supporting residents to be motivated to take action.

Our preferred option is to fully fund Te Atakura, which is included in our 5.3 percent average increase across 10 years.

A summary of the proposed investment in Te Atakura – First to Zero Action Plan is on pages 34 – 37 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Fully fund the programme (Council's preferred option, \$29.9m investment) ✓	Medium investment with savings (\$25.4m investment, lower rates and debt)	
Low level of funding (\$18.1m investment, lower rates and debt)	None of these options	Don't know

5. Te Ngākau Civic Precinct – Council office buildings

Te Ngākau Civic Square is the musical, creative and democratic heart of Wellington but it has significant resilience challenges.

While we are still working through finalising the framework for Civic Square, a specific decision is required in this Long-term Plan with respect to the future of the Council office buildings – the Municipal Office Building (MOB) and the Civic Administration Building (CAB).

As the two buildings are connected, and have similar resilience issues, it is important that the future of them is considered together.

Our preferred option is to demolish and rebuild the MOB and CAB buildings in partnership with private investment through a long-term ground lease for the site.

Combining a MOB and CAB development would enhance this opportunity and significantly decrease the need for additional Council borrowing and ratepayer funding to address these impaired buildings.

A summary of the proposed approach to developing of Te Ngākau Civic Square on pages 38 – 41 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option)		Proceed with base build proposal for public purposes (higher debt and rates)	
Retain and seek to repurpose (higher debt and rates) ✓	Sell to support development (no debt or rates impact)	None of these options B i l	Don't know 1

Consistent with the Library preferred option

6. Fixing the Central Library

Wellington's much-loved Central Library was closed in March 2019 following an engineering assessment saying that the way the floor was designed presented a high level of potential failure in a significant earthquake.

After hearing from Wellingtonians in the 2020 consultation, Council agreed to recommend the high-level remediation option to be part of this plan. This option makes the building resilient to future shocks and supports our ability to deliver an adaptable modern library service, while preserving the buildings heritage. It also allows us to mitigate some climate change impacts in the future.

Now there are choices about how to fund the \$187.4m library remediation project, and when the project should take place.

The preferred option, includes the Council agreeing to temporarily breach its debt limit of 225 percent to ensure the library can be refurbished in the original timeframe and remain in public ownership. Our debt level will remain at 225 percent, and Council has agreed to accept the breach in the first three years of this plan. This breach will be mitigated by any capital underspend being used for the library project rather than on new projects. Our debt level will be back below our limit by year 4 - 2024/25.

A summary of the proposed investment to fund the fixing of the Te Ngākau Civic Square Central Library is on pages 42 - 44 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% rates increase) ✓	Council to strengthen Central Library later (complete in 2028 instead of 2025, additional 0.83% rates increase)	
Strengthen now by increasing rates further (additional 1.79% rates increase)	None of these options	Don't know

7. Reducing sewage sludge and waste

One of the largest waste categories at the Southern Landfill is wastewater (sewage) sludge. This accounts for about a quarter of the waste that enters the landfill.

Through Te Atakura (our Zero Carbon Plan) and our Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan we have formally committed to reducing carbon emissions and reducing waste by a third. Minimising wastewater sludge is a necessary first step to achieving these objectives.

We need to break the link between the Southern Landfill and wastewater sludge and stop pumping sludge across the city, as 2020 highlighted the serious resilience issues and the significant consequences of failure.

Our preferred option is to invest in a sludge minimisation programme through another funding source. This means the project would not be funded by Council, but if it is funded through a Special Purpose Vehicle, a levy of about \$70-\$100 per year will be charged to each ratepayer.

A summary of the proposed investment in sludge and waste minimisation is on pages 45 - 47 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m-\$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase) ✓	No change in current practice (no change to investment, rates or debt)	
invest in technology at Southern Landfill (\$86m-\$134m capital investment and higher rates)	Sludge minimisation - through Council funding (\$147m-\$208m capital investment, above debt limit and higher rates)	
None of these options	Don't know	

8. Feedback on these decisions

Do you have any comments you would like to provide around why you selected your preferred option to any of these decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? If yes please indicate what decision/s you wish to provide comment on.

Investment in three waters infrastructure	Wastewater laterals	✓ Cycleways
Te Atakura (climate change) ✓	Central Library ✓	Sludge and waste minimisation
Te Ngākau funding for future work	None of these	

If the space on the next page is not adequate for your comments, please feel free to attach supporting information to the submission. **Please be clear** what decision you are commenting on.

CYCLEWAYS

The development of cycleways should be maximised to encourage wide use of cycling by providing safe cycleways matching - but not necessarily the same roads as the full city bus route coverage.

The emphasis should be on safety and providing complete connections.

The cycle ways should be supported by suitably placed cycle racks, cycle 'fix' stands with pumps and chargable (user pays) e bike charging stations.

The plan also needs to clearly distinguish the LGWM components and the plan for their implementation so it is easily understood ~~which~~ how it all fits together.

Also add some water stations along less populated areas and on hilly cycle ways.

Te Atakura First to Zero Climate Change

This needs to be a very high priority!

We ^{also} need more areas like Kai-Cycle in Newtown and greater focus on gardens and composting and provide locally ^{organically} grown fruit & vegetables.

There is reference to a Food Plan in the LTP but it is "to be developed" - This needs high priority!

There needs to be mandated green areas in all areas of the Spatial Design plan and encouragement from WCC. Perhaps free plants - esp for Rooftop Gardens.

Central Library

Take measures to enhance the online availability of all media - newspapers, music, film, books while we wait for the remediation of the building - do some remediation of the services impacted.

