



**WHANGANUI
DISTRICT COUNCIL**
Te Kaunihera a Rohe o Whanganui

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

**Submissions Received
Speaking**

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 34

Speaking

First name: Elle
Last name: Abel

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: cut back hours somehow on all the whole week so every day the library is open or open for shorter hours on Monday.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: look into options on how to save and preserve this building its part of the history and fabric of Wanganui. Don't rebuild it save this building

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Keep it open would you said about this in the annual plan last year. This is historical and an important part of Whanganui and I want to last and be around for generations to come. It's a great place to come see when you come to the lake and its an important part of Whanganui. I feel this needs to be relooked for cost and I would like to know what the breakdown is for this cost as it seems a lot but either way we need to keep this aviary. I want my children and any grandchildren of mine to be able to come and experience the birds in it.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: cut the baskets by 25% that should keep the costs down on it a bit

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: libraries are important for communities and having one close by is important for people. libraries are places to visit but are important for all types of people including those with disabilities and for older people to.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: important part of Wanganui please don't close this needs to be kept.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: don't do this unless an operator can be found to and involves no investment from council. If you want to see a hotel go wrong with council involved look into Hutt City Councils hotel which is now open but caused issues and was an election campaign issue one election especially for people running for mayor.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Don't know

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: look into options for this but not sure of what is the best for it.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: not sure what do the iwi and Maori people say about this.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Don't know

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Don't know

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Don't know

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Don't know

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Kowhai Park needs to be kept as it is for the long term just a comment for now I want my children and my grandchildren if I get any to be able to come and use it as I have done and been done for generations before us.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1631

Speaking

First name: Femi
Last name: Adesanya
Organisation: The Stylebender Limited

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Remove the hanging flowers and decorate the Main street with something else. The hanging flower idea is stale.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Construct new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa (This is Council's preferred option, and would cost \$6 per property per year for 10 years from 2029/30)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: My comment is in respect of the need to change the classification of some zones from "Rural" to "Residential" in order to provide more properties to the community. My 1 Buxton Road address is on the boundary between Rural zone and Residential zone and I would like the address changed to Residential zone so that we can build 13 quality houses on the redeveloped section.

Supporting documents

Yes

Proposed Housing

Development

for

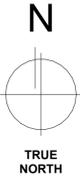
The Stylebender Ltd

at

1 Buxton Road, Westmere, ,

Whanganui, NZ

B&L Scheme



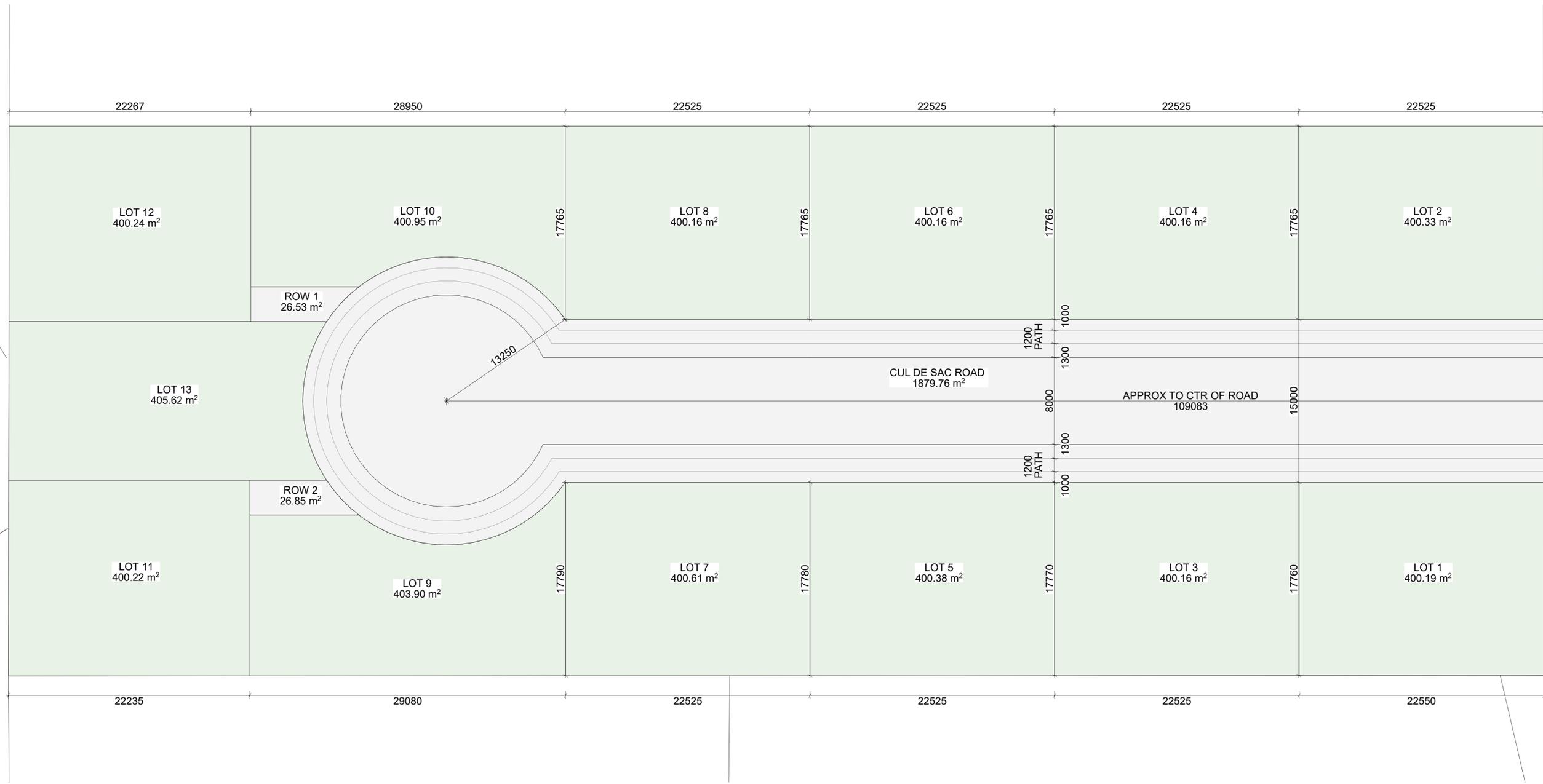
Sheet Index			
Layout ID	Rev ID	Layout Name	Date
01	00	Cover Page	18/07/2022
02	00	Proposed Site Layout	18/07/2022

Rev	Description	Date
00	B&L-WIP	18/07/2022

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

LOT: 9
 DP: 229
 SITE AREA: 7143 m²
 PLANNING ZONE: #Planning Zone
 WIND ZONE: High
 EXPOSURE ZONE: C
 EARTHQUAKE ZONE: 2

B&L CALCS	
	AREA
LOT 1	400.19
LOT 2	400.33
LOT 3	400.16
LOT 4	400.16
LOT 5	400.38
LOT 6	400.16
LOT 7	400.61
LOT 8	400.16
LOT 9	403.90
LOT 10	400.95
LOT 11	400.22
LOT 12	400.24
LOT 13	405.62
ROAD	1879.76
ROW 1	26.53
ROW 2	26.85
TOTAL	7146.21 m²



- General notes:**
- Contractor shall verify and be made responsible for all measurements on site.
 - Designer to be notified of any variation between site dimensions and those on the plans.
 - All work to be carried out in accordance with these drawings & accompanying specification. Designer to be notified of any variation.
 - All building work to be carried out in accordance with latest edition of the New Zealand Building Code.
 - All concrete masonry to be constructed in accordance with NZS 4230:2004.
 - All steel to be in accordance with NZS 3404 & AS/NZS 1170.
 - Refer to structural engineers drawings & calculations for all steel & concrete sizing & locations.
 - All timber construction to be in accordance with NZS 3604:2011.

Proposed Housing Development

for **The Stylebender Ltd**
 at 1 Buxton Road, Westmere,
 Whanganui NZ

B&L Scheme
 Proposed Site Layout

DATE	18/07/2022
SCALE	1:200, 1:1 @A1
PROJECT #	??

Rev	Description	Date
00	B&L-WIP	18/07/2022

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Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 337

Speaking

First name: Kereama
Last name: Allen

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: More drop off points

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Maintain the current level of funding, which isn't enough to get us to where we need to be. Noting assets will deteriorate further (save \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Council does not have any business owning a hotel

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Construct new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa (This is Council's preferred option, and would cost \$6 per property per year for 10 years from 2029/30)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: The youth council is a vital part of this city and I am shocked to not see it on her

Supporting documents **No**

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 856

Speaking

First name: **Colin**
Last name: **Anderson**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: The library is very busy on the weekend. Parking is not readily available during the week. Increase the parking area beside the library.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: This pool is adequate for the future. It is located in a large residential area where individuals can readily access it. Your option 1 involves spending unnecessary money on a feasibility study whilst removing a utilised and appreciated asset. Option 1 is not a prudent use of rate payers money.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Close the theatre and sell it and the land as is, with a covenant that the purchaser would be required to stabilise the bank prior to occupation. Council had previously budgeted for the bank stabilisation work. Where has that money been spent?

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: The community has already stated this is their preferred option. Why is Council coming back to this? Council needs to find savings elsewhere. I would suggest to holt all further works in Guyton Street either side of the Avenue. This would more than meet these these savings.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: These greatly enhance the avenue and make it more inviting.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close New Zealand Glassworks (save \$10.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Council should not be undertaking or financing this facility. This is not a core function of Council. Council should not have purchased it to start with, as it was a failing business. This is another example of Council's lack of business acumen.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the drop off points for rural rubbish (save \$9.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Most of these rural residents come to town regularly and can avail themselves of the current Transfer Station or recycling facilities.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Some common sense thinking from Council at last.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Agree. This is an asset that is part of Wanganui's heritage.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts: Council is playing at saving money when they should be looking at areas where real savings can be made. eg. Stop wasting money on painting street pavements and taking out parking spaces.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Maintain the current level of funding, which isn't enough to get us to where we need to be. Noting assets will deteriorate further (save \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Council needs to focus spending on critical components eg. fixing water leaks, potholes promptly. Despite receiving money from external sources (eg. NZTA) Stop all vanity projects eg. Guyton Street between St Hill and Wicksteed Streets needs to have all the judder bars and plastic

crossings removed. These plastic crossings are a safety and slip hazard. This work will cost lives as Guyton Street is one of the main routes across town for emergency vehicles. The only positive aspect is the round about at Wicksteed Street. This works well and should be left in place. It does not need an expensive permanent structure built there.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: This not a core Council function. Council has an abysmal record of failure and massive cost over runs when they try to undertake commercial activities. eg. The flight school is yet to make a profit, the Glassworks doesn't make a profit, The Art Gallery extension is grossly over budget. Council has a track record of being unable to control the budgets of non core function projects.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments: This is not critical and can be delayed until a time when ratepayers are not struggling financially.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: As a Kaumatua I believe this is the responsibility of each Marae community the same as repairs and maintenance to my home is my responsibility not that of rate payers.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: This group does a wonderful job and are a community asset. All for helping this service group.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: This is a non essential expenditure and totally unnecessary. This is a over dimension route which must remain free of impediments.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Yes this a narrow road but improvements should focus on vehicular traffic movements only. Works should only proceed when financial times are less severe.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: All assets should be listed (along with their valuations) and taken to the Rate Payers (owners of the asset) not community wide, to ascertain their views and opinions. This is not a short term fix but needs honest and detailed consideration.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Council needs to look harder at where significant money can be saved. eg. remove climate change funding, stop spending money on the port that only one company will benefit from, Stop funding Whanganui and Partners - they have had sufficient startup funding to now be paying their own way, Stop wasting money by playing with intersection upgrades - to date every one has made them more unsafe and made traffic flow worse. Do not spend money on playground replacements, what we

have at Kowhai Park is unique and should be retained, Do not spend any money on the North Mole rejuvenation. Development should be within the external funding available. Investment in buildings and housing should be put on hold. The housing portfolio should be sold to external providers who are able to secure alternative funding. Funding for an advanced aviation hub should be put on hold and reviewed by a business man with a proven track record of successful developments. Get on with replacing Dublin Street bridge.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1376

Speaking

First name: **Rosemary**
Last name: **Ansley**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes

Type text here

Original letter sent to
you A

To Whom it may Concern: Wanganui City Council

15/02/2024

I am writing on behalf of an aging community here in Wanganui East (especially those in and around the Masonic Village area) that would like to be able to access facilities in our main central city area with safety and ease of mind when traversing the travelling elements. This at the present time is very unsafe and to be honest extremely frightening for many who would like to be able to get out on their mobility scooters/ walkers or even just to cycle along the river with its new wide smooth easy to navigate walk way through to the town centre.

I managed to use a scooter to take the trip from Masonic Dr to the Dublin St Bridge!!! Which as a side issue is another matter entirely with its narrow uneven cycle way and the trying to get to it safely.

My main issue is that Anzac Pd going from Helmore St down to Dublin St Bridge there are:

1. 24 bumpy driveways (often hidden by bush or shrubbery)
2. 2 roads with 1 inch lips both sides and on an angle making going up and down (stop /start) slow so cars coming often have to wait.
3. Andion Lodge and 2 other properties with units, have lots of vehicles coming and going through out the day.
4. There are 5 school vehicle entries/exits from girls college on the this same street that students can access.
5. There are often obstacles on the path way (bins, rubbish bags, vehicles, work repairers, kids toys even) often meaning path access is limited.
6. To top it all off the paths to ride along, undulate sharply even at slow speed, have cracks, ridges from repairs and manhole coverings in the middle making this like an off road experience one finds very difficult to navigate.
7. Crossing at the round-about by Dublin St Bridge with the traffic flow in the last couple of years has been a major concern as a risk hazard and not just for the vulnerable elderly .

As citizens and long standing rate payers of Wanganui, being one I would like to make a small request that will not only benefit our elderly population but be beneficial to others at this end of Wanganui East:

1. The entry way that is already in existence across the road to the grass at the end of Helmore St be opened up for Disability scooters and wheelchairs to get through. At the present it has an opening for walkers and push bikes which is too small.
2. A new piece of pathway put in at this point to link up with the newly appointed walk way along the river. This then takes out ALL the above mentioned elements that hinder safer and is easier access to the Central City.

Then there will only be one road to cross at the end of Helmore St and "one" can go all the way into town along the river walkway with ease (avoiding having to use the Dublin St Bridge).

This would be a win / win for everyone and a very good cost saving measure for our community going forward.

Please please consider this proposal for the benefit of those that have spent years supporting and improving this community not only with their rates but the hard work to get this city to where it is today.

Thank you

Rose Ansley (Resident , Masonic Village, Wanganui East)





Over growth and obstacles along with the rough paths are often an issue



Along with the busy driveways



Then we have the road crossings



To finish the adventure of Helmore St to the Bridge



PROPOSED OPENING AND PATH FOR EASY SCOOTER WHEELCHAIR ACCESS FROM
HELMORE ST TO CITY CENTRE

End Helmore st onto Anzac Pr



Opening where walkers and bikes only can go through



Open up the gate access. Concrete a path across the grass to join the river walkway that goes all the way into the city centre



PROPOSED OPENING AND PATH FOR EASY SCOOTER WHEELCHAIR ACCESS FROM HELMORE ST TO CITY CENTRE

End Helmore st onto Anzac Pr



Put in a crossing

Open up this entrance that is limited to walkers only at the present



Put a path across the grass to join the river walkway that goes all the way into the city centre



Rosemary Ansley
Concerned Elderly

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David Lane
Wanganui District Council
Guyton St
Wanganui 4500

25/02/24

David Lane,

Thank you for your quick response to our call for a pathway at the end of Helmore St to connect to the "River walkway".

I have gone out this week and spent many hours talking to people in this immediate area, leaving information as attached, going back to answer questions and for their signed forms.

As you can see in the short time of our letter to you 15/02/24 there are ⁹³90 out of 120 firm responses YES to wanting a safer corridor to use the river walkway into the City Centre, Kowhai Park or just to enjoy taking family out to walk/exercise along the river.

Some families have individually signed on the same sheet as they often don't go out together.

You will note there are some from the home whose family would take them in wheelchairs and we have only put in the ones that have said they will use the pathway.

We have homes in the area and around Masonic (and others further afield) that would use this path but at present have indicated they:

- found it extremely wet in the grass
- The hidden holes in the ground put them off
- Can't get through the gate
- Great safe passage way but too hard to bike over
- Can't get the baby prams through and muck especially in winter
- Be great for kids and would be much safer option to Kowhai Park
- Scooters get stuck in the the grass and wheels skid
- Impossible for electric wheel chairs and mobility scooters
- A young mothers group would love access through this gate from a safety perspective

And the list goes on. I think you get the picture.

In your council agender you have a responsibility to elderly care and young children's safety and I do believe this sits right in there.

I have listed the persons below that have indicated very strongly for this project to happen and added their signed sheets as well.

We would be very grateful if you would keep us up to date with the progress and are hoping for a response re fixing the issues from the previous letter along Anzac Parade (which I have also enclosed) or a pathway to the river walkway.

We do believe the latter is a much more efficient/cheaper option for all concerned going forward to make our communities future for those that can't drive but need to be able to access the City Centre and other areas safer.

Thank you for your support

Yours sincerely,

Concerned Wanganui East Citizens

Persons that would like to see a crossing and pathway put in at the end of Helmore St to cross over through to the new River Walkway :

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Petitioner names and addresses redacted

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Petitioner names and addresses redacted

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Petitioner names and addresses redacted

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Petitioner names and addresses redacted

Residents Anzac Parade area:

We are looking for support to have a pathway put into the upcoming submissions at the Annual Council Planning May 2024 for future action. (Please look at the attached sheets)

For easy access and safety purposes both for the elderly and those of us living in this area to be able to use the new river walkway with our mobility scooters or wheelchairs, it is proposed that a new path be constructed opposite the end of Helmore St through to the new walkway.

I have been asked by David Lane from the Wanganui District Council to get residents in this area to support this proposal.

If you think this could be of benefit to you now or going forward please indicate your support below.

1. Yes I would like to see this happen
2. Name:
3. Address:
4. Signature:
5. Date:

Thank you for your time in having your say

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 586

Speaking

First name: Tina
Last name: Baldwin

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Have reduced hours on Mon. Be open for for 4 hours instead of 8 1/2.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Keep and maintain the pool. Get a working bee group to do the upgrades, in exchange for a swim pass. Do fundraisers to support the upgrades.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Keep the theatre as it is a heritage building. Could trees be planted to stabilize the bank?

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Keep the Aviary. Bring wages cost right down. Have volunteers and maybe 2 part time staff who are already within the council team. Have options to Sponser a bird and/or make 1 off donations.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Get a volunteer group to help with the baskets. See if businesses would sponser a basket outside their business. If not, scrap it.

New Zealand Glassworks

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Have classes to make some revenue. Can costs be trimmed?

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Do not close the Winter Gardens. But could you put a donation box inside? To help with costs? Can costs be trimmed?

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Cut Community grant funding by 10 percent or \$110,000 (save \$11.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Ratepayers should not be funding Neighbour's Day, at \$4000. Could scrap Pride funding also, \$5,000. Could do a poll to see what other groups could be cut.

Further comments on service cuts: Was good to see Youth Council scrapped.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Option 1. But make sure it is spent on infrastructure that is needed, not just wanted.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and

Something else (state below)

carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Either Option 3, or turn Collegiate Motor Inn back into motel accommodation. Move the flight school accommodation to another location. Make sure the flight school are covering all costs.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: There should not be a raised crossing here. Just put in a painted crossing. Also do not remove the Weeping Woman monument.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: This needs to be put on the backburner. If people really want it, have fundraisers and see where costs can be trimmed to get the cost lower.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt

Something else (state below)

and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: It would need to be listed which assets were to be sold first. Are there other ways for those assets to get revenue?

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Can costs be cut elsewhere other than what is listed? Get more funding for The Sarjeant Galley instead of putting the blowouts on to ratepayers.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 229

Speaking

First name: **Din**
Last name: **Bandara**
Organisation: **First Rung**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Council takes the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to outcome of detailed business case (Council's preferred option - this would add \$30 per property per year from 2025/26 through to 2038/39, after which the returns from the hotel and carpark will start to offset rates)

Submitter Comments: Investment in a 4* hotel is critical to ensure growth to Whanganui business and tourism. The council will need to ensure the right organisations are engaged to ensure this project does not blow out in budget.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: Such an iconic building in Whagnanui and needs to be preserved as much as possible. Could option 4 be incorporated at a later date?

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments: Preservation of important cultural significance is imperative.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Construct new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa (This is Council's preferred option, and would cost \$6 per property per year for 10 years from 2029/30)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Work with organisations that will utilise the land/buildings to the benefit of the city and community.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Thank you for putting forward the proposals. The impact of not making tough decisions will be detrimental for the future of Whanganui. Being part of a Trust (First Rung) that is focused on improving the housing landscape of the Whanganui region, the Trust would appreciate the opportunity to speak to our submission and elaborate on how our projects will positively impact the LTP and the community as a whole.

Supporting documents

Yes



First Rung Trust Whanganui District Council LTP submission

The First Rung Trust is dedicated to implementing innovative home ownership programs in the Whanganui district, fostering housing-related education, and contributing to the supply of quality homes in the area. Our initiatives encompass a spectrum of activities, including but not limited to land acquisition, property development, rental and sales management, tenant support, and educational outreach on housing matters.

Comprised of professionals from diverse fields such as law, finance, church ministry, and community engagement, our board shares a common commitment to enhancing the housing landscape in Whanganui.

Since September 2022, the First Rung Trust has been collaborating with Homes For People Trust, based in Palmerston North. Inspired by the significant impact achieved by the organisation in Manawatu and Horowhenua, we have been supported by their expertise in our endeavours to address housing challenges in Whanganui.

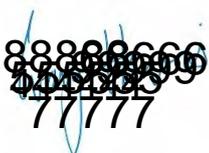
Over the past few years, Homes For People Trust has successfully constructed 29 homes in the Manawatu and Horowhenua regions, providing housing for numerous families and significantly benefiting the community. Presently, the Trust has an additional 29 properties in various stages of development. With this in mind, there exists a mutual recognition of the benefits of replicating their successful model in our district.

In April 2024, the First Rung Trust joined forces with Homes For People to acquire our inaugural property, located at 7 Gilmour Street, Gonville. Identified as a prime location for addressing various community needs, such as housing for first-time buyers, the elderly, and healthcare workers, this site holds immense potential. Positioned between two council-owned lots, there is an opportunity for collaboration with the Whanganui District Council (WDC) to optimize its usage, aligning with recent Council communication (10 April 2024) on addressing the housing shortage.

Looking ahead, the First Rung Trust and Homes For People envision further community investments across mixed tenure developments. We aim to foster meaningful partnerships with the WDC, leveraging our collective resources to make a positive impact on our community.

First Rung would welcome the opportunity to speak to our submission and elaborate on how our projects will positively impact the Long Term Plan (LTP) and the community as a whole.

Sincerely,



•
•



Board Chair
First Rung Trust




Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 272

Speaking

First name:

Minnie

Last name:

Baragwanath

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes

Whanganui

City of Possibility

Whanganui, the first City of Possibility, leads in possibility design and innovation for a global market of **2 billion consumers** with a **\$US13 trillion spending power**.



Whanganui, the **most accessible city** now and into the future!



Becoming the leading City of Possibility

–A vision for Whanganui now and into the future!

The vision:

- Whanganui becomes the first City of Possibility in the world. That is to say it becomes the most accessible city for the 25% of citizens who currently live with an impairment as well as the 50% of citizens who will live with an impairment after the age of 65. As the first City of Possibility, it will become the global leader in design, innovation, research and development for a global market of access consumers that is close to 2 billion people and has a spending power of \$US13 trillion.

What does this mean?

- Whanganui is the most accessible city in Aotearoa for people of all abilities now and into the future.
- Whanganui becomes renowned as the place to pilot and to test out new ways of doing things that are more inclusive and accessible including for example a pilot to test out a single tear approach to ACC which includes those born with impairments. This could also include new approaches like those being tested by the Toyota Woven City concept in Japan around aging and mobility.
- Whanganui has a thriving Possibility (future centred accessibility) design and innovation sector attracting local and global investment and creating a new sector rich in employment, and overall economic development for the region and the nation.
- The local Polytech becomes the lead training institution for accessible design and innovation in the world and also hosts a hot house to support and nourish emerging access entrepreneurs, designers and innovators.
- Whanganui becomes the centre of Possibility innovation and design internationally, the Silicon - valley if you like of Possibility design!

Investment

An initial investment is required of **\$350 k** for the first year to establish this initiative. This will include resourcing the Possibility Ambassador, catalysing the Designing

futures of Possibility Symposium in 2025, creation of the draft 25-year strategy and importantly attraction of significant local and international investment. This will also enable time to create a thorough long-term business case with costings and forecasts for the next 5 to 10 years. However, the expectation is that each relevant part of Council will allocate a certain amount of investment to projects and initiatives that directly fall under their auspices such as Whanganui and Partners, the Art Gallery and so on.

The Possibility Strategy

- The City of Possibility vision is underpinned by a 25-year strategy and long term resourcing.
- The strategy is updated every few years to ensure it remains relevant and meaningful for the access citizens and the world at that time.
- At the 20 year mark a new 25-year strategy is created and envisioned and the process rolls over again including any key learnings and relevant changes to ensure a future of Possibility is enabled.
- The strategy is created through a combination of community consultation, engagement with futurists, innovators and designers, and Possibility leaders from the access community!

Possibility Ambassador

The role of Possibility Ambassador is established to lead and oversee the direction and delivery of this vision and plan. The Possibility Ambassador will connect locally and internationally with the current leaders, innovators and change agents who are spear heading possibility globally including investors, entrepreneurs, designers, and innovators. They will attract investment to the City and surrounding region.

The Symposium:

This vision and strategy will be ignited by the first ever Designing futures of Possibility symposium in October 2025. Whanganui and the surrounding region will host an international symposium that showcases and promotes the power of Possibility leadership, design and innovation to create an accessible future and to establish new social and economic opportunities for the region. It will build on the UNESCO City Of Design status and invite the sister cities of design to participate and to showcase their leading examples of Possibility design and innovation.

Examples of similar events internationally:

- The Remarkable Summit 2023 Sand Diego
- The Remarkable Summit 2022 San Francisco

Why Whanganui?

- UNESCO City of Design
- The Whanganui River
- Abundance of disability and age facilities located here
- Community appetite for equality and for leadership
- Local civic and business leaders are looking for new opportunities to grow the community and economy significantly.
- A number of world leading practitioners in accessibility live here in Whanganui and the surrounding region.
- The Global Centre of Possibility is now located here along with its founder Minnie Baragwanath.

Possibility examples:

- Kara technologies– Sign Language avatar
- Toyota cars– TheWoven City

The Opportunity:

- There are close to 2 billion people worldwide who live with a disability due to birth, accident and or aging. This equates to approximately 25 %of the population. By 2030 this number will have increased and closer to 30% ~~the~~ population will live with at least one impairment. As we age, it is likely that ALL of us will in fact experience a disability at some stage in our lives.
- This community has created many of the most transformative innovations of our world- today yet this story and truth is not well known or understood.
- This market is estimated to have a spending power of close to \$13 trillion US and is desperate for goods and services that will transform their lives by removing disabling barriers.

Theory of Change (TOC):

- The TOC that underpins this 25year City of Possibility concept and Symposium, is that unless we embrace a Possibility approach to Leadership Design and Innovation, unless we understand what it means to be truly 'with' our access leaders, designers and innovators we, society will never create a fully accessible future for all. Instead, we will continue to design people, talent, creativity and contribution out of our society, economy and communities. In this VUCA (Volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous) world we currently live in, we also run the risk of losing many of the hard fought for gains by the access community which could propel this community even further back than we are at present.
- The choice is ours. I invite the leaders of today to determine the legacy we wish to leave for future generations. Are you with me? Are you with us the access citizens of Aotearoa and the world?

Possible Partners:

- Whanganui City Council
- Central Government
- Whanganui and Partners
- UNESCO–City of Design
- Iwi
- Toyota
- Southern Cross Health care
- Spark
- GDI–Global Disability Innovation hub UK
- Remarkable Sydney and USA
- + N Partners
- NZ Govt and WhaiKaha Ministry of Disability
- MBIE
- Thrive
- Whanganui Enterprises
- Laura Ferguson Trust
- Other??

Background information and materials

To learn more about Minnie, Possibility Leadership design and innovation and the concept of 'with':

- Visit www.gcop.co.nz
- View www.minnieb.co.nz
- Read book 'Blindingly Obvious'

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 187

Speaking

First name: **James**
Last name: **Barron**
Organisation: **Chair - Progress Castlecliff**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Having the Davis closed as proposed may stop our Castlecliff Library and Community Hub from issuing library cards etc on closed days as our volunteers need to ring thru to help customers for some transactions. Beyond this in a cost of living crisis the "commons" ie public spaces offering low or no cost activities become more crucial than ever to struggling families. Closing the main library for an entire day a week to save households under 5 cents per week is NOT supported.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No response as not in our mandate to comment

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No response as not in our mandate to comment

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No response as not in our mandate to comment

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No response as not in our mandate to comment

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No response as not in our mandate to comment

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No response as not in our mandate to comment

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Having the Gonville Library closed as proposed may affect our Castlecliff Library and Community Hub even more than the proposed day-a-week closure of the Davis. Beyond this in a cost of living crisis the “commons” ie public spaces offering low or no cost activities become more crucial than ever to struggling families. Closing the Gonville library for an entire day a week to save households under 2 cents per week is NOT supported.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No response as not in our mandate to comment

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: We support Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise) As an organisation that may hope to receive funding our costs have increased so this will really just maintain the current level of community grants. We believe community led projects deliver excellent value to Council (well ours certainly do)

Further comments on service cuts: Service cuts that affect free of low cost activities and services available to all are regressive and will cost not save struggling household budgets.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No response

Hotel and Car Park

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No response as not in our mandate to comment

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No response as not in our mandate to comment We do note however that the 20 year cost of a new fly system ONLY is \$6/property/year LESS than a new fly system AND a new stagehouse. This seems incongruous

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No response as not in our mandate to comment

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: We support the work Surf Lifesaving do on our beach and the training and healthy activity the rejuvenated nippers program provides.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No response as not in our mandate to comment

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments: Progress Castlecliff believe our beaches are important resource for Whanganui residents and one of the key reasons Whanganui has been experiencing growth well exceeding landlocked areas in our region like Palmerston North. Investing in healthy access to our coast should be a priority even in constrained times.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No response

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: See attached document

Supporting documents

Yes



PROGRESS
CASTLECLIFF



Mouri Ora Mouri Awa Mouri Tangata
Te Awa Tupua
Flora and fauna
Biodiversity
Interconnected well-being
Wānanga
Connection
10 year history community operational management
Core services
Degraded infrastructure
Attention needed
Community hub
Realisation of natural beauty
Beautification
Climate change resilience
Indigenous wisdom
Environmental stability
Dune Forest
Sustainability
Well-being on the coast
Te Awa Tupua Legislation 2017
Horizons Regional Council Te Pūwaha
Community and hapū Collaborative Engagement
2020
2021
Castlecliff Rejuvenation Phase 1
2016
2017
Castlecliff Rejuvenation Phase 2
2019
Whanganui District Council Coastal Action Plan
2020
Covid 19
2022
2023
DRAFT 1033
DRAFT 1032
PROGRESS
CASTLECLIFF



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Foreword

Progress Castlecliff is a broad, membership based incorporated society and a registered charity with thirty years of working for better for Castlecliff. Progress Castlecliff operates as an umbrella to a number of operational arms that all share administrative services, governance and vision for Te Kaihau-o-Kupe (Castlecliff)

Principal among these are

- Castlecliff Coastcare (submitting independently)
- Castlecliff Library and Community Hub
- Ngā Ringaringa Waewae
- Duncan Pavilion - Administration and bookings

In addition we advocate for Castlecliff (e.g. this submission) and have the agility and contacts to see opportunity to build pride and do good in our community – recent examples being [“paint up the park” Dec 2023 Basketball Court painting](#) [partnership with Fleet Line marking with help from the WDC Public Art fund](#) and [last Sunday \(28 April\) partnering with Castlecliff Four Square for an awesome Community day that saw Six60 spend 90 minutes meeting fans old, young and new from not only Castlecliff but all over the rohe.](#)



[Click here to read “Adventures in a Time of Transformation” – a summary of the last 10 years of our community consultation and artists impressions of the Ngā Ringaringa Waewae planned delivery of North Mole aspirations.](#)

Progress Castlecliff welcomes the more systematic and transparent way WDC have approached this LTP under new Mayor & CEO. We find entry point business cases give a insight into how the many new & competing wants have been presented to Council and (crucially) what recommendations were and (by deduction from LTP when published) what did and didn't make the adopted draft LTP proposals.

We believe strongly in localism - that local communities and hapu at place are the best placed to identify, direct and even deliver good for their communities. We are also constitutionally only mandated to advocate for Castlecliff. Accordingly we have generally made “no response” on issues that affect other suburbs or affect all suburbs equally. But you can presume our support for council working with and through other community groups and you may generally assume our support for the initiatives they support.



Our responses to set questions

Davis Library

We support Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Having the Davis closed as proposed may stop our Castlecliff Library and Community Hub from issuing library cards etc on closed days as our volunteers need to ring thru to help customers for some transactions. Beyond this in a cost of living crisis the "commons" ie public spaces offering low or no cost activities become more crucial than ever to struggling families. Closing the main library for an entire day a week to save households under 5 cents per week is NOT supported.

Whanganui East Pool

Repertory Theatre

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

New Zealand Glassworks

Drop off points for rural rubbish

No response

Gonville Library

We support Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are

Having the Gonville Library closed as proposed may affect our Castlecliff Library and Community Hub even more than the proposed day-a-week closure of the Davis.

Beyond this in a cost of living crisis the "commons" ie public spaces offering low or no cost activities become more crucial than ever to struggling families. Closing the Gonville library for an entire day a week to save households under 2 cents per week is NOT supported.

Winter Gardens

Level of Community Grant Funding

We support Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)



As an organisation that may hope to receive funding our costs have increased so this will really just maintain the current level of community grants. We believe community led projects deliver excellent value to Council (well ours certainly do)

Do you have any further comments on service cuts?

Service cuts that affect free of low cost activities and services available to all are regressive and will cost not save struggling household budgets.

Funding of core infrastructure - roading, footpaths and three waters

Hotel and Car Park

No response

Royal Whanganui Opera House

No response

We do note however that the 20 year cost of a new fly system ONLY is \$6/property/year LESS than a new fly system AND a new stagehouse. This seems incongruous.

Marae Development

No response

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

We support Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLs as contribution to this project

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

No response

Rapanui Road Trail

We support Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted

Progress Castlecliff believe our beaches are important resource for Whanganui residents and one of the key reasons Whanganui has been experiencing growth well exceeding landlocked areas in our region like Palmerston North. Investing in healthy access to our coast should be a priority even in constrained times.



Asset Sales

How would you strike the balance?

Long-term Investment - would you prefer to...

No response

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at a hearing?

Yes

Would you like to attach any files to your submission on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34?

This document.

Fees and charges Policy

no response

Revenue and Financing Policy

Do you have any comments to make about the draft Revenue and Financing Policy?

We note with disappointment that the General Rate continues to be based on LV (Land Value)

We believe over 95% of councils in NZ use CV (Capital Value) and believe that this would produce a fairer distribution of the rates burden in Whanganui.

We note with disappointment that we have not received requested data on the impact of this but have calculated the affect on total rates paid per suburb based on current (2023) LV/CV and draft LTP figures of using the industry standard CV over LV as changing the total general rated burden per suburb by approximately

Aramoho	-3.5%
Bastia/Durie Hills	8.0%
Putiki	
Castlecliff	-8.9%



Gonville	-7.6%
Springvale	7.6%
St Johns/Otamatea	8.9%
Whanganui Central	0.6%
Whanganui East	-2.1%

We believe that the choice of Council to continue to use LV over CV for general rates makes Whanganui Council an outlier in terms of rating and unfairly sees outer and traditionally "poorer", "outer" areas like Castlecliff, Gonville, Aramoho & Whanganui East bearing a disproportionate share of Whanganui's rates burden.

We do NOT believe using a basis for the rating system that comparatively disadvantages "poorer" suburbs to the benefit of "richer" suburbs is a fair or appropriate way to calculate rates in a LTP that is presented as trying to alleviate the rates burden on struggling families.

Would you like to speak to your submission on either of the following consultation items?

Fees and Charges 2024/25

No

Draft Revenue and Financing Policy

Yes

Parking Bylaw and Parking Controls 2024

No response other than to "Do you have any comments about Council's Parking Bylaw?"

Progress Castlecliff operates the Duncan Pavilion. Freedom camping in summer can occupy parks to the extent that users of the Pavilion have difficulty parking. We ask that the carparks near the Duncan be designated as P240 or similar and/or freedom camping signage be improved to address this problem

The carparking outside the Rangiora Street dairy is designated P15 but this is not enforced by Council with locals often disappointed to be unable to stop to pickup milk, return books to the Castlecliff library etc due to cars parked for extended periods. We believe this long standing issue would quickly resolve if Council did occasionally have parking officers enforce these parking times and ask that Council ensure it's staff are resourced and tasked with enforcing Council's parking rules in Castlecliff.

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at a hearing?

Yes



Development Contributions Policy

Do you agree that the amount of Development Contributions collected should be increased in order to offset the burden on rates?

Yes

Extension of Areas

We note this would raise more funding from outer suburbs like Castlecliff with sections more likely to have infill subdivision and housing than inner suburbs. This may adversely affect the development of badly needed new housing. We are also concerned on possible implications for Iwi led affordable housing developments intended for Castlecliff.

We **DISAGREE STRONGLY** with the extension of development contributions to Castlecliff while Castlecliff continues to pay 8.9% more general rates under Whanganui's LV based calculation.

Aramoho	-3.5%
Bastia/Durie Hills	8.0%
Putiki	
Castlecliff	-8.9%
Gonville	-7.6%
Springvale	7.6%
St Johns/Otamatea	8.9%
Whanganui Central	0.6%
Whanganui East	-2.1%

Council is proposing to move from a 'site-based demand' measure to an 'occupancy-based demand' measure.

We broadly support this as being equitable and perhaps mildly encouraging of smaller, more affordable homes over "MacMansions" but again note that Council adoption of CV for General Rates would do far more to ensure larger dwellings (which are able to accommodate more people and have higher CV's) will be paying higher levels of General Rates than this change to development levy policy.



Remissions

We agree with extending the rates remission policy to Community Groups and Trusts and social housing but are concerned that this should be available fairly

It should be based on the USE of a property not the Ownership of a property ie

- should be available where a property is rented/used for public good
- not be given where the property is not in use for public good
- should be available to mixed commercial developments there is a mix of uses (examples being the Gonville, Castlecliff. Hakeke St and Aramoho libraries) on condition the rebated rates are pro rata (ie normal rates are paid on the proportion NOT used for public good AND the full amount if any rebate is passed back to the Community Group/Trust or social housing tenant by the landlord as lower OPEX or rental.

We question the feasibility of the proposed "Remission of the targeted rate for Council's kerbside recycling and food scraps service". It would be rare for the owner of a multi-tenant commercial property to provide this service with individual businesses instead dealing with their own recycling and (in case of food businesses) food scraps. So most properties occupied by a mix of small businesses wouldn't qualify. In the rare case they did qualify this presumes the landlord would go to the effort of claiming rebate they receive no benefit from.

Would you like to speak in support of your submission at a hearing?

Yes



Issues not covered in the consultation document

Progress Castlecliff welcomes the more systematic and transparent way WDC have approached this LTP under new Mayor & CEO. We find entry point business cases give a insight into how the many new & competing wants have been presented to Council and (crucially) what recommendations were and (by deduction from LTP when published) what did and didn't make the adopted draft LTP proposals.

Progress Castlecliff also wish to submit on the following point-of-entry business cases...

Coastal Action Plan

<https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/projects/point-of-entry-business-cases/coastal-action-plan.pdf>

We note that (via the Ngā Ringaringa Waewae partnership) the North Mole carpark and associated community aspirations remains on track (as confirmed in meeting at Council 29 April) so consider the probability of the 2024/25 dunes investment this covers to be "Highly Probable"

Duncan Pavilion

<https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/projects/point-of-entry-business-cases/duncan-pavillion.pdf>

We note the recognition of the issues the building faces due to long delayed maintenance. A detailed line item level accounting of Council expenditure on the Duncan over the last 10 years is requested. We also request any quotes, costings or detailed proposals in relation to option 2.

We also note the diversity and high level of community use the building has under Progress Castlecliff management of bookings – higher we contend than any comparable Council asset and at a lower cost to Council than any comparable Council asset.

In relation to options 1 and 2 the loss of the asset to the community is completely and utterly unacceptable to Progress Castlecliff, the overwhelming majority of Castlecliff and indeed the many in the wider Whanganui community who enjoy the asset be it for WC/changing rooms, yoga, community meetings, prayer, birthdays, whanau events, coastcare, weddings, funerals, baptisms, open studios, business meetings, volunteer beach cleanups, surfing events, Vic Uni climate change conference, Iwi & Hapu events or any of the myriad of other diverse bookings it gets each year. Under these options we advise that the risk identified "Progress Castlecliff and community are frustrated with council." Is certain rather than "Highly Probable" and with all due respect suggest the consequence to Council is unlikely to be "moderate"

Options 3, 4 & 5 do not include OPEX in year 1. This is unreasonable, the building does need attention now – for example on Friday night at a Castlecliff Library book launch the



volunteers are used to the buildings "quirks" lit the steep steps for the 60+ attendees using batter powered fairy lights on the handrails (the outside lights leave the bottom steps in shadow and worse are on a short timer that regularly plunges the steps that are lit into darkness with people part way up them!)

We strongly advise Council to budget for restoration and point out that much or most of this cost is in fact "deferred maintenance" (aka years of neglect).

Should option 5 (surf club) in fact be an option within the given time frame it is one Progress Castlecliff would support ONLY following a community consultation and community assent clear to a proposal clearly detailing priority for public use and functionality not inferior to the level of service the community currently enjoys.

Library Hub refurbishment

<https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/projects/point-of-entry-business-cases/library-hub-refurbishment.pdf>

We welcome Council commitment to the library hubs. Given the CAPEX expenditure envisaged Progress Castlecliff hopes and expects WDC Libraries will be entering into long term contracts with Progress Castlecliff and other operators for the duration of the assets lifespan/CAPEX repayment period (10 years?) allowing Council to be assured the CAPEX is well invested and allowing Progress Castlecliff to enter into a long term lease and give our library volunteers and community assurance their support of the library will be respected.

We question the RoI (return on investment) metric used and believe it is significantly higher on the case of library hubs. For example the contribution by Council to run the Castlecliff Library (covering rent, utilities & staffing) is in the region of 25k or 5% of the cost of the (Council employee staffed) Gonville library. While there are some costs Council covers (Council staff time, books, equipment) and the size, range of activities and numbers of customers will be lower for Castlecliff the RoI for Castlecliff must be several times that of Council staffed libraries.

We request that our library co-ordinator and volunteers are involved in refurbishment decisions. (noting with thanks that WDC libraries staff do currently do this well)

Manuka Street upgrade

<https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/projects/point-of-entry-business-cases/manuka-street-upgrade.pdf>

The case for the work is understated. The damage to road surface is caused by the road being dangerously narrow forcing vehicles to drive right on the uncurbed edge of the road when passing. We welcome the long overdue STRONGLY ask that Council deliver the planned "amenity" investment at the same time. We find it hard to see how the



intent of the funding is met by the works as proposed. An on road bike lane on an unlit very open stretch of narrow road like this seems a staggeringly bad idea! The MINIMUM deliverable from this is that Castlecliff people should be able to safely walk, push prams and cycle to Castlecliff Health.

The intersection of Manuka with Cornfoot is also dangerous and the scene of a number of accidents. Priority needs to be given to Manuka along with road islands to narrowing Cornfoot to reduce the 12m width at that point to 6m to make crossing safer for our Tamariki. We believe this is part of the work council propose to delay. To point out what should be obvious we have within the last year had several incidents including the life hit and run life threatening injury of a child there. That Major survived is a miracle. It is NOT OK to rely on miracles for the survival of our tamariki, we need safer roads. It is NOT OK for our elderly on scooters to have no safe way to the nearest medical centre.

This work needs to be done NOW. We oppose a dangerous on road "cycle way" that will attract cyclists (and scooters and even pedestrians) but fail to keep them safe as it is both inherently unsafe and likely to delay indefinitely the safe and necessary provision of a safe, separated shared pathway.

North Mole works

<https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/projects/point-of-entry-business-cases/north-mole-works.pdf>

We thank Council for their continuing work with Progress Castlecliff via our Ngā Ringaringa Waewae collective and expect this relationship to exemplar the delivery of mahi under the guidance of Te Awa Tupua and Kawa.

Ocean Outfall Maintenance

<https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/projects/point-of-entry-business-cases/ocean-outfall.pdf>

The business case states the benefits of the scheduled maintenance as "Reduced risk of wastewater blockages and overflows to the stormwater system or the Whanganui River."

"Ensure the intended dilution/mixing of the wastewater with the ocean is met and the coastal environment is protected from any effects of the treated wastewater discharge."

It follows that not performing the scheduled maintenance carries the risk of more sh*t in our Awa and on Castlecliff beach.

We STRONGLY oppose this proposed cut.



SW Pump Stations (Castlecliff) and stormwater attenuation additions

<https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/projects/point-of-entry-business-cases/pump-stations-castlecliff-projected-sea-level-rise.pdf>

<https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/projects/point-of-entry-business-cases/stormwater-%E2%80%93-attenuation-additions.pdf>

We STRONGLY oppose doing nothing with the attendant increase in flood risk to the Heads Road industrial area, Port and residential properties.

Playground Provision and Parks and Reserves Furniture

<https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/projects/point-of-entry-business-cases/playground-provision.pdf>

<https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/projects/point-of-entry-business-cases/parks-and-reserves-furniture.pdf>

We believe that cutting this investment into the common wealth that is public playgrounds is precisely the wrong response to a cost of living crisis. Providing poorer playgrounds to the public is regressive, it disproportionately disadvantages poorer whanau by degrading access to free, healthy public play space. Please leave this expenditure in for the health of our Tamariki who need to play, our elderly and parents who deserve somewhere to sit in our parks and families who deserve the cheap wholesome good of picnics on tables and under shelters in our parks.

Power up the Park

<https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/projects/point-of-entry-business-cases/power-up-the-park.pdf>

We thank Council for the provision of this funding. We look forward to using our recognition and charity status to work as the delivery partner for Council to attract local businesses and funders to make this funding stretch further and do more.



Rangiora Street Public Toilet Replacement

<https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/projects/point-of-entry-business-cases/rangiora-street-public-toilet-replacement.pdf>

We STRONGLY oppose delay in this work. Council deferring maintenance on the Duncan Pavilion toilets has put them at risk and these are out only year round public toilets.

This funding MUST remain in the LTP. If or when refurbishment of the Duncan Pavilion is complete or public toilet provision in a possible new WSLSC facility should become clear prior to this works commencement in year two and may reduce the cost but to fail to plan for this replacement is quite literally planning for failure!

General comments

Public Transport

Progress Castlecliff thank Council for pushing for The Tide bus funding and note it's success. While this has been normalised as Horizons Regional Council operations we wish to acknowledge that this would not have occurred without WDC going above, beyond and outside the box to push for it. We appreciate, hope and trust WDC will continue to strongly advocate for and support better Public Transport for Whanganui.

Te Pūwaha / Port Whanganui

Progress Castlecliff thank Council for it's continued commitment to the Te Pūwaha partnership and Whanganui Port.

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 719

Speaking

First name: **Kellee**
Last name: **Bartlett**
Organisation: **Ngati Tumango Hapu member**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Financial reform as was used by labour during covid and coined helicopter money pre covid

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Again financial reform

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Financial reform

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Financial reform

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Keep them and use better financial advisors

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Keep it and get rid of your financial advisors

Drop off points for rural rubbish**Something else (state below)**

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Keep it but get a new team of financial advisors

Gonville Library**Something else (state below)**

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: It's a library keep it open get new advisors

Winter Gardens**Something else (state below)**

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Keep and get new advisors

Level of Community Grant Funding**Something else (state below)**

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Get experienced people on this board asap why this is included in the rates and not separate ID need more context and increase it

Further comments on service cuts: It's not the services that needs cutting, it's politicians at top level that need axing and a whole financial reform adopted

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**Something else (state below)**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Financial Reform

Hotel and Car Park**Something else (state below)**

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Council to undertake but not in the traditional way of using rates to get this done

Royal Whanganui Opera House**Something else (state below)**

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Financial reform

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The nz company's/ so called countrys bank aka rbnz should

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Financial reform

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Financial reform

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Financial reform

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Most idiotic part of this survey.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Get a new financial team

Supporting documents

Yes

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 500

Speaking

First name: Val
Last name: Bartrum
Organisation: Whanganui Floral Art Group

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: please see attached letter in support of our submission

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes



WHANGANUI FLORAL ART GROUP
Club Rooms: Riverside Christian Church Hall
Mathieson St, Whanganui

Patron: Lynne Gray
President: Michael Unverricht – 027-3790262
Secretary: Val Bartrum – 3455026 or 021-2093741
Treasurer: Leonie Lennox – 027-4070569
Bank Account No. 03-0791-0555570-00

Val Bartrum (Secretary)
178A Great North Road, Otamatea, Whanganui 4500

30 April 2024

The Policy Team
Whanganui District Council
101 Guyton Street
Whanganui 4500

POLICY SUBMISSION

Dear Policy Team

I am writing on behalf of our Members – who wish to make a submission in support of retaining the Mainstreet Hanging Flower Baskets.

We believe that the hanging baskets give Whanganui its unique character, and we know that our visitors (and locals) always comment favourably on them.

Encouraging visitors to our city is an important Council focus, and losing the baskets would appear to be a step backwards, and would diminish Whanganui's welcoming charm. They complement and enhance our beautiful and historic buildings – and are a major attraction for both national and international visitors to our city.

To support this submission, our Club would be prepared to hold a fundraising event – in order to contribute proceeds to this very worthy cause.

We are willing to come and speak to Council in support of our submission.

KIND REGARDS

Val Bartrum (Secretary)
val@bartrum.net

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 60

Speaking

First name: **Carolyn**
Last name: **Bates**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes

From: Carolyn Bates, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am happy to answer questions regarding this submission.

I write to raise my concerns specifically regarding:

Paying to Park / Provision of Change Machines

As I raised last year, but it seems no changes have been put in place, I repeat:

I recommend Whanganui Council provide **at least one location** in the city where drivers are able to access change to use in parking meters. Parking in Wanganui (for me) is an extremely frustrating exercise: Sourcing "change" continues to be a challenge - Banks either will not provide or charge for the privilege.

Shops, at best, are reluctant to provide coins. Spending any, or even larger amounts is no guarantee to securing coins. As a volunteer I find it a disincentive to give my time to support Whanganui Charities if it is going to cost me to "do good works", plus what ought to be an easy activity is a disincentive to visit Wanganui to shop.

Not for Profit - Parking / Helping Volunteers do good work

I recommend Council provides more flexible parking options for Seniors. Council provide a facility for SuperGold Card holders to park for free between 8.00am and 11.00am, Monday to Friday, in the CBD. I am a holder of a SuperGold Card but feel I and others are being disadvantaged. The majority of times I come to the the Whanganui CBD is to attend meetings or to volunteer at various Not for Profit's I am involved in eg - Wanganui Branch of Diabetes New Zealand or - Brain Injury Association of Whanganui I am a Board Member and do what I can to support those organisations as well as activities at Community House, recently I helped at their Neighbours Day Sausage Sizzle.

I also attend meetings with a range of Not for Profit entities in Whanganui which provide support to the Marton Community - this is as: (a) Chair of the Marton Community Committee; and (b) Coordinator of the Marton Health Network.

A number of entities have their offices in Whanganui therefore meetings and supplies / literature are located there. You will appreciate that being involved in Not for Profits in the Whanganui and beyond area is not an inexpensive activity. I and many others willingly give our time, many (such as I) have the cost of travel to cover, so to also have to pay to park is an added deterrent.

I am aware that there is free parking in areas beyond the CBD but: (a) For some walking is not as easy as it was; and (b) I for one frequently have to pick up or return items to "the office". Generally my meetings mean I have to be in Whanganui no earlier than 10am and frequently much later than 11am, depending on the meeting / reason to be there eg one regular meeting begins at 1pm. It would be beneficial if parking rules allowed for a maximum of two hours (as is available presently), but not limited to between 8am and 11am. Ideally, it would be available for the time up to 5:30 any day.

I understand there are plans to expand the area(s) where paid parking is applicable, I am not supportive of that, nor do I support the plan to increase parking charges. I see that as another deterrent to shoppers.

Other topics you have in your consultation document:

Funding

I was pleased to learn you will work to secure alternative funding to help keep rates increases to a minimum.

Swimming Pool

My concern with the closure of the swimming pool is how youngsters will learn water safety. The likelihood that they will travel to an alternative (to me) is unlikely if they can simply swim in the river, which in itself is a greater hazard to their safety! I do not support the pool closure. I suggest consideration of reduced hours or days eg for part of the year.

Library services

Even as someone who does not live in Whanganui, I have regularly used your libraries, so the thought of closing any is a concern, but acknowledge the cost saving. Perhaps it could be trialed for a few months, or has there been research done already to speak to the current users? Two libraries are mentioned to have the facility closed one day a week. If that is decided, the ought to be closed on different days, to allow users access to the other facilities on those days.

The Repertory Theatre

I am not supportive of closing the theatre, but selling it appears a potentially acceptable alternative ONLY IF, the sale is to an entity / group who will continue its use. I regularly come to Wanganui specifically to attend performances at the theatre. I would hate that the city lose such an asset.

The Aviary

I do not wish to see the closure of the Aviary.

Hanging Baskets

I think the loss of the Hanging Baskets would be sad. I recommend you contact local service entities eg Lions Club. In Marton the local Lions do a great job with their hanging baskets.

Glassworks

To me that should be user pays - I thought it already was.

