

Comments

LTP 2021-31

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Submission Type	Web
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Are you submitting on behalf of an organisation? Yes, I'm submitting on behalf of an organisation

Which organisation are you submitting on behalf of? Akaroa Ratepayers & Residents Association Inc

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 1: statutory work, prior commitments and accelerating key initiatives

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?

See attached letter

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	Yes
Regional and Strategic Leadership	Yes

Do you have any further comments on the activities proposed in specific portfolio/s (please select all those you wish to comment on):

- . Water and Land
- . Climate Change and Community Resilience
- . Regional and Strategic Leadership

Water and Land portfolio comments:

See attached letter

Climate Change and Community Resilience portfolio comments:

See attached letter

Regional and Strategic Leadership portfolio comments:

See attached letter

Is the proposed increase in rates affordable for your household? Option 1 is affordable

Is the proposed increase in rates affordable as a whole for the Canterbury community? Don't know

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 . Using aquifer recharge to manage freshwater quality

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? Yes

We may use your phone number to contact you to arrange attendance at a hearing. This information will be kept private.

Phone number

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

How did you find out about giving feedback? . Postcard

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

Akaroa Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc

To: Environment Canterbury

Date: 11 April 2021

Attn: The Councillors

Dear Sirs,

SUBMISSION REGARDING DRAFT LONG TERM PLAN 2021-31

The Akaroa Ratepayers and Residents Association is an Incorporated Society that has been established to promote the interest and wellbeing of the community in the Akaroa area. This submission is made on behalf of the members of this organisation, and we believe this also represents the general interests of the wider community.

This submission has been prepared by Harry Stronach, the President of the Society.

We wish to be heard in support of this submission.

Our Society looks at the activities of local government agencies such as Ecan, hoping to find common-sense decision making, efficient operations, and integrity. Sometimes we are disappointed.

In fact our Society has been rather critical of Ecan in recent years, and with good reason. In pre-Covid years we saw the activities of cruise ships caused widespread environmental degradation in Akaroa harbour, while the onslaught of tourists and buses on shore caused distress to the local community.

We also saw Ecan watched on, and inventing reasons why it could not act to control this situation. At the same time, it was obvious that the ships were operating in breach of Ecan's own Regional Coastal Plan.

We hope that we can now put that unfortunate situation behind us, and are pleased to see the commitment in the Draft LTP to review and upgrade the Regional Coastal Plan during the next 3 year period. We also note the considerable increase in the budget allowance for managing the coastal environment, and look forward to seeing that being applied with efficiency and dedication.

We also note that the Draft LTP contains considerable discussion on the subject of consultation, and the importance of communities, and resilience, and future generations. All this, and with a budget to match. While this reads well, our experiences with the consultation processes run by another Local Government entity, Christchurch City Council, have led to a rather cynical view on this subject.

In fact the widespread view in our community is that the consultation process run by CCC is frequently a sham, and their talk of strengthening communities and such-like is simply a smokescreen for council staff to pursue their own agendas, driven mainly by ideology and self-preservation. A very unfortunate situation indeed.

However Ecan is a rather different organisation, and we hope to see Ecan setting an example, and showing how consultation can be made truly meaningful. Your challenge is to put real meaning into the well-worded statements on this subject that are scattered throughout this Long Term Plan. We will certainly be doing our part.

There is one critical matter where Ecan can really affect the future of Akaroa, and that is the regulation of cruise ships. We believe that this subject is so important for the future of the community that any limitations and controls should be determined by taking a formal poll of all affected ratepayers. We look forward to making submissions on this subject in due course when the Coastal Plan is considered.

We also note the commitment in the LTP to the Pest Free Banks Peninsula project, and realise that this is a cooperative venture with many other organisations also being involved. However, Ecan will clearly be one of the lead actors as this drama plays out, and we will be looking for Ecan to put in the exceptional performance that we are sure it is capable of.

Submission by

Harry Stronach

(for, Akaroa Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc)