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

Time: 9:30 am
Date: Monday, 17 May 2021
Venue: Ngake (16.09)
Level 16, Tahiwī
113 The Terrace
Wellington

MEMBERSHIP

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

Have your say!

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

AREA OF FOCUS

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

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

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

Quorum: 8 members

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1. Meeting Conduct

1.1 Karakia

The Chairperson will open the meeting with a karakia.

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

Unuhia, unuhia, unuhia ki te uru tapu nui Kia wātea, kia māmā, te ngākau, te tinana, te wairua I te ara takatū Koia rā e Rongo, whakairia ake ki runga Kia wātea, kia wātea Āe rā, kua wātea!	Draw on, draw on Draw on the supreme sacredness To clear, to free the heart, the body and the spirit of mankind Oh Rongo, above (symbol of peace) Let this all be done in unity
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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 meetings held on 11 May 2021 will be put to the Annual Plan/Long-Term Plan Committee for confirmation.

1.5 Items not on the Agenda

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

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

The Chairperson shall state to the meeting:

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

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

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

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

1.6 Public Participation

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

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

2. General Business

LONG-TERM PLAN HEARINGS

Purpose

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

Recommendations

That the Annual Plan/Long-Term Plan Committee:

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

Background

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

Discussion

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

Next Actions

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

Attachments

Nil

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 – 17 May 2021





Respondent No: 120

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Jesse Matthews
- 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?** 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)** 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)

I am supportive of the direction of the Long Term Plan but believe it does not go far enough or fast enough on some items, and woefully under-priorities cycling in particular. I appreciate there are capacity constraints on many issues requiring investment in physical infrastructure, but believe we need to start investing more heavily now with a secure ongoing pipeline of work to build this capacity as quickly as possible. In general I am also supportive of very significant increases in investment in Wellington's physical infrastructure, especially that which will support low carbon transport, increase quality of life, resiliency against disasters and climate change, and increase the supply, desirability and uptake of affordable medium-high density housing close to the city and public transport routes. It is clear that Wellington is suffering from decades of under-investment, caused largely by successive councils running down existing assets to maintain artificially low rates. My view is that the fair and equitable way of funding the urgent infrastructure deficit is by rates increases for current Wellington ratepayers who have enjoyed these unrealistically low rates during the previous decades. While I would support temporary increases in debt if it allowed projects to proceed sooner rather than later, pushing additional financial burden onto future generations would be a gross abdication of moral accountability by the people most responsible for our current issues. I also support a more progressive rating system with targeted rates increases on higher value properties, as well as the implementation of value-uplift capture mechanisms as recommended by the Productivity Commission. Wellington property owners are wealthier than ever. The massive increase in the value of Wellington's ratings base in recent years provides a significant opportunity that the WCC must harness if we are to put in place the infrastructure that we will need to thrive in the 21st century. Capturing a tiny fraction of the value of this year's property inflation alone would solve the WCC resource challenges for years to come. Basically, despite what we like to tell ourselves, we are a wealthy society and can easily afford to pay for all those things that we need to pay for if there is the political will and leadership to distribute these costs fairly. Items that I believe are missing from the current long-term plan (or at least haven't been included in this consultation) include: 1. A plan and timeline for value-uplift rating mechanisms as a future revenue source, as recommended by the Productivity Commission so that the city can share in the increase in property value caused by transit improvements. This should be put in place in time to dove-tail with Lets Get Wellington Moving transport programme. This should be aggressively pursued and implemented as soon as a clear legal basis for them is established. WCC should be pushing on this as hard as possible with the current government. 2. The LTP needs to include a programme of incentives to accelerate the development of good quality affordable housing within walking and biking distance of the CBD. This will help address the chronic housing shortage, be in support of the current stated aims of the District Plan, be aligned with the NPS-UP, as well as support the WCC's stated climate goals - especially with regard to transport emissions. This should comprise a carrot & stick approach which includes disincentives for non-productive property speculators (land bankers), and a range of incentives to increase the desirability of living in and residential development of urban areas. I support: a) Punitive targeted rates increases on the land banking of suitable development sites, especially vacant or abandoned properties. A huge amount of development land is currently sitting unutilised within identified growth areas (see Adelaide Rd, Newtown, Te Aro Basin). This would be politically popular and spur the transfer of property from those who intend to do nothing with it to those who can use it productively. The extra revenue raised can be used to help fund the incentives part of the package below. b) Aligned with the goals of the Spatial Plan, a range of measures should be implemented to increase the desirability and developability of good quality residential buildings in suitable urban growth areas: i) Streetscape improvements and creation of new parks and green spaces in the Te Aro Basin and other identified high-growth residential areas that lack green space. This will improve the livability, attractiveness, stormwater detention, and air quality of these urban areas. They are often unattractive, hard and grey areas of the city, and they represent a huge opportunity to be developed into attractive and desirable residential precincts if intelligent

interventions are made. ii) Rapid improvements in pedestrian, cycle, and public transport in these areas to increase the viability and desirability of low car usage patterns. This would help developers to build affordable housing by realising significant savings on car park construction costs in future development. It will also allow more people to enjoy low-cost and low-carbon lifestyles free from the financial, time, and environmental cost of private vehicles. Implementing the Gehl plan from 20 years ago would go a long way to supporting housing growth in the city and should be implemented in full within 5 years. With regards to cycle infrastructure, the funding for future cycle infrastructure in the LTP is wholly inadequate and needs to be substantively increased if it is to be congruent with either the Spatial Plan, WCC's declaration of a Climate Emergency, or item 4 Te Atakura (climate change) of the LTP (see separate cycle section). iii) Council support for improved design quality of urban housing. We are generally bad at designing and building multi-unit housing in this country. We must rapidly get better at this. Council should support this through design competitions for high-profile projects, and provision of or lending support for land purchases to enable alternative forms of housing delivery (i.e resident-led and not-for-profit development). Better resourcing and depth of skill at the council urban design team would provide more certainty for affordable housing developers and better urban design guidance for designers. The calculation of development contributions should also be redesigned to reward developers who provide high levels of amenity for future residents, measured on such metrics as the amount of green space, bike parks, shared space, external windows, etc, provided per unit or resident. Development contribution rebates should also be beefed up for Greenstar buildings, and extended to multi-unit residential buildings. These targeted desirability measures may also have the side-effect of taking some pressure off of the more politically contentious densification efforts in already desirable areas such as Mt Victoria, Thorndon etc. Basically it will be easier and better to create more attractive leafy areas, rather than spending too much energy fighting the nimbys in already leafy areas. Planting new trees is relatively easy and cheap, and political capital could perhaps better be reserved for ensuring support for realistic rates to do 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 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?

Further comment on Cycle Network Funding: I strongly support the Accelerated full investment cycleways investment programme. The council's preferred 'high' investment is mislabelled and misleading. It cannot at all be considered high by the standards of the funding for other transport modes in Wellington, especially roading. Nor is it at all high when compared to the human, climate, and economic costs of implementing an overdue cycle network badly or slowly. The case for proceeding with the Accelerated full investment programme includes: 1. We are in the critical stage of a climate crisis that will shape the prospects of our city and the lives of our descendants for generations to come. The WCC declared a Climate Emergency in 2019. Responding to the climate crisis is one of the stated primary goals of the Long Term Plan. 2. Road transport causes nearly 40% of New Zealand's green house gasses. Road transport emissions are the lowest hanging fruit for emission reduction as petrol powered cars can relatively easily be replaced by other types of transport. The technology for doing it exists, and in the case of bicycles, is mature. 3. Bicycles (closely followed by e-bikes) are the most energy and carbon efficient methods of moving humans from one point to another known to physics. They are also the second cheapest form of transport, after walking. 4. Data from cities around the world shows that over 30% of car trips in cities can easily be replaced by bikes, (and potentially higher with ebikes) if cycling is a safe and attractive option. Wellington's current cycling mode share is 2.7%. 5. Encouraging more people to bike rather than drive is one of the easiest and cheapest methods for reducing NZ's transport emissions. We won't get better bang for the buck with anything else, not even public transport or electric cars. 6. Agriculture, forestry, and other climate related policy may be out of WCC's control,

but transport planning is the main lever that the city of Wellington can pull in response to climate change and we have the responsibility to pull it as hard as it can. 7. Currently, people on bikes are being killed and injured every week on Wellington streets. The price of delayed action is measured in broken bones and dead friends. This is not acceptable and can not be allowed to continue. 8. Increasingly New Zealand's, and especially Wellington's competitive advantage in high-wage industries is by being a place where people want to live. Much of Wellington's burgeoning tech sector thrives here because talent wants to be here. We must recognise this as a key advantage to build on and invest more in those things that make Wellington an attractive place to live and to put down roots. A safe and functioning cycle network is an absolutely key part of ensuring Wellington remains high in the livability rankings. Our cycle infrastructure is already decades behind other comparable cities, and we ignore this at our peril. We must recognise that just like the pipes, we are playing catch up here and have a long way to go. 9. Safe cycling infrastructure supports affordable housing development. We are also in a housing crisis. A large part of solving this and achieving the aims of the Spatial Plan will be contingent on ensuring that new medium-high density housing can be built within walking and cycling distance of the CBD and other amenities. This means housing can be built with a reduced (or no) need for carparking and car use, reducing housing construction costs and construction related emissions significantly while also reducing people's ongoing transport costs. 10. Traffic on the roads in Wellington is pretty bad and getting worse each year. Less cars on the road means less traffic for drivers, and with separated cycle lanes much more efficient traffic flow. 11. Safe and well designed cycle infrastructure must therefore be a critical and core piece of our future transport infrastructure. Cycleways are not a 'nice to have' or 'something we could do better', but one of the main strategic tools that must aggressively deploy to ensure that we remain competitive as a city and do not ruin the future. 12. The use and usefulness of a cycle network are greatest when it operates as a network. Network effects accumulate as each new connection is added to it – a network is greater than the sum of it's parts, and next to useless when fragmented. We would never dream of building roads that aren't connected to other roads. Yet that is what we have with our cycleways at present and that is what we will still have in 10 years time with the council's preferred 'high' level of investment. In the meantime existing assets already put in place are not being fully utilised because they're not connected up. Far from saving the ratepayer money, delaying the full completion of the network will likewise only delay reaping the benefits of the network, and therefore indefinitely pushing out the payback period of the ratepayer's significant investment. 13. At the preferred 'high' level of investment, Wellington's cycle network will still not be complete in 10 years time. If I start a family now there will still not be proper safe and connected bike paths in Wellington by the time my children are teenagers. In the meantime our chance to take meaningful action to address the climate emergency will have been and gone. It will be too late. The next 10 years are the years that count. The meaning of the word 'emergency' is not being properly understood by the drafters of the LTM. I do not want hanging over my conscience that we didn't do everything we could practically do to solve the defining issue of the century, while we still could. This is quite clearly a moral issue and we must do everything we can, especially when doing the right thing isn't even that hard and will provide us with a raft of other benefits. 14. The Accelerated full investment programme is affordable. I will very happily pay an extra 1.31% on my rates if it meant I was at less chance of being killed on the way to work, and increase the likelihood that my children will inherit a habitable planet.