Comments

9. Proposed 10-year budget (see page 10 for details)

Our draft budget, has an average rates increase for the average ratepayer of 5.3 percent after growth across the 10 years of the plan. We also propose setting a limit on how much we can raise from general rates - \$465m for each year across the first 3 years of the plan and, \$630m each year across years four to ten.

The first year of the plan has a rates increase of 13.5 percent (after growth) and there is an average of 9.9 percent (after growth) over the first three years. This is higher than previous plans because of the **key challenges** faced by the city including infrastructure, housing, earthquake strengthening and and COVID-19 impacts.. Therefore, we now require a step up in the level of rates we charge. Details of the key challenges are on pages 20 - 47 of the **Consultation Document**.

Our proposed budget also represents our highest ever level of capital investment in Wellington. It addresses the need for increased investment in our three waters infrastructure and transport network and seismic strengthening of key buildings, along with making progress against all our other priority community objectives.

Our debt levels for this plan, including the value of uninsured assets, range from 134 percent to 239 percent of our annual income. Our proposed limit is 225 percent.

We think this is a sensible limit on our borrowing to ensure that the impact on affordability of rates is maintained and leaves enough 'headroom' to ensure we can repay our debt, and respond to expected but unfunded and unexpected future events and opportunities.

Do you support the proposed 10-year budget?

<input type="checkbox"/> I strongly support the proposed budget	<input type="checkbox"/> I somewhat support the proposed budget	<input type="checkbox"/> Neutral
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I somewhat oppose the proposed budget	<input type="checkbox"/> I strongly oppose the proposed budget	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know

If you stated in Question 9 that you are neutral or do not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

<input type="checkbox"/> I support increasing spend in the current budget	<input type="checkbox"/> I support decreasing spend in the current budget	<input type="checkbox"/> I support keeping the budget the same but with some changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don't know
---	---	--	--

10. Any other feedback on what is proposed for the 10-year Plan

Future decisions

The Consultation Document also signals other decisions that are coming up in the time of this plan, but that we do not have enough information on at this stage for a detailed consultation.

Other projects

We also have many other services and projects detailed in our Statements of Service Provision.

Council Fees and charges

We have also made changes to some of our fees and user charges. More information on these are available on our website wgtn.cc/ltp and available at our libraries and service centre.

Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

I would have preferred to have been provided with more detail to understand the scope and impact of each major component of the 10 year budget.

There is a lack of detail on LSWM and its relationship to Cycleways, Spatial Design and Climate Change.

There should be an overarching plan showing how the decisions and designs are interlinked and contributing to the overall WCC objectives for Wellington.

1st fold here - fasten here once folded

Staple here

2nd fold here

Free Post Authority Number 2199

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke



FREEPOST 2199
Long-term Plan
Policy and Reporting
Wellington City Council
PO Box 2199
Wellington 6140

Submission form

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Kōrero mai mō te mahere 10-tau Have your say on our 10-Year Plan

All submissions must be received by **midnight Monday 10 May 2021**.

You don't have to give feedback on every decision - just choose the ones you're interested in. You can only submit once. You can include supporting information along with your submission.

Before you start, read about our priorities and projects in our consultation document. There are copies available at your local library and our Service Centre at 12 Manners Street, or visit wgtn.cc/ltp.

Why we're collecting this information

Your feedback matters. This plan is about the future of Wellington and it affects everyone who lives and works here. That's why we want to hear from as many people as possible. Your views will inform the next steps we take.

Privacy statement

All submissions (including names and contact details) are provided in their entirety to elected members. Submissions (including names but not contact details) will be made available to the public at our office and on our website.

Your personal information will also be used for the administration of the consultation process, including informing you of the outcome of the consultation.

All information collected will be held by Wellington City Council, 113 The Terrace, Wellington, with submitters having the right to access and correct personal information.

Full name: KARA LIPSKY

Contact details

Address:

Phone number:

Are you a:

☒ Individual

Organisation:

What is your connection to Wellington? (tick all that apply)

☐ I am a Wellington City Council ratepayer

☒ I live in Wellington

☐ I work in Wellington

☐ I own a business in Wellington

☐ I study in Wellington

☐ I am a visitor to Wellington

Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes - We are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. (Please tick which option(s) you would prefer?)

Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)

☒ Morning

☒ Afternoon

☐ Evening

Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)

☐ Morning

☐ Afternoon

☐ Evening



Our seven big decisions

The next seven questions relate to the big decisions for the 10-year plan.

- **Decision 1:** Increasing spending on the three waters network to fix the pipes
- **Decision 2:** Taking responsibility for the ownership of wastewater laterals
- **Decision 3:** Increased investment in cycleways
- **Decision 4:** Implementing our Te Atakura, First to Zero action plan
- **Decision 5:** Choosing a plan for earthquake-prone Council Office buildings
- **Decision 6:** Funding the Central Library strengthening and upgrade
- **Decision 7:** Choosing a plan for sludge minimisation

Detailed information on these decisions are on pages 20 to 47 of the Consultation Document.

Question 8 in this submission form is a place for you to comment or provide any other feedback on the decisions.

You are also able to attach further information to your submission at the end of this form.

1. Investment in three waters infrastructure

There are three different levels of investment in the three waters network to consider. Our preferred level of investment is the **Enhanced** option, which focuses on improving the condition and reliability of the network in an affordable and sustainable way.

Problems with pipes have been a long time in the making, and we cannot fix everything at once. The Enhanced option represents a \$2.4b investment in our three waters network and is the middle-ground option that we are confident of being able to deliver in this plan. We will be able to review the level of investment in our next Long-term Plan review in 2024, when we will have more information on the network.