Winter Gardens

I support keeping the Winter Gardens Open.

Community Grant Funding

I support the proposed increase to Community Grant Funding.

Opera House

I support the stagehouse proposal.

Marae Development

I do not support the development to be funded from rates, but if alternative funding could be sourced that would be acceptable. To me there always appears to be opportunities which non Maori are excluded for, there has to be a way to tap into Maori funding for this project.

Wanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

I am supportive of any Lifesaving initiatives.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving / Crossing

\$830,000 seems a huge amount, I do not support the spending of that amount.

Men's Shed

I think this should be funded, the facility provides a great space for people to socialise as well as repair and create all manner of different things.

Putiki Emergency Response

I would have anticipated funding would have been covered by Civil Defence, not the Council - perhaps I do not understand the details for the scan information in your consultation document on page 44.

Discontinuing the Digital Strategy

Considering Whanganui has a growing Digital network (much better than the other councils), I am disappointed at the suggestion of discontinuing this.

If you have any queries regarding the above please feel free to call me on [REDACTED]

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1235

Speaking

First name: **Robert**
Last name: **Baxter**
Organisation: **Nathan Street Neighbourhood Support Group**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Please see attached

Supporting documents

Yes

[REDACTED]

Whanganui

15th April 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

Submission to Ten Year Plan – Seeking Programme for Turning Facility in Nathan Street

This submission follows previous submissions to Council’s Annual Plan and seeks Council support to establish a financial programme for land purchase to resolve long-standing problems associated with the lack of a turn facility in Nathan Street. The submission is made on behalf of residents in the street.

By way of background, Nathan Street in Springvale is formed in two parts, both no exit. This submission relates to the southern portion, accessed off Treadwell Street. At the time most residents purchased their properties in this street a roading designation existed, allowing for the extension of the road over 120m of undeveloped land. Since then, however, Council has allowed the designation to lapse, leaving no plan for resolution of long-standing problems associated with turning vehicles.

The failure to complete the intended road connection over many years has created many issues for residents. The road lacks sufficient width to accommodate turn movements involving large vehicles and this problem has only worsened as more frequent and additional waste collection services have been added. The residents currently bear the brunt of this problem, with private property being damaged by vehicle movements and noise and disruption regular features.

Council has created this problem by allowing the roading designation to lapse and only Council can now resolve it. It now seems that connection of the road is unlikely to be achieved in any realistic time frame. Hence it is now sought that Council commits to a financial programme to purchase land to establish a turning head in Nathan Street.



The plan above, currently shown on Council’s District Plan maps, shows the intended street layout dating back decades. It really is time for Council to discuss options for the future with residents, make a new plan and let residents know that Council is committed to resolving, not ignoring, this problem.

As a resident I would invite Councillors to come and visit the street, see the difficulties presented by the lack of a turn facility and the damage being caused, both to the road surface and to resident's driveways and fences. Residents have been patient, the problem however needs to be resolved before even more trucks associated with recycling services start to visit the street.

Kind regards

John Baxter

██████████6

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Baxter', written in a cursive style.

██████████ n ██████████,
Whanganui.

18th March, 2023.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write on behalf of the 22 houses in Nathan Street, Whanganui. This is a 'no exit' Street, with absolutely no area in which to turn any sort of vehicle, large or small at the end.

The Street and houses were developed around 1990 and since then nothing has been done to Alleviate a turning problem.

Consequently because this end of Nathan Street is a no exit street, with no turning, vehicles including trucks, trailers, large contractor vehicles and rubbish trucks (3 on Mondays,) have to either back all the way back down the street, or turn into our driveways, ruining our driveways, including smashing paving stones, or bump up the gutter destroying the grass burn. This is causing many frustrations to all of those on the receiving end of the damage.

At present the street is 8 metres wide and the rubbish trucks are also 8 metres long, thus creating a turning problem. So, to alleviate this problem and not upset the residents they complete a 5 point turn, thus tearing up your road seal. Last time the Council resealed the street it was less than 2 weeks before the road was once again torn up.

This torn up seal, as you might imagine leaves loose chips with tar on them, which is transported by our car wheels into our driveways, then into garages and then inside our homes and onto carpets. Try explaining this to the woman of the house; creating a major cleaning problem.

To avoid this happening some of the residents have taken to placing road cones in their driveway or orange tap across the entrance.

The other major problem is if these heavy vehicles, (rubbish trucks have up to 8 tons on the front axel,) do enter our driveways, which is one turning option, not only do they crack the concrete between curb and fencing, (this is still evident today,) they also break the concrete pavers on our driveways. Plus they sink the ground down that they drive on, making our driveways very uneven.

Mine has both horizontal and vertical cracks opening up, so they need to be replaced. Three of the residents have already replaced these at their own expense.

If these heavy vehicles go further into the driveway they also break or collapse the pavers in the drive. Mine have been repaired three times so far. The Resident at the end of the street has had her front fence post broken, simply because there is nowhere to turn at that point except to use her driveway.

At this point in time, we have been in contact with your roading engineer over a period of the last 5 years. Amiable of course, but still nothing happens.

As a result of our phone calls and emails over a period of years, we have had a visit from a Councillor and a Roading Engineer, and your Alliance performance Manager. They all agree we need something done, but still nothing happens.

Excuses, such as:-

- 1) We will do it in the next financial year.
- 2) There is a contingency fund we may be able to use.
- 3) We have urgent work at Mangamahu to do this year.
- 4) We can possibly work on it after Christmas.
- 5) I have drawings on my computer ready to start when money becomes available.
- 6) We require 18 metres for a turning circle, we can only get 15 metres in this street as it is only 8 metres wide. (Anything would be better than what we have now.)
- 7) Then you replace the roading Engineer and it all starts again.

As this street is only 8 metres wide one must realise the stupidity in not having some form of turning circle, which has to create problems as we have pointed out during the last few years.

Please note on file the torn up seal on the street, the cracked concrete and the vehicle problems, including a photo of the fire engine in the wrong street. The large trucks now try to back down the street causing all sorts of problems, especially around parked cars. I am sure this creates a safety issue.

We are told when recycling comes into being for households, that there will be more large trucks on the move, thus exacerbating the problem we have now.

So on behalf of us 22 residents, could we please have some form of turning circle to accomodate most drivers that enter our no exit street.

As every time we see the indiscretions of drivers, especially on Mondays, or receive our increased rate demand we have yet another frustrated Neighbourhood Support meeting. Usually concerning the lack of activity by Council for our minor problem in the big picture.

Hopefully as part of the turning circle concrete work, my cracked 12 sq. m. of Curb to Fencing drive an also be replaced.

Yours in hopefully anticipation.

John Baxter.

Ph [REDACTED]



Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 842

Speaking

First name: Damon
Last name: Baxter

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close New Zealand Glassworks (save \$10.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Cut Community grant funding by 10 percent or \$110,000 (save \$11.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts: These are only the service cuts that have been identified by yourselves, is there an open book where all councils costs can be viewed

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: You should not have put the flight school into the old collegiate hotel, shortsighted.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: This should be paid for at government level not by ratepayers

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Provide no funding to the project (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Waste of 800k

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **1**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **1**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Where would I find a list of all council owned assets

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 192

Speaking

First name: **Keith**
Last name: **Beautrais**
Organisation: **Bushy Park Tarapurui Trust Board Member,**

Member of Education Committee, Member of Forest Committee

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have a position on this.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have a position on this.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have a position on this.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have an official position on this, but we would note that it is odd to support non-native bird care and not endangered species at Bushy Park.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have a position on this.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have a position on this, but would find it hard to understand how it ranks above Bushy Park's work.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have a position on this.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have a position on this.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have a position on this, but would find it hard to understand how it ranks above Bushy Park's work.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have a position on this.

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have a position on this.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have a position on this, but would find it hard to understand how it ranks above Bushy Park's work.

Royal Whanganui Opera House**Something else (state below)**

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have a position on this, but would find it hard to understand how it ranks above Bushy Park's work.

Marae Development**Something else (state below)**

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have a position on this.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service**Something else (state below)**

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have a position on this.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing**Something else (state below)**

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have a position on this, but would find it hard to understand how it ranks above Bushy Park's work.

Rapanui Road Trail**Something else (state below)**

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have a position on this, but would find it hard to understand how it ranks above Bushy Park's work.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The Trust does not have a position on this.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: It seems odd that there are no questions about the biggest art and cultural institutions and their running costs.

Supporting documents

Yes

Submission of Bushy Park Tarapuruhi Trust Education Committee

Whanganui District Council Draft Long Term Plan 2024

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Long Term Plan

We wish to speak to this submission.

Introduction

Whanganui has attracted global attention for recognising the rights of nature through Te Awa Tupua legislation. That Act contains visionary thinking that is inspiring people around the world who seek to repair humanity's relationship with nature, thereby increasing our own well-being. We would like this 10 year plan to share that vision of re-valuing and working with our natural heritage.

The draft plan has no balance between highly-funded cultural and art heritage commitments on one hand and unfunded natural heritage on the other. Our impressive Art Gallery has a great collection of art inspired by natural landscapes. Our wonderful museum has a great collection of extinct bird bones and stuffed rare birds. At Bushy Park Tarapuruhi, the endangered birds are singing in the stunning landscape and we are helping to prevent further extinctions. All three institutions educate the public. Two get funded for this by WDC, we don't. Is the balance of support right? Does it reflect a future focus set of values or perpetuate a last century hierarchy?

Background

In our submission to the Council last year we asked for \$20k toward the running of our nationally important ecosanctuary and \$20k toward the popular education programmes we offer. We received encouragement before, during, and after our submission from many Councillors. We hoped that like Zealandia (Wellington), Sanctuary Mountain (Waikato) and Rotokare (Taranaki) we might also get some support from our local Council.

We were rejected for on-going funding and referred to Community Grants. We met Council staff and carefully tailored our request to the fund's criteria and were rejected. Finally we again poured many hours into an application to the Climate Change fund as we are replanting a carbon-sink forest, growing trees and involving the community in action for the future. We were approved for a \$20k grant for one year. We submit you should increase that fund as demonstrably climate change is an accelerating issue. As far as we can recall that was the first WDC funding for Bushy Park Tarapuruhi. It helped employ an energetic educator fixed term, part-time. We need on-going funding or we will be back to square one.

Opportunity: We are an investment in sustainable growth.

Bushy Park is a success story with the million dollar predator proof fence protecting an unbelievably lush forest and a growing roll call of native birds, lizards, insects, fungi etc. We have free entry which means we see a real cross section of locals. We know visitation already in the many thousands is increasing. Visitors stay for hours increasing the likelihood that out-of-towners will overnight. Looking at the events like night tours, behind the scenes tours, teacher education etc run by better staffed sanctuaries we know we could go "next level" If we can retain a full time education/ community relations staff member.

Our tree planting meets the visitors' eyes from the carpark. Tree protectors carefully installed by secondary students late last year are helping nurture ecosourced trees- many transplanted by primary and Intermediate students. Well-being is certainly enhanced by action for nature.

Around the country we see ecosanctuaries inspiring people to go home and set predator traps, plant native trees and better control cats. The stunning return of native birdlife around Wellington started by Zealandia is remarkable. Young and old alike are getting involved which is the antidote to depression and anxiety about the future. Wellingtonians tell us our forest at Bushy Park is much better than that at Zealandia. Can WDC see the opportunities?

Footnote

Last year Horizons held a council meeting in the Homestead and toured the park afterwards. Their long term plan reflects their assessment of the park as a top rank site, they drafted an increase in their modest on-going financial support, especially around weed and pest management. It is a welcome affirmation. We would welcome our District Council to visit and be similarly inspired.

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1563

Speaking

First name: **Kerry**
Last name: **Buchanan**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Leave the same Level 2 service

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Leave it as is. Level 2 service

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Scrap it minority interest

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Was built to add value to the experience of the lake.. It still does this so why change it.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Adds value to the visit to town for tourists as well as locals No change. More would come to see the flowers than go to the big black box art gallery

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close New Zealand Glassworks (save \$10.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: . Minority usage Level 20 Why do we even have it

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the drop off points for rural rubbish (save \$9.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Minority pandering in most cases to lifestyle block holders. Most farmers have it sorted .

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Level 2 service

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Adds to value of the lake for locals and tourists

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Cut Community grant funding by 10 percent or \$110,000 (save \$11.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: What happened to not giving funding and the people wanting the funding raising it themselves . Minority funding

Further comments on service cuts: Some of the values you quote I question

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The infrastructure you describe is purposely vague. This allows you to sneak projects like permanent speed bumps in at ridiculous prices. Not everything needs to be done today.. Or even needs doing because 7 people can't cross the road. Minority pandering

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Really if we all earned as much as the average council employee then it might be feasible. But we don't all get less than a councilor. What the f

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments: Minority pandering again

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: They have people who use the buildings most of the time and who whakapapa to them. They do not a financial charge for the upkeep so the way forward is not for everyone else to pay for them

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Ask them to community fund raise and meet them at a agreed leave

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Pandering to self entitled councilors who are there for their own interests not the peoples interest

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Pandering to a minority

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which

Something else (state below)

assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: How can you have a discussion when you do not now what we are selling. Idiots

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **1**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: In ten years are you going to have to sell some more assets because of your stupidity now. Let's hope you make the correct choices. NO MENTION OF CUTTING THE RUNNING COST OF COUNCIL . WHY NOT

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 182

Speaking

First name: Jo
Last name: Buckingham

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Davis Library posted during the school holidays that they had 650 people through on a Monday. This is 650 people who will miss out if choosing to close the library. Public libraries in New Zealand are access point for literacy of all types, including financial literacy, digital literacy, information literacy, and health and wellbeing literacy. They are vital community assets that enable communities to share resources, connect and upskill local people. Reducing library opening hours, staff resourcing and budgets or not investing in library spaces will increase digital barriers in communities and put at risk trusted place based spaces that promote wellbeing overall. LGNZ research in 2023 confirmed that libraries are important vehicles for delivering local services for local and central government and encourages councils to enable and resource public libraries to evolve their services and better enhance community wellbeing. New Zealand's public libraries provide a range of digital services including access to the internet, training (frequently in collaboration with external partners), support and encouragement to users. Without the support provided in libraries, some people would not be able to engage with or access necessary day to day services. Two examples of partnerships are: Skinny low-cost internet access is provided through community providers. Over 27,000 were provided by June 2023 across 308 partners, of which 204 were libraries. The NZLPP programme that provided central government funding to libraries in response to COVID-19 showed the value of digital programmes in libraries and having dedicated staff with 25% of initiatives being focused on digital inclusion. Council needs to look at innovative ways to continue to support these spaces, rather than take away from them and advocate to keep their important role. Partnerships, including advocating to the central government for more funding, are ways that you can support libraries to support our community rather than only viewing it as a short term rate savings through reduction of services and budget.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Keep the pool open for the next season and properly review your options. The audit in 2022 showed all the things that Council needed to do when taking back management of the facility, Council needs to actually take proper informed action rather than continuing to pursue closing the pool out of ease for their staff. There needs to be more transparency on the process, including publishing all the information such as the 2022 reports publicly on your website. This simply feels like retaliatory action over the fees charged to local schools and without any consideration to how the Whanganui east community is different to other parts of the city. Whanganui East has high deprivation

and this action shows that the council fundamentally fails to recognise it is adding to the deprivation of this community and actively reducing its overall wellbeing, the second purpose of local government.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: This decision was not communicated in good faith with those who hold interest in what happens next. Furthermore council has confirmed that they have not even considered their own costs and obligations under Option 1 where the rep building has heritage listing on the district plan and will require resource consent (with the potential that option 1 is not even viable).

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The issue here is the contract with Mainstreet and the hanging baskets are being used rather than looking at the value that Mainstreet does or does not provide to the city centre.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: See comments above about the importance of libraries.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Have koha/donation or a friends of the winter gardens. Council needs to be more innovation and community focussed and led to how it activates open spaces.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Council also needs to review rates remission policy regarding the way it excludes community organisations who do not own their properties. Rates remissions where charities are responsible through leases for OPEX including rates would help to reduce their need for funding like this.

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Council has already spent \$35,000 on a feasibility and significant time and money via Whanganui & Partners and the mayor and CEO travelling (over \$1,500 of travel) to attract a hotel provider. A hotel provider would set up in Whanganui if it was commercially viable. Council struggles to maintain and run its current assets (including the library and pools were this LTP tries to close them) so I have no confidence that they could run this project. Furthermore, council already spent significant money protecting other assets such as the pilot school when travel was restricted, it is highly likely further events and disasters are likely to impact on the tourism and travel industry that council would end up having to mitigate and pay towards. It is too high of a risk for a potential revenue in several years. The Sargeant is significantly over budget and time, showing the council inability to manage projects to this scale. Spending \$1 million on a business case while asking us to lose Monday library services for \$40,000 savings show the lack of care for wellbeing in this community.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Council needs to do a full review of its venues and events function. The online ticket system is out of date, the box office hours are limited and it has difficulties providing staff for events meaning they seek other private venues. Do a survey of all those using venues including the opera house to get a better understanding of how major local users and national promoters want to use this space.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: This should be considered in a future annual plan as it is likely there will be significant changes to Local Government funding by Central Govt

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Look at public/private partnerships.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Council needs to be clearer on if this is even a reality and also review issues this has caused in the past (selling assets for \$1). Council needs to give clear plain English information on what assets it can even sell given iwi obligations when trying to sell public land. If council does not do this, it is likely to incite racial divisions through these misunderstandings (which has been seen with the communication of three waters as a race issue)

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1261

Speaking

First name: Susan
Last name: Champion
Organisation: Whanganui Tramping Club's Cycling Group: "The

BOMBS"

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Request for Whanganui District Council to support/fund a shared cycle/walking track from State Highway 3 to Mowhanau Drive, Kai Iwi Beach. It's with some urgency, the Whanganui Tramping Club's cycling group asks the Whanganui District Council (WDC) to please consider the need for Whanganui cyclists and walkers to have a safe, shared track from the city boundary to Mowhanau Drive, Kai Iwi Beach. Known as the BOMBS, our 40 members ride together in three groups every Tuesday. During the rest of the week, we meet as friends to cycle both in and out of the city boundaries. We're extremely grateful to the WDC and Waka Kotahi for building the shared tracks we now have within our city. And we thank both agencies, for the recent addition stretching along the riverbank from the Dublin St Bridge to opposite the Aramoho Shopping Centre. However, what we lack in Whanganui is a substantial, safe track outside the city boundary which we can use for recreation and to train for the multi-day rides many of us do on North and South Island cycle tracks. At present we ride a number of roads which can be dangerous for cyclists. These include Tayforth, Rapanui, Brunswick, Blueskin Roads, State Highways 3 and 4 and No 2 Line from Durie Hill to Fordell. Most of us have experienced near misses and the fear we will one day lose someone due to the speed and poor driving standards of some drivers passing and approaching us. Aware the WDC is preparing its long-term plan, and, that the Mowhanau/Rapanui Rd community has submitted a business case for a safe cycle track to be installed along Rapanui Rd, we urge the WDC to please support, this proposal. Apart from the benefits a Rapanui Rd cycle track would provide to our local community, we see it as a tourist attraction for out-of-town cyclists and walkers just as the riverside track leading onto Linton Army Camp in Palmerston North has proved to be. Finally - aged between 65 and 85 (in general), BOMBS members cycle to stay fit and healthy and enjoy the company of like-minded friends. Time and again we see our members cycling when, for health reasons, they can no longer tramp or go for long walks. To have a long, safe track out to

Kai Iwi beach and back would be invaluable for them, along with the many thousands likely to use it. We thank the WDC for considering our petition.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: As demonstrated in our petition, it is clear that safety on Rapanui Road is of paramount importance to both cyclists and pedestrians. We are very pleased to see the Kai Iwi Beach/Rapanui Road's business plan for a shared path included in the draft Long Term Plan. Now we urge Council to formalise this commitment and to bring the dates of implementation forward. We would like to speak to our submission to reinforce these points.

Supporting documents

Yes

Proposed Rapanui Road Walking and Cycling Trail

Printed Name	Address	Contact	Signature	Comment
Jan Pavana	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	Put the path in. Save lives!!!
Jeanette Mesly	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	Safer Pedling
Lynn Abbott	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	Save lives!
Don Gordon	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	✓
WALTER LENNOX	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	Will be very popular and much used
Graeme Carey	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	Will be safer & enjoyable
Anne Caseloy	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	✓
Anne Condon	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	
Barbara Gordon	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	Rapanui Rd is a race track!
JIM GORDON	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	
LINDA JOHNSTONE	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	
Cindy Maddox	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	Very fast traffic and narrow.
John Maddox	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	Narrow and fast
Nonnie Cooper	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	It would be so much safer.
JOHN STRASGATOR	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	Safety Factor
Sandra Rogers	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	Be great for Whanganui
Bue Champion	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	Would be a wonderful asset.
Carolyn Shingleton	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	Safety!
John Baxter	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	Safety First Up.
Ross McBeth	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	" " "
Bryan Christie	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	A.S.A.P. (School Child could bike)
JIRI KRIVANEK	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	
Wenne Evans	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	Jolly good idea,
Margaret Wright	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	yes please
Julie Kease	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	Safer riding needed.
TREVOR KEARIE	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	
ADRIAN PIKE	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	Yes please asap.
Marcyie Campbell	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	Yep!
Sharon McCulloch	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Signature]	

Request for Whanganui District Council to support/fund a shared cycle/walking track from State Highway 3 to Mowhanau Drive, Kai Iwi Beach.

It is with some urgency, the Whanganui Tramping Club's cycling group asks the Whanganui District Council (WDC) to please consider the need for Whanganui cyclists and walkers to have a safe, shared track from the city boundary to Mowhanau Drive, Kai Iwi Beach.

Known as the BOMBS, our 40 members ride together in three groups every Tuesday. During the rest of the week, we meet as friends to cycle both in and out of the city boundaries.

We're extremely grateful to the WDC and Waka Kotahi for building the shared tracks we now have within our city. And we thank both agencies, for the recent addition stretching along the riverbank from the Dublin St Bridge to the earthworks opposite the Aramoho Shopping Centre.

However, what we lack in Whanganui is a substantial, safe track outside the city boundary which we can use for recreation and to train for the multi-day rides many of us do on North and South Island cycle tracks.

At present we ride a number of roads which can be dangerous for cyclists. These include Tayforth, Rapanui, Brunswick, Blueskin Roads, State Highways 3 and 4 and No 2 Line from Durie Hill to Fordell.

Most of us have experienced near misses and the fear we will one day lose someone due to the speed and poor driving standards of some drivers passing and approaching us.

Aware the WDC is preparing its long-term plan, and, that the Mowhanau/Rapanui Rd community has submitted a business case for a safe cycle track to be installed along Rapanui Rd, we urge the WDC to please support, this proposal.

Apart from the benefits a Rapanui Rd cycle track would provide to our local community, we see it as a tourist attraction for out-of-town cyclists and walkers just as the riverside track leading onto Linton Army Camp in Palmerston North has proved to be.

Finally - aged between 65 and 85 (in general), BOMBS members cycle to stay fit and healthy and enjoy the company of like-minded friends. Time and again we see our members cycling when, for health reasons, they can no longer tramp or go for long walks. To have a long, safe track out to Kai Iwi beach and back would be invaluable for them, along with the many thousands likely to use it.

We thank the WDC for considering our petition.

Request for safe Rapanui Road cycle/walking track

The Whanganui Tramping Club's (WTC) cycling group submits the following petition in support of the Kai Iwi Beach Community Group's presented business case for a shared pathway between Highway 3 and Mowhanau Drive.

Given the high numbers visiting the Bason Reserve and Kai Iwi Beach, Rapanui Rd is extremely busy and dangerous for cyclists and anyone walking along this stretch of road where drivers regularly exceed the 100kph limit.

Importantly, WTC cycling members believe the requested pathway would benefit all Whanganui citizens driving, riding or walking to, and from, Kai Iwi Beach - and that it would attract tourists.

We urge the Whanganui District Council to recognise the need for a shared pathway that allows Whanganui residents to bike and walk, safely, the full length of Rapanui Road.

We thank the WDC for accepting and considering our petition.

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 397

Speaking

First name: Liz
Last name: Carter

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: KEEP THE AVIARY!!! I did work experience there years ago and it was brilliant. I grew up in Auckland and it was an absolute highlight coming to visit my grandad in wanganui and he would always take us to the aviary! Very special! You could cut staff hours back if needed, get more volunteers in to help. Yes yo would need to be strict on volunteers in a way so that the bird had the right food, treatment if required. Surely you could get a local vet onboard to check in with the birds too. Andy at the aviary was great, extremely knowledgeable. I now take my young kids to the aviary often and it would definitely break a lot of hearts and family traditions if you decide to shut the aviary down- Virginia lake would never be the same

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 49

Speaking

First name: John
Last name: Casanelia

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: The Whanganui East Pool is past its use by date and it should be closed and when finance allow look at another new pool at the Splash Centre.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Option 1

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Option 2 seems quite a bit considering that to do up the Whanganui East Pool is \$22-40 per rateable property. What work needs to be done at the Aviary that is so expensive.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Option 2. The baskets were & still are a vital beautification of the CBC and takes away the sharp edge of the building ornings.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: Is running the glassworks a core business or is it a nice to have.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Option 2 will not save much per property it would be interesting to trial a monday closure to see if it changes the number of overall visitors

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Option 1

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Option 1 & 2 are very similar. If less money is spent on core business it only means that more money will be required in years to come. Option 1.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Option 2. This is not the Council core business. If it was profitable developers would be falling over themselves to build one. The Council owns the Motor Inn in Plymouth St & uses it

for a boarding house the flying school students. Interesting to know what the occupancy rate for this establishment is.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Option 3 seems to be the best option.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: The need for option 1 is needed because of climate change.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Option 1

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Option 2

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Being a keen cyclist I would much prefer the Council to spent any money that is available on town projects that have an immediate effect such as extending a cycle way & shared path along Mosston Road from Mossten School to Wharf St. This would conect existing shared paths such as Fitzherbert Ave to London St.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would

return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: How far do you go. If you sell \$16,000,000 worth of assets ie Park, reserves & building, what is left. Next time we will be selling the land around Virginia Lake for housing as it is worth a large amount of money. People come to live in Whanganui because of the lifestyle & the assets especially parks & reserves are part of this. Option 2.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: My rates went up by over \$700 last year & a 10% rise this year would put my rate bill over \$5,000 a year closer to \$6000. 25% rate rise in 2 years when there is very little improvement in service.

Supporting documents

Yes

John CASANOVIA SUBMISSIONS

① MORE BIKE RACK WITHIN THE
CBD.



Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 68

Speaking

First name: Kevin
Last name: Clarke

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Don't give a stuff about glass works

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Like in taranaki free bins

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: The staff and facilities here are amazing - welcoming - nothing is too much trouble for people like me = I am computer (illiterate) stuffed close this library - I will hold my rates

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Never been, on my bucket list!!

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Spend the money!!!

Further comments on service cuts: We are so taxed in NZ so basically with rates and stuff - I and others have paid for all of our cities attractions = if this council starts to close things - which have already been paid for - then sack the councillors

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: One has to be realistic

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Maori get enough funding - I am sick I'm tired of being white - I'm labelled a racist. only racists in this country are Maori - & just saying

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Don't sell!!!!!! - As a moot case NZ railways

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Remember folks - you are elected by your constituents (to make money - a you need to spend money)

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 580

Speaking

First name: Paula
Last name: Conder
Organisation: Wanganui Harrier Club - President

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Wanganui Harrier Club provides affordable events for the Whanganui Community that are focused on health and well-being. As we are a not-for-profit, volunteer organisation, we are in full support of any increase in Community Grant Funding.

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Wanganui Harrier Club requires safe places to be able to run and walk in order to operate. We are very fortunate to have the new shared pathways available for running and walking around Whanganui. We use footpaths and shared pathways for training runs and walks, small club trophy races, medium sized races (open to the public and other harrier clubs) and large events (such as Masters Games and the PAK'nSAVE Whanganui 3 Bridges Marathon). We have attached a file highlighting some areas of urgent safety needs in our existing footpaths and shared pathways. We would like the Whanganui District Council to consider prioritising these within their LTP.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Other - Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, however, if the Kai Iwi Community Group is able to source external funding earlier than the proposed WDC timeline for this project, allow work to start sooner and allow the trail to be completed in stages as funding allows. The Whanganui Harrier Club is always looking for safe places to run or walk for training and small club races. The proposed Rapanui Road Trail would be ideal for this and would be well utilised by Whanganui Harrier Club members.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes

Funding of core infrastructure - roading, footpaths and three waters - Areas of urgent safety needs in our existing footpaths and shared pathways. We would like the Whanganui District Council to consider prioritising these within their LTP.

The Wanganui Harrier Club is a volunteer run, not-for-profit organisation. We are focused on the well-being of the Whanganui Community, encouraging people to be active. We are one of the most affordable health and well-being options in our area.

Wanganui Harrier Club requires safe places to be able to run and walk in order to operate. We are very fortunate to have the new shared pathways available for running and walking around Whanganui. We use footpaths and shared pathways for training runs and walks, small club trophy races, medium sized races (open to the public and other harrier clubs) and large events (such as Masters Games and the PAK'nSAVE Whanganui 3 Bridges Marathon).

Members of our club have expressed concerns regarding safety in the following areas of footpaths or shared pathways.

- 1) Kowhai Park
- 2) Dublin Street Bridge
- 3) Cobham Bridge to the State Hwy 4 roundabout
- 4) Bollards on shared pathways

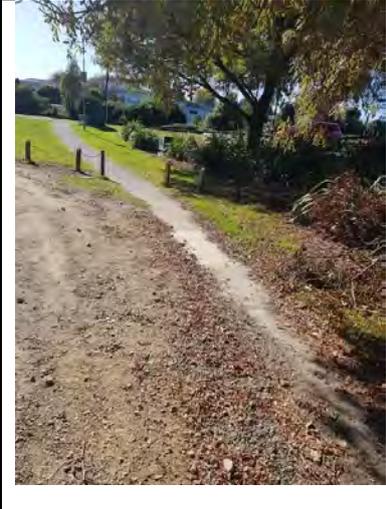
All of these areas are well used by the general public for walking, running and cycling. They help to keep vehicles off the road by encouraging active transport. Improvements to these areas will benefit Whanganui residents and could potentially eliminate a serious accident occurring. These could be completed as separate projects and each area highlighted would improve useableness of the shared pathways and safety considerably.

Kowhai Park

The shared pathways in Kowhai Park are great, and they showcase this beautiful area well. Unfortunately, there are sections where the shared pathways do not meet up, meaning that pedestrians and cyclists do share spaces with cars, creating potential for vehicle accidents. There is also no sign-posted speed limit in this area, and cars are often travelling at a speed that appears too fast for the number of pedestrians and cyclists in the area.

Issue 1 – No shared pathway connecting Dublin St Bridge to shared pathway beside Kowhai Park. The majority of pedestrians and cyclists go through the gravel area where cars park and drive (and can occasionally be seen sliding or doing doughnuts). This is an issue that will most likely be solved when the Dublin St Bridge is rebuilt, but as this is not likely until 2028 or later, in the meantime some safety improvements are required.

Proposal:

		
<p>Path widened + wooden posts extended to the left of this current footpath + footpath kept tidy.</p>	<p>Wooden posts moved 2-3 metres to the left and extended all the way to the shared pathway, creating a barrier between vehicles driving or parked and pedestrian/cyclists access. Path can remain gravel/shell rock.</p>	<p>Rocks to the right removed and path to join up with new shared pathway here.</p>

Issue 2 - No shared pathway connecting shared pathway beside Kowhai Park to the stopbank (James McGregor Memorial Park) shared pathway. The majority of pedestrians and cyclists go on the roadway here, behind parked cars in the carpark and around a blind corner by the stopbank.

Proposal:

		
<p>Removing this carpark and extending the shared pathway.</p>	<p>Widening the footpath on the right side of the bridge by making bridge one-way for cars or possibly removing vehicle access altogether.</p>	<p>Connecting the shared pathway to this part of the stopbank shared pathway and having a barrier at the bottom between vehicles and pedestrians or cyclists. This would be easier if bridge was one-way or had no access for vehicles.</p>

Issue 3 – Cars travelling too fast through Kowhai Park.

Proposal – 20km/hr or lower speed signs at all 4 entrances to the park. Speed bumps installed at appropriate places. Signage added for cars where shared pathway crosses the road. Also, limiting cars through some areas of the park.

Dublin Street Bridge

On the up-river side of the bridge, both entrance ways on to the bridge are dangerous to pedestrians and cyclists. On the Dublin Street side, there is a big drop off at the end of the footpath. On the Whanganui East side, the cyclists are pushed straight out on to the road, potentially close to traffic turning the corner.

Cobham Bridge to the State Hwy 4 roundabout

The 80km/hr stretch between the Cobham Bridge and State Highway 4 roundabout is hazardous for those using the underpass that goes under the bridge by Putiki, as it then has no pathway on the up-river side of the road. The majority of pedestrians and cyclists use the pathway with the barrier (on the down-river side of the road), and then have to cross the busy State Highway 3 (80km/hr zone) at the roundabout. The underpass, which is much safer for crossing, is hardly utilised.

Proposal – a barriered shared pathway is built on the up-river side of SH3 to join up the Cobham Street Bridge underpass with the footpath beside SH4.

Bollards on shared pathways

The old wooden style bollards are a trip hazard, hard to see and cannot be removed for events. The newer bollards are much more visible, but some also cannot be removed for events.



Old bollards. These need replacing over time.



Propose all new bollards are removeable, like this one near Trafalgar Square.

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 282

Speaking

First name: Youth
Last name: Council
Organisation: Whanganui District Youth Council

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes

The Whanganui District Council Youth Council recommends that the District Council create a Youth Advisory Board that will be included in issues relevant to youth, Rangatahi and initiatives financed and supported by the proposed 10,000 for youth initiatives.

We suggest that this will consist of 8-10 diverse Rangatahi (including those already involved in the Youth Council that still wish to be involved) who will liaise alongside the Whanganui District Council, Councillor Charlotte Melser and any relevant organisations in Whanganui who seek consultation from the proposed Youth Advisory Board to the Whanganui District Council.

We acknowledge that the Youth Council hasn't been functioning to the best of its ability, however, we also ask you to consider the circumstances and cards we have been dealt. Staff have left and resigned, including our Project Support Officer. We have been without a Project Support Officer for over a year. A PSO is an important part of Youth Council production and engagement.

The Youth Council is crucial to Rangatahi engagement in civics and activism in Whanganui. While our team were, and are, deeply against disestablishment - we believe the idea of a Youth Advisory Group with Rangatahi involvement **in all processes** - is a solution that will save council money and allow youth engagement in a similar capacity.

The purposes of the Youth Councillors are stated below:

- WDC has been a cornerstone for youth engagement in local decision-making
- Empower young people to be the best they can be and provide resources and opportunities so they can succeed
- To ensure Whanganui is a vibrant and inclusive environment where young people love to be
- To engage young people in civics and leadership
- Support rangatahi and their initiatives. This can be through volunteer work, advocacy and/or financial avenues.

We have produced and participated in events and projects such as:

- Funded initiatives such as Awhi te Rangatahi and \$600 ships
- Offered leadership opportunities to members via events such as FFTF
- Attended and volunteered at events like Puanga Rising

- Consulted with Youth Services Trust and their recent re-branding
- Consulted on numerous surveys
- Funded the Youth Services Trust/Whatever street party this May

These are just some.

The youth council and its members have struggled to find motivation and inspiration amidst change and resignations. We appreciate everyone who has supported us, but we are frustrated due to the lack of transparency from Councillors and others. In the future, we would like to see the Youth Council re-instated in some capacity, but after discussions and workshops, we have agreed that a Youth Advisory Board is our best solution at this point.

We hope you consider this recommendation. Disestablishing the Youth Council and not acknowledging or considering something similar to a Youth Advisory Group will allow young people's voices to go unrepresented in council and government contexts in the Whanganui District.

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1263

Speaking

First name: Terry
Last name: Coxon
Organisation: Virginia Lake Trust Inc

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: We believe that Council is using a sledge hammer to crack a walnut! You previously consulted on this and we supported a submission by one of our Lake Volunteers who also helped at the Aviary, Mike Street. The Council made an interim decision to meet some of the pedantic conclusions of a so called expert, made some refinements, reduction in numbers and other adjustments that enabled it to carry on. Why change that now when the facility could be left alone for some time to come until natural attrition may then seal its fate. A service Club gifted it to you at some cost ...has that be considered? Also has any real investigation been carried out on true usage of the Lake? We think you must consider our belief in a "Total Lake Package" of many components, making up the visitor experience. Taking away one for a modest saving in rates is foolish. Surveys of users may have been done in the past but has anyone really got any accurate idea of total Lake usage. We doubt there is any Council facility that has a higher overall resident & visitor usage than Virginia Lake as evidence by the usually full car parks in daylight hours. Prove us wrong but not with guess work. We obviously support retention of the Winter Gardens which you obviously realise would never be supported by ratepayers or the public, yet it is just one more part of the totality that is Virginia Lake Reserve, al equally adding to its appeal.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: See previous comments re Aviary!

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 571

Speaking

First name: Ingrid
Last name: Culliford
Organisation: Chamber Music Whanganui

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Provide no funding to the project (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Construct new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa (This is Council's preferred option, and would cost \$6 per property per year for 10 years from 2029/30)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: As Chairperson of Chamber Music Whanganui (a local organisation dedicated to bringing top quality classical musicians to Whanganui) I am writing to voice our concerns over future price increases for the use of council venues – in particular the Concert Chamber. Chamber Music Whanganui is a non-profit organisation run by a small group of volunteers, in association with Chamber Music NZ and has been in existence for 64 years. We have a very limited financial base. Our concerts attract audience members not only from Whanganui, but also Palmerston North, Feilding, Marton and Hawera, and visitors from other parts of the country. The international quality of our artists brings a high level of enrichment to a city which prides itself on its cultural heritage and artistic environment. In addition, there is frequent educational outreach offered by the artists for coaching/teaching local music students. We usually have an audience of around 80-100 with a peak of around 175 people attending. With a programme of 8 concerts per year we reach a total audience of approximately 1000 per year. I should also add that the musicians who perform rely on concerts throughout New Zealand to enable them to earn enough income to survive. I am sure you will appreciate how hard it is to sustain being a classical musician in New Zealand and they need organisations like us to continue so that they can continue to survive. Increased venue costs will endanger the current system which allows musicians audiences and the WDC to all benefit. Chamber Music by nature requires an intimate setting, and generally involves the use of a piano. The quality of our performers requires a quality piano, and there are very limited venues that have the setting, the quality piano and good parking. The 2 best venues are the Opera House and the Concert Chamber. Sadly the Opera House is far too expensive for the audiences we attract, so that only leaves the Concert Chamber as a viable option for Chamber Music Whanganui. We have managed to keep covering the venue costs through the support of sponsors, but in this current economic climate we are unlikely to be able to increase our sponsorship income to cover extra venue costs. We have just been informed of the increased cost for piano tuning from 150.00 to between 250 - 400.00 and have been told to expect an increase in the hire of the venue. This will make running the series untenable in the future, which will be a loss to everyone, the audiences who won't be able to attend quality musical performances, the Council as there will be reduced income from the use of the Concert Chamber, and the piano will suffer from lack of regular use and maintenance, (you may not realise but any good quality piano must be played regularly to maintain its sound quality.), the people of Whanganui who will lose the benefit of the cultural enrichment of the concerts, and the students who benefit from the educational outreach. Clearly a decision to increase the fees for the use of the Concert Chamber will negatively impact on the cultural wellbeing of the community. It was only this week at an Arts Foundation presentation that the Mayor outlined how Arts Culture and Heritage was an area that differentiated us from many centres in New Zealand and Chamber Music Whanganui is part of that pillar that supports us being such a great place to live. Please don't endanger that by making our organisation

financially unviable by increasing the charges for the Concert Chamber. It would be very sad to see the Concert Chamber empty because it was too expensive. The future of Chamber Music Whanganui is in your hands.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 612

Speaking

First name:

Kathy

Last name:

Cunningham

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Does the pool need an upgrade? Can you run the pool without it and have no or minimal impact on rates?

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Sell the aviary and / or have retired veterinarians as volunteers along with others to maintain this local and visitor attraction

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: I will buy a basket now for \$5 and ask everyone I know to do the same. Keep the baskets since it adds colour and life to the main street. Limit to Victoria Avenue from Taupo Quay to Guyton. This is another USP that visitors and locals love.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Cut Community grant funding by 10 percent or \$110,000 (save \$11.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: If an organisation seeks to find alternate funding from philanthropists, companies, Foundations and Trusts to offset costs, that will be great. Easier said than done - WDC to provide guidance to community groups perhaps.

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: As long as this is done strategically, economically and smart. For example, the kilometre markers along the cycle path on Papaiti Road are not correct - remove them. Also, remove the raised judder bars on Guyton and Wicksteed Streets.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Whanganui & Partners identified the need for a hotel in 2015. Why is this taking so long? Council is not equipped to develop a hotel and should not be even considering this option. Enable a developer to build by making the process seamless with land to purchase at a reasonable rate, consents and licensing is fast-tracked. This reduces the risk to WDC and provides additional revenue with F+B outlets, the hotel and an event space for 150PAX. I know the perfect person to engage with and will introduce the CEO and others to Riki Kinnaird who owns the Duke of Marlborough Hotel in Russell and is looking at developing a hotel similar to Whanganui's needs in Whangarei.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Is the assumption of 50% funding from external sources built in to Council's preferred option? And, why only 50%, why not more? Agree it needs to be fixed, not certain it needs to be \$38 per property for 20 years.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: \$3.5 million does not sound like it will be enough. What about Iwi investment and Treaty claim funding that is matched by Central government and WDC?

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Co-create an appropriate crossing with no raised platform that Waka Kotahi / NZTA will fund or at least co-fund with Maori street art similar to Drews Ave

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Where did the figure of \$16 million come from? Why not \$20 million? Yes, I agree to selling some assets once the community is consulted. However, why this figure?

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: The click and drag did not go to where I wanted it to go. Our elected Councillors have done a sterling job communicating and encouraging people to make a submission. I only hope they will continue to engage during the adoption process.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1288

Speaking

First name: Sumita
Last name: Dale
Organisation: Kai Iwi Beach Community Group

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments: Kai Iwi Beach Community Group propose that a shared trail be created to travel along Rapanui Road from Mowhanau Beach to State Highway 3. This trail would form a recreational and ecological link between three beautiful sites of cultural significance in our area - Mowhanau Beach, Bason Botanic Gardens and Westmere Lake. Consultation has been commenced with local iwi, who have shown interest, and this trail would be a great partnership project. The trail would enhance the health and wellbeing of the local community by encouraging them to walk and bike more in their area, and to be able to do so safely. For the wider Whanganui District community it would further increase the popularity of these reserves. Families could make a "day of it", bringing out their bikes and a packed lunch, and enjoying being active in the fresh air as they biked between the reserves. The trail would bring financial gains to the district through increased tourism, supporting local businesses. It could support te taiao through the planting of natives along its boundary. It has already brought our community together as there is much support for this trail, and it would continue to bring us together in our use of it. It will be inclusive as it will be able to be used by people with varied recreational interests, and as it is only just on the outskirts of town it is an affordable activity for a family outing. It links easily to the city via a wide shoulder on State Highway 3 and in the future could extend along Francis and Tayforth Roads. It would benefit Westmere Primary School by providing safe links to the lake and the gardens for its students to enjoy. There are wide grass verges all the way along Rapanui Road and this trail would make good use of them. It could be made from shell rock, keeping it affordable and making it low-maintenance. Kai Iwi Beach Community Group will look for external funding opportunities to put towards this project to reduce the Council's share of the cost, however written permission to proceed with the project and seed funding is required. The project can also be built in stages to spread the cost. Please find attached a report dated August 2023 and supporting documents providing further details of this project. Many thanks for your consideration!

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? *(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)*

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? *(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)*

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes

Target Cost Estimate – Rapanui Road Pathway

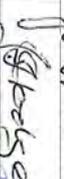
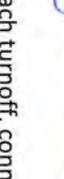
Stage 1

***excluding 270m of wetlands.**

Stage 2

Stage 3

Proposed Rapanui Road Walking and Cycling Trail

Printed Name	Address	Contact	Signature	Comment
John Kay				Great idea - please extend down Finnerway
VICTORIA KAY				Love the roads.
Roger Kelly				Great idea.
Joanne Kelly				Would be fantastic.
Alec Lowndes				Wouldn't mind if safer -
Peter Murray + Jade Murray				All for it! Will be safer, valuable for young families
Victoria Hardy				Sounds fantastic
George + Christine Hardy				Great
Cameron + Helen Hardy				Awesome.
Trish Walsh				Great idea!
Estelle Daves				Fantastic
Kyle Pearce				Love it
Gei Luby				Great
Stephanie Rea				Brilliant idea.
Peter Paterson				Great idea. Even better to make it a
John Paterson				with purpose trail!
Jenny Hodges				Especially help to make road safer for all.
Margaret Reid				Good idea!
Jason Reid				A long awaited cycle/walk track, Yes, great
Barbara Wilson				good idea
				would be really good.

Proposed Rapanui Road Walking and Cycling Trail

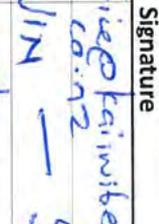
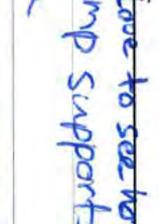
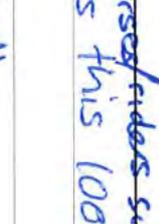
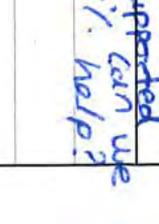
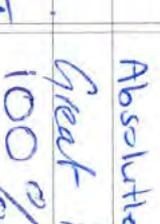
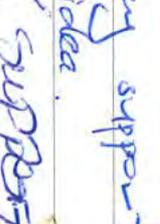
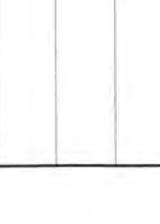
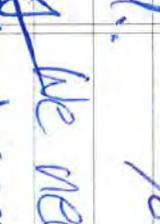
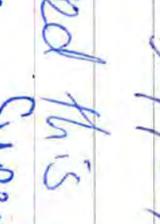
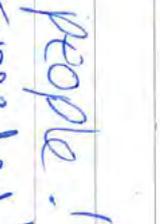
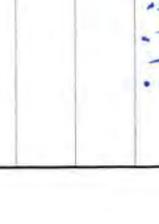
Printed Name	Address	Contact	Signature	Comment
Scaseley				
H. Caseloy				Excellent idea, think "Push They will give Sopley for overcross Exellent, idea. Go for it.
T. Watfield				Cool idea, fully supportive
D. Brown				Supportive of this
T. Broughley				Support a cycle way.
E. KIRK-MORRE				Fully supported by myself. Great idea. Full support - Please fund for all!
W. MORRE				Great idea to get bikes off road!
Don King				Sounds fab for children.
Kate King				Great - Way to go.
Jessica Spina				Fantastic! Go for it.
Jeanette Reilly				Great Idea. I'm all for it.
Erin Reilly				Very much needed
Elizabeth Price				Very much needed
Cabrielle Boyd				Great Idea. Really needed.
ANDY STANTON				MUCH NEEDED FOR ALL!
Wendy Williams				Good Idea.
Tan Williamson				SUPPORT ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORT OPTIONS
DANIEL GESSIC				FULLY SUPPORT THIS IDEA
ALEX GAUTHIER				

Proposed Rapanui Road Walking and Cycling Trail

Printed Name	Address	Contact	Signature	Comment
Liam & Sumiwa Dale				Fully support this project.
Anna & Bruce Jones				So excited. We love biking to town safely.
Phillip & Janeke				Support this project.
Marcus Williamson				Support
Tracey Williamson				Support
Korinet Damon W				Support
Gordon Pedersen				Support.
Nani Johnston				Need to support safety on this busy road.
Ange Cox				100% support!
Hamish Cox				Support.
Doug Penn				Good idea.
Ryan Johns				Support.
Kimmi Marsh				Support - great idea!!
ES Caddisby				Support - love for all cyclists
S.G. & A.J. Fox				100% support!!
James O'Don				Whoopie!!!
Cathy Hochman				support - safety first
Angela Bamford				
Jo MARSH				Fully support this.
Greg Southern				Not sure about delays.

Cycling Trail

Proposed Rapanui Road Walking and Cycling Trail

Printed Name	Address	Contact	Signature	Comment
Bruce Taylor				Love to see horses/riders supported
Bruce Reddie				The camp supports this 100% help?
Sophie Ross				Good idea
Diane Taylor				Absolutely support !!
B. Aldinger				Great idea.
J Lamont				100% support
Bianca				
Nadine				We need this people!
David Lily				Super needed!!!
Helene Peter Thomson				Great idea!
Carol de Ridder				Awwsome,
Gary Soper				Wonderful.
Zoë van der Meer				Waka ft happen
Ari Ferguson				Yes!
Sarah Loui				Great idea!
Zane Harris				
Chelsea T				Progress is Good!!!
Raewyn & Glenn Wa				We really need this.
Carol Haddon				Support this project
Bruce & Kerri-ann M				Support this project

Proposed Rapanui Road Walking and Cycling Trail

Printed Name	Address	Contact	Signature	Comment
Yvonne Bradbury			via text	Sounds like a great idea. I support this,
Bruce & Jane Carson			via email	Definitely support a walkway/cycleway.
Jan & James Newell			via email	Definitely got our support.
Helen & Pete McIntyre			via email	Support the cycle path.
			via email	Support the cycle path.
Sherwyn & Brydon Beadwell			via email	Support this project.
Kylie & Andrew Stewart			via email	We are in favour of this exciting cycle/walking track.
Miki Vernon			via email	This is a great idea.
Van der Wees family			via email	We fully support this initiative.
Simon Rickman & Liz Paul			via email	We add our support for the trail.
Galilee & Chris Dibben			via email	Totally support the proposed Rapanui Road walking & cycleway.
^{Christina} Kimmo Raitakoski			via email	We fully support this submission.
Rob & Gabrielle Boyd			via email	We fully support the cycleway.
David & Tracey Cotton			via email	We add our support for the trail.
Darrell Monk			via email	Totally support this initiative.
Glen & Nicki Spink			via email	Please add our support.
Judi Dean			via email	I would like to add my support for the cycleway.
Sandra Rodgers			via email	Support the trail.
John Baxter			via email	Support the trail.
Amber Ward & Caleb Gray			via email	We would love to add our support.

Proposed Rapanui Road Walking and Cycling Trail

Printed Name	Address	Contact	Signature	Comment
Michelle				jandhollins@orcon.net.nz
Chie Winstoker				chie-grant@xtra.co.nz
Yvonne Mann's				Spec@nykto.org.nz
Shirley Dalzie				dobshell@xtra.co.nz
Jodi Dean				deanjodi@xtra.co.nz
Carol Carrick				carolcarrick@hotmail.com
Angela Astle				angela.astle@gmail.com
Denise Bell				denisebell@xtra.co.nz
Tracy Bell				" "
Naيلة Averata				gasmal19@gmail.com
Deborah Wale				travelling@gmail.com
Anna Ellwood				
George Elwood				
Merrisa Keil				
Rachel Pullin				
Laura Davis				
Dan Davi				
Kevin Beath				
Chm's Booth				

Proposed Rapanui Road Walking and Cycling Trail

Printed Name	Address	Contact	Signature	Comment
A. Harveller				Very much in favour
R Cooper				" " " "
A Jones				Much safer for all
D. McCallery				fully support this proposal
F. BENNETT				YES PLEASE !!
S. CHARR				YES THE TRAIL VERY
M. Carr				Yes Please. To take kids to school
P+H SMITH				YES, Very much in favour
Ken WILKINSON				YES.
Keith Stone				yes
David Taylor				At present young can take
Johnnie M. MACK				+ great for cyclists in the city
Jamie Maddox				Excited & great attention to bring people to
Kerry Redman				yes great for safety & young children
Sarah RISSMAN				yes
Maria FINE				YES!
Lucy Frieslaar				Yes!
Wigs Arathoon				yes :)
				Great idea to make cycling out here safer.

RAPANUI ROAD TRAIL

A PROPOSED MULTIPURPOSE TRAIL ALONG RAPANUI ROAD, WHANGANUI

Authors:

Kai Iwi Beach Community Group



Artist's impression by: Sophie Ross

1 August 2023

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APPENDICES

- 1: Trail drawings
- 2: Quote from Downer
- 3: Signatures of support
- 4: Letter of support from Whanganui and Partners

This document has been created to promote the construction of a shell rock trail along the wide grass verge of Rapanui Road, Whanganui – a project currently known as ‘Rapanui Road Trail’. It discusses the many benefits such a trail will have for both the local community and the wider Whanganui community. It provides details as to the project’s scale, including the expected cost of the project and how it can be completed over stages. It can be used to form our group’s application to the Whanganui District Council’s Long-Term Plan, and for any subsequent fundraising or support raising efforts made towards this project.

PROJECT CONTACT DETAILS

Project Name: Rapanui Road Trail

Project Location: Rapanui Road, Whanganui

Project Organisers: Kai Iwi Beach Community Group

[Redacted contact information]

Key Stakeholders:

Kai Iwi Marae
Taipakee Marae
Te Aroha Marae
Westmere Primary School
Kai Iwi Beach Holiday Park
Pukeko’s Nest Café
Roto Mokoia/Westmere Lake Trust
Bason Botanic Gardens Trust
Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa
Wanganui Tramping Club
Sport Whanganui
Whanganui and Partners

Contact person:

Jude Cornelius
Macy Duxfield

Phil Walker, Principal
Bruce and Di Taylor

Phil Thomsen
Kevin Ross

Paul Chaplow

COMMUNITY OVERVIEW

Our community has a diverse population. Rapanui Road has approximately 200 residents. Mowhanau village has approximately 170 permanent residents and a number of holiday homes. New dwellings continue to be built in both areas, meaning that the population is ever increasing. At the eastern end of Rapanui Road, where it meets State Highway 3, there is the busy Pukeko's Nest café and a Caltex service station. The state highway makes Rapanui Road easily accessible, and means there is high traffic flow at this end. Westmere Primary School is located approximately one kilometre from this intersection on the corner of Rapanui Road and Francis Road. At the western end of Rapanui Road is Kai Iwi Beach and Mowhanau village. The village has a thriving holiday park that swells the population numbers in summer and a community hall where events are often held.

