

From: Environment Canterbury
Sent: Monday, 28 March 2022 6:28 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

Jenny

Last name

Sahng

Email address

Suburb

Russley, Christchurch

Phone number

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 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.

My number one reason for supporting the free fare option is because of the urgency of climate change. We are in a climate emergency, with the impacts of climate change visible everywhere. We need to be doing everything possible to reduce our emissions, and public transport is a huge part of this. This is particularly the case for Canterbury, where a huge proportion of our GHGs come from transport. Free fares, with urgent and widespread implementation, is one equitable and courageous action on the scale our climate needs. What's more, the high cost of transport, including public transport, leaves many of us disconnected from family, friends and activities that bring us joy. With housing costs and other expenses rising, many people find public transport unaffordable, at the time when we need connection and community more than ever. The SuperGold card has proven that free fares really encourage people to get out and about, which improves wellbeing. Families in particular need free fares. Cost barriers to public transport remain for families. Free fares for under-25s will help normalise public transport habits in the next generation, and lower the barrier for families enjoying public services and spaces such as libraries, parks, and beaches. What's more, free fares will be a boost for local business. When the cost of transport is prohibitive, businesses get less customers, community groups lose participants, and volunteers and tourist spots miss out on visitors. Free fares will allow more people to make these trips, connecting communities so we are all better off. While the government is committing to take action to reduce emissions and improve equity, now is the time to take this step. We cannot wait for lengthy trials when the recent IPCC report has clearly stated that there is no time to lose, and we need to be mobilising at wartime speeds to avoid devastating climate change impacts. People and the climate need free fares now.

Any other comments on bus fares?

I would love to see this experiment taken further in the future, with free fares offered for everyone, not just targeted groups!

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

Don't know

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

Taxing the biggest emitters, since increased flood risk and other severe weather events is a result of global warming.

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?

Funded by the government via revenue from the ETS or other carbon pricing strategy.

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?

- Bring the option of investing in a microgrid or rooftop solar to Auckland residents, so everyone can have access to local clean energy. - Encourage Cantabrians with incentives for energy efficient homes and electrification. - Great support for e-bikes, including safe bike lanes, priority crossing, useful bike routes, secure storage with charging facilities, and integration with public transport. - Minimise road building that is proven to encourage inefficient and expensive car use. - Make transit hubs vibrant places to visit, with pedestrian areas, mixed use development, higher density, and native trees. - Ensure that recycling programs and composting programs are well supported and promoted. - Encourage and support Canterburyans to plant native trees and shrubs.

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

A stable climate is the best legacy that we can leave for our children, but the world is not on the right track. We need to move faster and we should be investing more than we are currently. Please be sure to focus on minimising the impact on lower income households. Higher income households can afford rate increases.

Where did you hear about the consultation?

Other (please specify) - climateclubnz.substack.com

Email

Social media (Facebook, Instagram)