A summary of the proposed investment in the three waters network is on pages 22 - 26 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Enhanced (\$2.4b Council's preferred option)	Maintain (\$2.0b investment - lower rates and debt)	Accelerated (\$3.3b investment - higher rates and debt)	None of these options	Don't know
--	---	---	-----------------------	------------

2. Wastewater laterals

Currently residents are responsible for the maintenance of the pipes connecting their property to the wastewater (sewerage) main underneath the road corridor. These are called wastewater laterals.

We propose that the Council takes ownership of the laterals between the property boundary and the sewerage main underneath the road corridor.

A summary of the proposal to take responsibility for wastewater laterals is on pages 28 - 29 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment)	No change (no change in investment, rates or debt)	Neither of these options	Don't know
---	--	--------------------------	------------

3. Cycleways

Cycleways is an area where we have ambition to seriously lift our game – we'd like to build a network of connected and safe cycleways that allow Wellingtonians to be able to choose cycling as a mode of transport. Our full programme for the network can be viewed at transportprojects.org.nz and if all of the routes were progressed, there would be a \$226m investment across the 10 years of this plan.

Our preferred option is a \$45m or 60 percent increase in funding for cycleways than what was planned in the previous Long-term Plan. It will progress \$120m of the full \$226m programme

We believe the high investment programme option balances the need for increased investment in this area with what is affordable for Council and what we will be able to deliver. It allows time in the programme for robust community engagement and to build capacity in the Council and the sector for the full programme to be eventually delivered.

A summary of the proposed investment to build more cycleways is on pages 30 – 33 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

High investment programme (Council's preferred option, \$120m capital investment)	Finish started projects (\$29m capital investment, lower debt and rates)	Medium investment programme (\$39m capital investment, lower debt and rates)
Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)	None of these options	Don't know

4. Te Atakura First to Zero (Climate Change)

Te Atakura – First to Zero is our response to the climate and ecological emergency we declared in 2019 but it is not yet funded.

Te Atakura is intended to ensure sufficient activity is undertaken in this decade to reduce our emissions. Council can do this by supporting the transport mode-shift projects, as well as encouraging the uptake of electric cars, providing seed funding to leverage businesses and community impact and supporting residents to be motivated to take action.

Our preferred option is to fully fund Te Atakura, which is included in our 5.3 percent average increase across 10 years.

A summary of the proposed investment in Te Atakura – First to Zero Action Plan is on pages 34 – 37 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Fully fund the programme (Council's preferred option, \$29.9m investment)	Medium investment with savings (\$25.4m investment, lower rates and debt)
Low level of funding (\$18.1m investment, lower rates and debt)	None of these options
	Don't know

5. Te Ngākau Civic Precinct – Council office buildings

Te Ngākau Civic Square is the musical, creative and democratic heart of Wellington but it has significant resilience challenges.

While we are still working through finalising the framework for Civic Square, a specific decision is required in this Long-term Plan with respect to the future of the Council office buildings – the Municipal Office Building (MOB) and the Civic Administration Building (CAB).

As the two buildings are connected, and have similar resilience issues, it is important that the future of them is considered together. Our preferred option is to demolish and rebuild the MOB and CAB buildings in partnership with private investment through a long-term ground lease for the site.

Combining a MOB and CAB development would enhance this opportunity and significantly decrease the need for additional Council borrowing and ratepayer funding to address these impaired buildings.

A summary of the proposed approach to developing of Te Ngākau Civic Square on pages 38 – 41 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option)	Proceed with base build proposal for public purposes (higher debt and rates)
Retain and seek to repurpose (higher debt and rates)	None of these options
Sell to support development (no debt or rates impact)	Don't know

6. Fixing the Central Library

Wellington's much-loved Central Library was closed in March 2019 following an engineering assessment saying that the way the floor was designed presented a high level of potential failure in a significant earthquake.

After hearing from Wellingtonians in the 2020 consultation, Council agreed to recommend the high-level remediation option to be part of this plan. This option makes the building resilient to future shocks and supports our ability to deliver an adaptable modern library service, while preserving the buildings heritage. It also allows us to mitigate some climate change impacts in the future.

Now there are choices about how to fund the \$187.4m library remediation project, and when the project should take place.

The preferred option, includes the Council agreeing to temporarily breach its debt limit of 225 percent to ensure the library can be refurbished in the original timeframe and remain in public ownership. Our debt level will remain at 225 percent, and Council has agreed to accept the breach in the first three years of this plan. This breach will be mitigated by any capital underspend being used for the library project rather than on new projects. Our debt level will be back below our limit by year 4 - 2024/25.

A summary of the proposed investment to fund the fixing of the Te Ngākau Civic Square Central Library is on pages 42 - 44 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% rates increase)	Council to strengthen Central Library later (complete in 2028 instead of 2025, additional 0.83% rates increase)	
Strengthen now by increasing rates further (additional 1.79% rates increase)	None of these options	Don't know

no increase in rates

7. Reducing sewage sludge and waste

One of the largest waste categories at the Southern Landfill is wastewater (sewage) sludge. This accounts for about a quarter of the waste that enters the landfill.

Through Te Atakura (our Zero Carbon Plan) and our Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan we have formally committed to reducing carbon emissions and reducing waste by a third. Minimising wastewater sludge is a necessary first step to achieving these objectives.

We need to break the link between the Southern Landfill and wastewater sludge and stop pumping sludge across the city, as 2020 highlighted the serious resilience issues and the significant consequences of failure.

