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

**Time:** 9:30am  
**Date:** Thursday, 20 May 2021  
**Venue:** Ngake (16.09)  
Level 16, Tahiwī  
113 The Terrace  
Wellington

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**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](mailto: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.*

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## **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](http://wellington.govt.nz/meetings).

**Quorum:** 8 members

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## **1. Meeting Conduct**

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### **1.1 Karakia**

The Chairperson will open the meeting with a karakia.

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

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

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

### **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 19 May 2021 will be put to the Annual Plan/Long-Term Plan Committee for confirmation.

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## **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](mailto: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.

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## **2. General Business**

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### **LONG-TERM PLAN HEARINGS**

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#### **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

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 – 20 May 2021





Respondent No: 107

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Rhedyn Law
- 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 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

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

It is important to invest fully in safe cycling infrastructure for current and future generations to promote mode shift, reduce carbon emissions and support better health outcomes. WCC have spend far to long talking about cycleways and undertaking engagement without actually putting any infrastructure in place. There was a key opportunity to invest in temporary cycleways and trial options during covid shutdown, however council again delayed action and buckled to pressure from a vocal minority. Constituents have said that they want action on climate change, cycling has increased significantly in Wellington in recent years and previous cycleway engagement has shown support for infrastructue. The councils favoured proposal is a half hearted attempt to do as little as possible without doing nothing. It shows a ongoing lack of commitment to emissions reduction, providing transport choice and investing in safety.

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

not answered

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

I somewhat support the proposed budget.

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

not answered

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**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

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Respondent No: 338

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** James Clarke
- 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 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 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)**

Te Atakura: I strongly support full funding of this plan. WCC has declared a climate emergency, yet seems to regard and present action as an optional consideration - this is not good enough. With a very small number of individual exceptions, Council as a whole has provided weak leadership on this important issue and looks feeble and out of touch. I support managed retreat with significantly reduced operational and capital spending by WCC in at-risk areas, starting immediately.

3 Waters: I strongly support full investment now to make up for many years of inadequate spending. This will support greater housing density in the city, reducing housing unaffordability and limiting sprawl. At the same time, WCC should invest in reducing demand such as through water metering and increased levies.

Finance: I strongly support raising the debt limit given low global interest rates, as well as increasing rates, in order to invest in the city's resilience, density and carbon reduction. I support increasing these beyond the proposed budget in the LTP - this seems unambitious and the consultation document omits to mention the under-investment of recent years. Increases now will protect younger generations already facing significant housing costs and poor city amenities due to inadequate Council spending over recent years. WCC should not spend money on the airport extension or associated seawall - WIAL can fund this itself and Council has higher priorities.

Cycleways: I strongly support the accelerated option. I find it ridiculous that this is still an issue as the programme has already been widely consulted on in various ways for years. Given the climate, pollution, amenity and congestion issues this programme is a no-brainer and other cities in NZ and around the world have made much more progress. This means taking space from private vehicles (including parking, also already consulted on) and giving it to cycles/scooters without taking space from pedestrians. Cycleways should be separated wherever possible and physically separated from cars. Speed limits and priority for cars should be reduced, which will improve safety and amenity, as well as reducing road maintenance costs. Ultimately it will be much cheaper for the city and its residents to use more active and public transport. Auckland and Christchurch are both making significant progress and Wellington is losing its appeal of being easy to get around. All Wellingtonians should have access to safe public and active travel options.

**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 worry that the Council is constrained by weak leadership and is therefore unable to make the bold moves needed to address the challenges we face as a city. NIMBYs and nay-sayers cannot be allowed to hold us back. Other cities are moving past us in terms of investment in housing, public transport, active transport and infrastructure to support a dense and vibrant city. I hope the Council is able to move ahead with conviction.



Respondent No: 595

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Marianne Elliott
- 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).
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- 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**

Cycleways

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

Kla ora and thank you for the chance to comment. I'm a single mother of a toddler who lives in Brooklyn and works in the central city. My 18 month old son and I bike to his ECE and my work most days and we would love to be able to feel safer when we do this. I've spent time in cities where the streets have been opened to everyone by building integrated, connected cycleways and it's a joyful experience. Older people, children and people with a range of mobility and confidence are able to travel freely and with confidence. That's the future I want for my city. I understand that some people are fearful of this kind of change, and I know the Council will be faced with that fear, so I want you to know that there are lots and lots of people like me. Every morning I chat with other parents dropping off their children by bike in the inner city, they love the freedom that traveling by bike gives them and wish that more people could feel safe and confident to join them. Other parents comment on my bike, telling me they wish they could travel with their children by bike with confidence, but that the lack of dedicated and connected cycleways makes that impossible for them. I have every reason to believe, based on international experience and the conversations I have every day, that if we had better cycleways in Wellington, more and more people would feel confident to travel by bike, and enjoy the freedom and independence of bike travel, while also contributing to our collective health, air quality and reducing climate change. Whenever I visit my sister in the Netherlands and see her two primary age children ride independently to school on completely safe, dedicated bike lanes I think of how wonderful it would be to be able to see my son do that when he starts school in a few years. Bikes are only one of the ways that people want to travel around Wellington, and I obviously want to see a city in which our streets are open to and accessible for everyone whatever their mobility needs and income. But dedicated connected cycleways are one incredibly important part of building a healthy, connected Wellington in the future.

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

not answered

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

I somewhat support the proposed budget.

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

not answered

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**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?**

Thank you to all of the Council staff who have put so much work into preparing these plans. I'm grateful to you all for the thoughtfulness and care that has gone into planning for our city's future. I hope you get lots of positive feedback through this process.

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Respondent No: 790

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Emma Osborne
- 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)
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- 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).
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Investment in three waters infrastructure  
Cycleways  
Te Atakura (climate change)  
Sludge and waste minimisation

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

I strongly support investing more in Wellington City, particularly through adequately funding cycleways, climate action and water/sewage network and treatment. I plan to live in Wellington for a long time and I would rather pay more through rates to live in a city that works well. The phrasing of this survey frames opting for more investment in terms of higher debt/rates, which is true but not the whole picture, and we need to get away from that kind of thinking. I would much rather pay higher rates & have higher levels of council debt-in-dollars than have a deficit of critical infrastructure & debt-in-carbon. Furthermore, having great infrastructure that supports population growth close to the city (e.g. making it easy to live without a car) means that we can split our future rates bill between more residents as well as reducing household costs like needing a private vehicle. I particularly want to see cycleways that work for kids. Having connected suburban cycleways is crucial for children's independent mobility. Alongside the routes in the plan, we also need to consider other options for making cycling practical and safe, particularly for new or less experienced riders. We can do this by reducing traffic with low-traffic neighborhoods. Drastically reducing on-street carparking is another cheap way we could effectively widen our roads and create space for vulnerable road users.

**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: 997

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Kate Day
- 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)
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- 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)  
Sludge and waste minimisation

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

1) Investment in three waters infrastructure I support the points raised by Zero Waste Advocates (Caroline Arrowsmith, Hannah Blumhardt etc) in their submission. We must plan for a future we live more efficiently with less energy. That requires us to investigate the need to change our waters infrastructure, not simply invest more in the current model. Due to historic underinvestment I do support investing in critical upgrades now. But I would ALSO like to see Council investigate the feasibility of: - an alternative system for managing human waste/biosolids that does not rely on the wastewater system. 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. Some waste minimisation funding for organics could go towards pilot and feasibility studies for decentralised, source-separated sanitation systems. - smaller scale initiatives to reduce pressure on the system, such as a ban on insinkerators etc. 2) Cycleways Please invest the MAXIMUM you can in cycling infrastructure, for the safety of my family and for climate justice. (And please accelerate work on the Newtown Connection.) Cycling is the primary mode of transport for me and my husband, including to transport our young son. We bike because it is kind on the environment and (on the whole) good for our mental health. BUT it is dangerous. We regularly have close calls. I fear for my husband's safety when he is cycling, and there are places we do not go because there are no safe cycleways. This is not fair. So much is invested in roads, and so much space is given to cars!!! I am tired of being dangerously squished alongside buses, and of fearing for my family's safety because of our choice to use clean transport. Please invest the maximum you can in cycling infrastructure to reward those who choose clean transport options. As well as a safety matter this is also a response to the climate emergency, please accelerate this work. When my son is old enough to ride a bike, I hope it is safe for him to do so. I support all points raised by Cycle Wellington in their submission. 3) Te Atakura - I wholeheartedly support investment in our city's transition to net zero. - Please go further by developing a full circular economy action plan as part of your work on climate action. - Please do NOT give a loan or grant to the airport. As a private business they can find their own funding. WCC funds should go towards reducing emissions not increasing them. 4) Sludge and waste minimisation -YES let's get that sludge out of landfill! - I support the Council investing in the proposed infrastructure needed to reduce the amount of sludge that must be sent to landfill. - However this is not a true long term solution, WCC should also explore an alternative system for managing wastewater and biosolids/human waste, that keeps these separate from water, as suggested by the Poo Breakfast Club. Please allocate budget for this now. - Please allocate more funding for organic waste diversion for food waste. - Increase funding for re-use schemes beyond car sharing. - Please bring forward the work on the resource recovery centre. Can't wait to see this! Thanks for all you do.

**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?**

Social housing reminds vital, WCC should continue their important work in this area.

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Respondent No: 1008

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Matt Farrar
- 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 Trails Trust (Trials Wellington)
- 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)** 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)** 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

Cycleways

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Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

Trails Wellington (Wellington Trails Trust) are keen to see significant investment in cycleway infrastructure in and around Wellington City. Reducing number of cars in central city should be a goal. Increasing ease of commuting for bikes, scooters and other electric devices should be priority. We believe a key opportunity exists to develop bike commuter trails in green belt as well as, or in substitution for, some of plans to develop road reserve cycleways. An ideal example of this is a commuter trail from Wakefield Park to Central Park. Support for this concept from Waka Kotahi is critical. They currently won't invest in commuter trails in green areas. This should be challenged as lights and tyres on bikes have considerably improved particularly with all eBikes having lights. Trails Wellington would love to work with WCC and explore the viability of Wakefield Park to Central Park as an alternative Island Bay/Berhampore to city commuting trail.

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

not answered

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Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I somewhat support the proposed budget.

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

not answered

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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

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Respondent No: 1020

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Donald James MacKay
- 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** 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 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 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

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

The Council's proposed rate increase of 13.5% this year and significant increases for the following years is completely irresponsible, particularly in the current circumstances where many ratepayers are facing significant financial constraints as a result of Covid-19. I am in that situation, operating a part time consultancy from home. I cannot just increase my income with the stroke of a pen, unlike the Council. Many other ratepayers are in even worse straight jackets because they are on fixed incomes. You may have seen that most Publicly Servants will not be receiving pay increases for the next three years. Faced with this situation, some other Councils have managed to find significant savings in their budgets. As far as I can see, our Councillors have not seriously attempted to do this. Have any Councillors actually gone through the budget in fine detail and separated the essential expenditure from that which is nice to have? For many councillors, "savings" seems to be a foreign concept. No where is this more evident than cycleways. It was bizarre that a proposal to increase cycleway expenditure to nearly a quarter of a billion dollars failed by only one vote on Council. This is in addition to around \$50 million (in today's dollars) spent on cycleways in the past 10 years, plus indeterminate additional amounts hidden away in LGWM. Councillors who supported these proposals need to get out of their bubbles a bit more and talk to the people who actually have to pay the rates. I have talked to a lot of people about this, and have yet to find anyone who supports the Council on this. The proposal to spend more on cycleways is particularly out of place, given the Council's apparent inability to safely manage what it has already put in place. So called shared paths - particularly when cyclists feed into them from cycleways - are a dangerous shambles, with Council failing to enforce the rules they have established. As a result many people who regard themselves as vulnerable are no longer walking, but are driving instead. Councillors need not only to get a grip on their excessive expenditure, but also take account of the vast majority of Wellingtonians who are not cyclists.

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

not answered

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

I strongly oppose the proposed budget.

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**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.

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**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 previous comments

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Respondent No: 1029

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Owen Hughes
- 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** Morning
- 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)** 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)** 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

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Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

not answered

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

not answered

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Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

not answered

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

not answered

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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

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Respondent No: 1035

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Claire Mabey
- 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?** Verb Wellington and Pirate & Queen
- 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** 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)** Don't know.
- 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)** 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)** 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**

Central Library

Te Ngākau funding for future work

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

Comment on Decision 5: Please ensure that the literary community is engaged with in a meaningful way throughout the development of this building. It is central to our community and much of our respective mahi around building communities, wellbeing and opportunity for all. We propose funding to support the literary community in Wellington so that by the time the new library is opened there is a thriving sector to support and engage with it. Comment on Decision 7: We plead for the Council to consider the independent artists and organisations trying to live and work in the City alongside these developments. The reality is that Wellington is becoming extremely expensive for artists and we need infrastructure support in order to continue our core work.

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/9b25268754b5081bd6ec77e577160ac32c6b666c/original/1620617028/40193ff2545259010f6db2149a717d2c\\_Long\\_Term\\_Plan\\_Submission\\_Letter\\_Literary\\_Sector\\_2021.pdf?1620617028](https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/9b25268754b5081bd6ec77e577160ac32c6b666c/original/1620617028/40193ff2545259010f6db2149a717d2c_Long_Term_Plan_Submission_Letter_Literary_Sector_2021.pdf?1620617028)

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?**

Please note that the Aho Tini strategy requires funding and budget support in order to be useful and achieve any level of success. We have submitted separately to that strategy document but ask that Council enable the arts in Wellington by committing to investment (increase Arts & Culture funding), committing to infrastructure funding (support for people in the arts community who are at the heart of the activity), and address the venues problems and review the current model which does not enable access or growth in the City by being unaffordable.

**Submission to Long Term Plan, Wellington City Council 2021**  
**drafted by Claire Mabey, Verb Wellington**

5 May 2021

**Re: Literary Sector submission to Long Term Plan, Wellington City Council, public consultation 2021**

Tēnā koutou,

This letter is intended to outline two proposals created by members of the literary sector in Pōneke/Wellington for consideration for the Long Term Plan.

We are passionate, committed members of a vibrant community of writers, publishers, literacy advocates, and literary event and programme producers. Our mahi enables us to appreciate the astonishing vibrancy of our literary community here in Pōneke: we have a City full of talented storytellers who enrich our lives, and lives all over Aotearoa and beyond, with their craft and ability to reflect life back to us. We know how important reading is for wellbeing, at all ages; and we know how essential it is to have access to stories that reflect yourself and your own experiences. We believe that investing in Wellington's literary activity will help Council to achieve its aim of making Wellington a place where culture can thrive and that artists can live and work.

The proposals we make below we believe will illuminate Wellington's literary identity and help more people in our City, and beyond, to engage with our books, our writers, and the conversations that emerge from bringing people together over stories. We believe that the potential for this identity put Wellington even more firmly on the global artistic map is huge.

- 1) **Feedback on Decision 5 and Decision 7: We are asking for Wellington City Council to commit to exploring with us a literary hub where our community can work together, share resources, amplify each other's mahi, and support our City's writers and readers.** We are hugely encouraged that Wellington City Council have signalled enthusiasm for this kaupapa via public participation over Central Library. We would like to ensure that this idea is thoroughly developed in collaboration with Wellington City Council, particularly in relation to any Council-owned spaces and places that may be redeveloped in the City and available for 'public good' use (including the MOB CAB projects).
- 2) **Feedback on Aho Tini (note we have made separate decisions on this via Aho Tini feedback mechanisms) in relation to Decision 5: We are asking for a City Literature Fund to boost recognition of and capacity for literary artists and organisations in the City, and support creation of events that bring readers + writers together.**

**Submission to Long Term Plan, Wellington City Council 2021**  
**drafted by Claire Mabey, Verb Wellington**

We believe that it is essential, and in the City's best interests, to have a vibrant and well supported literary sector. Particularly alongside the immense opportunity that is the redevelopment and reopening of a Central Library. A City Literary Fund could be drawn on by the local literary sector to secure their mahi, as well as create new kaupapa, with the view to ensuring that Wellington's literary identity is as vibrant and world-leading as possible by the time our new Library is reopened. We view the Library as a central home for reading and for literature: it is the one public amenity that exists for, and because of, writing, storytelling and books. The fund may be drawn on for such kaupapa as: infrastructure assistance for independent literary artists and organisations; writer's residencies; children's literature projects / events, support for kaupapa Māori and indigenous literary projects / events; books and reading focussed kaupapa; individual literary project funding (writing and publishing). People and projects supported via this fund may be reflected in the programming fabric, and/or physical amenities, of the Central Library (for examples, projects could be developed to take place within the Library or in relation to it, or for or in relations to aspects of the collections within it).

We believe that a fund such as this can also assist the aims of the Aho Tini draft strategy. This draft strategy aims to focus on pathways for artistic careers (Focus Area 4). Without budget and a clear understanding that artists and arts organisations need support for people, before projects, it is difficult to understand how this can be achieved. Arts funding needs to enable people to do their mahi -- without people, the projects can't happen. It is a very challenging environment for many artists and independent arts organisations to operate without core infrastructure support. We would like to see a literary fund that supports the human mahi at the centre of a project, as well as open to project funding. We thank you for your mahi for our City and look forward to engaging in conversation with you over our proposals to the Long Term Plan.

Ngā mihi,

Claire Mabey (Verb Wellington)

Nadine Anne Hura (on behalf of Te Hā or Ngā Pou Kaituhi Māori)

Julia Marshall (Gecko Press, Publishers Association of New Zealand)

Dan Slevin (Booksellers NZ Inc.)

Juliet Blyth (Read NZ Te Pou Muramura)

Whiti Hereaka (Author)

Cherie Jacobson (Director, Katherine Mansfield House & Garden)

Kate De Goldi (Writer, Publisher)



Respondent No: 1096

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Jonathon Hendry
- 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?** BATS Theatre
- 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)** 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 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)** 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)** 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)**

In the Long Term Plan the CPI increase for the 67 organisations funded through multi-year contracts has been removed as a saving. This means that Council will not be able to apply this inflationary increase without reducing the grant pool. The inflationary (CPI) increase for contract organisations was initiated in the last LTP. The accumulated effect of no adjustment will amount to a significant loss over 2-5 years. This is critical at a key point where BATS is proving such strong value in helping to create better resilience and innovation in the local arts sector. This is an unfortunate and counter intuitive measure and we strongly advise that the Council does not do this. As discussed in the submission on Aho Tini 2030 BATS welcomes the values and goals in the draft pan but effectively cutting funding through the CPI adjustment loading will immediately impact on the ability of organisations such as BATS to effectively partner with Council within a challenging period for all. We support the Council's priorities. We note with appreciation Council's commitment to strong partnerships with mana whenua as one of the plan's six priority objectives. This commitment is essential for delivering to Te Tiriti and we note with enthusiasm Council's vision of becoming bilingual by 2040. We welcome the focus on the four well-beings to underpin the strategic priorities. A reliant water infrastructure and zero-carbon, waste free transition are important to us as members of the community. We are particularly mindful of the importance of safe and resilient housing coupled with reliable public transport as we build greater inclusivity, diversity and help support wellbeing with our communities. In reference to Aho Tini 2030 we see the upmost importance of this for both for our artists and audiences to engage and be enriched by art making. We live as part of the same local communities and it is of concern that these fundamentals to living well are becoming barriers to inclusion. We welcome that Council states that 'resilient and fit-for-purpose community, creative and cultural spaces" as one of Council's six priority objectives. Regarding the seven big decisions we support a more cohesive and thorough consultation with the arts sector in Decision 5 and 6. Both the public library and the civic centre development we view as inextricably linked. Both spaces have historically been 'homes' for arts and culture and we are ready to assist the exciting opportunity to reimagine and rebuild these spaces. We welcome a focus on building forward through relationship with Mana whenua and ensuring the civic centre space reflects the heart and power of this place on the earth. A place that invites, reflects and empowers all of Wellington's diversity. Arts can and must be invited to play a significant part of this action moving forward.

**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?**

Regarding community infrastructure investment we stand with Arts Wellington in their feedback around the importance of arts communities being well engaged in the development of the spacial plan. This will not only help activate Focus area 3 of Aho Tini ("Aho Whenua – Our city as a stage") in a fit for purpose and strategic way but begin to align the values around partnership and collaboration more effectively. We stand with the following submission from Arts Wellington: "As Council approaches these decisions, we encourage you to consider: How any leasing or partnership arrangements in new or redeveloped facilities may result in changes to the costs of using these facilities. Smaller community-based arts groups and organisations would likely struggle to keep up with cost increases. Whether any new or redeveloped spaces could support arts communities by providing spaces where they can make and show their work to audiences. If spaces or facilities are decommissioned, whether any may be appropriate to repurpose as spaces for artists and arts organisations to make, share and present their work. Affordable studio space in particular is crucial for the retention of artists and practitioners after completing training/study, and the development of sustainable careers. We also note that for many years the Wellington arts sector has advocated for the need for an affordable mid-sized venue (400-600 seats) and that this consideration has yet to be incorporated in Council plans." These considerations are part of the pathways that we at BATS are exploring with partners both in the tertiary sector and with organisations such as Tāwhiri as well as working with national partners to support work moving from Wellington. Currently there is a real pressure on artists for adequate space if they wish to scale up their work from the size of BATS auditoria aside from in the digital space we are experimenting in. We stand with Arts Wellington in their comments about the need for arts sector input in the requirements and specifications of the upgrades of the St James, Town Hall and indeed in any of the venues requiring upgrades. From the vantage point of BATS we feel keenly the lack of activity in the Hannah Playhouse and see the impact the dearth of mid size venues has on the health of the arts ecosystem in Wellington. The affordability and accessibility to Council owned venues for independent artists is of continuing concern. BATS has made a seperate submission on Aho Tini 2030 but joins a number of local arts leaders who flag their concern on the lack of budget detail to support the delivery of some very positive steps in the draft policy. As highlighted in the CPI commentary at the top of this section, static funding or even the smallest cuts will not enable the timely aspirations of the draft policy's partnership model. With rising costs of living in Wellington, the ongoing impact of the Covid -19 environment, as well as very real increases in costs for the creation of arts experiences. The Wellington arts ecology has proven strength and resourcefulness and we at BATS are consciously working through strong value alignment to deepen our work with Council. We see a need and align strongly with Council's strategic aspirations around diversity, hauora, well-being, space activation, innovation, resilience and greater inclusivity. Nestled beneath Tangi Te Keo we are the guardians of a valued tāonga on a local and national scale. As we move into our next 30 years we seek to sustainably and ethically bring our resource to a wider community through championing social connectedness while having fun. BATS vision is to light-up lives through our work. We do this by identifying and realising the value BATS brings to its whānau, and developing new and dynamic ways to co-create. We fulfil this vision by asking the right questions; testing ideas through significant community involvement; and keeping what we're doing, but doing it even better.

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Respondent No: 1107

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Susannah Lees-Jeffries
- 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?** Royal New Zealand Ballet
- 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** 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 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)**

We have contributed to and endorse Toi o Taraika Arts Wellington's submission on the Long Term Plan. In addition, we have some additional points to make regarding the importance of the city's venues and creative spaces, including Te Ngākau, and how they are viewed and planned for by WCC. We would also like to add that while the Arts and Culture Fund is not a significant line - compared to those above - in the city's annual budget, any increase in investment in the arts will be repaid, many times over, in the social and cultural well-being of the city.

**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/b3e1c9e1601d54945cc2432ea41b3c8e81b2e97e/original/1620622519/6d5ee79854d8d9c7cbb351fdc51dcbf2\\_Additional\\_comment\\_for\\_the\\_Long\\_Term\\_Plan.pdf?1620622519](https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/b3e1c9e1601d54945cc2432ea41b3c8e81b2e97e/original/1620622519/6d5ee79854d8d9c7cbb351fdc51dcbf2_Additional_comment_for_the_Long_Term_Plan.pdf?1620622519)

**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



ROYAL NEW ZEALAND BALLET

Additional comment to accompany submission on the Long Term Plan, May 2021

The Royal New Zealand Ballet is pleased to have the opportunity to make this submission on the latest iteration of Wellington City Council's Long Term Plan.

In addition to the responses which we have given regarding the different options for the Council's Seven Big Decisions, as set out in the consultation document, we would like to note the following:

Wellington City Council rightly places investment in arts and culture at the heart of the City's current and future plans. We are delighted that, since our 2018 submission, substantial progress has been made on the seismic strengthening of the St James Theatre and the Town Hall. We look forward to returning to the St James for performances in early 2022, and to our own premises at the theatre, later in the year.

However, despite Council's stated commitment to developing resilient and fit-for-purpose creative spaces, our experience with the St James project is that it has been viewed by WCC as a building project, rather than a people-centred, cultural project. Fit-for-purpose must be considered to cover much more than foundations and floors, if the true purpose of a building is to be fulfilled.

It is the usage of the theatre, bringing people together into a shared space, for a shared experience, that gives it its greatest value. In addition, it is the way that the spaces around the theatre – foyers, function spaces, hospitality – that bring the theatre to life during the day, encouraging people to walk through the doors to engage with the arts, learn a little of what goes on behind the scenes, or just enjoy a cup of coffee. With enlivened public spaces that celebrate the art that is created there, through changing exhibitions, digital displays and more, the re-opened St James can play a vital role in the regeneration of Courtenay Place as the welcoming heart of Wellington's entertainment precinct.

The aim, in any cultural regeneration project, should be to make the space truly welcoming and exciting for everyone who goes there, from seasoned ballet goers attending a first night to families looking for a quiet place to have a cup of coffee before catching the bus home.

The same approach as for the St James and the Town Hall could and should be taken for Te Ngākau, Civic Square. It is more than an open space surrounded by a disparate collection of buildings, some of which are currently closed. It is a place created for and enlivened by people, for performance, protest, celebration and more. To treat it as a void with some inconvenient and expensive seismic strengthening projects around the edges, does the city and its people a disservice. Te Ngākau, Civic Square is surrounded by doorways and bridges which connect Wellingtonians with the very best in arts and culture that the city has to offer and we should celebrate it.

The amount dedicated to investment in arts and culture in Wellington City Council's annual budgets is small. The sector that it helps to support is nimble and entrepreneurial, adept at raising additional funds and creative in finding solutions. An increase in investment through the Arts and Culture Fund

will not make a significant difference in Wellington City Council's overall balance sheet, but it will have a significant impact on the social, cultural and economic well-being of the city that we are proud to call home. We encourage Wellington City Council to consider an increase in investment in the arts through the Long Term Plan, knowing that such an investment will be repaid, through the health and vibrancy of our cultural sector and the way that it serves Wellington, many times over.



Respondent No: 1114

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Ian Shearer
- 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 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)** 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  
Wastewater laterals  
Cycleways  
Te Atakura (climate change)  
Central Library  
Sludge and waste minimisation  
Te Ngākau funding for future work

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

Raise the commercial and residential rates, and ask government for more funding.

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

not answered

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

Don't know.

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

not answered

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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?**

Increase charges on cars which are ruining life in Wellington. Institute congestion charging. Support public transport being free for all young people. No more new highways. Do not support Mt Victoria tunnel until the mass transit light rail system is commissioned and the need is proven. This 10-year plan needs much more funding for implementation of community development facilities around the public transport hubs. This must be planned and construction started well before the end of the 10 year plan period. Add at least \$100m for this over the period.

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Respondent No: 1115

[Redacted]

- Q1. **Full name:** Eryn Gribble and Ellie Clayton
- 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?** Newtown Community & Cultural Centre
- 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)** 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 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)	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)
Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)	
Please see attached	
Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)	<a href="https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/40be6088721a5629ba57077c82eac4e6610ead3e/original/1620623530/bbf0ef4f5fcfe9d4c63de13c9c7c026f_Newtown_Community_Centre_Submission_on_10_Year_Plan_FINAL.pdf?1620623530">https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/40be6088721a5629ba57077c82eac4e6610ead3e/original/1620623530/bbf0ef4f5fcfe9d4c63de13c9c7c026f_Newtown_Community_Centre_Submission_on_10_Year_Plan_FINAL.pdf?1620623530</a>
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?	
Please see attached document	

Tēnā koutou,

We are Eryn Gribble and Ellie Clayton, the Kaiwhakahaere/Coordinators from the Newtown Community & Cultural Centre. We are a Trust, with a passion for Newtown and Newtowners.