Respondent No: 207

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[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Trudy Shannon
- 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 3: High investment programme (\$120m capital investment - Council's preferred option)
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Option 2. Medium investment with savings (\$25.4m investment, lower rates and debt).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** 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
Central Library

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

I never thought of myself as a likely cyclist, and only learnt to cycle in my late 20s. So I've been riding a bike for about ten years. For just on a year now I have been a regular cycle commuter, choosing cycling almost every day. While I hate the wind and the rain and my helmet-hair, what I hate most is freaking out when I don't know where to cycle. The cycle lane ends or I'm at an impossible intersection and I don't know how to navigate it. Lycra-clad cyclists make it all look easy but it's people like me - unexpectedly prompted to try cycling, cares vaguely about the environment, willing to give it a serious go as a main form of transport - who need better cycle infrastructure to feel confident and safe when I'm out on my bike. And its people like me passing up on driving every day that will make a difference to our carbon emissions. I even bike out for drinks or to brunch in the weekend now. But look, crossing the city to places I don't go frequently can be really challenging and saps my sense of confidence about choosing this transport option. That and finding places to park and lock a bike - its getting tougher all the time as there are more bikes to compete with. I also recognise not everyone is sympathetic to this view, so I endorse the Council's preferred option (#3) of significant investment. Library - just get it done already, we're all losing too much by not having a central place. But please take a strategic look at what could be accomplished, don't replace like for like. Yes put the apartments on top to pay for the development. And spend some time at Turanga in Christchurch - it's amazing and the children of our city deserve something as inspiring and as inclusive. Even just looking at the 'what's on' and the vast variety of community uses of the space will get you motivated.

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?

Auckland Libraries has stopped charging late fees and fines, with the aim of driving up utilisation of the collection. Could this be considered here? Please?



Respondent No: 259

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Patrick Morgan
- 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?** Cycling Action Network
- 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 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

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

Investing more in cycling makes sense. - helps meet the Council's carbon reduction goals - builds resilience, improves safety, connects communities - is popular - saves people money by cutting their transport costs - therefore boosting local businesses - is great value for money as Govt meets half the cost - helps us get more out of PT investments - most Councillors campaigned on this - supports denser and affordable housing - is consistent with Te Atakura, Spatial Plans, Urban Growth Plans etc - riding a bike is awesome fun.

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

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I somewhat support the proposed budget.

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

not answered

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

not answered



Respondent No: 282

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Russell Tregonning
- 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 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 4. Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m to \$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)

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

Cycleways
Te Atakura (climate change)
Central Library

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

MORE CYCLING is vital. For climate, health and road congestion benefits--the advent of electric bikes and improved safe, continuous cycleways could transform our city. CLIMATE CHANGE has been deemed by the council as an emergency. it therefore needs maximum funding possible. Action not words. THE CENTRAL LIBRARY was a vital community hub--much loved and used. To restore this icon it needs urgent attention. Keep it in public hands.

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

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I strongly support the proposed budget.

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

not answered

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

not answered



Respondent No: 309

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Jacqui Lane
- 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 Equestrian Advocacy Group
- 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

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

not answered

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

not answered

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

https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/33e142d9f22a276e0ee4260f05e3b85416913172/original/1619768527/13482d209da576f7dba28965f5970e30_WEAG_WCC_LTP_2021.docx?1619768527

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

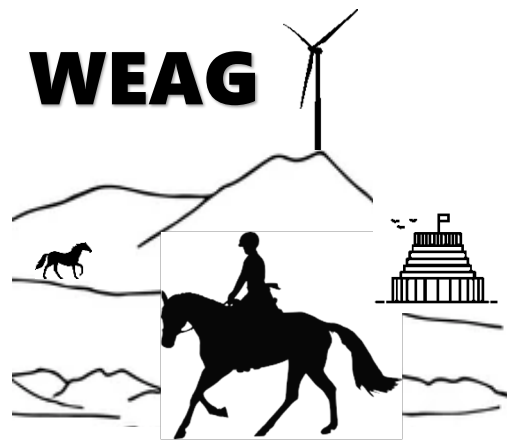
not answered

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



Wellington Equestrian Advocacy Group

SUBMISSION TO GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2021

WEAG is a sister group to The Kapiti Equestrian Advocacy Group (KEAG) and other regional equestrian advocacy groups being formed across the country including the Wairarapa Equestrian Advocacy Group and the Manawatu and Tararua Equestrian Advocacy Group. All of the Equestrian Advocacy Groups operate under the umbrella of the recently formed New Zealand Equestrian Advocacy Network (previously New Zealand Equestrian Advocacy Group).

Following is the WEAG submission to the Wellington City Council's Long Term Plan.

WEAG request that:

1. **WCC consult with WEAG** regarding the many existing areas currently promoted as equestrian access to resolve current access issues. Just a few examples of these areas and the current barriers to access are:
 - a. Te Kopahou Reserve which is included in the Outer Green Belt Plan as equestrian access on the farm tracks but is not promoted for horse access in any documents or signage. In addition, there are gates in place to prevent vehicle access which also prevent equestrian access. There is no process by which equestrians can obtain keys for access.
 - b. Access to Mt Towai on the Eastern hills but there is no gate access to get there.
 - c. Belmont Hill-Pauatahanui public road is missing from the Lower Hutt Tracks and Trails Brochure and also has locked gates at both ends.
 - d. Sweetacres track is also missing from this publication
 - e. The firebreaks in Lower Hutt are supposed to be available for equestrians, but again, there are locked gates and keys are refused.
2. **WEAG (and other relevant advocacy groups) are consulted as stakeholders** by WCC in all future roading, recreation or other plans which have or could have an impact on equestrian access in the area.
3. **Parking areas are developed** for horse floats and trucks on WCC land where tracks are open to equestrians to provide easy, safe access to multiuse paths and beaches. The parking areas to include hitching rails and mounting blocks.
4. **Appropriate signage** is in place to highlight equestrian access and educate other recreational users, for example regarding who has right of way and control of dogs.

5. **Consideration is given to the safety of equestrians** who are required to ride on or close to roads in order to access recreational tracks. This can take the form of awareness through improved signage in higher use areas, advertising, greater inclusion of information during driver training, consideration of equestrian use of cycleways or footpaths when necessary.
6. **WCC's definition of a shared path** is updated to a Multi-use path to ensure Cycling and Walking tracks include Bridleway wherever possible. Make this a starting point of all pathway design. Including horses on more tracks will assist in reducing equestrian use of roads and instantly improve their safety.
7. **Install mounting blocks and hitching rails** along WCC tracks, especially alongside toilets and on either side of any gates or other areas where dismounting is required.
8. **Councils Develop and install a cross region Equestrian access system** for parks and trails. Establish a Working Group of Equestrians and staff from Local and Regional Councils to develop this system.
9. **WCC consider the development of Equestrian tourism.** WEAG believe there is opportunity to extend the development of 'horse camping' (as proposed by KEAG for the Kapiti region) to other parts of the greater Wellington region. For example, the recent Te Kopahou draft network plan has suggested a hut be built for overnight stays. WEAG request that due consideration is given to making this hut horse-friendly to allow for overnight stays by visiting equestrians and to consider the possibility of encouraging 'horse tourism' in other areas where overnight facilities already exist.

We are aware that horses are perceived as more difficult to accommodate than other recreational user groups and are keen to work with councils and other stakeholder groups to remove any real or perceived barriers and ensure that equestrians can become an accepted and supported recreational user group.



Respondent No: 370

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Stephanie Cairns
- 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)** Don't know.
- 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

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

I began riding a bike in Wellington 10 years ago, as a university student. I love to ride and taking up cycling has made a massive difference to my mental and physical health. It's also helped me to keep living in the city despite being on a low income, through saving money on transport. But I am sick of taking my life in my hands every time I ride. Wellington's streets are dangerous for anyone on a bike, even if they are experienced and confident. I am now a cycle skills instructor with Pedal Ready, and a community bicycle mechanic with Mechanical Tempest (DIY volunteer-run workshop) and Bike Space (WCC funded workshop space). I have also run workshops and courses on empowerment through bike repair skills for women and the general public with WACC (Workshops for Accessible Cycle Care). Through all of this work I have had conversations with hundreds of diverse people – children, teens, adults and elders of all genders, middle- and working-class, professionals, students, homeless, refugee and migrant background, Wellingtonians and visitors – about cycling in Wellington. Almost universally, people report that the traffic situation in our city is difficult and scary. The biggest turn-off factor for anyone considering the possibility of cycling in Wellington is not the weather, or the hills. It's the very real prospect of getting squashed by a car – or verbally abused by a driver; or at a more basic level the awkwardness of feeling like there is no real place for you on the road. 10 years since I started cycling here, we are still waiting for notorious safety black spots to be fixed. Here's a few examples: • Adelaide Road going towards the Basin Reserve – I have seen and experienced myself many near misses between cyclists in the bus lane and cars turning across from the other side, or changing lanes suddenly; there is no clear and easy way for cyclists to enter the Basin without waiting for ages at pedestrian lights. • Kent and Cambridge terrace – both roads require cyclists to either claim the inside lane the whole way, or change across 2-3 lanes at either end to connect with the Basin or waterfront shared path. Intersection next to New World with traffic feeding in from Cable St/the Quays is particularly dangerous. • Chaytor Street/Raroa Rd in Karori/Northland, where yet another cyclist was hurt recently. • The entire Mt Victoria tunnel experience – entrance and exit on both sides, and the tunnel itself, are spectacularly awful. • Crawford Road roundabout, where I was hit by a car failing to give way in 2019. All of these places and more are daily threats to the physical safety of people on bikes. Yet nothing has happened to make these areas safer. Why does the Council continue to prioritise the comfort and convenience of car drivers over the lives and limbs of people on bikes? Why is my safety, and the safety of all people who ride (or might want to), worth so very little? In the face of this sheer awfulness, there is an astounding fact: more and more people are giving cycling a go in Wellington. Despite the difficulty, the number of people discovering the freedom, joy, economy and speed of the bicycle continues to grow. Wellington could be on the verge of unlocking a cycling revolution, if we were to improve safety to make riding a bike an easy choice, rather than a hard one. In light of this, I lend my full support to the points made by Cycle Wellington with regards to the long term plan. These points are below with my own comments. These are: 1. Support Option 4 to build a fully-connected network by 2031. Cycleways that don't connect to each other are like a house with half a roof – hardly much better than not being there at all. Piecemeal creation of cycling infrastructure does not help build public support for cycling. These projects get a bad reputation for being disruptive and expensive with little benefit, because they do not make coherent routes and thus do very little to encourage new cyclists (for example Rongotai Rd cycleway, which terminates extremely awkwardly around Pak'n'Save). We will only see a significant shift in cycling numbers when people are actually able to get around safely across the whole city. We need a network which is designed with a wide range of users in mind, including children, e-bike users, slower cyclists, micro-mobility users, cargo bikers and more. We need a network that is laid out and rolled out logically, with the most dangerous spots being prioritised to be improved first – rather than the most politically convenient ones. In my view, a connected network of cycleways, even if they are not gold-standard, is vastly preferable to a handful of more expensively built routes. Marking out lanes with road cones would even be a huge improvement on the current situation. Council needs to remember that the cheapest way to

make roads safer for people on bikes is simply to exclude cars entirely, reduce speed limits, or remove car parking to make clearways. We don't need re-landscaped, re-sealed, fully separated paths everywhere. We just need to re-allocate existing road space in a fairer way. 2. Prioritise children before seawalls – this refers to Council's decision to put the Great Harbour Way at the top of the list of priorities. While this will definitely be a stunning route once complete, utility cycling should be the priority, not recreational. Council needs to stop treating cycling as a hobby or sport and start treating it seriously as a transport mode. I share the fears of Cycle Wellington that the seawall works required for the Great Harbour Way will eat in to the cycling budget and be seen by the public as 'expensive cycleways' rather than necessary coastal protection. 3. Double the Cycling Minor Works Budget to \$2 million per year While we all wait around for Let's Get Wellington Moving to get moving and decide on the big-picture allocation of street space on the main arterial routes, the Council could definitely be creating more bike parking and making minor street changes such as kerb ramps to make life easier. \$1 million is barely anything for the existing Minor Works Budget, \$2 million is still barely anything in the grand scheme of the overall budget. 4. Create a new dedicated funding category to deliver rapid changes to the urban environment Everyone is sick of the painfully extensive consultation periods that seem to be required to begin the process of thinking about possibly maybe making any street changes to make life safer and easier for people on bikes. Wellingtonians of all stripes and modes of transport are sick of the talk. It is increasingly clear that the best way to develop new cycle infrastructure is to make temporary changes and seek feedback once they are made. This flexible approach to the creation of new infrastructure enables people to see what they are actually being consulted on and get a taste of the possible benefits in advance. This cuts down on the negative feedback loops seen in projects like the Island Bay Cycleway. I agree with Cycle Wellington that we need to see more of this kind of experimental and dynamic work coming out of the council, and that this should be an explicit category of funding. 5. Ring-fence cycling funding According to Cycle Wellington, "In the three years since the last LTP more than \$16 million has gone unspent from Newtown Connections, the Parade Upgrade and Miramar networks that were planned to have been built." We still have no idea where this money has gone. Funds that are intended for cycling improvements should be ring fenced in order for the Council to be held accountable to its professed support for cycling. Because despite all the words said over the years, Wellingtonians are still waiting. I've been waiting for 10 years – others have been waiting longer. We are waiting for basic safety upgrades to reduce the danger faced every day by existing cyclists. We are waiting for a properly designed, connected network of safe cycleways which would open up cycling to a much wider range of potential new cyclists. We are waiting for Council to be brave and show leadership in this space despite opposition from the same small privileged group of people who get their voices heard on everything. We are waiting for the physical safety of all road users to be put above the comfort and convenience of people in private motor transport. We are waiting for justice.

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

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

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

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

not answered



Respondent No: 600

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Phillip OBrien
- 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)** None of these options.
- 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

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

not answered

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

not answered

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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I strongly oppose the proposed budget.

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

not answered

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

Mayor to resign with honour - and crawl back to burrow in Karori. All party linked politicals must go. The only independent is TAMP PAUL!



Respondent No: 618

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Matt Wills
- 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?** Cricket 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 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)** Don't know.
- Q10. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Wastewater laterals decision)** Don't know.
- Q11. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Cycleways decision)** Don't know.
- Q12. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Te Atakura Funding decision)** Don't know.
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Don't know.
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Don't know.
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Don't know.

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

None of these

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

not answered

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

https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/aa0a2bc18a532ef429fb3d947e69c906bec990ba/original/1620176641/728f5a2a444725053378c83290da261f_Wellington_City_Council_LTP_Submission_2021_-_Cricket_Wellington.pdf?1620176641

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

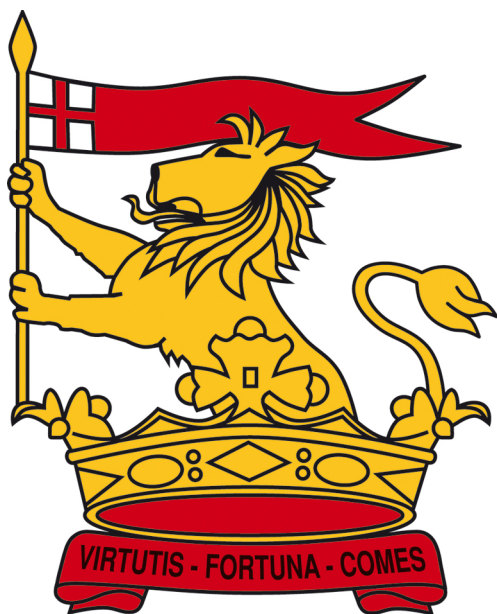
Don't know.

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

not answered

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

not answered



WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL
LONG TERM PLAN

Cricket Wellington Submission
MAY 2021

CRICKET WELLINGTON SUBMISSION:

Introduction

Cricket Wellington is the regional sports organisation (RSO) for cricket in the Wellington region and one of six Major Associations that make up New Zealand Cricket. As an organisation we are responsible for the administration, promotion, and development of cricket in Wellington. We are committed to 'Creating Outstanding Experiences for the People of Wellington'. Chaired by experienced sports administrator David Howman and led by CEO, Cam Mitchell and General Manager, Liz Green, Cricket Wellington was the first RSO in Aotearoa to achieve the Sport New Zealand Governance Mark (the gold standard for governance in sport).

Cricket is New Zealand's summer game. From the beach to the backyard, from local parks to the Basin Reserve, cricket is played informally and competitively across the nation. Furthermore, the ongoing success and profile of the Blackcaps and White Ferns has seen the popularity of the game continue to grow. Locally, it has been a golden period for Cricket Wellington; this season we hosted our second consecutive Dream11 Super Smash grand final double header, with the Wellington Firebirds retaining their status as Super Smash Champions. This event achieved a record national domestic crowd attendance of 5,545, proving that cricket remains a popular form of entertainment for Wellingtonians alike.

The 2021-22 season will be one of the biggest ever, with the previously delayed ICC Women's World Cricket World Cup to be held in New Zealand during March and April of 2022. This action-packed spectacle will see 31 matches across 31 days, with Wellington hosting six games, including the White Ferns v Australia fixture on Sunday 13th of March, and the first semi-final on Wednesday 30th of March. With the best women's cricketers in the Capital, this is a once in a lifetime opportunity to create a legacy for women's sport, for participants and for fans. It will also be an opportunity to showcase the city of Wellington and all there is to offer in the capital for visiting teams, supporters, and fans.

To maximise the opportunities created by international and domestic success, Cricket Wellington and our member clubs continue to prioritise community cricket. This is evident in our Strategic Plan (2020-2023) that identifies our community priorities as youth and female cricket, while continuing to focus on our core deliverables of community player pathways, coach and umpire development and capability and capacity.

It is our responsibility to create a vibrant, integrated and participant focused environment that inspires. During the 2020-21 season, we;

- Engaged Tamariki and Rangatahi from 108 schools across the Wellington region in our School Awareness, Yeah! Girls and School Yard Smash programmes
- Developed and supported 100% of junior and youth team coaches through our coach education programme
- Developed initiatives to increase ethnic diversity, with 25% of our participants now recognised as coming from ethnic communities. We continue to strive to engage more of our community
- More people playing and loving cricket; a 9.4% increase in participation from 2019-20

As measured by the annual Voice of Participant survey (conducted by Sport New Zealand) overall member satisfaction is improving. Feedback has identified that to enhance the participant experience we must ensure facilities for training and play continue to improve.

Therefore, in our submission we seek continued support from Wellington City Council to help ensure the recommendations from our facilities strategy are achieved. In this submission we also seek Wellington City Council's support to ensure that community cricket is not adversely affected as clubs continue to manage the wider challenges and impacts of COVID-19.

Cricket Wellington Facilities Strategy

Cricket Wellington developed a Facilities Strategy in 2018 to identify our facility requirements now and into the future. The strategy was developed in partnership with Visitor Solutions and set out a series of recommendations that would help support our desire to grow the game and create outstanding cricket experiences.

We thank the Wellington City Council for your support in mobilising Cricket Wellington's Facilities Strategy and we ask that there is continued investment and collaboration in improving these community assets. We have enjoyed a positive relationship over many years and appreciate the consistency in the high-quality grounds that are provided at the various facilities in the region. The ongoing investment in community sport is also appreciated and a recent highlight was the opening of the Waiora Hub at Alex Moore Park. However, there is always more to be done and we request that Wellington City Council considers the following priorities when developing its annual plan:

1. Ensure our communities have access to an adequate number of turf and artificial facilities
2. Continue to maintain minimum standards of maintenance and upkeep for facilities
3. Partner with Cricket Wellington to identify, and upgrade facilities that require maintenance

Our Investment

Cricket Wellington continues to view community cricket as our number one priority, and this was evident in the removal of affiliation fees for all of our member clubs in the 2020-21 season. This allowed clubs to navigate the financial uncertainty of Covid-19, at a cost of \$200k to Cricket Wellington. It is our hope that clubs will be in a stronger position to invest in grassroots cricket, whether it be participant programmes, coaching support, or club infrastructure.

In addition to the removal of affiliation fees, Cricket Wellington continues to invest significantly in community cricket, of which \$148,516 is spent on council ground fees, with \$69,270 specific to Wellington City Council. This season it is our intent to restore affiliation fees to clubs at the same level as the 2019-20 season and to ensure that cricket remains affordable for all and we are therefore requesting that all Councils maintain their ground fees from the 2020-21 season. This will help ensure that Cricket Wellington and its member clubs are not impacted by any additional financial burden and increases are not passed onto participants.

Ensuring that cricket remains affordable for all Wellingtonians will help maintain cricket's status as New Zealand's number one summer sport, a sport that can be enjoyed by our community in a magnitude of different settings.

SUMMARY:

Sport plays a fundamental role in keeping our communities active and engaged, and Cricket Wellington looks forward to continuing to work in partnership with Wellington City Council to offer participants the opportunity to engage with cricket in a safe and enjoyable environment.

Cricket Wellington would like to thank the Wellington City Council for your ongoing support, and we look forward to being given the opportunity to discuss our submission further.



Liz Green
General Manager
Cricket Wellington



Matt Wills
Head of Community Cricket
Cricket Wellington



Respondent No: 641

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Peter Gent
- Q2. **Phone number:** not answered
- Q3. **Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?** not answered
- Q4. **What organisation are you submitting on behalf of?** not answered
- Q5. **Do you wish to speak to Councillors about your submission at an Oral Hearing or Forum?** Yes
- Q6. **If yes - we are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please select which option(s) you would prefer?** Oral 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)** 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)** 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)** 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 2. Invest in technology at Southern Landfill (\$86m to \$134m capital investment 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
Central Library
Te Ngākau funding for future work

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

Please ring fence cycle funding, so it is spent on cycleways, rather than used on other non cycle projects if an underspend happens on a certain project. Please fund the library properly through rates and debt. Please do not sell down to a private owner. Some people make not like the building, but it is the front room of the city and needs to be done well and stay within the ownership of the city. Please be brave and bold and fund our long term infrastructure properly. The council has head room to increase its debt. It can borrow cheaply and there is a urgent need for long term infrastructure to be built in the next 10 years.

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

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

Neutral.

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

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: 665

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Russell Bell
- 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)** 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**

None of these

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

Please refer to the attached file in relation to funding options I would like the Council to seriously consider in lieu of a 13.5% increase in the 2021/22 General Rates

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/811e0a77be52d4b0ace2d0becbfd58f3a40c4434/original/1620202003/d4b2d15d2c90ab1b1d5b9a3a8c42ea26_WCC_10_Year_Plan_Submission.pdf?1620202003

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 keeping the budget the same but with some changes.

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

Please refer to the contents of my submission regarding the funding for this plan. Please also contact me urgently should the pdf submission file attachment become detached

Alternative options for funding of the Wellington City Council 2021-31 Long Term Plan.

The 10-year plan proposes an average 13.5% increase to the General Rate in year one with further increases averaging 8.7%, 7.7% and 6.6% in the three subsequent years. If we include the actual 5.1% General Rate increase from last year, that means that the General Rate will have increased by 41.6% over a period when the average rate of inflation is likely to have been less than 12% with a similar rise in wages/salaries and benefits. Put simply, the proposed General Rate increases are both obscene and unaffordable by the population at large. General Rates are taxes on property wealth rather than on income. People with high value properties but lower incomes are disproportionately affected and find it difficult to find the cashflow to pay their rates. There has to be a better way. My submission urges Wellington City Council (WCC) to urgently consider and understand why and how increased borrowing will provide that solution.