Our preferred option is to invest in a sludge minimisation programme through another funding source. This means the project would not be funded by Council, but if it is funded through a Special Purpose Vehicle, a levy of about \$70-\$100 per year will be charged to each ratepayer.

A summary of the proposed investment in sludge and waste minimisation is on pages 45 - 47 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m-\$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)	No change in current practice (no change to investment, rates or debt)
Invest in technology at Southern Landfill (\$86m-\$134m capital investment and higher rates)	Sludge minimisation - through Council funding (\$147m-\$208m capital investment, above debt limit and higher rates)
None of these options	Don't know

8. Feedback on these decisions

Do you have any comments you would like to provide around why you selected your preferred option to any of these decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? If yes please indicate what decision/s you wish to provide comment on.

Investment in three waters infrastructure	Wastewater laterals	Cycleways
Te Atakura (climate change)	Central Library	Sludge and waste minimisation
Te Ngākau funding for future work	None of these	

If the space on the next page is not adequate for your comments, please feel free to attach supporting information to the submission. **Please be clear** what decision you are commenting on.

There should be someone who WCC could use to figure out a cost effective way of reusing sewage sludge.

→ my rent is already near to 75% of my fortnightly income. My landlord is one of the better ones in this city, but if the rates increase, our rents will increase.

Please attempt to keep the overall rise
in rates to less than 5% per year.
If you plan along lines it must have,
should have, could have and nice to
have, we should be able to keep to that
5% (or less!).

As a renter in WAI I do not appreciate
rates influencing my rent.

9. Proposed 10-year budget (see page 10 for details)

Our draft budget, has an average rates increase for the average ratepayer of 5.3 percent after growth across the 10 years of the plan. We also propose setting a limit on how much we can raise from general rates - \$465m for each year across the first 3 years of the plan and, \$630m each year across years four to ten.

The first year of the plan has a rates increase of 13.5 percent (after growth) and there is an average of 9.9 percent (after growth) over the first three years. This is higher than previous plans because of the **key challenges** faced by the city including infrastructure, housing, earthquake strengthening and and COVID-19 impacts.. Therefore, we now require a step up in the level of rates we charge. Details of the key challenges are on pages 20 - 47 of the **Consultation Document**.

Our proposed budget also represents our highest ever level of capital investment in Wellington. It addresses the need for increased investment in our three waters infrastructure and transport network and seismic strengthening of key buildings, along with making progress against all our other priority community objectives.

Our debt levels for this plan, including the value of uninsured assets, range from 134 percent to 239 percent of our annual income. Our proposed limit is 225 percent.

We think this is a sensible limit on our borrowing to ensure that the impact on affordability of rates is maintained and leaves enough 'headroom' to ensure we can repay our debt, and respond to expected but unfunded and unexpected future events and opportunities.

Do you support the proposed 10-year budget?

I strongly support the proposed budget	I somewhat support the proposed budget	Neutral
I somewhat oppose the proposed budget	I strongly oppose the proposed budget	Don't know

If you stated in Question 9 that you are neutral or do not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

I support increasing spend in the current budget	I support decreasing spend in the current budget	I support keeping the budget the same but with some changes	Don't know
--	--	---	------------

10. Any other feedback on what is proposed for the 10-year Plan

Future decisions

The Consultation Document also signals other decisions that are coming up in the time of this plan, but that we do not have enough information on at this stage for a detailed consultation.

Other projects

We also have many other services and projects detailed in our Statements of Service Provision.

Council Fees and charges

We have also made changes to some of our fees and user charges. More information on these are available on our website wgtn.cc/ltp and available at our libraries and service centre.

Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

Thank you very much for your submission!

1st fold here - fasten here once folded

Staple here

2nd fold here

Free Post Authority Number 2199

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Free 

FREEPOST 2199
Long-term Plan
Policy and Reporting
Wellington City Council
PO Box 2199
Wellington 6140



Submission form

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Kōrero mai mō te mahere 10-tau Have your say on our 10-Year Plan

All submissions must be received by **midnight Monday 10 May 2021**.

You don't have to give feedback on every decision - just choose the ones you're interested in. You can only submit once. You can include supporting information along with your submission.

Before you start, read about our priorities and projects in our consultation document. There are copies available at your local library and our Service Centre at 12 Manners Street, or visit wgtm.cc/ltip.

Why we're collecting this information

Your feedback matters. This plan is about the future of Wellington and it affects everyone who lives and works here. That's why we want to hear from as many people as possible. Your views will inform the next steps we take.

Privacy statement

All submissions (including names and contact details) are provided in their entirety to elected members. Submissions (including names but not contact details) will be made available to the public at our office and on our website.

Your personal information will also be used for the administration of the consultation process, including informing you of the outcome of the consultation.

All information collected will be held by Wellington City Council, 113 The Terrace, Wellington, with submitters having the right to access and correct personal information.

Full name: Laura Somerset

Contact details

Address:

Phone number:

Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

☒ Individual

Organisation:

What is your connection to Wellington? (tick all that apply)

☐ I am a Wellington City Council ratepayer

☒ I live in Wellington

☒ I work in Wellington

☐ I own a business in Wellington

☐ I study in Wellington

☐ I am a visitor to Wellington

Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes - We are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. (Please tick which option(s) you would prefer?)

☒ **Oral forum** (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)

☒ Morning

☐ Afternoon

☐ Evening

☐ **Oral Hearing** (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)

☐ Morning

☐ Afternoon

☐ Evening



Our seven big decisions

The next seven questions relate to the big decisions for the 10-year plan.