Tangata Whenua

The proposed project is within the rohe (tribal boundaries) of the Ngaa Rauru (The Iwi). The hapuu with interests in this area are Tamareheroto, as well as Ngaati Iti, and Ngaati Puukeko. The project group is aware, having had discussions with Te Kaahui o Rauru (the post settlement governance entity), that the entire area is of significance to the hapuu and the iwi. Whilst we have started discussions with some hapuu and Te Kaahui o Rauru representatives about this project, more consultation needs to occur. Our hope would be that this could become a partnership project with hapuu.

Kai Iwi Beach Community Group

This group formed in March 2023 and is made up of residents of Mowhanau village and Rapanui Road who are passionate about seeing this community thrive. One of the aims of the group is to coordinate, manage and support projects and activities for the benefit of the community, which is why this project is a perfect fit for the group. Our project team is one of the subcommittees of this group, and we are passionate about this project in particular and are dedicated to seeing it completed. We envisage that the creation of a trail along Rapanui Road will be of great benefit to not only our local community, but also the wider Whanganui community.



Photo by: Sumita Dale

PROJECT VISION

This project began with a 'safety first' focus.

It is clear that the narrowness of Rapanui Road combined with the 100 km/hr speed zoning of the road makes it dangerous for both motor vehicle drivers and those using the road for recreational purposes. Heavy transport vehicles are frequently travelling along the road getting to and from building sites or visiting farms. Caravans and campervans use the road to get to Kai Iwi Beach Holiday Park or the freedom camping site in the village. The school bus, rubbish trucks and large farm machinery are also regularly seen on the road. Now add to that people walking, running, bicycling and horse riding along the road at the same time and it is a recipe for disaster. Thankfully, according to Police, there have been no recorded serious crashes (N. Staples, personal communication, May 30, 2022), but most residents have experienced or witnessed near misses that have occurred along Rapanui Road, and why wait for someone to get hurt to act?

Prevention is key, especially when there is another option. A wide grass verge runs adjacent to the road most of the way along. The implementation of a trail along one side of the road using this grass verge would enable recreational users to be out of harm's way.

However, this trail will be about much more than just safety.

We see that it will bring not just the local community, but the whole Whanganui community together through its shared use. It will create a connection with the land. It will teach us about the important history of the area with significant sites acknowledged and stories laid out for future generations to read as they travel along it. It will enrich the environment as there is scope for native planting to occur alongside the trail, and it will get us out of cars and back to nature.

The many benefits of our proposed trail will now be discussed further.



Improving safety for all is just one of the many benefits Rapanui Road Trail will provide.

Photo by: Chris Booth

THE BENEFITS

Appreciation of Significant Sites

There are many sites of historical significance along Rapanui Road that can be tagged with information boards so trail users will have an educational experience whilst enjoying fresh air and physical activity.

Taipakee Marae

Hapuu representatives have made the project group aware of the historical connection of Taipakee Marae, currently located in Kai Iwi, just off State Highway 3 behind Kai Iwi School. Taipakee was historically located in Mowhanau, where the playground currently stands. Hapuu used this site as a fishing kainga to gather and preserve many species with traditional methods, to be shared amongst the hapuu as important food supply. There is an opportunity to raise awareness of this historical site and the connection of the hapuu to this area.

Rapanui Road also takes people to three stunning natural sites of significance in Whanganui – Roto Mokoia, Bason Botanic Gardens and Kai Iwi Beach.

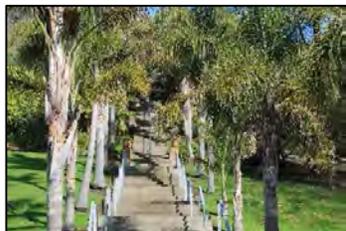
Roto Mokoia



This lake is of great importance to hapuu. Archaeological evidence shows that the area was historically highly populated, and would have been an important freshwater and food resource in its time. There is an opportunity to raise awareness of this important site, and for hapuu to research and gather more information.

Roto Mokoia is only around 500 metres away from Westmere Primary School, however currently for the school to take its students on a trip to the lake they have to hire buses as this 500-metre stretch of road is too dangerous to walk along and there is no off-road alternative (P. Walker, personal communication, May 3, 2023). This is ludicrous. Our proposed trail will solve this problem and the students will be able to safely walk from school to the lake. We propose that this section of the trail is completed as a priority.

Bason Botanic Gardens



“The Bason Botanic Gardens is rated a ‘Garden of Regional Significance’ by the New Zealand Gardens Trust” (Discover Whanganui, 2023a). Our trail will bring more people to these celebrated gardens (Nash, 2022). It will also enable locals to access the gardens in a more environmentally-friendly manner as they walk, run or bicycle to them rather than drive. The garden’s Trust is considering creating a cycle trail of their own around the gardens and are in support of our trail.

Kai Iwi Beach



This beach is a taonga that is frequented by locals, Whanganui residents, and both national and international tourists. “You can swim, fish, laze in the sun or go for long walks” (Discover Whanganui, 2023b) at Kai Iwi Beach. With the creation of our trail a trip to the beach could become a whole day of family fun and adventure as a renewed connection between the beach and the abovementioned significant sites is formed.

Photos on this page by: Sumita Dale

Health

It is well documented that physical activity can improve physical and mental health, and the creation of a new trail is a great way to encourage people to increase their level of physical activity. In Waka Kotahi's *Cycling Action Plan* they write that "cycling has proven to be important for the development of a child's self esteem" (Waka Kotahi, 2023) and that "shifting just 5% of vehicle kilometres to cycling would save 116 lives per year" (Waka Kotahi, 2023). In the first instance we see that this trail would be used for recreational purposes predominantly, however once established there is potential to extend the trail along Francis Road and Tayforth Road, connecting it to Whanganui city, and make it a viable option for commuters – encouraging them out of motor vehicles and into alternative forms of transport.

This will not only improve the health of our people, but as a spin-off will improve the health of our environment as "high rates of car use are contributing heavily to our carbon footprint" (Waka Kotahi, 2023). The health of our environment could be further increased through the planting of native trees along the trail, aligning this project with the Government's One Billion Trees programme (Ministry for Primary Industries, 2023).

Safety

According to Waka Kotahi's *Cycle touring and bike-packing survey* cyclists found on-road experiences less enjoyable than off-road experiences, with safety being the main reason for this difference (Waka Kotahi, 2018). Common themes for cyclists feeling unsafe were roads that had no shoulder or were narrow in combination with high-speed traffic, a high volume of traffic, and lots of trucks and buses (Waka Kotahi, 2018). Whilst Rapanui Road is not a main road, it has a 100km/hr speed limit and there is relatively high traffic flow, of which includes trucks and heavy farm machinery. Providing an off-road option along Rapanui Road for cyclists, by way of our trail, would make cycling much safer. It can be surmised that other users of the road, such as walkers, runners or horse riders would share in the sentiments expressed in this survey and our trail would therefore benefit them also.

In addition, peak traffic flow heads east in the morning (to Whanganui) and west in the evening (to Mowhanau village). With the sun rising and setting in these locations, motorists are often blinded or visually impaired by low sun, which can make it impossible to spot a walker/cyclist on the road, again showing that an off-road option would make Rapanui Road safer for all.

Financial

"Cyclists and walkers are spending more on regional accommodation, food, beverage and hospitality providers, and associated tourism and leisure activities like transport or cultural events. Cycle trails are bringing a direct economic contribution to the regions." (Nash, 2022)

Stuart Nash says it all in his summary of findings from two reports that the Government produced which looked into the benefits cycle tourism provides for New Zealand (Nash, 2022). This trail will have financial benefits for already established Whanganui businesses as people from around the country and the world come to use it. It also opens the door to potential new businesses, such as bicycle hireage at either end (or both ends) of the trail.

In this cost-of-living crisis Whanganui families need to find low-cost activities that they can do to spend time together. This trail would meet their needs financially as it involves only the cost of petrol to drive to it and from there the rest of the outing is free. After school, kids could burn up their energy running along the trail, whilst on the weekend parents could turn it into a full day event as the whole family, including the dog, enjoy travelling from one beautiful site to the next along the road.

PROJECT SITE

The proposed trail will run adjacent to Rapanui Road, on Council road reserve. The trail will be formed of a 100mm thick compacted shell rock base and will be approximately two metres wide. It will, as much as possible, hug the boundary/fence line to create as much separation to the road corridor as able (see Appendix 1).

Impact on site

The trail extent can be divided into three sections:

Section 1 – State Highway 3 to Westmere Primary School

This section measures approximately 1360 metres and is reasonably simple to construct with no significant obstacles along the road reserve. There is an opportunity to take the trail into the wetlands of Roto Mokoia as a boardwalk, which will add interest to the trail. Consultation with Council's Parks Department has been undertaken and they support the concept.

Section 2 – Westmere Primary School to Bason Botanic Gardens

This section measures approximately 4105 metres. There are three road crossings in this section and it is the more complex part to construct with narrow berm sections and some trees to negotiate.

Section 3 – Bason Botanic Gardens to Mowhanau Drive.

This section measures approximately 2785 metres and is a relatively simple section of the route to construct. Initially, the trail users could go back onto the road to use the bridge to cross Mowhanau Stream, later a dedicated walking and cycling bridge can be added for an additional cost.

These sections translate into three stages for costing the project (see Project Scale on the next page).

The trail can be accessed from the city at the eastern end from the wide sealed shoulder along State Highway 3 or at Westmere Primary School from Francis Road. Parking is also available at Roto Mokoia, Bason Botanic Gardens and Kai Iwi Beach which will enable users to choose the distance they wish to travel on each visit to the trail.

Consents

No Resource Consents or Building Consents are anticipated to be required for the trail. A bridge over Mowhanau Stream would require both a Resource Consent and a Building Consent.

IMPORTANT NOTE: We understand that at some point it may be necessary to install a pipeline along Rapanui Road to transport sewerage from Mowhanau village to the city's water treatment plant. This could provide the perfect opportunity to commence construction of the trail and it may help to mitigate costs.

PROJECT SCALE

Size

The total length of the proposed Rapanui Road Trail (from State Highway 3 to the intersection with Mowhanau Drive) is in the order of 8.3 kilometres. As mentioned above, the project can be delivered in three stages to spread the cost over three or more years and to match resources available to undertake the work.

Stage 1: State Highway 3 to Westmere Primary School (approximately 1.4 kilometres)

Stage 2: Westmere Primary School to Bason Botanic Gardens (approximately 4.1 kilometres)

Stage 3: Bason Botanic Gardens to Mowhanau Drive (approximately 2.8 kilometres)

The optional boardwalk into Roto Mokoia wetland area would enhance the journey along the trail and the local experience for those visiting just the lake (approximately 270 metres). The dedicated walking and cycling bridge over Mowhanau Stream would enhance safety and the enjoyment of the trail, however this can be added later (approximately 20 metres).

Cost

Downer have provided a cost estimate (excluding GST) as follows (see Appendix 2):

Stage 1 = \$189,195

Stage 2 = \$612,060

Stage 3 = \$464,746

TKOR comments regarding cost:

Please note that hapuu/iwi support of this proposal would be contingent on some of these activities being included as part of the project costs. These include:

- Accidental Discovery protocol (this will include the attendance of hapuu representative to oversee any earthworks)
- The inclusion of information boards along the cycleway, costs would include research and hui amongst hapuu and the community, as well as material and installation costs.
- A toi maaori (artistic) component, (mowhanau at the end of the trail is a suggested location) which provides a visual representation of the mana whenua of the area.

Whilst a comprehensive cost analysis needs to be conducted, we suggest that \$100,000 is added to the project over the three stages as a baseline figure.

Therefore, the total project cost is estimated at \$1.37 million, excluding GST.

Cost of additional projects that can be added later:

- Boardwalk at Roto Mokoia = \$150,000
- Bridge/Culvert over Mowhanau Stream = \$200,000

Therefore, the complete project cost is estimated at \$1.72 million, excluding GST.

Time

If funding was available, we would look to undertake Stage 1 in the 2024/25 financial year. The other stages could be built as more funding becomes available.

WHAT WE NEED

We are asking for four things from the Council:

1. We would like this project to be adopted into the Long-Term Plan to show that the Council endorse it.
2. We would like acknowledgement from the Council that they are prepared to allow what is currently road reserve to be used for this trail.
3. We would like the trail vested to Council so that when this project is completed the Council will commit to future maintenance of the trail.
4. We would like Council to commit to funding a proportion of this project.

WHAT WE WILL DO

If the Council is able to help us with the above then we commit to:

1. Assist with fundraising for the project accordingly.
2. Assist with consultation with the local community and key stakeholders.
3. Continued promotion of the trail through our various networks.

We believe that Waka Kotahi's Transport Choices Funding Advisor said this is a project they would consider funding through the Streets for People programme, provided it was shovel ready and Council supported in time for when the next funding opportunity is advertised by Waka Kotahi.

Q&As

Are people likely to use this trail if it is built?

In the wise words of W. P. Kinsella we would say 'if you build it, they will come'!

One only has to look at how successful the Upokongaro trail has been since having been built to see that Rapanui Road Trail will be a success. This success is mirrored in many other trails around the country that have brought people to them once they have been built, such as the Coastal Walkway in New Plymouth and the Great Lake Trails in Taupo.

Aren't there more important things to spend money on at the moment?

It can be said that economic times are tough at the moment. Building this trail will need to be considered alongside other projects and prioritised accordingly. This is why firstly we would like to have this trail included in the Long-Term Plan so that it is there as a long-term goal for our district. However, we also suggest that this trail will have positive financial benefits (as mentioned above) and any outlay could be off-set by gains to the community as a whole, for example an increase in tourism bringing more money into Whanganui. In addition, the health and safety benefits of this trail provide further justification that this investment will be money well spent for generations to come.

Aren't road cyclists still likely to use the road anyway?

In the short-term probably yes, but a shell rock trail could easily be tar sealed at a later stage to then mean that all non-motor vehicle users of the road could be out of harm's way. Small steps first to get us started...

Will horse riders be able to use the trail?

Yes. We see this as a multipurpose trail that is inclusive of all non-motor vehicle road users. Leaving a strip of grass verge next to the trail will provide space for horses, and with clear signage and appropriate conditions we believe all can be catered for. We want all sectors of our community to be able to enjoy this trail.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Here are a few quotes from community members about this project so far:

“A bike trail/path from SH3 to Mowhanau/Kai Iwi Beach would be a great asset for the school.

I can only think of 1 child who bikes to school out of 220! There are children who live on Rapanui Road and connecting roads, so a trail will give these children the opportunity to bike to school.

As a school we want to be more involved in Westmere Lake. A trail to the lake will give our children and teachers a safe passage and opportunities to be more involved with this local treasure.

A trail will give teachers the opportunity to explore and use the local community more for teaching and learning: dairy farms, farming, local businesses, Bason Botanic Gardens, etc.”

[REDACTED]

“Excellent idea. Think ‘push play’. Will give safety for exercise.”

[REDACTED]

“As residents of Rapanui Road close to the village we have been cycling to and from work in town over the last 5 years. It is clear to us that many drivers are not aware of the 1.5-metre passing rule as signposted along the road. A lot of drivers do not seem to understand the vulnerability of cyclists when passing at high speed (100 kph) and how we all fit into the narrow space provided; thinking of oncoming traffic, especially on blind corners. We all have a right to be road users but ideally, the proposed cycle/walkway would keep us all safe and able to enjoy the journey.”

[REDACTED]

“I support the project for the cycle trail on Rapanui Rd.

For many years I cycled from my home in Peakes Rd to Kai Iwi Beach and back . This has helped to keep me fit and active. However around 12 months ago, after an extremely close call with a truck and trailer unit carting sand, I haven’t done this circuit as much. Perhaps as I’ve got older, I don’t feel as bullet proof as I used to.

My wife and I both use the tracks around the river and the new track to Upokongaro, but at this stage my wife wouldn’t bike to Kai Iwi due to safety concerns. I totally support the idea of a track out to Kai Iwi Beach and would love to go back to being a regular rider to the beach. And if there’s a coffee and scone at the local cafe all the better.”

[REDACTED]

From Kai Iwi Beach Holiday Park:

“The park receives many visitors who bring push bikes and ask where they could use them in our area. We never recommend the existing roads as we consider them dangerous from our own experience and the feedback of past campers. Riding is a common past time of camp ground visitors particularly in the retired and German groups (Germans are our biggest foreign visitor group). Push bikes are an easy addition to a camper van and provide a way to explore an area. We are sure a new cycleway would quickly spread amongst domestic tourists and attract more people to our camp ground. It would also provide a great experience for campers with many photogenic opportunities from such a ride helping promote the area.

We are soon to re-open our public cafe in the camp. When it operated over the previous two summers quite a number of people did bike here from town. Sometimes they loop around the road and beach through to Castlecliff. This cycleway group would increase cafe business as well as the cafe increase use of the cycleway making it possible for a wider range of cyclists. The ever increase in popularity of electric push bikes means a wider group can get out further while still getting exercise and still being able to manage the ride. These are particularly popular with older riders.

The Camp fully supports the creation of this cycleway seeing it as great for the local people, a large increase in safety in our area and good for the camp and cafe as well as other local businesses (such as the various vendors at the beach). Cycling is very popular with our domestic and foreign camping friends.”



A door-knock along Rapanui Road and around Mowhanau village produced over 100 signatures of support for this project (see Appendix 3). We are now working on gaining Whanganui-wide support (see Appendix 4).

CONCLUSION

This project will be of benefit to the Whanganui community.

The trail will make Rapanui Road safer for all users. It will improve the health of the population and the environment, and it will bring financial gains to the district through increased tourism. It will connect three treasured Whanganui sites and draw more people to them. The local community of Rapanui Road and Mowhanau village is continuing to grow and already established businesses in the area are thriving making investment in this community a sound choice. Money, time and effort spent now to construct this trail will bring long-lasting enjoyment for our future generations to come.

Please include this project in the Long-Term Plan.

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- Ministry for Primary Industries. (2023). *About the one billion trees programme*. <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/forestry/funding-tree-planting-research/one-billion-trees-programme/about-the-one-billion-trees-programme/>
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- Waka Kotahi. (2018). *Cycle touring and bike-packing survey – 2018 report*. <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/resources/cycle-touring-and-bike-packing-survey-2018/cycle-touring-and-bike-packing-survey-2018.pdf>
- Waka Kotahi. (2023). *Cycling action plan*. <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/resources/waka-kotahi-cycling-action-plan/waka-kotahi-cycling-action-plan.pdf>

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 140

Speaking

First name: Nathaniel
Last name: Darbyshire

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
-----------------------	--------------------

Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Invest in the Whanganui East pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Invest in the stabilisation of the retaining bank and rather keep the existing building and have a thought of building a new theatre.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: It will be a good idea to keep the aviary and have some work done on it or suggest to keep it close

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: I suggest to keep the hanging flowers for improved or remove the hanging flowers

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: I may suggest to keep New Zealand glassworks but seek a buyer or keep it as a council ownership

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Keep Gonville library days and hours as they are so parents and children can come and relax and have a good time sharing a talk

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Do not close the winter gardens for council purposes or progress contract

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level to a day to day rates rise

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Maintain the current level of funding, which isn't enough to get us to where we need to be. Noting assets will deteriorate further (save \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Council takes the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to outcome of detailed business case (Council's preferred option - this would add \$30 per property per year from 2025/26 through to 2038/39, after which the returns from the hotel and carpark will start to offset rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Implement a new counterweight flying system only within the existing stagehouse building structure (add \$44 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSL as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Construct new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa (This is Council's preferred option, and would cost \$6 per property per year for 10 years from 2029/30)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 483

Speaking

First name: **Tiffany**
Last name: **Davies**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Feasibility study regarding adding an outdoor pool to the splash center with discounted bus rates

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Keep the aviary open and charge an entry fee of approximately \$2?

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Charge a minimal entry fee

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 4 - Full upgrade, including front of house improvements (add \$74 per property per year for 20 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: No assets are sold to repay debt (add \$23 per property to next year's proposed rates rise of 10.6% and \$43 per year thereafter)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: I would love for Whanganui to have a fully accessible toilet.
<https://www.changingplaces.org.nz/>

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 403

Speaking

First name: **Holly**
Last name: **Davies**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Construct new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa (This is Council's preferred option, and would cost \$6 per property per year for 10 years from 2029/30)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents Yes

Kia ora Chief Executive David, Mayor Andrew Tripe and Councillors Anderson, Baker-Hogan, Brown, Chandulal-Mackay, Craig, Duncan, Fallen, Joblin, Law, Melser, Oskam and Vinsen.

My name is Holly Davies. I'm a Co-Chair at the Whanganui District Council Youth Council.

I started Youth Council at sixteen. I'm standing here before you at eighteen.

After moving away for almost ten years, I had just moved back to Whanganui and was struggling with moving schools halfway through the year. I was politically inclined and becoming painfully loud. When I was sixteen, in 2021, my mother sent me a link to apply for the Youth Council. I think that was her way of getting me to debate politics and human rights with anyone other than her, my sister or my dad.

This kid with excited eyes and kicking feet from my French class interviewed me for the Youth Councillor position. Now she's one of my very best friends. Charlotte Hardy was a Co-Chair before me, and with me.

From projects at the library, consultation with Youth Services Trust, helping with Puanga Rising, funding sports teams, community projects creating space for young artists and interviewing local politicians, I couldn't be more proud of our team.

Of course, there is more we want to do and more we will do; however, we are struggling at the moment with our support team's excessive workload and lack of transparency. While we understand a multitude of projects and groups are being looked into due to a tight and stressed budget at the council, we are concerned that the disestablishment of the Youth Council will be followed by a lack of representation for Rangatahi and minorities in the Whanganui district.

I want to know why it is so hard to discuss this disestablishment. Why it is so hard for people to know it's happening? Why did so many people not know about it till it was front page of the Chronicle, but they knew about other potential cuts? Why it was barely even in the fine print of the LTP? Some councillors and members have backed away from conversations on this decision. **If you voted on it, why can't you speak on it?**

The latest formal photo of the Youth Council sitting above the coffee machine is from 2017. That speaks volumes. The fact that our team is so small at the moment - that speaks volumes. The fact that half of you probably didn't remember my name, my fellow members names, until I said it before you today speaks volumes. I could go on.

Yes, the Youth Council hasn't been performing to the best of its ability. I assure you, I'd be the first to admit that, to stress about it. But think about it like this.

We were left without a project support officer. Even though this council promotes well-being as one of their strategies in this long-term plan, members of the well-being team resigned. And because there are insufficient funds to hire a project support officer. I ask, where are the funds going? I ask, why wasn't the youth council consulted? We have so many ideas.

Mayor Tripe said in an article, stating, *"I think they've done a great job but we just want a wider reach and a more informal structure."*

While I respect your perspective and opinion, which Rangatahi did you consult with? What did they tell you about wanting an informal structure around issues relevant to them, their peers and other Rangatahi?

Rangatahi have minds, ideas and thoughts made for problem-solving and we are resilient. But we shouldn't have to be so resilient you think you can take away our voice in this capacity.

The Youth Council saved my life, it has given me skills nothing else could have. And I stand before you, desperate to tell you just how much these people in this team mean to me.

Most of you don't know our names. But MC is one of the funniest people I've met, she is energetic and insane and I've never seen anyone's eyes light up more than I've seen hers light up at the sight of pickles. Kereama has grown into this bold, enthusiastic bundle of sunshine and I admire his passion. Joyce is comedic, and sweet and has so much curiosity and interest. Kai does too. He's shy but so blunt in a way that I am jealous of. He has wonderful ideas and asks questions everyone else forgets. Aarnah is intensely smart with the most adorable smile and again, is so funny and intuitive. Harry is new to Youth Council but he is vibrant, inclusive and conscious. James is still quiet, but sweet, and we're still working on cracking that shell. Lola is my big little sister, she keeps me in line and keeps me laugh-crying. Reina is a pain in my butt, however, I'd die for her just the same. Poppy is kind, patient and thoughtful. She knows what she wants, and what she's doing with her life. And I admire that.

I want more people to join this team, and I want more people to jump on from different backgrounds and help make the Whanganui District inclusive and safe for all young people.

Criminal Minds is my favourite show, and once Penelope Garcia said, *"Don't they understand that we're a family? That's why this works because we're a family. Do they even care?"*

But if you do care, and there is still no possibility of keeping the Youth Council, I request the Whanganui District Council consider a Youth Advisory Group. We, the Youth Council, suggest that this will consist of 8-10 diverse Rangatahi (including those already involved in the Youth Council that still wish to be involved) who will liaise alongside the Whanganui District Council, Councillor Charlotte Melser and any relevant organisations in Whanganui who seek consultation from the proposed Youth Advisory Board to the Whanganui District Council.

Councillors, staff, district, team, either way, we'll continue advocating without you. But it's up to you guys whether or not you want to be on the right side of history, and the future.

I am happy to answer questions now, and in future. I will be fighting for, and with, my team. For a youth voice.

If we lose our Youth Council, if a Youth Advisory Board is not considered, here's a quote from Charlie Brown: "*Goodbyes make my throat hurt.*"

I'm sure that when I read this, my throat will be hurting a lot. It hurts as I write this. And I know that if it's disbanded it still won't be over, that we can still advocate in other ways. But with love, my throat still hurts.

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1036

Speaking

First name:

Rene

Last name:

de Jongh

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close New Zealand Glassworks (save \$10.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close Gonville Library completely (save \$12.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the Winter Gardens (save \$7.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Cut all community grants and other optional spending

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Good morning I oppose the proposed rates hike and the "big ticket items" in the proposed district plan. In my everyday life, and I have been working and paying tax for well over a half-century, when my costs rise I don't automatically walk around to my employer and demand more money to meet my increased costs. If I did that, I wouldn't have a job... What I do as I look at what is essential to have an budget that first; everything else that is nice to have gets looked at in context; and above all I try very hard not to spend money on things that are not my problem. Firstly, Whanganui District Councils like very many others have for far too long funded nice-to-haves which are either simple virtue signalling and pushed as a personal preference by a number of councillors (you know you are...) and / or the responsibility of central government to whom we already pay taxes and I do not wish to have my rate money increased and expropriated to pay for your personal feelgood ambitions. A couple of councillors have commented on public recently (and again you know you are) that committee has an will do some good, and that you don't want homeless people to be homeless. Good on you, spend your own money on your charities or get elected to national government and sort those priorities out. My belief is that I am entitled to donate to the charities of my choice and not have you take money off me so that you can donate to the charities of your choice. Further, your priorities are skewed. A relatively cheap open-air

pool remaining accessible to the youth of East Whanganui in a similar extension for the Aviary are an order of magnitude cheaper - and in turn benefit two orders of magnitude more individuals and families - then throwing money at for example the art gallery, so the occasional art luvvie can waft through its corridors and a sense of perfume and smug. Further, while the council claims that committee housing and homeless housing initiatives are not a large direct cost to the ratepayer, that is simple nonsense on stilts. Of course they are, even if the money is held in some other financial instrument there's an awful lot of paid for council staff time going into managing and overseeing these projects. Not to mention a lot of relatively invisible money spent on guards for the homeless camps, and a lot of money lost because people don't want to come and can buy the longer the river when they have to share that location with people who sell sex and drugs. In short Stop paying for things we don't need Stick to repairing and maintaining the basic infrastructure for ratepayers of "potholes, pipes and parks" If you want to settle your virtue to all and sundry then do it with your own money If you want to engage in supporting particular national political and ethnic goals, get elected to central government. I research the charities I give money to come to make sure that they help people who need help in, that they spend wisely, and that they meet needs not preferences. You, the council, are a charity to which I do not wish to donate.

Hotel and Car Park

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: There is no case for the ratepayer to directly or indirectly fund such gambles. The alleged economic impact analysis is mythical; events and spending in Whanganui will take place whether the hotel etc. exists or not. This proposal wastes more ratepayers' money to the benefit of a very few. If the economic benefit is that good, put your own money into it or find a financier take the risk to make the profit you seem so sure of.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Charge user pays fees.

Marae Development

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No money. User pays.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No money. Beach users pay.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: User pays

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Sell the Sarjeant Gallery. If it's that great a facility it'll fetch a price that will back all the ratepayers who you forced to fund it. If it does not get a good price that shows you again your rationale for investing tens of millions of ratepayers' dollars was fundamentally flawed.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **1**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **1**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Good morning I oppose the proposed rates hike and the "big ticket items" in the proposed district plan. In my everyday life, and I have been working and paying tax for well over a half-century, when my costs rise I don't automatically walk around to my employer and demand more money to meet my increased costs. If I did that, I wouldn't have a job... What I do as I look at what is essential to have an budget that first; everything else that is nice to have gets looked at in context; and above all I try very hard not to spend money on things that are not my problem. Firstly, Whanganui District Councils like very many others have for far too long funded nice-to-haves which are either simple virtue signalling and pushed as a personal preference by a number of councillors (you know you are...) and / or the responsibility of central government to whom we already pay taxes and I do not wish to have my rate money increased and expropriated to pay for your personal feelgood ambitions. A couple of councillors have commented on public recently (and again you know you are) that committee has an will do some good, and that you don't want homeless people to be homeless. Good on you, spend your own money on your charities or get elected to national government and sort those priorities out. My belief is that I am entitled to donate to the charities of my choice and not have you take money off me so that you can donate to the charities of your choice. Further, your priorities are skewed. A relatively cheap open-air pool remaining accessible to the youth of East Whanganui in a similar extension for the Aviary are an order of magnitude cheaper - and in turn benefit two orders of magnitude more individuals and families - then throwing money at for example the art gallery, so the occasional art luvvie can waft through its corridors and a sense of perfume and smug. Further, while the council claims that committee housing and homeless housing initiatives are not a large direct cost to the ratepayer, that is simple nonsense on stilts. Of course they are, even if the money is held in some other financial instrument there's an awful lot of paid for council staff time going into managing and overseeing these projects. Not to mention a lot of relatively invisible money spent on guards for the homeless camps, and a lot of money lost because people don't want to come and can buy the longer the river when they have to share that location with people who sell sex and drugs. In short Stop paying for things we don't need Stick to repairing and maintaining the basic infrastructure for ratepayers of "potholes, pipes and parks" If you want to settle your virtue to all and sundry then do it with your own money If you want to engage in supporting particular national political and ethnic goals, get elected to central government. I research the charities I give money to come to make sure that they help people who need help in, that they spend wisely, and that they meet needs not preferences. You, the council, are a charity to which I do not wish to donate.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 156

Speaking

First name: Vaughan
Last name: Dennison

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Please see our written submission attached

Supporting documents

Yes

Homes for People Trust – Whanganui District Council LTP Submission

Homes for People is a social enterprise, established in July 2016, that exists to alleviate poverty by providing affordable housing to low income persons and families. Homes for People is a response to the barriers many people find to entering the housing market, both the home ownership and rental housing markets. We have a skilled and passionate team with a wide range of valuable skills and have successfully constructed 29 homes in the Manawatu and Horowhenua regions, eight practically complete awaiting titles, with another 30 plus homes in various stages of the development pipeline.

Homes for People have successfully delivered a variety of assisted homeowner outcomes. Two of our programmes are accredited through the governments Progressive Home Ownership programme. Homes for People are also a government accredited Transitional Housing provider, serving up to 67 households within the Palmerston North Community.

Provincial New Zealand has growing housing needs. Since September 2022, Homes for People have developed a relationship with First Rung Trust. First Rung is a collective of caring, practical and skilled Whanganui residents with a vision to implement innovative home ownership programmes in the Whanganui district, fostering housing-related education, and contributing to the supply of quality homes in the area. As First Rung's objectives strongly align with Homes for People's, we have worked together to identify possible sites and via a strategic investment have acquired our first property for development.

The recent acquisition of 7 Gilmore Street, Gonville is our first development site achieved under a newly established entity; Community Impact investment. This property sits between two similar sized parcels of land owned by Whanganui District Council. This location ideally suits housing for first homeowners, people looking to downsize and potential for additional community housing outcomes. We would like to explore how we might work together with your council to achieve an overall housing plan for this location and consider options for other sites to help address the housing needs in the community.

We would like to speak in support of our submission. Homes for People endorses First Rung's submission and would ask to be allocated within the same hearing session.

Ngā mihi



Vaughan Dennison

In conjunction with Darren Birch (Co- Founder & CEO)

Homes for People Trust. | E: darren@homeforpeople.co.nz | M: 021 448 408

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 688

Speaking

First name: **Bruce**
Last name: **Dickson**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Research Further Options

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: This is an icon in Whanganui . Look for community involvement to fund as was done in the early years of the baskets .

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Broaden the scope to allow arts organisations to apply particularly in relation to heritage activities

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: See my attachment - there is little information about this proposal to establish that it is actually needed and if there is a shortage of hotel rooms what other options are there to cover the shortfall

Royal Whanganui Opera House**Something else (state below)**

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Refer my attachment . Would like a further option to be explored -somewhere between Options 1 and 2

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes

SUBMISSION to WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-2034

HOTEL and CAR PARK

This document accompanies my written submission to the WDC Long Term Plan and relates to the Options put forward by Council for a proposed Hotel & Carpark . I wish to speak to this submission at the hearing process .

In Option 1 Council is proposing to spend 1 million dollars on this project in the 24/25 year .This is presumably to prepare a business case – research potential leases- maybe even secure options on a potential site .

I am concerned that this is premature unless all of the questions regarding this have been assessed . I do not support Options 1 or 2 for reasons outlined below . I would support an Option which looked at all alternatives to provide additional hotel accommodation in Whanganui being further investigated .It is difficult to respond to this Council proposal as no detail is provided about potential site ,design or potential impact on the urban environment . It also seems to go completely against what Council has said in the past about what constitutes “ Core Council business “

Efforts to build a new hotel in Whanganui have been going on for many years . I have been involved with 2 of these – in the mid 1980's when mayor Doug Turney charged the Whanganui Development Company with the task of investigating the idea . We were able to identify suitable land and 2 major hotel operators who were prepared to come to Whanganui but sign a 3 year lease only .Another attempt was made in the early 90's to develop the Levin & Co building (known at the time as Backhouse and later purchased and developed by UCOL) Adjoining buildings would also have been involved . I am aware of another attempt several years ago .

This raises the question about viability – if it is such a good idea to have a large hotel in Whanganui why have astute and experienced developers not done so ? It is possibly because they do not see the necessary viability . Habits of travellers in NZ and elsewhere have changed over the years . Air B&B has become very popular with a large number of people who enjoy the independence and contact with locals . The great Bus Tours, which used to be the backbone of internal tourism in NZ seem to have lost considerable favour .Many travellers avoid large modern hotels instead favouring smaller boutique hotels with character and history .Would that not be a better solution for Whanganui - several smaller hotels of character perhaps utilising some heritage buildings in their footprint

A further concern is the inclusion of a carpark with the hotel – well it would be a concern if this is proposed to be a large carpark . This will add considerably to the cost and possibly not be economically viable . Many hotels in bigger cities in NZ do not have carparks at all -or only small ones . They offer a valet service in which the hotel parks the guest car close by in a public facility and charges a fee for doing so .

If it has been confirmed that Whanganui is short of 60 hotel beds- have existing hotels been considered as potential facilities which could be easily enlarged .? For example both the Rutland Arms Inn and The Kingsgate Hotel have vacant land on which further rooms could be built .A public/private partnership between Council and private owners could be a practical ,much less expensive (to Council) and contain far less risk than council building a large new hotel complex.

The construction of a hotel in isolation from other facilities is one prospect . Has thought been given to linking it to existing facilities /or creating new ones all of which could build the complex into a more exciting venue with other related activities .There is potential here particularly in a public /private partnership .

Should a 60 bed hotel with equivalent carpark be built in central Whanganui it would make a huge impact on the urban environment . Perhaps Council has identified a site outside of the CBD or at least on land where little or no impact would be had on the heritage values of our existing town centre . It would be reassuring or not to know Councils thinking on a potential site .

In 1991 a small group of people purchased the Rutland Hotel building . It had lain idle for 6 years and was in poor repair. The Council of the day was encouraging a developer to purchase the site and all of the buildings in the Ridgway Street block -All for demolition . There a single storey Farmers Store would be built with a large carpark – a large White building with red signs . We managed to secure the Rutland building before that could happen and regenerate a business there and viable commercial uses . The alternative would have been the biggest blow to the central cities heritage values since the Trafalgar Square blunder . There would have been no “ Best street of the Year Award “ for Ridgway Street and the now nationally regarded heritage values irreparably damaged . If those values are to be upheld and indeed further extended great care needs to be taken with any developments in the town centre and I would have thought that that care needs to be lead by Council .In recent times Council have commissioned 2 reports about the value of the heritage buildings in the town centre and what income have these buildings and the environment generally brought into the city -which would not have come otherwise . Both of these reports identified significant income – I think between \$20 and \$30 million per year . This income has been hard won and great care needs to be taken not to damage that .

If research establishes that there is a shortage of 60 or some other number of hotel bedrooms -and that shortage should be provided in the centre of town then Council will need to carefully consider how those rooms are best provided for and by whom . As pointed out previously there are many options that could be considered .Both myself and The Whanganui Regional Heritage Trust are extremely concerned about what effects various choices could have on the urban environment and heritage values . Rather than being negative about it members of the trust would like to offer their assistance to Council in assessing various aspects of different options which Council may consider in the future .

There is considerable experience in the Trust both in architectural /heritage /urban design and other fields pertinent to this study . That offer of assistance would be at no cost to the Council and ratepayer .

SUBMISSION to WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34

ROYAL WHANGANUI OPERA HOUSE

This document accompanies my written submission to the WDC Long Term Plan and relates to the Options put forward by Council for the Royal Whanganui Opera House. I wish to speak to this submission at the hearing process.

I applaud the Council's intention to carry out up grading work to this significant local and national icon. I do not think that I need to say anything further about the value of this building in terms of its history, architecture and historic values (heritage) because I am sure that Council fully understands this. It is included in the Councils List of Heritage buildings as a Class A building and in Heritage New Zealand's List as a Category 1 Building. There are no higher values possible.

While I applaud Council's wish to carry out upgrading work to this building I am deeply concerned about the work which Council is proposing to carry out. I attended the council run information meeting on Friday 19 April which only caused to deepen my concern.

I have significant knowledge and experience in working with this building and I would like to share this experience with Council. In 2015, building historian, Wendy Pettigrew and I were commissioned by Council to write a CONSERVATION REPORT on the building with responses to the proposed strengthening work preliminary design which had been carried out by BPL Engineers. I recommend this document to Council – I also recommend that this document should be updated once Council has decided on what it does intend to do so that the effects of any work can be measured against heritage values. In fact this work should already have been done so that Council could be fully informed as to effects on the heritage values of a building so much loved by the community.

Later in 2015 and 2016 I acted as architect for the project which strengthened the building to 34% NBS, upgraded various fire safety issues and carried out some improvements and maintenance work. The budget for this work was low and not all of the work which perhaps should have been done was able to be. Nevertheless council carried out what was necessary to allow the building to comply with the NZ Building Code and continue in its operations

What the Conservation Report and subsequent building work was able to understand was that this wonderful building, an outstanding example of Victorian Theatre architecture, was just that a Victorian Theatre. Designed for theatre productions 125 years ago (although altered substantially in 1919) the building no longer caters for large and complex productions. The Opera House is still highly regarded nationally and well loved and used locally – even with its limitations. Council in 2015 accepted that. Productions would come that suited the Stage and background stage facilities and local productions would be designed to also fit within the limitations. Perhaps the largest and most regular production held in the Opera House is the Whanganui Opera Week opera celebration which designs its production to fit within the limitations set by the stage and facilities. This concert fills the 800 seats and is the highlight of WOW's public presentations.

The WDC has commissioned a Health & Safety Audit of the Stage and Stage facilities which has informed Council that there are serious shortcomings which need to be addressed. I agree fully that these matters need to be addressed. From my reading of the "Options" put forward to Council it seems to me that none of them actually address the requirements of the Audit in themselves. Option 1 does not go far enough but Option 2 onwards leads the project into an upgrading of the entire area into a response for compliance with modern day Theatre Stage expectations. This it is

said will allow much bigger productions to come and raise the Opera House into another league of theatre .The question Council should ask itself is – what are these productions ,how many of them would come and how many Whanganui citizens would attend (the cost of theatre tickets to these productions will be high and certainly at a national level of seat cost)

I ask Council to consider another option – and that is one which answers the shortcomings raised by the Safety Audit plus provides structural strengthening to the Fly Floor and Upper Galleries . This would allow the entire existing stage area to be used without the intrusion of scaffolding . In other words an Option of work between 1 and 2 as currently proposed .This would be at a substantially lower cost than that proposed for Option 3 as currently being considered .

There are 4 other matters which I would like Council to consider if they have not already done so

1 – The Opera House is a Category 1 Building , of national and local interest and any alterations to it will require Resource Consent which can be expected to be publically notified . The proposed design for an enlarged Stage and facilities shows a significantly larger building both in width and height – from the original structure and as it is now . This new structure will visually overpower the remainder of the Opera House building . I cannot see how this will do anything other than damage current heritage values both architecturally and historically. Council can expect to receive significant objections from Heritage NZ and the Whanganui Regional Heritage Trust as well as many others concerned about the maintainance of the architecture and heritage values of this historic building .

2 -The estimates of cost which have been provided for all options may not be achievable for a variety of reasons . The experience with The Sarjeant Project ,where I believe the original cost of \$33 million dollars has increased to over \$ 70 million ,would suggest that a significant contingency sum needs to be allowed for .As in the case of the Sarjeant the Opera House is a very old building with many unknowns particularly under the ground and within the structure .

3 – The budgets for these options include significant support funding from outside sources – this type of funding is becoming much more difficult to obtain due to economic conditions and the fact that the number of private altruistic funds is reducing .

4- Should any of Options 2 to 4 be chosen council needs to think about what will have been achieved . Yes the Stage and its facilities will have been enlarged and upgraded to the point that large and complex productions could come to the Opera House but how economic will the investment be in terms of cost recovery /how many productions will actually come and how many Whanganui citizens would actually attend There will still be a large number inadequacies in the remainder of the building left unaddressed .The major one of these is that the entire public /patron part of the building will be left @ 34% NBS . This is the minimum standard of strength required by the Building Code and would probably ensure safety of life . It is generally agreed by structural engineers that in order to ensure that a building can be economically repaired after a major earthquake a strength level of at least 67% should be achieved .

There are two main factors in achieving a great theatre experience for the patrons – The quality and content of the production itself and the comfort and experience of the attendance – the experience of arrival /the interval /and the departure after the performance .

The Opera House with its 1899 design and 1919 alterations is inadequate in many ways for modern day theatre . But I think that Whanganui citizens accept these inadequacies as part of their recognition of this grand old theatre from our past .The inadequacies are many and I will list a few

The theatre entry (internal and external) is too small for a big attendance

The exterior space outside the theatre is much too small --patrons spill out onto the road before and after performances – there is danger from passing traffic .

The mezzanine bar area was never designed for that purpose and is way too small

The toilets are all on the lower level which means patrons compete for space going up to the bar and going down to the toilets

There are safety from falling issues in the Circle and Upper Circle

Disabled persons entry does not comply with the requirements of the Building Code and provides a demeaning experience for disabled people

The theatre does not have an adequate heating/cooling and ventilation system

There are other areas where the building does not reach modern day standards-for example insulation

In my opinion Council has two main choices . The first is to ensure that the building is safe and compliant in all matters including the Stage and facilities – and then accept the glorious Royal Whanganui Opera House for what it is – much loved by the community and country alike – with all of its limitations .That is an Option between 1 and 2

OR

Seek to upgrade the entire theatre over a period of time so that the “theatre experience from a wide variety of different productions can be the best that it can be and up with national standards “ This would require a great deal more work and funding than is currently being proposed (which only addresses about half of what would be required)

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1273

Speaking

First name: **Fiona**
Last name: **Donne**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: I think this is the best option in the present economic climate. Hopefully as things improve we can look at this again.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: How much does the feasibility study cost? and is the cost of that included when proposing a new outdoor facility? In the present economic climate I would be happy to have \$9.0 on my rates to keep it open in the meantime.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Maybe the Amdram Hall could help out with a venue for hosting future productions?

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Is there a possibility of some other organisation being willing to take on and care for the Aviary? Whenever I have visited the lake there are always people going through it especially with children.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Keeping the hanging baskets is a must for me as they add so much colour and vibrancy to the city's streetscape. They are appreciated by our community and visitors to the city alike. They are worth \$5.00 on my rates.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: To me this facility is so important to Virginia Lake as a whole package! The displays of flowers etc. inside are always consistently stunning and a pleasure to view, there are always people walking round the area discussing the beauty and peace of the place. It is always a place we take our visitors to and "wow" is often their reaction.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts: I find the proposal to cut the Youth Council out is a very retrograde step. Young people are our future, and their views on what they need and enjoy about our city is very important. The Youth Council helps to inform, and form our citizens of the future on how our city operates, it is a great learning opportunity for those who take part in it. Please think again Councillors. Take a look at yourselves how many of you are still young (at heart hopefully!) enthusiastic and have ideas for the future of this city. The Youth Council does help fill that gap. My wish list for them would include a Bowling Alley (such a family friendly activity) A climbing wall, a community room in the city centre in one of the empty buildings where they could meet to talk face to face, play music, games etc.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: The state of the footpaths in many parts of the city need quicker attention than option 1. There were 382 fall injuries in an average year a percentage outside New World and Woolworths supermarkets due to the tree roots rising through the pavement. I am hoping to get data from the hospital as to how many end up in the ED. Dept!!

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: I think the Council has enough future expensive ideas without the addition of an hotel which could be funded by a private developer when the economy improves.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: This is an important Heritage Building which needs to be up to today's standards in order to attract shows. Hopefully the assumption of 50% funding from other sources will eventuate!!

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: I hope that by 2027 most marae will have taken advantage of the Gov. funding as Te Ao Hou marae has done.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: I cannot believe we have to spend \$830,000 dollars on a crossing, purely something simpler in design would achieve what is desired namely linking the Reserve to the Awa and safety for pedestrians.

Rapanui Road Trail

Don't know

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: In the present economic climate will these assets actually sell? I would like to know what they are before deciding to support Council's option.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: I have added \$98.00 to my rates with some of the options I have chosen but feel they are worth that. I would like to draw the Councillors attention to the state of many footpaths in Whanganui. I would also like to comment on the state and cleanliness of many of our bus shelters. Horizons builds them but we are left with the maintenance. The present budget allocated by Councillors is inefficient to do the job. Graffiti and broken glass panels remain for months before repair because of

the expense. The cleaning of the glass panels is supposed to occur every 6 mths I have never seen this happen. Whoever has the contract needs more funding to do the job properly especially now bus transport is being encouraged. The shelters are a necessary part of our infrastructure and need to be well cared for. I would like to speak in my submission on footpaths, bus shelters, and the Youth Committee cut.

Supporting documents

Yes

Telephone [redacted] [redacted]

Fiona & Peter Donne

"Gods Acre"

[redacted] [redacted] P [redacted],

[redacted],

Wanganui,

New Zealand.

EXTRA SHEET

16.4.92 24

To sum up :-

We do not seem to have the money for many basic items which most of us use on a regular basis eg. the footpaths, the bus shelters, the Aramoho rail bridge a very well used facility which deserves to be renewed but only a patch up job will be done as no funding for more.

Big Ticket items grab the headlines and seem to also get the funding.

Whatever pot this comes from the ratepayers still have to contribute in some way at some stage.

I would also like to ask how many of our citizens will bother to read the long term plans let alone do a submission, it took me two and a half hours to read through the long term plan document and then fill in the submission, maybe I am just a slow reader!!

Having said that I think the Council have done their part in trying to involve us in what is planned for the years ahead

Thank you all.

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 184

Speaking

First name: **Carla**
Last name: **Donson**
Organisation: **Women's Network Whanganui Manager**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The team at the Women's Network has a valued partnership with the Whanganui District Library team, notably during our festivals, La Fiesta and the Winter Wonderfest. We also know how vital all of the library hubs are across our community, not only for facility use but for social connection. With the upcoming opening of the redeveloped Sarjeant Gallery and the opportunity that this brings to the potential of strengthened relationships across the Pukenua Queens Park facilities, it is vital to maintain the availability and accessibility of the Davis Library to capitalise upon this. In recognition of our UNESCO City of Design status and the Sarjeant Gallery being named in the National Geographic 'top 20 best cultural spots' for 2024, the close proximity of the Davis Library is perfectly placed to benefit from increased activity and visitation, with further opportunities for other project and event partnerships possible over time. Seeking direct feedback from the operational team and regular service users [if this hasn't been undertaken already] would provide useful insights into other ways to generate savings. This could include purposeful 'quiet hours' such as those implemented across some supermarkets for the benefit of neurodiverse customers, whereby there is reduced lighting and other stimulus during certain advertised periods. There is also the potential to consider a slightly reduced open or close time daily, perhaps by 30-60 minutes, which could reduce overall costs over time and still enable the library to be open and available every day. We believe it is important to ensure that the Davis Library maintains daily opening hours, even if that means a slight reduction in the hours available - either through a reduced time each day or lesser hours over the weekends or on days that have proven to be 'quieter' in the long term. So many people in our community derive a sense of place and belonging through their interaction with facilities such as the Davis Library and its diverse activity programme, and as such we must foster this connection.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: We would support the opportunity to conduct a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui during the off-season [winter months] before moving to the decision to close the Whanganui East Pool; and potentially investigating in partnership with key stakeholders whether there are other opportunities available for active exploration. We know how important it is to foster neighbourhood identities, facilities and connections as a vital part of developing and maintaining thriving communities. Whanganui East is home to many diverse families who have a strong sense of connection to the local facilities, with not everyone having access to transport that enables them to access the Splash Centre or other facilities across town. It is also important to ensure that we continue to develop a

comprehensive Awa Safety Plan to ensure that any potential pool closures don't result in increased unsafe swimming activity along the awa.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Outside of my role as the Manager of the Women's Network, I contributed several years of service to Whanganui Repertory Theatre on the committee as well as President from around 2003-2010, and remain a continued supporter of the theatre's activities. During this time the theatre celebrated a 70th birthday and completed a significant refurbishment of the theatre auditorium including the removal of old seats and the installation of new seats, and improved technical equipment. These involved hundreds of hours of voluntary contributions as well as active fundraising activities. Continued improvements have been made to these facilities at the expense of Whanganui Repertory. What was also significant during this timeframe was the divesting of the Council's community building portfolio under then Mayor Michael Laws, of which Repertory Theatre was one, and years of neglected building maintenance. This has significantly impacted the deterioration of the building exterior. The theatre society was offered the opportunity then to purchase the building for \$1 and after many robust discussions agreed to decline this due to the complex geotechnical issues with the bank which were beyond the theatre's remit and the cost estimated to repair the building due to the deferred maintenance on it. Investing in stabilisation of the bank must be a priority for the site regardless of whether the theatre is retained in situ. The geotechnical issues surrounding the theatre building have never been adequately addressed and have been compounded by the resulting deferred and neglected maintenance of the site over decades. A theatre as a society of people can exist anywhere. It is people that bring theatres to life. However, they do need appropriate facilities in which to conduct their activities and to produce performances which are of benefit to the community. The intangible nature of this benefit is priceless. Dramatic theatre performances by their nature are perfectly suited to smaller venues [with capacity seating for 100-150 people] providing audiences with opportunities to experience an intimate connection. This is an important consideration as larger venues lose the connection between the stage and the 'fourth wall', [that being the audience] which provides the true magic in the small-stage theatre experience. Whanganui lacks options in this range of venue capacity and it is a valuable consideration in ensuring that we can meet a wide range of needs that could attract other entertainment forms such as music, dance, comedy, and the potential for community or corporate hire for presentations, digital screenings and other meetings or activities. It may well be that Whanganui Repertory as a society decides that a contemporary purpose-built facility, potentially in partnership with other groups, is desirable. This would certainly add value to Whanganui and enable greater diversity across the creative and cultural potential. Having said that, it is also important to consider options for preserving the theatre building itself, regardless of its role with Whanganui Repertory as the long-term tenant and partner. The significance of the building to our unique history and heritage as the original town library is an important part of our Whanganui story. The recent focus on preserving our history and heritage through the Whanganui Regional Heritage Trust has highlighted the unique identity that historic buildings have as community treasures. Proposals to demolish the theatre building would result in lost heritage as well as a host of other intangible benefits, notwithstanding the decades of voluntary contributions made by Whanganui Repertory Theatre members and millions of dollars of their investment contributions over the last 85 years. In summary, it is important to invest in stabilisation of the retaining bank and to investigate the potential to refurbish the existing building, whether it be in situ or for removal to another site. Supporting other opportunities for the development of a purpose-built theatre in partnership with key stakeholders would be a useful consideration also.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Whilst the idea of an aviary seems attractive, it requires adequate resourcing for its care, notably the welfare of the animals which we have observed many people raising as concerns over the years. Encouraging natural wildlife habitats through considered planting of bird-friendly trees and environs could add greater value to the surrounds of the lake.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The hanging flower baskets have become something of an attraction in their own right in adding beautification to the town centre. Visitors we speak to regularly comment on them. We would support retention of the hanging baskets and wonder if there are other ways to fund them through Mainstreet levies or other such revenue options through business sponsorship or donations.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: As per previous comments about the Davis Library and our active partnership with the Whanganui District Library team, we know how integral the Gonville Library is to our community, and especially to the people of Gonville. It is a special place for fostering identity and social connection and fulfils this in partnership with many diverse groups across the community.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: As regular submitters to the WDC's Annual and Long Term Plan processes over the years, the Women's Network has consistently advocated for improved community funding. Whilst we value the ongoing support that we have received via the Community Contracts process, there are many agencies like ours which operate completely independent of government funding and which deliver

significant benefit to our community across the four wellbeings of local government. The Department of Internal Affairs completed its 'Strengthening Our Approach to Volunteering Report' in June 2022 and it contains some key themes that are important to reflect upon in consideration of the contributions of many community and voluntary organisations:

- New Zealand has a high volunteering participation rate, with 49.8% of the population aged over 15 years volunteering with an organisation or directly in their communities.
- New Zealand also ranks consistently high in the Charities Aid Foundation's World Giving Index, being the second highest country in 2019. 56% of New Zealanders volunteer with an organisation, make donations, or help strangers.
- Volunteering provides cost benefits to approximately 115,000 not-for-profits, and government agencies in New Zealand whose work involves volunteering. Registered charities rely heavily on volunteers, especially those that are smaller and less well-resourced.
- Significantly, more women volunteer than men, in terms of percentage of population and hours spent.
- More older people volunteer than other age groups, but middle-aged people volunteer the most hours.
- The economic value of volunteering is estimated at \$4 billion a year.
- If the output of not-for-profits was counted towards gross domestic product, they would have contributed \$8.1 billion, which is around the size of the construction sector.
- The statistically discernible positive impact of volunteering on wellbeing and social cohesion is equally important.

