

From: Environment Canterbury
Sent: Sunday, 3 April 2022 2:12 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

Finn

Last name

Jackson

Email address

Suburb

Saint Martins, Christchurch

Phone number

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.

I strongly support option 1. The cost of living is rising quickly and we are rapidly approaching the end of the window in which we can take effective action to mitigate climate change. By making travel by bus free for as many people as possible we can have a positive impact on both these big issues. Lower or free fares means more money in people's pocket, and more people on buses means more cars on the road and less emissions. It's an absolute no-brainer and I'm really excited for it - it might even get me back on the bus.

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

Yes

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?

I'd like to see a dedicated fund set up for this kind of thing, potentially funded by a resilience levy. We're all in this together so every household in the region should contribute to it.

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

I don't have a preference

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?

Primarily nature-based carbon sinks and projects with benefits such as reducing coastal and river flooding and general fire risk, and resilience of ecosystems. These should include wetland and blue carbon restoration along rivers and the coast, green firebreaks of indigenous fire-resistant flora, and restoration and enhancement of previously existing/currently existing indigenous ecosystems like native bush and scrubland through planting and pest control. The second area I'd like to see targeted is a bit more strategic. Territorial authorities like the Christchurch City Council fund climate change mitigation projects like cycleways and urban tree plantings, but in times of economic stress these projects are treated as lower priority than basic services like road maintenance or rubbish collection. One potential use of this climate change levy could be to establish a fund which can be applied to by territorial authorities during hard economic times (or just when revenue is limited) for the funding to maintain or accelerate the delivery of their climate change mitigation projects which would otherwise likely take lower priority.

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

The levy shouldn't be based on a flat rate like the UAGC. If possible (I'm no expert in how rating works), it should be charged primarily on land use which has a negative impact on mitigation or adaptation projects or processes. This could include (for example) a higher levy on undeveloped or underdeveloped land in the Christchurch central city to recognise the opportunity cost of not taking full advantage of the benefits of high density development in walkable areas, or on land where there is excessive application of nitrogen fertiliser due to the associated nitrous oxide and methane emissions, or on land used for car parking or car sale yards in the central city.

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

Switch to a land-value rating system!

Where did you hear about the consultation?

Social media (Facebook, Instagram)
Environment Canterbury website
News article