We would like to submit on 4 issues. 2 are highlighted aspects of the 10 Year Plan:

- Decision 4: Te Atākura - climate change
- Decision 3: Building more cycleways

As well as 2 aspects which have not been highlighted in the plan:

- Housing
- Community Centre funding, including Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase removal from WCC contracts

#### **Decision 4: Te Atākura - climate change**

Our community in Newtown is diverse and of a lower socio-economic background than many in Wellington - as with any crisis, those of us with fewer resources are always worst hit. As well as that, our community have 'aiga in the Pacific, whānau around the motu, the immigrants and former refugees here have relatives around the world who will be dramatically affected by climate change. Newtowners, and the Newtown Community Centre, want urgent action on climate change, locally and globally.

We support **Option 3, to fully fund Te Atākura**. However, we would like to note that our preference would be to improve our public transport systems which we believe should be owned by the people of Wellington rather than a private company. We also call for public transport to be green and accessible to everyone - i.e. cheaper, or free, particularly for those on lower incomes. We would also de-prioritise electrifying the Council's cars, in favour of Council staff taking public transport (outside of necessary maintenance vehicles etc). We saw with the Covid-19 lockdown that it's possible to do much remote work or remote meetings and we would support this over the use of unnecessary Council vehicles.

#### **Decision 3: Building more cycleways**

We support **Option 4: Accelerated Full Programme**.

According to the Commuter / Waka app (commuter.waka.app), the majority of Newtowners already walk or use public transport. Making cycling safer and more possible for our community is a priority to be in line with our call for urgent action on climate change.

#### **Housing**

We were surprised not to see housing highlighted as one of the key issues in the 10 Year Plan. We call for:

- More social housing. This is urgently needed, Aotearoa is still in a housing crisis. At the Community Centre we regularly see people who are struggling to afford housing, are in emergency housing or are currently sleeping rough or in their cars.
- Pressure on Government at a national level to introduce rent control - rents in Wellington have increased drastically in the last few years and many are struggling to make ends meet. Newtown has a high level of rental homes.

- More funding for wraparound support for people without stable housing, without relying on charities to do this mahi.

### **Community Centre funding, including Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase removal from WCC contracts**

This part of our submission is a little more personal, and perhaps a little uncomfortable.

We are primarily funded through the Wellington City Council, for which we are massively appreciative. This allows us to do our crucial mahi in the community. However, year after year at our 6-monthly funding reviews with Council, we are told not to ask for more money. Not only are we writing this part of the submission to say that we can't afford you to take away our Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase, but we're also here to ask for more money. We would welcome an opportunity to discuss this – sometimes it feels like screaming into the wind, but we need WCC to understand and to hear us. We cannot survive and definitely not thrive with the current funding community centres are provided.

One of our mandates from Wellington City Council is to provide cheap, accessible and quality venue to the community – so they have space they can use for their birthday parties, community meetings, fundraising events, dance practices – a whole host of reasons! We are funded to manage these buildings for these purposes. At the Newtown Community & Cultural Centre, we manage four council owned buildings – Newtown Tool Library, Newtown Hall, Network Newtown and our core premise Rintoul/Colombo streets (currently closed for renovations) – which has 5 hireable spaces housed within it. We also run various community building activities/programmes such as:

- A Youth Programme (including one of the most affordable school holiday programmes in Wellington, at \$80 for the whole 10 days for Community Services Card holders)
- Smart Newtown (free internet, help-desk & computer hub and computer classes [www.smartnewtown.org.nz](http://www.smartnewtown.org.nz))
- Wellington Timebank - a community of people who share their skills for time instead of money ([www.wellingtontimebank.org.nz](http://www.wellingtontimebank.org.nz))
- Newtown Tool Library (it's just what it sounds like, a library for tools [www.newtown-tool-library.com](http://www.newtown-tool-library.com))
- Free soup Fridays (connecting community & providing food to those who need it) & a free daily hangout space for tea and coffee
- Wash against Waste (keeping events/parties/dinners waste free)
- \$2 exercise classes supported by Tū Ora
- The Newtown News, a community zine by Newtowners for Newtown

Our only form of income for the core running of the centre and its spaces (aside from grants) is income from hire. If we raise hire rates to be able to pay our staff fairly then we no longer are achieving one of our core goals. Newtown is a particularly low socio-economic area and we want to provide community to space to everyone in Newtown who needs it.

Eryn and Ellie, encouraged by a former staff member (who left to obtain a 6 figure salary in public sector), had a kōrero with other Community Centre coordinators across Wellington with a thought to unionise. We discovered that in Newtown, our wages were about \$5 below the bottom tier on the Council pay scales for Community Centre staff – and that we hold more responsibility (particularly in terms of management of staff - we currently manage 10 staff and multiple programmes between us). We chatted with other coordinators from around Wellington and learnt that most were on approx \$24 per hour. We saw a vacancy listed at a Council run community centre – where we as

Coordinators could earn the same amount each week for a role that was 10hrs fewer per week – and that was just the starting rate!

Along with being told ‘not to ask for more money’, we have also consistently been told by WCC that the issue of payrates sits only with the NCCC Trust Board, not with Council. However, as mentioned above, WCC are our primary funders and an increase to wages cannot be sustained with the grants that we receive. Our reserves for many years have been tagged for our upgrade project.

The NCCC Trust Board, after talking with Council staff and Councillors, decided that it was clear that the situation was unfair, so in December of 2020 Eryn and Ellie were each given an increase of \$5 per hour to reflect their skills and level of responsibility – this now puts them on or just below the bottom tier of the payrate for council employed community centre coordinators – so does not reflect our experience/performance – or the fact that NCCC is probably the biggest community centre in Wellington (in terms of venue management and project management).

Currently I (Eryn) am going through an employment process for Wellington Timebank, a council funded project – funded for 25 hours of coordinator time per week – The timebank can’t achieve its outcomes on this amount, nor is this a liveable amount of hours (on a low-wage) for our employee - so I spend time finding funding for this project so that the timebank can be the amazing community it is. Like many jobs in the NFP sector, the diversity of skills we require from a coordinator is huge – communications (social media/newsletters), volunteer management, event management, people skills, strategic thinking & outreach etc. The outcomes Council funding has set for Wellington Timebank are:

- Building a diverse membership for Timebank- membership statistics indicate continued awareness of diversity: age, ethnicity, gender, abilities
- Maintain and increase community participation, continue to sign up new members, encourage membership trading, provide volunteering opportunities for the Timebank itself and for other member organisations, and promote the Timebank to raise public profile
- Timebank will provide opportunities for members to develop connections at a local level through a variety of initiatives which may include hubs, potluck meals, and other social events
- Act as a ‘trade broker’ between members, for those identified as being ‘isolated’ or ‘vulnerable’, increase connections both within and outside of the Timebank

I have maximised the starting rate as much as I am able – to \$23.50 (\$1.40 over the Living Wage, or \$3.50 over the current minimum wage), but this is an awful lot to ask for, from someone earning \$23.50 an hour.

We tell you all this because we’re concerned about the future of the community sector in Wellington as costs increase but funding doesn’t. Wellington City council talks about investing in its communities in various plans/consultations however – this isn’t reflected in increases to the organisations that are on the ground floor doing the mahi. Yes, it’s mahi that we love - we are invested in this community and we love it. However, we - along with every community centre and many other organisations that obtain contract funding from WCC - need to be treated fairly and resourced to do our work. Removing the CPI increase is one part of this issue that we wish to highlight.

In the not-for-profit area, workers are often exploited and being pushed to do more work for no extra money. We often do it, because we care and because we know that it is important mahi. But this is not sustainable for the workers, or for the work that we do. It is mutually exclusive to not

decrease our funding, by removing CPI increase. We propose to WCC – find more money to effectively fund Community Centres and pay hard working staff fairly!



Respondent No: 1118

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Owhiro Bay Residents Association
- 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?** Owhiro 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 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** Morning
- 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

<b>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</b>	not answered
<hr/>	
<b>Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)</b>	
Our submission is attached	
<hr/>	
<b>Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)</b>	<a href="https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/1c6ba1acad485f9265c42d0ce517ab0a5090cd06/original/1620623944/b8d965464ed6c430537ac5d450f06f47_OBRA_WCC_LTP_-_Final.docx?1620623944">https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/1c6ba1acad485f9265c42d0ce517ab0a5090cd06/original/1620623944/b8d965464ed6c430537ac5d450f06f47_OBRA_WCC_LTP_-_Final.docx?1620623944</a>
<hr/>	
<b>Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?</b>	not answered
<hr/>	
<b>Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?</b>	not answered
<hr/>	
<b>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?</b>	
not answered	

# Owhiro Bay Residents Association

## Submission to WCC Long Term Plan

9 May 2021

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## Introduction

Who are we submitting on behalf of:

This submission has been prepared by the Owhiro Bay Residents Association (OBRA) committee. We have consulted with a variety of groups and individuals in the catchment but have not had time between writing and submitting to fully consult with the community. Our views however reflect long-standing community positions.

We are part of and have consulted with the Owhiro Catchment Collective(OCC) and fully support their

submission to the Long Term Plan.

Before outlining the details of our submission to the Long Term Plan we believe it is important to comment on the broad approach that the Council appears to be taking, and the concerns we have with its direction.

We don't want the legacy we pass to the next generation to reflect our failure to make hard decisions now.

In this regard the Council and the Long Term Plan process is significantly out of step with the wants and aspirations of the community it represents.

1. There are major failures in the infrastructure which holds the city together. We acknowledge the significant amount of investment required to make these a strong infrastructure platform for the City to grow. But we believe it is time to fix what needs fixing and not pass this off to another generation.
2. We need this LTP to not only set the direction for change but also articulate how the path will be navigated. Co-design with the community and ensuring the community is actively engaged in decision-making stages is imperative.

## Decision 1: Increasing investment to fix the water pipes

*The issue: There is insufficient detail in the documentation we have seen to take a clear position of the respective merits of Options 2 versus Option 3. This applies both to our catchment, Owhiro, and the wider city, particularly outside the CBD.*

### **Our Recommendations:**

1. **Owhiro Catchment. Resource the Owhiro Pilot to ensure it achieves its objective as being the prototype for successful citywide multiparty processes that restore 3 water networks to a sound state that no longer degrade waterways. Confirm that there is adequate funding to successfully and rapidly fix public and private pipe failures to ensure the Owhiro Stream and the Tapu Teranga Marine Reserve at Owhiro Bay are made fit for primary contact within a couple of years.**
2. **The network outside the critical assets in the CBD. Fund water infrastructure renewals and upgrades to a level that ensures that the entire network is made fit-for-purpose in the coming years.**
3. **Ensure training and recruitment systems are in place to achieve these goals.**
4. **Resource appropriately to ensure the recommendations of the Mayoral Taskforce, particularly around resilience and water-sensitive urban design are implemented.**

## **Owhiro Catchment: funding to fix the pipes**

Funding for the Owhiro Catchment and the Owhiro Pilot have been recognized by WCC, including in the Mayoral Taskforce on the 3 waters, as a project of high priority for the city and the region. The Owhiro Catchment has been chosen by WCC and WWL to be the site of the first roving crew/Know Your Pipes team and as such needs to be addressed quickly and successfully if the city is to succeed in improving water quality in the city's waterways and beaches in line with the NPS-FM.

We need to improve water quality in our streams and bays to a level that is fit for primary contact. Meeting the NPS-FM is a responsibility that must be shouldered. Wellington's water infrastructure needs to be addressed at a level well above Business As Usual.

The City's Chief Infrastructure Officer has confirmed that there is funding to undertake both investigations and repairs of failed or failing assets in the Owhiro catchment. However, should major failures be uncovered, they will require additional funding, more in line with Option 3 than Option 2.

Option 3 states under the Wastewater section: "After investigations and a \$391m renewals programme, we would be able to invest to reduce sewage pollution, starting with catchments around the central city, Karori and Owhiro Bay, then widening into other catchments." This is not included in option 2. This wording is problematic if the City is committed to the Owhiro Pilot and needs to be amended.

## **The Network outside the CBD and most critical assets**

The issue we have with the current preferred option: The consequential difference between options 2 and 3 is unclear but given the difference in the amount of money (moderate increase under 2, significant under 3), it is likely that the CBD's assets will receive the necessary attention but that the suburbs may be left to tread faecally-contaminated water.

Our position is that we need greater clarity in the Long Term Plan around funding commitments to the network further out from the CBD and ensure that funding will result in transformative change.

Option 2 is a politically safer option as it won't generate as much kick-back from concerned ratepayers but if we want to solve these problems we need to help the community have greater transparency around the implications of not spending sufficient money to modernise our network through a well-funded renewals programme.

Under Option 2 it is likely that, 30 years down the track, our network will still be aged, particularly outside the CBD, and that over the coming 30 years risks of major failures, excluding the critical assets identified and addressed, will remain significant.

Option 3 is closer to an outcome where, in 30 years time, the renewal programme will have caught up

and kept pace with ongoing degradation of pipes. Therefore this option is more aligned to a strategic focus for Wellington, rather than a tactical one which is Option 2.

The environment should not be left to suffer from failing assets and future generations should not shoulder an unfair share of the burden.

## **Training, recruitment and scaling up**

WCC officer (Baz) told the Island Bay Residents Association on 3 May 2021 that a key reason that option 2 is preferred to option 3 is that there just aren't enough suitable people who can be recruited to undertake the scale of activity Option 3 would trigger.

We recommend that WCC be more ambitious and determined to fix the problems and this will clearly require a significant investment in training and recruitment resources. We support the establishment of regional or national training centres to train a new corp of water industry personnel.

WCC could also consider engaging with the Universities to see what science students could be sponsored to work with the council through their current projects and then in the organisation once their degree is completed.

We appreciate that it will be a massive challenge to the industry nationally, including WWL, to scale up to a level commensurate with the requirements. The human resources challenges are not insurmountable but they require focus and budget from the city. Scaling up will realistically need to be staged but we **have** to be ambitious.

WWL has succeeded in significant growth in capex spending around renewals in the last couple of years and this upswing in spending will need to be supported with access to more staff and equipment. Ensure WCC and WWL are resourced to work with other Councils, other industry groups and central government to build better career paths in water, increase local production of valves and other equipment that are currently dependent on vulnerable overseas supply chains.

## **Investing in actioning the Mayoral Taskforce on 3 Waters recommendations**

The Mayoral Taskforce Report on The Three Waters makes a number of recommendations that will improve outcomes for the environment and for resilience. These need to receive greater attention and funding to progress. These include but are not limited to progress around: resiliency, changes to new build requirements, support water efficient use by residents.

**We support the recommendations, including:**

1. Smart meters: continue the investigation of this important piece of green infrastructure. Ensure better community engagement and discussion of equity and guaranteed public ownership. We appreciate this is a contentious issue for our city.
2. Targeted rates: introduce a system similar to the one recently introduced by Porirua City Council to support home owners with repair work required to improve the private 3 water network.
3. MTF Rec 19: Task and fund WWL to develop a road-map for consideration in the 2024/34 LTP to achieve compliance with NPS-FWM.
- 4 MTF Rec 17: Establish suite of policy including rainwater harvesting and storage.
- 5.MTF Rec 8: Change district plan so all new land development consents are required to improve stormwater effects.
6. MTF Rec 9: Catchment scale planning.
7. MTF Rec 10. Green infrastructure.
8. We support the development of a WOF (Warrant of Fitness) system for 3 water pipes that would be part of all private house sales. This measure would drive significant improvements quickly. When houses are sold all laterals need to be inspected and this would generate a report that would appear on the LIM. Water mains would be checked for a leak, laterals checked to ensure they are fit for purpose. The city should require such a report before a sale could finalised.

## Decision 4: Te Atakura First to Zero (Climate change)

*The issue: Having an initiative for achieving zero carbon emissions is admirable for the council, but the underlying initiatives for how it will be achieved across the wider Wellington region is very light across all sections of Decision 4.*

*It is noted that Wellington City Council has not addressed Resilience, which should be a STRATEGIC INITIATIVE across all councils and in line with central government actions as well.*

*In addition, the key impacts of climate change appear to have been either ignored or brushed over lightly e.g. how to look after coastal communities.*

***Our recommendation: Acknowledge in the LTP that resilience needs to be addressed and will be included in next year's annual plan and subsequent LTPs.***

Addressing resilience is a requirement of the impact of Climate Change.

Resilience is critical to how Wellington will manage (survive) after any major event. Given the impact on Wellington after the Christchurch and Kaikoura earthquakes it is surprising that the council has failed to at least address the fact that there needs to be focus on this area including looking at what the most important factors are that the council needs to focus on, such as:

- What tools and systems etc. need to be in place should any communities become isolated from

water/electricity/power after an event

- What will the immediate support systems and then the medium-to-permanent fix approaches be?
- What capabilities need to be in place to support communities? How will the current emergency services support our communities?

It is noted that there are a few random notes on Resilience i.e. page 27 Increasing neighbourhood resilience. This looks like an initiative that could be reused across many communities yet there has been little or no engagement with other communities, for which the Owhiro catchment is one that would be interested in this.

We need WCC to advise what they plan to do to address resilience as a strategic initiative, including: community engagement, working with central government, working with key suppliers to understand what resilience they have in place (electricity for example), etc.

## Owhiro Bay

*The issue: WCC and the Owhiro Community have participated in the eCoast coastal engineering assessment project and are now in receipt of the report. The City needs to have a more consistent and strategic approach to preparing the City's coastlines and their communities for climate change mitigation.*

### Our recommendation:

- 1. We request support to improve our community's resilience programme, including, as recommended by eCoast's report:**
  - **Grading of the beach**
  - **Capturing of sea movement (camera installation and video retention) to support longer term options to mitigate the impact of sea movement**
  - **Investigations on structural improvements in the footpaths and sea walls.**
  - **Hardening the resilience at critical points of the bay, including the bridge. The bridge is a critical, vulnerable asset that needs serious assessment in consultation with the community to ensure the gateway to Red Rocks/Te Kopahou is secure.**

We note in correspondence from WCC there is a concern that support for our request could be seen as setting a precedent for future coastal community requirements. However, precedence has already been set through the work in Lyall Bay, fixing of the Island Bay sea wall and the 'new' sea wall in front of the Victoria University research centre. If a precedent had not already been set, it should have been, as the entire Wellington south coast is an area of risk that must be addressed by a holistic resilience strategy

- 2. We request support for short and long term budgeting, in the LTP, for at least the following:**

**Opex:** \$100k for year one to fund further investigations of structural support in the bay, grading of the beach, installation of cameras and retention of video data

Ongoing year on year budget of approx. \$30,000 for beach grading.

**Capex:** to be noted that capex needs to be budgeted for:

- in next three years for roading/sea wall improvements
- in next 10-15 years potential artificial reef installation.

## Decision 7 of WCC LTP 2021

*The Issue: Sludge and Waste Water MUST been seen as a strategic initiative for the long-term benefit of all Wellingtonians and accounted for in the LTP accordingly, which it is not today.*

Our Recommendations:

1. OBRA wants to see sludge decoupled from the landfill and agrees with the preferred Option 4 – Moa Point treatment of sewage sludge funded externally through the Infrastructure Funding and Finance Act 2020.
2. However, this is a loan, not a grant. It should be made clear in the LTP that the funding is to be paid back via these levies and that the levy will carry on for 30 years. This is passing the cost on to future rate-payers.
3. Where is the budget allocated for spending within the next three years to ensure WCC acquires funding for the Moa Point project? Is there budget for spending on all the applications, documents/lawyers etc, to ensure this goes ahead and gets funding for the SPV?
4. Audit NZ has indicated there is a risk to this IFF funding coming through. We understand from WCC that this risk is slight, but if it fails then we do not want to see the project cancelled or curtailed. Option 3 must be selected and an alternative way of funding will be necessary. Ways of doing this might be:
  - a) Prioritising this over less essential infrastructure projects such as cycleways
  - b) Using the amount budgeted for extending the Southern Landfill, which cannot go ahead unless the sludge is treated and minimised, or
  - c) Using some of the budget allocated for the Three Waters pipes work which the Auditor believes cannot be fully used due to lack of resources.
5. We need better clarity in the LTP on how the environmental impact of the landfill fits in with WCC's zero-waste vision. There must be a strategic plan covering waste in general – not just the sludge - which addresses the future of the Southern Landfill and indeed all other Wellington landfills. In the absence of any such plan it seems that the Southern Landfill will continue by default indefinitely. We do not want to see the situation that, as other Wellington landfills reach capacity and are closed, their waste is redirected to the Southern Landfill.

The latter is no longer a suitable place for waste as it is in an increasingly populated area and this causes problems, eg:

- a) trucks converging on it from all parts of the city, bottlenecking through Brooklyn and down Happy Valley (where the permanently pot-holed road is a danger to cyclists and needs to be re-structured to a higher spec)
  - b) environmental destruction of stream ecology
  - c) danger of predators to Zealandia and pests to households.
6. We need to ensure that the Moa Point project, any resource consent applications and possible extension of the landfill, all move in lock-step with waste minimisation, and that the community is fully consulted at every step of the journey.
  7. We want to see a concrete plan for reducing waste, including such things as recycling centres, re-use of C&D, banning/restricting plastic in supermarket packaging. We think this should be at a regional level, coordinated by GWRC; we have submitted to that effect on their LTP.
  8. The council should look at urgently changing building regulations and RCs to reduce waste as the intensification of the city centre goes ahead, and thus help make Wellington greener. All building and demolition work should be directed to conform to strict recycling rules.
  9. We recommend that a state-of-the-art recycling centre is built at the Southern Landfill C & D site – which should be a condition of the new C&D lease which is imminently due to expire. In this scenario it will not be an expense for the council/rate payer. Again, this should form part of a strategic initiative for the long term benefit of Wellingtonians, none of which is covered under this LTP.
  10. Proposed Fees and Charges:  
At the Landfill why is commercial disposal cheaper than domestic?  
We believe that the sewage sludge fee could be much higher to reflect the need to forward-pay for pipe repairs and new technologies.

Please read the Owhiro Catchment Collective (OCC) submission to this Long Term Plan which has been prepared in consultation with our Association. We append it to this document.

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## Other recommendations

### Road Surfaces and road calming measures

*The Issue: Happy Valley Road is heavily used by trucks using the three landfills. The road surface is in poor repair and is not of a standard suitable for these levels of use. The footpath is in a very poor state of repair.*

**Our recommendation: There needs to be a clear plan, budgeted and timelined to address the needs of all road users, including cyclists. We believe waste minimisation will reduce road use by trucks. See our recommendations for Decision 7. Historically, the landfill sites were poorly chosen and we should be making every effort to limit the volume and sources of material making its way through the city and up Brooklyn Hill.**

*The Issue: The south side of Owhiro Bay is part of the Marine Reserve and a destination for growing numbers of visitors. It is a dead-end stretch of road which is narrow. Traffic speed needs to be slowed.*

**Our recommendation: Funding traffic calming measures that recognise the special status of the bay and the community as part of Te Kopahou/Tapu Teranga.**

# Appendix

10 May 2021

## Submission by Ōwhiro Catchment Collective on Wellington City Council (WCC) Draft Long -Term Plan (LTP)

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1. The Ōwhiro Catchment Collective (OCC) is a vehicle for coordinating the actions of and advocacy by a group of community organisations which focus on issues relevant to the catchment of the Ōwhiro Stream:
  - 1.1 Ōwhiro Bay Residents Association
  - 1.2 Stream Team
  - 1.3 Southern Environmental Association
  - 1.4 Friends of Ōwhiro Stream (FOOS)
  - 1.5 Friends of Taputeranga Marine Reserve.
2. The purpose of this submission is to highlight matters of common concern to the members of the OCC. Individual members may make their own submissions providing more detail and/or addressing different matters.
3. OCC would also like the opportunity to speak to its submission.

### Background

4. OCC is a coalition of community groups who are connected to the Ōwhiro catchment and share a vision of a thriving ecological corridor from the border with Zealandia to Taputeranga Marine Reserve in the south. This includes improving the water quality of the Ōwhiro Stream and its tributaries and improving habitat and native biodiversity of the catchment.
5. OCC's member groups are active in the catchment restoring habitat, planting, controlling weeds and trapping predators. Organisations such as FOOS have a long history of advocacy for the catchment. Despite a huge investment of volunteer hours and effort, the catchment continues to face many challenges. These include the landfills located within the catchment and the ongoing issues with wastewater infrastructure and stream contamination. Many of the decisions in the LTP have significant implications for the health of our catchment.

6. OCC promotes a catchment-wide approach to addressing the environmental issues in the Ōwhiro catchment that recognises its values and unique place in Wellington's geography. OCC supports the establishment of the Ōwhiro Pilot multi-party working group consisting of WCC, Greater Wellington Regional Council, Wellington Water Ltd, the Department of Conservation and Regional Public Health working together on common issues. We would like this to grow and extend to the development and adoption of an integrated catchment management plan to monitor and improve the water quality of Ōwhiro Stream in partnership with community groups and mana whenua.

### **Community outcomes**

7. WCC's proposed community outcomes include:

- 7.1 *"Environmental — A sustainable, climate friendly eco capital — 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."*

The Ōwhiro catchment is an important part of Wellington's environment. It contains one of the few remaining wild daylighted streams in our urban environment. It adjoins and provides a corridor between Zealandia and the Taputeranga Marine Reserve. Water from the Ōwhiro Stream discharges into the Marine Reserve.

- 7.2 *"Social — A people friendly, compact, safe and accessible capital city — An inclusive, liveable, and resilient city where people and communities can learn, are connected, well housed, safe and healthy."*

The Ōwhiro catchment provides a home for many households and includes three schools and several early learning centres. The Taputeranga Marine Reserve is a destination for diving, swimming and enjoying the beach. The Ōwhiro Stream runs alongside Ōwhiro Bay School. Zealandia and the south coast are also valuable local and tourist destinations that showcase Wellington's environment.

8. Achieving these community outcomes will require investment in improving water quality and mitigating the impacts of the Ōwhiro catchment landfills so that the Ōwhiro Stream and the marine environment at Ōwhiro Bay are safe for the community to interact with and use.

### **Key issues of concern**

9. Key concerns for OCC are:

- 9.1 Improving the management and treatment of sewage sludge and reduce the volume buried at the WCC Southern Landfill:

- (a) This is essential to reduce carbon emissions from the landfill and enable waste minimisation.

- 9.2 Developing a strategic plan for the future of the WCC Southern Landfill:
- (a) We do not believe the landfill should be extended indefinitely. Doing so will impact the liveability of the Ōwhiro catchment; destroy the natural values of those parts of the Ōwhiro catchment converted to landfill; and lock-in environmental risk to the water quality of the Ōwhiro Stream and Taputeranga Marine Reserve, particularly in the event of a major earthquake.
  - (b) A strategic plan (which includes improving the management of sewage sludge) must be developed and agreed upon with the community **before** consent is sought to expand the landfill.
- 9.3 Improving the management of rubbish entering the environment from the Ōwhiro catchment landfills and from vehicles travelling to those landfills.
- 9.4 Improving the management of the T&T Landfill and addressing its impact on Ōwhiro Stream water-quality.
- 9.5 Adopting measurable targets for improving the water quality of Ōwhiro Stream.
- 9.6 Repairing or renewing wastewater infrastructure to address its impact on Ōwhiro Stream water quality.