Further to this, the recent impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the ensuing financial and political context has resulted in:

- Increased community demand for services has exacerbated pressures on voluntary sector budgets and wellbeing, and volunteer numbers are reportedly falling with many older volunteers being more cautious about their health and wellbeing.
- Attracting volunteers is one of the biggest challenges the sector faces, so it needs to find meaningful ways to attract and reward volunteers.
- The nature of volunteering is changing away from long-term commitments to episodic involvement that is often project-based. Younger people tend to connect to volunteering via new channels, including online volunteering platforms.
- The pandemic also impacted fundraising initiatives and revenue streams, and organisations continue to experience challenges to these under the current cost of living pressures.
- The pandemic also showed that Māori work effectively in crises to assist their community when they are sufficiently supported. However, current voluntary infrastructure and resources are not sufficient to support them.

Volunteering remains important for New Zealand's 115,770 not-for-profits, as 89% of them have no paid employees. The majority of not-for-profits are small, informally structured (except for registered charities) and have modest budgets. In a 2021 survey, 70% of respondents reported an annual operating budget of under \$75,000, while half operated on less than \$125,000. This would be likely be relevant to many of the organisations across Whanganui, including the Women's Network.

Funding pressures remain a prominent issue for the community and voluntary sector, along with the precarious nature of how it is funded. For respondents to sector reports, funding has not matched growing community needs, placing pressure on budgets, staffing and service delivery. Short-term funding means that paid staff are often offered only fixed-term employment, posing recruitment and retention challenges. In one survey, only 18.4% of respondents reported having funding for more than one year. From our experience, this would also be significant to many important organisations across our district, despite all of their best efforts to secure funding. Funding criteria can often favour innovative short-term projects over ongoing service delivery, creating sustainability issues. This in turn can result in organisations having to make repeated applications that take time away from delivering core services and activities.

The funding environment also remains competitive with many community and voluntary organisations competing for funding annually. Lengthy, complex application forms disadvantage applicants with English as a second language; they can also disadvantage smaller organisations with less resources and more time pressures; and there remains a lack of comprehensive Māori and Pasifika representation in most governance and funding models. Funding professional development opportunities for paid and voluntary staff remains challenging, with many organisations being unable to invest in and recognise the contribution of their staff in this way. Most grant funding has limited availability to support the specific cost of volunteer infrastructure, such as police vetting, first aid training, reimbursements for transport and mileage etc.

Whilst the DIA report acknowledges that central government has no overall strategic approach to volunteering and no shared mechanisms to enable government agencies to understand the impact of their interventions, there is the opportunity through local government to address how they could further support and improve the contributions of community agencies to the four wellbeings.

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: We recognise the need to be ambitious and to identify ways to capitalise upon Whanganui's unique assets - its culture, history and heritage; facilities; events; and environs. However, we believe that activating other partnerships are key to our ongoing development. Encouraging the development of local business and key stakeholder relationships remains important, as does our ability to engage with and attract external interest. We also want to ensure that we are developing in consideration of our unique identity which includes a recognition of our iwi partners in our bicultural heritage, the status of the awa, and our ability to be responsive to climate change through moving away from car-centric activities to those which encourage active and public transport initiatives.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 4 - Full upgrade, including front of house improvements (add \$74 per property per year for 20 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: As important St Hill Street neighbours and partners with the team at the Royal Whanganui Opera House, we continue to maintain a keen interest in the heritage significance of this area of the street, with an understanding of how this could best be optimised. Having worked in partnership with the RWOH over many years on many activities and events, and also having actively advocated for the relocation of the box office to improve accessibility for patrons, we appreciate how significant it is to retain and appropriately develop an international asset and icon like the RWOH. Investing for the long-term will be of most benefit for our community over time and will enable the RWOH to not only be used to its optimum for a wide variety of local productions and performances but also to be competitively attractive on the national and international stage. With significant event and theatre production experience, we know how often front of house aspects can be overlooked in the delivery of events. Providing facilities that are accessible, that are welcoming and warm, that enable appropriate merchandising opportunities, and that can also deliver a more contemporary and boutique suite of hospitality services is significant to the theatre experience. Without these being fully optimised the RWOH isn't able to deliver to its patrons a service that it is truly capable of delivering, and which promoters and performers also deserve. We believe that a building of such historic and international significance deserves to be developed for the long-term benefit of our community across the ages.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to

Something else (state below)

2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: We are fully supportive of delivering grant funding to Marae and acknowledge the important role that Marae played particularly during the pandemic and in response to emergency events. They also play a key role in fostering connection across our community and it is of fundamental value for us to recognise the bicultural partnership that we have with mana whenua. We wonder if there are other funding opportunities available working in partnership with Horizons and/or with potential iwi funding that can help to support important Marae development and maintenance, as well as possible ratepayer contributions. Further to this, whether there is also the potential to lobby central government for continued funding.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The significance of this site and its relationship with the awa is of importance to Whanganui iwi and our community as a whole. Given some of the recent learnings derived from the Streets for People projects and other important co-design projects in partnership with iwi, there is the potential to consider other traffic calming and wayfinding measures. We would encourage an exploration of further possibilities to develop this important area, particularly with the continued development of the riverside through awa recreational activities and the Whanganui River Market.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: We are supportive of this development but would prefer to have more detail via a feasibility study first that could provide a variety of options for development that takes into account the needs of all potential road users. We certainly acknowledge the need to create safer shared pathways and to encourage greater opportunities for a variety of active transport that link the town centre to our rural communities and attractions.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would

Something else (state below)

return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: We would prefer to have more detail on the specific assets considered for potential sale before agreeing in principle to a 'wholesale' asset sale approach from the outset.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 61

Speaking

First name: **Graham**
Last name: **Dyhrberg**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Council should not own businesses

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the drop off points for rural rubbish (save \$9.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Rural rubbish should not be subsidised by urban ratepayers both should be user pays.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Council caused the accommodation shortage by purchasing the Collegiate Motor Inn for the Flight School. Close the money draining flight school. See the hotel, this will also reduce emissions in the line with the council's climate emergency declaration.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Don't know

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: As this crossing is largely symbolic - paint design directly on the carriageway with pedestrian protection on the shoulders - cost \$50,000.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Building on shellrock path would be a massive ongoing maintenance cost for council. Road widening has already started on Rapanui Road and should be continued. This is a vanity project for aging cyclists who are already well catered for. Council needs to return to the first principles of shared pathway projects.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: A robust consultation process is required around selling assets.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents **No**

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1513

Speaking

First name: Peter
Last name: Edmonds

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Consider closing 2 days each week, staffing economy for 5 day work rotation, suggest Monday/Tuesday

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: consolidate swimming facilities to splash centre, develop outdoor pool to compliment indoor pools, year round availability for everyone.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: substandard and dangerous building with limited opportunities for thespians, plenty of alternate venues

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: retain the structures but develop community avian enthusiasts to run the facility pro bono for council

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: this is small change for the pleasure bought to both locals and visitors, often in town for the heritage values

New Zealand Glassworks

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: what would a buyer get? The Glass works are dependent on the resident artists, is there a valuation?

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: consider closing 2 weekdays each week

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: outstanding well managed facility

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: times are tough for everyone and funding level is ok

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: infrastructure service providers need to be subject to competitive open tendering process.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Council should not contemplate development of a hotel and carpark. Refer to the financial disaster this sort of activity happened to Hutt Valley Council

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: upgrade is needed

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: this is a central government issue, there is plenty of time before 2027 to initiate upgrades of power and water resources.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: the current facility is not fit for purpose. WSLS is a vital community activity, and training and participation hugely valuable to young people

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: This is a heavy traffic route. Council could consider closure of both Somme parade/Taupo quay and route traffic around existing roadways to Pakaitore, creating unlimited Awa frontage to Pakaitore Reserve.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Hopefully Council can raise much more than \$16millions.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 23

Speaking

First name: Duane
Last name: Emeny
Organisation: Air Chathams Limited Chief Operating Officer

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes

3rd May 2024

[REDACTED]
Whanganui District Council

Dear [REDACTED]

We were recently made aware of the business case regarding the Whanganui Airport Parallel Taxiway Project. We have carefully reviewed the information provided and would like to express our position regarding Air Chathams Limited's support for the investment in this project.

While we acknowledge the importance of maintaining safety standards at Whanganui Airport, we do not agree that the safety benefits of the parallel taxiway are as critical as stated in the business case. We believe the current configuration of grass and sealed taxiways adequately supports our operations without compromising safety. And have had no internal safety reports or occurrences that would have been mitigated or prevented had there been a parallel taxiway in place. We agree that runway occupancy could be improved by a parallel taxiway but do not agree that it would justify an investment of \$6,700,000. Our flights do not experience major delays departing or arriving into Whanganui as a result of traffic needing to taxi on the active sealed runway before take-off or after landing. Furthermore, we find the local users very accommodating of our scheduled and charter flights and communicate well their intentions including using the currently available grass taxiways to facilitate our aircraft movements.

It's also our understanding that Air Chathams' aircraft fleet is not able to utilize the parallel taxiway due to our fleet size and weight. Therefore, the proposed parallel taxiway would not directly result in increased safety benefits for our fleet or for the fleet of Air Whanganui (as we understand it). Given this limitation, we believe that the projected safety improvements do not justify the investment required for the parallel taxiway project.

Additionally, we observe that the nearby airport in Palmerston North, despite substantially greater commercial flight frequency and hosting a large flight academy, operates effectively with only two main sealed runway access points and no full-length parallel taxiway. This suggests that there are alternative means to ensure safe and efficient airport operations without the necessity of a large local investment in a parallel taxiway.

Air Chathams contributed to the recent aeronautical study and supported the findings of the report especially in relation to the investment in the local UNICOM service which is now established and operating. UNICOM provides immediate and accurate information to pilots including Air Chathams operated flights on local



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traffic, local weather and other information on request. We believe that this safety control provides the critical traffic information our flight crews need to make safe operational decisions to significantly reduce the risks related to runway incursion.

We recognise that at certain times of the year the surface conditions preclude use of grass taxiways for light aircraft users. And the grass taxiways currently do not have lighting to facilitate use at night. Air Chathams position is that the total number of days when the existing grass taxiways cannot be used due to surface condition combined with lower local air traffic volumes at night does not justify a \$6,700,000 local investment. And that the safety and commercial returns would not support that expenditure at this time or likely in the future either.

We supported the initial proposal because it was related to the runway and apron reseal which was required to maintain a usable and compliant airport. The parallel taxiway was part of that singular project using construction resource already engaged in the reseal project. So it made sense to support the entire project although we did consider the parallel taxiway portion an added luxury even back then.

Air Chathams would welcome the opportunity to discuss this submission further with councillors.

We would like to emphasize that if the council is interested in investing in airport-related initiatives that could drive substantial commercial and social development within the district, an investment equivalent to or less than the funding required from Whanganui Council for the proposed parallel taxiway would be adequate to collaborate with Air Chathams in establishing a new route linking Whanganui with Christchurch International Airport. There is considerable demand from the local Whanganui community for a direct service to Christchurch, as evidenced by the feedback we regularly receive.

Additionally, if Air Chathams were able to establish two feasible routes from Whanganui, connecting to both Auckland (an existing route) and Christchurch, it would present compelling commercial opportunities for us to explore relocating other aspects of our operations to Whanganui. This could encompass aircraft maintenance, flight crew training, airline management, and customer reservations. Presently, we incur significant expenses through commercial leases at Auckland Airport properties, and we would welcome a more cost-effective and collaborative approach, which I am confident the Whanganui District Council could offer.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

Air Chathams Limited



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POINT OF ENTRY BUSINESS CASE

Project initiation date: 1 July 2024

Project title: **Whanganui Airport Parallel Taxiway Project**

Hapū/iwi active partnership consideration: Inform (providing understanding)

The proposed layout of the parallel taxiway largely follows the approximate lines of the current grass taxiways and will be contained within the existing airport boundaries land and a small area of Whanganui Port Limited Partnership land immediately adjacent to the north-eastern corner of the airport. The level of aircraft activity on the parallel taxiway remains the same as for the current grass taxiways.

Business case prepared by: [REDACTED]

Business owner: General Manager Community Property & Places

PROBLEM / OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

The existing configuration of grass and sealed taxiways at Whanganui Airport is no longer suitable for the increased level of aircraft activity at the airport. This creates inefficient operations, due to aircraft needing to backtrack¹ on the active runway, and increases the likelihood of a catastrophic aircraft incident occurring.

Due to a substantial growth in aircraft movements the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) directed that an aeronautical study be conducted. This directive specifically included the requirement to “...*assess if significant change to the aerodrome physical characteristics are required to support ongoing safe operations at [Whanganui Airport].*” An externally facilitated aeronautical study included the recommendation to construct a parallel taxiway to remove the requirement for aircraft to taxi on the active runway and dramatically reduce the risk of runway incursions and potentially catastrophic aircraft incidents. The CAA has subsequently endorsed this recommendation.

The arrival of the New Zealand International Commercial Pilot Academy (NZICPA) has seen a significant increase in the wear-and-tear on grass taxiways which can lead to aircraft damage and taxiway closures, negatively impacting the NZICPA’s operations. There has also been an associated increase in the number of light aircraft using the apron² increasing the risks to passengers boarding commercial aircraft.

The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) recommends constructing a parallel taxiway as aircraft movement numbers increase to a point where a single stub taxiway is no longer suitable.

The parallel taxiway project was previously approved, with funding provided in FY22/23. Due to substantial increases in the price of bitumen the funding for this project, and an additional project to resurface the main runway, were insufficient to complete either project. Accordingly, the funding for both projects was combined to allow for the conduct of the runway resurfacing, which was deemed to be the higher priority. The justification for the parallel taxiway project remains, primarily as an aircraft/personnel safety issue.

¹ ‘Backtrack’ is an airport ground procedure which involves the use of a runway as a taxiway for an aircraft to taxi in the opposite direction from which it will take off or has landed. At Whanganui Airport aircraft are required to backtrack for all night operations and whenever the grass taxiways are closed due to wet weather.

² The apron is the area outside of the terminal building where aircraft are parked, loaded and refuelled, and passengers embarked/disembarked.

Benefits statement

There are three key benefits that would result from the provision of a parallel taxiway:

- Continued safe operation of Whanganui Airport due to a reduced requirement for aircraft to backtrack and occupy the active runway, and reduced apron use by light aircraft,
- Increased efficiency of aircraft operations due to improved runway access, and
- Increased availability of aircraft-accessible land suitable for commercial development of aviation-related businesses.

Social Benefits:

- Whanganui Airport is an essential component of the regional and national transport infrastructure. Retention of existing air passenger services is vital. A runway incursion leading to a catastrophic/fatal accident involving a passenger, aeromedical or training aircraft is likely to be extremely detrimental to the on-going viability of those businesses.
- The preservation of a safe, CAA-certificated airport is key to the provision of regional emergency response and Civil Defence support.
- The construction of a parallel taxiway will largely mitigate the risk of runway incursions relating to the backtracking of aircraft.

Economic Benefits:

- The parallel taxiway project will allow for development of land on the airport which is currently unused as it cannot be accessed by aircraft.
- Leases of land and/or hangars are key revenue streams for the airport.
- Increased revenue will reduce the level of ratepayer funding needed to support airport operations.
- Improved aircraft access will enable new aviation-related businesses to move to Whanganui Airport with associated wider economic benefits to the region.

Environmental Benefits:

- A parallel taxiway will reduce Runway Occupancy Times³ which improves the efficiency of aircraft operations resulting in less emissions.

Cultural Benefits:

- Nil.

STRATEGIC CASE

Whanganui Airport is a regional airport fully certified under Part 139 of the Civil Aviation Regulations which permits scheduled air passenger services. The airport plays an important role in the Whanganui economy and is an essential component of the regional and national aviation transport infrastructure. The airport is a designated 'Lifeline Utility' under the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act (2002) and is a key element for the maintenance and growth of business and industry in the greater Whanganui region. To retain these key links it is vital that the airport has the necessary infrastructure for aircraft to operate in a safe and efficient manner. With the increased rate of flying activity at the airport the addition of a parallel taxiway is essential.

The parallel taxiway project aligns with the council's purpose of promoting the social, economic and environmental well-being of the community.

³ Runway Occupancy Time (ROT) is a measure of time that aircraft are on the runway. Reduced ROT permits more efficient operations which reduces the time aircraft spend holding on the ground or in the air with resultant fuel savings.

Financial case

Due to project interactions the design of the parallel taxiway is being completed as part of the runway resurfacing project scope. Earlier design work by the contractor selected to conduct the resurfacing of the main runway allows for detailed costings to be provided. The construction of the parallel taxiway has been broken down into three modules:

- **Module A:** Comprises the essential components of the taxiway, being an end-to-end connection with aircraft engine run-up bays at each end. **Estimated cost: \$4.04M**
- **Module B:** Includes taxiway stubs to connect the NZICPA apron, aircraft refuelling facility (west) and eastern hangars to the parallel taxiway. **Estimated cost: \$1.25M**
- **Module C:** Adds taxiways stubs to connect the aircraft refuelling facility (east), replace grass taxiways B and D to the parallel taxiway, and provide taxiway access to the vacant land on the north-eastern corner of the airport. **Estimated cost: \$1.42M**
- **Total estimated cost \$6.71M**

Funding of capital expenditure is provided by the Whangai Airport Joint Venture on a 50:50 basis under an agreement with the Ministry of Transport and Whanganui District Council.

Year of LTP for delivery:	Y 1	Y 2	Y 3	Y 4	Y 5	Y 6	Y 7	Y 8	Y 9	Y 10
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>							
	\$5.3M	\$1.5M		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29	29/30	30/31	31/32	32/33	33/34

External funding contributions: Options are available

Capex \$	Opex \$	Funded by
\$6,700,000		\$3,350,000 MoT co-funding under JV agreement \$3,350,000 WDC debt funded

*Note: providing explanation via free text is also acceptable in the above boxes.

RISK EVALUATION

Item	Potential Risk Event	Likelihood	Consequence
1	Increased runway occupancy time created by aircraft backtracking on active runway due to taxiway surface conditions or at all times by night. Requires other aircraft in the circuit to modify their procedures to avoid incident. If pilots are unaware of the aircraft backtracking, or conflicting airborne aircraft, it may result in an aircraft vs aircraft accident.	Unlikely	Catastrophic
2	Closure of grass aircraft taxiways (poor weather or during hours of darkness) reduces access options to sealed runway resulting in aircraft needing to backtrack.	Almost certain	Moderate
3	The lack of a parallel taxiway will limit the number of aircraft able to use the airport at a time, thereby reducing commercial viability of the airport and limiting commercial flight training opportunities.	Likely	Moderate

OPTIONS APPRAISAL

Option 1: Full parallel taxiway works (Modules A, B and C). The full-length parallel taxiway alongside RWY 11/29, with associated entry stubs and a short taxiway extension into ‘The Gully’ would provide all of the desired safety improvements, along with the additional economic benefits of providing aircraft access to undeveloped airport land. This is the preferred option.

Option 2: Partial parallel taxiway works (Modules A and B). The full-length parallel taxiway alongside RWY 11/29 and a reduced number of entry stubs would remove the need for aircraft to backtrack along the runway at night, or when the grass taxiways are unusable, with an associated reduction in the risk of runway incursions. This option would not provide the associated commercial benefits of access to undeveloped airport land.

Option 3: Minimum parallel taxiway works (Module A only). The full-length parallel taxiway alongside RWY 11/29 would provide some of the desired safety benefits, but not all. Reduced apron usage would not be achieved as NZICPA aircraft would still need to access the taxiway via the apron.

Do Nothing / Status quo The ‘do nothing’ option would require Whanganui Airport to continue to operate with existing infrastructure (taxiway) facilities. The current taxiway configuration restricts runway access in the winter and at night and, as aircraft movement numbers increase, would see an associated increase in the risk of runway incursions and potentially catastrophic aircraft accidents. This option is not recommended as it does not provide the desired safety or commercial benefits.

STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

Stakeholder	Influences	Key interests & issues
Ministry of Transport	High power/highly interested (Manage closely)	Whanganui Airport Joint Venture partner with 50% share of funding.
Key airport users (Air Chathams, Air Whanganui, NZICPA, Ravensdown Aerowork, Mid West Helicopters, and Wanganui Aero Club)	Low power/highly interested (Keep informed)	As key airport users these stakeholders are acutely aware of the safety issues associated with increased runway occupancy times and runway incursions.
Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)	Low power/highly interested (Keep informed)	As aviation industry and airport regulator.
Airways NZ	Low power/highly interested (Keep informed)	As provider of airfield ground lighting and publisher of the Aeronautical Information Publication New Zealand.
Itinerant airport users	Low power/interested (Monitor)	Occasional users of the airport to be informed of project developments.

Letters of support for the parallel taxiway have been received from Air Chathams, Air Whanganui, NZICPA, Ravensdown Aerowork and Wanganui Aero Club. Agreement in Principle for the parallel taxiway has also been received from the Civil Aviation Authority.

KEY CONSTRAINTS, DEPENDENCIES AND ASSUMPTIONS

Construction Module A of the parallel taxiway must be completed prior to, or in conjunction with, Modules B and C. Modules B and C cannot be completed in isolation. Due to weather related constraints the ‘window’ for laying the final asphalt surface is typically September to February.

NEXT STAGE

The detailed design of the parallel taxiway is being completed as part of the Runway 11/29 Resurfacing Project currently underway. This is due to the intersecting elements of both projects needing to be considered for the design of the runway surface. A Detailed Business Case has previously been prepared and will be updated to reflect recent changes.

Team Leader/Project Manager Self-Review		Strategic Panel FINAL score	
Strategic Fit	5	Strategic Fit	5
Benefits	3	Benefits	3
Economic Impact	1	Economic Impact	4
Level of Service Improvements	5	Level of Service Improvements	5
Risk of doing nothing	5	Risk of doing nothing	5

PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE TO COMPLETE

Communications team level of involvement: Choose an item. *(PMO to liaise with the Communications team)*

ELT REVIEW

Date: Click or tap to enter a date.

ELT Minutes Reference: Click or tap here to enter text.

Agreed next steps:

Click or tap here to enter text.

If this project is **approved for a detailed business case**, then –

Name and job title of Project Sponsor

Click or tap here to enter text.

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 778

Speaking

First name: Jim
Last name: Ennis

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: The building should be kept and the repertory theatre group helped to take ownership.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:**Gonville Library**

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:**Winter Gardens**

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:**Level of Community Grant Funding**

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:**Further comments on service cuts:****Proposed Future Investments****Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:**Hotel and Car Park**

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:**Royal Whanganui Opera House**

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Taupo Quay and Somme parade should be retained as arterial roads with heavy traffic encouraged as these are the safest the current raised crossing are too sudden and create unnecessary wear and noise. A structure over the road could be created to identify the area.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: need to identify specific assets and affect on community

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1015

Speaking

First name: Jillian Momona
Last name: Evers

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Davis Library for one day on the weekend instead of a weekday (add \$0.90 per property per year to the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: close on a sunday

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: while visiting Whanganui in 1940's for the first opera school concert. One of the lasting impressions was the beautiful flowering hanging baskets in the Victoria avenue precinct. Cost should be evenly spread over all rate payers, not 50% split between business and property owners and 50% to residential after all hanging baskets benefit the whole of whanganui

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Cut Community grant funding by 10 percent or \$110,000 (save \$11.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Reduce spending on public art that has no longevity such as murals, wall painting, footpath and road painting which in 10-20 years will be faded and unsightly, not to mention particles flaking off and ending up in the awa. (our existing artworks are an asset. eg bronze sculpture by paul dibble)

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: the sooner necessary infrastructure improvements are completed the cheaper it will be in the long run.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Council takes the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to outcome of detailed business case (Council's preferred option - this would add \$30 per property per year from 2025/26 through to 2038/39, after which the returns from the hotel and carpark will start to offset rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: an absolute essential asset to the safety and enjoyment of swimmers at castlecliff beach

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: land and reserves suitable for housing is a positive step. zoning, consents etc need to be stream lined by council to assist developers. I believe central government are moving in that direction

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: some councillors are conspicuous by there absence at public council events and meetings. the majority of our councillors are had working and very approachable.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 918

Speaking

First name: **Mary-Anne**
Last name: **Ewing**
Organisation: **Whanganui Regional Heritage Trust**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: The hanging baskets are part of the intrinsic heritage character. Perhaps cost reductions or contributions from businesses or community sponsorship could assist.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:**Gonville Library**

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:**Winter Gardens**

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: The Winter Gardens has heritage value and is a visitor attraction for all ages.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: We agree with increasing the pool of funds but only if the criteria are broadened to enable heritage, arts and cultural organisations to apply. There is currently almost nil funding anywhere for administration and other needs of these sectors. Eg: Quartz Museum

Further comments on service cuts:**Proposed Future Investments****Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:**Hotel and Car Park**

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The Trust is concerned there is very little information about the impact of the hotel and car park. If it's in the center of the town, we would be concerned about the impact on heritage and character of the center. The height of the building could be out of character and dimension to the other buildings, there might be risk of demolition to existing heritage and the design may clash with existing heritage character.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: We believe further investigation into keeping the existing theatre building but enhancing its capability needs to be exhausted before either Option 2 or 3 are seriously considered. We are concerned the community cannot utilise the expanded theatre to the extent the cost of Option 2 & 3 will cost. The building is what it is and has other limitations throughout the building which are self limiting and will always be an issue unless Option 4 is approved and then you might as well build a new building. The Opera House is not broken and outstanding events can and are still held. The Whanganui community is not huge and whilst the Opera House might at times attract a sell-out crowd, this is very occasional and cant justify the cost for renovation and the impact the new higher and wider exterior rear section will have on the aesthetics of building. It is likely the cost of Options 2, 3 & 4 will increase beyond that envisaged once building work starts due to complications in marrying old and new and ground site issues.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know**Submitter Comments:**

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know**Submitter Comments:**

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know**Submitter Comments:**

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know**Submitter Comments:**

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: The Heritage Trust is available as a advice group to assist with advice as Council work through various options that affect heritage. Heritage is undeniably one of Whanganui's key attractions and it may pay Council to update its economic study on the value of heritage. This would aid future applications to Lotteries etc in support of community projects such as the Opera House enhancement.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 198

Speaking

First name: Michelle
Last name: Excell

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: I think the library should aim to reopen all days within a set period of time, i.e. two years. It should publicly share how much money is required to reopen on that seventh day and ask for donations from the community - or donations in-kind such as volunteer time - to reach it's goal. It could also look at other ways of making more income. In parallel it should do a better job at promoting its services and attracting more regular visitors, especially from groups willing to pay! Audible (from our evil Amazon overlords) costs. Joining the library does not. Free streaming services. Free computer usage. There are so many wonderful services. I'm going to guess that some people rely on the library being open every day - or at least on the day it may close - and if that increases the quality of life for those residents then we should aim to reinstate it. This should not be a longterm closure.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: You have not provided clear financial information in any of your documentation. How long would the rates increase for the pool last? Surely we are just paying for the 2m investment to upgrade it - you don't indicate how long that will take by the way - and once that's paid off then it will be removed from rates again? If the council does not make the full \$250K to operate the pool each year it should increase the costs for those who can afford it. The pool provides an opportunity to learn to swim for lots of kids. That's invaluable. I imagine some schools who don't have pools use it, like Whanganui East School? It would be a shame if they lost access.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Unfortunately I don't think this affects as many people as the library or pool, but there does seem to be benefit in fixing that area up before selling it - at which point I imagine the 60c increase will be removed when Council make their money back? It's confusing that you aren't transparent with how long the 60c increase will be for. BUT it is important for youth to have community theatre spaces and it can launch careers of many types (acting, writing, AV, promoting, etc). So I would hope that the equipment and chattels could be sold or gifted to another theatre and some effort made to set up another space to be used in its place - either an existing theatre in a school or perhaps upgrading another community space to the level the Rep Theatre is now with it's good seats, stage, lighting and AV room.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Have you seen how many birds are at the lake?!? Aviaries are outdated. And cruel. I saw two Canada Geese in Mexico City zoo (don't go, it's awful) and it was the saddest thing I'd seen that year. Incidentally, does Whanganui have a council run bird rescue sanctuary? If it doesn't, the aviary could be turned into a rescue? Even temporarily as I saw there were some volunteers able to offer their vet and volunteer services. And can you offer proper food that doesn't give the freed, lake birds diabetes and pollute the lake? Could be \$1 or \$2 per bag for "feed" and be done in partnership with Animates or some other chain.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The financials provided don't help anyone make a decision on this. 93k a year for watering and maintenance doesn't seem reasonable. It may seem simpler to say keep them or scrap them because flower baskets are seemingly pointless, but they are lovely and I don't think anyone thinks they're BAD - even if they don't love them as much as others do. They are part of the town's appeal, and Vic St too given so many other issues with the street with Council allowing so many landowners let their buildings go into disrepair with no consequences. The flower baskets help obscure that a little. So, I think it's worth council asking some garden care specialists how much it really costs, getting more competitive bids - OR - reducing costs by asking Mainstreet to put in more (on behalf of biz owners) or for profit business like Mitre10 or garden centers who can then put sponsor signage up on certain blocks. If council employees are making up this cost, how does what must be approx 1/5 of a full time job (among other garden/park maintenance), even with overheads how does this equal 93k? And how much more can be saved by getting sponsors and biz owner funds for hard costs?

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: It's a big draw for not only tourists and people like us moving here from major cities that don't even have facilities as awesome as this. AND for local artists, or attracting artists to move here. But a roundtable on how it could turn more profit isn't a bad idea. See if we can't reduce that 192k per year and make it even more visible within the community and country.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: They're a bit lacklustre but they're nice enough. And you always 'pop in for a look' when up at the lake or showing friends around.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Infrastructure like this costs more if you don't stay on top of it. Not raised crossings and shit like that, but road sealing, clearing, retaining, signage etc. Roads here feel pretty unsafe in general having moved from California - where roads were AWFUL and not maintained, but didn't have half the number of unlit sections, narrow passes, or goddam blind corners that exist here. Seriously, there are so many opportunities for accidents here it is INSANE. You need a road safety review of blind corners, safe turn-offs etc

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: I almost have too much to say about this. I'll talk about it at the hearings. But in short, if it's not financially viable for an operator to be here, then why does the council think it will make money? We don't have enough consistent demand to make it full (enough) often enough. If a restaurant went into it it wouldn't be full enough regularly enough to operate. It smells of depression. But there are likely other ways to make it work! Council can give breaks to an operator if they do a study that shows how it will positively impact tourism and money-IN to the town. Making it worth it for council to give rates or tax breaks or gift land/property (for an investment of course that would return when the property turns a profit). Can it be half condo/half hotel and get residents to buy in with the commercial operator? And offer longterm stays alongside short term? Can it have a world-class (or even countrywide-comparable, not even close) restaurant? Something this city DOES NOT HAVE. There has to be a plan for when the hotel is less than half capacity. Council has no business running a business like this. And given the current state of hospitality in this town I don't think anyone here is capable of running something to the standard required.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments:**Marae Development**

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments: This needs to be better communicated. 43% of our under 15 youth in Whanganui are of Māori ethnicity so I would imagine that having strong Marae is essential to their well being and development. And if it's not, then there should be outreach by Marae to these young people - all young people regardless of ethnicity - to participate and make use of facilities, knowledge and connection. This is also infrastructure and underfunded infrastructure costs more in the long run or falls into disrepair, which doesn't help anyone.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: This is totally needed, our beaches are so f*cking dangerous!

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: This is sort of like the hotel (bear with me), in that we only have a ton of people crossing here *sometimes*. It feels like overkill. There are safe places to cross further into town. But that whole corner from Somme around to the Waimarie is dodgy to cross and traffic needs to slow the F down. Can you not put in something to encourage cars to slow here, making crossing safer in the meantime and then we reassess this in a few years? Also is there any impact info you could share if this is indeed a high priority? Accidents? Time it takes to cross (and showing that is a major issue)?

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: I mean, you totally need the study first before anyone can comment on this, but it would be great to have this earlier!

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: But also could you please look into condemning and forcing sale of some buildings on Vic Ave that you've let fall into total disrepair? It totally sucks, from George's Fisheries, to the buildings on the corner of Vic Ave and Guyton + Vic Ave and Ingestre. These buildings suck.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 715

Speaking

First name: Lacey
Last name: Farmer

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the drop off points for rural rubbish (save \$9.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts: Keep doing the great job your doing, thanks.

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Provide no funding to the project (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: No assets are sold to repay debt (add \$23 per property to next year's proposed rates rise of 10.6% and \$43 per year thereafter)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents **No**

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 350

Speaking

First name: **Catriona**
Last name: **Fisher**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: I initially thought it wouldn't make much difference but after I sat in the library for a couple of hours and watched the sheer no. of people (it was between 3pm -6pm so a huge no. of children and there wasn't even any after school activity scheduled) I realised that the \$2.30 a year saving is just not worth it to prevent people accessing this space 1 day a week. It's not just issuing books, it's one of the only places people can go in Whanganui without having to purchase anything. Everyone is able to borrow books for free. Use the internet for free. Access the current day's newspaper for free. Read to their children on a couch or study or apply for jobs or just be somewhere warm and dry. Whanganui lacks places where people can just be. The library is used by people from all walks of life every day in so many different ways. It's a crucial space in our town that is worth protecting access to. I know some must use it daily for company, shelter and warmth. The people this will most affect will be the elderly and the poor. It seems crazy to cut access to this facility in the face of no youth hub/space for teenagers in our town. My teenager uses this space weekly at various times on different days. I am so very grateful that she has somewhere safe and warm. She is grateful for the access to the internet and the friendly faces of the staff. In the absence of a Youth Space, this is the closest the teens in this town will get to one. Shutting the doors to the public 1 day a week doesn't necessarily mean people won't still be working there. There are still many jobs behind the scenes that will still need to take place regardless of whether or not the public can issue books. What are the costs associated with closing a day? What changes to contracts/redundancies will mean a cost to pay them out or change? Will this make the savings negligible? Would closing the Sunday make more sense than Monday when considering the weekly staff cost if everyone (apart from three staff issuing books) is still needing to be paid for the weekday work. I do not think any Library in NZ closes on a Monday as opposed to a Sunday. Also, there is no public transport in Whanganui on Sundays. It's a small (comparatively) amount of \$43,000 saved with this proposed service cut. There could be other ways to save the money within the library that don't involve closing one day a week. I think asking the librarians themselves would be a great start. I think the last thing they would want is to close a day and would be able to brainstorm similar savings without closing days. Do we need to continue the Mobile Library and the Home Library service in their current forms? At the \$150k and \$70k costs I think these could be worthwhile places to consider the cut instead. With library hubs opening up around Whanganui I wonder if the Mobile service is not as needed as it used to be? Schools could similarly access books in a similar fashion to the National Library, ordering by subject or topic and receiving a bundle by delivery. (linked)Lending service | Services to Schools (natlib.govt.nz) This could become a wonderful resource to busy schoolteachers. The old buses that had both adult and kid books were a great way for families to enjoy the mobile library. The new small vans are cramped and don't appeal to both adult and child audiences at the same time so are not as versatile. Could schools that need to build up their own libraries be helped by donating the children's books that are undamaged that the library sells in its sales, to those schools instead of running the mobile library out to them?

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: If the building is able to be sold, there is the possibility for it to take on a new lease of life. The cost of the retaining work could then be recouped from the sale of the building. This could come out cheaper than Option 1 once some or all of the money is recouped.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: I like the suggestion to gift this to a volunteer group. This would save the exorbitant staffing costs and the costs of demolishing the building. There are many passionate people keen to keep this facility. Maybe a vet could care for any sick or injured birds pro-bono in return for an advertising sign. A donation box could go towards food costs.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the drop off points for rural rubbish (save \$9.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: \$1.1 million is proposed to be spent, which is just under 2% of councils total spend. The harm 1% rate rises causes on 36% of our population has a combined impact far exceeding the harm that these organisations will have to endure.

Further comments on service cuts: I propose the following cuts: - Masters Games: A profitable and successful event that does not need \$100k of resident money to be successful. This should be stopped unless there is a significant risk that the event will be called off due to the \$100k. Our own people who are already employed for Tourism and Economic Development should be focused on this highly profitable event. - Climate Change Fund: \$110k is budgeted for this year with no strategy or outcome that benefits the people of our district. As per the answer to Cr Laws question in 2023, the surplus is likely to be spent on reports from consultants, instead of outcomes we need. Remove completely until needed. - Public Arts: \$176k a year on art becomes counter intuitive, art is an expression of the times and times are tight and our art scene should understand that.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments: Ask a philanthropist to pay for the entire overhaul and alter the name of the venue to their name if that's a draw card?

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?

3

(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: - CBD maintenance: \$1,421,000. Proposed to lock this in a one million, fixing costs allows innovation to ensure the maximization of outcomes. - Port: \$1,798,000. It is understood that costs have escalated on this project due to inflation, however, the return on investment now sits well outside the council's risk parameters. What work has been done to reduce spending?

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1568

Speaking

First name: **Lola**
Last name: **Fisher**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Davis Library for one day on the weekend instead of a weekday (add \$0.90 per property per year to the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts: The cutting of Youth Council without consultation is disappointing

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **1**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: It is disappointing to see the disestablishment of the youth council. Our voices matter, yet they're sidelined. We demand genuine engagement and representation. Disestablishing the Youth Council betrays trust and denies our right to representation. We're tired of being ignored. I will be making my oral submission on this.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 243

Speaking

First name: **Bill**
Last name: **Fleury**
Organisation: **Waitahinga Group Chair Bushy Park Trust**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes

Whanganui District Council Long Term Plan 2024

Submission from Waitahinga Group (Bushy Park Trust, Ngaa Rauru, Whanganui Tramping Club, Forest and Bird, Birds NZ)

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Long Term Plan consultation document.

We wish to speak to this submission.

Introduction

The Group notes that council has identified (p. 4) that it will work “*to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our community both in the present and for the future. Aspirational forward thinking is important and through our well being survey you told us we need to focus on local infrastructure, community togetherness, environmental stewardship and business development...*”.

We also note that Environmental wellbeing was ranked as the most important of the wellbeing areas (p. 15).

With this high ranking of environmental wellbeing, we are concerned to see that there is little provision in the plan to sustain and grow this wellbeing and that community initiative proposals, that would directly grow environmental wellbeing, did not receive favourable consideration by Council.

We also note that environmental stewardship is not an obvious strength of the LTP discussion document.

We submit that Council should reconsider its assessment of community initiative proposals.

Summary of the Waitahinga Management Plan initiative proposal.

During the community initiative proposal process we sought support from the community for the group to develop a draft management plan for the Council’s reserve land at Waitahinga. We sought seed funding to bring together a working group over two years to collate information, consider options, develop visions, goals and objectives and then prepare a draft management plan for the Council’s consideration. We saw the critical output of the process being the development of a clear vision for the future of the reserve and the maintenance of its natural heritage values while maintaining the economic value of the reserve to Council.

We anticipated that a management plan would then provide solid background for ongoing management and use decisions for the reserve and inform the next LTP process.

Support requested from Council was essentially:

1. “Blessing” for the project.

2. Seed funding of \$5000 over two years.
3. Engagement of Council staff to support the project with information or access to information.

We note that the Council Officer who undertook an initial business case assessment of the proposal recommended that the proposal not be supported, suggesting instead the development of a pest management plan. While we support the development of a pest management plan, we submit that such a plan must be anchored to clear visions, outcomes and objectives for the site. Thus, we consider that the management plan is critical to future decision-making and must come first.

The Waitahinga reserve.

The Waitahinga reserve is the largest natural area owned and managed by the Whanganui District Council. It is largely a combination of original old growth native forest, very old regenerating forest and a pine plantation. It contains the dams and structures associated with the areas previous use as a water catchment reserve. The area holds a rich variety of bird life including a robust population of popokatea (whitehead) and koekoea (long-tailed cuckoo), it's brood parasite. There are also credible records of titipounamu (rifleman) from the forest. The area contains the Waitahinga trails network created by the Whanganui Tramping club about 2010. Recent observations by users of the area have raised concerns about the impact of pest animals on the natural values of the area. Goats and deer have decimated the forest understory, tracking tunnels have identified high populations of mice, rats, hedgehogs and possums. Stoats, feral cats and ferrets have also been observed. The contributors to this proposal believe that the impact of pests will result in the collapse of the forest canopy, destruction of bird populations and the loss of natural values including those that sustain climate resilience, soil and water protection and are critical to the mauri of the area and the kaitiakitanga of Ngaa Rauru.

We submit that, as a key expression of Whanganui environmental wellbeing and future proofing for climate change, the community represented by WDC should support the development of a management plan that clarifies the future environmental stewardship of Waitahinga, its single largest area of natural heritage.

Submitted for the Waitahinga Group

Bill Fleury

Chair Bushy Park Trust

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 245

Speaking

First name: **Alistair**
Last name: **Fraser**
Organisation: **Digital Inclusion Alliance Aotearoa**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: I have attached a separate document with the Digital Inclusion Alliance Aotearoa's comments about digital inclusion.

Supporting documents **Yes**



Digital Inclusion Alliance Aotearoa

Submission by Digital Inclusion Alliance Aotearoa^{1 2 3}

for

Whanganui District Council draft Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

This submission to the Whanganui District Council highlights the critical importance of digital equity and inclusion within our community.

In your Long-Term plan 2024 to 2034, the following proposals are likely to be detrimental to digital inclusion in our community:

- Discontinuing the digital strategy 2019 implementation
- Reducing hours of operation and closing libraries
- Cutting community funding

We commend and support the following actions in your Long Term plan 2024 to 2034 that will encourage digital inclusion in our community:

- Development and resourcing of a digital strategy
- Increasing digital skills/learnings for everyone in the Whanganui community
- Retaining full operational funding for libraries
- Increasing the community funding pool
- Funding and support for community centres such as new buildings or collaborations

As we transition to a digital-first society, where essential services and interactions increasingly move online, it is imperative that everyone has equitable access to digital technologies.

This encompasses reliable internet access, appropriate devices, and the necessary skills to use these resources effectively.

The current state of digital exclusion in New Zealand disproportionately affects groups

¹ <https://digitalinclusionalliance.nz/>

² <https://steppingup.nz/programmes/>

³ DIAA Stepping UP Programme Delivery Report Y/E 30 June 2023 https://drive.google.com/file/d/1S9Z-xE97vnwB_T72H4wk9gkagZb21BjS/view?usp=sharing

such as Māori, Pasifika, seniors, people with disabilities, and those with low incomes or unstable housing.

Our proposal advocates for comprehensive strategies to bridge these digital divides, ensuring that all Whanganui district community members can participate fully in society, democracy, and the economy.

Through targeted support for public libraries and community organizations, along with strategic council initiatives, we aim to foster a digitally inclusive community that upholds the well-being of all its members, aligning with the twofold purpose of local government to enable democratic decision-making and promote the comprehensive well-being of Whanganui districts communities now and in the future.

Here is Jo Buckingham's excellently written template. It has been widely distributed throughout Aotearoa as a benchmark description for our digital inclusion and equity sector.

We are pleased to present this adapted as follows:

DECA Digital Equity and Inclusion Template – by Jo Buckingham⁴

Introduction and statistics

We are living increasingly in a digital **first** world where people must be able to go online to participate in day-to-day life. Our communities are **finding** more and more than they are required to go online to complete tasks that previously were done in person or by phone.

Many councils now require people to engage and perform tasks or access services through digital channels and be able to do online banking and payments. This covers a variety of activities: from registering your dog annually, applying for a building consent, to paying your rates or submitting to a local bylaw or long term and annual plan consultation.

Digital technologies are intended to make the cost of providing council services lower and so lower the increasing rates our community needs to pay. This is the same for other services like government forms, telecommunications, health and banking. But this can have consequences for those who cannot go online to the level expected or needed, resulting in poorer wellbeing outcomes for our people left behind. Many of our libraries and community organisations are left to support people by delivering digital inclusion initiatives created by digital transformation and the removal of face-to-face services on decreasing budgets and resources.

Looking around it may seem like everyone has internet access at home and on the go,

⁴ <https://www.digitalequity.nz/blog/council-digital-equity-template>

has a laptop, and the skills and support to navigate the online world safely and **confidently**. Unfortunately, that is not the case, and this is the current snapshot of digital exclusion in New Zealand

One in five New Zealanders	Digitally excluded in some way (Source: 2019 Department of Internal Affairs)
130,000 households	Without internet access (Source: 2018 Census)
380,000 households	Cannot afford internet and device access 58,000 of these are families on incomes less than \$42,200 (Source: Digital Equity Coalition Aotearoa, 2023)
20 percent of New Zealand adults	Lack the essential skills needed to use the internet safely (Source: BNZ Digital Skills Report)
77.7 percent of the Whanganui District	Reported access to the internet. This is lower than the New Zealand average of 86.1% (Source: 2018 Census summaries- <i>Housing: Telecommunications</i>)
Māori, Pasifika, Seniors, people with disabilities, and those with low incomes or low housing stability	Identified in the groups most at risk of digital exclusion in New Zealand (Source: Department of Internal Affairs, <i>The Digital Blueprint, 2019</i> ⁵)

To gain the **benefits** of digital, we need to as a community ensure that everyone has access to the internet and devices (such as laptops and tablets), digital skills, and **confidence** and support to get online. This end result is called digital equity. Some other terms used are digital enablement, digital inclusion, digital access, and digital divides.

The underlying issue is that if communities do not have access to the foundations, we can't hope to achieve the digital excellence needed to grow our local economy and create thriving communities. Councils play a key role in working with their communities at the lowest level (on the ground or at the grassroots) to achieve this.

A more detailed overview of digital equity in New Zealand

Digital equity exists when everyone can access and effectively use digital technologies so as to participate in our society, democracy and economy. Digital equity is our ultimate goal.

Digital inclusion refers to the initiatives and actions we undertake as we work towards digital equity. Digital inclusion is the means to achieve the goal.

The digital inclusion community in Aotearoa NZ generally uses the language of the four

⁵ <https://www.digital.govt.nz/digital-government/programmes-and-projects/digital-inclusion/governments-vision-the-digital-inclusion-blueprint/>

interdependent elements⁶ needed for a person to be digitally included. This is referred to as MAST:

Motivation: Understanding how the internet and digital technology can help us connect, learn, or access opportunities, and consequently have a meaningful reason to engage with the digital world.

Access: Having access to digital devices, services, software, and content that meet our needs at a cost we can afford; and being able to connect to the internet where you work, live and play. Access is a broad element, which can be broken into 3 key parts: connectivity, affordability and accessibility.

Skills: Having the know-how to use the internet and digital technology in ways that are appropriate and **beneficial** for each of us.

Trust: Trusting on the internet and online services; and having the digital literacy to manage personal information and understand and avoid scams, harmful communication and misleading information. This element also touches on online safety, digital understanding, **confidence** and resilience.

It is important to remember that digital inclusion is not just about having a device or internet at home, but all the skills and knowledge to be able to use them **confidently** and safely to be able to participate at the level needed for personal and wider overall wellbeing.

Certain community groups are at risk of not being digitally included, which includes **Māori, Pasifika, Seniors, people with disabilities, and people in situations such as low incomes or low housing stability⁷** that need more help and support to participate and **access better wellbeing outcomes that benefit the wider community.**

Why digital equity matters for local government

Digital equity in your community is foundational for meeting the purposes of local government

The purpose of local government⁸ is twofold:

- (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and
- (b) to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.

Having equitable access to digital services and basic level of digital skills means more people can participate in democratic local decision-making and action. Councils can engage with a wide range of their community to promote transparency and

⁶ <https://www.digital.govt.nz/dmsdocument/113-digital-inclusion-blueprint-te-mahere-mo-te-whakaurunga-matihiko/html#what-is-needed-to-be-digitally-included>

⁷ <https://www.digital.govt.nz/dmsdocument/113-digital-inclusion-blueprint-te-mahere-mo-te-whakaurunga-matihiko/html#appendix--groups-at-risk-of-not-being-digitally-included>

⁸ <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0084/latest/DLM171803.html>

accountability to achieve this first purpose. We know for a community to thrive, that the four well-beings - social, economic, environmental and cultural - are important and fulfill the second purpose of council. A New Zealand study in 2020 found that those with internet access tend to have higher wellbeing and richer social capital outcomes (e.g. voting) than those without access.

Digital equity supports localism

LGNZ concept of localism in action is communities that are supported by councils who bring together, enable and empower citizens to develop local solutions, and strengthen wellbeing⁹. In a 2019 Department of Internal Affairs digital inclusion stock take, it found 52% of initiatives were delivered by community groups and not for **profits**. Only 2% were by local government.

Supporting digital equity as a council gives life to localism. This is by recognising digital skills enable people to participate in local democracy and will increase their engagement and build a sense of belonging and pride in their communities. Council can promote localism by working with communities that provide local solutions to local barriers to getting online and demonstrating that locally led and enabled solutions provide the best outcomes to communities.

Digital equity enables economic development and growth

It is estimated in 2021 that digital technologies contributed \$7 billion towards New Zealand GDP with a sector annual growth rate of 10.4% since 2016, compared to the wider economy annual rate of 5.1% over the same period.¹⁰

Digital technologies offer the opportunity to grow local economies and offer higher paid roles. Digital also enables businesses and organisations to innovate and increase productivity but this is only successful if people are able to build and support the digital technology that is needed, and the community all have the required motivation, access, skills and trust needed to use them. The **benefits** of these tools rely on a community of digitally skilled people. This all starts with supporting people with basic digital skills and giving them the foundations to build on.

A report into the economic case in New Zealand for increasing digital inclusion by the NZ Institute of Economic Research Inc in 2022 gave a conservative estimate of the return of government investment into digital equity as \$3 of value for every dollar spent.

The role of libraries

Public libraries in New Zealand are access point for literacy of all types, including **financial literacy, digital literacy, information literacy, and health and wellbeing literacy**.¹¹ They are vital community assets that enable communities to share resources, connect and upskill local people.¹² Reducing library opening hours, staff resourcing and budgets

⁹ <https://localism.nz/why-localism/>

¹⁰ <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/assets/digital-technologies-industry-transformation-plan.pdf>

¹¹ https://publiclibraries.org.nz/Portals/42/MASTER%20-%20PLNZ%20Strategic%20Framework_Final.pdf?ver=2020-10-20-153216-897

¹² <https://lianza.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Annual-Report-2016-2017-FINAL.pdf>

or not investing in library spaces will increase digital barriers in communities and put at risk trusted place-based spaces that promote wellbeing overall.

LGNZ research in 2023 **confirmed** that libraries are important vehicles for delivering local services for local and central government and encourages councils to enable and resource public libraries to evolve their services and better enhance community wellbeing.¹³

New Zealand's public libraries provide a range of digital services including access to the internet, training (frequently in collaboration with external partners), support and encouragement to users. Without the support provided in libraries, some people would not be able to engage with or access necessary day to day services. Two examples of partnerships are:

- Skinny Jump¹⁴ low-cost internet access is provided through community providers. Over 27,000 were provided by June 2023 across 308 partners, of which 204 were libraries.
- The NZLPP programme¹⁵ that provided central government funding to libraries in response to COVID-19 showed the value of digital programmes in libraries and having dedicated staff with 25% of initiatives being focused on digital inclusion.

The council needs to look at innovative ways to continue to support these spaces, rather than take away from them and advocate keeping their important role. Partnerships, including advocating to the central government for more funding, are ways that you can support libraries to support our community rather than only viewing it as a short-term rate savings through reduction of services and budget.

More detailed analysis of libraries from Massey University

Massey University in their 2020 report ***Public Libraries as spaces for digital inclusion*** in their survey of library staff illustrated the level of support libraries are providing users.

93% indicated that they assisted library users more than once a week to connect a device to the internet using Wi-Fi, of which 43% were assisting users multiple times a day. Other tasks that library staff were assisting library users with on a regular basis were finding a website (85% more than once a week) and turning on a device and entering account information (81%, more than once a week).

The report recommended areas where public libraries and library staff can further develop capacity and capability to meet the future digital needs of their users and communities. This research provides a pathway for how council's should focus their support:

¹³ https://d1pepg1a2249p5.cloudfront.net/media/documents/Value-of-public-libraries-executive-summary_f2HD9Xx.pdf

¹⁴ <https://www.skinny.co.nz/jump/about/>

¹⁵ <https://natlib.govt.nz/about-us/collaborative-projects/new-zealand-libraries-partnership-programme/new-zealand-libraries-partnership-programme-reports/evaluation-of-the-new-zealand-libraries-partnership-programme>

- Prioritise the development of a digital strategy for those public libraries where a strategy does not currently exist and link it to the council digital strategy.
- Promote further development of partnerships with external partners (e.g. APNK Network, Spark Jump (now Skinny Jump), Stepping Up Programme) that support digital inclusion.
- Invest in professional learning and development to address **identified** barriers that hinder the digital needs of library users including lack of staff knowledge, time and capacity, funding, and physical resources (e.g. space, equipment).

