

From: Environment Canterbury
Sent: Friday, 11 March 2022 9:56 pm
To: Have your Say
Subject: Submission on draft Annual Plan 2022/23

Anonymous User just submitted 'Draft Annual Plan 2022/23 submission' with the responses below.

First name

Luke

Last name

Baker-Garters

Email address

Suburb

Spreydon, Christchurch

Are you submitting on behalf of an organisation?

No, I'm submitting as an individual

Which age category are you in?

15– 24 years old

Do you wish to speak to your submission at a Council hearing?

No

Which bus fare structure option would you like to see trialled?

Option 1 (preferred): Fare-free for under 25s, students, Total Mobility and Community Services card holders

Tell us more about why you support the selected bus fare option.

Eliminating fares for low income people will increase disposable income and mobility. Under 25s, especially high school aged teenagers need freedom of mobility to get to school, social and sporting events. Although I cycle, I still catch the bus occasionally and this will reduce costs for me as I am on a fixed income being a student. This is a good proposal but it won't reduce carbon emissions because the emissions trading scheme has a hard cap and any reduced emissions from this scheme will be made up elsewhere.

Any other comments on bus fares?

Reducing fares for low income and young people is a good policy and evidence from overseas shows it an effective way to increase patronage. I would advise against expanding free fares to all riders as this doesn't work to get people out of cars. Evidence shows that its mostly those who use active modes who switch to public transport in fares free trials. It is more efficient to spend a marginal dollar on expanding frequency, speed and network coverage to increase ridership.

Is borrowing and repaying through general rates the right approach for this regionally significant event?

Yes

How else might we pay for our share of this work?

Tagreted land value capture taxes should be looked at. Public investment shouldn't be sucked up by private land owners and they should pay for the unearned land rent that public investment creates.

How do you think recovery from flooding of this scale – events that impact state highways, bridges, rail and power for example – should be funded in the future?

The broader macroeconomic context should be considered. When interest rates are low and net borrowing costs are low or even negative, borrowing is a good option. The tax base for rates should be switched to land values away from capital value to encourage improvements. Unlike capital taxes, land taxes are non distortionary and can't be passed onto renters.

Which option for distribution of rates in Ashburton River rating district do you support?

Option 1 (preferred): Redistribute rates in the Ashburton River rating district.

Would you support a levy to accelerate action in response to climate change?

Yes

What current or future projects or activities would you like to see funded by such a levy?

Expansion of public transport network coverage, speed and frequency. Christchurch is the largest city in the Southern Hemisphere without a commuter rail service. The climate change levy wouldn't reduce any emissions because of the ETS hard cap but it would help fund the infrastructure to help people transition to a zero carbon economy.

Where did you hear about the consultation?

Email