Firstly, I recognise that WCC is in an invidious position, partly hamstrung by out of date rules (some self-imposed) about debt are stopping it from addressing decades of under investment in infrastructure. This comes at a time when it is simultaneously facing additional costs relating to earthquake resilience, future costs to counter climate change challenges and providing funding for the consequences of population/densification growth. WCC is not alone in this regard but the solution proposed of raising the general rates an exorbitant amount and lifting debt to only 225% of revenue is not the answer. The WCC needs to become less risk averse and become better informed about how the worlds of bond investors, interest rates and central bank bond buying have changed dramatically since the LGFA borrowing limits of 300% of revenue and WCC's own cap of 175% of revenue were first set. The "Perfect Storm" circumstances now presented dictate that the 2012 general principle held by the Office of the Auditor General (AOG) *that "debt should be used to fund new assets to meet demand or to increase levels of service rather than fund renewals"* needs to be set aside. The option of using General Rate increases lacks imagination and is unaffordable by ratepayers. Fortunately however, the current state of the Financial Markets does provide an option whereby long-term debt can be raised at a fraction of the cost applicable back in 2012 when the AOG made their pronouncement.

A study by NZIER in 2013 found that Councils throughout NZ had an average ratio of revenue being spent on debt servicing close to 8%. Coincidentally at that same time, the LGFA set its benchmark limit for debt servicing at 20% of total revenue. Since the onset of Covid-19, the LGFA has raised \$2 billion on behalf of councils with an average rate of 0.99%. The Reserve Bank has bought a lot of those and other LGFA bonds at an average interest rate of 0.76%. WCC's ratio of debt servicing cost to total revenue has risen from 4.31% in 2017/18 to 5.04% in 2020/21. There is a huge amount of headroom between that figure and the 20% LGFA maximum limit. By way of an example though, Auckland City (AC) has prudently set its own limit for debt servicing at not more than 15% of total revenues subject that net debt did not exceed 275% of total revenue.

I have hypothesised a situation in which WCC, instead of the 13.5% increase, adopted a 3% increase in the General Rate for 2021/22 (viz. circa \$202,135,000 income instead of the forecast \$392,230,000 income). Total Revenues would then be circa \$427,072,000. I suggest that WCC borrow 280% of this figure (\$1,195,801,600) but as they already have debt of \$847,445,000, they would be making new borrowing of \$348,356,600 which at 0.99% interest would cost \$3,448,730 per annum in servicing costs. I have noted that WCC used interest rates ranging from 2.52% (2021/22) to 3.48% (2025/26) in their "Significant Assumptions" paper in support of the 2021-31 long term plan. Clearly their "significant assumptions" are "significantly different" to what is available from the financial markets. Even at an additional interest cost of \$3.44M, WCC's new total debt servicing costs (\$29,156,000) would only be 6.83% of total revenues, well below the 20% LGFA requirement.

This maths shows that the reduction in revenue from rates (\$190,095,000) is more than countered by additional borrowings of \$348,356,600. This demonstrates that a 13.5% increase in the General Rate is neither necessary nor justified. Prudential means exist for WCC's financial needs to be met in these extraordinary times through additional borrowing whilst taking advantage of current low interest rates. To keep the General Rate affordable, WCC needs to significantly increase its level of borrowing and it needs to borrow for as long a period as possible. WCC Councillors need to accept the challenge.

Russell Bell



Respondent No: 697

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Regan Dooley
- 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 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 3. Sludge minimisation through Council funding (\$147m to \$208m capital investment, above debt limit, and higher rates)

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

Cycleways

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

Public and active transport infrastructure is an investment in the common good. As part of building healthy communities and creating a stable climate, public and active transport needs to become the default way of moving people around urban environments. We all have different lives and different needs – getting children to school, people getting to work on time, elderly people getting around their community. No matter where we live or what our situation, all people – the elderly, disabled people, young people – should be able to move easily around our city in ways that build our health and take care of the planet. Regardless of where they live in a city, kids need to be able to move about freely in fun and healthy ways. To get on a bike, take a bus, walk, or scooter to school, their friends' place, or sports practice across town. Good public transport, protected cycleways and walking paths can help us all move about our city independently and have fun on the way. A city that is great for everyone to live in and good for kids' health, is one with lots of public and active transport and is easy to navigate without a car. Building more cycleways for people riding bikes, scooters and skateboards is one of the key ways that we can give everybody more options for how they get around. Despite this, WCC has only built 16 km of cycleways in the last decade and Waka Kotahi (NZTA) says significant improvement is needed. I don't like that you have cherry-picked 'Building More Cycleways' as a key decision to be consulted on in isolation in the new Long Term Plan, rather than attempt a more holistic discussion about urban mobility and transport shift in the context of a climate and housing crisis. However, what's done is done and one positive is that it means you have identified the specific impact of each of your proposed options for building more cycleways on operating cost, rates and capital cost. This is good information to have and helps to highlight how self-defeating it is to be concerned about the impact it might have on rates. For example, the operating cost impact of the Accelerated Full Programme for Cycleways in the LTP (Option 4) is \$4.5m a year which translates to a 1.31% rates increase. Based on a rates bill of \$4k per annum that's an extra \$50 a year, or \$1 a week for a city-wide micro-mobility network. Even better, the difference between Option 4 and your recommended Option 3 is additional operating costs of \$1.9m pa, which is an extra 0.55% on rates, or \$22 a year added to a \$4k rates bill. That's 42 cents a week. These amounts are tiny. Transport is a significant expense for most Wellington City households. 85% of all Wellington households own one or more cars and it costs around \$12k per year to own and run a car in Wellington. There are over 110,000 cars in Wellington City, which means Wellington is spending a massive \$1.3bn a year on owning and running cars, which is a ridiculously large number. By contrast your Accelerated Full Programme to build more cycleways is an average of \$22.6m capital spend per year over 10 yrs (2% of \$1.3bn) and an increase in operational costs of \$4.5m per year (0.35% of \$1.3bn). What this means is that a city-wide cycling network only needs to reduce Wellington's household car running costs by more than 0.35%, or around \$42 per car per year on average, before it has paid for itself. Why is this even a discussion? The difference between the cost of a full cycling network and what Wellington spends on cars every year is so vast that it's a no brainer to invest more in cycling and micro-mobility. A full cycling network only needs to contribute to very small percentage reductions in household travel costs and it will be worth it (and that's without even considering all the other ways cycling can contribute to a well-connected, integrated transport system that works for everyone). The argument about a lack of sector capacity is being disingenuous. The sector won't ramp up the capacity unless it sees a strong commitment from WCC first. WCC needs to send the sector a signal by putting the budget in place. You might not spend all the budget but if you don't commit the budget in the first place then you're guaranteed not to do it. In addition to supporting Option 4 for Building More Cycleways I'd also like to endorse all of the following points made by Cycle Wellington: 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 new cycling projects I support funding to hire more staff to increase the council's capacity to deliver cycling projects and other transport improvements. I support streamlining and reducing the frequency of consultative processes in order to reduce the time, resources and budget spent to deliver cycling projects. I support the reallocation of existing road space over the creation of new road space in order to minimise the costs of cycling projects. Accountability I support the council setting clear and ambitious goals such as a target kilometers of new cycleways delivered and target percentage increase in cycling modeshare every year. These targets should be set higher than existing baseline levels. I support the council providing better information around cycling expenditure, such as breaking down the cycling budget by project and providing clear and accessible information when the allocated budget is not spent. Funding I support the council increasing rates further to fund essential infrastructure for cycling. I support the council taking on additional debt by raising it's debt-to-revenue ratio limit above 225%.

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

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

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

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

not answered

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 wgtm.cc/ltp.

Why we're collecting this information

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

Privacy statement

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

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

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

Full name: Mazz Scannell			
Contact details			
Address: [REDACTED]			
Phone number: [REDACTED]			
Are you are making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?			
Individual	Organisation: Friends of the Wellington Botanic Gardens		
What is your connection to Wellington? <i>(tick all that apply)</i>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am a Wellington City Council ratepayer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I live in Wellington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I work in Wellington	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I own a business in Wellington	<input checked="" 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?			
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No	
If yes - We are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. <i>(Please tick which option(s) you would prefer?)</i>			
Oral forum (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
Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Morning	<input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/> Evening



Our seven big decisions

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

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

Detailed information on these decisions are on pages 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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3. Cycleways

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

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

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

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

Which of these options do you prefer?

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

4. Te Atakura First to Zero (Climate Change)

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

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

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

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

Which of these options do you prefer?

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

5. Te Ngākau Civic Precinct - Council office buildings

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

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

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

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

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

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

Which of these options do you prefer?

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

6. Fixing the Central Library

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

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

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

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

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

Which of these options do you prefer?

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

7. Reducing sewage sludge and waste

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

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

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

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

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

Which of these options do you prefer?

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

8. Feedback on these decisions

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

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

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

Comments

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

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

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

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

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

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

Do you support the proposed 10-year budget?

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

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

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

Submission

Friends of the Wellington Botanic garden

Begonia House

The Friends of the Botanic gardens have been an active fund and friend-raiser for 32 years. The Friends set out to promote and support the development of the Botanic gardens, to raise funds and support garden projects and public foster interest in its scientific, educational, cultural and recreational functions.

We support the planned Capex expenditure for the Begonia House precinct. The Begonia house is an educational facility that showcases botany, encourages social interaction, and hosts many educational visits while constantly exhibiting excellent curation and biodiversity.

The Friends would like to acknowledge and formally thank the vast majority of Wellington Councillors who voted to include the Begonia House capital expenditure of \$7.748m - over the years 3-6 (pp. 13,20:clause 33) at the Annual plan/Long Term plan committee meeting 4 March.

The Capex funding is required for the redevelopment of the Begonia House precinct. Including the Picnic café, retail space, public toilets, event space, associated building services and the building's interaction with the rose garden and the Dell.

The Begonia House showcases a rich biodiversity of plants in a tropical setting and is an excellent contrast to both the New Zealand bush and the extensive rose collection outside. The plant collection encourages comparisons and educational opportunities with native and non-native flora and highlights diversity in the plant world. These experiences broaden visitor perspectives and allow for conservation efforts to be experienced first-hand.

The Begonia house is a garden that offers Wellingtonians, New Zealanders and international visitors the opportunity to appreciate plants and flowers curated from all over the world. The glasshouse also serves a valuable social role. Visitors can see the relationship between process and organisms and appreciate the delicate balance of nature first-hand while meeting with friends, family or special interest groups.

However, the Begonia House is no longer fit for purpose. Opened in 1960, the building has evolved bit-by-bit with bolt-on solutions designed to achieve a particular fix rather than complementing an overall plan that creates a seamless and holistic experience. Currently the building is difficult to service, and its tired general appearance no longer fits its destination status

The plants are dependent on heating to ensure plant health and vigour. The gas boilers need replacing as the heating distribution remains fraught and inefficient. Replacing the gas boilers with more modern heating solutions is also consistent with Te Atakura government initiative.

Temperatures can vary from 10 to over 35C degrees – creating unsafe working conditions. Those wild fluctuations in temperature necessitated in the temporary relocation of the shop to the Treehouse. The shop profits (when at the Begonia House) and rental from Picnic café contributed 10 per cent of the gardens operating costs. This profit is reinvested in the gardens as part of the operational budget.

It is worth noting that the annual profit from the shop has dropped due to its relocation away from the heavy foot traffic of the Begonia precinct. Inconsistent temperatures also means that the Begonia House is a less than ideal event space that hinders the potential of the space as a wedding and corporate venue.

There are also structural shortcomings, including the glasshouse window panes which are no longer fit for purpose for temperature control or weather tightness; internal wiring and electrical fittings are old and vulnerable to water ingress; and the toilets suffer from overuse and have become odorous and unpleasant.

Visitor numbers to the rose gardens and Begonia House compare well to other Wellington destination attractions, experiencing more visitors than Wellington Zoo and Zealandia.

It is estimated 1.2M people annually visit the Botanical garden, and from those 400,000 visit the Rose garden and Begonia house. A third of all visitors enter the gardens through the Rose gardens.