What can councils do

Councils are key to enabling their communities to support those with barriers to being digital and online. The council are already doing many of these things and need to ensure they keep supporting and funding those activities. Councils can:

- Fund libraries so they can continue to be trusted spaces that provide free Wi-Fi and devices, digital support and a safe environment to seek help face to face when there are no alternatives
- Continue to provide and look at increasing targeted funding to the community organisations delivering digital inclusion initiatives relevant to the community
- Keep council community leases affordable and rate remissions policies that help lower the operational cost of community organisations so they can concentrate on supporting their community
- Commit to and resource digital equity in all council strategies. Make sure to consider the impact on community and disadvantaged groups, and their **specific** barriers to doing things online when considering digital-**first** or digital only services and other digital transformation. This includes looking at the digital skill sets, **and training needed by your internal staff to gain the full benefits of digital transformation**

Without digital inclusion, people in our community will struggle to access services, **education and employment. They will not be able to connect with whānau and friends.** And they will not develop the digital skills needed to grow the local tech sector (and other sectors) in our regional economy. Digital inclusion is an issue for people of all ages and stages and needs to be addressed appropriately in council planning and strategies.

In your Long Term plan 2024 to 2034, the following proposals are likely to be detrimental to digital inclusion in our community:

- Discontinuing the digital strategy 2019 implementation
- Reducing hours of operation and closing libraries
- Cutting community funding

We commend and support the following actions in your Long Term plan 2024 to 2034 that will encourage digital inclusion in our community:

- Development and resourcing of a digital strategy

- Increasing digital skills/learnings for everyone in the Whanganui community
- Retaining full operational funding for libraries
- Increasing the community funding pool
- Funding and support for community centres such as new buildings or collaborations

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 189

Speaking

First name: Fred
Last name: Frederikse
Organisation: Whanganui Musicians Club Inc. I chair the

maintenance committee.

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: Not a library user, buy books, mostly second hand

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: I learned to swim in the Whanganui East Pool in 1960 and would like to see it continue - it is the town's last public outdoor pool

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: The Whanganui Musician's Club model has been advocated - by councilor's and WDC staff - although I am not sure that they understand what our model is!

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: None

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Too labour intensive

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: neutral

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Fly tipping by Whanganui residents along Papaiti Rd is a concern to me. I have been known to stop an call flytippers "****ing pigs".

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: none

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: Entire parks and reserves need strategic planning

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: The WMC is largely self funding. Naturally any assistance would be appreciated. More to the point, based on past experience, simply being open to dialogue about jointly achieving positive outcomes.

Further comments on service cuts: no

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Our policy at the WMC is to upgrade infrastructure - electrical wiring, alarms (fire and security) water and heating, sound and lighting equipment.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: this is the business of a private investor, not the WDC.

Royal Whanganui Opera House**Don't know**

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: I already have one building to worry about

Marae Development**Don't know**

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: We run the WDC along the lines of an urban marae, and self fund.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service**Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)**

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: As a past member of the Surf Club and the landscape designer who drew up a development plan for the Castlecliff Domain my view is that the Surf Club building should be shifted to the nearby upper car park and the foredunes be allowed to naturally form - thereby saving the WDC thousands in sand moving costs. This proposal didn't go down well with Michael Laws in 2000!

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing**Something else (state below)**

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Close the entire road

Rapanui Road Trail**Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)**

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: not a priority

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which

Something else (state below)

assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: It is not an either or. WDC should be thinking about what assets to sell and what to buy

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: As well as becoming a nationally known and well used music venue, the WMC has run and maintained the old Savage Club hall for the benefit of the Whanganui community, at the same time paying a land lease and rates. In recognition there should be no increase in either. In the five years we have owned the building we (with the assistance of Four Regions) have three-quarters rewired the building, raised \$30,000 from Heritage NZ for a heritage conservation study (architectural, structural and fire), and we now have the support of Heritage NZ (a heritage plaque) and an informed, but cost effective, strategy for a program of maintenance and upgrading. We need some support at highest level from the WDC re site boundaries and surrounding buildings.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1299

Speaking

First name: **Nerrily**
Last name: **Frith**
Organisation: **Grey Power**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: For a lot of residents of Whanganui the Library is a important social aspect in their lives

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Until this recession is over. We need to prioritize what is most important.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Costs to bring up to code

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: As much as I hate to say close the Avery, I think at this point in time with the cost of living the way it is and cost to maintain the ivory. I think it should be closed.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: A real gem for Whanganui

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Another social hub in Whanganui

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Can't afford it

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Can't afford it

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: This is a want and not a need at this time

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Need to find money somewhere

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 142

Speaking

First name: **Helen**
Last name: **Garner**
Organisation: **Business Whanganui - Chamber of Commerce**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: From our member engagement and survey feedback 91.5% of respondents said they wanted WDC to identify a developer to fund and undertake these projects, regardless of how long it takes. They do not want these projects to be ratepayer funded.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: From our member engagement and survey feedback 79% of respondents supported the sale/rationalisation of Council-owned assets that do not contribute to community wellbeing, meet a future development requirement, or provide an acceptable cost to benefit ratio.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes

Business Whanganui Whanganui District Council Long Term Plan 2024-2034 Submission Supporting Document

Introduction

Business Whanganui hosted a discussion on the Long-Term Plan for interested business and community sector representatives on 17 April. Guest speakers were Councillors Glenda Brown and Josh Chandulal-Mackay and Transport Advocate Anthonie Tonnon. Councillors Rob Vinsen and Peter Oskam attended together with interested parties.

The points of significance raised by attendees at this discussion were used to inform the focus of ongoing one-to-one discussion and a short survey shared with the business community.

Our submission aligns to the outcome of these discussions and our survey results. The survey return was 25% of our membership, which we regard as being a valid level of response.

We have throughout the process also encouraged individual submissions to be made on matters important to individual business.

From our Survey

Our survey focused on the key areas of:

- Hotel and Carpark Development and Investment
- Sale of Assets
- Service Cuts
- Long Term Investment
- Plus, Public Transport for the Horizons LTP and included here for reference

Hotel and Carpark Development

Comment to Members from our LTP Discussions:

This project aims to meet the needs of our growing events, visitor, and business sectors. The addition of a multi-level carpark will provide long term parking for a growing number of visitors and CBD residents, as well as all-day parking for shoppers and CBD business owners and workers who use private transport to get to their place of work.

The preferred option of WDC is for them to take on the hotel and carpark development to expedite their build. If this (their Option 1) proceeds, development would start on the hotel in 2025/2026 and the carpark in 2027-2028. The combined cost for the hotel and carpark builds is noted as \$55m – rates contribution is expected to be \$30 per year per Whanganui property.

Our Question to Business:

Should we support the development of a hotel and multi-level carpark? To what degree? Thinking in terms of time, if a developer cannot be identified to undertake these projects in the immediate/near future, should Whanganui take the initiative and develop these using ratepayer funds – provided the business case shows demand for both and it is financially viable to do so?

Response Options:

8.5% I support the ratepayer funded development of a hotel and carpark by WDC if there is proven demand and it is financially viable. The sooner these projects are underway the better.

0 % I support WDC developing a hotel and carpark ONLY if a developer cannot be identified in the near future. I understand this will be rate payer funded.

91.5% I want WDC to identify a developer to fund and undertake these projects, regardless of how long it takes. I do not want these projects to be ratepayer funded.

0% I don't support the development of these projects.

0% Other

Sale of Assets

From our LTP Discussions:

\$16m is the amount proposed but of concern is that what assets will be sold has not been defined. We understand that around \$45m in assets have been identified for consideration. We might take a degree of comfort in knowing that Public Consultation would be required for some asset sales, for example reserves, but not for all – say, commercial land currently leased to businesses.

Our Question:

Should we support the sale/rationalisation of Council-owned assets that do not contribute to community wellbeing, meet a future development requirement, or provide an acceptable cost to benefit ratio?

Response Options:

79% Yes

19% No

0% We should encourage consideration of other options

2% Other: I support the sale of certain assets and want to know what these are prior to the sale, and I want to know who is making these decisions.

Service Cuts - based on the proposed rates rise for next year

Would you prefer to:

Note: we used a single choice question not a sliding scale

42.5% Reduce and close more services to get the rates lower

57.5% Keep more services open but see a higher rates rise

Long-term Investment

Would you prefer to:

Note: we used a single choice question not a sliding scale

0% Make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects

100% Increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui

Public Transport – Horizons – included for reference only

From our LTP Discussion:

Effective public transport connections are integral to our ability to attract and retain workers to our region, and for our businesses in Whanganui to remain viable and sustainable into the future. Transport connections contribute positively to various aspects of business operations and are known to improve productivity, reduce costs, lower environmental impact, and improve customer access. And let's not underestimate their contribution to growing our visitor market.

In our LTP meeting we discussed improving regional services - strengthening the connection between Whanganui and Wellington through the introduction of new services - 3-hour commute/trip via bus to Waikanae then train to Wellington and vice-versa. Also increased services to Palmerston North and Marton.

Within the city, improvements to our city bus network and focus on building ridership/ increasing users. In a comparable city like Nelson, with a population of 53,000, their annual ridership now sits at 800,000.

Our Question:

What level of support should we give to the development of our city-wide and regional public transport networks?

Response Options:

8.5% We should fast track public transport improvements for implementation at the Horizons highest price option

53% We should be staging public transport improvements at a lower cost

32% Keep the current service levels with no additional cost

0% Other

Contact:

Helen Garner

Chief Executive

Business Whanganui – Chamber of Commerce

ceo@businesswhanganui.nz

021 771 643

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 207

Speaking

First name: **Caroline**
Last name: **Gray**
Organisation: **N/A**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Please keep & maintain The Whanganui East Pool. This pool is in a good location to be used by a diverse population many of whom are on low incomes. At the Hakeke St LTP meeting we heard from a Whanganui East mother of five children who said the pool in Springvale is too far away & expensive to travel to when you don't have a car. This will be the experience of many in this area. The Whanganui East Pool operates with a more relaxed code of operation than the Springvale Pool. For example dive bombing off the diving board is permitted. My husband & I witnessed this unforgettable dive bombing spectacle at the pool last summer when the pool was packed with families. This pool is a fabulous resource for local youth.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: I attended the meeting to discuss the options for our Repertory Theatre. It was very well chaired by Helen Craig. I was impressed by the Repertory Committee's commitment & their informative comments made at this meeting. We were told the theatre's acoustics are some of the best in New Zealand. I would like our theatre to remain operating maybe run by a Trust. I looked at the bank behind the theatre. It is collapsing onto the building & needs urgent strengthening. Please let us keep this theatre where my husband & I have seen many great plays.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: I think it is an excellent idea to increase this Community grant funding. I am a repairer at Whanganui's new Repair Cafe which has been very successful. The Repair Cafe pays \$80 once a month to operate out of St John's Lutheran Church Hall in Harrison St & this new funding could potentially help us with that cost. Thank you for this proposal.

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Where would the Hotel be located? Hopefully not in the Ridgeway St block which would displace & ruin many successful businesses such as the existing Underwear shop, Hairdresser, Alterations shop, Ambrosia Cafe (one of the best cafes in town) & Craig Cawley's magnificent music shop The Gatshack! We will be watching where you propose to put it with interest!

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments: The Opera House is one of the jewels in Whanganui's crown. I have seen many wonderful shows there. It is wonderful that it has been so well maintained so far.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments: The Iwi & their marae in Whanganui deserve our respect & thanks for the community work they do. They also need good funding to do this. Let's endorse Whanganui's strong biculturalism with this funding.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: The surf life savers do a great job on our potentially dangerous swimming beach at Castle cliff. We felt safe swimming under their watchful eye last summer.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Could a pedestrian overbridge be put over Taupo Quay in this location? It wouldn't then impede trucks & traffic on this busy road. Maintaining access from the away to this historic park is commendable.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a

Don't know

feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: I would like to reactivate the project of 'What's Next' for the Upokongaro Memorial Hall into The Long Term Plan. I have formed a group who want run a campaign about restoring the hall OR establishing another use for the hall. So far our group have met with Sarah O'Hagan & Rosemary Fletcher at Council to discuss the hall. At the meeting we obtained the various 2023 building assessment & compliance reports requested by The Council concerning Upokongaro Memorial Hall. The reports contain some photos showing the state of the hall inside & out. I recently met with Helen Craig & she has endorsed my intention to seek opinions about what should happen to the hall from the Upokongaro Community business owners, Church & School officials, Iwi & the community around the

nearby hall at Horrocks Park on Kaiwhaiki Rd. I would like to request that The Council include Upokongaro Memorial Hall in its maintenance plan to fumigate the hall against borer as the hall is already showing a bad presence of borer in its woodwork. Thank you for reading my comments.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1637

Speaking

First name: **Mike**
Last name: **Green**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Get rid of the library bus. There are libraries in most suburbs.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Look at lining the pool to stop leakage. Drownings are increasing every year. Council should be obligated under Health and Safety to protect their ratepayers.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Agree with this. Wanganui has enough halls for plays etc.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Keep it open and look at Wanganui Bird Society in conjunction with a service club running it and even covering any modifications needed.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Put the cost on to Main Street who would then get income from its members subs

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Set it up as a company and sell shares were does the money from sales go?Perhaps charge a rental for the floor space.Would like to see a breakdown of costs for 192k

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Interesting that you don't include in your comments about how much per household that will cost

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Don't like the word REASONABLE to vague.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Don't know

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Council should not be subsidizing a building that in 20 to 30 years will probably need replacing due to the elements. There is already a building at the beach that doesn't get used. Swimming season only 3 months anyway

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: If anything just paint a pedestrian crossing on the road.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Things in the Art Gallery and Museum.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Thanks for the chance to comment

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 123

Speaking

First name: Samuel
Last name: Haines

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Nothing needs to change as there should be enough money from this year's rates increase.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: There should of been a feasibility study done before this even made it to the proposed rates increase.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: They need to go to their insurance company and run all feasible plans past them before getting council to fund this project because if it is a major issue the building could potentially be condemned.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: No rates increase need because all funds needed to cover this should of been in the latest rates increase.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Remove all hanging flower baskets because it is rotting the awnings of the historic building on the avenue and becoming an eyesore.

New Zealand Glassworks

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: I don't see how this has anything to do with rate payer if it is owned by council and you are trying to find an independent buyer this is a conflict of interest and should be removed from here immediately.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: I do not see how this is an issue for funding because if it has worked so far with current funding and with the rates increase already it should already be funded.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: This problem of funding should have been addressed when the initially build plans and feasibility of the gonville library when it was initially developed and should have been incorporated in it's running costs.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: If the running cost have been that amount so far how are rate payers needed to fund it now and if so that should already be funded from the latest rates increase not future ones.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Cut the fund completely as so far it has provided a confusing sculpture that the public were not consulted on and also took 4 years to complete utter waste of tax payers money as his family own and historic wanganui which is being renovated so should have been privately funded not tax payer funded also he live in palmerston north so technically he is not currently not a wanganui resident.

Further comments on service cuts: Yes, as a local wanganui resident your current rate increase throughout all suburbs was outrageous because if all new builds and subdivisions are rate income for council that should be enough for future costing. I believe that there needed to be a thorough independent investigation of spending because all budgets should have been appropriately managed to avoid over spend.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: If council managers that amount for infrastructure why does it need more plus it also get funding from government.

Hotel and Car Park

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Cancel this plan it is a waste of money that can be spent elsewhere as it will just end up being emergency housing for the homeless problem that is happening already.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: If it is a health and safety concern then it needs to be taken up with their insurance provider and if it is major there needs to be a feasibility proposal, also if the building is owned by the council then again it's a conflict of interest and should have been addressed when you purchased the building, not rate payer concern or problem.

Marae Development

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Why does this concern rate payers they get private funding from the government and treaty settlements to cover this if you choose to fund this it should be at your cost not rate payers.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: They need to do what all business do and go to the banks for funding and if the banks won't provide them the money then it's not a feasible option.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: If road layout has worked so far then leave it be.

Rapanui Road Trail

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a

feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: This is a waste of money and it is just going to end up in some getting hurt walking or cycling in a 100km road keep them to city limits.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: All purchases of buildings and assets should have been assessed for feasibility before purchase and should not be rate payers problem now and it is also a conflict of interest if we got increased rate due to you not selling them. This need a independent review to see where all councils spending is going because it sound like misappropriation.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **1**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **1**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: There need to be more clarity in where all the money has gone and is going.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1546

Speaking

First name: Elaine
Last name: Hampton

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Davis Library for one day on the weekend instead of a weekday (add \$0.90 per property per year to the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Should be Sunday I think

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Whanganui East deserves its pool. The other option is long term never never land

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Lovely building which should survive. The theatre should become iconic like Bats in Wellington. Civilization is at stake here

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Keep the Aviary, add a gold coin entry fee, similar to the charge for the fountain

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: The hanging baskets attract many of our visitors, poor choice to remove

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Something so attractive to visitors should be kept in Council control

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: No brainer

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Gonville is not an affluent suburb, so it needs entities like it's library

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: No brainer

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts: Would like to review the whole council balance sheet, hopefully on line?

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: NZTA as was, limited the number of our roads that they would maintain some years ago. This should be remedied. Also we need more contribution from the huge lorries and haulage trucks pulling wood out of our area. These are the most damaging to our roads. Also pedestrians and bicyclists and mobility scooters need prioritising

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Council involved in a 5 star hotel project is not core responsibility. If such a hotel was a going proposition a private company would build it. I would strongly object to such an item worthy

of Wellington where vanity projects allowed the streets to be flooded with waste which is their core business

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: What income does the Opera house bring into council? Or is it through rates and visitor business? I think leave as is until better information is available re borrowing against income

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Marae must be supported. How much was dedicated to this previously. ?

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: Find it. NZ has a very high drowning rate

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Need more information on the plans, good idea, access to the awa? Pedestrian crossing. Where would traffic be diverted to, if you are envisioning a bridge, the No

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which

Something else (state below)

assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Sale of the electric company for a paltry \$13 million was a disaster for users. Each item should be debated and carte blanche cannot be an acceptable way to garner consent

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Keep iconic Whanganui going by

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 495

Speaking

First name: **Tatjana**
Last name: **Hanne**
Organisation: **Stratford District Youth Council**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes

Dear elected members of the Whanganui District Council.

Thank you very much for providing the opportunity to submit to the Long Term Plan for the Whanganui District.

This is a submission from the Stratford District Youth Council, one of the longest standing Youth Councils in New Zealand.

We note your proposal to disestablish the Whanganui District Youth Council and to replace some of its functions with a councillor holding a youth portfolio. The overall cost saving achieved appears to be just over \$40,000 per annum - or less than 0.04% of Whanganui District Council's annual rates intake.

While we appreciate that we don't reside within your district, we believe we are in a unique position to highlight the value a Youth Council can bring to a district and its residents; particularly its younger residents - but not exclusively. Just like elected members, Youth Councillors have families, go to school, play sports and so on - and as elected members will know from their own experience, the best engagement happens outside of council chambers. Just like elected members connect formally and informally with their peer groups, Youth Councillors are a primary conduit between council, families, schools, sports clubs and so on. They are your eyes and ears in areas and on subject matters you may not have a natural affinity to.

The establishment of a youth portfolio is commendable, but this should be in addition, not instead of having a Youth Council. As a young person, having an adult speak for you can feel disempowering and frustrating. It can leave you feeling as though your voice, experiences, and perspectives are being misrepresented or overlooked - often this is totally unintentional, but just like the game "chinese whispers", if you are not part of the conversation, the message that is received at the other end may not quite be what it was at the beginning. While adults may have good intentions in advocating on behalf of youth, their understanding may not fully capture the challenges and aspirations that young people face or have. This disconnect can create a sense of alienation and diminish a youth's sense of agency in shaping decisions that directly impact their life.

Feeling sidelined in discussions about your own future can create resentment and disengagement, ultimately hindering the ability to develop the skills and confidence needed to become active participants in society. It's essential for adults to recognise the importance of amplifying youth voices rather than speaking on their behalf, fostering an environment where young people are empowered to advocate for themselves and contribute meaningfully to the conversations that affect them. At a time when trust in institutions, such as councils, is at an all-time low, direct connections between community and decision makers, such as achieved through a well functioning Youth Council are an effective and efficient countermeasure. Trust can't be bought, it needs to be earned and a Youth Council assists in earning the trust of your future ratepayers.

The decision to close the Whanganui District Youth Council undoubtedly represents a missed opportunity for the community. Beyond just a loss in youth engagement, it signifies a failure to recognise the invaluable contributions that young people can make to local

governance and community development. By shutting down the Youth Council, not only are youth voices silenced, but the potential for innovative ideas and fresh perspectives to drive positive change is also impacted.

The closure of the Whanganui District Youth Council represents more than just a loss of engagement; it signifies a loss of empowerment for young people within the community. By dismantling a platform where youth could voice their concerns, advocate for their interests, and actively participate in decision-making processes, the community sends a message that the opinions and contributions of young individuals are not valued or respected. This loss of empowerment can have profound effects on the confidence, self-esteem, and sense of agency among youth, diminishing their ability to actively shape their own futures and the future of their community. Without avenues for meaningful participation, young people may feel disempowered and disconnected from the institutions and processes that govern their lives, perpetuating a cycle of disengagement and disaffection that ultimately undermines the well-being and vitality of the community as a whole.

While the decision to close the Whanganui District Youth Council may appear to save costs in the short term, the long-term consequences could result in far greater financial damage. By neglecting to invest in youth engagement and participation, the community risks stunting its own growth and development. Without avenues for young people to contribute their ideas and perspectives, the community may overlook innovative solutions to emerging challenges, leading to inefficient use of resources and missed opportunities for economic and social progress. Additionally, youth who feel like they don't have a say in their own community may become disengaged from their communities, potentially leading to increased social issues and higher costs associated with addressing them in the future. Investing in youth now is not only an investment in their future but also in the long-term prosperity and sustainability of Whanganui as a whole.

The closure of the Whanganui District Youth Council also has profound implications for hauora (holistic well-being) within the community. By silencing the voices of young people and denying them avenues for participation in local governance, the community risks undermining the mental, emotional, and social well-being of its youth population. Feeling marginalised and excluded from decision-making processes can contribute to feelings of isolation, disconnection, and disempowerment among young people, ultimately impacting their overall hauora. Furthermore, without platforms for youth engagement, the community misses out on opportunities to address issues such as mental health, substance abuse, and social inequities that disproportionately affect young people. Thus, the closure of the Youth Council not only diminishes the voices of youth but also undermines efforts to promote hauora and ensure the well-being of all members of the Whanganui community.

The Whanganui Districts Youth Council was more than just a group; it was a symbol of empowerment and inclusion for young people. It provided a platform for them to express their concerns, advocate for their interests, and collaborate with local leaders to effect positive change. Its closure not only diminishes the voices of young people but also undermines the principles of democracy and community engagement.

Youth involvement in local governance is not a luxury; it's a necessity. It's about cultivating the leaders of tomorrow and building a community where everyone feels valued and heard.

Moving forward, it's crucial for community leaders to recognise the importance of youth involvement in decision-making processes and take proactive steps to re-establish platforms for youth engagement and participation. By fostering an environment where young people feel valued, respected, and empowered, Whanganui can harness the full potential of its youth population and create a more vibrant and inclusive community for generations to come.

We would like to finish our submission with a whakataukī:

‘Tukuna te rangatahi kia tū, kia whanake’ - Allow youth the opportunity to grow

This proverb is of Ngāti Maniapoto origin. Maniapoto was still in his youth when he succeeded the mantle of tribal leadership. Here youth are afforded the opportunity to lead in their respective strengths at an early stage in their life – a formula for rangatahi engagement. This is consistent with youth councillors representing the rangatahi and tamariki of their rohe.

Disestablishing the Whanganui youth council is removing an opportunity for your city's young people to grow, and we encourage you to reconsider this decision in order to ensure Whanganui itself grows stronger, more resilient, and more future focused.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to submit on your long term plan.

Kind Regards,

Tatjana Hanne
Youth Voice Liaison
Stratford District Youth Council

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 530

Speaking

First name: T.R.
Last name: Harris

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes

T. R. HARRIS

Wanganui 10/4/74

TEN YEAR PLAN.

Dear Panel, I believe that "Cornmarket Reserve" should be developed as a high-end gated housing complex, similar to Caversham Park, Springvale. Wanganui ratepayers would have forgone \$50 million since it became a "Reserve".

(1955/56)

I can remember working in a butcher shop in Pitt / Dublin St, with 2 houses and Dublin St. adjacent, an 1 (Gas dept. owned) in Pitt St. Further down Pitt St were a ladies bowling / croquet greens) built after the condemning / destruction of houses in the late 1940s.

Early Wakefield survey clearly show residential sections on Tongariro Quay (later Somme Pde).

I suspect people in Lower Pitt St would have lobbied Council for the Reserve to inflate the value of their properties. - Bob Harris.

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1103

Speaking

First name: Harry
Last name: Hawtree

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: I saw that you want to extend the library however also close it for one day a week the Davis library is a popular place where me and many of my friends go after school to study.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Whanganui east pools are an important place for the young people of Whanganui and an excellent asset to encourage families in this town.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: .

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Again if you don't want a town full of old people you need to keep family attractions open

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Would be a nice to have however not a Nessaracy

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: This is an excellent asset that can help grow the art scene in town

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: This is also an excellent place in whangnau when I used to work in tourism I would often recommend people visit.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Cut Community grant funding by 10 percent or \$110,000 (save \$11.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: We need to focus on more important things

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Let's pay it now so it isn't hundreds of dollars per rate payer in a few years

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Council takes the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to outcome of detailed business case (Council's preferred option - this would add \$30 per property per year from 2025/26 through to 2038/39, after which the returns from the hotel and carpark will start to offset rates)

Submitter Comments: This is a good idea and needed

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 4 - Full upgrade, including front of house improvements (add \$74 per property per year for 20 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: Whangnau keeps missing out on national tours because the opera house isn't to standards.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: We have more important things to worry about

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: This is unnecessary this will create significant delays while it's built we also are making cuts to more important services for this to happen.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: No assets are sold to repay debt (add \$23 per property to next year's proposed rates rise of 10.6% and \$43 per year thereafter)

Submitter Comments: Assets are assets let's not sell them off let's turn them into money makers!

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 869

Speaking

First name: **Phill**
Last name: **Haynes**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Monday is the quietest day in town - according to the CBD digital parking receipts - & businesses treat Monday as an action or admin day, so this day is also the most employed day, where part time jobs (outside retail, who often close on Monday)..... For Students doing research (& any business people for that matter), Monday would also be the least frequent day to be either out of studies/classes or in town. Monday would appear to be the best day to choose, as well as being better for staff adjustment than say 2 hours a day less.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Keep the pool open for another year, while do the feasibility study in the background - limiting the deadline for the study to 8 months, giving 4 months for Councilors to consider proposals over a few Council meetings & form a background team to focus on this issue. During that time - start a give-a-little fund or similar to rally funds & investment support, it's a key facility & our town should avoid doing the minimum or just offering the basics for the sake of trying to have a % rate increase lower than others... the % is irrelevant, if a service & amenity is a community focal point. It also appears to me to be about \$0.50c or \$1 too cheap & for a period of time once investment made - the price needs to reflect any improved facility or service. Perhaps its time to investigate a community combined activity membership card - where membership gets access to a selection of facilities and ratepayers opt-in or out of the household being members or not? Create separate fund for this - otherwise we will just face this issue with amenity and amenity after activity after activity, as they age & require an investment - just like the Velodrome - we made that into a drama too like we've made the pool & aviary into dramas - there's always going to be something in our community activity facilities, every 3 years needing \$2-5m of investment - next LTP it'll be museum, or splash centre, or Cooks Gardens, etc.etc.... The town needs an Activity amenities investment fund or Trust & a membership to or stock holders to contribute & rally to it.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Do not demolish it - \$250,000 seems a bargain to maintain the heritage & the facility. In the assessment of a sale - consider if a Trust can be formed for it to be bought then leased back to the users. Or continue its use for at least another year, while the users pay a higher fee for its

use - or some sort of membership/club fee/support foundation, and other alternative methods of funding support & other uses outside the plays/acting use. What part-time or full time day use opportunities can be diverted to it? Find a way to fix it, maintain it & provide the use - if necessary add technology facilities to provide wider use coverage.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: This was already voted on to maintain & keep it - regardless of any other issues of current financial environment, this facility is a great family & visitor focus & in my opinion you've already had your community response only a short time ago, if anything financial costs, inflation & economic activity is slight improving at a slow rate, so there is no real justification for this other than trying to achieve a certain % look & find another \$1m savings to 'fill the page' put on the list... > look elsewhere, or be satisfied with what other items you've found.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: This item doesn't sound like it needs to be all or nothing for an LTP period of 3 years - if necessary and the community is split on this then opt for a 1 yr on 1 yr off type approach or only half as many ... there are also volunteers who may have a particularly keen interest in this who could donate or fund per basket. I would suggest for this LTP one of the additional items should be to pool together a list of 'optional' mixed acceptance or limited user support as items to find voluntary contributions for... e.g. WDC LTP core Budget + \$1m Pool of Optional Voluntary funded items like this - then ask for additional voluntary contributions from ratepayers or donations - that not all would opt into, but some would, & probably enough to average out to cover a cost... Like a Round-up at checkout - or instead of the automatic early payment discount, which is actually only really benefitting the well-off, give the option to those, to still pay the higher full amount & donate the early payment discount to the Pool of Voluntary Optional annual items...

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: IF there is a need for a contribution - then could there be higher or new commercial fees that could be made or increased for usage & providing services? e.g. online webcam subscription ? or similar set of services to raise a few \$000's a year. Set the users the task to fund raise.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: ask for gold coin donation - or combine with the fountain gold coin fee. Also provide a QR code reader to become a supporter with a voluntary donation of \$2, \$5 or \$10.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: I would also recommend during this LTP - look at how to bolster this by also creating a short-list of un-funded grants, that missed out - to request of the community additional voluntary funds to cover the causes - on the basis of "these causes & needs would be approved if the funds were available & meet criteria - can we have some extra help please". Request this of any rate payer who pays up front, or who takes the early payment discount, therefore well-off enough to have disposable income to gift or devote to worthy causes.

Further comments on service cuts: I don't believe that service cuts should be a pre-requisite of a good budgeting process, unless it finds waste & marginal uses/benefit services. We should not chase a minimal rates increase just because some EMs campaigned on being able to make better services, find waste & balance books from savings - it was naive to expect or to promise to achieve that. What ever the rates increase needed in \$ terms that is then what the % increase is - there is hardly any relevance to comparison across councils or other areas, we have our own scale, topography, needs, demographic & climate - this mix of variation make chasing a % a vanity & poor measure. For example Hawkes Bay with its exceptional issues would expect a higher increase than a council with no climate issues. Southland compared to Whanganui would be irrelevant - yet both are in an average. So my opinion would be - treat each service cost \$'s, each headcount, each programme or project in its own merits, if it has justified benefits in the professional opinion of your officers & EMs combined, then so be it - the cost is justified & whatever inflationary increase is needed it is what it is - maybe theres an alternative material or product or method - but if the service has been justified, keep it in the budget, regardless what % it results in - we can't expect rates not to go up - there are more of use, ageing, more needs for an expanding town - and we don't have the scale benefits yet to see per capita or rates account savings from more population yet. There have been issues, of caps & spend limits causing issues to worsen, especially in roading & infrastructure that needed doing last year - like SH3 & pathway repairs, which waiting until a new financial year is just increasing risk. I for one have had to repair an alloy wheel & tyre in 2022 because WDC & NZTA didn't fix a pot hole that everyone was aware of, until the 2023/24 budget allowed! There'd be others, less fortunate or more consequential damage, or could lead to accidents. Don't let us fall for such false economies.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: In my opinion - such investment is a core & significant part of a local economy & employment generation or maintenance - local & central government are responsible for the greatest

one provider of economic activity in any area. Jobs, activity, investment yield incomes, spend, having local circular & cyclic economic benefits - don't stop this sort of item, some of these are what provides the income to the ratepayer base & expansion. Just take great care to spend as much of it as local as possible, because as an area of net income from central funding, we stand to benefit ourselves & the prosperity & wellbeing of the community.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Council takes the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to outcome of detailed business case (Council's preferred option - this would add \$30 per property per year from 2025/26 through to 2038/39, after which the returns from the hotel and carpark will start to offset rates)

Submitter Comments: be bold & go for it - perhaps even ask the community for seeding investors to retain a certain stake or land ownership or a cooperative approach? There will be ways - but do consult & involve local business & property owners/investors, there are some sane & sensible people in our town & also key events, amenities, businesses that would benefit & share in such a success..... Masters Games, Collegiate, Velodrome, Cooks Gardens, Airport, Conferences, Agriculture, Port manufacturing, regional farming/livestock groups, road tours, Club events, etc.etc. not just the air school.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: Plan front of house in first year of next LTP. Then, during 2024-25, in this LTP period - look to gain voluntary donation funding to do the front of house improvements in 2028/29, or bring forward a year or two from next LTP into this. On this topic - i would suggest this aspect of additional projects list to find additional voluntary funding for is explored as a committee focus approach. Starting with asking ratepayers to offer an additional voluntary amount "release the early payment discount to extra projects", Round up your rates voluntarily to the nearest \$10 or \$100 to donate for the extras optional projects & needs list", or "We are your local non-profit organisation that benefits your community - please donate an additional monthly/quarterly amount \$10, \$20, \$50 \$100 etc.." like a political party asking for support?

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSL as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: This is a key service & youth development project. Take a lead to help them also find other & future funds. But also caution them in over-facilitising, \$5-7m sounds an ambitious amount of asset/facility given properties & resources possibly available in our area to adapt/modify or build on.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: install a simpler crossing & raised section by the end Bell st, by the steam shed.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments: this is an under utilised connection to the town - it should be more useful & available for non-vehicle. The cars travel too fast along it - the speed limit also needs reducing, some of the corners/bumps & cambers are poor for the average vehicle, which is usually now an SUV or ute, or an old poor condition car with younger travellers.... This mix of users means its not a cycle route for the average cyclist - its discouraging - especially given the proximity of the Botanical gardens attraction too. Limit the speed to 80km/h. Add the trail Add traffic calming & safety measures - it is a serious accident waiting to happen....

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Explore this option - but be clear what the assets of the Community are - list ALL, then the short list within that. I personally would only devote HALF of any funds raised to debt repayment - debt is not a bad thing at the moment, it may be hard to come by in 5-10 years time.... So i would recommend invest the other half in projects that yield alternative growth/community longer term benefit or more productive assets. Be bold - don't be debt free, or debt less, strive to be better positioned to enter the next LTP!

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? (Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

5

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: I have two Submission Proposals. 1) Implement a community cooperative fund raising approach, to ask for Additional voluntary Contributions towards rates, donations to wards optional extra services/facilities/investment, or a Trust investment fund etc. > like at checkouts , e.g McDonalds or charity requests, where your asked if you want to top up, or round up to include a donation, or support a cause. > this could be implemented when people pay rates online at 'check-out' or as they pay. > If this is successful, later in the LTP or next LTP, we could increase Community Grants, or create an additional Local Wellbeing fund, or Investment Seeding Trust, or we could also offer a small concession to those who are struggling by offering for them to 'Round down to nearest \$10 or \$100, while we ask for people to "Round up" ... it may balance out some - it may foster a greater sense of community & find a better equilibrium sensitivity that the more rigid rating process cannot be sensitive to. 2) Start planning & project to implement Park & Ride facilities at the entrances to SH3 & 4 - using existing under-utilised & available space. There are three key easy convenient areas that could be start of these projects that are on or close to bus routes & cycle ways - to help alleviate town centre parking & traffic, this will be future proofing us also for when the Sarjeants Gallery also gets busy & help justify & bolster the additional routes proposed. I can provide more details - but for us as a town we have some ready resource & spaces available & could achieve this easily - we don't need grand scale or new facilities just an agile approach to getting on with it. As a small provincial town, we will add a feature that punches above our weight & also adds to our network of public transport services cost effectively & add to regional connections. > Can submit materials to show & have also proposed this as a joint activity with Horizons into the Horizons LTP. I will submit a file to support for presentation..

Supporting documents

Yes



Submission 1:
Be Bolder & Ask for More
*Simple Round-ups
& local Philanthropy*

1st: Option A – the preferred option, all the way 😊

Don't Only Just do the basics

In this environment giving options is all the more important than normal

Yes, be prudent, be careful, but don't be miserly,
many of us look for leadership, we don't want Scruge
- many are asking what should we do, what else can we do...

There's two things for sure in government, local or central:

- 1) You're always wrong
- 2) You're definitely wrong, if you believe there's only one way.....

Don't demand, don't force like nay-sayers,... ask for permission to do more 😊



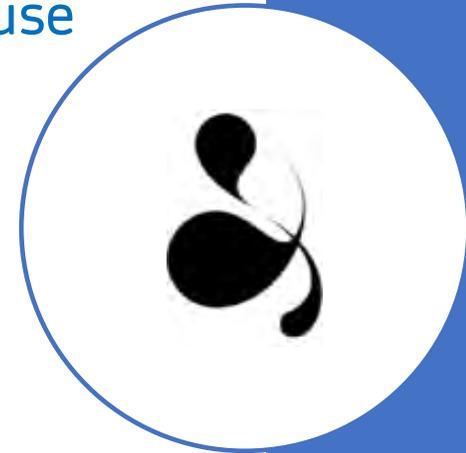
It's good to Do the Basics Well.....

*But, it's irresponsible to **Only Just** do the basics*

We are in times when inflation & economic recession has been hi-jacked

The Cost of Living Crisis, originated in Europe & UK as political reasons to blame events not politicians or leadership, it's become the banner excuse to do nothing, to avoid a cost or investment, or for austerity.

Meanwhile None of it is targeted in any way to help those who need support most, always starting with cuts in benefits or services.



Submission 1:

There is an easy way for organisations to set an example.

Start the ball rolling, kick off being different, to make a difference > no-one is asking the well-off to help,

I suggest we *Ask them to contribute* >>>



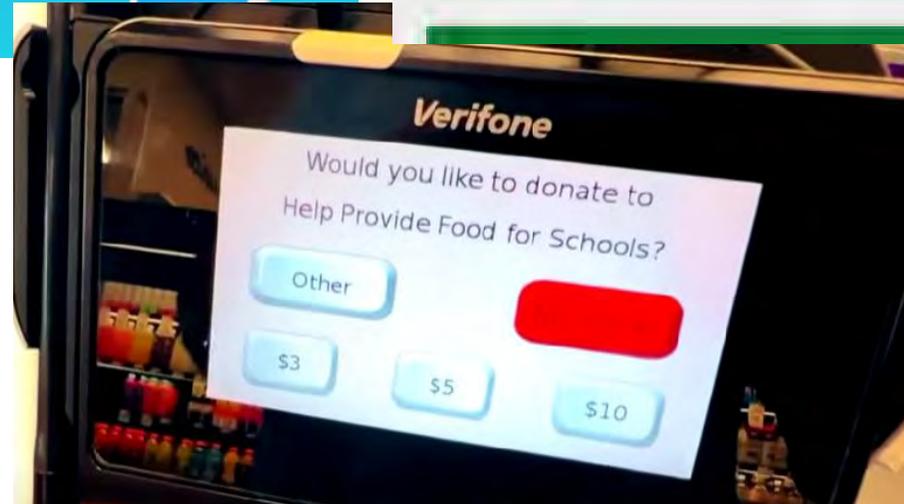
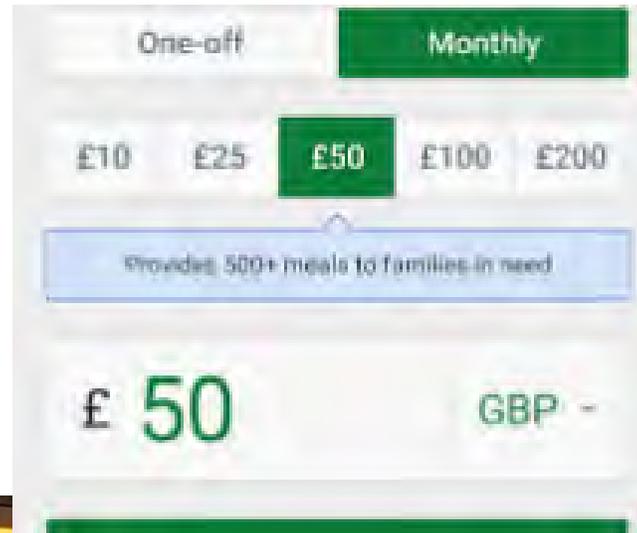
It's good to Do the Basics Well.....

It can be irresponsible to *Only Just* do the basics

How do we afford to do more, Ask for a bit more to provide the extras

ROUNDUP at Checkout

Let customers
donate change
from transactions.



It's good to Do the Basics Well.....

It can be irresponsible to *Only Just* do the basics

Start Your Order

Your Order

Round up your total today to help RMHC families in your community and around the world.

Round up \$0.76

Or

Not Today

Checkout • \$ 22.49

Round up your transaction or add a donation in support of **Team Red, White & Blue**. We will match your donation up to \$ 5.00.

ROUND UP \$ 0.51 **DONATE \$ 5.00** powered by Pledge

Choose amount

Stand with Cake4Kids in supporting at-risk youth across the county! They deserve to know they matter.

Choose amount: \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1,000

Custom Amount

Next →

Check out

Give to a cause with your purchase

Seven Clean Seas change

£1.00 £2.00 £5.00

Learn more Powered by Virtue



My Submission 1

It's good to Do the Basics Well.....

It can be irresponsible to *Only Just* do the basics

Donate or release an Early payment discount or rebate

GREEN PARTY US

Thank you for supporting the Green Party!

Our average donation is \$42 -- but we appreciate you donating whatever is in your means whether that be \$5 or \$1,000.

Please consider becoming a Green Party Sustainer with an automatic monthly gift - [Click here now](#)
If you prefer to use PayPal to make an automatic monthly gift - [Click here now](#).

Thank you!

If you'd like to donate to a specific committee or caucus, [click here](#).

1. Amount

\$15 \$27 \$42 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 Other

\$ One-time Monthly

Mercury WILMA WONDERFUL

DASHBOARD ELECTRICITY BROADBAND REWARDS BILLING HELP & SUPPORT

BILLING

BILLS & PAYMENTS PAYMENT METHODS BILL SETTINGS STARSHIP DONATION **TECT REBATE**

MY REBATE

Your TECT rebate will be paid into your nominated bank account.

PREFERENCES [Edit preference](#)

Rebate preference
Pay into my bank account

REBATE PREFERENCE HISTORY

PAY INTO MY BANK ACCOUNT WILMA WONDERFUL
01 Mar 2021



Checkout • \$ 22.49

Round up your transaction or add a donation in support of Red, White & Blue. We will match your donation up to \$5.00.

ROUND UP \$ 0.51 DONATE \$ 5.00

Subscribe

Subscribe

My Submission 1

It's not hard, just *ask well*, too.....

ask for permission to do more, then ask for more

**Magic Words
that Increase
Donations for
Nonprofits**



 donorbox



- 1. You & Your** *(less of the we, or us, or the)*
- 2. Because** *(we like reasons)*
- 3. Today** *(urgency of action not thought)*
- 4. Thank-you** *(acknowledge their role)*
- 5. Small** *(start small, few, spare)*
- 6. Quick** *(instant, act with us)*
- 7. Join** *(social & community)*
- 8. 100%** *(goes to the cause)*
- 9. Expert** *(productive & effective)*



Courtesy of 



Submission 2:
Park & Rides – PT & Active
*Whanganui &
Palmerston North*

The Responsibility to *Not Only Just* do the basics



Home > Services > Roads & Transport > Getting Around > Park and Ride

Park and Ride

We have five Park and Ride sites - three in Rangiora and two in Kaiapoi. These are to support the direct bus services providing peak hour commuters with faster trips into Christchurch City and parking for residents who wish to carpool.



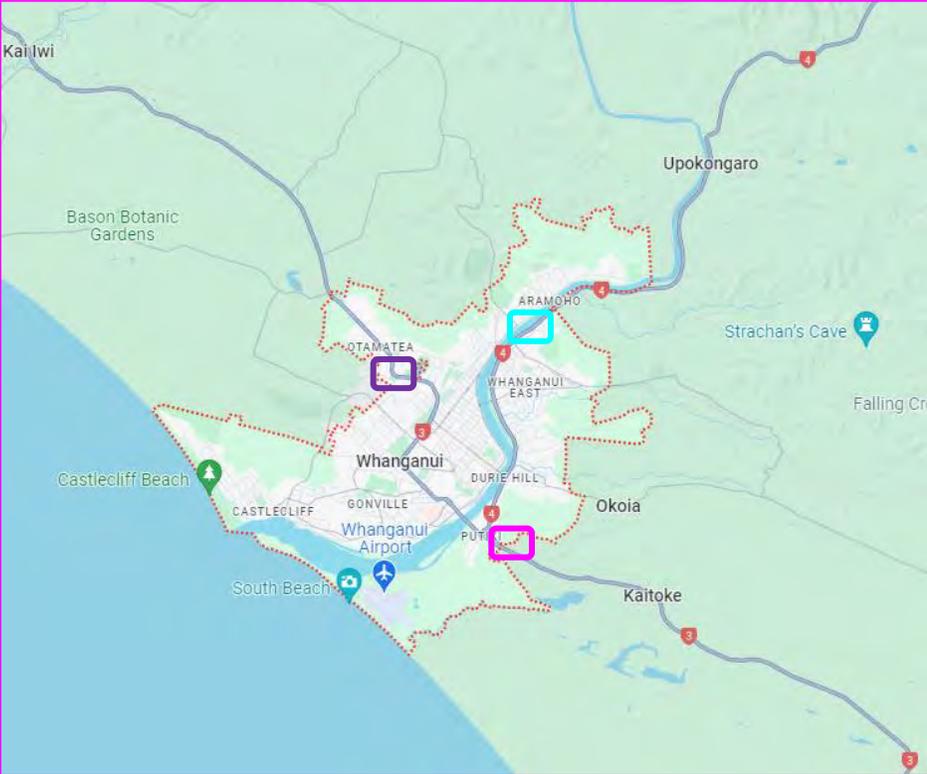
Parking is free at the park and ride sites.

- > Park and ride is a cost-effective way of providing access to public transport for regional travellers
- > By providing parking out of the town centre it reduces pressure on central parking
- > More people on public transport, means fewer cars on the roads and less congestion
- > Park and Ride was also found to be more cost-effective than alternatives such as improvements to the local bus network or providing regional public transport, because it optimises existing bus capacity and infrastructure.



Start small – make the noise, pull demand

There's under-utilised space, it just needs calls to action, signage, promotion & some part-time staff – then collaborate with cycling & visitors



Start small – make the noise, pull demand

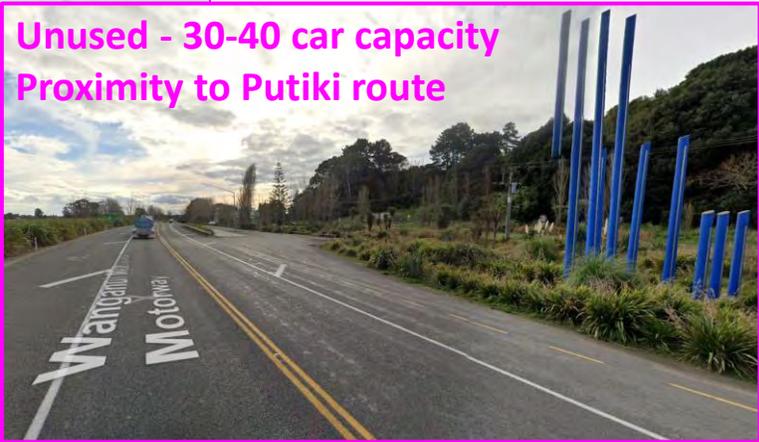
There's under-utilised space, it just needs calls to action, signage, promotion & some part-time staff – then collaborate with cycling & visitors



Under-utilised capacity & close to bus route & new route proposals



Under-utilised capacity
On bus route & local minor road overflow



Unused - 30-40 car capacity
Proximity to Putiki route

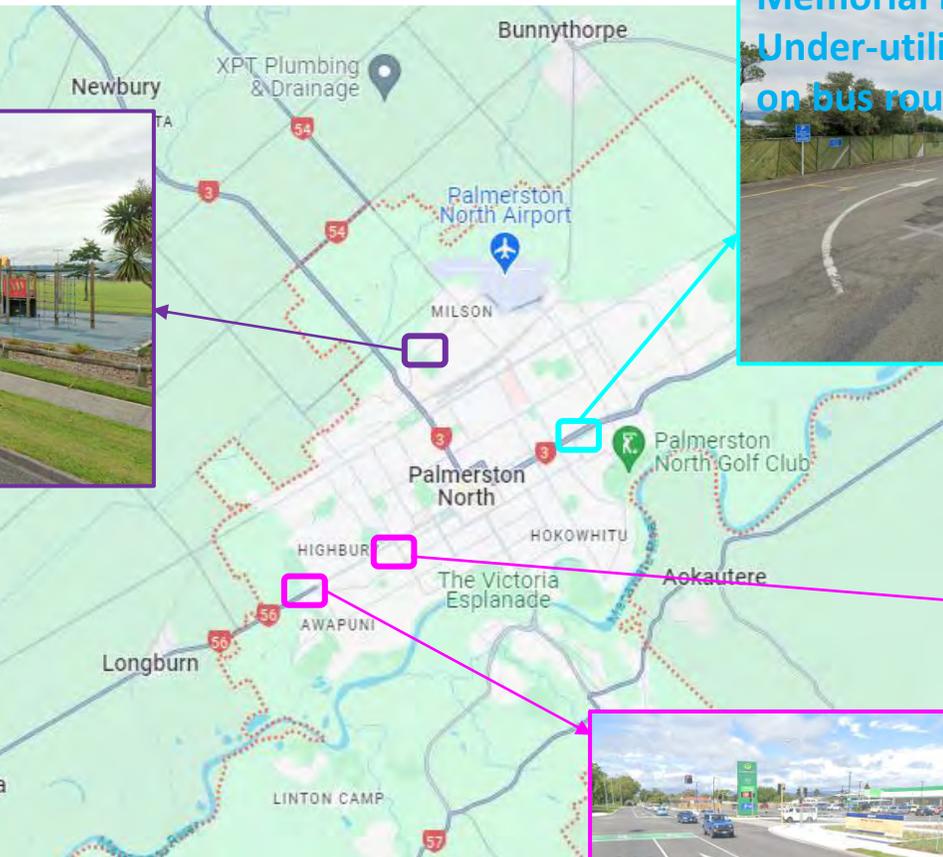


Start small – make the noise, pull demand

There's under-utilised space, it just needs calls to action, signage, promotion & some part-time staff – then collaborate with cycling & visitors



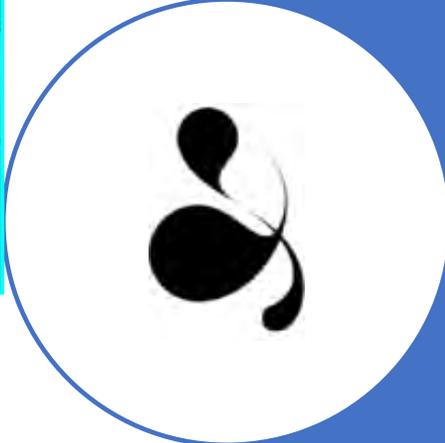
Colquhoun Park - Under-utilised capacity that could be expanded & on bus route (plus local minor road overflow)



Memorial Park roadside - Under-utilised capacity on bus route



Partner with business Parking capacity



Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 2

Speaking

First name: Whanganui
Last name: Heritage Restoration Trust
Organisation: Whanganui Heritage Restoration Trust

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

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Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

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Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

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Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

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Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

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Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

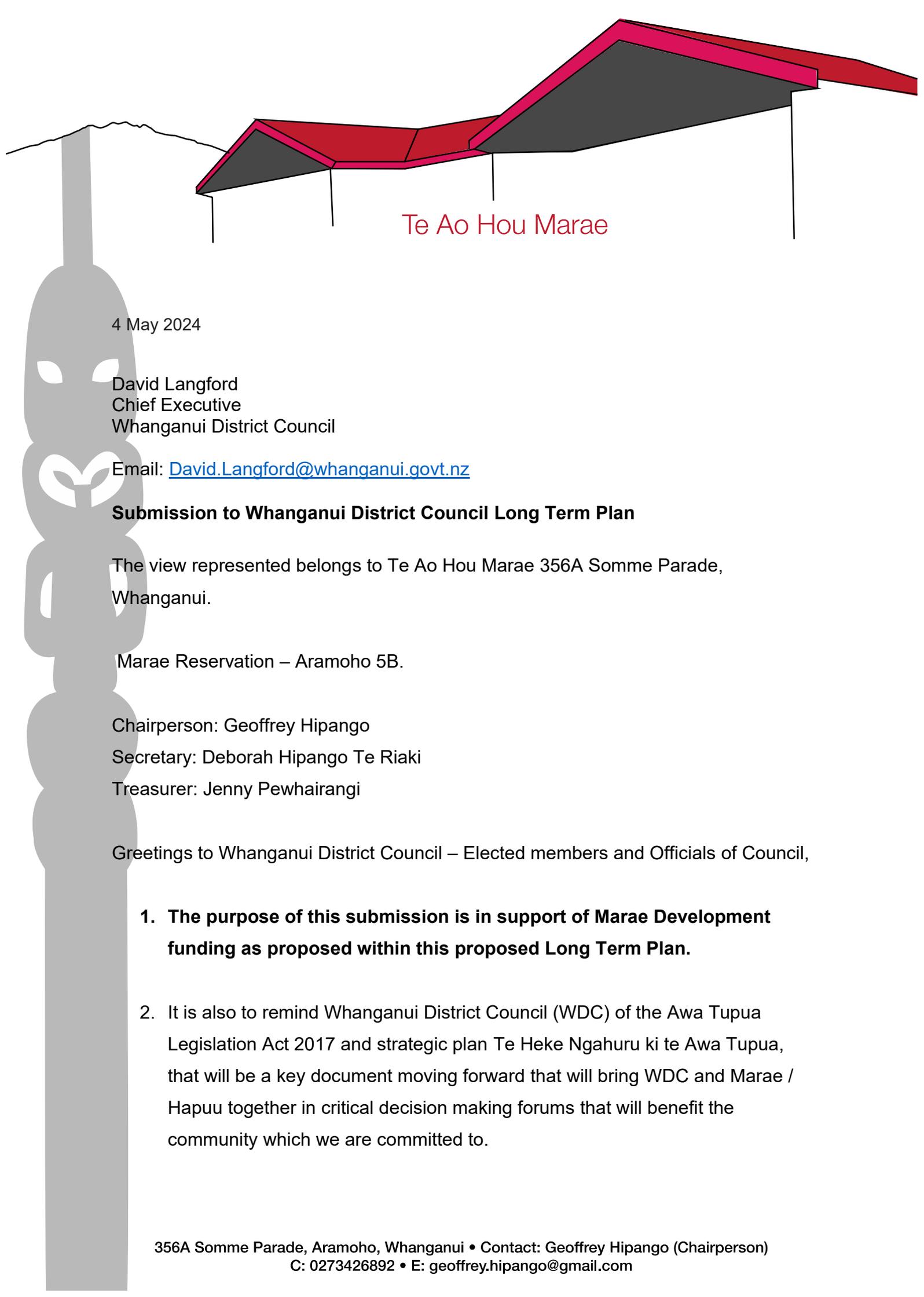
Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Whanganui Heritage Restoration Trust The Trust is seeking Council's ongoing funding support in this 10-Year Plan for the duration of the building redevelopment project at 11 Ridgway Street, Council being one of the main funders of this project, the other being Lotteries. The Trust is also seeking Council's preference for the speed of the project delivery. History: The Whanganui Heritage Restoration Trust – a registered Charity - was formed as a result of Council's Regeneration Strategy for the Whanganui Town Centre 2016 by Urbanism Plus. The goal of the Trust is to effect heritage restoration of buildings in the CBD together with much needed accommodation. A Charitable Trust has easier access to external financial support from independent funding organisations and donations and was therefore seen as a better vehicle than direct ownership by Council. Council staff progressed the Heads of Agreement between the Trustees and Council. Trustees: The Trust has 4 voluntary Trustees who receive no remuneration: • Deputy Mayor Helen Craig – Chair • Lawyer Richard Austin • Retired project manager Rick Grobecker • Retired engineer John Henderson The Trust uses the services of Andra Bayly as an independent contractor to further the Trust's work. The Building: On 30 June 2020, the Trust purchased the former Native Land Court building at 11 Ridgway Street for \$175,000. The building had functioned as an office but became vacant quite a number of years ago when UCOL had no further use for it. The latest QV valuation is \$600,000, being \$590,000 land and \$10,000 capital value. The building has the highest heritage rating in New Zealand, being Category 1. Its previous owner UCOL, applied for a Demolition Consent on two separate occasions, but this was not supported by Heritage NZ and was ultimately declined by the Environment Court. It is in a very poor state, not fit for occupation for any purpose and requires a total restoration. Being Category 1, it will receive the maximum support from Lotteries Heritage and Grant funding of 66% of all building costs. Reports to Council: The Trust has made a number of reports to Council on its ongoing progress including: September 2020, August 2021, September 2022 and August 2023. Councillors were also invited to visit the site in 2023, with most being able to do so. Councillors are welcome to view anytime, and a further invitation will be made this year once more detailed redevelopment plans are available. The Trust has also liaised with CEO David Langford about scoping the commercial options for the building. Loans: Council funded the original purchase price plus an allowance for costs secured by Deed of Acknowledgement of Debt. Loans from Council total: \$275,000 with a further \$110,000 approved but not yet drawn down – this was for a contribution to reroofing (\$60,000) and further administration/operating costs (\$50,000). Loan funding from commercial banks has not been canvassed but is deemed not viable due to no financial backing being available to the Trust. Council has access to lower interest rates via its loan agreements and is the only viable option for loan funding of the project. Grants: The Trust has received a Grant from Lotteries of \$35,000 toward the cost of the Conservation Plan which is complete. They have also granted \$118,896 for reroofing which

has not yet started and has not yet been drawn down. Progress to Date: A comprehensive Heritage Conservation Plan has been completed which included: • Historical Research • Architectural Plan • Fire Engineering Plan • Earthquake Engineering Plan • Boundary Survey Covid intervened and slow progress was made over the next couple of years as the Trust awaited completion of the Conservation Plan and considered the best redevelopment options. A shortage of builders and materials and high inflation has meant there was no urgency to redevelop. Commercial Building rate of inflation over the last three years has totalled 25% - this was not a good time to start a full restoration of a dilapidated building! The roof was assessed mid last year as in a poor condition which needed replacement without too much further delay. Emergency repairs were made and an urgent application made to Lotteries and Council for the cost of replacement. The Emergency repairs have been effective in reducing ongoing water ingress and the Trustees are finalising options for each stage of development of the site before undertaking the roof replacement with incorporated earthquake strengthening– do the job once and properly. Design Options: The Trustees have researched a number of residential and commercial options as follows and favours Option 4: 1. 2 x 2 bedroom apartments 2. 4 x 2 bedroom apartments 3. Offices 4. Up to 11 ensuite double rooms suitable for self-contained accommodation which could be accessed through AirBnB, Hotel extension or student accommodation. Development stages: The Trust believes the best option forward is staged redevelopment over 4-5 years: 1. Roof replacement including earthquake strengthening components, upgrade of gutters and downpipes, bracing of parapets and possible pre-fitting for Solar panels which would be added later. Inspection of the ground under the building and restoration where any issues are identified and carry out those components of earthquake strengthening whose placement may be impeded by replacement of the roof. 2. Earthquake strengthening of main structure 3. External walls and window restoration. 4. Internal fitout for the configuration within the building finally adopted 5. External ground works, boundary walls and carparking provision. Whilst some of the above steps may be combined to achieve efficiency of approach to the restoration, the alternative is treating it as one project taking only 2 years. This can be considered if it's Council's preference subject to confirmation from Lotteries that funds are available. Ultimate Outcome: On completion of the redevelopment one option under consideration (currently preferred) is for the Trust to lease out the completed building on Contract to an accommodation operator. Using the income generated it would be the Trusts intention to prioritise repayment of all Council loans. Ongoing profits can be deployed to further heritage restoration projects as agreed with Council. There are other models which show the effectiveness of this approach: 1. The Timaru Civic Trust purchased an historic stone building due for demolition from Council and following full restoration as an event venue, (Landing Service Conference Centre) now provides heritage grants to the community from proceeds. 2. The Christchurch Heritage Trust took ownership of an earthquake damaged church in the inner city, and with \$1,700,000 loan funding from Council, is now leased to a bar operator (The Church Brew Pub) and proceeds used to repay debt to Council and then ongoing support for further heritage projects in the city. Financial outcome to Council and the community: 1. Only a charitable trust can obtain the 66% support funding from Lotteries versus a private owner who has no access to such funding. This should ensure the minimum cost to redevelop the site. 2. This project is likely to produce good capital gain in the long-run. 3. Much needed accommodation will be provided in the CBD. 4. A significant Category 1 heritage building saved long term. 5. This is a long-term investment that will provide community grant funding for heritage restoration projects or a springboard to move onto another similar project. Future Reporting: Ongoing full financial details and reports will be provided to Council along with updated estimates for restoration and valuations to ensure ongoing confidence by Council in the options for restoration being considered.