### **Submissions on the proposed ‘big decisions’**

#### Spending more money on fixing the water pipes

10. OCC supports investing more on Wellington’s three waters infrastructure. The level of detail in the LTP consultation document makes providing feedback on the three options (different levels of capital expenditure) difficult. OCC’s key submission on Decision 1 is that the LTP should distinguish between:
- 10.1 investment in new assets (such as reservoirs) and renewals (such as the programmed replacement of pipes); as opposed to
  - 10.2 investment to identify and fix existing problems that are already impacting the water quality of urban waterways such as Ōwhiro Stream.
11. Recommendation 19 of the *Mayoral Taskforce on the Three Waters Report* is:
- Task and fund WWL to develop a road-map for consideration in the 2024/34 LTP that would see WWL (or a future entity) funded to achieve compliance with the National Policy Statement — Freshwater Management by 2040.
12. OCC does not agree that work towards achieving compliance with the National Policy Statement — Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) should wait until after 2024. That is not good enough.

WCC knows its wastewater infrastructure is a cause of reduced water quality. It is not acceptable for WCC to plan for the possibility of water quality continuing to degrade over the next three years.

13. OCC's view is that the LTP should provide for funding to identify and fix existing problems that are already impacting the water quality of urban waterways such as Ōwhiro Stream separately from the capital expenditure provided for by Decision 1.
14. OCC also seeks that WCC:
  - 14.1 fund the Ōwhiro catchment pilot so that it can achieve its objective of being a prototype for successful citywide multiparty processes to restore three waters networks to a sound state that no longer degrade waterways; and
  - 14.2 formally adopt a time-bound and measurable target for improving water quality in the Ōwhiro Stream.

#### Ownership of wastewater laterals

15. OCC agrees with the Decision 2 preferred option. The model of relying on private owners to care for and renew wastewater laterals has failed. The problem of laterals impacting water quality requires community ownership.

#### Reducing sewage sludge and waste

16. OCC supports the Decision 7 preferred option with some caveats. It is essential that Wellington's wastewater treatment infrastructure be improved so as to reduce the volume of sewage sludge that cannot be discharged into the Cook Strait. The current way wastewater is managed requires large volumes of sludge to be pumped to the Southern Landfill. This is vulnerable to earthquake damage; results in carbon emissions; and requires even larger volumes of solid waste to be mixed with the sludge before it is buried — which in turn precludes waste minimisation.
17. The caveats include:
  - 17.1 OCC is worried about what happens if the Infrastructure Funding and Financing Act 2020 cannot be used. Waiting another three years to fund improvements at Moa Point is not acceptable. WCC should commit to revisiting its LTP if funding cannot be sourced via the Act.
  - 17.2 OCC is worried about when construction will begin. The LTP consultation document suggests a levy will not need to be collected until year 4. It is not clear when significant capital expenditure on Moa Point improvements will commence. This contrasts with WCC's proposed capital budget for 'Stage 4' of the Southern Landfill, which includes 1,310,000 at year 1; 4,896,000 at year 2; and 7,397,000 at year 3. OCC is strongly opposed to WCC seeking consent for 'Stage 4' of the landfill until a strategic plan for the

landfill (which includes improving the management of sewage sludge) has been developed and agreed upon with the community.

18. OCC will not accept a forever operational and forever expanding WCC landfill in the Ōwhiro catchment.



Respondent No: 1119

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

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Lawrence Collingbourne
- 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?** Onslow Residents Community 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** 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 1. Finish started projects (\$29m 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 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)** Option 1. No change in current practice (no change to investment, rates or debt).

**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)**

Our response to the seven key decisions: 1. Enhanced, the preferred option for water infrastructure, as it is prudent for a basic service, noting that this provides no funding for densification outside of the inner-city and that large liabilities remain unfunded until quantified and addressed with an acceptable plan 2. Take ownership, the preferred option for the council taking back waste water laterals 3. Finish started projects, for cycleways, as only a small proportion of residents cycle, the track record in building them is poor, and we need a lower rates increase 4. None of these options, for First to Zero to be deferred, save for future planning and measurement, as we don't know the carbon reduction return on investment, or what impact it will have, electric vehicles will shortly become cheaper (and don't exist for trucks), and we need a lower rates increase 5. Sell to support development, for the Council Precinct, with the land, including central library sold for amenity through a design competition, as we want to see a meaningful city centre square developed, not a council precinct 6. None of these options, as we cannot afford to fix the Central Library, so it should be sold for development to mitigate future infrastructure liabilities 7. Option 1, for sludge minimisation, as the preferred option disingenuously talks about "alternative funding", but this is a form of targeted rate above the 48%, which we reject.

**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/996f5ba4931dac74fb161a0a545437ff7a49dcdd/original/1620623959/b8be3950caf1a2f3c3bbcff812738a5f\\_ORCA\\_Submission\\_on\\_WCC\\_10-Year\\_Plan\\_2021\\_final.pdf?1620623959](https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/996f5ba4931dac74fb161a0a545437ff7a49dcdd/original/1620623959/b8be3950caf1a2f3c3bbcff812738a5f_ORCA_Submission_on_WCC_10-Year_Plan_2021_final.pdf?1620623959)

**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?**

We strongly oppose the proposed 10-year budget and we support decreasing spend in the current budget. The proposed budget demands at least a 48% increase in rates in the next five years, DOES NOT address the need for investment in our three-waters infrastructure, has too-high a debt limit and is not in any way economically sensible, but rather we consider it to be irresponsible. Other projects: we want the Khandallah Park and Swimming Pool upgrade project to go ahead, as it is a modest investment (\$1m) in our amenities to keep them viable for another ten years or more.



# ON SLOW RESIDENTS' COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## Submission of the Onslow Resident's Community Association for the Wellington City Council 10-Year Plan 2021

The Onslow Residents Community Association represents the areas of Khandallah, Broadmeadows and Kaiwharawhara. Our purpose is to act as a conduit between the community and local authorities, represent the views and interests of our three communities, promote, develop and improve the public services and facilities for our community and foster a sense of community. We are a voice for our community.

### Overview

The Onslow Residents Community Association is pleased to make a submission on the Wellington City Council 10-Year Plan. This is based upon local knowledge and communication with our residents at our Annual Meeting and through email.

We thank the contributors for producing such a quality plan. However,

***We suggest it is irresponsible to propose a 48% rates rise over the first five years when very large future expenditures remain unquantified and it is a time of economic uncertainty for everyone, so we recommend a substantial reduction in these expenditures to create a fiscally responsible plan***

We also wish to present our submission on the 10-Year Plan in person to Councillors in a formal Council meeting.

We will first make some general comments and then focus on the key points in the submission document. Finally, we will present recommendations for action for consideration by the Council.

### Time to raise your game

The 10-Year plan sets out four community outcomes and six priority objectives before summarising the budget and getting to seven key decisions about new expenditure. The outcomes and objectives should guide the plan, but as they are neither quantified nor measurable and none of the seven key decisions is tied back to them, we see little point in raising our concerns about them.

***We must get beyond marketing hype to concrete outcomes for our City and a plan to deliver them***

There is no engagement on operational expenditure beyond an unexplained list of items in supporting documentation. When questioned about it, the Chief Executive claimed that many costs savings have been achieved, but we can find no evidence for them, nor any descriptions of which services have been cut to enable them. On the contrary a single page (55) explains that prior decisions remain unaltered even in the light of the glaring liabilities exposed in the plan. We find this simply unacceptable.

***We want to also engage about operational expenditure, prior projects and funding options***

The Plan does not address very large capital liabilities on water infrastructure (the \$0.7B funding makes no inroads into the backlog of a replacement value of \$3.9B), Let's Get Wellington Moving (\$0.27B funding out of an estimated \$1.4B) and an unknown liability called social housing "sustainability challenges", a service we are told will become insolvent from June 2023 (it also appears that only three years of the \$0.4B 10-year cost is funded). When we compare these liabilities to the \$1B of capital costs proposed in the seven key decisions, we anticipate further very large rates rises ABOVE the 48% proposed in the next five years.

***Your highest priority is to define the unknown risks in this plan and remove the audit qualifications***

We also caution the Council over the temptation to borrow heavily to fund capital solutions. Every capital project that goes bad instantly appears as an operational cost when it is written off or made obsolete by a replacement project, e.g. the Island Bay cycleway. Today's low interest rates become tomorrow's repayment nightmare if interest rates rise, as the Reserve Bank is cautioning.

***It is high risk to rely on large capital projects and low interest rates, capital spend must be reduced***

### [Answers to the Questions in the Submissions Questionnaire](#)

These responses are made in our online submission also.

Contact details (in the online form only)

Our response to the seven key decisions:

1. Enhanced, the preferred option for water infrastructure, as it is prudent for a basic service, noting that this provides no funding for densification outside of the inner-city and that large liabilities remain unfunded until quantified and addressed with an acceptable plan
2. Take ownership, the preferred option for the council taking back waste water laterals
3. Finish started projects, for cycleways, as only a small proportion of residents cycle, the track record in building them is poor, and we need a lower rates increase
4. None of these options, for First to Zero to be deferred, save for future planning and measurement, as we don't know the carbon reduction return on investment, or what impact it will have, electric vehicles will shortly become cheaper (and don't exist for trucks), and we need a lower rates increase
5. Sell to support development, for the Council Precinct, with the land, including central library sold for amenity through a design competition, as we want to see a meaningful city centre square developed, not a council precinct
6. None of these options, as we cannot afford to fix the Central Library, so it should be sold for development to mitigate future infrastructure liabilities
7. Option 1, for sludge minimisation, as the preferred option disingenuously talks about "alternative funding", but this is a form of targeted rate above the 48%, which we reject.

Our feedback on these decisions is provided above.

We strongly oppose the proposed 10-year budget and we support decreasing spend in the current budget. The proposed budget demands at least a 48% increase in rates in the next five years, DOES NOT address the need for investment in our three-waters infrastructure, has too-high a debt limit and is not in any way economically sensible, but rather we consider it to be irresponsible.

Other projects: we want the Khandallah Park and Swimming Pool upgrade project to go ahead, as it is a modest investment (\$1m) in our amenities to keep them viable for another ten years or more.

## What we like about the Long Term Plan

We have only found two items to like about the 10-year plan, a prudent budget for water infrastructure (until the true extent of liabilities are uncovered) and taking back waste water laterals.

## Recommendations

The recommendations we make have been highlighted throughout this submission by using **emphasis** at the points where the evidence for them is discussed.

## Conclusion

We refuse to indulge in the usual practice of a lolly scramble for new projects at rate payers' expense; we are the ratepayers. This 10-year plan presents risks that are larger than the seven key decisions, yet takes little action to prepare for them. Instead it proposes massive rates rises of 48% over five years, at a time when inflation is low, interest rates are low, the economic outlook uncertain and the new post-COVID normal is yet to finalise across the World. In short, this is at best irresponsible and at worst, sheer madness. Let's avoid a "Fiddling with cycleways and civic buildings while Rome burns" epitaph for this Council.

***If other product and service suppliers follow your inflationary leadership, we are doomed to hyperinflation, which will set back New Zealand to the 1980s with catastrophic consequences***

Wellington City Council must get back to basic service provision and meeting core amenity needs for all. If Councillors want large investment in new capabilities, they must wait until we solve our social housing and infrastructure "challenges". Given the size of the liabilities, it will be vital that the Council leverages new sources of funding for projects and ensures their future value delivery, to make them both affordable and worthwhile.

Yours faithfully

Lawrence Collingbourne, President on behalf of

Onslow Residents' Community Association



Respondent No: 1124

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Rhona Carson
- 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?** Newtown 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 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 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).

<p><b>Q15. Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)</b></p>	<p>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>
<p><b>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</b></p>	<p>Investment in three waters infrastructure Wastewater laterals Cycleways Te Atakura (climate change) Central Library Sludge and waste minimisation Te Ngākau funding for future work</p>
<p><b>Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)</b></p>	<p>Please see the attached written submission from the Newtown Residents' Association</p>
<p><b>Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)</b></p>	<p><a href="https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/11b737810b8ae5981bc3616d6e04a6ab3421136d/original/1620624573/c4de8df8f52432dc20d02f232962b484_WCC_LTP_submission_2021.pdf?1620624573">https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/11b737810b8ae5981bc3616d6e04a6ab3421136d/original/1620624573/c4de8df8f52432dc20d02f232962b484_WCC_LTP_submission_2021.pdf?1620624573</a></p>
<p><b>Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?</b></p>	<p>I strongly support the proposed budget.</p>
<p><b>Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?</b></p>	<p>I support increasing spend in the current budget.</p>
<p><b>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?</b></p>	<p>not answered</p>



## **Submission on the Wellington City Council Long Term Plan, 2021 - 2031**

### **Introduction**

The Newtown Residents' Association has been an Incorporated Society since July 1963. We are residents and business owners from Newtown and the surrounding area, who take a keen interest in the community and local issues. We are concerned with maintaining and improving our area's liveability, connectedness and sustainability and working to make our community a thriving, diverse, great place to live.

### **Submission**

Our Association has a long history of making submissions asking for priority to be given to the City's basic services, and we are very relieved that this is now a primary focus of this Long Term Plan. A solution and upgrade to our water and sewerage infrastructure is paramount as is doing all we can to combat climate change.

### **Decision #1: Investment in three waters infrastructure.**

We support Option 3, Accelerated investment. The Council's preferred option 2, 'enhanced investment', lacks ambition. There have been many years of deferred action, with increasing deterioration to the pipes, and we are impatient with proposals to restrict remedial action now that the situation is at crisis point.

In our submission to the 2018-2028 LTP we had particular concerns about storm water management, and strongly supported water sensitive urban design. As we said then, we would like to see an emphasis on managing stormwater by increasing the extent of porous surfaces so that less water enters the stormwater network and more infiltrates to ground. As well as reducing the quantities of water being drained, this would also reduce the load of contaminants such as heavy metals and hydrocarbons entering streams and the harbour. There is only a passing reference to these principles in this plan, again in option 3. We look forward to water sensitive urban design being incorporated in the District Plan review.

### **Decision #2: Wastewater laterals**

We strongly support Option 2, the proposal that the Council should take ownership of the laterals and accept responsibility for the maintenance and renewal of private wastewater connections to the wastewater (sewerage) main underneath the road corridor. Currently householders have no control over the conditions that can damage these laterals,

and no choice over how they are repaired, but are expected to be financially responsible. The threat of large and unforeseen expenses hangs over all ratepayers, and it would be a great relief for the Council to take this responsibility.

### **Decision #3: Cycleways**

We note that none of the options in this draft plan involve any definite action on a Newtown Connections cycleway. This is merely referred to in Options 3 and 4 as something that might be delivered as part of Lets Get Wellington Moving.

Our Association members have a wide range of opinions on cycleways, so our submissions on the subject have focussed on the importance of recognising and acknowledging the needs and wishes of all members of our community, while working towards good cycling solutions.

We do agree with making it easier and safer for people to cycle. This is a healthy and environmentally sustainable mode of transport, and we agree with encouraging and supporting those who would cycle but experience it as unsafe in current conditions. However currently there is no consensus about the best way forward.

As we said in the 2018 consultation on Newtown Connections, the biggest problem area is the need for on-street car parking for a community with little off-street parking, on the one hand, and the desire for a network of protected cycleways on the other hand, and the extreme difficulty of fitting both into our narrow streets.

We acknowledged that it won't be possible to satisfy everyone, but we asked for continuing efforts to communicate and explain the rationale for decisions, to listen to concerns and to do whatever is possible to ameliorate adverse effects.

This started off well with an apparent acknowledgement that parking issues needed attention before the Newtown Connections cycleways proceeded. There were extensive reviews and consultation on WCC's Parking Policy, and we were pleased that the WCC Parking Policy (finally adopted in August 2020) made provision for Area Based Planning. During consultation there was a suggestion that Newtown might be the first, or one of the first, communities where this area based planning would be put into action. We have heard nothing more but we are still waiting and hoping that this will happen in the near future. At present the pressure on parking is increasingly severe.

### **Decision #4: Te Atakura First to Zero**

We support Option 3, to fully fund the Te Atakura action plan.

### **Decision #5: Te Ngākau Civic Precinct, Council Office Buildings**

On the information in the consultation document we prefer Option 2.

We note that it is acknowledged in the draft Plan that the MOB has particular heritage value, and the arguments for preferring the option of demolition seem unconvincing.

To demolish both buildings and start again is a huge undertaking, and it is hard to approve of this, even in principle, without having much more clarity around the parameters for the final design.

However we do not think that there has been enough public information and involvement in exploring the options and possible outcomes. We would like to see more process around this before any action is taken.

### **Decision #6: Central Library**

We support Option 1, to fund the repair and upgrade of the Central Library by temporarily breaching the current debt limit.

### **Decision#7: Sludge and waste minimisation**

We strongly support investing in treatment of wastewater at the Moa Point plant, so that the sludge can be kept out of the landfill. When there is no longer any need to mix the sludge with general waste it becomes possible to make every effort to reduce the total amount of waste going to the landfill. We hope that this will mean that there is no need to increase the size of the landfill site for many years to come.

We support Option 4, if the proposed alternative funding for this investment through the Infrastructure Funding and Financing Act is indeed a realistic option.

**Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission. We would like the opportunity to speak to Councillors about it in the appropriate forums.**

**Rhona Carson**

**President, Newtown Residents' Association**

**May 8<sup>th</sup> 2021**



Respondent No: 1149

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Roland Sapsford
- 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** Morning
- 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)** 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 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)  
Sludge and waste minimisation  
Te Ngākau funding for future work

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

See attached document

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 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?

See Feedback attached earlier

## **Additional Comments on Long Term Plan for Wellington City 2021**

**Roland Sapsford,** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

### **General comment on the role of a council in honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi**

1. Local governments exist by virtue of statute and so is in many ways an expression of the Crown's role at a local level. Furthermore statute imposes specific obligations to consider Te Tiriti o Waitangi. However the relationship with local government is not a substitute for the direct relationship between iwi, hapu and whanau and the Crown. This creates a special opportunity for local government.
2. Rather than view the relationship with those who exercise mana whenua simply as an obligation, local government has the opportunity to build relationships and partnerships that help transform the relationship between Maori and Crown-established governance.
3. Local government can actively seek opportunities to help all its citizens to understand the full history of their district and to engage in actively fostering positive relationships between mana whenua and others who live in their rohe.
4. Local government also has the opportunity to create new ways of working in the way land and natural resources are managed. Councils can actively look for opportunities to support mana whenua to more fully and appropriately exercise their kitiaki role.
5. In developing a Long Term Plan, the Council needs to consider how it is resourcing and planning for a more active and engaged role for Maori in the decade ahead.

### **General comment on borrowing**

6. Wellington has a massive infrastructure deficit and need to invest in the transition to a liveable, low-emissions city which is resilient to the unavoidable impacts of climate change and provides great quality of life to all its residents. Financing costs are very low at the moment, although not as low as they were last year. Financing costs are far more important than the amount borrowed, and New Zealand is in a relatively strong position to fund long-term borrowing at relatively low interest rates. Now is the time to borrow to invest in the future.

### **Three Waters Infrastructure**

7. I support Option 3 – Accelerated Investment. Investment in Three-waters infrastructure has been long-deferred. Option 3 commits the Council to an investment path to fully address these matters. The timing, extent and rate to which this is realised will depend on further work, but it is vital to set an ambitious goal and then address phasing issues. Failure to do so will simply repeat the cycle of the past.

8. No 10-year forward estimate will ever be accurate; the world is too uncertain for that. However the fact that we are uncertain about the scale of the problem and how fast we can deliver the work means we need to set a generous envelope for the work at the start the 10 years, which can be refined on a rolling basis.

#### **Ownership of Wastewater Laterals**

9. Divesting itself of responsibility for wastewater laterals was a poor decision by the Council. It attempted to transfer a large burden onto individuals and was not made in good faith. I commend the Council for reversing this approach.

#### **Building more cycleways across the city**

10. I support Option 4 – Accelerated Full Programme. As with other large capital investments, it is important at the start of this 10-year cycle to set an ambitious programme and then address phasing issues. The fact that we are uncertain about the scale of the problem and how fast we can deliver the work means we need to set a generous envelope for the work at the start the 10 years, which can be refined on a rolling basis.
11. Cycling is a fast growing activity that offers health, local environmental and climate benefits to both people who cycle and the wider community through reduced car dependence. If we put ourselves in the shoes of those 10 years from now, they will thank us for being ambitious.

#### **Paying for Te Atakura action plan**

12. Having declared a climate emergency and created a climate action plan, doing anything other than full-funding implementation would be disingenuous. I am not sure that there is more to say here. The world badly needs climate leadership in every corner of the globe.

#### **Resilience issues in Te Ngākau**

13. I support Option 2 – Proceed with base build. The comparison of options as presented overstates the benefits of Option 1, and confuses costs and ownership. The cheapest option in the long term is Option 2, as the Council retains an asset and is not subject to the uncertainties associated with being a long-term tenant. A crucial comparison is the cost of providing a private developer with the returns needed for a long term rental building versus the financing costs of the rebuild. This is not presented in the documentation.
14. Option 2 also has the public benefit of restoring and strengthening a heritage building.

## **Reducing Sewerage Sludge and Waste**

15. My preference is for Option 4, on the understanding that it is a genuine option. Otherwise my preference is for Option 3. As stated earlier in relation to both three-waters infrastructure and cycling, we need to set a generous envelope for the work at the start of the 10 years, which can be refined on a rolling basis.

## **Other comments**

### ***Creating a safe, accessible city:***

16. I support measures to make our city safer, more welcoming and more accessible for a wider range of people. Cities which focus on the needs of women, children, and those with disabilities create cities which are great for everyone.

### ***Even safer speeds:***

17. I support measures to introduce a comprehensive set of 30 km/hr zones, and submit that these should potentially include arterial roads. Excluding these at the outset unduly restricts the scope of work and buys into a myth that there is a high cost to reducing speed. The case for safer speeds is overwhelming, the argument that calming arterial roads diverts traffic is spurious, and there are good examples of positive experiences with arterial calming around the world.

## **Housing:**

18. The Plan takes an unusually limited view of Council's role in housing. Wellington has vast amounts of land available for housing and mixed use development that is currently
- (i) Vacant
  - (ii) Used for parking only
  - (iii) Occupied by low-quality 1-3 storey post-1960 commercial buildings
19. There has to date been no investigation of
- (i) the extent of this land – informal estimates suggest enough to house more than 100,000 people in high quality accommodation of varying types.
  - (ii) why this land has not been developed to provide housing
  - (iii) what powers the Council has to raise the holding costs of this land
  - (iv) how the Council could take a more active and facilitative role in encouraging the development of this land
20. I submit that the Long Term Plan ought to include:
- (i) An average of \$5m per annum in operating expenses for the next 10 years to support work addressing matters (i)-(iv) above
  - (ii) At least \$200m in capital expenditure to support investment in additional affordable housing in Wellington, in partnership with Kainga Ora, superannuation funds and others who have an interest in housing as a long term investment.



Respondent No: 1151

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** The New Zealand Portrait Gallery Te Pukenga Whakaata
- 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?** The New Zealand Portrait Gallery Te Pukenga Whakaata
- 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)** Don't know.
- 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><b>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</b></p>	<p>not answered</p>
<p><b>Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)</b></p>	<p>not answered</p>
<p><b>Q18. You can attach any other document supporting your submission here. (Please ensure that the information is on the 10-year Plan)</b></p>	<p><a href="https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/4e08b36a6f4e19463ddb3334403ae9e37bf4afd0/original/1620634977/9374347e393256772196d86a696417d4_LTP_2021_-2031_draft_submission.docx?1620634977">https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/4e08b36a6f4e19463ddb3334403ae9e37bf4afd0/original/1620634977/9374347e393256772196d86a696417d4_LTP_2021_-2031_draft_submission.docx?1620634977</a></p>
<p><b>Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?</b></p>	<p>I somewhat support the proposed budget.</p>
<p><b>Q20. You stated that you were neutral / did not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?</b></p>	<p>not answered</p>
<p><b>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?</b></p> <p>Please see submission attached to question 17.</p>	

## The New Zealand Portrait Gallery Te Pūkenga Wakaata

### Submission on Wellington City Council LTP consultation, May 2021

#### **About The New Zealand Portrait Gallery**

The New Zealand Portrait Gallery Te Pūkenga Whakaata tells the stories of New Zealanders through the art of portraiture.

The Gallery was founded in 1990 as a charitable trust. We have been in our permanent home in Shed 11 on the Wellington waterfront since 2010. Both central and local government, as well as many private individuals and Gallery supporters, contributed to the cost of purchasing the long-term lease on the building, which is a heritage asset owned by the Council. The Gallery has thrived in that location and has become a respected and important part of New Zealand's heritage and cultural community.

It enables audiences – free of charge - to see portraits of New Zealanders who, in all their diversity, have shaped our country's development or influenced the way we think about ourselves. Through portraiture, the Gallery offers perspectives on New Zealand, our history, creativity, and place in the world. The Gallery's premises are fully accessible.

The Gallery mounts some 8-10 exhibitions a year in Wellington and usually has half a dozen of its exhibitions touring to other museums and galleries throughout New Zealand. Its exhibitions are highly diverse and inclusive. In the past few years, we have presented portraits of many different communities in New Zealand, including tangata whenua, Pasifika, Chinese New Zealanders and refugees. The Gallery itself has only a small collection of portraits. Our exhibitions are largely made up of works borrowed from private individuals and other institutions, including Te Papa and the Alexander Turnbull Library. Through these key partnerships, we are able to show many works of national importance that would otherwise not be seen.

Since mid-2016 the Gallery has received a contract funding grant from the Wellington City Council which covers about 4% of its annual operating expenses. It provides invaluable assistance. Apart from this grant, the Gallery relies almost exclusively on donations from individuals and organisations to finance its ongoing work, and on the sponsorship of various trusts and foundations to meet its exhibition costs. This support, and that of the many volunteers, is crucial for the financial viability of the Gallery.

The economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has already affected the ability of some sponsors to assist us. The Council's Tipu Toa Covid Recovery Fund was a major tool in assisting the Gallery to launch the Kiingi Tuheitia Portraiture Award, an initiative to showcase the creativity of emerging Māori artists and build a platform to encourage visitation to the city during winter which is typically a slow season for tourism.

The Gallery's annual operational budget is around \$450,000. For most of the last five years we have had a budget deficit of between about \$40,000 and \$60,000. While we have diversified our revenue sources and pruned budgets to help defray costs, and operate with a small highly professional Director and staff, the gap between income and operating expenditure continues to hover around \$60,000 a year. This constrains our ability to enhance our programme and profile and grow the Gallery into the truly national museum of biography and portraiture that we aim to be.

## **Introduction**

Since the last LTP consultation the Council has made significant investment in developing the arts and cultural infrastructure in the city, to ensure there are venues and community facilities that are fit for purpose, eg strengthening the St James Theatre, opening the Waitohi Johnsonville Community Hub, erecting the temporary RNZB building and starting construction of Tākina. The new Matariki festival, Ahi Ka, and various ethnic festivals such as Chinese New Year (in which the Gallery has been an active participant) has also been major initiatives.

The Gallery has appreciated the increased engagement and support for its activities from the Council's arts and culture team, and WellingtonNZ, most notably in their promotion of the inaugural Kiingi Tuheitia Portraiture Award for emerging Māori artists which opens at the Gallery on 27 May 2021. This is a significant event which has drawn entries from all over New Zealand and is expected to become a biennial competition in odd numbered years, drawing audiences to Wellington from around the country before touring nationally. It will alternate with our established Adam Portraiture Award which has been running in even-numbered years for over 20 years.