- **Decision 1:** Increasing spending on the three waters network to fix the pipes
- **Decision 2:** Taking responsibility for the ownership of wastewater laterals
- **Decision 3:** Increased investment in cycleways
- **Decision 4:** Implementing our Te Atakura, First to Zero action plan
- **Decision 5:** Choosing a plan for earthquake-prone Council Office buildings
- **Decision 6:** Funding the Central Library strengthening and upgrade
- **Decision 7:** Choosing a plan for sludge minimisation

Detailed information on these decisions are on pages 20 to 47 of the Consultation Document.

Question 8 in this submission form is a place for you to comment or provide any other feedback on the decisions.

You are also able to attach further information to your submission at the end of this form.

1. Investment in three waters infrastructure

There are three different levels of investment in the three waters network to consider. Our preferred level of investment is the **Enhanced** option, which focuses on improving the condition and reliability of the network in an affordable and sustainable way.

Problems with pipes have been a long time in the making, and we cannot fix everything at once. The Enhanced option represents a \$2.4b investment in our three waters network and is the middle-ground option that we are confident of being able to deliver in this plan. We will be able to review the level of investment in our next Long-term Plan review in 2024, when we will have more information on the network.

A summary of the proposed investment in the three waters network is on pages 22 – 26 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Enhanced (\$2.4b Council's preferred option)	Maintain (\$2.0b investment – lower rates and debt)	Accelerated (\$3.3b investment – higher rates and debt)	None of these options	Don't know
--	---	---	-----------------------	------------

2. Wastewater laterals

Currently residents are responsible for the maintenance of the pipes connecting their property to the wastewater (sewerage) main underneath the road corridor. These are called wastewater laterals.

We propose that the Council takes ownership of the laterals between the property boundary and the sewerage main underneath the road corridor.

A summary of the proposal to take responsibility for wastewater laterals is on pages 28 – 29 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment)	No change (no change in investment, rates or debt)	Neither of these options	Don't know
---	--	--------------------------	------------

3. Cycleways

Cycleways is an area where we have ambition to seriously lift our game – we'd like to build a network of connected and safe cycleways that allow Wellingtonians to be able to choose cycling as a mode of transport. Our full programme for the network can be viewed at transportprojects.org.nz and if all of the routes were progressed, there would be a \$226m investment across the 10 years of this plan.

Our preferred option is a \$45m or 60 percent increase in funding for cycleways than what was planned in the previous Long-term Plan. It will progress \$120m of the full \$226m programme

We believe the high investment programme option balances the need for increased investment in this area with what is affordable for Council and what we will be able to deliver. It allows time in the programme for robust community engagement and to build capacity in the Council and the sector for the full programme to be eventually delivered.

A summary of the proposed investment to build more cycleways is on pages 30 – 33 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

High investment programme (Council's preferred option, \$120m capital investment)	Finish started projects (\$29m capital investment, lower debt and rates)	Medium investment programme (\$39m capital investment, lower debt and rates)
Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)	None of these options	Don't know

4. Te Atakura First to Zero (Climate Change)

Te Atakura – First to Zero is our response to the climate and ecological emergency we declared in 2019 but it is not yet funded.

Te Atakura is intended to ensure sufficient activity is undertaken in this decade to reduce our emissions. Council can do this by supporting the transport mode-shift projects, as well as encouraging the uptake of electric cars, providing seed funding to leverage businesses and community impact and supporting residents to be motivated to take action.

Our preferred option is to fully fund Te Atakura, which is included in our 5.3 percent average increase across 10 years.

A summary of the proposed investment in Te Atakura – First to Zero Action Plan is on pages 34 – 37 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Fully fund the programme (Council's preferred option, \$29.9m investment)	Medium investment with savings (\$25.4m investment, lower rates and debt)	
Low level of funding (\$18.1m investment, lower rates and debt)	None of these options	Don't know

5. Te Ngākau Civic Precinct – Council office buildings

Te Ngākau Civic Square is the musical, creative and democratic heart of Wellington but it has significant resilience challenges.

While we are still working through finalising the framework for Civic Square, a specific decision is required in this Long-term Plan with respect to the future of the Council office buildings – the Municipal Office Building (MOB) and the Civic Administration Building (CAB).

As the two buildings are connected, and have similar resilience issues, it is important that the future of them is considered together.

Our preferred option is to demolish and rebuild the MOB and CAB buildings in partnership with private investment through a long-term ground lease for the site.

Combining a MOB and CAB development would enhance this opportunity and significantly decrease the need for additional Council borrowing and ratepayer funding to address these impaired buildings.

A summary of the proposed approach to developing of Te Ngākau Civic Square on pages 38 – 41 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option)		Proceed with base build proposal for public purposes (higher debt and rates)	
Retain and seek to repurpose (higher debt and rates)	Sell to support development (no debt or rates impact)	None of these options	Don't know

6. Fixing the Central Library

Wellington's much-loved Central Library was closed in March 2019 following an engineering assessment saying that the way the floor was designed presented a high level of potential failure in a significant earthquake.

After hearing from Wellingtonians in the 2020 consultation, Council agreed to recommend the high-level remediation option to be part of this plan. This option makes the building resilient to future shocks and supports our ability to deliver an adaptable modern library service, while preserving the buildings heritage. It also allows us to mitigate some climate change impacts in the future.

Now there are choices about how to fund the \$187.4m library remediation project, and when the project should take place.

The preferred option, includes the Council agreeing to temporarily breach its debt limit of 225 percent to ensure the library can be refurbished in the original timeframe and remain in public ownership. Our debt level will remain at 225 percent, and Council has agreed to accept the breach in the first three years of this plan. This breach will be mitigated by any capital underspend being used for the library project rather than on new projects. Our debt level will be back below our limit by year 4 - 2024/25.