Te Ao Hou Marae

4 May 2024

David Langford
Chief Executive
Whanganui District Council

Email: David.Langford@whanganui.govt.nz

Submission to Whanganui District Council Long Term Plan

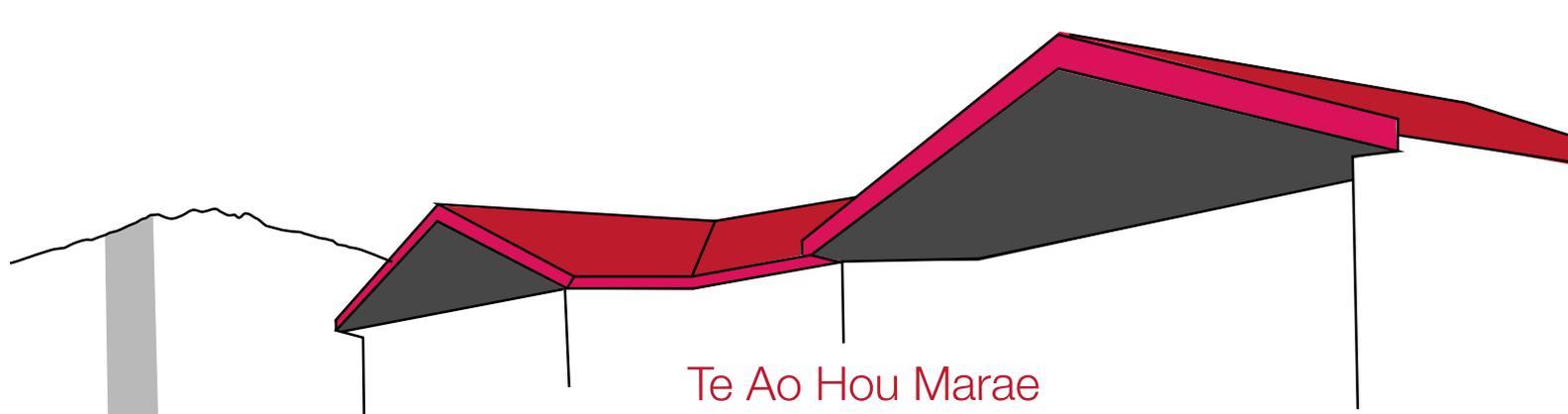
The view represented belongs to Te Ao Hou Marae 356A Somme Parade,
Whanganui.

Marae Reservation – Aramoho 5B.

Chairperson: Geoffrey Hipango
Secretary: Deborah Hipango Te Riaki
Treasurer: Jenny Pewhairangi

Greetings to Whanganui District Council – Elected members and Officials of Council,

- 1. The purpose of this submission is in support of Marae Development funding as proposed within this proposed Long Term Plan.**
2. It is also to remind Whanganui District Council (WDC) of the Awa Tupua Legislation Act 2017 and strategic plan Te Heke Ngahuru ki te Awa Tupua, that will be a key document moving forward that will bring WDC and Marae / Hapuu together in critical decision making forums that will benefit the community which we are committed to.



Te Ao Hou Marae

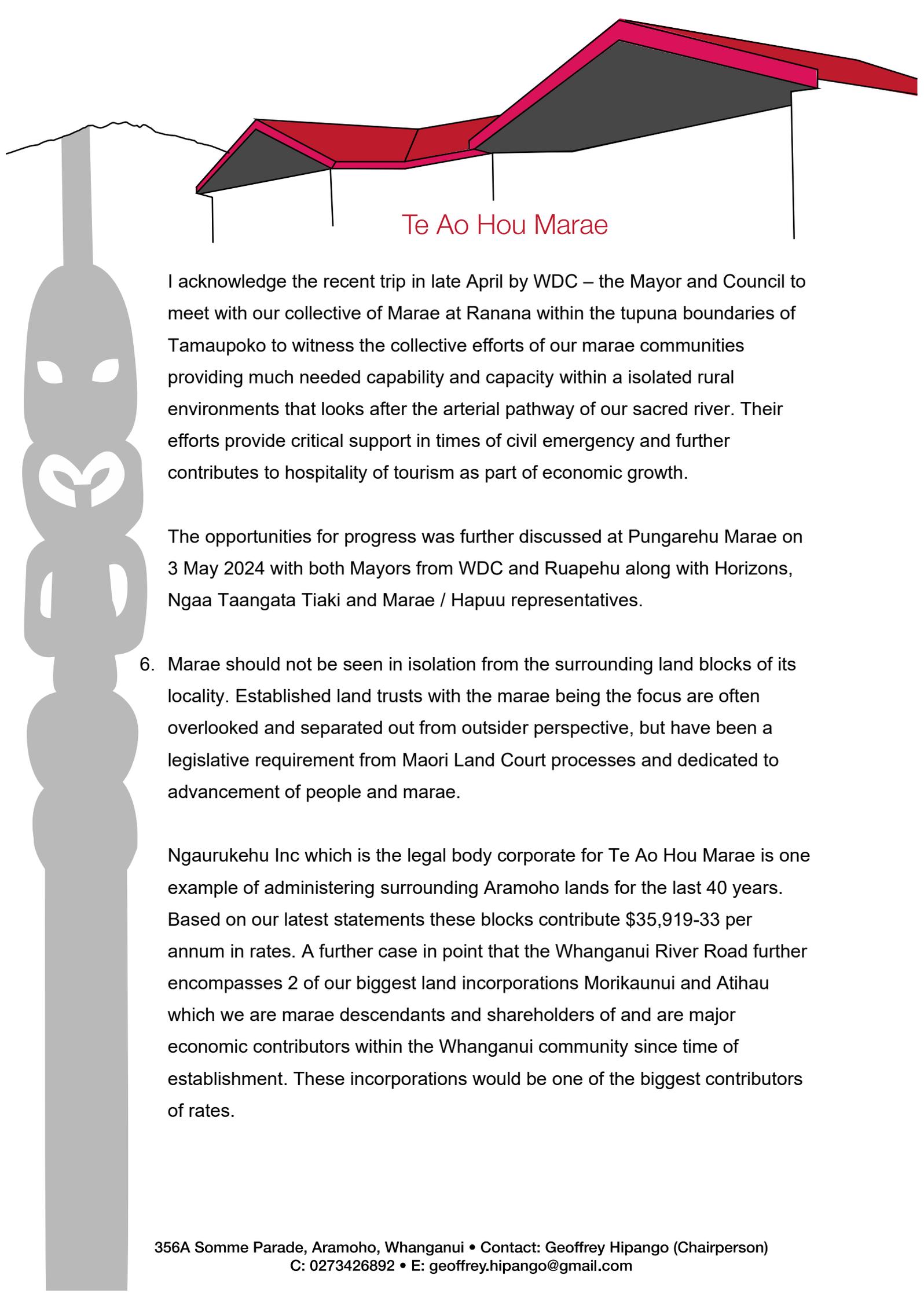
3. I speak from experience of being a custodian of Marae, current Chairperson, a holder of custom and protocol based at Te Ao Hou Marae, Aramoho, Whanganui. My relationships with other Marae from the mountain to the sea as tribal representative on Runanga and at time of this submission, as a trustee of Whanganui River Settlement entity Ngaa Taangata Tiaki. This submission is a reflection of my insights and collective experiences that is also inclusive of my belonging through whakapapa and relationships of standing in solidarity with our Marae along the length of the Whanganui River. These marae having contributed to my formation through the pepeha.

Ruapehu te Maunga

Whanganui te Awa

Atihau nui a Paparangi te Iwi

4. Marae are communities in their own right and have been contributing to our wider communities within Whanganui from the time of settlement. The humble Marae Committee established through Maaori Reservation and supported by land trusts are the oldest and most active legal entities that we have.
5. The relationship with WDC is historically significant has seen an enduring relationship that has experienced tumultuous times and times when we have come together for celebration. This relationship is even more critical taking into consideration Te Awa Tupua Act 2017 and strategies of collaboration that will be inclusive of Marae / Hapuu identified in Te Heke Ngahuru ki te Awa Tupua.



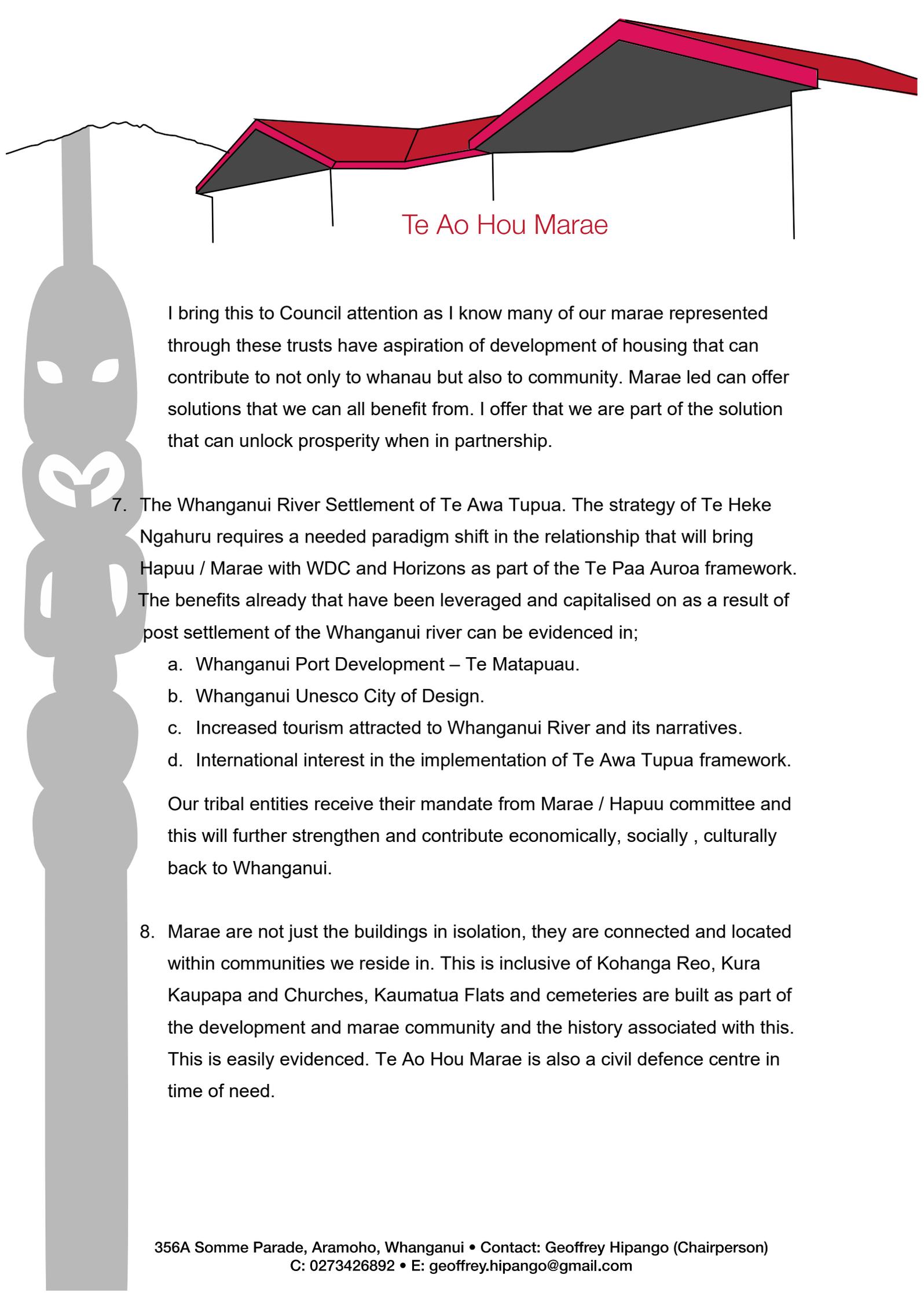
Te Ao Hou Marae

I acknowledge the recent trip in late April by WDC – the Mayor and Council to meet with our collective of Marae at Ranana within the tupuna boundaries of Tamaupoko to witness the collective efforts of our marae communities providing much needed capability and capacity within a isolated rural environments that looks after the arterial pathway of our sacred river. Their efforts provide critical support in times of civil emergency and further contributes to hospitality of tourism as part of economic growth.

The opportunities for progress was further discussed at Pungarehu Marae on 3 May 2024 with both Mayors from WDC and Ruapehu along with Horizons, Ngaa Taangata Tiaki and Marae / Hapuu representatives.

6. Marae should not be seen in isolation from the surrounding land blocks of its locality. Established land trusts with the marae being the focus are often overlooked and separated out from outsider perspective, but have been a legislative requirement from Maori Land Court processes and dedicated to advancement of people and marae.

Ngaurukehu Inc which is the legal body corporate for Te Ao Hou Marae is one example of administering surrounding Aramoho lands for the last 40 years. Based on our latest statements these blocks contribute \$35,919-33 per annum in rates. A further case in point that the Whanganui River Road further encompasses 2 of our biggest land incorporations Morikaunui and Atihau which we are marae descendants and shareholders of and are major economic contributors within the Whanganui community since time of establishment. These incorporations would be one of the biggest contributors of rates.



Te Ao Hou Marae

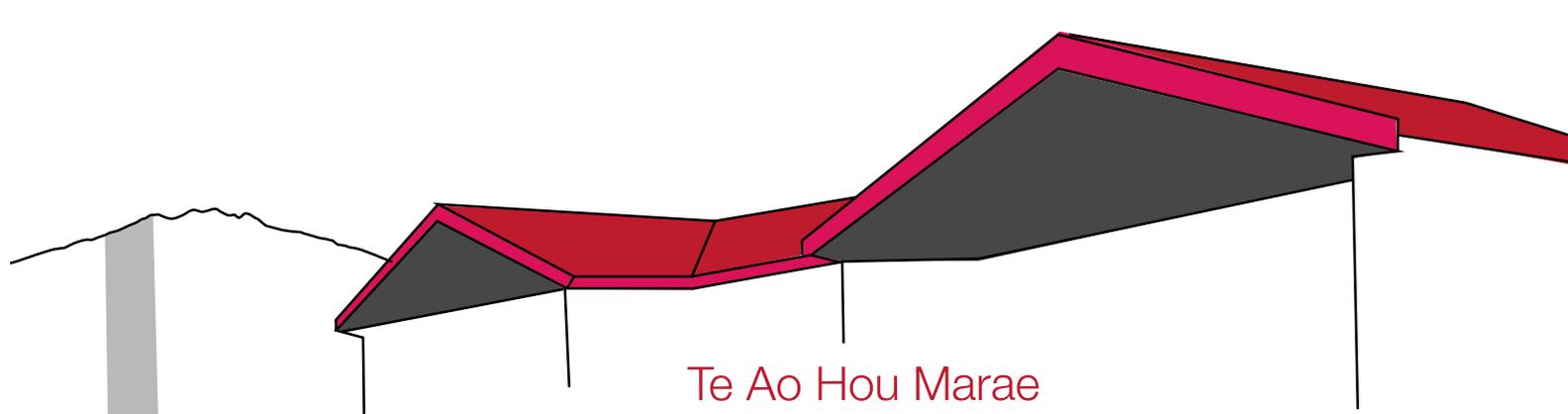
I bring this to Council attention as I know many of our marae represented through these trusts have aspiration of development of housing that can contribute to not only to whanau but also to community. Marae led can offer solutions that we can all benefit from. I offer that we are part of the solution that can unlock prosperity when in partnership.

7. The Whanganui River Settlement of Te Awa Tupua. The strategy of Te Heke Ngahuru requires a needed paradigm shift in the relationship that will bring Hapuu / Marae with WDC and Horizons as part of the Te Paa Auroa framework. The benefits already that have been leveraged and capitalised on as a result of post settlement of the Whanganui river can be evidenced in;

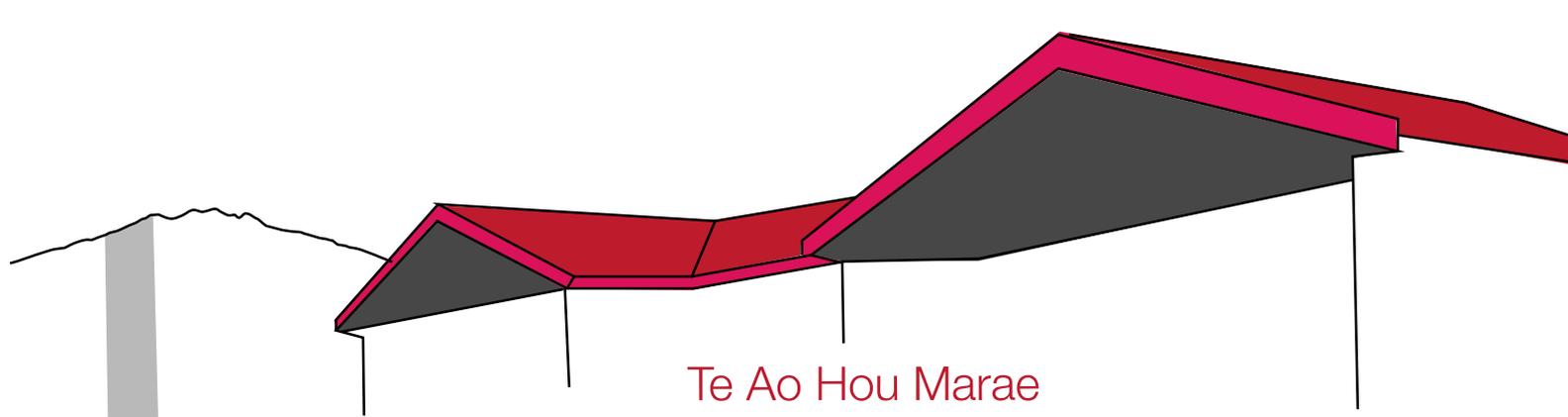
- a. Whanganui Port Development – Te Matapuau.
- b. Whanganui Unesco City of Design.
- c. Increased tourism attracted to Whanganui River and its narratives.
- d. International interest in the implementation of Te Awa Tupua framework.

Our tribal entities receive their mandate from Marae / Hapuu committee and this will further strengthen and contribute economically, socially , culturally back to Whanganui.

8. Marae are not just the buildings in isolation, they are connected and located within communities we reside in. This is inclusive of Kohanga Reo, Kura Kaupapa and Churches, Kaumatua Flats and cemeteries are built as part of the development and marae community and the history associated with this. This is easily evidenced. Te Ao Hou Marae is also a civil defence centre in time of need.



9. I live at Te Ao Hou Marae Aramoho Whanganui – our doors have been open and continue to be open to: (Refer to Te Ao Hou Marae Facebook page).
- a. Tangihanga, Hui, Waananga.
 - b. At risk men that meet fortnightly in an environment they feel safe expressing struggle of integrating into communities they feel do not want them.
 - c. Rongoa services offered to the community on a monthly basis. Over 50 members of community attended May services.
 - d. Marae has hosted international colleges on an annual basis who continue to return to learn about Te Awa Tupua.
 - e. Hosted International Indigenous visitors whom we share a similar history aspirational development.
 - f. At risk youth groups who again find the marae to be a place of solace and belonging.
 - g. Language revitalisation programmes to descendants and wider community.
 - h. Open Art exhibitions – to showcase the talent we have within the carving world that for the last 20 years has been in decline and is being further revitalised.
 - i. The monthly community dinners have contributed significantly to social cohesion and reducing loneliness amongst elderly and bringing people together that would have usually cycled and driven by. The last dinner hosted – 75 people. This is now owned by the community and requires no funding and is a featured event.



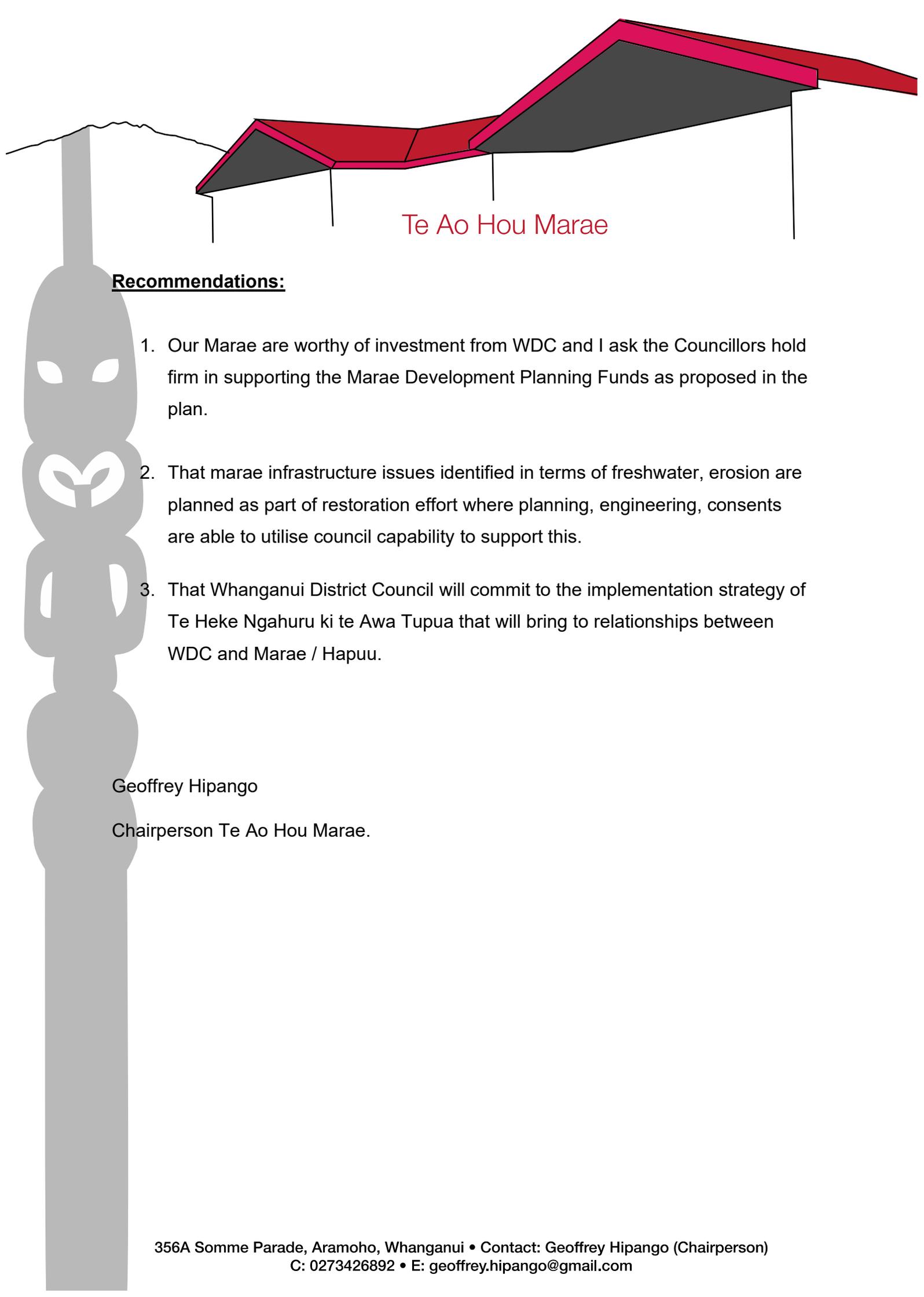
Te Ao Hou Marae

- j. Sports tournaments as recent as Junior Hoop Nation in April.
 - k. Environmental and food sovereignty movements which we are part of an established network.
 - l. Whaanau resilience programmes supporting providers such as Jigsaw, Te Oranganui, Waiora Trust, Te Ora Hou.
10. An increasing concern are the levels of racism that has been emboldened from current Coalition Government. Democratic processes have never been favourable for us as a minority population. The challenge of ensuring fair representation for Maaori wards is being challenged by Act Party.

Negative comments from Whanganui keyboard warriors, online trolls and submissions not wanting to support rate payer dollars contributing to Marae Development are the constant struggle for recognition of equity from misinformed ignorance that we endure. My concern is that Councillors will be swayed by this grouping that are opposing and they will be given a commanding voice to influence decision.

Hui held with Vision Whanganui, Mayor, CEO, elected councillors and WDC officials have stated that voices from Marae, Iwi and respective organisations will hold significant influence in this decision making process and elected councillors have utilised this discretion in the past when making such decisions. I look forward to witnessing this.

Whanganui District Council, we are rate payers that belong to the community of Whanganui, you cannot separate marae from land and even moreso its people.



Te Ao Hou Marae

Recommendations:

1. Our Marae are worthy of investment from WDC and I ask the Councillors hold firm in supporting the Marae Development Planning Funds as proposed in the plan.
2. That marae infrastructure issues identified in terms of freshwater, erosion are planned as part of restoration effort where planning, engineering, consents are able to utilise council capability to support this.
3. That Whanganui District Council will commit to the implementation strategy of Te Heke Ngahuru ki te Awa Tupua that will bring to relationships between WDC and Marae / Hapuu.

Geoffrey Hipango

Chairperson Te Ao Hou Marae.

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1418

Speaking

First name: Tessa
Last name: Hogg

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: The library is a critical service and the heart of the community, it is a ludicrous idea and incredibly non-progressive to close it.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Invest in the stabilisation of the retaining bank, demolish the existing building and build a new theatre (add \$10 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: This is in contradiction to the animal welfare act, I would support closing it.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: I like the baskets, but would prefer a fully functioning library and Youth Council

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Put in the infrastructure and invest in the community before focusing on hotels and carparks.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSL as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: I'm not familiar with this site.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments: Access to Matipo Park. Provide more trails and dog friendly sites. Open up the upper track of Lake Virginia to dogs on lead. This is critical for retaining families in your region.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: I'm not sure without knowing what assets these are.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: It is disappointing to see the proposals be cut so much social infrastructure. Investment is critical for the future. Are there executive pay cuts in council that can be considered?

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 701

Speaking

First name: **Graham**
Last name: **Holloway**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Implement a charge for all books etc borrowed from library, to help offset cost of the library service. If no charge, then no more purchase of books, and look at further closures to save money. School students exempt from charges.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Give it back to the school who donated it to WDC, or put it up for expressions of interest. The pool is too valuable to close, so it must remain open.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Give back to land owner, then they can decide options. They could then stabilise the bank and obtain a good price for it. Am totally opposed to ratepayer funding on the theatre.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Privatised it, or advertise for expressions of interest. It would be apparently obvious that \$190,000.00 p/a is excessive, and am sure that WDC have loaded other hidden costs to be applied to justify this figure i.e. wages of staff etc and the alike on maintaining of the lake.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: or consider perennials, and ask shop owners affected if they want to chip in as another idea to retain them.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Increase or introduce admission costs to offset \$190,000.00 of rates funding as Option A or if that doesn't happen Option B Close

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the drop off points for rural rubbish (save \$9.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Those who chose to live there, to sort their own rubbish, and by being NO drop off townies will be then deterred from driving there to avoid paying. Or those there pay for it as a targeted rate specifically for them, being enforceable like the UNWANTED 3 bins for residential.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close Gonville Library completely (save \$12.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: AGAIN charge for all book borrowing. Those whom use the library don't have the right to dictate what they want at the expense of others. If a charge scenario is successful, then Option 1. Also againk students exempt of charges.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Cut back on costs and introduce a cost to visit or coin donation in a secure idiot proof box.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Cut Community grant funding by 10 percent or \$110,000 (save \$11.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Can't increase grants when rates are out of control pushing us seniors and low income earners over the edge. Then needing financial support thru no fault of theirs, and that is absolutely unacceptable.

Further comments on service cuts: WDC has got figures wrong here. Option 1 equates to 18182 properties. Option 2 equates to 18868 properties. Option 3 equates to 18750 properties. How can we trust WDC in figures given when there is a 686 max diff here. Why is a simple task here wrong

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: If anyone wants to connect to the WDC infrastructure being roading, subdivisions, subdividing, water and sewerage, then they have to pay for the privilege because they are impacting the shortening of the life of our systems and that absolutely cannot fall on existing ratepayers. Again user pays e.g. power companies charge full rate to connect to their infrastructure.

Hotel and Car Park

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: NO MORE projects with absolute no proven certainty. Audit NZ has made reference to this.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Must be self funded after 3 years and guarantee that rates WILL NOT prop it up. If that guarantee can't happen, then close it. Another auditor concern.

Marae Development

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Iwi consultation payments have been more than enough to pay for marae rates that they don't pay, and maintain them. e.g. \$864279 Horizons paid for North Mole project consultation, plus were paid for attendance and food supplied, its definitely like a gravey train that is also out of control. Figures obtained thru DIA. WDC will no doubt be tared with the same brush

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Fund up to an absolute capped amount of \$1 Mill, and absolutely NO exceptions. WDC only to start paying when project commences and other funding needed is guaranteed. Again NO exceptions.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: WDC has had a warning from the heavy haulage operators of the impact on them. WDC NEED to listen to them Am happy for a conventional pedestrian crossing, and that only.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: We can't keep paying for those whom want to use bikes and not pay for where they want to ride. Put GPS meters or road user charges like those being proposed by Simeon Brown. for vehicle owners, some will say they have a vehicle at home, however that doesn't count when car on the road tax is paid thru fuel, and RVC on diesels. It is another case of cyclists and E.V. owners wanting everything for nothing at the expense of others. AGAIN UNSUSTAINABLE

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: I can't believe this figure has been mooted when WDC don't know what WDC are selling. It appears to be a figure to please rate payers and that is a case of stupidity, because iwi will again have a significant impact on it, as they have in the past. Also auditor has doubts.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **1**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: WDC has been misleading to domestic ratepayers because WDC keeps quoting ave 10.6% increase, instead of being more transparent on the reality that it is 12.8% and could be higher, where as other ratepayers are better off. Attached sheet shows what I mean

Supporting documents

Yes

Whanganui District Council

Graham Holloway [REDACTED] 5 24/04/24

[REDACTED] n t
[REDACTED] i t re Consultation of Long Term Plan

I am bitterly disappointed in the disrespectful way WDC has addressed some issues and one being at the RUBBISH MEETING at the Club Metro on 23/04/24 where WDC seems to show absolutely no regard for the seniors here. Instance being that at that meeting there was an alarming amount of unhappy seniors. We have done the right thing and we already sort out for recycling and take to Maria place, and now WDC has treated us in total disregard to force us to pay even more for something we dont want. It was pointed out to your staff that nobody was taking down notes, and we got an answer that said our concerns were the same as everywhere else. THAT REINFORCES WHAT I HAVE WRITTEN. We accept that recycling is needed and Govt has set a mandate for it to happen, however not enough has gone into it to be acceptable, and furthermore I asked is WDC after recycling starts going to do spot checks on rubbish bags to ensure that those who cant be bothered, and that is why we have this problem, to issue an instant fine to be seen as being fair. The predictable answer was NO.

I am also bitterley disappointed in the fact that WDC seem to have an idea that WDC can bulldoze what some want, and a perfect example of that is the statement made by Michael Law in his idea of a lower rate being achievable, his comment on page two bout WE SHOULD NOT REHASH THIS, WE HAVE MADE THE DECISION. That comment is extremely concerning that if councillors and upper Management are NOT PREPARED TO LISTEN, then they become OXYGEN THIEFS and need to be shown the door, or we vote them out and that time will come at the same time as Peter OSKAM was hoping for us to have forgotten bout the concerns of cost over runs on the Sargent Gallery.

WDC forget we may be old in your eyes, however our memory for this stuff is etched in our mind waiting for our opportunity to seek revenge. VOTE THEM OUT

Am for

1/ Whanganui East Pool 2/ Bird Aviary 3/ starting to sort Dublin St bridge
4/ winter gardens with fees 5/ a big emphasis on increasing non rates income. I am aware that fines are set by GOVT, that needs sorting. Its a problem than can longer be kicked around.

Am against

1/ the exorbitant IWI consultation payouts, and daily costs for attending. Its ironic that GOOD WORKING MAORI WHOM COULD DO WITH SOME OF THIS PAYMENT DONT GET ANY.
2/ Co governance and the associated payments desperately need reining in.
3/ The Pilot academy can no longer be propped up with Rates money, and furthermore any profit shall be deemed as paying back what ratepayers have paid to it.
4/ NO HOTEL COMPLEX possibly help by making WDC land available, AND THATS IT
5/ No money for Mautau gardens and trust.
6/ NO funding for IWI We are all NEW ZEALANDERS. Everyone as an equal. IWI payments are absolutely not necessary. I personally find it offensive. I however accept that there have been serious history injustices handed down to Maori, however I didnt do it and Maori today didnt have it done to them, so all this IWI stuff is making unessesary agro. Interesting bout that comment is how many Maori I have worked with and had conversation with AGREE.
7/ Kerbside recycling needs recycling and gone.
8/ No Power up of castlecliff Domain

Items needing sorting

1/ Get rid of buses as they are a burdon on the ratepayer paying for buses with only the driver in it

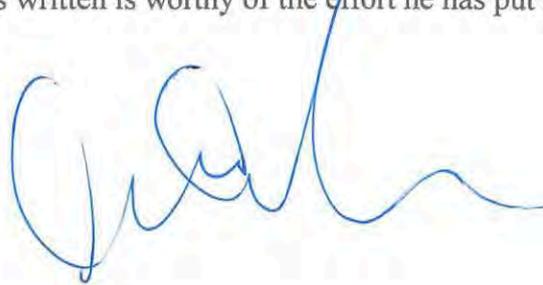
2/ Port management needs an TOTAL overhaul and accountability

3/ The comment on page 52 A KEY PART OF THE FINANCIAL STRATEGY is setting LIMITS ON RATES INCREASES. That comment is a bad joke due to WDC failures

WDC needs to really listen to people that have genuine concerns, and listen to people that have good ideas that have merit, and just not disregard them because WDC didnt think of them. WDC has a lot of room to make genuine improvements on.

What Michael Law has written is worthy of the effort he has put into it.

Regards Graham

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Graham', written in a cursive style.

Cr Michael Law

★

Favourites · otsoSpnedrgll:m il11i51tga 39rcg10htaugt8p93 a7022taA0 8303 ·

#lowoption – Keep the Aviary and Whanganui East Pool and STILL have only 5.4% rate rises, read below.

Just like we are ALL having to do in this cost of living crisis, the council need to save money by making changes to services provided. The council has already made decisions that has brought the rate rise down from near 20% to 10.4%, however, we need to go further. Do not think that if you rent, this doesn't apply to you... You will have your rent increased. We are all residents together. This is your time to have your say.

It's that crucial time again, and we REALLY need to hear from you. Why bother? History has shown us that when lots of you speak up about what you really want and need, it makes a big difference to us, the council members. If you stay silent, then you're letting others make decisions for you. We don't want that, do we?

So, what's this submission thing all about? It's your chance to tell us what's important to you when it comes to the services and projects the council spends money on. Your voice helps us shape our long-term plan, ensuring we focus on what matters most to our community. I'm here to guide you through making a submission, highlighting options that could help us reduce costs without losing everything we value.

Take a moment and share your thoughts here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/wdchaveyoursay2024> or carry on reading below where I provide my thoughts.

Now, let's talk about why this matters. It's all about the money and outcomes – specifically, our council rates and services. Rates are set to increase by 10.4% this year. Sounds like a lot, right? Especially when household incomes only went up by 5.5%. To avoid making things tougher for everyone, a small number of councilors are aiming to bring that rate increase down to 5.4% while keeping open popular services like the Aviary and Whanganui east pool. But here's the kicker – achieving this means we need to cut back on more services, however, we have done the hard work finding the least valuable services relative to the cost. The #lowoption is still up for grabs and if enough of you join us on this message, we can ensure that we focus only on the highest value items.

Why cut services? Well, our council bills are mainly made up of two things: services and projects. Projects get their funding from debt, we pay a portion every year including interest, so it doesn't raise rates by the same amount. But it takes a lot less in service spending to do the same. To drop

12.8

THIS CONCERNS ME: IF COUNCILLORS ARE NOT PREPARED TO LISTEN TO IDEAS, THEN THEY BECOME OXYGEN THIEFS + NEXT BE SLOWN THE DOOR

from a 10.4% rate increase to 5.4%, we'd have to cut even more from our services - I have spent months trying to get this information into the public domain and have been told "We should not rehash this, we have made the decision". The submission process is the last hurdle, everything in the proposed plan is just that. PROPOSED changes. **A**

However, there's a silver lining! By choosing wisely, we can keep some popular services and still hit our 5.4% goal. I won't lie - getting to 5.4% will be tough. But the more good reasons we have for making smaller cuts, the easier it will be to decide what stays and what goes.

Remember, this is just my take on things - but I encourage you to think about what services you really value and let us know. Your input is invaluable. Let's make our community's voice heard loud and clear! So let me tell you the #lowoption, the one that hasn't quite made it into the proposed plan. I support the low option for one major reason, the combined hurt of rate rises above wage inflation outweighs the benefit of the service. I am not asking you to copy me, just giving you the #lowoption, this is only my point of view for service cuts and not in any way the view of the council.

Each item has a header, my preferred option and a comment that if you wish to, you can copy and paste into your submission:

- Davis Library: Option 1 - Close Davis Library on a Monday.

Comments: As the least used day, Monday allows us to save money on bank holidays and better rotation of staff

- Whanganui East Pool - Option 4 - Something Else.

Comments: The Whanganui East swimming pool is a beloved heritage pool with thousands of residents using on a regular basis. Rates of drownings in rivers increased dramatically when this was shut. Shutting without an alternative solution is bad practice. Our recommendation is to remove any plans for future development until a report is brought to council on the viability of outside swimming in Whanganui and to reduce maintenance costs to minimum. This will mean \$440k will reduce to \$110k for the summer period with no loss of jobs.

- Repertory Theatre: Option 1 - Close the theatre.

Comments: We do not require the council to run numerous theatres in Whanganui. If this was to be renovated or held, it would need to be purchased by a private investor.

- Virginia Lake Aviary: Option 4 - Something Else.

Comments: The Council has been told numerous times the public is happy to fund this, even after an overwhelming positive response in 2023, the council has yet again NOT listened to the public. It is recommended that all proposed work cease, leaving only a \$40k saving (as per the councils figures last year) and then I would like to see the council privatize this

facility to ensure its success and without council interference in the future. Either with the mission of closing over a ten year period or for upgrades over time, depending on the demand from the public.

- Mainstreet Hanging Flower Baskets: Option 1 - Remove.

Comments: \$93k for a pop of colour a year doesn't seem fair. Has the council considered perennials?

- Glassworks: Option 1: Keep but seek a buyer.

Comments: \$192k a year is a top-up that the council can not continue to fund in this environment, however cutting this without warning could have an impact to the art industry.

- Drop off Points for Rural Rubbish: Option 2: Close.

Comments: \$175k a year at a time where urban residents are seeing a 2.4%+ rate rise for forced recycling and rising costs for urban for their rubbish. It is not a council responsibility to remove rubbish for free, at a cost for everyone. Either a purely targeted rate is applied or a self-funded community project is enabled. Using fear of fly tipping is not an excuse to pay for services, it leads to more bad behaviour and more inefficient costs.

- Gonville Library: Option 3 Close.

Comments: Libraries need to evolve to become a community hubs, we have seven libraries, mobile libraries and online libraries. The cost to run a library is significantly more than a community hub. My recommendation is to close Gonville library.

- Winter Gardens: Option 1 Do not close.

Comments: Visited by 10s of thousands of locals and tourists in our premier park. It is not something I am willing to consider this year.

- Community Grant Funding: Option 4 Something Else.

Comments: \$1.1 million is proposed to be spent, which is just under 2% of councils total spend. Some of these items are much loved and others are a mixture of social groups, churches, plugging the gap in central government funding and literally just charity. It is not the council's job to be donating to charity and my recommendation is to reduce by 600k for a total of \$500k. I understand the harm this will cause to a small number of people, who will need to seek funds from the private market, however, the harm 1% rate rises causes on 36% of our population has a combined impact far exceeding the harm that these organisations will have to endure.

Do you have any further comments on Service Cuts?

I propose the following cuts:

- Masters Games: A profitable and successful event that does not need \$100k of resident money to be successful. This should be stopped unless there is a significant risk that the event will be called off due to the \$100k. Our own people who are already employed for Tourism and Economic Development should be focused on this highly profitable event.

- Mobile Library: \$150k a year spent on mobile libraries with the generation of online information and with short cycles to large libraries means this service is mostly used for events and schools. We do not need to subsidize the ministry of education and events could be handled separately.

- Public Arts: \$176k a year on art becomes counter intuitive, art is an expression of the times and times are tight and our art scene should understand that.

- Home Library Service: \$70k for home library service is not required with the online library. Davis library could bring in a delivery system which would cost less than the home library service. The number of users could also mean buying electronic devices and using the online library would be more affordable.

- Aramoho Library: A community hub in Aramoho is advised to stay open but to align itself to the costs associated with a community centre that happens to have a library. Castle cliff is \$15k and Whanganui East is \$35k. \$100k saving from Aramoho can be proposed.

- Coastal Action Plan: Plans without action are an inefficient and costly measures. \$27k can be saved by not borrowing large sums for projects without objective end results.

- Whanganui River Boat Centre: \$67k can be saved through a transition to combine services, drive more self-sustainability and focus on profit share arrangements.

- Climate Change Fund: \$110k is budgeted for this year with no strategy or outcome that benefits the people of our district. As per the answer to Cr Laws question in 2023, the surplus is likely to be spent on reports from consultants, instead of outcomes we need. Remove completely until needed.

I would urge the council to look more closely at the following items which have not been considered and could take a 40% haircut.

- CBD maintenance: \$1,421,000. Proposed to lock this in a one million, fixing costs allows innovation to ensure the maximization of outcomes.

- Port: \$1,798,000. It is understood that costs have escalated on this project due to inflation, however, the return on investment now sits well outside the council's risk parameters. What work has been done to reduce spending?

Thank you for reading until the end. It has been a long year of debate and although near 1m of my cuts are either locked in or soon to be. The above is another 2 million dollars. The end of the day, it is up to you, the residents of Whanganui District. Please submit.

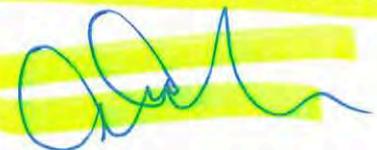
EXTREMELY WELL DONE

QUESTIONS RE THE PORT AND CUTS TO SERVICES

Where is the income from Harbour Endowment leases being spent, given that all monies raised from those leases must be used on the port? What is council doing to retain valuable industries who pay a commercial lease back into the Harbour Endowment Fund and employ a considerable number of Wanganui residents. Does council respond to problems and requests/submissions in a timely manner? Word around the place has it that council doesn't and in fact can be more obstructive than constructive. It's this sort of thing that does no one any favours and paints the council in a bad light. Perhaps council could be more proactive in finding ways to dispel such rumours and if there is truth in them that obstructive behaviour needs to be stopped.

What is QWest's yearly lease payment for Wharves 2 and 3 and why should the ratepayers pay for rebuilding these facilities if, as it seems QWest will be the only beneficiary of this work? What if any, is the benefit to Wanganui and the rate payers, given that QWest isn't a big employer and so far, hasn't attracted more major industries to Wanganui. There appears to be a distinct lack of accountability, especially disturbing when council is asking the ratepayers for an average rate rise of 10.6% when times are very tough. In the past, requests for a copy of the plans for the port rebuild/refurb, the initial projected cost including that to the ratepayers, a breakdown of the costs to date and where that money has been spent, the projected finish date and final

I WAS GIVEN THIS DOCUMENT, HOW TRUE
IT IS. ITS HITTING THE NAIL ON THE HEAD



costs to the ratepayers of Wanganui, both through Wanganui district council and Horizons, have been either ignored or treated with contempt. Who are the stakeholders i.e. Wanganui District Council, Horizons Regional Council, QWest and Iwi and how much investment are QWest and Iwi putting into the project. At the end of the day how big a vessel will actually be able to use the so called port, given that biggest vessel that can currently enter the port is a rather small coaster called Anatoki. Perhaps, Wanganui council's share of the wharves should be sold to QWest, thereby absolving the ratepayers of these ongoing and mounting costs.

As an aside there seems to be a similar lack of accountability when it comes to the Sargent Gallery project, the Velodrome and the International Flight school. Where is the cost/benefit analysis of these projects for the people of Wanganui?

Along with the cuts to services is the council contemplating staff cuts especially in areas where functions overlap or are unnecessarily doubled. The country is broke, central government is cutting the fat in all the ministries and council should be following suit in it's various departments.

Having a good credit rating is all very well and good but, any debt still has to be serviced and ultimately, it's the ratepayer who bears the cost. Among other things the council should be considering is a hold on so called "vanity projects" like an \$830000 raised crossing from Pakaitore across Taupo Quay until A: the need and value to the all the people of Wanganui is truly established and B: Wanganui can actually afford it.

REFERENCE TO PAGE 57 CONSULTATION DOC

	FARMING	EXOTIC FORESTRY	COMMERCIAL
RATES INCREASE	\$3.95 \$8.43 \$11.24 \$166000 \$3350000 \$4570000	\$700000 \$19.51 \$58.19 \$2090000	\$610000 \$1250000 \$3360000
GST	.59 \$1.26 \$1.68	\$2.92 \$8.72	.57 .94 \$1.98
BUSINESS OFFSET AGAINST TAX APPROX 30%	\$1.12 \$2.39 \$3.18	\$5.53 \$16.49	\$1.09 \$1.80 \$3.74
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS OFF RATES INCREASE	\$1.71 \$3.65 \$4.86	\$8.45 \$25.21	\$1.66 \$2.74 \$5.72
NEW TRUE COST OF RATES INCREASE.	\$2.24 \$4.78 \$6.38	\$11.06 \$32.98	\$2.17 \$3.59 \$7.48

Whanganui District Council

28/04/24

Graham Holloway [REDACTED] 5 [REDACTED] 6

[REDACTED] n t

[REDACTED] i [REDACTED] t

re SUBMISSION COUNCIL POLICY and BYLAWS

Whanganui District Council has been negligent towards its existing ratepayer base, by carrying on charging LOW DEVELOP FEES, ie like to connections to our infrastructure system at the peril of the existing ratepayers whom then are charged for that shortfall. This is proven by the exorbitant rate increase us seniors are now forced to pay because someone else is getting a good deal. The Whanganui Chronicle on Sat 26/08/23 published an article re this problem, proving WDC have been aware of it for some time, and have NOT ACTIONED THE PROBLEM. Hence being negligent.

There is absolutely no reason why existing ratepayers should be expected to pick up the cost, in any form. There is absolutely no excuse to NOT up the costs significantly to what was in the article. And if YA DONT WANT TO PAY STAY AWAY and pay HIGHER somewhere else. A perfect example of this is the property at 4 Springvale Rd, where it is proposed to build many townhouses. Article was in Whanganui Chronical 27/11/23. Its the same theory that WDC has towards parking. There is NO discount for excuses, JUST PAY THE PARKING TICKET, and if you dont there are consequences.

RE UTILITIES

Also with regard to infrastructure, I propose that WDC hold our UTILITIES to count when they dig up WDC areas, and do a shoddy patch up. I had discussion with DAMION WOOD some time ago bout this problem that to expect ratepayers to pay for the reconstruction of WDC assets. My proposal would be that the UTILITIES are responsible for their reinstatement work to carry the same effective lifetime warrenty that WDC would put on the if undisturbed area. A perfect case in point is the crap footpath in Jones st from a Telco job some time ago. And added to the proposal is that if a utility changes ownership, SO DOES THE REPAIR. Damion said that the UTILITIES wont like it, and I replied NOR DO WE. He also said that he thinks it is a great idea because it looks after ratepayers interests. A point is that although the UTILITIES WONT LIKE IT, if they do a proper job from the outset, it wont be an issue. Added to the proposal is that if a UTILITY has work done, and WDC are not informed of it as required, WDC can dig again and find the culprit and FINE THEM ACCORDINGLY.