## **Feedback on Priority Objectives**

The New Zealand Portrait Gallery Te Pūkenga Whakaata strongly supports the four community wellbeings that inform the Council's strategic direction underpinning its Long-term Plan, particularly the cultural outcome of "an innovative, inclusive and creative city that connects, collaborates, explores identities and openly expresses, preserves and enjoys arts, culture and heritage." This outcome resonates deeply with the Gallery's own mission. Prior to Covid-19, the Gallery attracted almost 40,000 visitors a year, and continues to play an important role in contributing to the city's reputation as a world-class arts locality that visitors, both from New Zealand and overseas, want to visit, and that locals want to participate in. While one third of our visitors typically from overseas, their presence has declined while the border remains closed. This situation is expected to improve gradually. The Portrait Gallery plays an important role in contributing to the city's reputation as a world-class arts locality that visitors, both from New Zealand and overseas, want to visit, and that locals want to participate in.

The New Zealand Portrait Gallery Te Pūkenga Whakaata strongly supports the four community wellbeings that inform the Council's strategic direction underpinning its Long-term Plan, particularly the cultural outcome of "an innovative, inclusive and creative city that connects, collaborates, explores identities and openly expresses, preserves and enjoys arts, culture and heritage." This outcome resonates deeply with the Gallery's own mission. Prior to Covid-19, the Gallery attracted almost 40,000 visitors a year, and continues to play an important role in contributing to the city's reputation as a world-class arts locality that visitors, both from New Zealand and overseas, want to visit, and that locals want to participate in. While one third of our visitors have typically been from overseas, their presence has declined while the border remains closed. This situation is expected to improve and has been partially offset by the increased numbers of visitors from elsewhere in New Zealand.

As residents of Wellington, we are all invested in Priority Objective 1, a resilient water infrastructure, and Priority Objective 5, a zero-carbon and waste-free transition.

Priority Objectives 2 and 3 – affordable, safe and resilient housing and public transport – are valuable to us not only as residents and, but also as creators who seek to reach diverse audiences. The arts can help connect communities, and artists themselves are embedded in communities through their homes

and workplaces. Accessibility of the arts has been identified as a focus area in *Aho Tini 2030* and safe and highly accessible public transport makes a major difference to the lives of our staff and participating artists as well as the ability of audiences to access the city's range of artistic and cultural offerings.

We strongly support the Council's Priority Objective 4 – resilient, fit-for-purpose, community, creative and cultural spaces. The Portrait Gallery contributes to this accessibility by being free, centrally located and providing approachable exhibitions and supporting activities for different groups. The Portrait Gallery also provides opportunities and employment for professional and emerging gallery staff, artists, interns and volunteers. We especially appreciate the Council's efficiency in seismically strengthening the Gallery premises at Shed 11 in 2012. This has enabled the Gallery to continue to grow and to thrive by offering a variety of attractions on the waterfront over the past decade. It has also allowed the Gallery to provide a small affordable venue for private and public functions outside of Gallery hours. The waterfront is the locus of many major cultural and other public events in the city and should be maintained as the jewel in Wellington's crown. The Gallery has been privileged to support the Council by organising or participating in many waterfront festivals and activities.

We also welcome Council's commitment in Priority Objective 6 - strong partnerships with mana whenua. This commitment is essential for delivering to Te Tiriti, and realising Council's vision of becoming bilingual by 2040. The Gallery actively contributes to this Priority Objective, most recently through its initiative in launching the Kiingi Tuheitia Portraiture Award as well as presenting the works of many Māori practitioners in its exhibitions.

#### **Feedback on Seven Big Decisions and decisions coming up in the future**

The Gallery supports the Council's efforts to invest in community infrastructure to support residents as the city grows. We encourage Council to ensure arts communities are consulted and engaged throughout the development of Council's spatial plan, which may lead to changes to the mix of community assets.

Strong engagement with the arts community will help activate Focus Area 3 of *Aho Tini 2030*, "Aho Whenua – Our city as a stage". The arts and creative sector can provide valuable direction and insight into creating facilities that have flair and are fit for purpose, as well as creating anchor sites in communities that speak to history, heritage and identity.

#### **Further feedback**

##### *Aho Tini 2030: Arts Culture + Creativity Strategy*

In terms of Aho Tini, the Gallery would urge that increased funding be approved to support delivery of the strategy. Static funding would result in less cultural activity being able to be supported and delivered, with nothing to offset the rising costs of living in Wellington and of producing and presenting arts and cultural activities for local and visiting audiences. In that connection, investments in digital screens and projectors should be a lower priority than ensuring the city's arts and cultural organisations are well funded to operate sustainably. Without sufficient baseline funding, many artists, collectives and public non-profit organisations like the Gallery will be unable to continue to function.



Respondent No: 1152

[Redacted]  
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[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Chris Watson
- 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)** 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 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 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)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

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**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 Atakura (climate change)  
Central Library

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

The climate emergency should be fully funded now and non-emergency items deferred. Copenhagen city is on target to be the first to zero (by 2025), so Wellington will have to be carbon zero by 2024 if it is to be first to zero. The fully funded proposals are ok, but they are too little too late. All dangerous council buildings MOB, CAB and library should be demolished and the land sold while it has some value - it will be flooded by rising sea level.

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

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

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

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**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

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Respondent No: 1177

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Linda Beatson
- 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** 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)** 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**

Cycleways

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

Support Option 4 to build a fully-connected network by 2031 - Without a full-connected network, Wellington will not realise the maximum number of people moving from private vehicles to bicycles. There is an opportunity cost here regarding the health of our community, if people who might bike decide not to because it is too dangerous. There is also associated benefits for carbon reduction, as emissions from transport form a large part of the overall total. Cycling is not completely without emissions, but they are far smaller than those generated by motorised vehicles. Prioritise children before seawalls. Completion of the Great Harbour Way has been prioritised over cycleways in the Northern suburbs. In my opinion, this is a missed opportunity - there are 2500 children attending Newlands College, Newlands Intermediate, and 4 primary schools. There is a high level of car dependency in this area, and safe cycleways utilised by school children would reduce the use of cars, congestions, emissions, and have associated health benefits. Double the Cycling Minor Works Budget to \$2 million per year The minor works budget can have a much larger impact on cycling in Wellington than it currently does. The works covered such as bike parking actually make Create a new dedicated funding category to deliver rapid changes to the urban environment - This should be focussed on the reallocation of street-space - eg reducing parking to allow for space for active modes of transport, creating parklets and low-traffic neighbourhoods. This is a strategy that has been proven to work overseas in cities such as London, New York and Paris, and is relatively fast, compared to the current situation of long lead times to deliver infrastructure. Ring-fence cycling funding. There is a concern that over the last several years, the cycling budget has not been fully spent. Although once in a while this might happen, it should not be happening consistently. Even more alarming, this money does not get carried over. The elephant or library in the room is that there is no funding for the repair of the library, but it is suggested that it can be funded from 'savings' from other projects. This provides an obvious and perverse incentive to not spend cycling money on cycling projects, and instead divert it to the library. This is not acceptable. Enabling an increase in cycling and active transport has multiple benefits for the city and the population, and the infrastructure needs to be of sufficient quality to get the 'want to bike, but it is too risky' segment of the population onto bikes. 'Saving' money by not spending the budget, leaving gaps in the network, or providing cheap solutions (painted lanes, sharrows) is loading up a cost to the city that is not affordable. The best cycling solutions can be funded by increasing the debt levels beyond the WCC self-imposed limits. This will give the city the best bang for ratepayers buck and provide the optimum uptake of cycling in the city. A significant commitment to building quality infrastructure will give the construction sector the confidence to invest in people and plant.

**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

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Respondent No: 1181

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Paul Watson
- 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?** Huetepara
- 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** 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)** Don't know.
- 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)** 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

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not answered

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

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not answered

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

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not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

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Neutral.

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

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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?

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not answered



Respondent No: 1191

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Susanna Broughton
- 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)** 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

Cycleways

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Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

The city is at a crossroads to move away from urban planning that facilitates heavy car traffic in the centre, towards a more liveable, healthier, climate friendly and enjoyable place to work and live. Investing in safe and extensive cycle ways would have a transformative effect, reducing traffic congestion and pollution. Such cycle ways would improve pedestrian experience too, as footpaths are currently being used for safe cycling and scooting. Getting people out of cars would solve the pressure to build more roads and tunnels as a mistaken solution to traffic. More roads have been proven to simply result in more traffic, let's see if the same applies to bikes!

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

not answered

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Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I somewhat support the proposed budget.

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

not answered

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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

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Respondent No: 1195

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Liam Prince
- 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?** Poo Breakfast Club
- 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 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**

Investment in three waters infrastructure  
Wastewater laterals  
Sludge and waste minimisation

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

We support the Council's decision to invest in a digester and thermal dryer to reduce the volume (and emissions) of sewage sludge going to landfill. We primarily support this proposal if it means the Southern Landfill extension will be reconsidered, and also for the opportunities it unlocks to accelerate waste minimisation activities. The consent requirements of mixing four parts general waste with one part sludge has been a huge roadblock for our city's waste minimisation goals, and we know there is a huge appetite to see action on this both within the waste sector and amongst the general public. We fully support the joint submission of local zero waste advocates on areas of focus for waste minimisation activities and the development of a zero waste strategy for the city. However, we do not believe that this particular piece of infrastructure is the ultimate solution for how we manage sewage and human waste. This system buys time for Wellington to get on with a zero waste plan, but in the longer term there are a number of drawbacks with this investment. In essence, this a 'bottom of the pipe' solution, in the sense that it simply tacks on an extra process to the end of a system which itself is highly problematic. The current network of pipes feeding a small number of centralised wastewater treatment facilities has become increasingly complex, costly and vulnerable. The most promising alternative systems we have encountered are decentralised, source separated approaches to sewage and wastewater (see references for further info). These are 'top of the pipe' or even better 'no-pipe' solutions and their application could fundamentally reshape how our city thinks about the sustainability and resilience of our sanitation systems. We recognise the current system needs to remain functional and to some extent be improved, but recommend that now is the time to invest in R&D, develop strategic plans and carry out feasibility studies for a more sustainable and resilient wastewater system. The 50 years 'bought' by the digester and thermal dryer is not a very long time to fundamentally reshape our city's wastewater infrastructure. If we don't start now, it will be too late. The most well-known and basic example of a decentralised, source-separated system is a waterless 'composting toilet'. While rudimentary composting toilets, consisting of a bucket with a toilet seat on top (to which straw and wood chips are added), are common, there is a lot of innovation happening in this area, and there are a range of different models and systems that can work for different circumstances, different populations, different levels of separation and processing of waste streams. There have been trials of composting toilets and other source-separated solutions for apartment blocks, university and school buildings, and even entire towns in parts of North America, Europe, China, Australia and elsewhere. However, this is also a very underexplored and understudied approach to managing human waste in an urban context and will need careful and thorough research, planning and testing before implementation. Key issues that decentralised, source-separated systems would address: Contamination: Mixing human waste with other sources of greywater results in a contaminated sludge. Contaminants include a range of toxic pollutants (heavy metals and other micropollutants) from industrial chemicals, paints, personal care/cosmetic products, and microplastics (which themselves attract and absorb other toxins to them). Many of these contaminants are extremely difficult if not impossible to remove. The Council has suggested that future 'reuse' of the sludge may be possible with the new hydrolysis and thermal dryer facility - which most likely would be treatment and application of biosolids to land. However, there are several alarming studies globally that have shown that microplastic contamination of soil resulting from biosolids being applied is a serious issue with unknown consequences. On the other hand, the purpose of source-separated sanitation is to keep human waste separate and therefore uncontaminated (aside from pharmaceuticals). For composting toilets, if they are managed and processed well the resulting compost can be applied to land safely. In fact, source-separation means the valuable nutrients within human excreta, including urine, can be used for fertilising and replenishing soils, rather than being made unusable by contamination with pollutants. Resilience: Sewage and sanitation systems have huge resilience issues. A large earthquake in Wellington would seriously compromise our primary sanitation system. Climate change will likely also create water insecurity, fundamentally impacting operation of the wastewater

network. Water consumption in our region is comparatively high relative to our population. With Wellington's projected population growth to 2050, meeting these same water needs poses substantial challenges and costs. Alongside other unsustainably high and wasteful uses of water, the current sewerage system is very water intensive and contaminates a large amount of potable water – and the pressure on this system is going to get worse in the coming years and decades. Composting toilets (which are sometimes called dry toilets) don't require water at all. This means they can function well in a disaster scenario where water infrastructure is damaged, and would help preserve water for essential use in both emergencies and in times of water scarcity. The successful emergency composting toilet trial conducted by WREMO in 2012/2013 proved the viability of even a very basic composting toilet system in Wellington. Cost: The current centralised sewage treatment proposal is expensive in itself and does not address the ongoing and increasing costs of maintaining, repairing and replacing pipes and other aspects of the current sewerage infrastructure over the long term – even without an earthquake scenario complicating things. In fact, the current proposals have the potential to create a lock-in effect that binds us to this problematic system of sanitation. On the other hand, basic composting toilet systems can be extremely cheap, easy to set up and maintain. While overall costs in a medium- to long-term transitional period would likely be high because of the need for investment in two systems, the alternative model could take the pressure off the existing sewerage system with sufficient uptake over time. Key barriers to implementing source-separated sanitation: Given the range of emerging technologies for decentralised, source-separated management of human waste, there are many unknown barriers and issues that will need to be worked through. Specifically for composting toilets, there are three key barriers to making them a practical solution for urban sanitation in Aotearoa New Zealand: - The Building Code requires connection to water mains. This doesn't necessarily prevent composting toilets to be used as a secondary toilet, but will have implications for new developments. - Genuine public health concerns with composting toilet usage that health authorities are hesitant about, such as ensuring that disease causing pathogens are eliminated during the composting process, and how and where to dispose of the compost (e.g. on site or collection and processing at an offsite facility). The entire process from toilet to soil needs to be well managed and monitored to ensure it is safe. - Overcoming public perception that composting toilets are dirty, smelly and unhygienic. On top of this, while Greater Wellington Regional Council permits composting toilets in general (provided certain criteria are met), it requires the effluent stay on the property where the toilet is located. This adds an additional barrier to the possibility of collection and offsite processing. For some iwi and hapū, disposing of human waste to land may be preferable to disposing of it in water. However, the tikanga of such systems will still need to be worked through to ensure any alternative system is acceptable to mana whenua. Appropriate end uses for humanure must also be guided by tikanga. There are examples of successful composting toilet systems to learn from in rural parts of NZ (Camp Glenorchy, Jester House, Okere Falls Store and countless private residences, as well as some festivals, such as Splore) and around the world – and they have been shown to work very well if managed correctly at a small scale. Compost toilets have also been implemented successfully in developing countries where wastewater infrastructure is very limited or non-existent. There have only been a handful of trials in urban areas of developed countries with mixed success, so the experience and knowledge is limited. Sustainable Coastlines HQ building in Central Auckland, known as the Flagship, has composting toilets and would be an interesting case study to investigate. Some of the members of our PBC are very keen to support the development of a pilot project trialling source-separated systems including composting toilets in urban areas in Wellington. The first step would likely be a feasibility study to look into the barriers we've just mentioned and find the safest and most workable solutions. There is also rapidly increasing interest in and studies being conducted on these systems globally from the perspective of eventually creating an urban sanitation infrastructure that is environmentally beneficial as opposed to harmful, highly resilient in times of disaster, responds to water scarcity, and also more economical and simpler to run and maintain alongside other waste reduction activities in the community. To summarise, we support the Council's proposal to address Wellington's current sludge to landfill problem, provided it is tied to a commitment not to extend the Southern Landfill, and provided that it is understood as a temporary solution that buys us time to investigate, develop and implement a more sustainable solution for managing human waste and biosolids. Our concern with the current proposals is that they are presented as a standalone solution and there is no indication that Council is grasping this opportunity to rethink the current sanitation and sewerage system. As we have outlined in this submission, there is a lot of mahi that needs to be done to be in a position where we can adopt a decentralised, source-separated sanitation system and this mahi needs to be properly prioritised and funded or it will never happen. Again, we recognise the urgency of dealing with the sludge problem that is upon us, but urge council to at least start to consider the need for source separation and decentralised sewerage systems like composting toilets that can be developed, trialled and implemented alongside the current proposal, and allocate funding accordingly. It's a long term view, but we think we've got to start somewhere. Poo

Breakfast Club contributing members: Liam Prince Martin Payne Kate Walmsley Hannah Blumhardt Alison Forrest Michelle Laurenson  
References and further reading: Chirjiv K. Anand and Defne S. Apul (2014). 'Composting toilets as a sustainable alternative to urban sanitation – A review.' Waste Management, Vol. 34(2), pp. 329-343. Retrieved from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0956053X13004923?via%3Dihub>  
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**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/000710ad9461ba0e8fcd7304c53790e9d16f8adf/original/1620642680/9a4d502f7356860f107ff4507d863d67\\_Poo\\_Breakfast\\_Club\\_bio.pdf?1620642680](https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/000710ad9461ba0e8fcd7304c53790e9d16f8adf/original/1620642680/9a4d502f7356860f107ff4507d863d67_Poo_Breakfast_Club_bio.pdf?1620642680)

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

I somewhat support the proposed budget.

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

not answered

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**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

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## **Poo Breakfast Club submission to Wellington City Council Long-term Plan 2021-2031**

We support the Council's decision to invest in a digester and thermal dryer to reduce the volume (and emissions) of sewage sludge going to landfill. We primarily support this proposal if it means the Southern Landfill extension will be reconsidered, and also for the opportunities it unlocks to accelerate waste minimisation activities. The consent requirements of mixing four parts general waste with one part sludge has been a huge roadblock for our city's waste minimisation goals, and we know there is a huge appetite to see action on this both within the waste sector and amongst the general public. We fully support the joint submission of local zero waste advocates on areas of focus for waste minimisation activities and the development of a zero waste strategy for the city.

However, we do not believe that this particular piece of infrastructure is the ultimate solution for how we manage sewage and human waste. This system buys time for Wellington to get on with a zero waste plan, but in the longer term there are a number of drawbacks with this investment. In essence, this a 'bottom of the pipe' solution, in the sense that it simply tacks on an extra process to the end of a system which itself is highly problematic. The current network of pipes feeding a small number of centralised wastewater treatment facilities has become increasingly complex, costly and vulnerable.

The most promising alternative systems we have encountered are **decentralised, source separated approaches to sewage and wastewater** (see references for further info). These are 'top of the pipe' or even better 'no-pipe' solutions and their application could fundamentally reshape how our city thinks about the sustainability and resilience of our sanitation systems. We recognise the current system needs to remain functional and to some extent be improved, but recommend that now is the time to invest in R&D, develop strategic plans and carry out feasibility studies for a more sustainable and resilient wastewater system. The 50 years 'bought' by the digester and thermal dryer is not a very long time to fundamentally reshape our city's wastewater infrastructure. If we don't start now, it will be too late.

The most well-known and basic example of a decentralised, source-separated system is a waterless 'composting toilet'. While rudimentary composting toilets, consisting of a bucket with a toilet seat on top (to which straw and wood chips are added), are common, there is a lot of innovation happening in this area, and there are a range of different models and systems that can work for different circumstances, different populations, different levels of separation and processing of waste streams. There have been trials of composting toilets and other source-separated solutions for apartment blocks, university and school buildings, and even entire towns in parts of North America, Europe, China, Australia and elsewhere. However, this is also a very underexplored and understudied approach to managing human waste in an urban context and will need careful and thorough research, planning and testing before implementation.

### **Key issues that decentralised, source-separated systems would address**

**Contamination:** Mixing human waste with other sources of greywater results in a contaminated sludge. Contaminants include a range of toxic pollutants (heavy metals and other micropollutants) from industrial chemicals, paints, personal care/cosmetic products,

and microplastics (which themselves attract and absorb other toxins to them). Many of these contaminants are extremely difficult if not impossible to remove. The Council has suggested that future 'reuse' of the sludge may be possible with the new hydrolysis and thermal dryer facility - which most likely would be treatment and application of biosolids to land. However, there are several alarming studies globally that have shown that microplastic contamination of soil resulting from biosolids being applied is a serious issue with unknown consequences.

On the other hand, the purpose of source-separated sanitation is to **keep human waste separate** and therefore uncontaminated (aside from pharmaceuticals). For composting toilets, if they are managed and processed well the resulting compost can be applied to land safely. In fact, source-separation means the valuable nutrients within human excreta, including urine, can be used for fertilising and replenishing soils, rather than being made unusable by contamination with pollutants.

**Resilience:** Sewage and sanitation systems have huge resilience issues. A large earthquake in Wellington would seriously compromise our primary sanitation system. Climate change will likely also create water insecurity, fundamentally impacting operation of the wastewater network.

Water consumption in our region is comparatively high relative to our population. With Wellington's projected population growth to 2050, meeting these same water needs poses substantial challenges and costs. Alongside other unsustainably high and wasteful uses of water, the current sewerage system is very water intensive and contaminates a large amount of potable water – and the pressure on this system is going to get worse in the coming years and decades.

Composting toilets – which are sometimes called dry toilets – don't require water at all. This means they can function well in a disaster scenario where water infrastructure is damaged, and would help preserve water for essential use in both emergencies and in times of water scarcity. The successful emergency composting toilet trial conducted by WREMO in 2012/2013 proved the viability of even a very basic composting toilet system in Wellington.

**Cost:** The current centralised sewage treatment proposal is expensive in itself and does not address the ongoing and increasing costs of maintaining, repairing and replacing pipes and other aspects of the current sewerage infrastructure over the long term – even without an earthquake scenario complicating things. In fact, the current proposals have the potential to create a lock-in effect that binds us to this problematic system of sanitation. On the other hand, basic composting toilet systems can be extremely cheap, easy to set up and maintain. While overall costs in a medium- to long-term transitional period would likely be high because of the need for investment in two systems, the alternative model could take the pressure off the existing sewerage system with sufficient uptake over time.

### **Key barriers to implementing source-separated sanitation**

Given the range of emerging technologies for decentralised, source-separated management of human waste, there are many unknown barriers and issues that will need to be worked through. Specifically for composting toilets, there are three key barriers to making them a practical solution for urban sanitation in Aotearoa New Zealand.

- The Building Code requires connection to water mains. This doesn't necessarily prevent composting toilets to be used as a secondary toilet, but will have implications for new developments.
- Genuine public health concerns with composting toilet usage that health authorities are hesitant about, such as ensuring that disease causing pathogens are eliminated during the composting process, and how and where to dispose of the compost (e.g. on site or collection and processing at an offsite facility). The entire process from toilet to soil needs to be well managed and monitored to ensure it is safe.
- Overcoming public perception that composting toilets are dirty, smelly and unhygienic.

On top of this, while Greater Wellington Regional Council permits composting toilets in general (provided certain criteria are met), it requires the effluent stay on the property where the toilet is located. This adds an additional barrier to the possibility of collection and offsite processing.

For some iwi and hapū, disposing of human waste to land may be preferable to disposing of it in water. However, the tikanga of such systems will still need to be worked through to ensure any alternative system is acceptable to mana whenua. Appropriate end uses for humanure must also be guided by tikanga.

There are examples of successful composting toilet systems to learn from in rural parts of NZ (Camp Glenorchy, Jester House, Okere Falls Store and countless private residences, as well as some festivals, such as Splore) and around the world – and they have been shown to work very well if managed correctly at a small scale. Compost toilets have also been implemented successfully in developing countries where wastewater infrastructure is very limited or non-existent. There have only been a handful of trials in urban areas of developed countries with mixed success, so the experience and knowledge is limited. Sustainable Coastlines HQ building in Central Auckland, known as the Flagship, has composting toilets and would be an interesting case study to investigate.

Some of the members of our PBC are very keen to support the development of a pilot project trialling source-separated systems including composting toilets in urban areas in Wellington. The first step would likely be a feasibility study to look into the barriers we've just mentioned and find the safest and most workable solutions. There is also rapidly increasing interest in and studies being conducted on these systems globally from the perspective of eventually creating an urban sanitation infrastructure that is environmentally beneficial as opposed to harmful, highly resilient in times of disaster, responds to water scarcity, and also more economical and simpler to run and maintain alongside other waste reduction activities in the community.

To summarise, we support the Council's proposal to address Wellington's current sludge to landfill problem, provided it is tied to a commitment not to extend the Southern Landfill, and provided that it is understood as a temporary solution that buys us time to investigate, develop and implement a more sustainable solution for managing human waste and biosolids.

Our concern with the current proposals is that they are presented as a standalone solution and there is no indication that Council is grasping this opportunity to rethink the current

sanitation and sewerage system. As we have outlined in this submission, there is a lot of mahi that needs to be done to be in a position where we can adopt a decentralised, source-separated sanitation system and this mahi needs to be properly prioritised and funded or it will never happen. Again, we recognise the urgency of dealing with the sludge problem that is upon us, but urge council to at least start to consider the need for source separation and decentralised sewerage systems like composting toilets that can be developed, trialled and implemented alongside the current proposal, and allocate funding accordingly. It's a long term view, but we think we've got to start somewhere.

**Poo Breakfast Club contributing members:**

Liam Prince  
Martin Payne  
Kate Walmsley  
Hannah Blumhardt  
Alison Forrest  
Michelle Laurenson

**References and further reading:**

Chirjiv K. Anand and Defne S. Apul (2014). 'Composting toilets as a sustainable alternative to urban sanitation – A review.' *Waste Management*, Vol. 34(2), pp. 329-343. Retrieved from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0956053X13004923?via%3Dihub>

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Wellington Regional Emergency Management Office (WREMO) (March 2013). 'Report on a trial of emergency composting toilets.' Retrieved from: <https://www.wremo.nz/about-us/initiatives/toilet-trial/>

Craig Pauling and Jamie Ataria (2010). *Tiaki Para: A Study of Ngāi Tahu Values and Issues Regarding Waste*. Landcare Research Science Series No. 39. Manaaki Whenua Press. Retrieved from: [http://www.mwpress.co.nz/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0016/70513/LRSS\\_39\\_Tiaki\\_Para.pdf](http://www.mwpress.co.nz/data/assets/pdf_file/0016/70513/LRSS_39_Tiaki_Para.pdf)

The Poo Breakfast Club is a diverse group of individuals who have been meeting since late winter 2020 to discuss the future of Wellington's sewage management. Our initial purpose was to discuss and devise solutions to prevent sewage from being sent to the Southern Landfill in order to halt the landfill extension and enable progress on the city's waste minimisation goals. Now that the Council is likely to build the hydrolysis and thermal dryer facility, we have shifted our focus also to consider how to build a more environmentally sustainable and resilient wastewater system.

Our members include community and residents advocates, engineers, waste minimisation consultants, professional composters, public servants and more.



Respondent No: 1196

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Warren Taylor
- 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** 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)** 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)** 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**

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)**

Please see my attached written submission.

**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/753e900fd64dde1d3765e6e4f7e149c7c9d0ab6a/original/1620643066/140d57311eabdc507a7ffebb275947b\\_Submission\\_on\\_the\\_Council's\\_10\\_Year\\_Plan\\_for\\_2021-31.docx?1620643066](https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/753e900fd64dde1d3765e6e4f7e149c7c9d0ab6a/original/1620643066/140d57311eabdc507a7ffebb275947b_Submission_on_the_Council's_10_Year_Plan_for_2021-31.docx?1620643066)

**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?**

As well as providing comments on the Seven Big Decisions for the 10 Year Plan I have also provided comments on the City Housing Financial Sustainability issue.

10 May 2021

Councillors,  
Wellington City Council  
P O Box 2199  
Wellington

## **Submission on the Council's 10 Year Plan for 2021-31**

### **Overview**

The Council's Long Term Plan indicates that it has number of very large expensive issues in front of it. From a financial viewpoint, the Council's Plan shows a high level of financial over commitment and is not well phased to minimize financial impact on the ratepayer. The result is a massive rise in rates for annual ratepayers for 2020/21 (an average increase of 13.5%) as well as a high level of rate increases over the next 9 years.