The Begonia house offers a rare all-weather accessible facility for visitors of varying levels of physical fitness to experience the physical, social and emotional benefits of interacting with nature. The proximity of parking assists to deliver these benefits.

On any given day, the Begonia house is a destination - the plant exhibits are complemented by a successful and popular café, which is also considered a destination for many Wellingtonians and visitors. The café is housed in the Begonia House.

Historically the garden is a very small demander of capital funds. Most developments are a combination of private and public funding including the glasshouses (2010), the Treehouse (1999), the duck pond redevelopment (1996) and the redevelopment of the Discovery garden (2017).

The age of the Begonia House and the need for modernisation of the existing infrastructure means that the necessity for Capex funding will not go away. In fact, the longer the building is left in its current state the greater the demand for Capex will be.

Therefore, the Friends of the Wellington Botanic gardens request that the dedicated Capex for the Begonia House precinct remains in the long-term plan and actioned according to the calendar years allocated.

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Submission of the Wellington Residents' Coalition on Wellington City Council 2021 Long-Term Plan

Introduction

Formed in 1997, the Wellington Residents' Coalition seeks to defend the assets of, services to and rights of the people of Wellington. Our submission on the 2021 Long-Term Plan will focus on water, housing and asset sales.

1. Water

a. Water Meters

The Coalition is pleased that the Council does not have included the introduction of universal water meters in the Plan. It is our position that charging for water by volume will lead to the commercialisation of access to water which is supposed to be a human right. That will hit the poorer in our community the hardest. In order to delay capital expenditure to provide more water the Council should rely on the community to conserve water, not the market.

b. Conservation

About 70% of household water use goes on showers/baths, toilets and laundry – things we all need. Water efficient shower heads, modern dual flush toilets and modern front loading washing machines use about half the water that old shower heads, toilets and washing machines use. The average use of water in Wellington per household is about 560 litres per day. If a household using the average amount of water but with old inefficient shower heads, toilets and washing machines, was upgraded from old to new this would reduce their water use from 560 litres to 370. The \$144 million proposed to be spent on installing water meters could be used instead to upgrade households potentially saving up to a third of their water use.

Note that ten years ago the Coalition presented a petition calling for the Council to encourage the use of tanks for grey water purposes such as watering gardens. We have not seen the Council take any action on this.

c. Management and Ownership of Assets

The Coalition is relieved that the Council has decided not to hand over its water assets to Wellington Water but is concerned that it has done so because of central government's proposed water reforms. We hereby foreshadow that unless the proposed water authorities are directly accountable to the electorate, we will be campaigning for the Council to opt out of the proposed scheme.

d. Sewerage and Laterals

It is the stance of the Wellington Residents' Coalition that the local council should be responsible for the maintenance of all water and sewer pipes up to and from each dwelling. We therefore support the proposal that the Council take over ownership of sewer laterals.

2. Housing

Despite the fact that the consultation document identifies housing as the second major issue of concern to Wellingtonians, there is no proposal for funding the remainder of the upgrade of the Council's existing housing stock.

The Wellington City Council could not have foreseen the Christchurch earthquakes nor the consequent changes in building codes and increase in construction costs. It is therefore not entirely to blame for the blowout in the budget for the upgrade of Council housing. The Coalition would support the Council in asking for much more central government assistance in paying for this upgrade.

The upgrade however, is insufficient. The Council along with the State needs to be an active player in the rental market so should in its Long-Term Plan provide for building more housing units.

3. Asset Sales

Rent money is dead money. We oppose the proposal to hand the sites of the Municipal Office Building and the Council Office Block over to private developers to then rent back to the Council. The Council should either upgrade or rebuild the existing buildings itself and retain ownership of them. However, given the shortage of construction resources this should be done later on in the term of the Plan to allow those resources to be used to build housing.

4. Consultation on the Plan

We recommend some changes to how the Long-Term Plan is consulted.

1. The consultation document should be the same as the plan.
2. Those reading the consultation document should not be directed to what the "big decisions" are.

1. Submission form

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

All submissions must be received by midnight Monday 10 May 2021

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

Before you start, read about our big decisions and the other supporting information in this consultation document.

Why we're collecting this information

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

Privacy statement

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

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

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

Full Name: _____ Warwick Taylor _____

Are you making this submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?				
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Organisation: Wellington Housing Action Coalition _____				
What is your connection to Wellington? Tick all that apply				
I am a Wellington City Council ratepayer		I live in Wellington	<input type="checkbox"/>	I work in Wellington
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?				
Yes		X	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If yes - We are offering two ways of speaking to Councillors about your submission. Please tick which option(s) you would prefer?				
Oral forum (informal, 60min facilitated table discussion with 2 to 3 Councillors and other submitters)	<input type="checkbox"/> Morning			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Evening			
Oral Hearing (formal hearing with set times to speak to full Council, 5mins per individual, 10mins per organisation)	X Morning			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Evening			

Our seven big decisions

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

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

Detailed information on these decisions are on pages 21 to 46 of the Consultation Document.

Question 9 in this submission form is a place for you to comment or provide any other feedback on the decisions.

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

Question 1 – Investment in three waters infrastructure

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

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

A summary of the proposed investment in in the three waters network is on pages 23-27 of the Consultation Document.

Which of these options do you prefer?

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

Question 2 – Wastewater laterals

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

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

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

Which of these options do you prefer?

	Take ownership (Council’s preferred option, \$32m investment)
	No change (no change in investment, rates or debt)
	None of these options
	Don’t know

Question 3 – Cycleways

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

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

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

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

Which of these options do you prefer?

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

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

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

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

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

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

Which of these options do you prefer?

	Fully fund the programme (Council's preferred option, \$29.9m investment)
	Low level of funding (\$18.1m investment, lower rates and debt)
	Medium investment with savings (\$25.4m investment, lower rates and debt)

	None of these options
	Don't know

Question 5 – Te Ngākau Civic Precinct – Council office buildings

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

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

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

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

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

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

Which of these options do you prefer?

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

Question 6 –Fixing the Central Library

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

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

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

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

A summary of the proposed investment to fund the fixing of the Te Ngākau Civic Square Central Library is on pages 42 -43 of the Consultation Document

Which of these options do you prefer?

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

Question 7 – Reducing sewage sludge and waste

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

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

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

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

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

Which of these options do you prefer?

	Sludge minimisation through alternate funding (Council's preferred option, \$147m-\$208m capital investment funded through a levy, no additional rates increase)
	No change in current practice (no change to investment, rates or debt)
	Invest in technology at Southern Landfill (\$86m-\$134m capital investment and additional 0.39% rates increase)

	Sludge minimisation – through Council funding (\$147m-\$208m capital investment, above debt limit, and additional 1.65% rates increase)
	None of these options
	Don't know

Question 8 – Feedback on these decisions

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

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

Question 9 – Proposed 10-year budget (See section “what this plan will cost” p13. of the Consultation Document for details)

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

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

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

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

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

Do you support the proposed 10-year budget?

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

Question 9.a) – If you stated in Question 1 that you are neutral or do not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

X	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

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

Future decisions

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

Other projects

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

Council Fees and charges

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

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

We strongly oppose the proposed budget because it does not fund the remainder of the programme to upgrade Council units nor does it allow for building of more Council units. We think that the Council should build sufficient housing such that its housing stock constitutes at least 10% of rental housing units in Wellington City.

We support any bid by the Council to central government for funding for this purpose.

We oppose any transfer of Council housing to any other organisation, including a trust.

All newly-built housing must be accessible to all people.

Thank you very much for your submission!



8 May 2021

SUBMISSION ON WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL'S LONG-TERM PLAN 2021–2031 (LTP)

SUMMARY

1. The draft LTP includes two capex projects for the Wellington Botanic Gardens: investment in the upgrade of botanic gardens buildings (Begonia House \$8.5m in years 2–5 and Otari-Wilton Lab and Nursery \$3.1m in years 5–9)
2. The Trust's submission invites Council to reverse the order of implementation of these two projects, i.e., upgrade the Otari-Wilton's Bush Conservation Laboratory and Nursery (\$3.1m) in years 1–5, and the Begonia House (\$8.5m) in years 6–9.

Rationale for request:

3. **Otari:** Starting the expansion of Otari's nursery and conservation laboratory later this year means that, by the end of year five, (2025/6) these facilities could be supporting effective plant conservation programmes with partners at national, regional and local levels.
4. New Zealand's indigenous biodiversity is in trouble with some 4,000 species being threatened or at risk of extinction (Department of Conservation, 2017). 1,253 species of vascular plants had their conservation status assessed in 2017, and these assessments showed that 46% were threatened or at risk of extinction. That's over 550 plant species. (This doesn't include threatened non-vascular plants such as mosses and lichens).
5. An even more alarming finding was that the conservation status of 61 vascular plant species had declined in the five years between the assessments in 2012 and 2017. (This included several species which were threatened by myrtle rust, a fungal disease that arrived in New Zealand in March 2017).
6. It's sobering to think about the number of plant species whose conservation status may decline between 2017 and the next assessment in 2022 or 2023. Threats include climate change, pest species (herbivores and weeds), further plant pathogen incursions and land clearance. Some of these declines, however, could be stabilised or reversed with the right combination of in-situ and ex-situ plant conservation practices in the field and at places like Otari.
7. Supplementary benefits of this project include making it easier for visitors to see what is happening in these facilities, thus adding value to their visits to Otari, increasing their ability to advocate for native plants and extending the length of visitors' trips to Wellington. It also

means the Trust could describe Otari's enhanced plant conservation outcomes in the history of Otari that the Trust plans to publish ahead of the Otari centennial in 2026.

8. **Begonia House**¹: The Trust recognises that the buildings and displays in the Begonia House are overdue for a major upgrade if their maintenance and renewal has been underfunded for some time. (It was built in 1960). Perhaps there are health and safety issues if the glass framing is getting to the point where sheets of glass could fall out. The Trust is not aware of any specific strategic outcomes Council expects to achieve from this sizeable investment. The Botanic Gardens of Wellington Management Plan (p. 42) says, however, that vehicle access from Glenmore Street makes it easier for the tourist buses and visitors who cannot easily access other parts of the garden to reach the Begonia House and other nearby visitor attractions, e.g., the café, the rose garden and the peace flame. As traffic volumes increase, some consideration may need to be given to making the turn into the gardens easier and safer for buses, pedestrians and other vehicles, and less disruptive for other traffic.

ABOUT OTARI AND THE TRUST

9. The Otari-Wilton's Bush Trust, (the Trust), was established as an independent charitable trust in 2001. Trust members have contributed time, energy, funding and expertise to Otari over the last two decades and have worked with staff in many different ways. (See Appendix 1).
10. Rostering of Trust volunteers to provide visitor services at Otari's visitor information centre has saved Council thousands of opex dollars over the years because Council doesn't have to budget for staff to be on duty at Otari at weekends or on public holidays. We would appreciate an estimate of how much this saves Council in a typical year, but not in either 2020 or 2021 when the information centre has been closed for extended periods.
11. The Trust has also helped fund professional development opportunities for staff, and facilities such as the platform which now protects the roots of Otari's 800 year old rimu. The suspension of cruise ship visits to Wellington in 2020, means that the Trust is now seeking alternative sources of funding.

Otari as a conservation attraction

12. The draft Long Term Plan defines Zealandia and the Zoo as "conservation attractions" but treats Otari as part of Council's 4,200 hectares of Open Space which are valued primarily as carbon sinks and for contributing to the quality of life in Wellington (see table below). The 2.1 text does not do justice to the diversity of ways that Otari contributes to Wellington's community outcomes. The Trust invites Council to consider treating Otari as a conservation attraction alongside the Zoo and Zealandia in section 2.6 of the Long Term Plan in either the next triennium or for the 2031–2041 LTP.

¹ Collections in the Begonia House include a temperate collection with changing seasonal displays including begonias, a tropical plant section and the adjacent lily pond.