Uneven surfaces for us seniors to walk on are a big issue, and moreso the likes of me thru an accident in 1976, dont life my feet very far, I just have to have my shoe get caught on a risen edge, and I AM THEN OVER. That then becomes a WDC issue like what happened to me here in NIXON ST last year, and WDC repaired the area with a dash of speed because WDC know it is part of their DUTY OF CARE and when they fail with their duty of care, then the saying THE SMELLY BROWN STUFF HITS THE FAN.as it should.

PARKING and GROWTH OVER FOOTPATHS

I propose that WDC have parking a vehicle the WRONG WAY AROUND eg must face the way of driving, A BY LAW VIOLATION, and an immediate fine just like the Police do. I accept that Police dont do it here in Whanganui because of a WDC parking department. So its needs sorting.

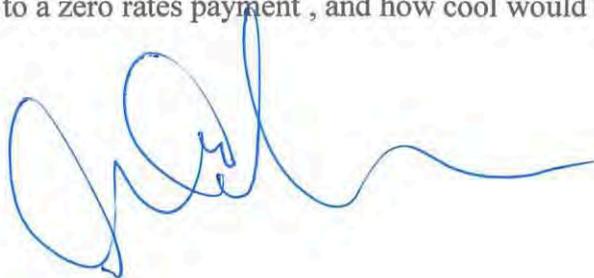
With regards to growth of vegetation from properties over the footpath, that to be made an advertised by law by adjacent property owners of the footpath network to ensure their srubbery and tree growth DOES NOT IMPACT THE FOOTPATH NETWORK. I propose a large FINE for this to be in order, but first a council notice to the culprit with what is required with a short remedy period, and then if NO ACTION THE FINE. No excuses not to, furthermore if the property owner allows it

to happen again, well then the FINE BECOMES INSTANT, with an increase for not complying.

I understand that CENTRAL GOVERNMENT has set fines for LOCAL COUNCIL, however thru their stupidity, the fines that can be obtained are like POCKET MONEY because they are so low and outdated, and it is too expensive for local authorities to administer for what is obtained in the fine, so in escence the culprits dont care.

WDC needs to pressure Central Govt, along with other local authorities, that Central Govt needs and should relinquish ALL LOCAL BODY FINES CONTROL and let the LOCAL BODIES SET FINES THEMSELVES, to their own circumstances. That will also help keep rates down for those whom dont do stupid stuff and behave as good citizens should because it would be like putting a FINES METER ON THE IDIOTS. If someone could design a FINES METER FOR IDIOTS, we might then get to a zero rates payment , and how cool would that be.

Graham Holloway

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Graham Holloway', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

WDC RATES	\$ 3387.54
HORIZ ONES	\$ 386.27
	<hr/>
	\$ 3773.81
	<hr/>
Govt	\$ - 750.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 3023.81

PENSION (2 SUPER)

\$ 25811.24 11.73%

\$ 992.74 (F/NITE)

NEW INCOME \$ 27049 + (4.8%)	\$ 3773.81
\$ 1038.93 / F/NITE	\$ 483.04
	<hr/>
	\$ 4256.85
	<hr/>
\$ 46.19 DIFFERENCE	\$ - 750.00
	<hr/>
12.965%	\$ 3506.85

F/NITE DIFF IN RATES = \$ 18.58

1.23% INCREASE
AMOUNT OF PENSION
RAISES \$ 483.04

(PENSION DIFF) (RAISES DIFF)

\$ 46.19 - \$ 18.58 = \$ 27.61 / F/NITE FOR EVERY
ELLE

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 32

Speaking

First name: David & Tanya
Last name: Hughes

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Stabilisation of the retaining wall but keep the building as it is don't sell it.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: KEEP IT OPEN. put in a collection box get volunteers to feed the birds and clean the aviary

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Submitter ticked both Option 1 and Option 2.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the drop off points for rural rubbish (save \$9.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: DO NOT CLOSE THE WINTER GARDENS. its our local tourist attraction many come to see it and take photos.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts: The metal strip out to the Kai Iwi Beach shouldn't be done why are you promoting a polluted beach when you have a good beach at Castlecliff. The new crossing down by moutoa gardens doesn't need to be done especially at the amount needed to do it. If you want to put money into roading the Handy Road needs to be upgraded and made into a 2 lane road and tar sealed as this is an emergency bypass road when there is a closure due to slips or accidents on State Highway 3. As the road is now trucks can't get around there and if they try they block the road

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: They don't need another hotel in wanganui they need to fix up the ones we have got move the homeless and emergency housing somewhere else. If you put money into the hotels/motels we already have.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Implement a new counterweight flying system only within the existing stagehouse building structure (add \$44 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: Just do the necessary upgrades.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Why is the council mainting Moutoa Gardens the maoris should be paying it as they own the land.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Why are they promoting a polluted beach when wanganui already has castlecliff beach

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Depending on which Assets are to be sold.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Why are they letting campervans stay at Springvale Stadium car park free of charge they should be charged a fee per night this would help with some of the council dept. There are alot of them staying there. Hopefully something is done before the council ruins wanganui

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 471

Speaking

First name: Vicki
Last name: Humphreys

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Davis Library for one day on the weekend instead of a weekday (add \$0.90 per property per year to the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Closing the library on Sunday is my preferred option with one day per week closure. This would be in line with other services that remain closed on Sundays. Saturday many facilities are open, however Sunday in many people's thinking is traditionally known for business, services, retailers, organisations to be closed. The library could well fit in with this form of practice too.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: maintenance on the pool is essential to be kept up to date, upgrade where basically it is necessary to meet guidelines. provide qualified lifeguards, set season ticket family prices, upgrade leisure area & facilities for families. This is an important place/location for the community in this area. include in public transport route, engage with local schools for use. promote a 'Friend of WE Pool' incentive scheme whereby individuals, families, business can be recognised in the upgrade, a lane, seating, paving, structure for preservation of history. 'Sell' wall space, footpath pavers, roof panels, shade structures, BBQ. supporters of the plumbing by local contractors.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required. Source quotes for what is required by civil engineers- put out for contractor prices...where did the estimated quote of \$250,000 come from? DO NOT sell the building. the building has been standing since 1882, it is part of Wanganui history, in fact NZ early history. The whole area of the location has very significant history, land marks, buildings,- Market Place, Ridgway St, Moutoa gardens, the river, tourist attractions etc. Seek funding support / listing rating from Heritage NZ to fund basic strengthening of the building up to safety code.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: keep the aviary open! Have a donation point entry at the turn style doorways. Create a "friends of the Aviary" group to do maintenance, feeding, utilise the skills of local bird enthusiasts. Appeal to the public(individuals , groups, families, business) to own/sponsor a bird (like sponsor a child via World Vision \$1 per day). Even the local veterinary services may pledge free service/sponsorship- the birds can't be that high need ! The aviary has stood the test of time since the 1970's and provides a great tourist and local attraction. It is Virginia Lake . The aviary is part of the whole Virginia lake attraction/experience along with the other features- playground, punchbowl, fountain, lake , bird life, Winter gardens, cafe. Virginia lake is Wanganui, Wanganui is Virginia Lake. If its ok for Virginia lake to have volunteers assisting (promoted on your FB page) then lets have likewise for the aviary, winter gardens if thats what it takes to keep the attraction for future generations.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: ask visitors to imagine a picture of Wanganui and they are bound to say the image of the avenue and the spectacular hanging baskets , the fountain and heritage buildings will spring to mind. Postcards, advertisements, calendars, banners, flyers etc all feature images of the iconic baskets along the Avenue .These must be kept on their twice yearly cycle of planting/replacement for our main street, side streets , gaslamp posts, arches etc.. How did Wanganui gain its prestigious award for two consecutive years as " the most beautifulsmall city title" Keep NZ Beautiful awards if it wasnt for the huge focus on the art and beautification including the hanging baskets and heritage buildings. these hanging baskets have enhanced our city atmosphere for 30 years, and have likely to have inspired other towns/cities to copy our CBD appearance by replicating them.As recommended by councillors I did contact Mainstreet on their suggestion to get details. Unfortunately Mainstreet I understand have been advised by council in April to cancel what was the order for the supply of the new replacement winter hanging baskets to be hung after the April/May removal of the current end of season baskets. Despite this 'have your say' submission option they have been ceased regardless from the out of town supplier, who must have been relying on the completion of the agreed contract order. What a huge disappointment this decision has been made prior to consultation with residential ratepayers and likely the Central Business District targeted rates payers too. Maybe the targeted rates payers pay a greater portion of the suggested \$5 per property towards the baskets than residential rate payers? Growing seedling plants, basket preparation, installation etc all takes time and sadly the what was to be May-December hanging baskets season included in Christmas events will be noticeably absent, invisible in any recorded images based on the cancellation of supply from the grower.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: the Gonville library is central to the community for a facility not to receive service as a library but provide a place for all the many many other users of the space. you only need to look at their timetable to see all the variety of activities it hosts, the wide range of users, topics, ages of people, networking. This venue is vital to be retained for the good it does for the children off the streets on the computers, the elderly alleviating isolation, young parents supporting each other in childcare matters etc. It is way more than just a place to borrow a book!

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Since you are preferring to increase the community grant fund by \$100,000 that a percentage of this extra funding goes to any organisations that are working with youth in the city since the council has dis-established the Youth Council representatives. Youth therefore need greater support , so those charities, services, organisations that work with young people are given an opportunity to be granted greater funding if they can substantiate their applications.

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: "Wanganui has long aspired to attract a hotel to the city " - this viewpoint- has there been a survey, consultation to base this statement upon? money must have already been paid out to obtain the figure of \$55 million for the price of hotel & carpark . As in the scenario of the Art gallery over runs, inflation, price increases, variation contingencies surely will see this figure increase over time, let alone completion should the project go ahead. I don't believe it is councils' role to be taking the lead with the development of a hotel & carpark, or even embarking on a detailed business case. is this really the role of our elected councillors and staff to be getting into this arena,, is this what they should be being paid for to explore. If Wanganui really has the need for this why hasnt it already happened by an investor/entrepreneur who has seen the gap, implemented the vision and funded the dream. Hotelling

doesn't seem the core business of elected councillors to administer the city civic matters. option 3 - do nothing means just that.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: no changes to existing road layout in this location please. People cross roads all over the city every day and night without the need for specific installed pavements and raised road crossings. In the interest of spending our precious resourced funds from a limited number of ratepayers surely this is one expense that is frivolous at upward of \$830,000. The reserve is a public space where people crisscross all over the grassed space, so no raised pavement crossing is going to be in the ideal location space for all users. Is the provision of a \$830,000 raised paved crossing actually going to restore the link between the land and the river. A clear entrance point that can be viewed from the river - is this therefore for the traffic on the river to disembark and walk up to Pakaitore reserve as they cant find the walk in spot? safety benefits with the volume of trucks and cars using this road to avoid Dublin street bridge would seem hazardous installing a \$830,000 paved raised crossing along a road where there is parked vehicles, poor vision as pedestrians step out . Common sense to cross the road again like we do on other streets around the city, wait for the traffic to pass, look left, look right, look left again then cross. Is there data for accidents occurred in this spot if it is for safety benefits ? Does this pedestrian crossing appeal to NZ Land Transport as a great idea to keep pedestrians and vehicles from collision? When the council is desperately trying to prune back expenses ,reduce rate increases- this expense which is sure to have price variations for completion seems over the top.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: when you are asset rich and cash poor it is imperative that you cut your cloth accordingly. ratepayers must be informed of what , where, when the \$16 million assets you are referring to are up for discussion regarding sale. Meanwhile in the interest of cutting back expenditure of ratepayers \$\$\$ only essential expenditure should be carried out. Just as a family operates its own household accounts , so too should the council be taking a close look under the microscope of its essential expenditure balanced with the income. Expensive raised paved crossings is a classic example of cut back in economic hardship.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1056

Speaking

First name: rosalie
Last name: irwin

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Before you cut the hours so people can visit the library how about some more parking. Common sense prevails

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Get someone who knows how to operate the pool from another council and stop paying consultants for nothing.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Keep the aviary open and reduce the bird numbers and this will result in less feed which will reduce the operating costs. No need for any rate increase

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Ask shop owners to pay for hanging baskets if they want one. The baskets are a stupid waste of money from the ratepayers

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close New Zealand Glassworks (save \$10.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Why don't Horizons pay for the rural collections

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: The gardens do not require that much money to operate, Put the gardens up for public tender.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Be careful what you sell. Make sure that NONE of the sales are sports ground.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Yes. I would like to see results of all submissions and have a scrutineer oversee this. The results should be made public.

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 250

Speaking

First name: **Bruce**
Last name: **Jellyman**
Organisation: **Brass Whanganui, Musical Director**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: See attached

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes

Submission: Long term plan 2024-2034

RE: the Royal Whanganui Opera House

By Bruce Jellyman

Musician and event organiser, Musical Director of BRASS WHANGANUI and Chairman of Whanganui Vintage Weekend Trust.

The question for me is what function do we need the opera house to have over the 20 year rating period it will take to pay for the works??

For the events that I am involved in, all community based projects with community related outcomes, the theatre will need to have a fully functioning fly floor, basic lighting in theatre, good sound reinforcement in theatre and space at the sides of the stage area along with dressing rooms.

The current stage with the scaffold support has restricted the stage area to an extent that I can't use it for some of my productions though the current lighting is adequate and the sound reinforcement is good.

The existing stage without the scaffold is better for my purposes but still limiting with regards to space. The toilets and dressing are oddly positioned to the stage and are sometime problematic.

Option 3 of the plan seems to provide for these problems solution and that is what I would recommend. There are a number of theatres to which the stage has been re build to do exactly the we need to do. Hasting Municipal Theatre (Toitoti) and the Rotorua theatre (Howard Morison Centre) are worth a look at.

Generally Whanganui is quite poorly off for theatre space that works. So the maintenance of the Opera House as the main facility is very important especially if the theatre is designed to be a flexible space available for multi-disciplined events. But then that is the case for the Memorial Hall which could be much more used if designed as flexible theatre/event spaces rather than the restricting Concert Chamber and hall for ball room dance.

We are missing out on many concert events bringing money to Whanganui because we just don't have adequate performance spaces.

Another conversation would be around what do we wish the Opera House to function as with regards to the commercial interests of the professional traveling shows versus the local events using the theatre. If Option 3 is followed through what does the income from events and charges get to with relation to the professional show versus the local content. It is an imperative that the Opera House is financially usable by local events.

Regards

Bruce Jellyman



Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 594

Speaking

First name: **Brian**
Last name: **Johnson**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: If a buyer is found and ownership changes hands to the new owner what guarantees will be in place to ensure this remains in Whanganui.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: The longer this is left the more it will cost in the future.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: It is not the Council's responsibility to be funding a new hotel or for ratepayers to be burdened with an unnecessary expense.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Implement a new counterweight flying system only within the existing stagehouse building structure (add \$44 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: The Opera House is an amazing building and has wonderful acoustics. It is obvious that the scaffolding needs to go and be replaced with an upgraded fly system to support lights etc. I understand that option 3 is preferred but given the current economic climate I believe we should at this stage only upgrade the fly system and leave the rest of the proposed changes under option 3 to some time in the future. There has been suggestion that if we proceed with option 3 then more shows and performers will be attracted to perform in the Opera House. I believe this is wishful thinking by those who believe this will happen mainly because the seating capacity is limited and this is one of the reasons that some promoters bypass the Opera House because of the seating capacity and the local community do not support large shows by purchasing tickets. Therefore, the promoters are not getting the sold out shows necessary to meet their expenses. The one thing that promoters look for is bums on seats and it is not happening to their satisfaction.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLs as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: We need to support the Surf Lifesavers to avoid more drownings in the future.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Unnecessary spending for something that is not required for an occasional use. Of greater concern is that this road carries a very large percentage of heavy motor vehicle traffic because of the Dublin Street Bridge weight limitations. This plan suggests the road be narrowed at this point which will be of concern to those road users. The document suggests that this proposal has safety benefits for pedestrians. Really!! How many pedestrians will use this crossing? Maybe during Pakaitore celebrations once a year but the council close the road when this is held so why do they need a crossing. The projected exorbitant cost would be better spent fixing our many footpaths that are in need of urgent remedial work.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 88

Speaking

First name: **Kaye**
Last name: **Johnson**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Wanganui East school is used by many families and is iconic

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Don't sell the land or develop it. Keep the Cafe

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Keep basket's and suck up the cost Wanganui is known for it's Flowers

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the drop off points for rural rubbish (save \$9.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Although not much is provided for rural areas

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: If you do close it you need to increase the mobile library's

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: If you do close it don't develop nor sell the land

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Cut Community grant funding by 10 percent or \$110,000 (save \$11.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Most people find it hard to find the money for rates please don't give it away

Further comments on service cuts: I live rurally have own water own sewage and am unable to put rubbish at the gate as live on a blind corner. I don't get services so why do I pay so much

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Provided it is used for walkways not cycle road

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Don't need hotel and car park. Sick of paying rates so council can bring income to the haves. Help the have nots

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: I'm poor

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: My Maori relative's provide for themselves and never see any money nor upgrades when the iwi have been given grants or payouts

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: It's an asset

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Wasting our money again plus cause's problems for emergency vehicle's

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Wasting money on non essentials

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: No assets are sold to repay debt (add \$23 per property to next year's proposed rates rise of 10.6% and \$43 per year thereafter)

Submitter Comments: Don't sell our assets do your job and try innovated ideas instead of robbing the rate payers

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Before making decisions stop spending money on what's PC or trending and realize \$5 for some people is their food for the day

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 214

Speaking

First name: **Margaret**
Last name: **Johnson**
Organisation: **President Friends of the Opera House**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: It is important to support the wanganui east suburb by retaining this facility and not expect them to travel to the splash centre. The emphasise on youngsters Learning to swim is extremely important.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: To stabilise the bank and offer the theatre to repertory for \$1. This special Little Theatre must be retained the performers who use repertory could not afford to hire the Opera House and repertory theatre is the ideal size for their needs whereas they would be "lost" in the Opera House.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: The aviary is an important attraction as part of the Virginia lake and Winter Gardens complex.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: This is a "nice to have" that is very special to this city and greatly admired by both locals and visitors. I understood from a conversation with a retailer a few years ago that each shop pays towards the cost of the baskets and so why the concern about costs to the council?

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: if NZ glass works goes out of council ownership it is very likely to be lost to Whanganui and be removed to a larger city eg Auckland !!

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: From one who has experienced a mishap on a dodgy footpath, we need to improve our core infrastructure sooner rather than later otherwise ongoing deterioration will incur more expense in the future.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Occasionally there is a need for more accommodation in the city but not at ratepayers expense. Encourage a developer for this project. Multi-storey car park not needed however the forecourt outside the memorial centre could be used for public parking when not required for an event in the hall.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Implement a new counterweight flying system only within the existing stagehouse building structure (add \$44 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: Please refer to attached notes

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: If grant funds had been used wisely on upgrades up till now, it should not be necessary to continue grant funding before 2027.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: Our surf lifesavers provided excellent service and appropriate facilities are essential for them to undertake training and development of their members.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: What a waste of ratepayer funds!! Absolutely not needed and due to the weight restriction on the deteriorating Dublin st bridge, any narrowing of this road would have a major impact on heavy motor vehicles that use this section of the roading network on a regular basis.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents Yes

ROYAL WHANGANUI OPERA HOUSE

Our beautiful 124 year old theatre is the only surviving wooden Victorian Opera House of its type in the Southern Hemisphere and so a truly unique building that must be retained. It is literally irreplaceable.

The character and charm of this heritage building is greatly admired by patrons and tourists alike. They just love it as it is!

Back in 1989, the Council at that time was keen to demolish the Opera House, however a group of like minded citizens arranged a public meeting and the Friends of the Opera House was formed. With massive hours put in by volunteers this theatre continues to stand proud in this city today.

We should not be comparing, or competing, with theatres in larger areas. We are only an hour away from Palmerston North and Whanganui people will travel there to see a show but history has proven that it does not happen in reverse. Palmerston North people do not travel here to our Opera House.

It is wishful thinking that any improvements backstage will bring larger shows (eg NZ Ballet) to the Opera House. I know a promoter personally who tours these larger shows and they are by-passing Whanganui because they do not get the support by way of ticket sales. They need a full house, not a half house, to make the expense of coming here worth their while. No amount of work on the Opera House will change that situation.

I understand from some users that there has already been a significant increase in charges to use the Opera House. I would "assume" that any cost of improvements would be passed on to the hirers by way of increased rental charges and then the promoters would increase their ticket prices to cover the additional expense. With Whanganui having an ageing population, and many on fixed incomes already concerned about the cost of their rates, they have to be very selective of what show/s they support. This is already becoming obvious, with some shows being "downstairs only" because the bookings do not support opening the circle.

Council has considerable debt, and with many in the Whanganui community already struggling financially, all options need to be reviewed as to whether these expenses are needed now, or can be put on hold for future consideration when the financial climate improves.

Option 1

Purchase of the scaffolding is a wise idea. Unbelievable that the Council has been paying a rental of \$3Kper month for the past 18 months, plus monthly inspection fees. By purchasing it there is something to sell later. This option could be a short term solution allowing the theatre to continue to operate until the financial climate improves.

Option 2

I believe that this would work, but seems very expensive for what is involved. It is hoped that any new structure would be constructed outside the existing walls before demolishing the existing internal areas, therefore reducing the time that the theatre will need to close. It is important that the backstage area is made safe and a new flying system is constructed at a legally appropriate weight bearing capacity.

Option 3 – a good option but perhaps a consideration for the future when we are in a more financially stable climate. We all know how budgets can get blown out!!

Option 4 - is not even a consideration!

We don't need the "grand ideas" that are put into much larger venues in larger cities. The heritage listed Royal Whanganui Opera House, with internationally renowned acoustics, has a seating capacity of around 800 for a community of around 50,000 citizens, and this suits us just fine!

Hearing:

The Friends of the Opera House Committee has requested that they be represented at a hearing by 3 representatives, being the President, Vice President, and Treasurer.

As with all proposals contained in the LTP:

Focus should be on the "need to have" NOT on the "nice to have"

Additional notes:

- * More rubbish bins needed in public parks. Why have they been removed?
- * Provide rolls of poo bags on payment of dog registration as is done in Dunedin. Perhaps this would encourage doggie walkers to pick up their doggie dos!!

Margaret Johnson
President
Friends of the Opera House
0274-509-456



1961

The first part of the report deals with the general situation in the country. It is followed by a detailed analysis of the various sectors of the economy. The report concludes with a number of recommendations for the future.

The second part of the report deals with the specific situation in the various regions of the country. It is followed by a detailed analysis of the various sectors of the economy in each region. The report concludes with a number of recommendations for the future.

The third part of the report deals with the specific situation in the various sectors of the economy. It is followed by a detailed analysis of the various sectors of the economy. The report concludes with a number of recommendations for the future.

The fourth part of the report deals with the specific situation in the various sectors of the economy. It is followed by a detailed analysis of the various sectors of the economy. The report concludes with a number of recommendations for the future.

As with all reports of this kind, the information presented is based on the best available data at the time of writing. It is hoped that the information presented will be of use to the various agencies concerned.

Additional information is available in the various reports of the various agencies concerned. It is hoped that the information presented will be of use to the various agencies concerned.

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Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1531

Speaking

First name: Ian
Last name: Jones

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Please keep this valuable Live Theatre Building. Proposal: That the Council sell to Repertory Theatre at a nominal fee. Similar to the sale of community halls several years ago. That the council stabilize the bank. This is going to be needed irrespective of the building being there or demolished. The Repertory Theatre caters for the creative and social wellbeing of all age groups. As well as putting on several plays a year the The Theatre also has a Play Reading group which meets monthly. The Whanganui Performing Arts Academy utilizes this venue catering for the development of school age Children. Not only producing Children's plays they also help in the building of confidence in its students alongside speech and dance. Council members that have been to a show at Repertory will know the uniqueness of the stage and seating. This cannot be replicated at either The Whanganui Royal Opera House or our other live Theatre, Amdram. I personally have performed several times on the stage and found it adequate for the shows that have been presented. I am sure those that have passed thru the doors over the years either as actors, backstage, Set construction, Wardrobe, front of house or patrons will get behind financially for the continued life of that little theatre. Please don't let this theatre close. We've already lost two live theatre groups. RSA Little Theatre and 4 Seasons Professional Theatre. Live Theatre is part of Whanganui's Art Community. Thank you for your time and consideration. Ian Jones

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: This is part of the uniqueness of our main street.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: This provides a great social hub for the community.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: we need to be on top of this even if it means we have to have a little hardship.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Implement a new counterweight flying system only within the existing stagehouse building structure (add \$44 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: I'm not sure what you mean about the stage house. I assume you mean the stage. I have performed on the stage and see no reason to change it. Its served us for all these years why make major changes.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments: The Marae is possible the only place that could cater for large amounts of people displace either thru flooding, Earthquake or Volcanic emergency. I fully support this.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: Not a user of the beach it is still important for the community to have adequate facilities for Surf Life Saving.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: No assets are sold to repay debt (add \$23 per property to next year's proposed rates rise of 10.6% and \$43 per year thereafter)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 920

Speaking

First name: **Tania**
Last name: **King**
Organisation: **Sport Whanganui, CEO**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: We support having an outdoor pool in our community but understand the cost of operating it affects ratepayers. In most cases pool facilities are not built as financial investments. They are costly to construct and operate. Those that are not private, commercial facilities (swim schools and tourist spas.) will operate at a financial loss. Therefore, the return on investment for most pool facilities is not driven by financial returns but by wellbeing returns. Sport NZ estimates that overall for every \$1 spent on sport and physical activity \$2.12 of social return is generated and aquatic facilities contributes to this. Completing a district aquatics strategy/feasibility study before the pool is either closed or invested in is the best approach to ensuring we are maximising social returns and minimising the financial burden on ratepayers. Our preferred action is completing the strategy/feasibility study during the pool's off-season and revisiting the decision once the need in the district is understood.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Community grants enable locally-led development and events, which make a significant contribution to the community. We support increasing this funding. We would particularly like to see increased funding to the Sport and Recreation Facilities fund.

Further comments on service cuts: We are concerned that the decision to reduce parks maintenance will come at the cost of our community using these spaces for recreation. One of the five main goals of the WDC's Open Spaces and Physical Activity Strategy is that our whole community can experience our parks and open spaces. Maintenance can significantly impact on the perception of our parks as welcoming, safe and enjoyable spaces and is key to achieving the strategy's goal. Decreased maintenance of our parks also creates accessibility and safety issues that need to be considered. We understand that savings need to be found, but we are concerned the approach to these cuts will have a negative impact on community wellbeing through reduced access to our parks and open spaces. We would like to know: what parks are facing a reduction of service and to what extent? What criteria did the council use to come to decisions around what service reductions will be made at which parks/areas? There is no mention of sports facilities in the consultation document. What, if anything, is proposed around sports field maintenance?

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Don't know

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: We agree that a lack of accommodation is a limiting factor for hosting events, such as the Masters Games and sports tournaments. There is inarguably a need for more accommodation to support these events. However, there are a number of factors to consider, such as the council's broader strategy for attracting events and catering to different needs of visitors. For example, travelling sports teams will have accommodation requirements that may be different to visitors coming in for a weekend arts event. Our preferred action is for the council to complete and socialize a feasibility/scoping study for the hotel and car park and for consultation to be undertaken once the community has the information needed to assess the projected benefits against costs.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Don't know

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Don't know

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: The Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service is critical to ensuring safe enjoyment of our beaches. They contribute significantly to community wellbeing and we endorse further investment in this organization and its infrastructure.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Consistent with the council's Open Spaces and Physical Activity Strategy, we support the development of our parks and open spaces to better support access and increased use of these facilities. However, we would need to see a concept plan to evaluate the potential benefit of the development against the costs. Our preferred action is for the council to complete and socialize a concept plan, and for consultation to be undertaken once the community has enough information to assess the potential benefits against costs.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments: We support the development of this trail and expect it will be a well-used recreational asset for our community. We also support the council's plan to investigate options for external funding as mentioned in the consultation document.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: We understand the need to reduce debt, however we have serious concerns about the lack of transparency around this question. Asset sales have the potential to affect sport and recreation significantly. We do not want to see a loss of sports facilities, nor for neighbourhoods to lose access to recreational spaces. Our preferred action is for the council to clarify which assets will be sold, and for consultation to be undertaken once the community has enough information to assess the potential losses against the impact on rates.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the

lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Overall, we're disappointed by the options and lack of detail presented. The approach of consulting before feasibility studies or business cases are completed does not allow the community to put forward informed opinions. As it stands, it is difficult for us to fully understand the potential impact of this LTP (positive or negative) on our sector. We are also concerned by the potential impact of both asset sales and service reductions on our parks, open spaces and sports facilities. We firmly believe that divestment in these spaces and places will be to the detriment of community wellbeing, and hope the goals set out in the Open Spaces and Physical Activity Strategy remain a priority for the council.

Supporting documents

Yes

Social Return on Investment (SROI) of Recreational Physical Activity in Aotearoa New Zealand

SUMMARY REPORT
OCTOBER 2022



Foreword

Sport New Zealand Ihi Aotearoa is a kaitiaki (guardian) of the Aotearoa New Zealand play, active recreation, and sport system, and is committed to building a system that reflects its commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. As a crown agency, we promote and support quality experiences to improve levels of physical activity and through this ensure the greatest impact on wellbeing for all New Zealanders. Sport New Zealand Ihi Aotearoa is interested in better understanding and demonstrating the contribution of recreational physical activity to the wellbeing of people living in Aotearoa New Zealand. This has been a unique opportunity to conduct world-leading analysis into the value of recreational physical activity for society, with a view to inform future government investment and strategy.

There is a growing body of literature supporting the contribution of recreational physical activity (refer to Appendix 2 for definition) to wellbeing outcomes, such as improved health, better social connections, higher levels of social inclusion and trust, and better community engagement. This makes investment in recreational physical activity (including play, active recreation and sport) a potentially cost-effective intervention for addressing multiple, complex social issues. However, in the face of multiple competing investment priorities,

there is a need to better justify investment in play, active recreation, and sport. A critical part of building this case is understanding the value of the outcomes of recreational physical activity, and the cost of achieving these outcomes. This includes understanding the value to Māori participating as Māori, explored within a Te Ao Māori worldview. Ihi Aotearoa is on a bi-cultural journey and will remain committed to increase our learning of Māori culture, reflect this learning into our system and honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

We commissioned a consortium of international researchers, jointly led by Sheffield Hallam University (United Kingdom) and the Agribusiness and Economics Research Unit (AERU) at Lincoln University (New Zealand) acting in partnership with Ihi Research and 4 Global, to conduct a Social Return on Investment (SROI) of recreational physical activity in Aotearoa New Zealand.



Introduction

The aim of the study is to better understand, demonstrate, and communicate the contribution of recreational physical activity to the wellbeing of people living in Aotearoa New Zealand. The objectives of the study are to:

1. Improve understanding of the value of recreational physical activity to tangata whenua and all New Zealanders.
2. Set a benchmark for reliable and responsible social impact methods in Aotearoa New Zealand's play, active recreation, and sport sector.
3. Support cross-government conversations on investment in recreational physical activity for wellbeing outcomes.

This study uses a Social Return on Investment (SROI) framework to measure the social impact of recreational physical activity in Aotearoa New Zealand in 2019 (Appendix 3). The approach we used is evaluative and this means it was conducted retrospectively and is based on participation which has already taken place.

The study also examines the value of outcomes articulated by Māori stakeholders, without monetarising these in the SROI.



Key findings

Recreational physical activity generates considerable value to society beyond the traditional economic measures identified in previous studies.

The literature review found evidence of mixed volume and quality on the extent to which sport and recreational physical activity contributes to wellbeing outcomes in Aotearoa New Zealand. Of the papers found, the largest volume of literature was around social and community development, followed by physical health. For the other identified outcome areas of subjective wellbeing, individual development and personal development, there were smaller volumes of literature. Despite the varying volumes of existing literature, there was some compelling and useful evidence providing some examples of the links between recreational physical activity and wellbeing outcomes in each of the areas for specific sub-groups, including for Māori communities. In terms of quality of evidence available, physical health was the strongest area. Generally, across all areas the review revealed a lack of research on the monetary valuation of outcomes related to recreational physical activity in Aotearoa New Zealand.

The literature review conducted for this study provides a baseline for ongoing work in this area.

Social Return on Investment

Total inputs are estimated to be \$7.95bn. A feature of the recreational physical activity sector is its large reliance on voluntary labour. This accounts for 38.8 percent of total investment, followed by household expenditure, which accounts for 37.2 percent.

The total value of all social outcomes is estimated at \$16.8bn. The largest contribution by a considerable margin comes from health benefits, even after allowing for the cost of active accident and injury claims related to sport and recreation.

The health benefits total \$9.0bn, or \$8.4bn net of the injury claims. This accounts for close to one-half of the net social value generated by recreational physical activity in Aotearoa New Zealand. The second largest domain is subjective wellbeing (\$3.3bn, or 19.7 per cent), closely followed by work, care and volunteering (\$3.09bn). In comparison, the contributions of recreational physical to the other domains are lower, although this may reflect the lack of evidence currently available for valuing these benefits.

The estimated Net Present Value (that is, the difference between the value of the outcomes and inputs) is \$8.86bn, which implies a Social Return on Investment of 2.12.

For every \$1 invested in recreational physical activity, \$2.12 worth of social impacts are generated.

The findings of the monetary valuation are summarised in the infographic on the next page.

The research included a sensitivity analysis of this conclusion. The research team is confident about the inputs data, and so we tested the sensitivity of the benefit assumptions in the SROI model in two ways. First, we tested the implications of alternative assumptions for four key components in the benefits, and then we combined the Low assumptions and we combined the High assumptions to present an overall picture of the range of possible values depending on different assumptions. This analysis resulted in a range of SROI values from 1.18 to 3.10.

Social Return on Investment (SROI)

For recreational physical activity in Aotearoa New Zealand 2019



PARTNERS

Sheffield Hallam University | Sport Industry Research Centre



Agribusiness & Economics Research Unit
LINCOLN UNIVERSITY



As with previous international SROI studies of this nature, the estimates provided for the monetised outcomes are conservative. The research only included social outcomes that could be robustly evidenced, to maintain a higher level of rigour in the study. We have excluded some items for which insufficient evidence exists or there is a lack of data, for example social outcomes relating to children and young people. As such, the findings of this research are likely to underestimate the true social value of recreational physical activity in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Māori outcomes (not monetised)

Māori aspirations are derived from an accumulation of heritage including knowledge systems, values and beliefs, and their manifestations in objects, practices and concepts – all of which have an innate life force or mana. It was agreed these outcomes must therefore be treated accordingly, not measured for their contributions to economic expenditure or production.

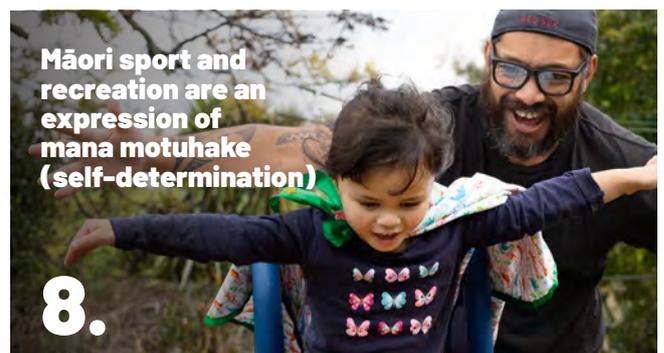
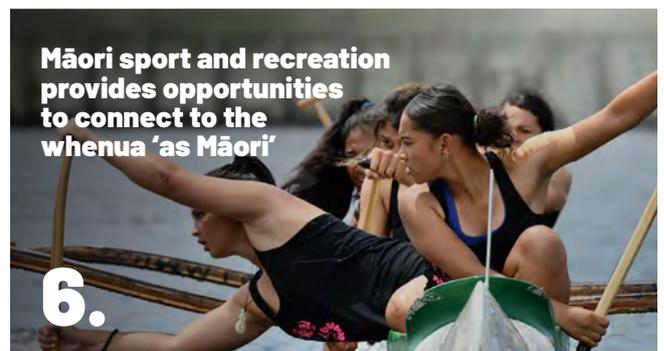
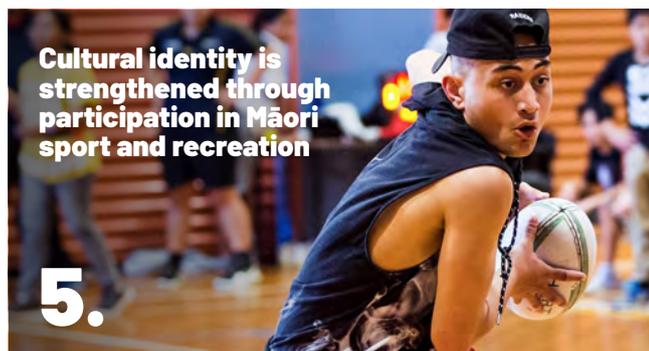
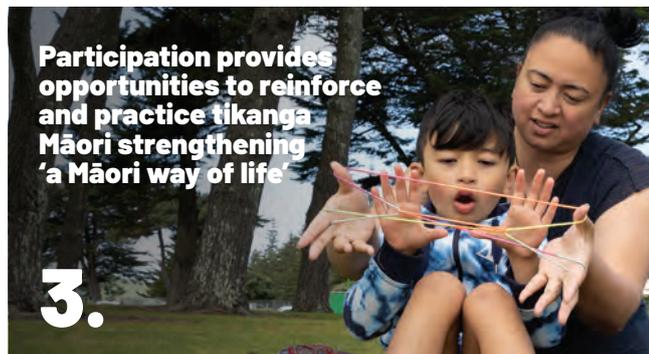
Māori stakeholders described outcomes that are consistent with Māori views of wellbeing, noting dimensions other than physical – that is, spiritual, mental, emotional, cultural health, all within a context of environmental health. These non-monetised outcomes reported by Māori are particularly evident in

Māori sport and recreation events that are run ‘by Māori for Māori’ where Māori can participate ‘as Māori’. Analysis of qualitative data demonstrates that recreational physical activity makes a significant contribution to Māori wellbeing through strengthening intergenerational relationships and reinforcing cultural values, beliefs, social norms and knowledge. ‘As-Māori’ organisations and events utilise sport and recreation as a vehicle to reclaim and reinvigorate Māori collective communities of care.



Outcomes for Māori in recreational physical activity in Aotearoa

Sport and recreation make a significant contribution to Māori wellbeing through strengthening intergenerational relationships and reinforcing cultural values, beliefs, social norms and knowledge.



Conclusions

The SROI analysis revealed that recreational physical activity generates considerable value to society beyond the traditional economic measures identified in previous studies of the value of sport and recreation in Aotearoa New Zealand. It identified a wide range of benefits to society, spanning across several domains of wellbeing, including health; subjective wellbeing; income consumption and wealth; work, care and volunteering; family and friends; and safety. The study revealed that the concept and understanding of value from the perspective of tangata whenua and all New Zealanders varies considerably, and that for some outcomes, it is simply not appropriate, desirable, or possible to monetise the contribution of recreational physical activity.



Appendix 1

This report has been commissioned by Sport New Zealand Ihi Aotearoa and prepared by the following authors: Professor Larissa Davies, Professor Paul Dalziel and Dr. Catherine Savage, on behalf of an international consortium of researchers from Sheffield Hallam University; AERU, Lincoln University; Ihi Research and 4GLOBAL.



Sport Industry Research Centre (SIRC)

The Sport Industry Research Centre (SIRC) is part of Sheffield Hallam University (United Kingdom). SIRC comprises a team of researchers who commonly apply the principles of economics, management science and social science to solve real world problems. The SIRC team have pioneered the use of economics in sport and physical activity in three main areas: calculating the value of sport to the economy, measuring the economic impact of events, and valuing the wider social impacts achieved by sport.



Ihi Research

Ihi Research is a New Zealand Māori owned research company. Since 2013, Ihi Research has undertaken a wide range of projects involving community research for private companies, trusts, government agencies, and NGOs. Ihi Research are committed to producing research that represents the interests of the Māori communities they work for. They have previously completed research and evaluation for Whānau Ora and Sport New Zealand, evaluating the impact of investment for tamariki and their whānau in Te Waipounamu.



The Agribusiness and Economics Research Unit (AERU)

The Agribusiness and Economics Research Unit (AERU) at Lincoln University (New Zealand) was created by a decision of the New Zealand Cabinet in 1962. Since then, the AERU has provided economic and social analysis for a wide range of public and private sector organisations. Its mission is to exercise leadership in research for sustainable wellbeing. It has previously completed research for Sport New Zealand on the economic contribution of the sport and recreation sector to the New Zealand economy.



4GLOBAL

4GLOBAL is sports technology company listed on the London Stock Exchange. 4GLOBAL provides strategic services and technical expertise to organisations across the sport and physical activity ecosystem. Specialist areas include major event planning, legacy strategies / sport for development, delivering and evidencing the social value associated with sport, and building advocacy around the role of sport in society. 4GLOBAL's proprietary DataHub is the largest sports and physical activity database in the world and ensures advice provided is data driven. Powered by over 70 integrations with data capture systems around the world we work with a live database of over two billion visits to sport facilities and clubs.

Appendix 2

There is no standard definition of recreational physical activity used by Sport New Zealand Ihi Aotearoa or other stakeholder groups. For the purposes of this study, the research team agreed a broad definition with Sport New Zealand Ihi Aotearoa, as follows:

Competitive sport, undertaken in an organised structure, for example, in a competition or tournament, or informally outside an organised structure; and non-competitive active recreation for enjoyment and wellbeing, that occurs in the

built, landscape and natural environments. This may include activities such as kapa haka, fitness/exercise, dance, tramping, outdoor recreation and active play, but excludes household activities such as gardening, and other domestic activities. Active transport for work commuting was also excluded.

All activities falling within this definition are included within the scope of the study.

Appendix 3

Research approach

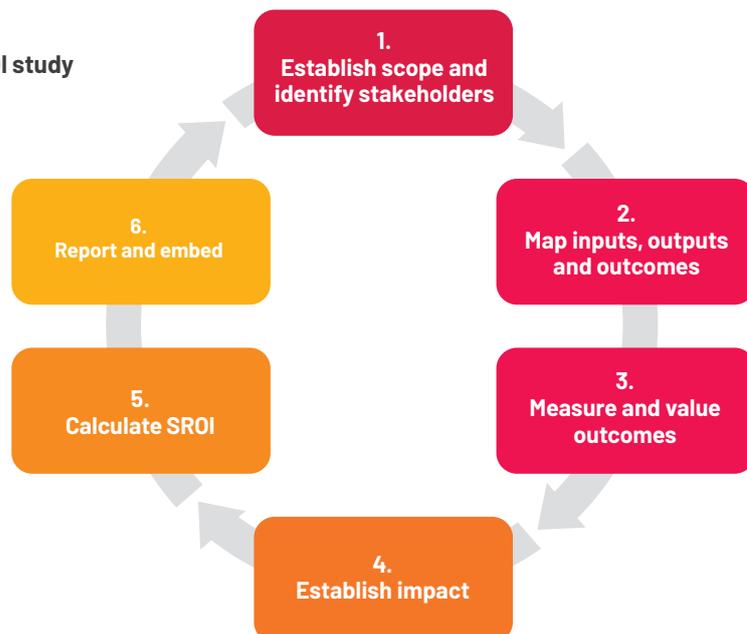
This study uses a SROI framework to measure the social impact of recreational physical activity in Aotearoa New Zealand in 2019. It measures the value of outcomes generated through sports participation and volunteering and the net costs, or inputs, of providing opportunities for engagement. The SROI analysis expresses the monetary value of outcomes in relation to the inputs. The SROI is evaluative – this means it was conducted retrospectively and is based on participation which has already taken place.

The Aotearoa New Zealand SROI model estimates the monetary value of nine outcomes across six domains of wellbeing including: two health outcomes; three outcomes related to subjective wellbeing; and one outcome each from income, consumption and wealth, work, care and volunteering, family and friends, and safety.

The study also examines the value of outcomes articulated by Māori stakeholders, without monetarising these in the SROI. Māori aspirations are derived from an accumulation of heritage including knowledge systems, values and beliefs, and their manifestations in objects, practices and concepts – all of which have an innate life force or mana. It was agreed these outcomes must therefore be treated accordingly, not measured for their contributions to economic expenditure or production.

Data for the analysis was collected through a mix of methods, including a desk-based literature review, stakeholder interviews and secondary data collection. The figure below outlines the six stages of the SROI analysis in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Figure 1: The stages of an SROI study





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Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 486

Speaking

First name: Tash
Last name: Kingi
Organisation: None

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Move to amdram

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Put a better whanau orientated space in the area

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Don't know

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Start looking at upgrading our sport facilities eg stadium

Further comments on service cuts: Nope

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Stay true to what your community is saying to you

Supporting documents **No**

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 812

Speaking

First name: **Stephen**
Last name: **Lace**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: I see great value in community swimming pools which bring swimming skills, joy and healthy exercise in a safe environment. We place - correctly - a high value on human life. Pools such as WHANGANUI EAST help develop valuable water and swimming skills.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Sad but seems necessary to demolish or sell the building.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: WDC is best placed to determine - in the current environment - - whether the Whanganui in Bloom hanging baskets are worth the investment.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close New Zealand Glassworks (save \$10.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Close or sell the Glassworks or lease the site to an artist. WDC should never have purchased this building and business. The operation is best run by private enterprise.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Libraries can be closed for 1-2 days per week. The public can adapt.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Cut Community grant funding by 10 percent or \$110,000 (save \$11.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Core infrastructure should be Council's main focus. We seem to be making progress on Stormwater but our roads / streets are in poor condition.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: WDC should not try to pretend that it has any expertise in the hotel business. Other factors have had a recent impact on available beds including WDC's own actions. Leave it to commercial operators to identify the opportunity and come to you to discuss.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments: Do nothing. Wait until we have improved WDC's financial position - then reconsider.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Marae seem to be well resourced and to have been well provided for. You have not provided detailed reports on the condition and current capability of the various Marae.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: Support the new facility but with a firm limit of \$1M.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments: This is a good idea and will greatly reduce danger to vulnerable users.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Hard to have a clear / firm opinion if you do not indicate what assets might be sold. But - you are making new investments so perhaps sale of under-used or under-performing assets is wise.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **1**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 134

Speaking

First name: Murray
Last name: Lazelle

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: I note the intention to sell Glassworks in the near term. That it costs \$192,000pa to operate indicates that a sale will be difficult. I understand the desire to avoid the ongoing costs associated with supporting the entity but caution against making any quick decision. The Drews Ave

cultural precinct, in which Council has already made investments, is a significant visitor attraction. The Glassworks hot shop and store is an important part of the cultural offering in that area and a key Whanganui visitor attraction. We need to keep it operating and publicly available.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts: Sarjeant Gallery I understand that Council is calling for Sarjeant Gallery to reduce its operating costs by 10%. In my view that is at odds with the significant investment that has already been made and the need to capitalise on that investment particularly in its first year to re-opening. The 2024 re-opening is a one-off opportunity to showcase the prize that has resulted from years of investment and hard work. We shoot ourselves in the foot if we undermine the promotion of this activity to the rest of NZ.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: I was the financial controller of the company that built the 220 room Park Royal Hotel (now Intercontinental) in Wellington. The hotel proposed by Council is effectively a small boutique (code for expensive) hotel. Hotels need to have scale to support the full range of services that customers expect. Any hotel would need to have a management arrangement with a national chain in order to link with other centres. The manager gets all operational costs covered as well as a fee. The Building owner gets the residual, if any. Hotel ownership (as opposed to management) is a risky proposition. In the case of the Wellington Park Royal it costs \$220m to build, was sold soon after completion to National Provident fund for less than \$100m and has passed through various owners with the current owner having acquired it for \$50m before undertaking a major renovation in 2013. New builds might work in major centres, but they work better once the value has been significantly eroded. Spending \$32m on a hotel in a small regional community like Whanganui is a reckless waste of ratepayers money. It is aimed at the wrong market – visitors to Whanganui for sporting events, arts trail & masters games, need motel-type accommodation in a price range of \$125 to \$175. A 60 bed boutique hotel will do nothing to alleviate the problem. Council is already part of the problem – Council’s purchase of Collegiate motel and the former St Georges premises took viable accommodation options off the table.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments: I do not agree with an expensive back-of-house renovation of the Opera House. We do not need state of the art facilities in regional entertainment hall and the town cannot afford it. It will make no difference to the community audience and offers to increase on revenues, but leaves ratepayers with long term costs. My view is that the work should be deferred if possible.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: I think this ought to be the preserve of Central Government so that all Marae get a fair opportunity and the government can assess the environmental risks and plan accordingly. A recent report has highlighted deficiencies in our national response to crises and Government is best placed to allocate resources.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Construct new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa (This is Council's preferred option, and would cost \$6 per property per year for 10 years from 2029/30)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Electric bikes enable cyclists to travel further but we cannot afford to give long range recreational riders special bike lanes. The cycle network within Whanganui is the priority. In relation to a route beyond the city boundary, I would prefer completing the Upokongaro loop down the State Highway back to Whanganui

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Pilot School In 2015 WDC bought the Manawatu Flying School. By June 2022 it had spent \$5.6m on planes/simulators and significant funds on buildings. In support of the venture Council bought Nazareth Rest home, the Collegiate Motor Inn, the former St Georges premises and bought its maintenance provider AeroCare. The ambitions for this empire have no bounds: In 2020 it had agreed to buy 22 aircraft for US\$17m (later cancelled) and in November 2023 it looked at buying the Hawkes Bay Flying School. The major contract appears to be with a low-cost Indian airline, Indigo. The airline sources pilots through a number of international providers including Australia and USA. Pilot training is an internationally competitive industry and I am not sure what natural advantage Whanganui thinks that it has. Indigo will have may pilot training options and these arrangements typically end up in a race to the bottom as providers compete on fees and equipment. At June 2022 the school's liabilities exceed its assets. WDC's investment now relies on turning the business around. The company has defaulted on its financial filing obligations and I assume that was because the auditor was questioning the viability of the business. So should the ratepayers. A pilot school is not a core business of Council. The current LTP provides for the preparation of a strategic plan for the airport. This ought to have been done before council committed to this high-needs business. Whanganui ratepayers being asked to make difficult choices about which community facilities services and events they will have to give up. It's disappointing that one of the contributors to this is an unnecessary effort to get into the aviation business. It's a reminder that council's role is to facilitate the environment that will attract business, not be the business. I don't know what the exit strategy is, but I hope for ratepayers sake that there is one.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 46

Speaking

First name: **Murray**
Last name: **Lazelle**
Organisation: **Whanganui Musicians Club**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes



65 Drews Avenue
Whanganui 4500

whanganuimusicians@gmail.com

2 May 2024

LONG TERM PLAN 2024-2034 CONSULTATION DOCUMENT
Whanganui District Council
101 Guyton Street
Whanganui 4500
policysubmissions@whanganui.govt.nz

Musicians Club Submission on the Long Term Plan

1. The Whanganui Musicians Club owns the building on the land at 65 Drews Avenue. Much of the building is unchanged from its use by the Savage Club and some dates to its construction in 1893. No significant conservation work has ever been done on the building. In about 2005 Council sold the building to the Savage Club with the aim of avoiding the \$200,000 of future capital costs estimated to hang over the building at that time.
2. The Musicians Club has a membership of about 120 and nominal financial resources. Its revenues are sufficient to sustain the delivery of live music including the sound, lighting and other equipment associated with a live performance venue, but it does not have the resources to address any capital needs of the building or to meet the increasing maintenance costs that come with the building.
3. In April 2021 the Club made a submission on the 2021 LTP (Sub 583), requesting that the Council recognise the building as a community building and to address the restoration needs of the building. Council appeared to be warm to considering the submission and referred it to the Property and Community Services Committee.
4. The Club had no further response to the submission and in October 2022 initiated a meeting with Council officers. There was strong push-back from Council officers who indicated that they would not support any Council assistance with a renovation project apart from what might be achievable through the small Heritage grant scheme.
5. In May 2021 the Club obtained \$30,000 of funding from Lotteries Environment & Heritage for a Conservation Report. In order to maintain momentum of the renovation project, the Club

applied to WDC's Heritage Grant scheme in May 2023 for \$33,580 for the preparation of detailed plans and the work to obtain Building and Resource Consents. The Club was successful as to \$13,432. We then applied to Lotteries Environment & Heritage for the balance of the plan costs. We await their decision.

6. The renovation costs are unknown but the Conservation Report called for strengthening work, particularly inground work due to the site on an old sand hill, so the costs are possibly in the range of \$200,000 to \$300,000. Philanthropic entities are supportive of the work and understand the community benefit associated with the project.
7. The Club is at a critical decision point. Contractors are highly unlikely to be prepared to enter into a contract on a heritage/strengthening renovation with a Club of 120 members, in circumstances where a fixed price won't be possible and where the work will possibly include archaeological support for any underground work. In the absence of Council support, there is little point pursuing building consents if the actual building work cannot be completed in the near future.
8. In terms of Council support, the Club believes that core funding can be obtained from philanthropic organisations, with the result that Council support would be limited to some upfront costs ahead of a building contract and some form of underwrite or assurance to the contractor that it will be paid.
9. If Council intends that this important building be restored so as to safeguard and facilitate the public's continued use of the building, Council will need to provide for this in its Long-Term Plans.
10. To be clear, we are not asking for Council to support the Musicians Club. We are asking Council to recognise the building as a community building and to provide in its Long-Term Plan for the capital work to sustain one of Whanganui's most unique heritage assets.

We wish to speak to our submission.