A summary of the proposed investment to fund the fixing of the Te Ngākau Civic Square Central Library is on pages 42 - 44 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% rates increase)	Council to strengthen Central Library later (complete in 2028 instead of 2025, additional 0.83% rates increase)	
Strengthen now by increasing rates further (additional 1.79% rates increase)	None of these options	Don't know

7. Reducing sewage sludge and waste

One of the largest waste categories at the Southern Landfill is wastewater (sewage) sludge. This accounts for about a quarter of the waste that enters the landfill.

Through Te Atakura (our Zero Carbon Plan) and our Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan we have formally committed to reducing carbon emissions and reducing waste by a third. Minimising wastewater sludge is a necessary first step to achieving these objectives.

We need to break the link between the Southern Landfill and wastewater sludge and stop pumping sludge across the city, as 2020 highlighted the serious resilience issues and the significant consequences of failure.

Our preferred option is to invest in a sludge minimisation programme through another funding source. This means the project would not be funded by Council, but if it is funded through a Special Purpose Vehicle, a levy of about \$70-\$100 per year will be charged to each ratepayer.

A summary of the proposed investment in sludge and waste minimisation is on pages 45 - 47 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m-\$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)	No change in current practice (no change to investment, rates or debt)	
Invest in technology at Southern Landfill (\$86m-\$134m capital investment and higher rates)	Sludge minimisation - through Council funding (\$147m-\$208m capital investment, above debt limit and higher rates)	
None of these options	Don't know	

8. Feedback on these decisions

Do you have any comments you would like to provide around why you selected your preferred option to any of these decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? If yes please indicate what decision/s you wish to provide comment on.

Investment in three waters infrastructure	Wastewater laterals	Cycleways
Te Atakura (climate change)	Central Library	Sludge and waste minimisation
Te Ngākau funding for future work	None of these	

If the space on the next page is not adequate for your comments, please feel free to attach supporting information to the submission. **Please be clear** what decision you are commenting on.

Comments

9. Proposed 10-year budget (see page 10 for details)

Our draft budget, has an average rates increase for the average ratepayer of 5.3 percent after growth across the 10 years of the plan. We also propose setting a limit on how much we can raise from general rates - \$465m for each year across the first 3 years of the plan and, \$630m each year across years four to ten.

The first year of the plan has a rates increase of 13.5 percent (after growth) and there is an average of 9.9 percent (after growth) over the first three years. This is higher than previous plans because of the **key challenges** faced by the city including infrastructure, housing, earthquake strengthening and and COVID-19 impacts.. Therefore, we now require a step up in the level of rates we charge. Details of the key challenges are on pages 20 - 47 of the **Consultation Document**.

Our proposed budget also represents our highest ever level of capital investment in Wellington. It addresses the need for increased investment in our three waters infrastructure and transport network and seismic strengthening of key buildings, along with making progress against all our other priority community objectives.

Our debt levels for this plan, including the value of uninsured assets, range from 134 percent to 239 percent of our annual income. Our proposed limit is 225 percent.

We think this is a sensible limit on our borrowing to ensure that the impact on affordability of rates is maintained and leaves enough 'headroom' to ensure we can repay our debt, and respond to expected but unfunded and unexpected future events and opportunities.

Do you support the proposed 10-year budget?

I strongly support the proposed budget	I somewhat support the proposed budget	Neutral
I somewhat oppose the proposed budget	I strongly oppose the proposed budget	Don't know

If you stated in Question 9 that you are neutral or do not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

I support increasing spend in the current budget	I support decreasing spend in the current budget	I support keeping the budget the same but with some changes	Don't know
--	--	---	------------

10. Any other feedback on what is proposed for the 10-year Plan

Future decisions

The Consultation Document also signals other decisions that are coming up in the time of this plan, but that we do not have enough information on at this stage for a detailed consultation.

Other projects

We also have many other services and projects detailed in our Statements of Service Provision.

Council Fees and charges

We have also made changes to some of our fees and user charges. More information on these are available on our website wgtn.cc/ltp and available at our libraries and service centre.

Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

I think the ~~the~~ Treaty o waitangi needs to be centred in this decision-making progress, and am concerned it isn't mentioned in the consultation document

1st fold here - fasten here once folded

Staple here

2nd fold here

Free Post Authority Number 2199

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke



FREEPOST 2199
Long-term Plan
Policy and Reporting
Wellington City Council
PO Box 2199
Wellington 6140



Submission form

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Kōrero mai mō te mahere 10-tau Have your say on our 10-Year Plan

All submissions must be received by **midnight Monday 10 May 2021**.

You don't have to give feedback on every decision – just choose the ones you're interested in. You can only submit once. You can include supporting information along with your submission.

Before you start, read about our priorities and projects in our consultation document. There are copies available at your local library and our Service Centre at 12 Manners Street, or visit wgtn.cc/ltp.

Why we're collecting this information

Your feedback matters. This plan is about the future of Wellington and it affects everyone who lives and works here. That's why we want to hear from as many people as possible. Your views will inform the next steps we take.

Privacy statement

All submissions (including names and contact details) are provided in their entirety to elected members. Submissions (including names but not contact details) will be made available to the public at our office and on our website.

Your personal information will also be used for the administration of the consultation process, including informing you of the outcome of the consultation.

All information collected will be held by Wellington City Council, 113 The Terrace, Wellington, with submitters having the right to access and correct personal information.

