

From: Environment Canterbury
Sent: Wednesday, 23 March 2022 12:19 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

Mitchell

Last name

Rogers

Email address

Suburb

Rolleston, Rolleston

Are you submitting on behalf of an organisation?

No, I'm submitting as an individual

Which age category are you in?

25-39 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 2: \$2 flat fare for adults and \$1.20 for children across bus zones 1, 2 and 3

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

When I was younger, I used to use the bus a lot to travel to University and events in the city. It was very convenient, however, it was one of my main expenses at that time, with little to no income, it was a bit difficult to afford. Now that I am above the age range, and paying rates etc. I also see the other side of these costs. I unfortunately can't use a bus to go to work, as the work location is outside of the bus network, so I'm no longer using buses often. One of the biggest costs in my rates is for the busses, which we do need. However, I don't believe it should be fully funded by people who don't use the bus, as even if it is free for some, they still won't be able to use it, as it may not service their area. Therefore, having lower fares means it still keeps it fair to the users and non-users alike.

Any other comments on bus fares?

I believe that having a lower fare will attract more people to use, especially with petrol prices etc. going up. I think these type of fares will also make it easy to budget for bus travel across the region. Also, once something is made free, it would be hard to change back to a fare system without upsetting users.

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?

As long as these targeted rates are until the works have been completed, and therefore, can be removed at this time (can't be then made into normal rates once paid for).

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?

State Highways - NZTA, rail - KiwiRail, power - Distribution Network. Only some features will be Council owned. I believe that our taxes and electric connection/supply fees should already cover costs of upgrade/repair to these networks. These providers/departments should already have a resilience cost structure in place, so Council only requires so much. I believe District and Regional Councils are already getting funding from e.g. NZTA for these repairs, so only need so much.

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

I don't have a preference

Any other comments on flood protection in Ashburton?

I do not live in that area. However, updating the district's resilience plan is important, as the layout, population etc. would have changes since the previous revision. During the update, items, such as stopbanks, settlement basins etc. will come up for enhancement. These costs can then be spread to the rate payers in the affected area.

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

Don't know

Any other comments on future funding for responding to climate change?

We all need to play our part in this for sure, however, I am not sure how paying a Regional Council more money will directly resolve climate issues worldwide. I believe it is more of a national government's objectives to create plans for Regional Council's to follow for better Climate initiatives. That's why we pay taxes, generally more tax on items that potentially contribute to Climate change, e.g. petrol.

Any other comments on Environment Canterbury's draft Annual Plan or other matters?

More focus on sustainable development as a whole.

Where did you hear about the consultation?

Social media (Facebook, Instagram)