The 10 Year Plan contains no information about cost savings that the Council has saved or will save from the preparation of the 10 Year Plan. The overall look is that of a plan that is cost plus and no cost savings. There is no indication that there has been a zero-based line by line review of each Council manager's operating expense and capital expenditure budgets looking for cost savings that would reduce the rise in rates for the city's ratepayers.

My comments on the eight big decisions in the Long Term Plan place a focus on how to try and reduce the rates rise for ratepayers.

### **1. Investment in Three Waters Infrastructure**

I don't support any of the options put forward by the Council at this stage. My reason for taking this view is that the Council has based its expenditure decisions, according to the Auditor General's qualified audit opinion, on the age of the pipes rather than the condition of the pipes. The potential here for the Council to incur deadweight costs (expenditure of no value to the ratepayer because an aged pipe may be in good condition and not need replacing) could be very significant. There is potential here to avoid significant unnecessary expenditure in the planned \$2.4 billion programme under Option 2. Obviously, this could have consequential benefits to ratepayers in reducing the level of rate rises over the next 10 years.

As an alternative way of progressing the Three Waters Infrastructure improvement programme, I suggest the following:

- a) There needs to be a common understanding within the Council (i.e. between councillors, management and staff) that Three Waters Infrastructure work is **core** infrastructure work. I note that nowhere in the 10 Year Plan is the Three Waters Infrastructure work described as **core** infrastructure work. Nowhere!! What this means in practice is that the budgets for maintaining, replacing and upgrading this critical core infrastructure should not be seen as optional budgets that can be cut

and replaced by nice to have initiatives that are neither critical nor core requirements.

- b) Wellington Waters, as a regional company, has been responsible for Three Waters Infrastructure since 2014. It is very surprising that, in all that time since 2014, they do not seem to have carried out asset condition monitoring for its pipe network.
- c) In best practice organisations, budgets for maintaining, replacing and upgrading assets are based on information on each asset's condition from an asset condition monitoring system. That information is then used to prioritize work from the most urgent to the least urgent to form the work programme for each asset. With the information currently held by Wellington Waters and the Council, it is planning its pipe network asset management work programme using an information vacuum.
- d) The need for an asset condition monitoring system to store up to date timely information about the state of Wellington's pipe network on an ongoing basis should be the top priority for the Council to manage successfully its Three Waters Infrastructure pipe network.
- e) The second priority is to carry out monitoring reviews of pipes in Wellington's pipe network that are considered to be at high risk of failing and getting a comfort level, or otherwise, as to the condition of those pipes. Budget requirements for annual business plans and other plans, such as the 10 Year Plan, should follow from those condition assessments of those pipes.
- f) Given that Wellington's Three Waters Infrastructure is core infrastructure for the city I believe this critical part of Wellington's core infrastructure should not be serviced by Wellington Waters going forward. The latter organization does not provide the necessary confidence that they are completely on top of servicing this critical piece of the city's core infrastructure.
- g) Instead, I consider the Council should move its Three Waters Infrastructure function from Wellington Waters to an in-house operation. That in-house operation would be led by a team of dedicated engineers who would carry out the monitoring and planning for the city's Three Water Infrastructure work programmes. This would ensure that the Three Waters Infrastructure was treated by the Council as critical and core work for the city. It would massively improve the focus on the city's pipe network and also help to improve the Council's institutional knowledge about this critical infrastructure for the city. Also, accountability and control should be much stronger under this organizational arrangement.
- h) I note that there will be a requirement for a very high level of integrated planning between the plans for the city's Three Waters Infrastructure and its Draft Spatial Plan.

- i) For the reasons set out above under f), g) and h) above, I believe the Council should opt out of the Government's planned new water service delivery vehicle if one is offered for the Wellington region.
- j) When the Council's Draft Spatial Plan is finalized it should ensure that its Three Waters Infrastructure work programmes and budgets are allocated to those areas, throughout the city, that the Council has earmarked to absorb the city's population growth. It is fundamental that those population growth areas have an adequate, safe, continuous, reliable and resilient Three Waters Infrastructure pipe network.

## **2. Wastewater Laterals**

The Council's preferred option (Option 2 – Take Ownership) is supported. Although it is not a priority item, it has a small effect on the rates increase for ratepayers.

## **3. Cycleways**

The Council's Draft Spatial Plan envisages that in the areas that are earmarked to absorb the city's population growth there will be limited car parking facilities for residents living in new high density accommodation buildings. There is a disconnect in the 10 Year Plan between the provision of cycleways and those areas that are earmarked to absorb the city's population growth. For example, in the 10 Year Plan Johnsonville is earmarked for cycleways somewhere between Years 3 and 10 and yet under the Draft Spatial Plan it is earmarked for immediate considerable population growth via high density accommodation buildings. This planning is not congruent.

**NONE** of the above comments should be misconstrued as support for the Draft Spatial Plan's intentions regarding high density accommodation buildings for Johnsonville.

In summary then, I completely support safe cycleways for cyclists but consider the cycleway options need re-visiting by the Council to better connect population growth areas with new cycleways.

## **4. Climate Change**

I support the thrust of Option 1 (Low Level of Funding) but have doubts about the wisdom of replacing all of the Council's vehicle fleet with EV vehicles. I am surprised that replacement with hybrid vehicles was not an option presented with the other options in the 10 Year Plan.

Hybrid vehicles can deliver around 40% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions relative to non-hybrid vehicles and so this reduction is significant. The purchase cost of a hybrid vehicle is noticeably cheaper than an EV vehicle. Hybrid vehicles don't have the battery/charging issues associated with EV vehicles.

I think a better and cheaper option for ratepayers over the next 5 years is to replace the Council's vehicle fleet with hybrid vehicles. This would give the Council the time to see if EV

vehicle costs get lower and to see if the battery charging technology improves considerably as it needs to do so.

The hybrid vehicle option would require less capital expenditure than the EV vehicle option and therefore is cheaper, from that perspective, for ratepayers.

#### **5. Te Ngakau Civic Precinct – Council Office Buildings**

I support the Council's preferred option (Option 1 – Demolish and site developed through a long term ground lease) because it's effect on rates and the ratepayer is minimal assuming the future lease cost assumptions are correct.

#### **6. Central Library**

I do not support the Council's preferred option (Option 1 – Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding the debt limit).

I cannot understand why the Council, at a time when it is severely challenged from a financial perspective, favoured a strengthening proposal for the Central Library at just below \$200 million over a new library which was originally estimated to cost only \$120 million. I understand the cost of the new, fabulous library in Christchurch was only \$120 million and I note that Christchurch, population wise, is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest city in New Zealand. It seems that the city's ratepayers are going to have to pay a completely unnecessary and avoidable extra cost of around \$60 million in order to preserve some architectural heritage associated with the existing Central Library.

This is the sort of financial largess in the 10 Year Plan that should be removed from the plan with a consequential reduction in the rates rises planned for ratepayers.

#### **7. Sludge and Waste Minimization**

I support the Council's preferred option (Option 4 – Sludge minimization through alternate funding). The problem this programme is trying to address appears to be better understood than some of the huge funding requirements set out under the Council's Three Waters Infrastructure programme.

In relation to the \$70 to \$100 per residential ratepayer, I assume that this rate of repayment is linked to the life of the asset and not to the term of the loan. If it is not, it should be.

I note that a \$100 payment per residential ratepayer paying rates of \$3,900 per annum (on a property with a capital value of \$900,000) represents a 2.56% increase in rates for this single line item alone.

#### **8. City Housing Financial Sustainability**

This area is clearly a financial mess with financial operating deficits forecast and insolvency forecast from June 2023 for City Housing.

It is crystal clear that the Deed of Grant that the Council signed with Central Government in 2007 did not have enough financial safeguards in it to protect the ratepayer from having to fund the function of Wellington Council being a social housing provider. Going forward this will not be fair on Wellington ratepayers. This is because the Wellington ratepayer will have to pay twice to provide social housing: once as a taxpayer, and then again as a Wellington ratepayer.

I understand the Auckland City Council, the largest city council in New Zealand, has exited the social housing provider function.

The Wellington City Council should either:

- a) Exit the Deed of Grant, unilaterally if necessary, or
- b) Renegotiate the Deed of Grant so that the Wellington ratepayer is protected from having to finance the social housing provider function.

### **Conclusion**

The Wellington City Council needs to, on behalf of it's ratepayers, severely prune the expenditure levels set out in this plan as per advice set out above. At the very least the Council should provide a report to all ratepayers on the significant reductions in expenditure levels following feedback received from the submissions on it's 10 Year Plan.

Your sincerely,

Warren Taylor



Respondent No: 1198

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Ross Murdoch
- 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)** 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)** None of these options.
- 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)** Option 1. No change in current practice (no change to investment, rates or debt).

**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)  
Central Library  
Te Ngākau funding for future work

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

Investment in three waters infrastructure: There is something fundamentally wrong with your accounting. You have stated that the replacement value (NOT the depreciated accounting value) is \$3.9bn. The small range of options you propose are between \$2.0 and \$3.3bn. This means you propose replacing between 51% and 85% of the network assets over 10 years. The average life of the assets should be at least 50 years (components such as pumps would be less, and pipes and civil structures far more). A very rough guess for a 10 year plan would be to replace 20% because average life is 50 years, another 20% because of your decades of neglect, and another say 10% for growth over 10 years. That comes to 50%, or \$1.95bn. You described \$2bn as a "maintain investment" option as if it is what you are currently doing. It is clear and I support a proper assessment of the existing network, by someone external with expertise, however this must include asset valuations as well as condition. Any significant work (excluding clearly required replacement projects) should be deferred until a proper assessment is available. There is also a major issue with forecasting demand to be used as a basis for planning. The Spatial Plan and related District Plan will lead to substantial increases in demand in the central city and potential localised increases in all of the areas designated for high rise. This demand must be catered for but there is no information yet on what it will be. Cycleways: There are many problems with the cycleway development programme. Fundamentally it is driven by ideologies and not by a real assessment of potential demand and economic value. It is far too high a level of expenditure with little to no return, exacerbated by the poor to desperate financial position the LTP imposes on residents. The track record to date in providing working routes has been very poor. I don't just mean Island Bay, as a cyclist myself based in the northern suburbs cycleways such as Thorndon Quay and central Johnsonville are dangerous and not fit for purpose. The geography and current layout of Wellington makes it unsuitable for dedicated cycleways in all except a few special cases. A different approach is needed, based on expecting cyclists to share the road and making lanes wider and shared central space available for cars overtaking. Climate Change: Again there is a high level of ideology driving this programme, ignoring both financial and scientific issues. There are substantial scientific issues over the details of the real impacts of climate change (not helped by the consistent failure of IPCC projections, largely ignored or denigrated in mainstream media, but that is no excuse for you to spend our money based on populism rather than science). There is also no reason WCC should try to lead the country, that is the job of the government. Why should you spend taxpayer's money introducing or subsidising electric cars, planting more pine trees, imposing more costs on businesses, or other proposed actions, when you are in such a desperate financial situation? You should be strictly limited to projects to mitigate real identified impacts, not "future scenarios" and not ideological concepts. (A simple example: what is the REAL data for sea level rise since 1990?) Central Library: We simply cannot afford this development at present. There are much higher priorities, and the LTP is already well beyond a realistic budget. You need to back out, spend some money improving existing facilities, and incorporate the library into the Civic Square proposals (see below). Another good option would be to convert half or all of the convention centre into the library, as most people know it will not be viable as a convention centre. Te Ngākau funding for future work: Again the reality is that we cannot afford any development at present. There is also an issue that the existing square is just a collection of big buildings, with few resources for people. I strongly support the "sell to support development" option. Developers would see the obvious potential for small scale retail at ground floor level, with apartments and maybe some offices at higher levels. Leave the problem of dealing with existing buildings to them.

**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.

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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.

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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 fundamental problem with the LTP is the lack of financial realism. The resulting budget is far too high a cost for the city. The substantial rates and borrowing increases will cause a lot of hardship within the community, and will substantially impact economic activity. There are also very large upside risks in the current plan, particularly items in the plan but not costed (unknown 3-waters scope, LGWM, social housing, etc), risk of interest rate increases, and risk of capital project overruns. The plan is simply not realistic or sustainable. At the start of the LTP Consultation Document the Council set out its Long Term Strategic Goals, followed by its six priority objectives to focus on in the next three years. I thought these were pretty awful, stacked with buzzwords and promoting the Council's Spatial Plan and other programmes, but haven't commented in detail because such goals are normally there to look good and not relevant to actual plans. However I would like to stress that there is nothing such as carrying out your core functions in the most cost effective manner feasible, balancing the costs of any new developments against the benefits, limiting rates to the minimum necessary, or maintaining a long term sustainable financial position. Surely these should be included, if not at the top. There is a basic problem that there has been a long term trend for WCC (and many other councils) to continuously expand your field of activities. You also look for new sources of revenue and increase borrowing, rather than address operational efficiency. You need to get back to basics, reassess your core functions, and concentrate on managing the core functions efficiently. You need to get rid of the idea of trying to create a city and a population in your idealised image, because it is up to individuals and not you to decide what people most value and also because you are particularly bad at it. I recommend starting again with a substantial review of the Council's current and proposed activities, and developing a plan with capital and operational expenditure forecasts which are far more financially responsible. Even better, get Government and external organisations to help and drive the process.

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Respondent No: 1206

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Stephen Minto
- 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** Morning
- 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 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)** 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**

Investment in three waters infrastructure  
Central Library  
Te Ngākau funding for future work

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

1 - waters -- There are two many unknowns to back the increase in spending on water infrastructure. - why did so many previous councils, and Mayors especially, underinvest and get away with it. An investigation needs to be done on who said or promised what previously. If they promised and didn't do their failings should be a hall of shame to help prevent a repetition. The current blanket - they all did it - is simply lazy and not fully accurate. Some lied more than others. Steps need to taken to investigate how to make councillors accountable in the present time for campaign promises. Central Library - earthquake strengthening will damage the vibe of the library with the removal of the slender columns as they will have to be quadrupled or more in size to be safe. The impact on the sense of space in the building will be huge. Surely we need to go through the process of showing what any strengthened building will actually look like inside versus alternative options of what it could look like inside or alternative designs altogether. You seem to have put the cart before the horse and asked people what to do about the library and they said they wanted their library back. But the reality is strengthening will change the dynamic of the building so people think they are getting their library back but they won't. Go through a more thorough consultation process showing what possible options will look like. Call for plans and models and put the strengthened option up against those other options. Te Ngakau - Redevelopment of civic square after demolition. The concept of selling the land and lease back is imposing a long term cost on wellington rates payers. The demolition concept is a completely separate issue to how to fund the development. It should not be presented to the public within one option . This approach is misleading and deceptive to ratepayers and looks politically motivated or at worse still - corrupt as somebody is lined up to purchase. This

**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?**

There needs to be rates increases on businesses. The changes back in the 90's to shift the rates burden onto residential ratepayers gave the wrong incentive to business to just sit on their land and not use it wisely and go up. The massive increase in desire for accomodation is being held back by the semi-industrial areas being very happy to hold land as single or double story buildings with open car park spaces around them. The large carparks on Te Are flats at the back of victoria street are a poor and negative use of land. High rates would drive these owners to build up to get a bigger return on the land they hold. High rise carparks may come back but more importantly buildings for people should. Rates on business are too low and this holding Wellington back from a people centred future.



Respondent No: 1212

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Q1. **Full name:** Andrew Lensen
- 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 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)** None of these options.
- 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)  
Sludge and waste minimisation

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

Water infrastructure needs to be urgently decentralised as part of building a green and resilient city. Having one fully connected water and sewage network, especially when our pipes are so poorly maintained, is archaic and unsustainable. Water should be collected per community, from rainwater, and shared across small neighbourhoods. Wastewater should be dealt with through the use of composting toilets and drainage fields which utilise wetlands and provide for significant biodiversity. Piped streams should be brought back above the ground throughout the city, to provide for our native flora and fauna and to improve mental health and further link nature with urbanism. I agree that we may need to demolish the council office buildings, but I strongly disagree with the idea of the council leasing new buildings from a private company. Public assets should be owned by the public - even if it means a rate overrun or need for central government loans/assistance in the short-to-medium term. We must own our own buildings! There are too many examples of leases going wrong and/or governments losing significant money over the long term to capitalistic 1-percenters. Cycleways, among other forms of active transport, must be urgently prioritised. No road funding for new or improved roads can be justified, as the literature shows this directly increases our emissions, congestion, and decreases our physical and mental wellbeing. Driving should become a rare occurrence (in exceptional circumstances), with active and public transport allowing us to move around a clean and safe city. You must go beyond Option 4, and approve mass construction of separated cycleways and pedestrian walkways, while significantly decreasing the number of lanes and roads. Cities are for people - not cars!

**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

## Submission #: 1504

**From:**

[Councillor Diane Calvert](#)



**Date:**

07 May 2021 16:39:29

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FYI re oral submission request

**From:** Athol Swann [mailto:athol.swann@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Friday, 7 May 2021 4:37 PM

**To:** Mayor Andy Foster; Fleur.Fitzsimmons@wcc.govt.nz; Councillor Laurie Foon; Councillor Jenny Condie; malcolm.sparrow@wcc.govt.nz; Deputy Mayor Sarah Free; Councillor Sean Rush; Councillor Teri O'Neill; Councillor Iona Pannett; Councillor Nicola Young; Councillor Tamatha Paul; Councillor Diane Calvert; Councillor Rebecca Matthews

**Subject:** Increasing Car Parking Fees

Dear Mayor and councillors, like so many concert, theatre, public meetings, ie Probus, U3A, ESU that I attend everyone is very upset about the plan to increase parking fees and can imagine the retailers are also very concerned about this as there will be a reduction in shoppers from Hutt Valley, Tawa, Petone, etc.

I would like to attend the council meeting and would like to be advised when it will be.

Yours sincerely

Pauline Swann

## Submission #: 1516

Glenside Progressive Association  
c/- 1 Westchester Drive  
GLENSIDE 6037

M 022 186 5714

E [info@glenside.org.nz](mailto:info@glenside.org.nz)

10 May 2021

### Submission Long Term Plan

This submission is on behalf of an organisation, the Glenside Progressive Association Inc (GPA). We wish to speak to Councillors at an Oral Hearing. We are available to speak in the morning.

Our submission just focuses on walking and cycling along Middleton Road between Glenside and Takapu Railway Station.

We have been in consultation with Council for 20 years now about suitable walking access on this stretch of road and have made no progress so far. We believe the delays are due to the exorbitant cost, which is based on an over-engineered proposal dating back many years.

#### Our key requests:

- a) The prime aim should be to reduce car traffic by providing convenient walking and cycling access to Takapu Station.
- b) Walkers need to be considered equally to cyclists. Please make it clear in communications that the Middleton Road cycling proposal is also for the walking community otherwise the voice of the walker is excluded.
- c) Road-separated cycling options are all too expensive and alternative options must be considered.
- d) Less engineered, less expensive options that benefit the walker and recreational cyclist should be considered to keep the cost down. Similar examples are beside Te Marua SH, the walkway beside the railway in Pukerua Bay village, and Pauatahanui SH inlet off-road route.

#### Comments in support of key requests:

- The cycle programme of work at [www.transportprojects.org.nz](http://www.transportprojects.org.nz) which appears to exclude walkers, is that non-vehicular access between Glenside and Takapu (Churton Park and Tawa) is a 'missing' link in the work programme. This missing link should be progressed early.
- However, this cycling option in the Long Term Plan is ranked as the third most expensive item at \$12.4m (e-mail to GPA from WCC in March 2021).
- Current cycling traffic counts in the Glenside gorge are around 125 during the day and 145 during the weekend. Refer <https://www.transportprojects.org.nz/cycle-data/#showdata/electronic/100047075/2020-08-01>
- Cycling network linkages and recreational opportunities are both important but – if 125 cyclists use the route per day now and Council provides for 250 per day in future, the maximum capital spend this would justify is about \$7 million unless there are other significant benefits. (This calculation provides for a \$1.00 subsidy / km for each cyclist using the cycleway with a 25 year payback period and is not discounted.)
- A revised and revisited programme of works, inclusive of walkers, might reduce this cost significantly and enable earlier progression and benefits.

**Claire Bibby** for *Glenside Progressive Association Inc.*

10 May 2021

Wellington City Council  
Via email: ltp@wcc.govt.nz

## SUBMISSION ON WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL'S LONG-TERM PLAN

### INTRODUCTION

1. Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Wellington City Council's Tō mātou mahere ngahuru tau: Our 10-year Plan (the Long-term Plan). The Chamber has consistently worked hard to ensure the city's business community has a voice in city matters, and our contributions to the annual plans are an essential part of this.
2. The Chamber would welcome the opportunity to discuss this submission with the Council and wishes to take part in an oral submission.

### ABOUT THE CHAMBER

3. The Wellington Chamber of Commerce ('the Chamber') has been the voice of business in the Wellington region for 164 years since 1856. We advocate for policies that reflect the interests of Wellington's business community - both city and region - and which support the development of the Wellington economy as a whole. The Chamber is accredited through the New Zealand Chamber of Commerce network, and we are also one of the four regional organisations of BusinessNZ. Through our three membership brands - the Wellington Chamber of Commerce, Business Central, and ExportNZ - our organisation represents around 3,500 businesses across the central and lower North Island.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

4. Wellington City Council is facing a period of high investment, which is a result of catching up on a legacy of under-investment in infrastructure, and also catering for rapid future growth. Tackling both of these issues is essential to wresting housing affordability back into the city. In addition, many inner-city businesses are still battling with Covid and its aftermath. Decision-makers cannot assume this is behind us.
5. The Council is therefore responsible for making some hard decisions and trade-offs. Neither 'business-as-usual' or 'wish lists' are an option. Nevertheless, the 2021 *Long-term Plan* ('LTP') contains some work towards preventing excessive future expenses, and we congratulate the Council for this.
6. But there is plenty to do. Some preferred options in the LTP are prohibitively expensive, and undermine the hard economic choices made elsewhere. Little initiative is proposed on making our inner-city a desirable, high-density place to live, especially considering transport, housing affordability, insurance, and safety issues. And sorely-needed transport improvements will incur great expense, which is not yet accounted for.

our business family includes



7. The Council has delivered on few of its previous '8 Big Ideas' from its 2014 economic development agenda. This LTP does little to build off that document. The ongoing lack of strategic consistency is symptomatic of a city losing its edge. We must address the central question: is Wellington still a place where professionals want to live, study and work?
8. Wellington is reaching a crisis point, and political leaders are not working together on implementing solutions.
9. The Chamber believes that the following ought to be adopted by Council as a way for moving forward:
  - Name three key indicators for the city: Carbon emissions; Housing affordability; and Job Growth – and set, measure, and publish these indicators.
  - Water metering: Introduce this across the city to provide a dedicated revenue stream to Wellington Water, so it can fix the aging infrastructure.
  - 'Let's Get Wellington Moving': Renegotiate this transport package with the central government, so they pay for 100 per cent of State Highway One projects. This will free up Council funding for improvements to bus routes as well as walking and cycling infrastructure.
  - Commercial property developers: Let them manage the revitalisation of the Civic precinct, including the Central Library building, just as central government departments lease commercial office space in Wellington.
  - Public debates on housing affordability: Take a lead on these to ensure more high quality, high-density housing is built in Wellington, particularly the central city.
  - Work with The Treasury: Focus on reforms and regulations to New Zealand's property insurance market, before rapidly escalating premiums start to push residents and businesses out of Wellington.
  - Develop a safer central city: Increase the Police presence, and invest in more lighting, sightlines, and CCTV coverage.
  - 'Venue Strategy': Develop and implement a plan for the city to inform the Civic Square redevelopment, including assessing what facilities the city needs compared with what is already available and accessible.

## STRATEGIC DIRECTION

10. The Long-term Plan's overall strategic direction - i.e. community outcomes and priority objectives - are focused on the right things. This indicates some good common goals between political leaders and council officers. Hopefully, these goals also result in some similarly well-aligned initiatives towards action.
11. However, it is currently unclear whether the city's preferred set of projects and funding methods, as outlined in the LTP, will achieve the desired outcomes. This is the focus of this submission. Without further work on improving the affordability of projects, along with some hard calls around ownership, the city will continue to restrict its ability to improve and grow.
12. While debt limits have provided discipline around additional borrowing, this is not evident in operational expenditure and rates rises. Consequently, ratepayers are being asked to absorb enormous rates increases year-on-year over the next decade. And this does not take into account the full impact of current transport promises.
13. Wellington businesses already pay some of the highest rates in New Zealand due to a combination of the following charges levied: an exceedingly high 3.25 general rates multiplier; an additional targeted commercial sector rate; and, for CBD located businesses, the downtown levy. This adds up to being nearly half the total rate collected by Wellington City Council. When examining the LTP Funding Impact Statement, the total general rates revenue take is set to increase from \$196,282,000 to \$368,449,000 by 2030. That is an 87 per cent increase in rates revenue over the ten-year period, 39 per cent for the 3-year period, and for just 2021 it is a 16.5 per cent increase. Even after adjusting for any growth in the ratepayer base, this is unacceptably too high.

14. Further, we would emphasise the strategic importance of Council embracing appropriate private investment and seeing the business community as future strategic partners.

## **BUDGET PRESSURES**

15. The budget pressures facing the current Council are understandable. Debt was used to cope with the economy-wide shock of Covid-19. But debt cannot be used to plug gaps in operational expenditure in the medium-term. As discussed on pages 17 and 18, it is prudent to maintain some headroom with the debt limit in order to cope with an unforeseen crisis, and this is supported by the Chamber.
16. Budgetary pressures reinforce the need for the Council to go back and rethink some assumptions about their previous ways of doing things. In addition, Wellington must secure new funding sources for the required investment in core infrastructure; for example, the use of water metres to help fund upgrades to Wellington's water network.
17. The current economic downturn due to Covid-19, resulting in the inability of Wellington Airport to pay the Council a dividend, illustrates the limited mechanisms that the Council has to manage this risk. The lack of dividend is causing the Council revenue stress. Yet, the airport is not an asset that the Council needs to retain a minority stake in – whoever its owner, the airport would continue to operate commercially and provide air linkages for Wellington. Therefore, the Council should divest itself from the airport. Better to invest the proceeds in the Council's current strategic priorities.
18. Current revenue pressures and operating expenditure have resulted in a forecast rates increase of 13.5 per cent in 2021/22. This is completely unacceptable, and demonstrates the need to go back and rethink how the budget is formulated. There is little credibility in the forecast rates increases of 2-3 per cent in the later years of the Long-term Plan. We know they will be much higher because these figures do not include most of the 'Let's Get Wellington Moving' expenditure – as explained on page 19. This means ratepayers potentially facing a doubling in rates over the next ten years.
19. Therefore, the Chamber strongly supports the Council investigating divestment opportunities as outlined on page 53. The right mix of assets is not necessarily the one that previous generations gave to us. The Council needs to think through which risks are best managed by itself, and which ones are best managed by others. This applies to the airport, discussed above, but also applies to many smaller assets the Council has. Generally, if a Council-owned asset or organisation is operating commercially or competing against other providers, then the need for Council ownership is negligible.
20. This approach also applies to the Central Library building and is discussed in more detail in the library section later in this submission.

## **DECISIONS**

### **Investment in three waters infrastructure – Decision 1**

21. This section of the LTP lays out the scale of the problem, and the Chamber agrees that the three waters is the number one priority facing the Council.
22. Wellington Water has inherited decaying infrastructure. Sewerage running across streets or into the harbour is unacceptable. Wellington Water is well placed to manage the required maintenance, repairs, and upgrades so long as they are adequately funded and supported by political leaders.