Full name: <u>Ruth Stowers</u>			
Contact details			
Address: [REDACTED]			
Phone number: [REDACTED]			
Are you are making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?			
<u>Individual</u>		Organisation:	
What is your connection to Wellington? (tick all that apply)			
I am a Wellington City Council ratepayer	<u>I live in Wellington</u>	<u>I work in Wellington</u>	
I own a business in Wellington	I study in Wellington	I am a visitor to Wellington	
Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?			
<u>Yes</u>		No	
If yes - We are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. (Please tick which option(s) you would prefer?)			
<u>Oral forum</u> (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)	<u>Morning</u>	Afternoon	Evening
Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)	Morning	Afternoon	Evening



Our seven big decisions

The next seven questions relate to the big decisions for the 10-year plan.

- **Decision 1:** Increasing spending on the three waters network to fix the pipes
- **Decision 2:** Taking responsibility for the ownership of wastewater laterals
- **Decision 3:** Increased investment in cycleways
- **Decision 4:** Implementing our Te Atakura, First to Zero action plan
- **Decision 5:** Choosing a plan for earthquake-prone Council Office buildings
- **Decision 6:** Funding the Central Library strengthening and upgrade
- **Decision 7:** Choosing a plan for sludge minimisation

Detailed information on these decisions are on pages 20 to 47 of the Consultation Document.

Question 8 in this submission form is a place for you to comment or provide any other feedback on the decisions.

You are also able to attach further information to your submission at the end of this form.

1. Investment in three waters infrastructure

There are three different levels of investment in the three waters network to consider. Our preferred level of investment is the **Enhanced** option, which focuses on improving the condition and reliability of the network in an affordable and sustainable way.

Problems with pipes have been a long time in the making, and we cannot fix everything at once. The Enhanced option represents a \$2.4b investment in our three waters network and is the middle-ground option that we are confident of being able to deliver in this plan. We will be able to review the level of investment in our next Long-term Plan review in 2024, when we will have more information on the network.

A summary of the proposed investment in the three waters network is on pages 22 – 26 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Enhanced (\$2.4b Council's preferred option)	Maintain (\$2.0b investment – lower rates and debt)	Accelerated (\$3.3b investment – higher rates and debt)	None of these options	Don't know
--	---	---	--------------------------	------------

2. Wastewater laterals

Currently residents are responsible for the maintenance of the pipes connecting their property to the wastewater (sewerage) main underneath the road corridor. These are called wastewater laterals.

We propose that the Council takes ownership of the laterals between the property boundary and the sewerage main underneath the road corridor.

A summary of the proposal to take responsibility for wastewater laterals is on pages 28 – 29 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Take ownership (Council's preferred option, \$32m investment)	No change (no change in investment, rates or debt)	Neither of these options	Don't know
---	---	--------------------------	------------

3. Cycleways

Cycleways is an area where we have ambition to seriously lift our game – we'd like to build a network of connected and safe cycleways that allow Wellingtonians to be able to choose cycling as a mode of transport. Our full programme for the network can be viewed at transportprojects.org.nz and if all of the routes were progressed, there would be a \$226m investment across the 10 years of this plan.

Our preferred option is a \$45m or 60 percent increase in funding for cycleways than what was planned in the previous Long-term Plan. It will progress \$120m of the full \$226m programme

We believe the high investment programme option balances the need for increased investment in this area with what is affordable for Council and what we will be able to deliver. It allows time in the programme for robust community engagement and to build capacity in the Council and the sector for the full programme to be eventually delivered.

A summary of the proposed investment to build more cycleways is on pages 30 – 33 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

High investment programme (Council's preferred option, \$120m capital investment)	Finish started projects (\$29m capital investment, lower debt and rates)	Medium investment programme (\$39m capital investment, lower debt and rates)
Accelerated full investment programme (\$226m capital investment, higher debt and rates)	None of these options	Don't know

4. Te Atakura First to Zero (Climate Change)

Te Atakura – First to Zero is our response to the climate and ecological emergency we declared in 2019 but it is not yet funded.

Te Atakura is intended to ensure sufficient activity is undertaken in this decade to reduce our emissions. Council can do this by supporting the transport mode-shift projects, as well as encouraging the uptake of electric cars, providing seed funding to leverage businesses and community impact and supporting residents to be motivated to take action.

Our preferred option is to fully fund Te Atakura, which is included in our 5.3 percent average increase across 10 years.

A summary of the proposed investment in Te Atakura – First to Zero Action Plan is on pages 34 – 37 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Fully fund the programme (Council's preferred option, \$29.9m investment)	Medium investment with savings (\$25.4m investment, lower rates and debt)	
Low level of funding (\$18.1m investment, lower rates and debt)	None of these options	Don't know

5. Te Ngākau Civic Precinct – Council office buildings

Te Ngākau Civic Square is the musical, creative and democratic heart of Wellington but it has significant resilience challenges.

While we are still working through finalising the framework for Civic Square, a specific decision is required in this Long-term Plan with respect to the future of the Council office buildings – the Municipal Office Building (MOB) and the Civic Administration Building (CAB).

As the two buildings are connected, and have similar resilience issues, it is important that the future of them is considered together.

Our preferred option is to demolish and rebuild the MOB and CAB buildings in partnership with private investment through a long-term ground lease for the site.

Combining a MOB and CAB development would enhance this opportunity and significantly decrease the need for additional Council borrowing and ratepayer funding to address these impaired buildings.