13.

2.6 Ngā painga kukume Papa Atawhai Conservation Attractions	2.1 Ngā Māra, Tātahi, Whenua Pārae, Ngahere Gardens, Beaches and Green Open Spaces
<p>The Wellington Zoo Trust and Zealandia (Karori Sanctuary Trust) are both CCOs and are part-funded by the Council. These attractions tell a story of our past and of our special wildlife. They attract visitors to our city and inform and educate about conservation and biodiversity.</p> <p>Conservation visitor attractions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For conservation and biodiversity. These attractions inform and educate Wellingtonians and visitors about conservation and biodiversity. • To attract visitors. These facilities aim to attract tourists to the city, contributing to the local economy. • To protect flora and fauna. We strive to protect native and exotic flora and fauna, protecting our natural environment. 	<p>The city’s parks, gardens and coastlines are a precious resource. They provide spaces for recreation, community gatherings and events. One-eighth of Wellington’s area is reserve and has been protected for generations. It is a vital and iconic part of Wellington’s landscape, and also supports the city’s response to climate change by acting as a carbon sink. To ensure these spaces continue to contribute to a high quality of life for all Wellingtonians, we invest to protect, maintain and develop these areas. The work carried out in this area makes the city’s environment greener and more pleasant for all Wellingtonians – it improves our quality of life and sense of pride in the city. These spaces also make Wellington an attractive place to visit.</p>

Conservation at Otari of Aotearoa/New Zealand’s threatened plants

14. Trust members would like to see Council taking more pride in the contribution that Otari has made, is making, and could make in the future to the conservation of New Zealand’s native plant species and ecosystems. Objective 1.2.1 in *Our Natural Capital* (WCC, 2015), says Council will “Partner with relevant organisations for the in-situ and ex-situ protection of threatened (plant) species ...”. A Council website also acknowledges that conservation is one of the four main roles of Otari-Wilton’s Bush.

Conservation: *Seedlings of threatened species are raised and either kept in the gardens as a conservation measure or returned to the wild in plant conservation recovery programmes. Staff play a key role in the New Zealand Indigenous Flora seed bank programme through collecting seeds and assisting with training in seed collection.*

15. The partnership approach was illustrated recently in a moving event when iwi from Pureora gifted seeds of *Dactylanthus*² to six Wellington iwi for planting at Zealandia and Otari. Otari’s manager, Tim Park, has been working since his appointment in January 2021 to strengthen the partnership with mana whenua. As more iwi, hapu, councils and landowners

² The Māori name for *Dactylanthus* is "pua o te rēinga," meaning “flower of the underworld”. *Dactylanthus taylorii* is New Zealand’s only fully parasitic flowering plant and attaches to the roots of trees. The conservation status of *Dactylanthus* is currently nationally vulnerable to extinction.

become aware of the scope of their responsibilities as kaitiaki for indigenous plants, Otari is likely to receive more enquiries about opportunities for partnerships and assistance with plant propagation.

16. Two insightful decisions made by Council a few years ago facilitated more innovative and advanced roles for Otari in the conservation of indigenous plant species:
 - In 2016, Garden managers appointed Karin Van Der Walt as Science and Conservation Advisor. She has added advanced scientific dimensions to Otari's traditional horticultural approaches to plant conservation.
 - In 2018, Council, the Karori Lions and the Trust combined resources to establish a small conservation laboratory at Otari, and it already needs enlarging because of constraints on its capacity.
17. Karin has become an important asset to Otari, Council and Aotearoa/New Zealand. She has developed a valuable network of contacts in agencies throughout New Zealand and helped develop the response to Myrtle Rust when it was first detected in NZ/Aotearoa. The Trust supported Karin's participation in a conference in the USA where she met international experts working on some of the more technical ways of protecting seeds that don't remain viable under ordinary seed banking, e.g., cryopreservation. Karin shares her knowledge with the public through articles in the Trust's quarterly newsletter and has given several presentations in the information centre.
18. The Trust and many others are excited by the work Karin is doing to facilitate the integration of in situ and ex situ conservation strategies. The continued survival of some of New Zealand's threatened plant species will depend on this dual strategy.
19. Horticultural aspects of plant conservation such as propagating skills remain essential, and can require patience, persistence, space and time. Successful propagation and growing of Kirk's daisy at Otari took nine years of experimentation before staff discovered ways of keeping young plants alive in the ground. The conservation status of Kirk's daisy is At Risk.

Nationally threatened plants

20. Since 2017, the statement, "nearly 4000 species are threatened or at risk of extinction" has been used to summarise the biodiversity crisis in Aotearoa/ New Zealand. Behind that simple sentence, however, is a wealth of information from the Department of Conservation's Threat Classification System about the risk of extinction faced by each known species in about 30 large taxonomic groups of plants and animals, e.g., birds, butterflies and moths, mosses and lichens. Panels of specialists from New Zealand's taxonomic communities establish objective benchmarks to determine the conservation status of each species and then reassess it again five years later. The conservation status of a species can be used to prioritise the use of conservation resources. It also provides a measure of the success of conservation management programmes.
21. As noted earlier (paragraph 4), 1,253 species of vascular plants had their conservation status assessed in 2017, and these assessments showed that 46 percent were threatened or at risk of extinction. That's over 550 species. The status of some other vascular plant species can't

be assessed at this stage because not enough is known about them, or how to protect them in the wild, or how to store their seeds or propagate them ex situ in a specialised facility like Otari. The panel of specialists decided that the conservation status of more than 60 species had declined over the five years since the 2012 assessment, including kauri. Improvements in the conservation status of several species resulted from obtaining more data about distributions, or re-interpreting existing data.

Regionally threatened plants

22. Regionally threatened plants are not nationally threatened plants which happen to grow in the Wellington region, but species which are at risk in the Wellington region.³ Following the recent development of a new methodology, interested parties can now access lists of plants that are regionally threatened⁴. Trust members and organisations with conservation responsibilities in the region anticipate that this will result in more effective planning, prioritisation and collaborative implementation of plant conservation programmes throughout the Wellington region. A start has been made with *Muehlenbeckia astonii*, shrubby tororaro which is ranked as Regionally Critical and Nationally Endangered.

The special place of Māori and mana whenua in Council decision-making

23. Several recent national biodiversity initiatives have stressed the importance of recognising mātauranga Māori and the local and intergenerational knowledge held by hapū and whanau in biodiversity programmes. Government is still developing its response to the report Ko Aotearoa Tēnei on Wai 262 to better protect taonga species, taonga works and mātauranga Māori (indigenous knowledge) and to recognise and leverage their use in a manner that supports Māori aspirations. Te Mana o te Taiao, the Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy was released in 2020 and implementation planning is now underway. Following consultation in 2019–20, the development of a National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity under the Resource Management Act (RMA) appears to have stalled again, possibly to allow for more work to be done on legislation to replace the Resource Management Act.
24. This emerging policy is mentioned in section 1.2.1 of Council's LTP (Māori and mana whenua partnerships) where Council says it intends to strengthen its partnerships and recognise the special place of Māori and mana whenua in Council decision-making. The Trust understands that the focus will be on strategic planning at a leadership level – *standing side by side, looking to the future together*. The Trust hopes that the future includes an expanding leadership role in the conservation of indigenous plants.
25. The Trust anticipates learning more about the implications of Council's commitment for decision-making about Otari in four main ways:

³ In total, 72 plant species have been identified as being Regionally Threatened: 48 Regionally Critically Endangered, 15 Regionally Endangered and 9 Regionally Vulnerable. Of those totals, the national rankings for those species were: 48 Threatened, 15 At Risk and 9 Not Threatened.

⁴ The methodology was developed by Dr Philippa Crisp of the Greater Wellington Regional Council and Jeremy Rolfe of the Department of Conservation with input from amateur and professional botanists from across the region.

- through its monthly meetings with Otari and Wellington Botanic Gardens managers about ways of weaving the principles of tikanga Māori, kaitiakitanga and manaakitanga into on-going strategic and operational planning including, for example, the collections review, interpretation planning, Open Day, signage, training of volunteers for hosting in Te Marae a Tane, and track maintenance and development;
- in 2022, through the review of the MOU between the Trust and Council;
- in 2024 during the statutory review of the for the Wellington Botanic Gardens of Wellington Management Plan;
- in 2025, through the non-statutory review of '*Our Natural Capital*' Wellington City Council's Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (June 2015).

Events

26. The Trust anticipates helping Council celebrate three noteworthy Otari events during the term of the LTP (2021-2031):
- a. the opening later in 2021 of the revamped Te Marae a Tane, Otari's visitor centre.

Otari's manager, Tim Park, has been working with mana whenua representatives to revise earlier plans for the redevelopment of Te Marae a Tane. The Trust has been assured that Parks, Sport and Recreation holds sufficient funding from 2020/21 to complete this project which was first proposed in 2009 during drafting of the LTP.
 - b. a ceremony to acknowledge the construction of a platform to protect the roots of Otari's 800-year old rimu from visitor impacts, and the announcement of a culturally appropriate name for what is probably Wellington's most loved tree. The Trust donated \$25,000 to this project.
 - c. The celebration in 2026 of the centennial of Otari Native Botanic Garden. The Trust has already initiated the researching and publishing a professionally written history of Otari.

CONCLUSION

27. An expanded laboratory and nursery at Otari, supported by a talented team of staff and volunteers, and highly motivated partners including iwi, hapu and councils throughout New Zealand, could save more of the unique plant species found only in Aotearoa/New Zealand, and contribute to Otari being recognised as Wellington's third conservation attraction.

APPENDIX 1: OTHER WAYS THE TRUST SUPPORTS OTARI

Animal pest control:

In the 2020 calendar year, the Trust's RAMBO⁵ team of 12 caught 89 rats, seven mustelids and seven hedgehogs. This was down a little on the previous year's catches when 101 rats were caught along with four mustelids and 13 hedgehogs. Though these catch numbers may not seem high, the purpose of RAMBO's trapping programme is to complement Greater Wellington Regional Council's poison bait program which is aimed at possums with rats as a secondary catch.

There were comparatively few catches in the centre of the bush area. Most were along the Skyline, the Kaiwharawhara Stream and in the Karori Cemetery.

Volunteers used to spend 15–18 hours per month checking six trap lines, but the workload has already grown to close to 30 hours per month following the addition of extra lines.

Learning opportunities for the public: The Trust runs four or five seminars in March, monthly walks on Sunday afternoons, and guided walks on request for local groups. At weekends, hosts answer visitors' questions.

Otari's annual Open Day: This very popular event is the result of a long-running and successful partnership between Council staff and Trust members. It has generated revenue for both organisations and encourages more people to grow native plants in their gardens.

Research: The Trust helped organise Wellington's first Bioblitz in 2007 and has either helped fund or provided practical support to other research projects at Otari, e.g., pollination of rātā moehau (Bartlett's rata).

Restoring Kaiwharawhara Stream: Since 2001, volunteers have replaced vast quantities of weeds at the former landfill face with native plants.

Weeding the gardens: Experienced volunteer gardeners help staff maintain the planted gardens. (These volunteers need to know their weeds and plants)

Propagation: Volunteers help staff propagate new plants in the nursery and care for plants growing in pots and planter bags.

Funding accession trips: The Trust contributes funding for accession trips to other parts of Aotearoa/New Zealand so staff can collect seeds and cuttings to add more species to Otari's collections.

Professional development opportunities: The Trust helps staff access additional professional development opportunities within and beyond NZ.

Preparing submissions: The Trust submits on Council's statutory plans and non-statutory strategies with implications for Otari. It has also submitted on some national and regional plans, strategies and policies.