23. To provide additional funding, the Chamber advocates for introducing water meters in Wellington and across the region. Meters would give the extra funding required to undertake necessary investments; provide ongoing sustainable revenue, so we do not repeat historical underinvestment; and increase conservation activities to reduce water usage.
24. The city should start by investing its water network assets into a dedicated CCO (such as the successful Water Care in Auckland) and installing water metres to provide a user pays revenue stream that significantly improves water conservation. Experiences in other areas, such as Kāpiti, have illustrated the benefits of metering while demonstrating that initial community fears are unfounded.
25. Over 23,000 water metres were rolled out in Raumati, Paraparaumu and Waikanae in mid-2014 at the cost of \$8 million. Despite some community apprehension, the process led to measurable improvements. The following summer saw a 25 per cent drop in peak day use, as residents cut back to keep their bill down. While 2015's summer rainfall was just one-third of the previous years', sprinkler bans were avoided as residents voluntarily conserved water. During the 2017-18 summer, the hottest in 10 years – Kāpiti was the only lower North Island district not to need water restrictions.
26. The average water bill for a family of four in Kāpiti is \$490 per year. The Council says 75 per cent of ratepayers pay less for water now than they previously did when it was a one-size-fits-all approach.
27. It is estimated that Wellington's demand for water will outstrip supply within ten years if residents keep consuming at their current rate. Several years ago, Water NZ estimated that Wellington's pipe system leaked 15-20 per cent of its water. They compared this to the leakage rate in the Netherlands of 3 per cent.
28. Some community members fear metering for water is privatisation of the water. However, it is essential to note that it is still a council-controlled organisation managing the water network: it is managed as a not-for-profit Council controlled organisation ('CCO'), the charging is on a user-pays basis, and all revenue is reinvested in the network for either repairs or network expansion.

### **Wastewater Laterals – Decision 2**

29. The inclusion of laterals into the ownership and control of Wellington Water, in order to manage and maintain the network, makes good sense. The Chamber supports this decision, based on the modest \$3.2 million estimate of additional operating and capital expenditure required (see page 29 of the consultation document.)

### **Cycleways – Decision 3**

30. The Chamber supports the construction of additional transport infrastructure within Wellington. Different transport options give Wellingtonians better and easier ways to get around their city, promote economic development, and allow for population growth, particularly in the inner city. Cycleways are a crucial component for any transport network, and safer routes will become busier routes. The parts of Wellington that are easily accessible by bike - namely the central city, and southern and eastern suburbs - will benefit most of all. The Chamber supports the current programme of upgrades.
31. Looking at the new options put forward in the Long-term Plan, there is a very large jump between Option 2's \$39 million and Option 3's \$120 million price tag. This is at a time when the Council is already severely worried about its finances.
32. However, the main problem with considering a much larger cycleway programme is that all of Wellington City's transport liabilities are not included in the LTP. The document clearly states that most of the 'Let's Get

Wellington Moving' components are omitted. This will see a dramatic rise in transport capital costs for the city. Deciding on an enhanced cycleway programme now, without giving ratepayers clarity on existing transport infrastructure commitments, is not good process.

33. Finally, ratepayers, especially cyclists, have lost confidence in the city's ability to deliver new cycleways. The Island Bay example is particularly noteworthy. The Council needs to rebuild trust from the community before committing to their most expensive option, one that the Council itself admits is "ambitious".

#### **Te Atakura First to Zero – Decision 4**

34. The Chamber supports the Te Atakura First to Zero plan to assist the city with tackling climate change. The Chamber particularly endorses the plan to measure and publish the Council and the city's greenhouse gas emissions. It is only through recognising and understanding opportunities to improve that the city can meaningfully reduce its emissions quickly.

#### **Te Ngākau Civic Precinct, Council Office Buildings – Decision 5**

35. Using private developers to bring the civic precinct back to life will be a good outcome for the city. Option 1 does not require ratepayers to foot the bill in order to fund the redevelopment. This makes it a much better choice that will hopefully bring some "ground floor" life back to Civic Square.
36. Demolishing the buildings is unfortunate, but they are no longer usable due to previous earthquakes. Retaining the structures intact, or in Council ownership, just opens up ratepayers to high costs that the Council may not yet fully grasp.
37. Civic Square is an essential feature of Wellington's inner city, and it has been dead for years. Beginning its recovery period will be an important step to restoring public confidence and interest in this area.

#### **Central Library – Decision 6**

38. The Council's preference to retain the Central Library building is inconsistent, because the Council prefers demolition and redevelopment for 'Decision 5 Te Ngākau Civic Precinct' next door.
39. Maintaining the library's operations, and assets such as books, are appropriately under the direct ownership of the Council. However, the building that the library is housed in does not need to be constructed and owned by the Council. Instead, ownership exposes the Council to significant financial risks, and we are living with these now.
40. Almost all central government departments and agencies do not own the buildings they operate out of. The Council does not own the buildings that house the current pop-up libraries.
41. Allowing another owner the ability to redevelop the site will bring multiple benefits, including: construction of a new fit-for-purpose building; breathing new life into Civic Square by housing multiple tenants rather than just a 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. library; opening safe pedestrian access from Victoria Street to our waterfront; and shifting the costs of construction off ratepayers.
42. The Chamber supports the same option for the Central Library building as for the Civic precinct, because there is no compelling reason to treat these various buildings differently. This means demolition, and site development through a long-term ground lease. Under this option, Council would retain ownership of the land and control the design brief for any replacement buildings, but it would not own or fund the replacement buildings.

## Sludge – Decision 7

43. Reducing sludge is an important consideration, and the proposed solution in the LTP appears sound. The proposal to use a special purpose vehicle to facilitate the project is welcome, and we would like to see SPVs considered as solutions to other problems across Council.
44. However, the timing of this project is problematic when combined with the other calls on the Council's finances as detailed in this LTP. Therefore, the Chamber supports delaying the approval of this work until the Council has greater certainty of the costs for tackling water infrastructure, transport, and the Central Library building.

## LET'S GET WELLINGTON MOVING

45. The exclusion of most of the 'Let's Get Wellington Moving' costs from the LTP is surprising. It's one of the key priorities for the Council, and it carries enormous costs for ratepayers. Additionally, the project is under pressure, with the Minister of Transport expressing frustration at the project's lack of leadership and delivery.
46. As expressed in our submission to last year's annual plan, the Chamber's opinion remains that the Council renegotiates the deal with the central government because of the deal's unaffordability to ratepayers, the lack of delivery so far, and the exclusion of essential transport links the city will need to get moving.
47. Wellington's traffic problems are well known. Wellington's growing population has led to rising traffic congestion and longer commuting times. Areas in the central city as well as around the port and airport are particularly problematic. Public transport is straining, trains are reaching capacity, and the bus reforms have been a debacle. Unfortunately, Wellington has been let down by the central government and our own lack of vision.
48. The 'Let's Get Wellington Moving' deal announced in 2019 was a poor deal. While addressing some of the capital's most chronic transport needs, the package shifted too much of the cost onto local ratepayers. It deliberately blurs the traditional areas of responsibility between local and central government for transport projects. It imposes a bespoke model of cost-sharing that requires a higher contribution from local councils than, for example, ATAP in Auckland. Also, there is too much uncertainty over critical projects like the Mount Victoria tunnel, and the Terrace tunnel does not even feature at all.
49. Businesses in Wellington have expressed their support for some sort of congestion charging within the central city. By investing in fit-for-purpose transport links around the city, drivers can willingly avoid the more congested areas near the centre. Once completed, financial incentives can be used to ensure that traffic stays within these arterial routes. With such charges, the Council can invest in further projects to aid inner-city mobility, such as improved public transport infrastructure, bus priority, scooter paths, cycle lanes, and wider footpaths. Some of this is already underway with the 'quick wins' part of LGWM, but more is required.
50. Councillors should lead public discussions explaining why transport funding is not zero-sum between modes. This would increase public support for upgrades that benefit multiple users of corridors. For example, trenching Karo Drive is an expensive project that is seen to primarily benefit car users. Yet it will be a massive boost for walkers and cyclists in the area, delivering an enormous amenity benefit to local residents by getting cars away from residential and mixed-use spaces.

## INSURANCE MARKET FAILURE

51. The LTP identifies insurance risks for the Council, but it is a risk facing all residents and commercial tenants and owners. The Council needs to work with the Treasury on a work programme to fix Wellington's insurance market.
52. Commercial property owners in the city are coping with building insurance premiums that have doubled, tripled, or even quintupled over the last few years. For example, one typical office block in Wellington saw its insurance premiums rise 220 per cent in just four years - from \$99,000 in 2016 to almost \$320,000 last year. In one of our quarterly business confidence surveys from 2019, 30 per cent of respondents said they had experienced "significantly increasing premiums" in the past three years. The Chamber has spoken directly to businesses, who have told us that insurance companies are inserting additional clauses into contracts to reduce cover without clear explanation, and that their cover has been "shrinking over the last four years, but premiums continue to go up".
53. Rapidly rising insurance premiums are a cost to businesses, but they also flow through into the rents of every tenant, which in turn increases the price of all goods and services in Wellington.
54. Insurance companies and their representatives claim that the market is adjusting to the 2016 Kaikoura earthquakes. They are making more granular risk-based assessments of properties based on location, and reverting to international norms when compared to similar jurisdictions in Japan and California. The problem with these arguments is that no matter what mitigation investment a business makes, the insurance premiums still go up. Japan and California have low rates of business insurance compared with New Zealand, but are far larger economies.
55. High rates of private insurance cover were key to Christchurch's successful rebuild following their 2011 earthquake. It would be regrettable for businesses to decide to forego insurance cover in a bid to keep their operating costs down, in doing so exposing themselves and our economy to a significant shock in the wake of even a moderate earthquake. New Zealand can preserve its enviable high rates of insurance cover if we act now.
56. The Mayoral Taskforce on Insurance from the previous Council appears to have gone quiet. We urge the Council to continue working with the government on insurance reforms to maintain the affordability of premiums for residential and commercial property owners.

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING

57. Wellington's population growth is hurting housing affordability. The city needs to build more houses in central and suburban areas. To achieve this, the Council should encourage developers to push ahead with significant housing developments across the city. This could take the form of regulatory support, expediting consents, and better guidance through the approvals process.
58. Planning for population growth with a focus on improving housing affordability is admirable, as discussed on page 51, because this desire has been lacking in the past. However, catering for growth also needs to acknowledge the catch-up required to improve affordability for all. A greater sense of urgency is needed on implementing the spatial plan.
59. One significant barrier to higher density housing is objections from surrounding residents, even when the area is zoned for such developments to proceed. Councillors should prioritise housing developments going ahead and champion them in front of their local communities. Only with political leadership, and people articulating

why such housing is essential, will such projects then proceed, and contribute to making housing more affordable.

60. In addition, the Council could contribute to common infrastructure costs to get additional housing developments going. An example of the Council holding up a housing development is Shelly Bay. Rather than fighting the development, the Council should be sitting down with proponents and working out how they can get it through the consenting process fairly.

## **COMMUNITY HOUSING**

61. Social housing is the responsibility of central government. Wellington city's participation in social housing is a considerable financial risk that it has struggled to manage over the preceding several decades. Citizens deserve warm, dry houses that are safe to live in. Yet because of the financial demands on Council, it has struggled to maintain the housing stock for its citizens adequately. Instead, the Council could partner with existing community housing providers and Kāinga Ora, who are better equipped to provide successful social housing outcomes.
62. Social housing tenants are best served by having dedicated social agencies wrapping services around them. Therefore, the Council should consider transferring its social housing portfolio to existing community housing providers funded by the central government rather than establishing its own CHP. These providers are better able to offer support services such tenants often require, and they are also better at looking after the properties.

## **VENUES STRENGTHENING AND UPGRADES**

63. The 'venues strengthening and upgrades' work discussion on page 53 of the LTP needs to fit into a wider consideration of how Wellington's venues work for the community. Before embarking on a series of expensive upgrade projects, the Council should first consider the role and purpose of each venue and how it uniquely contributes to Wellington. Alternative solutions should be found for those venues whose purpose is duplicated, or whose upgrade work is too expensive. The Chamber supports the Council developing a venues strategy before committing to further upgrade work.

# Submission #: 1520

10 May 2021

## Submission by Ōwhiro Catchment Collective on Wellington City Council (WCC) Draft Long-Term Plan (LTP)

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1. The Ōwhiro Catchment Collective (**OCC**) is a vehicle for coordinating the actions of and advocacy by a group of community organisations which focus on issues relevant to the catchment of the Ōwhiro Stream:
  - 1.1 Ōwhiro Bay Residents Association
  - 1.2 Stream Team
  - 1.3 Southern Environmental Association
  - 1.4 Friends of Ōwhiro Stream (**FOOS**)
  - 1.5 Friends of Taputeranga Marine Reserve
  - 1.6 Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika.
2. The purpose of this submission is to highlight matters of common concern to the members of the OCC. Individual members may make their own submissions providing more detail and/or addressing different matters.
3. OCC would also like the opportunity to speak to its submission.

### Background

4. OCC is a coalition of community groups who are connected to the Ōwhiro catchment and share a vision of a thriving ecological corridor from the border with Zealandia to Taputeranga Marine Reserve in the south. This includes improving the water quality of the Ōwhiro Stream and its tributaries and improving habitat and native biodiversity of the catchment.
5. OCC's member groups are active in the catchment restoring habitat, planting, controlling weeds and trapping predators. Organisations such as FOOS have a long history of advocacy for the catchment. Despite a huge investment of volunteer hours and effort, the catchment continues to face many challenges. These include the landfills located within the catchment and the ongoing issues with wastewater infrastructure and stream contamination. Many of the decisions in the LTP have significant implications for the health of our catchment.
6. OCC promotes a catchment-wide approach to addressing the environmental issues in the Ōwhiro catchment which recognises its values and unique place in Wellington's geography. OCC supports the establishment of the Ōwhiro Pilot — a multi-party working group consisting of WCC, Greater Wellington Regional Council, Wellington Water Ltd, the Department of Conservation, Regional Public Health and Ōwhiro catchment community members working together on common issues. We would like this to grow and extend to the development and adoption of an integrated catchment management plan to monitor and improve the water quality of Ōwhiro Stream in partnership with community groups and mana whenua.

### Community outcomes

7. WCC's proposed community outcomes include:
  - 7.1 *“Environmental — A sustainable, climate friendly eco capital — 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.”*

The Ōwhiro catchment is an important part of Wellington's environment. It contains one of the few remaining wild daylighted streams in our urban environment. It adjoins and provides a corridor between Zealandia and the Taputeranga Marine Reserve. Water from the Ōwhiro Stream discharges into the Marine Reserve.

- 7.2 “*Social — A people friendly, compact, safe and accessible capital city — An inclusive, liveable, and resilient city where people and communities can learn, are connected, well housed, safe and healthy.*”

The Ōwhiro catchment provides a home for many households and includes four schools and several early learning centres. The Taputeranga Marine Reserve is a destination for diving, swimming and enjoying the beach. The Ōwhiro Stream runs alongside Ōwhiro Bay School. Zealandia and the south coast are also valuable local and tourist destinations that showcase Wellington’s environment.

8. Achieving these community outcomes will require investment in improving water quality and mitigating the impacts of the Ōwhiro catchment landfills so that the Ōwhiro Stream and the marine environment at Ōwhiro Bay are safe for the community to interact with and use.

### **Key issues of concern**

9. Key concerns for OCC are:

9.1 **Improving the management and treatment of sewage sludge to reduce the volume buried at the WCC Southern Landfill:**

- (a) This is essential to reduce carbon emissions from the landfill and enable waste minimisation.

9.2 **Developing a strategic plan for the future of the WCC Southern Landfill:**

- (a) We do not believe the landfill should be extended indefinitely. Doing so will impact the liveability of the Ōwhiro catchment; destroy the natural values of those parts of the Ōwhiro catchment converted to landfill; and lock-in environmental risk to the water quality of the Ōwhiro Stream and Taputeranga Marine Reserve, particularly in the event of a major earthquake.

- (b) A strategic plan (which includes improving the management of sewage sludge) must be developed and agreed upon with the community **before** consent is sought to expand the landfill.

9.3 **Improving the management of rubbish entering the environment from the Ōwhiro catchment landfills and from vehicles travelling to those landfills.**

9.4 **Improving the management of the T&T Landfill and addressing its impact on Ōwhiro Stream water-quality.**

9.5 **Adopting measurable targets for improving the water quality of Ōwhiro Stream.**

9.6 **Repairing or renewing wastewater infrastructure to address its impact on Ōwhiro Stream water quality.**

### **Submissions on the proposed ‘big decisions’**

#### Spending more money on fixing the water pipes

10. OCC supports investing more on Wellington’s three waters infrastructure. The level of detail in the LTP consultation document makes providing feedback on the three options (different levels of capital expenditure) difficult. OCC’s key submission on Decision 1 is that the LTP should distinguish between:
- 10.1 investment in new assets (such as reservoirs) and renewals (such as the programmed replacement of pipes); as opposed to
- 10.2 investment to identify and fix existing problems that are already impacting the water quality of urban waterways such as Ōwhiro Stream.
11. Recommendation 19 of the *Mayoral Taskforce on the Three Waters Report* is:

*Task and fund WWL to develop a road-map for consideration in the 2024/34 LTP that would see WWL (or a future entity) funded to achieve compliance with the National Policy Statement — Freshwater Management by 2040.*

12. OCC does not agree that work towards achieving compliance with the National Policy Statement — Freshwater Management should wait until after 2024. That is not good enough. WCC knows its wastewater infrastructure is a cause of reduced water quality. It is not acceptable for WCC to plan for the possibility of water quality continuing to degrade over the next three years.
13. OCC's view is that the LTP should provide for funding to identify and fix existing problems that are already impacting the water quality of urban waterways such as Ōwhiro Stream separately from the capital expenditure provided for by Decision 1.
14. OCC also seeks that WCC:
  - 14.1 fund the Ōwhiro Pilot so that it can achieve its objective of being a prototype for successful citywide multiparty processes to restore three waters networks to a sound state that no longer degrade waterways; and
  - 14.2 formally adopt a time-bound and measurable target for improving water quality in the Ōwhiro Stream.

#### Ownership of wastewater laterals

15. OCC agrees with the Decision 2 preferred option. The model of relying on private owners to care for and renew wastewater laterals has failed. The problem of laterals impacting water quality requires community ownership.

#### Reducing sewage sludge and waste

16. OCC supports the Decision 7 preferred option with some caveats. It is essential that Wellington's wastewater treatment infrastructure be improved so as to reduce the volume of sewage sludge that cannot be discharged into the Cook Strait. The current way wastewater is managed requires large volumes of sludge to be pumped to the Southern Landfill and buried. This is vulnerable to earthquake damage; results in carbon emissions; and requires even larger volumes of solid waste to be mixed with the sludge before it is buried — which in turn precludes waste minimisation.
17. The caveats include:
  - 17.1 OCC is worried about what happens if the Infrastructure Funding and Financing Act 2020 cannot be used. Waiting another three years to fund improvements at Moa Point is not acceptable. WCC should commit to achieving funding certainty within 12 months and revisiting its LTP if funding cannot be sourced via the Act.
  - 17.2 OCC is worried about when construction will begin. The LTP consultation document suggests a levy will not need to be collected until year 4. It is not clear when significant capital expenditure on Moa Point improvements will commence. This contrasts with WCC's proposed capital budget for 'Stage 4' of the Southern Landfill, which includes 1,310,000 at year 1; 4,896,000 at year 2; and 7,397,000 at year 3. OCC is strongly opposed to WCC seeking consent for 'Stage 4' of the landfill until a strategic plan for the landfill (which includes improving the management of sewage sludge) has been developed and agreed upon with the community.
18. OCC will not accept a forever operational and forever expanding WCC landfill in the Ōwhiro catchment.

#### **Other issues**

19. The LTP consultation document states that one of WCC's 'priority objectives' is "*Strong partnerships with mana whenua — upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi, weaving Te Reo Māori and Te Ao Māori into the social, environmental and economic development of our city and, restore the city's connection with Papatūānuku (nature)*", however there is little about how this will be achieved. OCC believes

environmental science must be paired with Mātauranga Māori and that the key concerns at [9] above are consistent with Te Ao Māori.

Contact person: Dr Jessica Allen

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Submission #: 1521

This submission is made to Wellington City Council (WCC) on behalf of the Wellington Branch of the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society New Zealand Incorporated.

Forest & Bird is New Zealand's leading independent conservation organisation, which has since 1923 played an important role in preserving New Zealand's environment and native species. We appreciate the opportunity to contribute to the Long Term Plan 2021 – 2031 (LTP) and speak for nature.

Science is telling us that what we do in the next ten years will have significant implications for future generations and the viability of the city as a place to live and work. We have therefore focused our attention on the issues that have a direct impact on how the city responds to the climate change emergency.

On the current trajectory we are approaching a climate tipping point around 2030 when it could be too late for humanity to have any chance of 'managing' the climate and the consequences that follow for life on earth. At the current rate of CO<sub>2</sub> reduction, scientists are warning that global temperature rise will exceed a 2°C increase above pre-industrial levels. This is well above the 1.5°C target for the end of this century — regarded as the gateway to “dangerous” warming.

Ice melt from Antarctica and Greenland is poised to accelerate the rate of sea level rise—signalled by recent studies that suggest that this is occurring faster than originally thought. This implies that the sea level will exceed a 1m increase sooner than predicted and quite possibly within 80 yrs. As more data becomes available and analysis tools improve, the prognosis for sea level rise is looking less favourable for coastal communities than earlier estimates predicted — increased rate of change and higher mean sea level.

This leads us to the view that this Long Term Plan (LTP) will be the most important that Council will produce in a long time. It will set the direction for the critical period between now and 2030 to avoid the worst case scenario of sea level rise. We are encouraged that the LTP shows that Council is taking the climate emergency seriously. We support bold steps that must be taken (funded) in the early years to significantly reduce greenhouse gas (CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>) emissions and also increase carbon sequestration. In our view the Council should aim to exceed targets of GHG emissions by engaging with the community and encourage participation appropriate to an emergency situation.

A Global Methane Assessment undertaken for the UN Environment Programme (Unep) has concluded that in the short term (30yrs), reducing methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) release into the atmosphere is the most effective way to combat “climate change... happening faster than expected”. The Unep report states that the main sources of human-related methane are the fossil fuel industry (34%), agriculture (40%) and the waste sector (20%).

The analysis undertaken by Aecom of Wellington's GHG emission profile shows transport as the major contributor (53%) and stationary energy (34%) however the measurement is in CO<sub>2</sub>e and the time effect of each GHG is not accounted for. Solid waste accounts for 6% of the total, however it is methane, a short lived gas that has considerably more warming effect in the initial years than the equivalent weight of CO<sub>2</sub>. It is for this reason and the fact that landfill methane accounts for 80% of Council's GHG emission [page 45] we consider that sludge and waste minimisation should be elevated in importance; equivalent to that of the two big contributors mentioned above. This would align Wellington's strategy with the Unep recommendation.

Sewage solid waste; recycling and reuse are entirely within Council control and have beneficial environmental outcomes beyond landfill and GHG emission reduction. We agree and support options 3 or 4 under decision 7 and do not have an opinion on the funding model.

The mayor in the LTP forward [page 7] explains that the sludge treatment under decision 7 is essential to “... *reducing the scale of the impending landfill extension...*”! Yes, we agree but it is not a solution to the waste of material that could be recycled / repurposed that is going to landfill including construction and demolition ‘waste’. The world has moved on from landfill; a mature industry now creates and uses technology to recycle practically all the material that currently ends up in a Wellington landfill including construction material.

The city has a recycling culture within the community but Council is failing to deliver a meaningful recycling facility. The treatment of recyclable material is just as broken as the waste water pipes, it is time think sustainably and treat recycling as a top infrastructure priority. Further delays merely create bigger problems for the future, now is the time to build back better using the funding model proposed for decision 7 option 4.

Council has limited ability to influence and reduce transport emissions outside of its own vehicle fleet. There is no certainty that cycleways will reduced car use in sufficiently large numbers to make a meaningful difference to GHG emissions. For this to happen it will require the existence of an accessible and reliable public transport network and an increase in remote working. The uptake of affordable electric vehicles is the other factor. In principle we support cycling and walking as climate friendly however if there is to be a limit on funding in the short term we would put landfill and sludge minimisation (Decision 7) ahead of cycleways (Decision 3).

Earthquake and tsunami can be damaging events and are not welcome however they are short lived but sea level rise is continuous and when combined with severe storm surges has the potential to devastate communities, possibly indefinitely.

Experience has shown that a sea wall cannot hold back wave action indefinitely. With climate change there will be more frequent ‘100 yr events’ and more powerful than in the past. Wellington’s coastal communities, like others around the globe, will have serious sea incursion and flooding sooner than earlier predictions and make them less attractive as a place to live.

Wellington needs a planned retreat strategy for communities living and working in suburbs vulnerable to the impact of sea level rise and/or persistent flooding, as part of its climate emergency response

The condition of the three waters pipework is a disgrace and a poor reflection on Council management by admitting [page 22] “... *the condition of our network and what we need to invest in has for many years been largely out of sight, out of mind...*” As an essential service and in the context of the climate emergency it must be given funding priority. The repair and renewal of existing infrastructure being more urgent than undeveloped sites e.g. Stebbings Valley.

Climate change weather patterns will continue to create the paradox of too much and not enough water, a problem that Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) has solved. It is the solution we would expect contractors to use in order to reduce flooding events and stream damage; improve ground water retention and keep streams clean and healthy.

The LTP provides a credible proposal to address the climate and ecological *emergency* it declared in 2019 under the banner *Te Atakura – First to Zero*. There is however an aspect of the emergency that deserves greater attention and recognition of its importance—habitat and its biodiversity restoration.

The indiscriminate destruction of natural habitat across the globe in no small measure has brought us to this point—mankind now in danger of losing its habitat! A point pertinent to Wellington.

We would like to see in the LTP the importance of habitat restoration not only to redress biodiversity loss but also its importance for sequestering carbon. There needs to be far more funding and resources allocated to restoring the wetlands and forests than signalled under the heading Environment [page 56]. We consider the Council's "... *business as usual practice*..." to be completely inadequate.

The LTP needs to recognise the value of a restored forest along the length of the Outer Green Belt in the context of a climate emergency (which will continue for generations) and should be appropriately funded and resourced. Principally

- an increase in the level of invasive pest plant control, particularly clearance of species that seriously inhibit natural regrowth.
- pest animal control.
- increased number of native plants grown and distributed to restoration groups across Wellington

The native habitat and indigenous biodiversity are our most valuable asset providing both carbon capture and economic benefit.

LTP Submissions Team  
Wellington City Council

E. ltp@wcc.govt.nz

**Re: Tō mātou mahere ngahuru tau - Wellington City Council's Long Term Plan Consultation  
2021-2031**

10 May 2021

Tēnā koe,

Wellington Regional Healthy Housing Group (WRHHG) welcomes the opportunity to provide a written submission on the Wellington City Council's Long Term Plan.

Wellington Regional Healthy Housing Group (WRHHG) is a cross-sectoral group working toward the vision: *"Everyone in the Wellington region lives in warm, dry and safe housing by 2025."* WRHHG highly value the leading role that Wellington City Council continues to play through its representatives on the WRHHG Working and Steering Groups.

Alongside Wellington City Council, over 50 organisations are represented on WRHHG Steering Group,<sup>1</sup> including central government departments, other local councils, district health boards and Regional Public Health, industry bodies, as well as research, social outreach, health and community organisations. We operate a collective impact model and commit to upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles and articles.

New Zealand's housing stock is of a very low standard compared to other developed countries. Poor quality housing contributes to carbon emissions through high operational energy use and has huge costs for whānau and taxpayers in health and education and broader intergenerational wellbeing outcomes.

Poor housing and its negative impacts disproportionately affect Māori and Pasifika people, people on low incomes, people living with disability and single-parent households.