A summary of the proposed approach to developing of Te Ngākau Civic Square on pages 38 – 41 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option)		Proceed with base build proposal for public purposes (higher debt and rates)	
Retain and seek to repurpose (higher debt and rates)	Sell to support development (no debt or rates impact)	None of these options	Don't know

6. Fixing the Central Library

Wellington's much-loved Central Library was closed in March 2019 following an engineering assessment saying that the way the floor was designed presented a high level of potential failure in a significant earthquake.

After hearing from Wellingtonians in the 2020 consultation, Council agreed to recommend the high-level remediation option to be part of this plan. This option makes the building resilient to future shocks and supports our ability to deliver an adaptable modern library service, while preserving the buildings heritage. It also allows us to mitigate some climate change impacts in the future.

Now there are choices about how to fund the \$187.4m library remediation project, and when the project should take place.

The preferred option, includes the Council agreeing to temporarily breach its debt limit of 225 percent to ensure the library can be refurbished in the original timeframe and remain in public ownership. Our debt level will remain at 225 percent, and Council has agreed to accept the breach in the first three years of this plan. This breach will be mitigated by any capital underspend being used for the library project rather than on new projects. Our debt level will be back below our limit by year 4 - 2024/25.

A summary of the proposed investment to fund the fixing of the Te Ngākau Civic Square Central Library is on pages 42 - 44 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% rates increase)	Council to strengthen Central Library later (complete in 2028 instead of 2025, additional 0.83% rates increase)	
Strengthen now by increasing rates further (additional 1.79% rates increase)	None of these options	Don't know

7. Reducing sewage sludge and waste

One of the largest waste categories at the Southern Landfill is wastewater (sewage) sludge. This accounts for about a quarter of the waste that enters the landfill.

Through Te Atakura (our Zero Carbon Plan) and our Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan we have formally committed to reducing carbon emissions and reducing waste by a third. Minimising wastewater sludge is a necessary first step to achieving these objectives.

We need to break the link between the Southern Landfill and wastewater sludge and stop pumping sludge across the city, as 2020 highlighted the serious resilience issues and the significant consequences of failure.

Our preferred option is to invest in a sludge minimisation programme through another funding source. This means the project would not be funded by Council, but if it is funded through a Special Purpose Vehicle, a levy of about \$70-\$100 per year will be charged to each ratepayer.

A summary of the proposed investment in sludge and waste minimisation is on pages 45 - 47 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m-\$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)	No change in current practice (no change to investment, rates or debt)	
Invest in technology at Southern Landfill (\$86m-\$134m capital investment and higher rates)	Sludge minimisation - through Council funding (\$147m-\$208m capital investment, above debt limit and higher rates)	
None of these options	Don't know	

8. Feedback on these decisions

Do you have any comments you would like to provide around why you selected your preferred option to any of these decisions, or why you don't support any of the options we proposed? If yes please indicate what decision/s you wish to provide comment on.

Investment in three waters infrastructure	Wastewater laterals	Cycleways
Te Atakura (climate change)	Central Library	Sludge and waste minimisation
Te Ngākau funding for future work	None of these	

If the space on the next page is not adequate for your comments, please feel free to attach supporting information to the submission. **Please be clear** what decision you are commenting on.

Comments

9. Proposed 10-year budget (see page 10 for details)

Our draft budget, has an average rates increase for the average ratepayer of 5.3 percent after growth across the 10 years of the plan. We also propose setting a limit on how much we can raise from general rates - \$465m for each year across the first 3 years of the plan and, \$630m each year across years four to ten.

The first year of the plan has a rates increase of 13.5 percent (after growth) and there is an average of 9.9 percent (after growth) over the first three years. This is higher than previous plans because of the **key challenges** faced by the city including infrastructure, housing, earthquake strengthening and and COVID-19 impacts.. Therefore, we now require a step up in the level of rates we charge. Details of the key challenges are on pages 20 – 47 of the **Consultation Document**.

Our proposed budget also represents our highest ever level of capital investment in Wellington. It addresses the need for increased investment in our three waters infrastructure and transport network and seismic strengthening of key buildings, along with making progress against all our other priority community objectives.

Our debt levels for this plan, including the value of uninsured assets, range from 134 percent to 239 percent of our annual income. Our proposed limit is 225 percent.

We think this is a sensible limit on our borrowing to ensure that the impact on affordability of rates is maintained and leaves enough 'headroom' to ensure we can repay our debt, and respond to expected but unfunded and unexpected future events and opportunities.

Do you support the proposed 10-year budget?

I strongly support the proposed budget	I somewhat support the proposed budget	Neutral
I somewhat oppose the proposed budget	I strongly oppose the proposed budget	Don't know

If you stated in Question 9 that you are neutral or do not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

I support increasing spend in the current budget	I support decreasing spend in the current budget	I support keeping the budget the same but with some changes	Don't know
--	--	---	------------

10. Any other feedback on what is proposed for the 10-year Plan

Future decisions

The Consultation Document also signals other decisions that are coming up in the time of this plan, but that we do not have enough information on at this stage for a detailed consultation.

Other projects

We also have many other services and projects detailed in our Statements of Service Provision.

Council Fees and charges

We have also made changes to some of our fees and user charges. More information on these are available on our website wgtm.cc/ltp and available at our libraries and service centre.

Do you have any comments you would like to provide about the big decisions, fees and user charges changes, other future issues or any other general feedback on our 10-year plan and budget?

More consideration of Te tiriti o Waitangi and
Te ao Māori! How can nātauranga māori
be used for solutions to problems?

1st fold here - fasten here once folded

Staple here

2nd fold here

Free Post Authority Number 2199

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke



FREEPOST 2199
Long-term Plan
Policy and Reporting
Wellington City Council
PO Box 2199
Wellington 6140