⁵ RAMBO means Rats and Mustelids Blitzing Otari



Respondent No: 805

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Arran Whiteford
- 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 1. Demolish and site developed through long-term lease (Council's preferred option).
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 1. Strengthen now by temporarily exceeding debt limit (Council's preferred option, additional 0.79% to rates).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 3. Sludge minimisation through Council funding (\$147m to \$208m capital investment, above debt limit, and higher rates)

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

Cycleways
Te Atakura (climate change)
Central Library

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

Climate change is the biggest challenge facing humanity. Our current problems are all trivial compared to what we face with climate change. If we want, we could mitigate climate change. We must stop pointing fingers and lower our emissions now. Te Atakura must have all the money it ever needs. Building cycleways will have a huge impact on lowering Wellington's emissions. Wellington's biggest emissions source is transport, we must do everything we can to get people out of cars. Cycleways are an investment which will pay off for our city. WCC's website has all the info about how insanely beneficial they are. This has me convinced that building a full network is a no brainer [https://wellington.govt.nz/parking-roads-and-transport/transport/cycling/we-support-cycling/facts-and-figures?](https://wellington.govt.nz/parking-roads-and-transport/transport/cycling/we-support-cycling/facts-and-figures?fbclid=IwAR3TNuizLIFSgeUbTImqh28QLePSRh2hTJ6k7IxWdBBAAoLDF9sURWPzNqw)

fbclid=IwAR3TNuizLIFSgeUbTImqh28QLePSRh2hTJ6k7IxWdBBAAoLDF9sURWPzNqw: 1\$ spend is \$20 saved, 40% benefit to retail, 40% less injuries, greater home value, health etc. Wellingtonians spend 1.3 billion dollars on cars a year. Cars are an expensive mode of transport. By investing in cycleways we will save Wellingtonians a shit ton of money. It is perfectly justifiable to put up rates in anticipation of this saving. We need to improve cycle infrastructure sooner than later so that Wellington can divert wasteful investment away from cars. E.g. someone might buy a cargo bike instead of a second car. Wellington traffic is at a tipping point. Back-to-back traffic fills the streets twice a day. We owe it to the poor car commuters to cut traffic by giving people who want to cycle/walk/bus better options! This means full cycleways and not restricting footpath upgrades. Having a central library is a great improvement for the city. Honestly, its hard to argue for a library on the same page as climate change, the problems are orders of magnitude different. If we ignore climate change, our planet will change and we will be faced with migration crises, new disease, biodiversity crises, storms, sea level rise, food instability, wars, economic instability. If we ignore the needs for a library, our community will be less strong and resilient. Each year Wellington supports more and more climate action. Councillors that support full climate action—which includes fully funding Te atakura and cycleways—will stay relevant for future elections.

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?

Parking is still too cheap, it should be more expensive.



Respondent No: 842

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Ananya Shamihoke
- 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 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)** None of these options.

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

Investment in three waters infrastructure
Sludge and waste minimisation

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

The council has given Wellington good reason to have zero faith in their capability to manage wastewater infrastructure investment. I am not able to choose one of the given options while having no belief that these are the right options. Additionally, the proposal to create centralised water authorities will have an impact but I can't see how the questionnaire reflects 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 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?

Consultation will not fix the bigger problem of council's lack of capability to plan and run procurement for its projects to succeed. You need to make sure the options you put forth in consultation are actually the right options to be considering, including that they are feasible to deliver. LGWM is a big example of a lot of consultation but huge failures because council did not deliver on its promises.



Respondent No: 872

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Sigurd Magnusson
- 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)** 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

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

Proposed activity and funding is grossly insufficient to the scale of the climate challenge. Genuine CO2 reductions and coastal adaptations are needed. The city of Wellington must do more.

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

not answered

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

I somewhat support the proposed budget.

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

not answered

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

not answered



Respondent No: 907

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Greg Hyland
- 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?** Highland Park Residents Assn (HPPA)
- 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 2. Medium investment with savings (\$25.4m investment, lower rates and debt).
- Q13. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Civic Precinct decision)** Option 3. Retain and seek to repurpose (higher debt and rates)
- Q14. **Which of these options do you prefer? (Central Library decision)** Option 2. Council to strengthen Central Library later (complete in 2028 instead of 2025, additional 0.83% rates increase).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 3. Sludge minimisation through Council funding (\$147m to \$208m capital investment, above debt limit, and higher rates)

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

not answered

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

not answered

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

not answered

Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

I somewhat support the proposed budget.

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

not answered

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

not answered

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

Question 9.a) – If you stated in Question 1 that you are neutral or do not support the proposed budget. Do you support increasing or decreasing spend?

	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

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

Future decisions

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

Other projects

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

Council Fees and charges

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

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

WCC LTP document: "What else are we planning in the next ten years?" - Page 57 of the WCC LTP document under 5. Social and Recreation refers to the planned divestment of the Wadestown Community Centre.

We submit that we must retain and not sell the Wadestown Community Centre until a new Wadestown Community Centre can be built. The Wadestown

Community and the majority of Wadestown Community groups, as well as both Residents associations in Wadestown support WCC retaining the Wadestown Community Centre and removing the divestment option from the WCC Long Term Plan.

We greatly appreciate the recent LTP amendment regarding the Wadestown Community Centre, and support from WCC councillors to retain proceeds of any future sale of the Community Centre in Wadestown, and potentially contribute the money towards a new Wadestown Community Centre.

At the time of our discussions with WCC Councillors about the LTP a few months ago, both Highland Park Residents (HPPA) and Wadestown Residents (WRA) Associations in principle supported the sale of the community building and property. We were of the understanding that WCC was highly likely to pursue the disposal of the Community Centre and our best option was to accordingly seek to retain the sale proceeds for the future benefit of our community and towards construction of a new Wadestown Community Centre.

Recent feedback from the majority of Wadestown Community groups indicates current users of the Wadestown Community Centre and other interested community groups etc are very keen to maintain the status quo and not to sell the Community Centre until a viable alternative and fit for purpose facility is accessible.

HPPA and WRA support this view and intend to present an LTP submission seeking to remove the proposed sale of the Wadestown Community Centre from the LTP. Local community groups are also keen to seek options for greater use of the Community Centre for family and Community related events.

Wadestown has few Community buildings suitable and easily accessible for family and community events. Various clubs and hobbies regularly occur at the centre, many of which would likely cease if the building is sold. For example, the Wadestown Toy library is hosted at the centre and values the building for social connections between local families with young children. The Wadestown Music box Group values the centre for teaching children musical instruments and connecting local families; few other venues are available for this purpose. The WCC Community Advocate based at the Wadestown library has a list of the main users of the centre.

These and other community activities are not possible or cost effective at the few other Community venues locally. The two local Wadestown churches and their church halls are available for meetings and community presentations, however for several reasons they are not suitable for many of the current community centre activities or users.

Both churches are private organisations who through their goodwill and community spirit allow limited access by other community members. It is entirely feasible that either church building could close or be unavailable for community use in future. HPPA recently hosted a 3 hour long public meeting at one of the church halls, at the cost of \$30 plus per hour. Most community groups cannot afford on-going costs for using a venue like this, when they pay a minimal cost for the Community centre, and there are few other suitable venue options in the suburb.

For my final comments, while the current Wadestown Community Centre building and property are not entirely fit for purpose as an accessible and multi-purpose community facility due to being sited on a steep urban / residential street, the building and its role as a community centre are highly valued and very suitable our communities needs for the foreseeable future. We appreciate there will be some general on-going costs incurred by WCC for retaining the Community Centre, however we believe it is hugely important to maintain this facility for our community.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss this further, and we would welcome your guidance and support towards our community retaining the Wadestown Community Centre until a replacement facility can be established.

Kind regards,

Greg Hyland
HPPA
Chairperson

Thank you very much for your submission!



Respondent No: 923

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

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

- Q1. **Full name:** Alex Madhukara Dyer
- 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)** Option3. Strengthen now by increasing rates further (additional 1.79% rates increase).
- Q15. **Which of these options do you prefer?(Sewage sludge and waste decision)** Option 3. Sludge minimisation through Council funding (\$147m to \$208m capital investment, above debt limit, and higher rates)

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

Cycleways

Q17. Your comments on the big decisions (optional)

not answered

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



Q19. Do you support the proposed budget?

Neutral.

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

I support increasing spend in the current budget.

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

Charge more for car parking across the city, including residential. Raise the borrowing limit and pay for things properly now.

Long Term Plan 2021 Submission

Alex Dyer

9 May 2021

Kia ora koutou,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the long term plan. Thank you to all involved in their work that goes into making Wellington the best it can be. I don't doubt we all care deeply to see Te Whanganui-a-Tara and it's people thrive into the future.

This is it!

This is the 10 years where change must occur to unlock the full potential of a connected, safe, comfortable network of cycling in Wellington. This is the decade that our actions must deliver a survivable, and prosperous future for our children and the hope for future generations to come.

I support **Option 4** committing \$226 Million over the next ten years to build a fully-connected cycling network by 2031. Not doing anything and everything we can **now** is no longer an option like it might have been in previous decades. The years and years of prevaricating the need to take cycling investment seriously have caught up to us. In a similar way that our water infrastructure is in dire need of attention, so too are our streets.

We would not be in this situation if it were not thanks to the shortsightedness of so many councils and governments before us. We cannot keep pushing cycling back. This is it. This is where we demonstrate how seriously we take the need to prioritise people moving in healthy, sociable, and equitable ways more in Wellington city.

This is the time we prioritise building mobility infrastructure that supports active everyday journeys by children, elderly, caregivers, the disabled, and health and other essential workers.

This is our chance to have nice things. Nice things are: clean air, quiet neighbourhoods, warm affordable housing, accessible amenities, thriving natural ecosystems, happy sociable communities, and healthy people. This chance to build back better with more space for people to ride bikes for their everyday needs contributes significantly to all these nice things.

This opportunity needs the support of the following initiatives:

- Double the cycling minor works budget to \$2 million per year.
- Creating a new dedicated funding category to deliver rapid changes to the urban environment, such as low-traffic neighbourhoods, parklets and other innovating streets improvements and tactical urbanism methodologies.
- Ring-fence the Option 4 cycling budget so that money allocated for cycling is only used on delivering streets that are safe for cycling.
- Hire more staff to increase the council's capacity to deliver cycling projects and other transport improvements.
- Streamline council consultation processes and reduce the time, resources and budget spent to deliver cycling projects. I would like to see larger projects on full network connections consulted on instead of more smaller consultations. Small sections and issues should be handled through traffic resolutions and minor improvements methods.
- Increase parking fees and charge for more parking across the city - especially on-street residential car storage - to encourage mode-shift.
- Do not defer \$7 million of spending on footpath upgrades.

This is it! This is the prudent way to invest!

Not investing heavily in unlocking a healthy mobility future would be a shockingly bad fiscal decision. [Council's own messaging reiterates](#) that every dollar spent on better cycling and active mobility brings returns of \$20. The question is not should Council invest more, the question is: **How can we not??** Using this guidance; the difference of return on investment between Option 3 and Option 4 would mean Wellingtonians would miss out on around \$2B dollars worth of benefits. Given the financial pressures that are mounting for our city and our people, we must exploit this huge opportunity.

As a ratepayer, I strongly support increased rates further to fund essential cycling infrastructure and other interventions that reduce our car dependency. I **expect the council** to take on additional debt by raising it's debt-to-revenue ratio limit above 225%. I understand there are future risks that our city will face. It is my conclusion that we will be

less able to mitigate them by remaining in a worse, fragile state now. An essential means of improving our capacity to adapt to future challenges is to improve our ongoing fitness.

Investing now is like having a healthy workout routine and maintaining general body fitness. It means we will be better placed to recover if fitness or injury strikes. I am more supportive of investing in fences at the tops of cliffs than more, and more ambulances.