**WRHHG commend Wellington City Council for recognising the central role of housing for a thriving community**, articulated in the LTP Priority Objectives #2 and #5 that highlight the importance of "affordable, resilient and safe housing", and "development of low-carbon... buildings". We recognise that Wellington City Council has an existing role in providing social housing and has committed to investment to upgrade this to meet the Healthy Homes Standards. We commend Wellington City Council's demonstrated commitment to supporting improved energy efficiency and householder health outcomes through the Home Energy Saver programme and insulation and heating subsidy programmes.

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<sup>1</sup> For details, see <https://www.wrhhg.org.nz/members-list/>

<sup>2</sup> BRANZ House Condition Survey 2015

<sup>3</sup> Dowdell, D, 2020. Build 176: <https://www.buildmagazine.org.nz/articles/show/cutting-carbon-is-a-material-issue>

We call for the Council to build on this foundation through additional measures to support homeowners to improve housing health and energy efficiency and incentivise private sector development of high performance and affordable housing.

Wellington City Council's Te Atakura Strategy commits the Council to a significant reduction of carbon emissions by 2030. Ensuring new house builds meet low carbon goals is an important step, however existing housing stock performs poorly<sup>2</sup> and if not upgraded will contribute to significant carbon emissions in the next decades.<sup>3,4</sup> It is estimated that, nationally, improving the energy efficiency of NZ homes can create \$60million worth of carbon savings, contributing to the realisation of the 2050 zero carbon target.<sup>5</sup> WCC support for improved energy efficiency of existing homes can contribute to this.

A warm, dry home is the foundation of health and wellbeing throughout life<sup>6</sup>. Poorly performing homes – those that are un- or badly insulated, draughty, damp – are difficult and expensive to keep warm and healthy. Damp, cold and unhealthy homes and household crowding are significant risk factors for respiratory illnesses such as asthma, skin infections and acute rheumatic fever. This in turn impacts on school and employment outcomes, and on financial and mental health. In 2019, 1,539 New Zealand children aged 0-14 years were admitted to hospital with a preventable, housing related, illness. Māori children were 3 times as likely and Pasifika children 3.7 times as likely to be hospitalised as children of all other ethnicities.<sup>7</sup>

**COVID-19** has further highlighted the dangers of unhealthy homes and particular vulnerability of those on low incomes, younger and older people, single-parent households and Māori and Pasifika people.<sup>8</sup>

On the other hand **we know improving house performance works**. Research has shown that investment in improving housing through retrofitting insulation provides a benefit: cost ratio of more than 5:1 including healthcare savings, carbon emissions reduction.<sup>9,10</sup> Research commissioned by EECA found retrofitting reduced days off school by an estimated 23% and days off work by 39%.<sup>11</sup>

We note also that incentivising and resourcing improvements in existing housing stock can contribute to employment creation in the region. Sustainability Trust calculations estimated that new insulation and heating retrofit of 10,000 homes would result in 75-100 new direct jobs and up to 30 indirect jobs.

In summary, raising the quality of housing contributes to the following outcomes:

- i) Improved **affordability of housing costs** (as ongoing maintenance as well as operational energy costs will be reduced)
- ii) **Reduction of carbon emissions** related to household energy use
- iii) Improved **physical and mental health** outcomes
- iv) Positive impact on **employment and school attendance** outcomes

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<sup>2</sup> BRANZ House Condition Survey 2015

<sup>3</sup> Dowdell, D, 2020. Build 176: <https://www.buildmagazine.org.nz/articles/show/cutting-carbon-is-a-material-issue>

<sup>4</sup> Noting that emissions levels will also be dependent on the carbon intensity of future grid electricity

<sup>5</sup> The case for energy efficiency action - Concept Consulting report for EECA 2018

<sup>6</sup> New Zealand College of Public Health Medicine (2013). "Housing Policy Statement." Available from: [https://www.nzcpmh.org.nz/media/120350/nzcpmh\\_healthy\\_homes\\_standard\\_submission\\_2018.pdf](https://www.nzcpmh.org.nz/media/120350/nzcpmh_healthy_homes_standard_submission_2018.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> NDMS, MoH 2019

<sup>8</sup> Labour 2020 Election Factsheet on Housing

<sup>9</sup> Cost Benefit Analysis of the Warm Up New Zealand: Heat Smart Programme. <https://tinyurl.com/yxg68gjf>

<sup>10</sup> The impact of retrofitted insulation and new heaters on health services utilisation and costs, and pharmaceutical costs. Evaluation of the New Zealand Insulation Fund. <https://tinyurl.com/y555towc>

<sup>11</sup> The impact of retrofitted insulation and new heaters on health services utilisation and costs, and pharmaceutical costs. Evaluation of the New Zealand Insulation Fund. <https://tinyurl.com/y555towc>

- v) An opportunity to **address inequities in housing** that see Māori and Pasifika people disproportionately impacted by unhealthy housing

### **Recommended ACTION to include in WCC LTP**

#### Action to ensure affordable, healthy and climate-friendly new housing supply

We urge Wellington City Council to consider all options to incentivise the increase of **affordable** and **healthy** housing supply. We recommend that this include:

- review of district plan provisions
- review of development contributions policy (eg. decreased contribution for high performing and/or affordable or social housing, slightly increased contribution for developments that don't meet this criteria in order to offset)

#### Action to make existing housing affordable, healthy and climate-friendly

- expand the Home Energy Saver programme delivered in partnership with Sustainability Trust to reach 25% of Wellington households with advice on behaviours and interventions to improve household energy efficiency, create a healthy home, reduce costs, and lower carbon emissions
- continue to invest in programmes to support vulnerable households in energy hardship through allocation of a flexible fund of \$100,000/year. This might include supporting energy bills, additional subsidies for insulation, heating, ventilation etc, smaller interventions, education, and assistance with accessing low-carbon transport. Noting that the majority of vulnerable households are renters, we recommend it also target solutions that work for tenants, such as support for negotiation with landlords on energy efficiency interventions and programmes to alert landlords to their obligations.
- include performance standard certifications such as HomeFit, Homestar, Passive House on LIMs
- establish a Voluntary Targeted Rate (VTR), with a low or zero interest rate that ratepayers can access to make improvements to their homes that increase energy efficiency and performance. Such a VTR would enhance the existing Wellington Regional Council programme and could be used in combination with central government support such as the Warmer Kiwi Homes subsidies for insulation and heating, or as stand-alone financing.

WRHHG would like to appear before the WCC LTP Hearings Committee to speak to our submission and answer questions. We are also happy to provide further information in writing upon request.

*Please contact:*

Dr. Roger Blakeley, Chair Wellington Regional Healthy Housing Group

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Amanda Scothern, Executive Officer Wellington Regional Healthy Housing Group

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Nāku noa, na



Dr. Roger Blakeley, Chair Wellington Regional Healthy Housing Group

**Submission #: 1523**



Submission to the:  
**WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL**

on the:  
**WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL'S DRAFT LONG-TERM PLAN 2021-2031**

Submission from:  
**TENNIS CENTRAL REGION (INC.)**

This submission is representing the 7,000+ members and casual participants of Tennis Central Region Inc., including the 3,000+ that reside in Wellington City.

Date:  
**10 May 2021**

Representatives of Tennis Central Region (Inc.) wish to discuss the main points in this written submission at a hearing.

Address for contact:  
Tim Shannahan  
Chief Executive Officer  
Tennis Central Region Inc.



## Introduction

Tennis Central Region (Inc.) is one of six regional tennis organisations recognised by Tennis New Zealand as responsible for the delivery of grass-roots tennis. Created in 2007, Tennis Central Region services the lower part of the North Island, specifically Taranaki, Manawatu, Wanganui, Wairarapa, Kapiti Mana, Hutt Valley and Wellington.

Tennis Central has four key focus areas, which are:

- Participation and development – successfully supporting clubs to grow the game; and guiding players and coaches through the participation pathway.
- Performance – successfully deliver a range of events and tournaments for performance-focused participants; and support performance achievement.
- Organisational excellence – continuous improvement in our organisational performance.
- Sustainability – operating a sustainable business underpinned by secure revenues and prudent reserves.

Access to suitable tennis facilities is critical to these focus areas. Wellington City Council has been a key partner in current upgrades to the Wellington Renouf Tennis Centre, which is the regional hub for the sport in the Central region.

## Council Funding of Sport & Recreation

This submission simply wishes to draw attention to the relevance of sport and recreation as a key component in ensuring Wellington is a thriving city. Residents expect Wellington to provide opportunities for a healthy lifestyle. While some of those opportunities are delivered directly by Council through provision of sporting facilities that enable gym membership or pool access, the vast majority of opportunities are delivered by not-for-profit organisations championing a specific passion for the enjoyment of many. These organisations are key to making Wellington a great place to live and it is essential that Council has capacity to support these organisations.

This submission is specific to ensuring that Council continues to invest in sport and recreation. It is hoped that the final Long-Term Plan will recognise the value of sport and recreation by ensuring that funding for sport and recreation, in all the ways Council currently supports sport and recreation, does not diminish.

Budget provision for the future development of sport and recreation facilities; maintenance of existing facilities; provision of sports grounds and maintaining these to the specifications of user sports; and support for hosting of national and international tournaments are key areas in which Council currently supports sport and recreation. It is essential that this continues.

The sport of tennis has directly benefitted in recent years from Council funding through the Sportville Partnership Fund (supporting Wellington Tennis Inc. with upgrades to the Wellington Renouf Tennis Centre) and the Sport Event Partnership Fund (supporting Tennis New Zealand to bring the Fed Cup women's international teams event to Wellington in February 2020). From a Tennis Central Region perspective, as an indirect beneficiary of Council's funding of these other tennis entities, both of these funded activities enhance the capacity to deliver tennis locally and attract people to the sport.

The proposed upgrade of the netball / tennis courts at Hataitai Park, as included in the Long-Term Plan for the 2021-2022 financial year, is another example of Council funding an initiative that supports the opportunity for Wellington residents to engage in sport. It is appropriate for Council to commit to projects such as this that will enhance what is available to local residents.

Council's own 'Recreation Strategy (2003)' identifies the reasons why Council sees value in investing in sport and recreation:

*"... Council considers recreation to be a core activity that significantly contributes to the well-being of the city's residents. For most of these activities the public good component is funded directly by Council although there is provision in the Council's funding policies to recover charges from users where appropriate."*

Council is encouraged to stay true to that commitment by continuing to invest in sport and recreation. By continuing to develop facilities and maintain those facilities; by continuing to provide and maintain fields and courts; by continuing to provide funding for worthy projects by retaining the Sportsville Partnership Fund and Sport Event Partnership Fund.

### Conclusion

Tennis Central applauds the Wellington City Council for its commitment to invest in sport and recreation to ensure Wellington remains a desirable place to live. Council is asked to continue with this commitment in the Long Term Plan 2021-2031, acknowledging its own position that sport and recreation is 'core' to Wellington being a city that prioritises the well-being of its residents.

Please continue to invest in facilities and provide funding to enhance the sport and recreation offerings available in Wellington at a level year on year that is no less than the current level of investment.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission. Representatives of Tennis Central Region look forward to the opportunity to discuss this submission in further detail with Councillors at an oral hearing.

# Submission #: 1524

## Submission: 2021-2031 Long Term Plan

Catharine Underwood

I am submitting as an individual

I would like to speak to my submission please

I note on the inside page of the document, that since 2018, the council has, amongst other things declared a Climate and Ecological emergency. But I've seen little evidence that the council is doing much about the ecological emergency. The council parks and reserves unit does a great job, as does the council with its support of Zealandia, but there is so much more that would be really simple to promote and encourage indigenous biodiversity in the city.



I'd like to propose that the council pays more attention to the street scape and require green space within each new building/development whether it be a green wall or native trees/shrubs along the front or a green roof. Solar lighting for common areas or wind generation for taller blocks. Sure, it may be a little more expensive but the investment will be worth it. Or Wellington will become a wasteland between the parks reserves. This photo is a good representative of what the current urban design rules allow to be built. This development has 2 trees and 1 shrub if you know where to look.

Something else that would be great for the environment and be easy to implement would be to require all new street/suburbs/developments to have 'dark sky lighting'. Tekapo can do it, why can't Wellington. The council needs to have some 'blue sky ideas' and this would be an easy one. There are some excellent guidelines for LED advertising boards and cranes for example to stop light pollution. Be great for tourism, great for the environment and great for people. Why not do it I ask.

### Order of Priority

- 1: Water infrastructure
- 2: Fit for purpose community, creative, cultural AND environmental spaces i.e. parks, reserves, pocket parks. Wellington is already behind the 8 ball without enough parks in the central city for the current population. Where's the plan for the next 80,000 people.
- 3: A proper transport network that is reliable – the new bus network roll out has been a disaster (most of it not of the city councils making). The bus hub has made my local village street into a bus depot. Please stop using cheap chip seal. It is awful to cycle and drive on. It is noisy and the chips get into your car, your carpet and onto your shoes. Come on Wellington, have some class and use asphalt. I know it is expensive but let's have decent roads rather than vanity projects.
- 4: Waste minimisation – target the manufacturers as well as the consumer
- 5: Sustainable housing – let's hope there aren't too many more council housing that has been sitting empty for years and deteriorating. Hutt council has done up their suburban houses and now has clients living in a house in a suburb. I support the conversion of office buildings and the renovation of suburban houses rather than demolishing them.
- 6: Partnerships with mana whenua. These are important but are part of all the above rather than separate.

Page 19 – which assets are you not renewing insurance? I think this should be included here rather than sending readers off elsewhere. I'm not sure that this is a good practice depending on the asset.

Decision 1: The most important action needs to be the waters.

How can the council promote the preferred option which may worsen the environmental outcomes for some catchment areas? This option is in direct contrast to the claim of having declared a climate and ecological emergency. Water is an ecosystem service which we have a duty of care to look after. The Owhiro Bay and Karori Streams need to be included in any options no discussion.

Page 29 – agree about laterals. A good move on the part of the council and is likely to mitigate many a stressed home owner when dealing with the council over leaks etc.

Decision 3 – Cycle ways. I am a keen cyclist and ride my bike all over Wellington every day as part of my job. I'd like to see the council fix the badly designed already installed cycle ways i.e. Island Bay, Victoria Street, Rongotai Road and, by now, Brooklyn Road. I don't use the Island Bay cycle lane as I don't feel safe, I don't use the Rongotai one either, I have to use the Victoria Street one but have learnt how to cycle in the traffic instead and the Brooklyn Road lane is just plain dangerous for every other user. The council has not done a service to any road user with these cycle lanes. To go spending more money on wasteful, badly designed, community dividing cycle lanes proves indeed that the council only cares about ticking the box and a cycle lane at all cost regardless of the safety concerns.

The only option is option 1 - to fix what's been badly done and not spend even more rate payer funds on dangerous cycle lanes. Funding to fix Island Bay is mandatory regardless of what option is chosen. Not to do so, flies in the face of all road users and rate payers.



Decision 4. See above comments. Good to see you mention Greening our building projects in the initiatives section. But no mention of this in any of the options. Does that mean painting them green or installing double glazing or insisting on each development having more plants for biodiversity? When looking further at the options, it would appear that it means more green paint than plants. Is this photo representative of what you mean by greening building projects?

Decision 5. I'm not sure what I think about this. The council will do what it wants anyway. But I do insist on the following:

That no pohutukawa tree on the MFC car park which is temporarily a ballet school is harmed in any way or that the little park at the eastern end is used for any of your proposed developments.

That the view shaft (to use council terminology) from Mercer Street through Civic Square and to the harbour/Mt Vic be registered as a protected view shaft. This means no high rise buildings on Jack lilot Green and no walkway between the upper floors of the existing library and the current MOB. This view shaft lets light and sun into Mercer Street, makes Mercer Street and Victoria Street feel open and not a wind tunnel/canyon and it draws the eye to the horizon to the east.

Let's Get Welly Moving is an expensive disaster. Time to put it to rest and move on.

Community Infrastructure. The council is hell bent on making room for 80,000 more people to live in the city. Yet it is removing car parks like there is no tomorrow. Car parks aren't all for cars, they are used for motorbikes, boats, caravans, bicycles and other toys. It is so disappointing to see the council take away those spaces for people with mobility issues, deliveries, short term drop offs. Not everyone can cycle or catch the bus. A developer has themselves said that 70% of his 23 unit of one bedroom block will have cars and the council only required him to have 3 car parks because the council let him install residential units in a centre zoned space. So, 80,000 people means potentially 56,000 more vehicles – using this one example to extrapolate. I heard that there was a review happening for the cities community centres – great idea – am interested in reading it when it comes out.

Page 56 – why does completing the Frank Kitts Park playground revamp come under Environment? This is recreational and it's unnecessary. Can you assure me that no pohutukawa trees will be harmed? Can't you leave well alone? Stop wasting rate payers money. There is nothing wrong with Frank Kitts Park.



5: the council does really good things with biodiversity in its parks. But it isn't consistent with biodiversity in its urban design guidelines. The world is going through a mass extinction and the council is proposing a massive building programme without any consideration of streetscape. Streetscape is an after-thought to the building. Every development, building project should have a mandatory planting plan. During Covid/lock down it became apparent that getting touch with nature was really important. So, the council needs to build on that and incorporate native trees and plants in developments. A compulsory 50sqm park for every 100 bedrooms or something similar. The development in the photo is a big one and indicative of future buildings – there is NO communal garden/green space in here. There are no decks, no opportunity to see any 'nature' at all. And 'nature' and getting amongst it was a really big thing during covid. I say again this is what the council urban design plans allow and it will only get worse with the new spatial plan rules.

Page 57. The urban development area is a joke. My community asked for a heritage/character assessment 20 years ago and was ignored. It also asked for one 10 or so years ago but we weren't important enough. We asked for one to be done prior to the spatial plan. But no, the response was that it will be done after the spatial plan is approved. Guess what – the council did a high level assessment, determined that the only building worth having on its list was 96 Washington Ave. Then in February 2021 approved a demolition order. And urban design has decided that suddenly, houses in Mt Vic that have been character and heritage for years have overnight now been classified as having no character or heritage value.

Page 58 – your plans to increase the hourly parking rate, increase the hours that parking can be charged and increase the weekend parking fee etc just shows a lack of respect for those who you represent. If you didn't remove so many car parks then this money grabbing fee may not be necessary. The WCC and its anti-car policy is the best thing that has happened to Queensgate.

**Submission #: 1525**

## **Submission on the Wellington City Council Long Term Plan, 2021 - 2031**

Graeme Carroll



### **Introduction**

I have been a resident of Wellington City since 1984, with a keen interest in the community well being and in seeing progressive innovative sustainable development that will continue to see initiatives taken to make Wellington an example of one of the best places to live in a zero carbon future.

### **Submission**

I support the submission made by the Newtown Resident's Association, of which we are members.

Their submission makes important points and recommendations that cover Long Term Plan Decisions 1 – 7.

In addition to the specific priorities set out in the draft Long Term Plan, there needs to be greater engagement and investment to provide increased earthquake resilience for Wellington City, with a greater active engagement with partners to help provide the solutions. Much has already been written by others on this including the recent Report from the Wellington Lifelines Taskforce chaired by Fran Wilde, the Wellington Mayoral Insurance Group report, and various presentations around the recent 10 years anniversary of the Christchurch earthquakes.

Practical initiatives that have been advocated by earthquake engineering specialists for several years now include the seismic structural health monitoring instrumentation of buildings to provide rapid earthquake assessments. There are now low cost effective systems available; such as the Wellington based and developed system by Global Seismic Data ( [www.gsdhq.io](http://www.gsdhq.io) ).

The full cost of installing and providing 400 multilevel buildings in Wellington is around \$8m, for such a system with this minimising otherwise major disruptions, downtime and recovery time costs from the effects of a moderate earthquake on Wellington. With such a building installed sensor system rapid assessments are possible within a couple of hours. It took weeks to months to assess the condition of many multilevel buildings in Wellington from the 2016 Kaikoura earthquake on Wellington with major disruptions and relocations needed for many people. Wellington City Council needs for example to take a lead and install such a system across its buildings – including as a priority for multilevel housing apartments.

### **Decision #1: Investment in three waters infrastructure.**

Support Option 3, Accelerated investment.

Support greater attention to Stormwater, which in a 1 in100 year event likely to cause major flooding, and the approach proposed for Stormwater put forward by the Newtown Residents Association, with much greater attention to maximising the use water sensitive urban design for the management of stormwater systems.

The Government through the 3 Waters Reform process is providing additional investment co-funding that the council needs to maximise use of to assist with accelerating much needed already identified priority infrastructure work.

This also needs to include the priority Lifelines identified and already costed in the recent Report by the Wellington Lifelines Earthquakes Resilience Taskforce that was chaired by Fran Wilde.

An additional aspect of Water resilience that needs to be actioned is a strong ramping up of household emergency water holding tanks in the event of an earthquake – the type of tanks available through WREMO. There needs to be a much more active initiative to supply and assist with the installation of these throughout our communities, including support of the development and supply of new innovative versions such as one designed in recent years by Massey School of Design students with staff.

### **Decision #2: Wastewater laterals**

Strongly support Option 2, the proposal that the Council should take ownership of the laterals and accept responsibility for the maintenance and renewal of private wastewater connections to the wastewater (sewerage) main underneath the road corridor – as outlined and well expressed in the Newtown Residents Association submission.

### **Decision #3: Cycleways**

Support the submission as set out in the Newtown Residents Association submission.

### **Decision #4: Te Atakura First to Zero**

Strongly support Option 3, to fully fund the Te Atakura action plan.

### **Decision #5: Te Ngākau Civic Precinct, Council Office Buildings**

Support the position of the Newtown Residents Association, with the need for having more clarity around the parameters for the final design.

## **Decision #6: Central Library**

Support Option 1, to fund the repair and upgrade of the Central Library by temporarily breaching the current debt limit.

## **Decision#7: Sludge and waste minimisation**

Strongly support investing in treatment of wastewater at the Moa Point plant, so that the sludge can be kept out of the landfill.

There are a number of available technology options that are now available, such as the Viroment Technologies sludge dewatering and treatment RDVF(Rotary Drum Vacuum Filtration) system that provide eco-friendly very efficient treatment of all sorts of sludge, that will make a major reduction in the current levels of waste going to the landfill.

There are available technology providers, such as Bioplant NZ with their proven Japanese waste to energy scalable modular plants that could readily ensure the diversion of the current waste streams to produce a mix of bio/synthetic fuel, electricity and biochar soil improvement products. ([www.bioplantenergy.com](http://www.bioplantenergy.com))

Support Option 4, if the proposed alternative funding for this investment through the Infrastructure Funding and Financing Act is a realistic option.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

I would like the opportunity to speak to Councillors as part of oral presentations.

**Graeme Carroll**



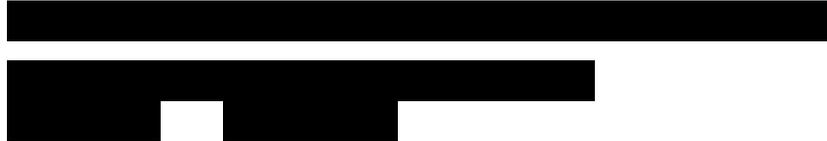
**Submission on**

**Wellington City Council  
Long Term Plan (LTP) 2021**

Submission by Friends of Owhiro Stream (FOOS)  
10<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Submission prepared by:

Contact name: Martin Payne, FOOS Co-ordinator



Friends of Owhiro Stream (FOOS) would like to be heard in support of its submission.

**The Owhiro Stream Restoration Project**

The Owhiro Stream is the only substantially un-piped urban stream flowing to the South coast of Wellington City. It provides crucial habitat for native fish and both long and short finned eels. It is also the primary freshwater feed into the Tapu Te Ranga Marine Reserve at Owhiro Bay.

For more than eighteen years, Friends of Owhiro Stream (FOOS) have been working to restore this unique part of Wellington's environment by removing construction waste, rubbish and weeds, planting over 25,000 native plants, raising community awareness and advocating for its protection at numerous resource consents and council consultations.

**A Catchment - Community focus required**

Every week, dedicated people in the community gather to battle with blackberry, plan strategies, propagate and plant native seedlings to restore the health of the Owhiro Stream and yet, despite all these efforts, the water quality continues to decline. Runoff contaminated with wastewater, Stormwater surge from urban development and waste disposal in the catchment continue to negatively impact the stream's ecosystems ability to support populations of native fish and macroinvertebrates and also frequently fails to provide for safe recreation for people in the waters of the stream and the bay.

The Owhiro community recognises that an integrated catchment plan is necessary if the pressures on the stream environment are to be remedied and reversed.

We are heartened by the willingness of Wellington City Council, Greater Wellington Regional Council, Wellington Water, Regional Public Health and the Department of Conservation to work with the Owhiro community to understand the issues and come up with solutions. For our group, proof of the effectiveness of this co-operation will be the action and the measurable improvement in the stream's ecosystems.

## **Planning for better outcomes**

The Long term plan is an opportunity for the community to be involved in Wellington City Councils prioritisation of projects in the next decade.

### **Decision 1 .Investment in three-waters infrastructure**

#### **Wastewater management**

FOOS supports urgent action and expenditure on the City's failing wastewater network.

We however take exception to the the statement in the preferred option 2 that

“ We anticipate that under this option the quality of some of our streams and the marine environment may not worsen, but the problem is decades in the making and it will take sometime to reverse.”

This statement suggests that the city ignore the critical decline of our natural waters particularly the city's few remaining freshwater streams. Reversing the decline get more difficult and expensive with time. A similar logic that has lead to the gross underinvestment in the 3 waters infrastructure, consequential failures and a massive injection of capital required to remedy a failure to respond and plan effectively.

Let the city not repeat this fiasco with our natural environment. After all we call ourselves an ecocity!

### **Decision 2 .Wastewater laterals**

FOOS agrees with the preferred option for WCC to take responsibility for lateral connection beyond the private property boundaries. This would bring Wellington city into line with many other Local authorities' practice.

### **Decision 4 Te Atakura First to Zero (climate change)**

FOOS supports fully funding for Te Atakura. Urgent action is required to reduce the council's and community's greenhouse gas emissions. FOOS is aware of Owhiro Stream vulnerability to the effects of climate change and is already observing a significant increase in streambank erosion rates which seem clearly related to predicted changes in intensity of rainfall events. The District plan review needs to embed Stormwater retention rules and WSUD design principles into new development consents.

### **Decision 7 Sludge and waste minimisation.**

FOOS supports the minimisation and eventual beneficial use of sewage sludge. We have long recognised that the volumes of dewatered sewage sludge and the need to mix this waste stream with general waste is driving the volumes of waste currently being landfilled. Reducing and eventually removing sewage sludge from the waste stream is key in a transition towards zero waste to landfill. FOOS is concerned that potential difficulties in financing this initiative may delay substantive waste reduction initiatives. The consequences of any delay will be further landfilling over some of the most ecologically significant parts of the Owhiro Stream in the Owhiro catchment which we would clearly want to avoid.

#### **Waste operations**

FOOS remains concerned about the planning processes for the extension of the Southern landfill. We consider that full and open consultation is required before the Council enters the

Resource Consent process is essential. We would consider a transition plan to zero waste an necessary part of this process to minimise the need for further extension of the landfill.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

Friends of Owhiro Stream DOES wish to be heard on this submission.

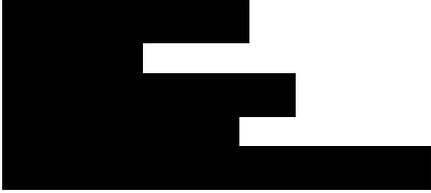
Martin Payne

Co-ordinator

for Friends of Owhiro Stream

## Submission #: 1529

J C Horne



10 May 2021

Long-term Plan 2021-2031  
Wellington City Council  
[longtermplan@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:longtermplan@wcc.govt.nz)

To whom it may concern

### **SUBMISSION: 2021-2031 Long-term Plan Consultation Document Tō mātou mahere ngahuru tau**

#### **Hearings**

When hearings are held, I would like to speak in support of this submission.

