

Comments

LTP 2021-31

Comment ID	216
Response Date	22/03/21 6:39 AM
Status	Processed
Submission Type	Web
Version	0.6
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Are you submitting on behalf of an organisation? No, I'm submitting as an individual

Are you willing to tell us more about yourself? Yes

Which age category are you in? 40-64 years old

Which suburb or area do you live in?

Do you think we've prioritised the right issues and opportunities? Yes

Which of the proposed options would you like to see us progress with? Option 2: statutory work and prior commitments

It is important that we hear what you would like to keep in the plan, what you think should be removed, and anything that you think we have missed?

You need to seriously reconsider the fundamentally flawed obsession with trying to add more and more buses at the expense of any other options

Do you generally support the activities proposed in the following portfolios:

Water and Land	Yes
Biodiversity and Biosecurity	Yes

Climate Change and Community Resilience	Yes
Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development	No
Regional and Strategic Leadership	Unsure

Do you have any further comments on the activities proposed in specific portfolio/s (please select all those you wish to comment on): . Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development

Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development portfolio comments:

Busses were a good solution 60 years ago when cars were expensive and everybody in the suburbs all had to go to the CBD every day. Neither of these things are true now, especially given the moves all CBD business made after the quakes and more recently with the rise in working from home. Everybody knows taking the bus is cheaper than driving your car, but the reason people won't take the bus is not money, but TIME, because the bus never leaves from just where you are and goes just where you want, when you want.

I live in Westmorland and work in Phillipstown and each day I drive to work in about 15 mins. That same journey by bus would take at least 50mins, even if the bus arrived at the stop just as I got there. Taking the bus would add 6 hours to my work week, and my job in engineering means I can't work on a bus. So either I leave home at the same time each day my employer would just have to accept a 25% reduction in my productivity, or I leave earlier and arrive home later each day and so effectively starting working almost 6 days a week but just don't get paid for the 6th day. You could reduce bus fares to zero and it would make no difference: as you can see you would need to literally PAY ME before it made sense for me to take the bus. More frequent busses would make no difference: it wouldn't get me there any quicker and would just be more wasted ratepayers' money driving around in the form of more empty busses.

Instead, we all know electric cars are the future in terms of sustainability and are far more convenient. Ecan should instead think about how we can encourage the uptake of small electric vehicles to reduce emissions but also provide maximum convenience. Perhaps Ecan starts a scheme where they lease these small electric vehicles to ratepayers, or lets them be used in the bus lane. I don't know, but one thing I do know is busses are a fatally flawed solution whose time has passed.

Is the proposed increase in rates affordable for your household? Neither option is affordable

Any further comments on affordability for your household?

Ratepayers are not an endless source of free money for Ecan to spend on whatever takes their fancy. Have fewer priorities and live within your means.,

Is the proposed increase in rates affordable as a whole for the Canterbury community? No

Do you support the changes we're proposing to how we apply Uniform Annual General Charges? Don't know

Would you support the use of borrowing for operating expenditure to offset some of the first year rates? Yes

Do you support the rationale and proposed changes in the draft Fees and Charges Policy? Yes

Where do you live in Canterbury? Select your district below:

Christchurch city including Banks Peninsula

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Kaikoura

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Hurunui

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Waimakariri

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Christchurch

On-demand public transport services

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Selwyn

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Ashburton

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Mackenzie

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Timaru

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Waimate

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Waitaki

Do you wish to speak to your submission?

No

Would you like to be kept up-to-date with the outcome of this consultation?

Yes

How did you find out about giving feedback?

Other (please specify)

Your information is held and administered by Environment Canterbury in accordance with the Privacy Act 2020 and Environment Canterbury's Privacy Policy.

There is personal information/contact details in my submission I do not want disclosed:

No