I would like to see more reallocation of existing road space in order to minimise the costs of cycling projects. There are benefits other than cycling by reducing car parking and excess driving space. Congestion on current roading infrastructure is a good thing. It is clear evidence that we have oversubscribed to supporting car journeys and must turn to traditional other mobility solutions in order to keep our city moving.

I would like to see council setting and reaching for ambitious goals such as a target kilometers of new cycleways delivered and a target percentage increase in cycling mode share every year. These targets should be set higher than existing baseline levels. We need to see 10's of kilometres of cycling infrastructure rather than the current annual average. I understand that the recommendation from public health experts is to aim for a mode share of 15% cycling by 2030.

I would like to see clearer separation of project objectives and outcomes attributed to appropriate budgets. For instance, it is more fitting that the seawall components of any major corridor improvements along the Wellington south coast come from the climate change adaptation and mitigation budget, rather than from cycleways. The same separation of outcomes should likewise be costed appropriately. Not doing this adds confusion, and fuels arguments from naysayers that providing for cycling is an expensive business. Most times where extra expenses of providing safe space for bikes is due to maintaining space for heavy vehicles. If they were not making streets dangerous and unhealthy, extra infrastructure would not be required.

This is where we're at:

My daughter started intermediate this year. She & I have really enjoyed cycling to & from school in Island Bay last year. She has done the Pedal Ready courses & is really good on the bike. I am heartbroken that she is not able to cycle to & from SWIS.

Even before I became a father I had become involved in the advocacy of safer, more comfortable streets for people of all ages & abilities to engage in active transport here in Wellington. I could see this day coming so I got involved & did what I could to change things for the better.

In that time I have seen successive cycling-friendly councils elected. 'cycling Mayors'. Cycling progressive councillors, and numerous transport projects undertaken with varying levels of success. There have been some very encouraging developments in that time...

Crawford Rd is great. I truly love the Island Bay Cycleway, & really love the agreed improvements, even if there remain some unfortunate compromises to local opposition.

I am in awe of the impressive design & engineering effort around Pt. Jerningham so far, and think it will be great when that connects well through all of Evans Bay. That whole stretch, I anticipate, will be a truly world-class bike riding experience.

Old Hutt Road has seen improvements over the last few years. There is much more space, a generally better surface for riding and various goodies (& baddies) along the way.

They say you measure what you care about, and I take heart that WCC are actually counting trips by people riding bikes. And the data is showing encouraging trends. Many people will choose to ride if they're afforded space and infrastructure that enables them to.

But after 12 years of advocacy, and much effort by many people across all of Wellington, and from many different backgrounds, and despite many good intentions, this city has let my daughter down by effectively ceasing her ability to engage in her own mobility, under her own steam.

It's absolutely not because I don't have confidence in her ability. And I like to believe the majority of people driving ARE responsible and well-meaning. But my family can't feel comfortable with her moving through heavy flows of dangerous polluting heavy private motorised vehicles every day to and from school.

I resent anyone who might perceive my parental anxiety as being over-protective - or 'helicopter'. I want my children to engage widely with our urban environment with their own agency. Being blasé about our dangerous mobility environment is not a sign of progressive parenting. It is a sign of a lack of empathy for kids and parents.

If my family, aware of these barriers, face such injustices and an inability to maintain active transport habits; how many others face this? How many others are forced into car dependency at an early age - only to reflect 20 years later how they stopped riding in their early teens?

Things ARE changing. We are improving. But this change needs a hurry on. It's not fast enough. It still does not have strong enough leadership to push past the many structural barriers we have embedded in society to practically ensure car dependency. Let's change this.

This is it. [Let's unite against car dependency.](#)

tinyurl.com/2mmebdev

Nga mihi nui,

Alex Dyer

Co-Chair Cycle Wellington



Toi o Taraika Arts Wellington

Submission on Wellington City Council LTP consultation, May 2021

Who is Toi o Taraika Arts Wellington

Toi o Taraika Arts Wellington is a membership organisation for arts, heritage, cultural and education organisations and independent practitioners in the Greater Wellington region. We seek to provide networking and development opportunities, and to amplify the voice of the region's arts sector.

Our membership includes a number of national bodies such as the Royal New Zealand Ballet, New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and Te Papa; educational institutions such as Toi Whakaari, the New Zealand School of Dance and the New Zealand School of Music; and well established organisations such as Orchestra Wellington, Footnote Dance, and Tāwhiri. The visual arts sector is also well-represented through both public and commercial galleries.

In the past two years, Arts Wellington has deliberately sought to better understand and support the needs of the independent art sector, and amplify independent artists' voice into conversations such as the Covid-19 recovery budget administered by the Ministry for Culture and Heritage and WCC's Covid recovery plans. Independent artists and organisations have different needs to established organisations that can access different funding sources. They do not have recurring infrastructure support. They tend to survive and thrive through project funding, which rarely covers costs like salaries, offices, and core operating costs. They also form much of Wellington's artistic and creative talent pool, and hence the vibrancy of the city. Council's investment decisions impact heavily upon the independent sector.

About this submission

Toi o Taraika Arts Wellington is also providing a separate submission on the consultation for *Aho Tini 2030: Arts Culture + Creativity Strategy*. This submission focuses on the LTP but draws some connections between the two consultation documents.

Introduction

Since the last LTP consultation Council has made significant investment into developing arts and cultural infrastructure in the city, to ensure there are venues and community facilities that are fit for purpose. This includes beginning the strengthening of St James Theatre, the opening of Waitohi Johnsonville Community Hub, the temporary RNZB building and the start of construction of Tākina. A new Matariki festival, Ahi Ka, has also been supported.

Over this time, Toi o Taraika Arts Wellington also notes the high ongoing engagement from Council's arts and culture team with the local arts sector, and the productive relationship with WellingtonNZ over both promotion of the city's event and artistic offerings, and access to venues.

Feedback on Priority Objectives

We note with appreciation the use of the four wellbeings to underpin the Council's strategic direction. Artistic and cultural activity celebrates the diversity of our identities and communities, creates cohesive and connected communities, attracts investment, and drives innovative solutions to climate challenges.

As residents of Wellington, we are all invested in Priority 1, a resilient water infrastructure, and Priority 4, a zero-carbon and waste-free transition.

Priorities 2 and 3 – safe and resilient housing and public transport – are valuable to us not only as residents, but as creators who seek to reach diverse audiences. The arts can help connect communities, and artists themselves are embedded in communities as their homes. Accessibility of the arts has been identified as a focus area in *Aho Tini 2030* and in feedback from our membership we can see that safe and highly accessible public transport makes a major difference in both the working life of creative practitioners, and the ability for audiences to access the city’s artistic and cultural offerings.

It’s excellent to see resilient and fit-for-purpose community, creative and cultural spaces identified as one of Council’s six priority objectives. These facilities not only provide vital spaces for arts communities to make, share and present their work, but also foster connection and creativity, and are a key vehicle through which councils can support the social, cultural, economic and environmental wellbeing of their diverse communities.

Finally, we welcome 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 realising Council’s vision of becoming bilingual by 2040.

Feedback on Seven Big Decisions

Toi o Taraika Arts Wellington submits its feedback on two of the seven big decisions identified by Council.

Decision 5 – Te Ngākau Civic Precinct, Council Office Buildings

Council has put forward four options for the potential re-use of the Municipal Office Building and Civic Administration Building in Civic Square. Funding is a significant issue, as there’s insufficient debt headroom in the early years of the plan to carry out the capital works.

Option one (Demolish and site developed through a long-term ground lease) and option two (Proceed with base build proposal for public purposes) would both provide opportunity for the National School of Music to be housed within the building. Option one is Council’s preferred option.

We encourage Council to consider that:

- Partnering with another development to undertake a rebuild is a significant cost saving, which could provide opportunity for Council to investment more in the activation and operation of the space (eg, more funds to support creative activity in the newly formed facilities).
- Option 2 would have the buildings fit for use more quickly, and retain the existing heritage buildings

We encourage Council to engage closely with arts communities to determine which option will best serve Wellington residents, and are happy to serve as a forum for these conversations.

Decision 6 – Central Library

Public consultation has shown high-level remediation of the Central Library building is supported by Wellington residents, and Council has selected this as the preferred option. We note this option is achieved by temporarily exceeding debt limit, which enables Council to open the building in 2025.

We note the seriousness of this decision, and support Council pursuing the option that brings a much-loved and much-used facility back into operation as quickly as possible.

The reactivation of the Central Library space provides opportunities for Council to consider how to best nurture and develop Wellington's strong literary and reading communities, as well as wider usage by arts and creative groups and practitioners. We support the Wellington's literary community's call to increase the visibility and access to Wellington's literary arts alongside the development of the Central Library, so that when the building reopens there is a vibrant and ready community who can amplify engagement with the facility and the art form / stories at its core.

We also encourage Council to work closely with the arts communities to explore how they might work alongside Council and the literary community to feed into the remediation of the Central Library, and how it might be an even more powerful site of gathering and community growth after re-opening.

Again, Toi o Taraika Arts Wellington is happy to support Council's engagement with the arts community through our regular forums.

Combined comment, Decisions 4 and 6

The Council Office building and Central Library decisions are inextricable from the larger project to redevelopment Te Ngākau Civic Square, our city's most important spaces for gathering and public life – from art activations to protests. We welcome the vision of a vibrant, welcoming and resilient heart of the city and welcome the public consultation on the framework for the redevelopment in May this year. We encourage Council to continue to aspire to a space for public life that is distinctively and powerfully of this place, centred on the history of mana whenua and this amazing site, and embraced by all Wellington's communities.

Feedback on decisions coming up in the future

Community infrastructure investments

Council is recognising the need to invest in community infrastructure to support residents as the city grows. We encourage Council to ensure arts communities are well 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 both have flair and are fit for purpose, as well as creating anchor sites in communities that speak to history, heritage and identity.

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.

Venues strengthening and upgrades

The re-opening of St James Theatre and the Town Hall are keenly anticipated: they provide high-quality spaces that can grow and develop audiences, attract investment, increase economic activity, and further strengthen the city's tourism offering.

There is a risk that these projects become consumed by the needs of seismic strengthening, and do not respond to the needs of hirers, such as those represented in our membership, and the many and diverse audiences they serve and engage. We request input into the requirements and specifications for the St James and Town Hall – consultation which had been occurring pre-Covid has tailed off. There are concerns that when these crucial sites re-open, they will not be optimised to meet the varied needs of different art forms and audiences.

We welcome Council's planning to determine which other venues also require upgrades and encourage Council to work closely with arts communities to ensure any developments or upgrades are in line with the needs of those who use the facilities.

Combined feedback on venues

The management of Council-owned venues is currently relatively passive – they are dark boxes waiting to be lit up by the organisers of events and performances. Council may wish to explore the idea of a more active model of engagement for larger venues, aimed at developing relationships, growing community participation, and developing activity outside the times of performances and events.

We also encourage Council to at all times keep in mind the affordability of these venues for arts organisations (and through that same logic, the new and diverse audiences they, and the city, wish to attract). New and refreshed venues are of little value if the arts community is priced out of using them. Council may need to review the revenue targets set for these venues, and ask whether the current profit margins are of more value and urgency than the development of a vibrant and sustainable arts sector and the engagement and growth of diverse and more representative audiences.

We appreciate Council and WellingtonNZ's engagement with Toi o Taraika Arts Wellington, our members, and the wider community through the venues strengthening and upgrade mahi to date, and look forward to continuing this productive relationship.

Further feedback

Aho Tini 2030: Arts Culture + Creativity Strategy

A separate submission has been made on Aho Tini. However, we reiterate here that budget has been attached to support delivery on the strategy. Static funding will actually result in less cultural activity being able to be supported and delivered, with nothing to offset the rising costs of living in Wellington, and producing and presenting arts and cultural activities for local and visiting audiences.