#### **Our journey to 2021**

I oppose the continuing construction of a Convention Centre. The Covid pandemic has slashed international air travel. Agencies which in the past sent delegates flying to conventions around the world can now avoid the considerable expense of flying staff and losing staff work-time when those staff fly to and from conventions. Face-to-face conventions have been rendered outmoded, now that they can be run remotely, e.g., by ZOOM. The present large reduction in CO2 greenhouse-gas emissions as a result of the COVID lock-downs world-wide is invaluable as the nations of the world fight the enormous risks posed by runaway climate change.

#### **Recommendation**

The interior of the proposed Convention Centre should be redesigned to make it New Zealand's Museum of the Performing Arts. What a fitting tribute that would be to the performing arts in the capital city and nationwide. The fact that it would be across Mercer Street from Te Papa Tongarewa would make it and Te Papa an even greater draw-card for Wellingtonians, people from other parts of the country, and if and when we are able to open our borders, people from overseas.

I welcome Council's:

1. Passing of Te Atakura First to Zero Carbon policy;
2. Declaration of Climate and Ecological emergency;
3. development of pop-up libraries;
4. Strengthening of the St James Theatre;
5. North Kumutoto public space upgrade to offset to a small extent the loss of public space caused by construction of the hideous PWC building;
6. The opening of the temporary Royal NZ Ballet building.

7. The starting of the new Matariki festival, Te Ahi Ka

### **The big decisions for this plan**

#### **Decision 1 – Three-waters infrastructure – page 22.**

Given the many decades of inadequate maintenance of much of this complex network, some of which is about a century old, it seems that WCC must seek substantial funding from central government, in addition to rates money from the commercial, education, medical and residential sectors.

#### **Decision 2 – Wastewater laterals – page 28.**

I support Option 2 because laterals are often under footpaths and the adjacent berm/road reserve, as is the case for my property in Kaihuia St, Northland.

#### **Decision 3 – Cycleways – page 30.**

I support Option 3, provided that:

- the awful lessons learnt from the Island Bay Parade cycleway debacle are avoided. To have that cycleway lead to the loss of two small groceries/dairies and their owners' livelihoods was inexcusable. In addition, the placing of the cycle lane inside the line of car parks is as bad for alighting car passengers as it is for passing cyclists.
- cycleways are not imposed on footpaths. They are for pedestrians. Walkers, wheel-chair users and pram pushers are put at risk if cyclists are allowed to share footpaths with them.

#### **Decision 4 – Te Atakura First to Zero (climate change) – page 34.**

I support Option 3 because as the capital city we are obliged to set an example to the rest of the country by investing heavily to reduce our emissions of greenhouse gases in the fight against the threat of runaway climate change.

#### **Decision 5 – Te Ngākau Civic Precinct, Council Office Building - page 38.**

To demolish the MOB and/or the CAB would produce large amounts of concrete, glass and steel, etc., which would have to be dumped in the Southern Landfill. The impacts of the noise of demolition on centre-city workers, residents and visitors, and residents in Brooklyn would be unacceptable. What an awful loss of natural resources! I urge council to find ways to strengthen both buildings so that our city council staff and councillors are housed where they should be – in the heart of the city. I support Option 3. Council should seek government funding towards the cost of strengthening these two buildings. This Option would revitalise our languishing Te Ngāgkau – Civic Square.

#### **Decision 6 – Central Library – page 42.**

I welcome Option 1. I trust that the most advanced design of equipment for base-isolation is used on this gem of a building. Given that engineers were able to move an hotel on wheels elsewhere in Te Aro, is it possible that engineers could devise a way to raise our library by 1-2 metres to give it more "free-board" in the event of catastrophic sea level rise?

**Decision 7 – Sludge and waste minimization – page 45.**

I support Option 4 – sludge minimisation through alternate funding. I support any ways we can persuade citizens to recycle more items and to compost their food wastes in their gardens if they have them.

Yours sincerely  
Chris Horne.



HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND  
POUHERE TAONGA

Tairangahia a tua whakarere;  
Tātakihia ngā reanga o āmuri ake nei  
Honouring the past; Inspiring the future

6 May 2021

File reference: 12009-370

Wellington City Council  
Long-term Plan  
PO Box 2199  
Wellington 6140

[ltip@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:ltip@wcc.govt.nz)

**Wellington City Council Submission on 10-Year Plan and  
the Wellington Harbour Board Head Office and Bond Store (Wellington Museum)**

**To:** Wellington City Council

**Name of Submitter:** Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga

1. Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT) is an autonomous Crown Entity with statutory responsibility under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 (HNZPTA) for the identification, protection, preservation and conservation of New Zealand's historical and cultural heritage.
2. Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed 10-Year Plan as it relates to funding for the seismic strengthening of the former Wellington Harbour Board Head Office and Bond Store, now the Wellington Museum.
3. The former Wellington Harbour Board (WHB) Head Office and Bond Store has a very high level of significance both individually and as a landmark component to the Wellington's heritage waterfront and cityscape. It is entered on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangi Kōrero as a Category 1 Historic Place (List No. 234). A Category 1 listing indicates that historic place is of special or outstanding significance to the nation. The building contributes to the proposed "Wellington Harbour Board Historic Area" and has further recognition, and associated protections, through its scheduling as heritage in the Wellington District Plan and inclusion as part of the Post Office Square heritage area.
4. The WHB Head Office and Bond Store has a high degree of architectural significance. Completed in 1892, it was designed by Frederick De Jersey Clere on reclaimed land at Queens Wharf and is a benchmark non-ecclesiastical building within his career. Best known for the design of scores of churches scattered mainly across the North Island, Clere was a versatile architect and among of New Zealand's preeminent practitioners in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth-century. For the WHB Head Office and Bond Store, Clere formulated an elegant Second Empire architectural design that also evoked modernity and solidity through its relative plainness and concrete construction.

5. The WHB Head Office and Bond Store has a high degree of historical significance as a symbol of the successful development of Wellington's port, and in the waterfront's revitalisation as shipping traffic shifted to container port to the north. The building ceased to be used by the Harbour Board in 1954 and the building was donated to Wellington City for use as a maritime museum. Its history as a museum is now equal to the length of its use for port activity and can be considered a harbinger of the revitalisation of the historic port and waterfront for civic means that has occurred over the past generation.
6. As the lead national heritage agency, HNZPT understands the challenges facing heritage property owners—both public and private—with regard to seismic risk. HNZPT is particularly aware of the needs and cost of seismic strengthening as steward for a range of important Wellington heritage places, including its own Old St Paul's, which recently underwent a successful \$3 million seismic strengthening and systems upgrade, and Turnbull House, which is earthquake prone and soon will be strengthened as part of project estimated to cost tens of millions of dollars.
7. The costs of upgrading and strengthening any building—heritage or otherwise—are significant, but positive outcomes go far beyond health and safety and asset management, particularly, when considering conservation of the historic built environment. Heritage is vital to understanding a society's past and present and in shaping its future. It provides a tangible touchstone to history and provides an anchor for the telling of diverse stories. It also provides colour, uniqueness, and appeal to cityscapes at a time when new development is not often distinctive nor marks a place as local. Finally, at a time when New Zealand, and the world, grapple with the realities of climate change, retention of existing buildings is a the most sustainable approach as the building endures and the materials and energy utilised in creating them do not end up at the landfill, and conservation work supports tradespeople and their ongoing specialist skills in the construction industry.
8. HNZPT understands that Wellington Museum, located in the highly significant WHB Head Office and Bond Store, requires strengthening, both to the structure above ground as well as the foundations below. Current estimates place a single project which includes extensive strengthening work at roughly \$38 million, but if two-staged project with above- and below-ground works separated into two phases at nearly \$48 million (\$21 million for the above ground and \$27 million for the below ground). An additional \$6 million will be spent by Experience Wellington on the refurbishment of the Wellington Museum.
9. HNZPT is heartened to see that Wellington City Council, the owner of the WHB Head Office and Bond Store, has promised \$21 million to complete the above ground strengthening works. This shows leadership as a heritage property owner and is also an indicator of the Council's commitment to the resilience and liveability of the city, particularly at a time when the Council is facing a range of funding priorities and pressures.
10. HNZPT is advocating that Wellington City Council considers full funding of single project rather than to approach it in two stages. A single project will assure that the project work is integrated and provides a strengthened and much safer building for public use and enjoyment; will limit operational disruption, and the income-producing activities, of the Wellington Museum; and is likely to provide greater control of ultimate project expense.

11. HNZPT most vigorously supports an approach whereby the funds to complete the full strengthening programme in a single stage are made available through an immediate appropriation. However, if such an approach is not tenable, we can support a second alternative whereby funding for the second stage is made available through the Long-Term/10-Year Plan for Wellington City.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide input in the consultation process. As evidenced by this submission, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga feels strongly about the importance and role of the Wellington Harbour Board Head Office and Bond Store to the city and the well-being of its residents, present and future. Please contact us at this office if you would like any further discussion or clarification of this letter.

Nāku noa, nā



**Dr Jamie Jacobs**  
**Director Central Region /**  
**Kaiwhakahaere Matua**  
**Te Takiwā o Te Pūtahi a Māui**

# 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 [wgn.cc/ltp](http://wgn.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

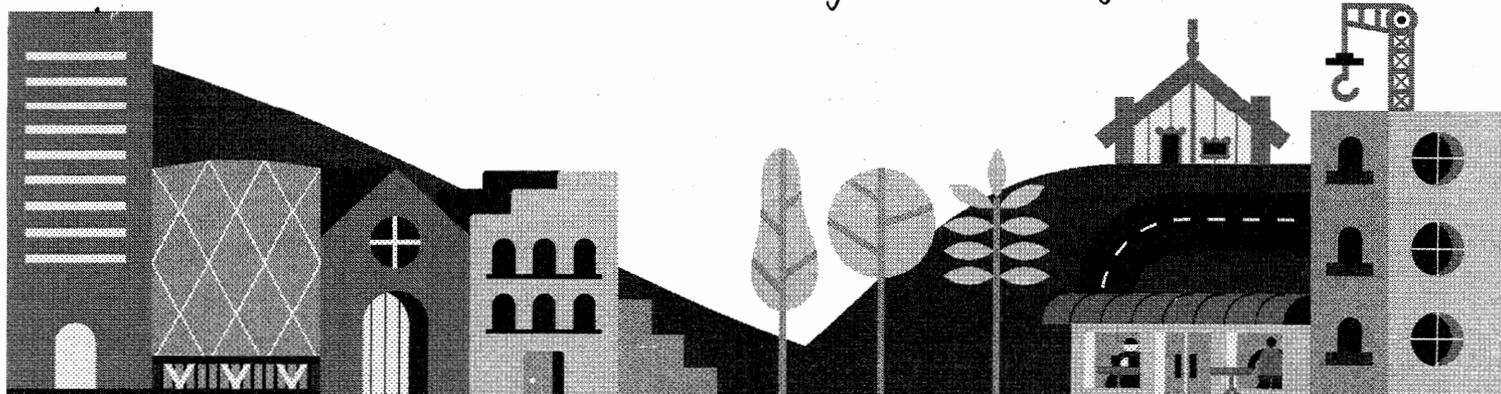
All submissions (including names and contact details) are provided in their entirety to elected members. Submissions (including names but not contact details) will be made available to the public at our office and on our website.

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: <i>Lewis Gaire Herdman Thompson</i>		
<b>Contact details</b>		
Address:		
Phone number: [REDACTED]		
Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?		
Individual	Organisation: <i>Thompson Property Group</i>	
What is your connection to Wellington? (tick all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am a Wellington City Council ratepayer	<input type="checkbox"/> I live in Wellington	<input 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
Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input 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?)		
<b>Oral forum</b> (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)	<input type="checkbox"/> Morning	<input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon
	<input type="checkbox"/> Evening	
<b>Oral Hearing</b> (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	

*Not sure would depend on date and my travel arrangements*



# 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 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
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**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
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Debt and Rates

Like all councils there needs to be a good hard look at all council expenses to see how things are being done, why it is being done, could it be done more efficiently, could it be done more quickly and could it be done with less staff.

Also is it really necessary to keep the city running well or is it a nice to have or a trendy thing to have. Another way to look at it is will it wait and save money and debt now so that we will be in a better position in the future to build or purchase something that will be a real asset to the city and its people rather than wasting it on some trendy temporary expenditure.

The 2 extra Maori Co-opted ~~committe~~ Council Committee Members  
I object to this being approved as they are not elected by the voters yet are costing I understand \$220,000 per year, and have voting rights.

Climate Emergency

Council should only be funding what is needed when it is needed rather than spending \$18 - \$30m of money that has to be borrowed or extracted from unwilling rate payers, for example electric cars are costly to buy, their production creates pollution and in future disposal of their batteries creates another pollution problem.

## 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](http://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?

Fees and charges need to be kept as low as possible to encourage development of needed facilities and housing. An example of what I believe is excessive is that for a joinery workshop in Tawa we were required to get a Crime Prevention Report, which had to be peer reviewed. A total waste of money and time as any practical person could have said it in one or two paragraphs instead of a very padded 17 page expensive report. Is the parking department on a commission payment ~~of~~ not have a fine cancelled when there is a fully fair and reasonable explanation for example expired W.O.F. - car parked waiting for garage to repair. Also I know of a case of a person ticketed for parking in front of his own driveway.

### Selling Assets

I would support selling under utilised ones not likely to be required in the future but not shares in the Airport.

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I support decreasing spend in the current budget	I support keeping the budget the same but with some changes	Don't know
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### 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](http://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

*Give priority to those that improve safety for cyclists.*

### 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

*Only do what is necessary at any one time*

### 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

*Look at the most innovative and economical way to ensure that these buildings are not earthquake prone.*

## 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

*Look at costings and timing of other projects to avoid breaching borrowing limits*

## 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	

*Needs to be left when not same pressure on funds, monitor research on subject*

## 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.

**SUBMISSION RE WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL'S  
LONG-TERM PLAN**

I submit that any cash-flow of ratepayers' expenditure planned for infrastructure at Shelly Bay be more clearly identified in the Plan.

Also, that, before Council officers make any (further) agreements regarding the road to Shelly Bay, they present their proposals publicly to elected members together with explanations about a note given to elected members just before they voted to sell Council land at Shelly Bay that ratepayers' outlay on changes proposed at Shelly Bay would not exceed \$!0,000,000.

(The fear is that this unsigned note, which was secretly circulated at the last-minute, was a wrong and unjustified attempt to persuade elected members to sell Council land to a developer who was known to its writer - see under the heading "Funding":

"Q. Infrastructure costs: Can the rate payer be assured that we will be paying maximum \$10m on infrastructure costs? . . . Yes . . . .")

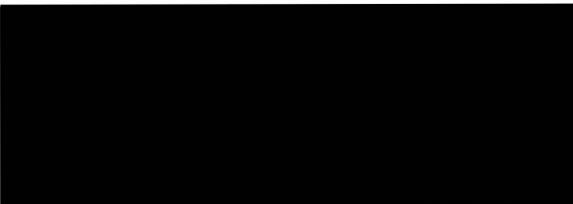
I further submit that the presentation requested above includes suitably redacted details of a conversation which Mayor Foster is said to have "described as an 'abrupt' change in the council's views about safety concerns relating to the narrow Shelly Bay Rd." (The DominionPost, May 7 2021)

I ask to be heard on my submission by way of oral presentation.

SIGNED



Michael Gibson



May 10 2021

## Submission #: 1533

To Wellington City Council,

Recently to get student participation in Wellington City Councils Long Term Plan, the Greens at Vic Group set up a stall in the Hub. The stall was held on April 17th and May 3rd for 2 hours each day. This stall had information on the LTP and different options for varying levels of participation. This effort had minimal effect in getting more people to make submissions; only a few walked away with booklets and submission forms. However, the stall did succeed in getting more people to vocalise on local issues and gain awareness of the LTP.

A common theme was support for decolonisation and Māori rangatiratanga. People wanted more Māori representation, consultation and Māori spaces. Students are becoming increasingly aware of the lack of enforcement of Te Tiriti. They want to see a decolonised future for their local government. This was recognised by both Māori and Pākehā students.

There was also, unsurprisingly, strong support for climate efforts. People wanted to see more green spaces and better recycling programmes. People acknowledged that the council recognised the need for more climate initiative focused funding. However, it was unanimous in saying that people wanted more radical change than what was presented in the LTP.

Students often spoke about transport in conjunction with climate issues. There was strong support for safer cycling lanes. The failing bus service causes much frustration, especially as people want to support sustainable modes of transport. Many people frequently experienced bus cancellations and "ghost buses". They commented that it would be great to have better communication surrounding these.

**Students said that they do not feel safe in their city.** This has been explored heavily in the media, and I am sure you know these issues. One way students suggested to make them feel safer was better street lighting. Many streets are underlit or pathways that are not lit, which makes people feel unsafe to walk around the city.

Students supported the call for the urgent address of the city's plumbing. They recognised that this was something essential and would be better for the residents of Wellington and the environment. Whilst students did not feel equipped enough to comment on issues of infrastructure directly, they had full support in the council taking strong action to resolve these issues.

The Central Library was spoken about more than I was expecting. Students missed having space in the city to hang out and do something for free. People recognised the importance as a space not only for study, but for community. They spoke of the homeless community needing a space to go to in the cold and have a sense of place.

The Civic Precinct was not strongly commented on as many people did not know what it was as they were not from Wellington and did not know what it was like prior to being closed off. From my personal view as someone born and raised in Wellington, I heavily support option 1. Whilst I am not too tied to the architecture, I remember it being an important hub for Wellingtonians to sit in the Summer sun and make full use of the city's assets, the library, the art gallery and being in close proximity to the council. At the Civic precinct, where you go to either enjoy an ice

cream, start a march or protest. It is a place of the people of Wellington, so it should remain as such.

The cost of living and inadequate rental properties caused stress amongst many students. It was often the thing they hated most about Wellington. Students were constantly complaining about steep rent and poor housing quality. These issues caused students to comment on how the council would not care about what they have to say as they are not homeowners.

You may question the relevance of this submission to the Long Term Plan. I argue that this submission is directly relevant to the inaccessibility of council consultation. The submission form was limited to the audience as it took too much time and looked like hard work for something they felt ill-prepared for. As the stall was in an environment where people were there for different purposes (study and work), people did not have the time or the headspace to contribute immediately. However, if the stall were not there, many people would not even know of the existence of the LTP.

The Q&A session at Te Papa was great, but only if you took time out of your day to go. As I am sure many of you have realised, those who went to events like these were already going to submit and already had a stance. The community pop up events were at a time when most people were studying or working, which greatly limits who you are going to capture. Why not have a stall in the middle of Courtenay Place, Lambton Quay or in the middle of food courts? If you really want people to submit on the LTP, you have to go to people, not wait for them to come to you.

As many topics were around things like infrastructure and transportation, people understood the importance, but not necessarily how to address them. A simple what do you like/dislike about Wellington board was far more appealing. Many people came off as having imposter syndrome as they did not feel like it was their place to comment on these issues. Even if they could verbally articulate them, they struggled to write something down. This speaks to a broader problem where we see political power and voices as something for the elite. We often see highly educated people with titles talk about political issues as if they are the only people entitled to have a political voice. Most people do not have time to engage in politics and are especially unmotivated when they do not feel like they will say matters or hold any effect.

I hope my submission provides insight to assist in future consultation processes. I want to speak to my submission in person to provide an opportunity for questions and further discussion.

Thank you,  
Franki Tate





Respondent No: 1823

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Anna Collett
- 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** 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)** 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)** None of these options.
- 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 Atakura (climate change)  
None of these

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

Wellington City is becoming unliveable and unsustainable much like Auckland City. The inner city is being built up into an unfriendly block of gentrification and commercial expansion which threatened the wellbeing of our CIM. The apartments being built are expensive ugly and unsustainable. In a CIM with a growing population we need inner city to reflect our people: our families and front-line service workers who keep our city moving. We need: - Stricter regulations on new apartment buildings. Look at places in Sweden + Canada. They should be neighbourly, accessible, carbon positive (if not neutral), affordable and pleasant to live in. To be honest, the new council flays are more likable than many of the new builds for sale around. - Studies show that increased green space in cities is highly beneficial to its residents and workers health... and that lack of is harmful. We need to protect the greenspace we have and plan for more to provide safe spaces for our workers to recharge + our inner city swelling families to have places to easily take their tamariui. - Climate change. Things are looking dire and we are at a turning point of history: do you want to lead the charge in a new age of innovation, strengthening our local economy + protecting our citizens? or are you going to fail like those before and not do enough?

**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?**

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?**

- Fees: take into account + provide an out for people on pensions, disabilities, and minimum wage. - Climate change: if not now, its too late. - Accessibility: you are not hearing a fair share of opinions from our city because you have made understanding and acquiring these forms difficult. What could you do: - online forms to fill in - mail a form to every adult voting age resident - advertise better (social media) and more broadly (signs in low decile neighbourhoods). - STOP the brooklyn cycleway! as a cyclist, the road is wide enough! and there are not enough of us to make it count, please stop!



Respondent No: 1824

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Rex Collett
- 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** 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)** 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)** None of these options.
- 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

not answered

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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?

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: 1825

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Erina Papp
- 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** 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 1. Finish started projects (\$29m capital investment, lower 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)** 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)

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Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

- More Action on Climate Change - No Cycleways without consulting local area residents

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

not answered

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Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

Neutral.

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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.

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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?

- Maintain our citys infrastructure - More green space - Make consultations more accessible - mail forms to every adult resident, online forms for accessibility In this day and age, every rate payer should receive an email with the form + copy of the plan to allow for an informed choice Residents should receive much better info about the plan

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Respondent No: 1812

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

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

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Q1. Full name:  | Spohie Ivory  |
| 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? | 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 1. Maintain current funding level (\$2.0bn investment - lower 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)  | 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)  | 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

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

I fully support the proposed decisions to invest in Wellington's three waters infrastructure, and WCC taking responsibility for wastewater laterals from the property owner's boundary. It is unreasonable for private land owners to be responsible for pipes situated under public accessways and traffic corridors as the private landowner has no control over activities on that land, which could impact the condition of the pipes.

**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?**

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?**

not answered



Respondent No: 1624

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Cathy Woods
- 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 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 1. Finish started projects (\$29m capital investment, lower 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 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)** 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**

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

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

Three waters: The sooner the better, Cycleways: A luxury we can't afford. Put other money into waste water. Te Ngakau: They will be ugly!! And we will lose the current architecture in these 2 buildings. Library: Preferred total rebuild but WCC chose to ignore public preference - Seeking to establish the process for having input into design of library fix/upgrade and into frank kitts park playground. Have sought councillors advice on how to do this. - No Plan for how to improve things for CBD pedestrians. This does not require us to create one big mall! Which will kill retail in the CBD. We just need better times for crossing at lights, more public toilets (None in upper cuba street!) and to force cyclists OFF the footpaths. - Also , to create seperate spaces for pedestrians on the waterfront, currently unsafe due to cyclists speeding, - Resolve dysfunction in the council so that decision can be made effectively

**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?**

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?**

Support for budget depends on what WCC decides to do. You can double it and waste it, or halve it and spend wisely As previous; - consideration for pedestrians - Consideration for CBD retail! (I have no vested interest - I am only interested as a CBD longterm resident and shopper).



Respondent No: 1792

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

- Q1. **Full name:** David Lloyd
- 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 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. I oppose deferring \$7 million of spending for footpath upgrades. Providing good infrastructure for all active modes is vital.



Respondent No: 1608

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Craig Palmer
- 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** 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 2. Medium investment programme (\$39m capital investment, lower 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  
Te Ngākau funding for future work

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

CYCLEWAYS AND FOOTPATHS Allied to creating and improving existing cycleways there is a critical need to establish a separate fund and Council staffing for improving safety and amenity for pedestrians. 2. All public thoroughfare spaces should be evaluated within a multi-modal framework. A fundamental principle needs to be that footpaths are for pedestrians only. Where achievable a separate lane should be allocated to bicycles and electric scooters. Otherwise these should be confined to the roadway. 3. Safe and well-maintained footpaths are an essential feature for creating a city that can be enjoyed by all age groups and levels of physical ability. This including parents with prams and people dependent on motorised wheelchairs. TE ATAKURA (CLIMATE CHANGE) 4. The City Council should work strenuously to encourage regional and central government to have all public transport electrified from the national grid. 5. Battery production is dependent on scarce rare minerals increasingly controlled by a few global players. 6. Recycling of batteries and the attendant pollution will be increasingly problematic. By connecting public transport to the national grid, New Zealand will fully enjoy the advantages derived from hydro-electricity and other natural sources of generation. 8. There will moreover be measurable health benefits in our being able to breathe clean air. CENTRAL LIBRARY AND CIVIC SQUARE 9. The restored library could have a glazed terraced extension housing a café opening on to the square at ground level. 10. Any new buildings on ground leases should have interior public space at ground level opening out on to the square. Rehearsal spaces for dance and music could be visible to the public from the square. 11. Accordingly, at ground level interior spaces should be entirely given over to public spaces. FUNDING FOR FUTURE WORK 12. Funds could be set aside for evaluating the enlarging of the Mount Victoria pilot tunnel as a cycle and pedestrian thoroughfare. 13. This would connect the neighbourhoods on the eastern side of Mount Victoria, i.e. Hataitai, Roseneath to the central city in harmony with climate change measures. ALTERNATIVE FUNDING 14. New legislation should permit Councils to issue interest-bearing bonds linked to specific infrastructure projects. Interest paid would thus circulate within the New Zealand community rather than being remitted offshore by overseas-owned banks. 15. Other new legislation could ensure that revenue from traffic congestion charges are shared equally between local and central government. This would be a further way of achieving climate change objectives. 16. By way of infrastructure bonds the Council could create underground service trenches to house all water and communication infrastructure. The deep walkable sealed and secure trenches could be leased to new entrant communication enterprises. 17. This would not only create a new source of income — it would also significantly reduce annual maintenance costs. 18. The walkable trenches built in earthquake resistant reinforced concrete, would be created only in the prime inner-city thoroughfares.

**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 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

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# 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/ltp](http://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: ROBIN CHARLES GOULDON

**Contact details**

Address: [Redacted]

Phone number: [Redacted]

Are you are 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?)

<b>Oral forum</b> (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)	<input type="checkbox"/> Morning	<input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/> Evening
<b>Oral Hearing</b> (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Morning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Afternoon	<input checked="" 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 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
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### 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
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### 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](http://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

*\* TOTALY NEW PROPOSAL.*

### 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

*\* Build LIBRARY WITH DEVELOPMENT ABOUT (APARTMENTS)*

## 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

*DEMOLISH AND RE BUILD (COMMERCIAL OPTIONS)*

## 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)	<i>Who?</i>	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)	<i>Possibly?</i>	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.

*SEE ATTACHED AND OTHER MATTERS*

Comments

Comments

YES — SEE ATTACHED.

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
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## 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](http://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 — SEE ATTACHED

## **Submission to the Draft Annual Plan for 2021 / 2022.**

1. I wish to speak to the Mayor and full complement of Councillors.
2. I would like to state that I fundamentally oppose the proposed 13.5% rates increase for 2021/2022.
3. I oppose the continued shift in the differential. This is unfair to business who carry an unfair burden of the cities rates which the Council just continues to increase.
4. I would like to see more value for the ratepayer dollar.
5. I would like to see more partnerships. You had an opportunity to be in partnership with local Iwi in Shelley Bay and you squandered that.
6. I want to see an end to the infighting, poor decision making, poor consultation, poor attendance in the community and want you to start earning the money you are getting paid. Start operating as a Team and put your pathetic self interest away where it belongs.
7. Start being open and transparent and maybe just maybe you will earn the Wellington Public's respect back.

## **Projects**

Cycleways \$14.8 million as opposed to another cities effort

Boat Ramps Virtually no maintenance or upkeep

Bus corners Do them a different way for the following reasons.