Murray Lazell

for

Anne Keating - Secretary

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1053

Speaking

First name: Stephen
Last name: lee

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: If we want to keep this in Whanganui there needs to be local ownership

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Council takes the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to outcome of detailed business case (Council's preferred option - this would add \$30 per property per year from 2025/26 through to 2038/39, after which the returns from the hotel and carpark will start to offset rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: More info required -as I don't believe these options should be this black and white.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Provide no funding to the project (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Simply not a priority in today's economic conditions

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Please be advised that click and Drag function does not work.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1314

Speaking

First name:

Sharon

Last name:

Lienert

Organisation:

Stone Soup - Champions member of the community

led development steering committee

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: 1 - The health, educational, literacy benefits 2 - Economically marginalised community with high health and social needs; this hub (community) library indirectly contributes to - health, safety and connection for an aging population, and also for youth and families. It's wide range of activities, its promoting of literacy, a safe place to connect and socialise, is indispensable to the cohesive functioning of an often overlooked undervalued community. The library indirectly and directly the health and safety needs along with cohesion, belonging and development.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Explore cheaper alternative. Potential facility?

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Keep exploring more cost effective options!

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: I propose further research into possible options for each proposed budget cut proposal

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 860

Speaking

First name: John
Last name: Maguire

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: First, the way in which the options are presented for response is inappropriate and seems designed to elicit a certain response. Keeping the library's opening hours as is would not add to the rates bill. Council has assumed the library will close for one day per week and has budgeted for this saving. I think the presentation is skewed. Secondly, what cost benefit analysis has been carried out to justify the proposed closure? My personal experience is that the Davis library is well-used by the community. The Consultation Paper states: "In 2022/23 our libraries welcomed 300,000 visitors and issued nearly 570,000 items, including 115,000 digital items, to our 21,000 members." The 2023 Annual Report which reported 288,722 physical visits to Whanganui's libraries with 52% of the population having used the libraries. The Annual report states: "Footfall has begun to stabilise with a return to consistent visits (particularly at the Davis Library) across the reporting period. There has been a 46% increase in physical visits when measured against the same period of the previous year (Jul 21 to Jun 22). (<https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/reports/wdc2023annualreport-311023-with-signed-audit-opinion.pdf>) So the Divis library is well-used - albeit less than the KPI number against which its performance is measured - but anyone who has worked with KPIs knows that how they are set can be arbitrary and unrealistic, I am not saying this is the case here, not enough information seems publicly available to form a view. The fact that Davis library is well used appears to be supported by Council's plan to invest in extending the library. This is what Council wrote at the time of consulting on extending the library: "Whanganui district libraries are one of the council's most used facilities. The Davis Library has approximately 250,000 people through its doors every year, with a further 100,000 using the other venues and the mobile library. The Davis Library is a well-used public space – a place to meet, to relax, to attend events and family activities, to learn, to do research, or to plan a business. It is a non-commercial space for the whole community, open to all. Whanganui's population is growing, and the library provision for our community is well below national standards in terms of space and collections. Improving the provision of space and collection would ensure we are able to meet future community needs and the collections are easily accessible to all. Extension of the Davis Library would address part of the existing provision shortfall and future requirements. It would take total provision in the district to 80% of the New Zealand standard for public libraries." Council's proposal to close the library one day per week to save a paltry \$43,000 per year seems non-sensical taking into account how well used the library is by the community, the proposed extension of the library and the fact that the Consultation Paper contains proposals to spend on projects with little community benefit far larger amounts than the \$43,000 proposed saving here.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for

Something else (state below)

outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Again, the way in which the proposal is presented is disappointing. No information is provided about the usage of the pool. How many days a year is it open and how many people use it? The consultation paper only addresses the cost side of the equation with no meaningful reference to the benefit side. Council should provide meaningful information and reconsult the public so that a fully informed consultation response may be obtained from the community.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Again, the way in which the question is posed is skewed. There is a psychological difference between asking people if they are willing to pay more to keep services/amenities the same on the one hand and on the other hand asking if they are willing to accept a cut in services/amenities for a cost saving. As before, no numbers are provided about the communities use of the aviary. No numbers are provided about whether the aviary draws in visitors from outside the area. Having said that, I support the closure because I consider that there are other things that the money can be spent on which would better benefit our community.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: I find it amazing that Council has looked at cost cutting so carefully that it comes up with this proposal to save \$93,000 per year when at the same time it is proposing spending \$55m on a hotel and carpark with doubtful financial return. As for the flowers, they do make the main street more attractive but if Council is serious about being prudent with our money (the Consultation Paper does not provide comfort in this regard) then I am happy to forego the flowers.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Council should charge for this service. Why is this not a case of 'user pays'? Council could sell stickers which rural residents could place on their rubbish bags when leaving them at the drop off points. The effectiveness of this could be reviewed after a period of time. It is unfair that city dwellers subsidize rural dwellers in terms of rubbish collection. City dwellers have to pay for their waste collection, so should rural dwellers regardless of who provides the service.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Again, the consultation paper is devoid of data on usage of this facility. In the absence of data I would support retaining the library as they are important community amenities.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Again, no data on usage is provided. If there is significant usage then Council should consider charging a small amount for entry. This could be done using an honesty box so that there is not additional staff costs.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: No details are provided as to what projects are being funded and what percentage of the relevant project's funding is provided by Council. Accordingly, it is difficult to respond meaningfully or on an informed basis. Council should provide more information and then reconsult on this issue. Pending this, I would suggest maintaining the status quo.

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: However, funding must be used wisely in a way which maximises real benefits to our community.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: The proposal that Council funds the building of a hotel and a covered car park is a really bad idea. The amounts proposed to be invested are huge, the hotel alone is reported to be going to cost \$55m. Why is no cost benefit analysis set out in the Consultation Paper? Why are the financial projections with assumptions and bases not set out? There is an old saying with regard to projections, 'rubbish in, rubbish out'. We should be given the opportunity to assess for ourselves if this is the case here. If there is an opportunity in the market for a new hotel to make a good return on investment, then

the private sector will fund it and build it. Same with a carpark. If the position is that investors in the private sector are not willing to make such investment because the risk/reward is not considered attractive, then Council should not do so either. On 23 December 2022, the Whanganui Chronicle published a report under the headline "Possibility of a new Whanganui hotel hampered by profit projections and construction costs". So warning bells have been sounding about this project for quite some time yet it still makes it into the Consultation Paper. The Council states in the consultation paper with regard to Council funding the building of a new hotel and a covered carpark: "The projects will only proceed if the business cases demonstrate that there is demand and the projects are financially viable i.e. that the hotel and carpark will be able to provide returns to offset rates by 2038/39." Let's just take a moment to think about what the criteria is that the Council is adopting in deciding whether the projects are financially viable and should proceed. Council is saying the test is whether the projections will show the projects generating a return (i.e., becoming profitable) by 2038/39 - in 14 to 15 years from now. No minimum level of return is specified so any amount of projected profit appears acceptable. That is ridiculous. But this is not the biggest problem with the Council's approach. Forecasts going out 14 or 15 years are by their nature going to be incredibly unreliable. Council acting prudently and responsibly should not rely upon such a projection so far into the future with all the uncertainty which goes with it as the test for whether the investments are financially viable. In fact, I would suggest that if the projections only show the proposed hotel and carpark becoming profitable in 14 to 15 years time, then that demonstrates that they are not a sound investment for Council to make now. A hotel feasibility report, commissioned by the Council and released in 2022, opined that a four-star full-service hotel of 60 rooms was the optimal financially viable development. This report noted the loss of about 150 hotel rooms in Whanganui over the previous 10 to 15 years. The irony is that in 2000, WDC Holdings purchased the Quality Inn Collegiate on Liverpool Street for use by the pilots academy to accommodate international students. The hotel had three conference rooms and could cater for groups of up to 100. It also had a highly regarded restaurant, The Oaks, which has now been lost to the community. Assuming Whanganui does have a shortage of accommodation (Council should provide occupancy rates for hotel accommodation in Whanganui), then it beggars belief that Council is proposing to risk a vast amount of money on fixing a problem which it helped to create. WDC Holdings Ltd also purchased and renovated the former 41 bed Nazareth Rest Home on St Johns Hill in 2019 to accommodate international students of NZICPA (at the time its subsidiary). Perhaps this could have been converted to a hotel. As for the proposed carpark, there is ample parking in town. A covered carpark is likely to be an eyesore which may attract undesirable activities. I would be surprised if it will represent a good financial investment (moreover one which would be funded by debt in a high interest rate environment).

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: The Opera House is an important community amenity. It needs to be fit for purpose. Council should be alert to and address the concerns in the community about the way in which issues relating to the operation of the Opera House are being handled.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments: Central government should be funding this but if this is not going to happen, then Council should help fund essential items.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSL as contribution to this project (This is Council's

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: This service saves lives. Of course it should continue to be funded.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: It is hard to see how this is a priority project and why it should be funded at a time when the Council is proposing closing the Davis library one day per week to save money. No evidence has been put forward that this is an accident black spot with a higher level of pedestrian accidents than other places in town.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Surely the existing wide grass verge can be used by horses and pedestrians. Cyclists ride on the road like most everywhere else. I find it unbelievable that it is proposed to spend \$2.4m on this at the same time as it is proposed to close the Davis library to save a vastly smaller amount of money.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: More information is needed in order to respond on an informed basis. Selling assets to pay down debt may be a good thing. However, no information as to which assets has been provided. Also, the proposal to sell down assets is made in the same consultation paper as the proposal to invest (funded no doubt wholly or to a large part by borrowing) in building a new hotel (estimated to cost \$55m) and covered carpark. So the sale of assets will not really pay down debt, if new larger debts are incurred by Council to fund these projects. If these vanity proposals are taken off the table the need to sell assets and pay down debt can be better assessed.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: The Port The Consultation Paper states that: "In this Long-Term Plan, we have budgeted an additional \$19 million of council funding for the Whanganui Port Limited Partnership (owned by the Whanganui District Council) ... This will bring council's total contribution to over \$36 million." Whanganui Port's website states that it "provides berthing facilities for coastal freight vessels and commercial boats, along with access to world class distribution and logistics companies." It is further stated that "Whanganui Port's No 1 Wharf is the home to Coastal Bulk Shipping's M.V. Anatoki, and is the primary commercial wharf capable of taking heavy vehicles. The M.V. Anatoki carries bulk cargoes such as grain, fertiliser and gravel around New Zealand. Currently, the No 2 Wharf is used for small boat berths, while the No 3 Wharf is suited to non-commercial activities. Both Wharfs 2 and 3 are undergoing significant remedial work." If that is so then why does it not seem to generate any revenue? Why is so much money being spent by Council on the port when it appears to generate no return on investment. The fact is that the world has moved on and the days when a small port facility could be viable. The June 2017 Whanganui Port Vessel Navigation Report expressed clearly the limit on size of ship that our port can accommodate even with works to expand the then current limit. Cargo ships are now substantially larger and one would expect that Whanganui Port is simply too small to accommodate the larger cargo ships commonly in use today. Whanganui Holdings 2022 Annual Report stated: "Since incorporation in March 2013 there have been no transactions within Whanganui Port Limited." I recognise that Council has a duty to maintain the port facilities. However, I believe Council should explain whether and to what extent the budgeted further works to the port go beyond maintenance and whether they seek to attract cargo freight users. If so, Council should explain the basis for considering that this is viable and the returns it expects to generate from that business. Further, given the statements made about usage of the port, Council should explain why in 2022 it was reported that the port had not generated any revenue since 2013 and should provide updated information about this. NZICPA At the formal opening in Whanganui of the NZICPA in 2018, then Whanganui Mayor, Hamish McDouall, described Council's decision to purchase the pilots academy and bring it to Whanganui as a "bold and brave decision". 'Brave' and 'bold' are not words normally associated with sound investment decisions. A purpose-built training suite and hangar were constructed at the airport in 2017. At the formal opening, the then Governor-General stated that the NZICPA was already making a \$3.5 million contribution to the local economy – presumably a figure provided to her by the Council or Whanganui and Partners. (<https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/Your-Council/News-Events/News/Governor-General-launches-Pilot-Academy-in-Whanganui>) In 2019, the Council claimed that the NZICPA was "contributing \$10M NZD to the economy annually". (<https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/Your-Council/News-Events/News/Closer-to-becoming-aviation-capital>) I believe that Council should disclose detailed information about the level of

investment made in the pilots academy (both debt and equity), the profits/losses made by the academy since purchase by the WDC Holdings/Council and the detailed basis and supporting data justifying the claims made about the academy's contribution to the local economy. Aside from the purchase of the flight school, development of its facilities at the airport and various loans to support its operation, there has been a number of acquisitions made to support this operation such as the Quality Inn Collegiate Hotel, the Nazareth Rest home, and in 2022 NZICPA agreed to purchase its maintenance provider Aero Care Limited. Also in 2022, NZICPA bid to purchase the Hawkes Bay Flight School but the bid was ultimately rejected. NZICPA also occupies space at the former St George's School property. I find it strange that the pilots academy is not included in the Consultation Paper given what must be a significant Council investment/exposure. Council should address this omission and provide detailed financial information and its views as to the future for this investment.

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 479

Speaking

First name: **Stephen**
Last name: **Mahoney**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: The library serves as an important community hub where people can meet, have a coffee, surf the Internet, use photocopying services and borrow books. I support keeping it open with the same hours and days as currently exists.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: We have an aquatic centre and this is what we should be promoting. Let the pool go the same way as the old gonville and central baths. Do not complete a feasibility study as this will just be a further cost to ratepayers and residents.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Close and demolish it. We have an Opera House and Amdram facilities which could accommodate the repertory theatre operations with no ongoing costs to ratepayers and residents.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: WDC is not in the business of running an aviary. We as ratepayers should not get involved in non-core activities at this time and allow private enterprises to fill this space if there is a genuine want for these services

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: The Main Street is where tourists park to enjoy a coffee etc these colourful baskets are among the first thing they see when they get here. The blaze of colour takes the edge off the number of empty buildings in the city.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close New Zealand Glassworks (save \$10.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: This entity does not make money and instead costs ratepayers and residents 192k per year. It is unlikely a suitable buyer could be found as not too many people would be interested in purchasing a loss making venture.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Prevents fly tipping from spoiling the rural environment

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: The gonville cafe library serves its community well. It provides a safe place for residents and children to access books and computers as well as being a community hub.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: The Winter Gardens are an integral part of Rotokawau Virginia lake surrounds and this part of the city is a tourist attraction as well as a popular destination for local residents

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Community groups should look to be self funding rather than appealing to the council for funding. Good people will come up with ideas to fundraise and obtain other sources of funding eg sponsorship rather than relying on the Bank of WDC.

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Ideally something between options 1 and option 3. \$56 per property per year is a very steep increase. Something between the two options is more affordable to Whanganui residents.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: See separate attachment

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments: See separate attachment

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: I think it would be prudent to opt for option two at the moment and wait a couple of years to see what central government comes up with before committing to this project.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Provide no funding to the project (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: See separate attachment

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: We cannot fund this at this time, even if it is a nice to have.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: We cannot fund this at this time, even if it is a nice to have.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Reducing debt reduces interest expenses so it makes sense to sell assets. My question is which assets will be sold?

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **1**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: See attached attachment

Supporting documents Yes

Hotel and Carpark – Option 2 Comments

The first point I want to raise is that the Council should not be in the business for providing accommodation to visitors to the City as there is no legislation requiring it to do so. That being said, the Council can assist in introducing private consortiums to enter the hotel development market in Whanganui by waiving or reducing development fees. This would get the hotel built and provide all the potential advantages desired without increasing the risk to ratepayers and exposing them to potential cost overruns and increased building costs during construction etc.

Whanganui has a need for a high standard hotel(s) that we can leverage our investment in existing facilities off. A high end hotel(s) would attract more people to Whanganui wishing to browse the shops in Victoria Avenue and riverside market stalls, try the food in the cafes and restaurants, see a show at the Opera House, go to the races, cruise the river etc.

Cheaper options should also be actively examined such as using existing buildings and converting them into high standard hotel accommodation. We have a large number of poorly utilised buildings in the CBD which should be considered to create 4 star accommodation over several sites in the city. These additional rooms would allow Whanganui to host conferences and bigger events which our current number of vacant hotel room capacity currently prevents us from doing so.

The Royal Whanganui Opera House – Option 1 Comments

Option 1 only – it is what we can afford at this time. Whanganui Opera House is used by various groups and has a small number of great shows that come to town. The \$150K investment is small and OH&S issues should be attended to, but some of the other suggestions do not take into account our city's size, lower than the rest of NZ's growth rate, the demographics in Whanganui and the associated deprivation index. Even if went the full monty on this project, it is highly doubtful that bigger, more famous acts will come to Whanganui as there is a limit on the capacity of the Opera House and a ceiling which citizens will be able to afford the tickets associated with more famous acts.

WSLS (Whanganui Surf Life Saving Service) – Option 2 Comments

Despite the admiral goals of this organisation, I am disappointed by the funding request. WDC is expected to stump up \$1 million and the organisation will seek other funding to make up the rest of the \$5-7 million. I agree the building is old (66 years), but there are many Whanganui houses that are older than this building. Some carpentry, new windows, a full paint job and I guess a new roof are in order. The building is of wood construction and it is therefore relatively cheap to replace any rotted timbers. There is mention of provision of community facilities in the proposed building but I think that this proposal might be the “gold standard” like the \$35 million option for the Opera House and should not be considered at this time when the community is under pressure from inflation and rising fees and charges. I believe it would be a better idea for WSLS to provide estimates to bring the existing buildings up to the standard when first constructed as that figure would be a more appropriate when requesting funds.

I agree with the Mayor's High Level 6 point plan to keep rates increases minimal while still providing services to Whanganui residents and ratepayers.

In the “Keeping rates Affordable” section, the consultation document has identified 6 sub points - I would like to focus on some specific aspects some of these points.

Point 6-Increasing non-rates revenue.

This area should have increases over and above the inflation rate as these are somewhat “semi-optional” and will only apply to rate payers undertaking or using the services - for example, new building work or attending the Splash Centre.

Regarding general building fees and development contributions, this approach will lead to a slight increase in the costs of new builds and building consents but will allow extra revenue to be channeled to Council.

This extra non-rates revenue will lessen the burden on a number of segments of the community such as older citizens in Whanganui who will otherwise bear direct increased rates/rent increases to raise necessary revenue for WDC. People in the older age group and/or lower income sector are less likely to sign up for new builds and new consents and therefore will not be as exposed to these additional costs.

The modest increases in income streams such as consent fees will be spread over a small cohort of rate payers and this increased cost will only make up a small portion of the new projects being undertaken. As an example, a \$250 increase in consent fees over a \$40,000 renovation is a very small percentage of the costs.

Non-rates revenue makes up about 24% of total rate payer generated revenue (17/70) million. As a council I believe every effort needs to be undertaken to be actively thinking about how to raise this component of revenue in the future. Every dollar raised via these non-rate fees directly reduces the amount needed from standard ratepayers.

People are already struggling to pay what they currently owe and another 10.6% increase will surely worsen these figures followed by two years of 8% scheduled increases. It is also sad to note one increase in non-rates revenue which I do not advocate is rate penalties. These were up from \$304K to \$356K, a 17% increase.

I have read that some people are cancelling insurance policies due to financial pressure at home and this could lead to them losing their house and have to be ultimately accommodated by Council.

To demonstrate the effect of cumulative rate increases at the proposed levels, the current annual rates bill of \$3,000 per annum will increase to \$3,318 in 2024/25 then \$3,583 in 25/26 and \$3,870 in 2027/28 which works out at an extra \$870.12 from 2023- 2024. Where will Whanganui ratepayers/renters find this increase in funds when we have already identified that Whanganui's demographic has lower than average incomes in NZ and a higher proportion of over 65s who will struggle trying to pay an extra \$870 pa or an extra \$17 per week.



Point 4 Finding efficiency Savings

I would like to raise a few points that potentially may save the Council money.

Insurance is a steeply rising cost and NZ home owners are already being subjected to huge percentage increases in insurance - the Council is not immune with WDC insurances now up 25% from 2022.

Is this something we can explore by standing together with other Councils to get a better collective deal due to larger combined market share? Can we also look at paying higher excesses to reduce premiums, self-insuring where possible or taking a higher risk with lower value assets? Items that are fully depreciated need to be considered as to whether they need to be insured at all - if they were lost, can Council accept that they would not be replaced?

Electrical costs have gone up nearly 1 million dollars in the last year (\$979K) from \$2,648k to \$3,627K. Why is this – does the pool have something to do with this and what can be done about it?

Can we go to market for a better deal or look at LED/Solar power /motion activated/reduced lighting to decrease costs.

Electrical costs equate to 17% of WDC's Personnel costs - lets see if significant savings can be found in this area to reduce the impact on ratepayers and residents while still keeping necessary lighting on in Whanganui.



Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1077

Speaking

First name: **George**
Last name: **Matthews**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Construct new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa (This is Council's preferred option, and would cost \$6 per property per year for 10 years from 2029/30)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Kai Iwi 6A1 Recreational Reserve. This land block has a legal definition that is not being honoured by this Council, being the administrators. The Minister of Conservation is the owner. It has been leased for a considerable number of years and therefore reflects on the integrity of the Council as land administrators. I suggest that at least the Council riparian plant the banks of the Kai Iwi stream where it adjoins the block. My long term vision would be that the whole block, being, 27.388675 hectares be planted in indigenous forest and instead of taking a rental fee the Council could take an ETS carbon absorption payment. In the longer term it could become an elderly recreational park. I would be happy to expand on this concept further through and the oral submission process.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 208

Speaking

First name: **Michael**
Last name: **McCartney**
Organisation: **Horizons Regional Council Chief Executive**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes

2 May 2024

ROA 01 01
JK:MM

David Langford
Chief Executive
Whanganui District Council
policy@whanganui.govt.nz
By email only:

Tēnā koe David,

LONG TERM PLAN 2024-44 – HORIZONS' SUBMISSION

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on Whanganui District Council's (WDC) Proposed Long Term Plan 2024-34. Horizons Regional Council (Horizons) values the strong relationships between our two organisations and the other local authorities in the region.

With regard to your proposal, our submission relates to three waters, public transport planning, climate change and environmental education.

Three Waters

Horizons acknowledges that WDC has recognised the continuing changes to Three Waters in their LTP consultation document. We are writing to all the territorial authorities in the region as part of the long-term plan consultation process, to acknowledge the challenges regarding management of three waters during a period related to national policy reset. We recognise this creates challenges and uncertainties in preparing long term plans. However, as a regulator, we wish to highlight the importance of long-term investment in infrastructure that is compliant with regulations and improves the health of the environment. We will look to stay closely in touch as the reform package rolls out.

Public Transport

The transport function of Horizons includes strategic transport planning, public transport planning and delivery, road safety promotion and education, and administration of the total mobility scheme. There are two strategic documents guiding strategic transport and public transport delivery in the region. These are the Regional Land Transport Plan and Regional Public Transport Plan. The Regional Land Transport Plan is the primary document guiding integrated land transport planning and investment within the Horizons region. The current RLTP was adopted in 2021 and includes a range of transport investment activities, to deliver the strategic direction of the Plan. Horizons' is currently undertaking a mid-term review of the RLTP.

Horizons, WDC and stakeholders are working together on the future vision for public transport within the Whanganui District. Our draft 2024-34 Long Term Plan is proposing to deliver full funding and ongoing funding for the Tide bus service which has been noted in the WDC LTP Consultation Document. There is further need for WDC to recognise the importance of support for this commitment with further investment by WDC into public transport infrastructure, bus stops, maintenance etc.

Climate Change

Impacts of climate change pose a great risk to the wellbeing for the environment and communities of the Manawatū-Whanganui region. Whether its increase risk of drought, inland or coastal flooding, heatwaves or other impacts of climate change, no district is immune. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in their sixth assessment report stated that there is a narrow and closing window to secure a liveable future. An urgent, coordinated response is required if we are to make a step change transition to a low emission regional economy and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Like WDC, Horizons are considering and implementing actions recommended by the Climate Action Joint Committee through the Manawatū-Whanganui Climate Change Action Plan. The upcoming Long Term Plan represents a critical period for climate change. Through that action plan, the Climate Action Joint Committee has provided a pathway for each council towards a coordinated and effective regional response to climate change.

We encourage provision through your Long Term Plan for initiatives that increase resilience to natural hazards and a changing climate, including those outlined within your draft infrastructure strategy, your climate change assumptions, and recommended actions from the Joint Action Plan. Horizons recognises the activities undertaken by WDC thus far including coastal protection and enhancement through the Coastal Action Plan and the Climate Adaptation Fund. Horizons would like to reinforce the importance of the Climate Adaptation Fund especially in its importance continue investing into projects which provide adaption to climate related threats.

Horizons notes the WDC proposed provisions for the funding of key infrastructure including the stormwater system. Horizons supports option 2 for a significant increase in funding to improve core infrastructure at a quicker timeframe. As seen with the impacts in our region from Cyclone Gabriel, the effects of climate change are a real and present threat to our communities and therefore appropriate importance must be placed on investing into our vulnerable infrastructure.

Horizons would also like to see higher importance placed on response to the changing climate and environment presented in the Long Term Plan. In accordance with these commitments, Horizons would like to remind WDC of the importance of its natural areas such as the Tarapuruhi Bushy Park and the importance of good financial recognition for these areas.

Horizons supports the inclusion of Putiki emergency response and Putiki climate adaptation initiatives in the draft LTP.

Environmental Education

Thank you for your ongoing support and funding commitment to Horizons' EnviroSchools Programme. The programme aims to equip young people with the competencies they need to be leaders in sustainability resulting in long term behaviour change. As such there is a strong focus on themes such as living landscapes, water for life, energy use, ecological building and zero waste. We appreciate the opportunity to engage with your staff and to grow the relationships between WDC, Horizons and participating schools and centres, as well as the community to deliver this mahi.

Horizons would like to be heard in addition to this submission.

Yours sincerely,



Michael McCartney
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 475

Speaking

First name: Te Aroha
Last name: McDonnell

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: My whānau are regular users. I'd like to see investment in this asset.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Invest in other venues for theatrical purpose

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Free the birds. Bushy park is a better venue.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Beautiful addition to our city.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: No impact on rates, no brainer.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the drop off points for rural rubbish (save \$9.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Rural service should be extended in waste management contracts.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close Gonville Library completely (save \$12.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Mobile library is a suggested solution. Have free bus pass to go to city library.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: These gardens are beautiful. No cafe, so the gardens might not be needed.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Cut Community grant funding by 10 percent or \$110,000 (save \$11.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Less community events is a saving - unless the Santa parade is on this section.

Further comments on service cuts: Make sure Santa parade costs are covered.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Necessary.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Council takes the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to outcome of detailed business case (Council's preferred option - this would add \$30 per property per year from 2025/26 through to 2038/39, after which the returns from the hotel and carpark will start to offset rates)

Submitter Comments: Go for it!

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Option 4 - Full upgrade, including front of house improvements (add \$74 per property per year for 20 years from 2027/28)

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Overdue by 40 years.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments: Best investment option of all propositions.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: If financial viable, do it!

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Not need.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Not sure I fully understand the proposal for this initiative.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: No assets are sold to repay debt (add \$23 per property to next year's proposed rates rise of 10.6% and \$43 per year thereafter)

Submitter Comments: Not supportive of sale of lots of assets.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 225

Speaking

First name: Denis
Last name: McGowan

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Subject to terms and conditions (I wish to speak to this item).

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Subject to terms and conditions (I wish to speak to this item).

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: Please spell out the science behind birds in captivity - plus + minus.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Subject to terms and conditions. Council could provide incentives to a private developer/owner. (I wish to speak to this item).

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Implement a new counterweight flying system only within the existing stagehouse building structure (add \$44 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: Subject to terms and conditions. (I wish to speak to this item).

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSL as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Construct new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa (This is Council's preferred option, and would cost \$6 per property per year for 10 years from 2029/30)

Submitter Comments: Subject to exploring cost options. (\$830,000 seems excessive)

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments: Subject to indepth feasibility study.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Subject to strict scrutiny of which assets should be in private hands vs those which should be retained in public ownership.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Will any savings (preferred by the public) result in a reduction in rates increase or will the savings be reallocated to other projects or items. The public have not been asked whether or not an increase of 10.6 is acceptable.

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 725

Speaking

First name: Jessica
Last name: McKenzie

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: A hard question to answer without a break down of how many visitors this library is getting. Averaged out and when peak days and hours are, drop hours more, could close more than just a Monday I would bet. Close two days a week. That will save more right?

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Considering the feasibility study would incur costs in itself, I would consider asking the wider community and business to offer donations to help with repairs. Make the prices higher as it was already cheap. Open days for working bees would get volunteers if they are given enough notice, advertising in the correct places is key to spreading information to the wider community. Hate to say Facebook is Greta for that in good and bad ways. Closing another public pool permanently would be a huge shame, and I'd rather pay more in rates for this sort of thing. Ask the community for more ideas while it's shut. Also only having it open on a Saturday all year round (within reason) would get more money flowing in. People like swimming in the rain sometimes!

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Invest in the stabilisation of the retaining bank, demolish the existing building and build a new theatre (add \$10 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Another tough one, I hate to see any older building in our community being left to die. I'm not happy with any answer but selling the building gives a potential buyer with funding the option to keep using the building, and hopefully restore it. Wakefield chambers is more concerning to me, considering the amount of homeless people in tents in this town, those three floors are completely wasted with heating still in working condition. What's happening with that building? I'd pay more in rates if that building were to be earthquake strengthened and then used for housing or literally anything other than nothing.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Keep it open, could the volunteer society help to keep costs of running it down? I would gamble that retired, elderly, even young people out of work would want to help keep it going. I've heard the running cost for the Aviary is substantially high, I would consider looking at where costs can be kept down in other ways. That's definitely totally doable. Brainstorm some better management of funding ideas.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: They are kind of dated really. We have other garden beds along the avenue that help to beautify our main street. They remind me of old ladies for some reason (and I love flowers and own hanging baskets) just a cost we don't need to upkeep. One off costs make more sense if they are sustainable and don't incur any running costs. Like art work for example.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: A fantastic attraction and skill for this town. Worth it over all. Perhaps more advertising, and open days to view glass works. There may already be available, I'm not sure, I haven't seen anything recently so maybe refresh the advertising for Glassworks Whanganui in general.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the drop off points for rural rubbish (save \$9.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: I highly highly doubt the people dumping rubbish are rural property owners. The local costs for rubbish are high enough, the added cost to recycling was hard enough for locals to swallow from the comments I see and hear. (Bins with lids would have made ALL the difference) I didn't even know this was a service provided, and I find it surprisingly. I know at least three families that live rurally. They recycle, compost, and burn rubbish. And the things they can't, they either use the local tip and the work bins. Not too sure how this works now with Waste Management closing?

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close Gonville Library completely (save \$12.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: I live around the corner on Alma road. I haven't seen many people use this library. A huge shame to close it of course. Could it be cheaper to have the library bus utilised more, perhaps further routes of service? Not sure on price comparison, but a library with cafe in Gonville always surprised me cost wise. Didn't seem viable despite being a nice idea.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The gardening lady that looks after the plants and flowers does an incredible job. The winter gardens is one of my absolute favourite places in Whanganui. Set up a donation box, and a donation option that people can transfer money into. Might not make a lot, but I would happily donate a few dollars each visit just to see it keep going. Again, advertising can be easily done to promote and then

add the donation part cheekily in there somewhere online and on the building in a couple of places. Guilt people into it! Just being honest, it works!

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: I'm not sure what this funding is providing to be honest. I'm often deeply depressed and very open with people about it. So many people are mentally unwell. Some of us hide it better than others. But as far as providing funding to community health, safety etc, I'm not sure where this is going or how effective it is or isn't. But mental health I would say is the biggest problem not being addressed or funded properly (by the government) and it would be great to see this. Community gatherings for any one needing to just reach out and go for a walk. I see there is a walk/run every Saturday morning at the park. That sort of thing but more of it would be so beneficial. People like myself need a push or multiple attempts at encouraging us out of our misery.

Further comments on service cuts: Our bus service, the buses are almost ALWAYS empty. Sell the buses, buy some smaller vans, or second hand transits. Don't need to cut the service, but definitely see a cost cut in there somewhere. Calm down with the extra cycle ways. Know when you've done well and then pull it back. Sell Wakefield chamber maybe, if it's just sitting there doing nothing anyway. Any other empty buildings that could be sold? If demolishing any buildings, sell the timber etc. horders and diy folk love to reuse and upcycle. A council is in many ways a business in itself, buy and sell where you can and build the profit back to pay off some of the debt. Just keep it local/national.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: A significant enough rate rise of 30 per household can help. It's still a rise but it doesn't feel so painful. Consider other options like asking for more volunteers, or donations or labour, materials etc from local business. It doesn't hurt to ask if you are more specific about what infrastructure you are working on it and when you need to.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: People paying rates don't want to pay for a hotel for people to stay in, regardless of what that may be used for in the future. A few weekends a year? Who would actually own the hotel? Ratepayers, council, or someone else pocketing the money it makes. Weird.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 4 - Full upgrade, including front of house improvements (add \$74 per property per year for 20 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: An asset! Needs to be looked after and maintenance is key to the older buildings. Charge a fee for the public to just go and look at the building, I would love to have the option to walk around and view this building and learn its history. Tourists would too!

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Touchy subject. How much have the iwi/iwi's been given so far? An actual dollar figure given for each iwi and what marae they have? I know that not all have had funds, or been given a large amount of money, but if some have and haven't utilised it for the running and repairs etc to their own marae, I don't see why every rate layer should be helping too? Just need a clearer picture to make a better choice or give a better opinion.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: What is wrong with the building, how do you get to that amount? Yes the building and facilities at Castle cliff Beach WSLs are ancient, but that seems a bit steep for a building. Even if you include a couple of new boats, flags, security cameras etc etc etc, still seems a crazy amount. Is there a breakdown of costs we can look at? Keep it simple. Definitely a necessity for a surf and swimming town.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Construct new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa (This is Council's preferred option, and would cost \$6 per property per year for 10 years from 2029/30)

Submitter Comments: Great idea! Terrible trying to cross the road and driving around there is terrible too. Always feel like you might hit a pedestrian ambling across the road. Throw a speed bump in there, you guys love those 😊 probably the only place that actually needs one. The one further up by Stella is good because it's not jarring and could also be used as a crossing. Since people already do. Paint some lines on that one.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: No. Haha seriously. I know that sounds like a great idea, but that is more a want than a need at this stage. Would be lovely but can't afford everything. Road safety yes. Plenty, plenty of other places to ride, walk, run, horse ride around.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Unpopular opinion, I think this just makes sense. But definitely say which assets, give the public plenty of notice in advance to what is being sold and where you plan to advertise the sale. But sadly, it really just makes sense.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: You will always have someone complaining about something the council are or aren't doing. Doing these surveys, help you to explain why decisions have been made. People just want you to be open about what you do, where you spend and why. It's pretty simple really. Thank you for having a platform for people to have their say!

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 623

Speaking

First name: Jo
Last name: Meiklejohn

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: It will attract families holidaying in our community during the summer months. Due to late opening there is no realist data to allow an informed usage guideline to make this decision. It is an asset that should be made a summer month go to attraction.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Pumping ratepayers money into rebuilding the theatre for one society is not appropriate when we have other theatre companies. The quoted figure of 2.6 million for a rebuild seems extremely high given the current square footage of the building. I do not like being given dollar amounts without qualification.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: there is no data able to to be provided of numbers viewing the attraction. Can not make an informed decision on whether it should be retained.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: We were one of the first to have hanging baskets and they have lessened in numbers over the years. Overseas visitors (6) who have gone into the CBD with me over the years have commented how the baskets provide a quaintness to the CBD area. Prehaps if only used on intersections some cost savings and a compromise in retaining 'quaintness' as opposed to nothing.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: This is an asset, if sold and buyer does not make profit, then there is a chance of losing one of our visitor attractions in the art quarter of our CBD along with Guyton Street.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the drop off points for rural rubbish (save \$9.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: The rural area rubbish areas are already a flytipping area, even with cameras installed. Why should one sector of the rating base receive subsidised rubbish while others pay a considerable amount. Yes they are the minority and yes they do have a different rating to others. Fly tipping will continue to increase due to the cost of rubbish, the limitation of items able to be dumped and the lack of regulation enforcement due to the difficulty of identification of the perpetrators for a positive prosecution and cost.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: if closing Davis one day close Gonville on a different day so we do have a decent library open 7 days a week.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: yet another attraction along side the lake for visitors, again no substantial data to show usage but would be a loss.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Never looked at whether it is the organisations getting funding all the time, where their existence is reliant on WDC grants. Bring in after two consecutive grant a mandatory 1 year step down. Put the 5.30 to offset Whanganui East pool cost for upgrade. Community organisation can look for alternative funding, e.g. lotteries, fundraising or whatever else is out there.

Further comments on service cuts: Interesting that all cuts were emotive, and decisions not able to be made on usage, and how important they are as visitor attraction e.g. Aviary, pool, library access.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: would prefer more money as our infrastructure is old. Priorities should be made on where money spent and the infrastructure committee agree to that plan.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: you are not going to get a developer to invest that money in Whanganui the cost for a multistory car park unless being used in conjunction with public parking (as they do elsewhere) is not going to generate enough money for a payback in investment. The Hotel at 60 beds is not a viable business unit, it will not attract conferences to the district in numbers to create a profit. Until we have the transportaion infrastructure in place to bring people in and out of our town without having to make several plane changes or resorting to rental cars as part of the travel we are not an attractive proposition as a conference venue. Relying what we currently have as bring people, Vintage weekend had what less than 10% non residents. The current motor home, caravan touring especially of our older generations do not require accommodation. will elaborate further in submission.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: If we dont invest in the building it will deteriorate, we have enough trouble trying to get events her being between Pamerston North and New Plymouth, we do not have a population base to attract large numbers to events to make them viable. I have confusion in your accounting here, option 2 is \$44 over 20 years BUT option 3 which involves extra construction is \$38 over 20 years the word counterweight does not appear. It is this type of information which creates confusion in decision making.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Marae have access to funding, some have treaty settlements. Using emergency managment as the need to continue this fundering in our district is emotive. Two Marae in the most densely populated area, are both prone to flooding so would not be able to be used. Also I would guess in high liquifraction zones. Yes we need to provide accommodation in the event of an emergency. I kow of one school which has disabled shower facilities, shower facilities, amble toilet block facilities, three kitchen facilities plus a class room with 6-8 individual kitchens, hall and recreational facilities plus class rooms that would be able to accomodate people in numbers similar to our Marae, but not considered as an emergency evacuation point. It is also located in a large housing catchment.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a

Something else (state below)

contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: I would be happy for a 2 million contribution, they provide a service to our beaches, having lifesaving facilities at our two most popular beaches is attractive to visitors especially families. Do they contribute economically on the above yes, the beaches are part of our attraction. Although I do not swim at any of the beaches (I dislike Westcoast beaches) Surf lifesaving provides a confidence for those using it. A saving of 2.5 million could be saved by not contributing to Marae. \$14 over 10 years and a savings of \$49 over that 10 year period based on basic maths.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: This should not be started until the Dublin Street bridge completed, this would alleviate heavy transport numbers in the area. How are our Kuia and Kamuatua be able to comfortably walk the rise. How are our Haua especially those in turu wira manage it as well. We need to ensure it is not unsightly where we need to ensure the safety of motorist from having things thrown off the walkway, or those who would like to jump off the walkway. Reassess once we have the Dublin Street Bridge

Rapanui Road Trail

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: This is an attractive project in giving our residents another cycling opportunity with their community. Safer route for those willing to cycle to town. Also an attraction for those visiting, a cycle way to the beach. It will increase day visitor numbers, make the Holiday park more attractive over holiday periods giving an alternative means of transport into town and increase the spend in town for those who have biked in. Hopefully reduce speed along the road making it a safer driving option

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: I oppose asset sales as usually it is only the viable profit making sales which sell. The non-profitable assets remain unsold and I will give one example. A carte blanche should not be given to sell assets until the community knows what has been identified and why. I will speak to this.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: I will speak to the LTP, unable to place the circle where I wanted so not an indication of what I want. It is a juggling act, but I believe we need to make our decisions based on data provided which indicates whether it is beneficial

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 827

Speaking

First name: Krystyna
Last name: Michalska

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: The hanging baskets have helped wanganui win the best small city award. Everyday thousands of shoppers use Victoria Avenue and gain pleasure from the environment created by the hanging flower baskets. When we travel the breadth of NZ, the wanganui hanging baskets are often commented on as being memorable.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Wanganui glassworks are famous. Glass & wanganui go together. The danger of selling the works opens the possibility of a private buyer deciding to close the glassworks at a later stage.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Without this service the surrounding rural areas will decline their environmental impact.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Maybe not Monday as the Davis library may close on a Monday.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: HOWEVER, do not support cycleway to Mowhanua. The number of people who may potentially use this cycleway are outnumbered by the numbers who would benefit from safe footpaths in town. The cost benefit analysis of connecting Mowanua sewerage system is not affordable at this time. Impose levy on development of subdividers.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: Water safety is important. we want people to enjoy the environment - safety.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Construct new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa (This is Council's preferred option, and would cost \$6 per property per year for 10 years from 2029/30)

Submitter Comments: A raised pavement yes, but not at the cost outlined. A painted pedestrian crossing in the first instance would give an indication the level of use.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: If services are providing a "good" service I don't want to see them out even if I don't use them. But if services are ineffectively used then they should be pruned as a tree would be. There is too much wastage in some areas. Our core infrastructure needs to be invested in but management needs to be smart.

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 151

Speaking

First name: **Maurice**
Last name: **Mildenhall**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Don't know

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the Winter Gardens (save \$7.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Strongly object to raised kerb across traffic lanes. Work could however include seal and kerb extensions on the road shoulders.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Please attend to 'similar trail' to link the existing foodpath on Montgomery Road to Mosston Road (cycle and footway). Please extend the Mosston Road cycleway from Buxton Road through to Castlecliff urban. The existing narrow roadway through this busy section of town is very dangerous to vulnerable road users. Huge trucks and trailers and other big vehicles regularly use this road. These 2 projects rank way above Rapanui Road.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 921

Speaking

First name: **Neil**
Last name: **Mills**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: New outdoor pool to be investigated at Springvale Park

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Money saved from the closure to go to the Opera House refurb

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Management to go to public enthusiast group who fund themselves not funded by rate payers

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Better managed and investigate replacing annuals with perennials

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: sell outright no ratepayer funding

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the drop off points for rural rubbish (save \$9.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close Gonville Library completely (save \$12.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: could not community ie stone soup fund and organise community library as aramoho and whanganui east libraries

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: In these tough time tough decisions have to be made and charities must take their shave of cuts. Cut funding by 50%

Further comments on service cuts: incorporate Davis Library into Sargent Gallary retain some artwork. User pay Sell the port to QWest at commercial value Wanganui Council to retain Harbour Endowment Leases and returns to defray costs to ratepayers. Sell flight school Council should not be in business, should go back to essential services. Savings can be found by cutting bureaucracy by 1/3 eliminating doubling up and overlapping functions

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Maintain the current level of funding, which isn't enough to get us to where we need to be. Noting assets will deteriorate further (save \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Implement a new counterweight flying system only within the existing stagehouse building structure (add \$44 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Provide no funding to the project (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: No, should not happen

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 239

Speaking

First name: Dave
Last name: Moore

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Relook at local suppliers or sponsors

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Council takes the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to outcome of detailed business case (Council's preferred option - this would add \$30 per property per year from 2025/26 through to 2038/39, after which the returns from the hotel and carpark will start to offset rates)

Submitter Comments: Rebuild the Metropolitan Hotel plus size. The Council builds a new hotel in the "Corinthian Style" but upsized. The current facade onto Taupo Quay and St Hill Street will need to be completely deconstructed and rebuilt, so removing the existing building and replacing with a larger 3 storey hotel looking very similar is possible and an underground carpark added also.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Construct new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa (This is Council's preferred option, and would cost \$6 per property per year for 10 years from 2029/30)

Submitter Comments: Assuming no flood risk implications putting a sort of weire in times of flooding. May be a useful thing

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Ear mark funds from sales linked to necessary council land and asset purchases

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents	Yes
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Hotel and Car Park

Which is your preferred option?

Option 1 - Council takes the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to outcome of detailed business case (Council's preferred option - this would add \$30 per property per year from 2025/26 through to 2038/39, after which the returns from the hotel and carpark will start to offset rates)

I wish to support the council's forward thinking and planning in this their preferred option.

To me, the ideal position of what's left of the original Metropolitan hotel makes it one of the front runners for consideration for a newly built hotel but faithful to the original design upsized both west up St Hill St and north into our carpark and as we are wanting to stay very faithful to the existing original building, the balustrading around the roof level would be an excellent point to keep while adding more floor/s set back from this balustrading keeping to the original Corinthian style

As I have found that the original framing and weatherboards are in very poor condition yet the filigree, facias, corner boards and other decorative features are made of better quality timber so even if I continue with the apartment conversion, we will remove all of these, take them away for restoration and to copy the missing pieces and while this is going on, completely remove the existing exterior before rebuilding the structure with pre-frame construction but if this site was chosen as the new hotel then the whole or major part of the

building can be demolished, and an underground car park built before reconstruction.

At the same time, the ground level could be raised to remove the flood prone notification currently existing.

With the existing historic use as the Metropolitan Hotel, the resurrection and better utilization of this site for the heart of this new hotel would greatly enhance the street appeal of this gateway corner of the City Centre.

This would be a good opportunity to dig all 3 properties out to build a large underground car park whilst raising the ground level and the floor levels of reinstalled building frontages on new foundations.

If a conference centre is to be included, these can easily be fitted into the other 2 properties with some very versatile spaces already existing.

The project preferably including some retail onto the Taupo Quay but definitely keeping and restoring the heritage street facades and recycling as much of the existing bricks, timbers and materials as practicable.

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 646

Speaking

First name: Ian
Last name: Moore

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Ref Corporate schedules-Corporate Investments Waitahinga Quarry- ref Year 2-a proposed investment of \$103 k I am a qualified geologist and forester. I managed Waitahinga Forest for over 40 years and know the property intimately. During that time I undertook a number of investigations into the shellrock resource. I worked with Ron Russell to set up the Joint Wanganui District Council's Forest project. I managed that from start to finish. We used thousands of cubic metres of shellrock from Waitahinga to develop all the roading on the properties purchased. We also supplied rock for various local works such as Kai Iwi beach stabilisation, road works etc. Previously the Waitotara County Council "scraped" various outcrops for local roads and the Rangitikei Wanganui Catchment Board took copious quantities of boulders for river protection works in the Rangitikei. Revenue from this was a pittance yet the quality was of the highest (& hardest) -as shown by the rock used previously on the moles from Kaiwhaiki - which I have also done investigations on and is exactly identical to Waitahinga. We recently experimented with a new technique to break rock to exact measurements which the inability to do such was previously used as an excuse as to why it wasn't of value. Contractors used on investigations will support the findings. I believe WDC is sitting on a "goldmine" at Waitahinga and in previous reports have stated its development is a "when", not an "if". My submission is that as a ratepayer, I am perturbed that WDC continues to "reinvent the wheel". There is no supporting detail as to how that \$103k is to be spent and I would have thought that if anything was to be done there, then at least they should have discussed it with me in order to highlight details (or the lack of) that may assist in its future development. Another project I was involved in was monitoring the South Spit for several years for Rowan McGregor of WDC's property department. I was also on The Wanganui Business Development Board's Port Project team which pursued development initiatives there. The LTP does not clarify for me the current state of progress with the South Mole refurbishment and the Port development but I do see huge synergies with the production of boulders from Waitahinga and the continuation of this project. I am happy to speak to my submission if so required. Ian Moore NB- The spelling of Wanganui/Whanganui is used as to what was appropriate at the time of reference.

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 236

Speaking

First name: Dave
Last name: Moore (joint submission building owners group)
Organisation: 60-68 Taupo Quay Buidling Owners Group

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Council takes the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to outcome of detailed business case (Council's preferred option - this would add \$30 per property per year from 2025/26 through to 2038/39, after which the returns from the hotel and carpark will start to offset rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents	Yes
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Hotel and Car Park

Which is your preferred option?

Option 1 - Council takes the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to outcome of detailed business case (Council's preferred option - this would add \$30 per property per year from 2025/26 through to 2038/39, after which the returns from the hotel and carpark will start to offset rates)

We feel this option will produce the best results for Whanganui if the Council initiates this project.

We believe the most logical and beneficial place to put this Hotel, carparking and also the Tour Bus hub behind would be 60 to 68 Taupo Quay and the parking area behind in the centre of this block.

With the existing historic use as the Metropolitan Hotel, the resurrection and better utilization of this site for the heart of this new hotel would additionally enhance the street appeal of this gateway corner of the City Centre.

As the street frontages of the existing hotel, for any rebuild, will have to be deconstructed and removed for restoration and refixed to the new building as there is very little structurally left in good enough condition to be reused.

This would be a good opportunity to dig all 3 properties out to build a large underground car park whilst raising the ground level and the floor levels of reinstalled building frontages on new foundations.

Also while staying faithful to its Corinthian styling, the new Metropolitan could be upsized to 3 or 4 storeys, even extended into the existing car park to.

If a conference centre is to be included, these can easily be fitted into the other 2 properties with some very versatile spaces already existing.

The project preferably including some retail onto the Taupo Quay but definitely keeping and restoring the heritage street facades and recycling as much of the existing bricks, timbers and materials as practicable.

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1502

Speaking

First name: Gregory
Last name: Morris

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: The Davis Library is a fundamental and important social service, it provides a spectacular service 7 days a week. It will source books. It provides a place for people to go, read the newspaper, engage in social connection. to lose this amenity would be tragic. The preferred option of WDC to close this facility one day per week is ridiculous, and shows no understanding of the social service this facility provides.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: This facility is an absolutely "don't touch" reinvest. Whanganui East needs this sort of facility to create a family environment often unattainable by individual households.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Fully agree. This Theatre is well past its due by date. The shows, although sometimes entertaining, are often low end. There are other facilities that can fill the gap left when Repertory is gone and forgotten. Further let us not forget this building is not heritage, it has been poorly maintained and frankly, to fix it up is much like putting lipstick on a pig.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: This aviary is not a tourist mecca. It has been underfunded and neglected, but, as a Whanganui resident, I never take visitors to this place. There are better places.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Whanganui was the first, or amongst the first to embrace the beauty of the Hanging Basket. Once, these baskets were sponsored by the retailers. A better option today would be to ask the community to sponsor a basket or two. Or.. return to the bland main street. In my view, the hanging baskets are iconic and unique, emulated by many other cities.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Previously, the Glassworks were in private control, it wasn't working out. This another iconic tourist drawcard, and furthermore, the glass blowing courses draw people from all parts of the country.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Yup, fly dropping is a clear alternative, even for our ecologically alert rural communities. The tidy up afterwards would cost more than maintaining the existing service.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Absolutely. Refer to my comments in the first question.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Beautiful and tranquil sanctuary.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: That is a 10% increase on existing funding. However, current levels are inadequate, so this is just catch up.

Further comments on service cuts: Well, nowhere in this 10 year plan is there a mention of what the International Pilot Academy. I would like to know how much this initiative is costing. It not only involves the costs of running aero planes, but also the investment in accommodation facilities, costs and capital which I believe the people of Whanganui deserve to know. There is not a more public enterprise than one that is owned by the people, 48,000 of them. this whole thing is shrouded in mystery. Public companies are obliged to report operating results and funding (Balance Sheets et al). If it were a raging success, I am certain WDC would be shouting from the rooftops, but they are not, why not. We the people of Whanganui are entitled to know. Shame there is no mention nor disclosure. Before the people can consent to this plan, there needs to be transparency...sadly lacking at this time, and historically, results being hidden, with explanation that I cannot fathom...oh that is a subsidiary of a subsidiary of a CCO. Simply not good enough for me and 47,999 other ratepayers.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Common sense says exactly that, otherwise we will be in the same muddle as other districts...including some very large cities that pretended it was ok, until it wasn't .

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: WDC has no business in developing and owning an HOTEL. Parking is another thing altogether. Why link them? I am very suspicious of what is behind this. I know that several Hotel operators have been approached by various parties, some connected with the WDC hierarchy, and they have all declined. WHY? I suspect, because they know more about the hotel and hospitality business than any person on or in the WDC. There is no money in it, even long term. This will be a complete white elephant and I vehemently oppose any investment in a commercial enterprise of this nature. Furthermore, whilst I understand WDC is proposing to go through a cost benefit study, the numbers already do not stack up. The expected costs per ratepayer annual go nowhere near servicing the debt interest alone. For \$55million, you will not get a world class hotel, so the cost to ratepayers will also be hugely increased, simply by cost blowout. this particular proposal is poorly thought through, so much so, that I cannot think that it has been properly analysed. Great idea, but insulting to the people that will eventually pay the price. Back to the drawing board I think..or consign it to file 13 (Trash can).

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: Opera house is a true gem. The only Royal Opera House in New Zealand I think, thanks to Prince Edward. Go FOR IT.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments: Nothing to say

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSL as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: Nothing to say

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: It works as it is. Why fix it if it ain't broken. Defer this one.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: This should be deferred for another decade or so.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: No assets are sold to repay debt (add \$23 per property to next year's proposed rates rise of 10.6% and \$43 per year thereafter)

Submitter Comments: What an impossible proposition. Which assets, how much, to whom, when????? Once again, I strongly oppose giving WDC Carte Blanche. Wait until you, WDC can provide more "meat on the bone" before even making such a preposterous proposition.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?

(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?

(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being

*to increase investment in our core infrastructure
and long-term projects to future-proof
Whanganui)*

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Yes I do! Most certainly. The Council have plenty of daylight in their borrowing limits. Long term infrastructure developments must be funded today by long term debt. WDC has failed to clearly indicate WHERE the increased costs have actually come from year on year. Before some of the bizarre proposals, it seems rates would increase by almost 20% year on year. In an environment of low inflation, and low salary/wage increases (circa 3%) this reeks of featherbedding. If it's because of infrastructure, just use the funding available for long term investments. I have been involved with Councils before as a Councilor, and have discovered that without digging hard at what is underneath the numbers, the ratepayer has no option but to pay. Furthermore, the impact of such an horrendous rates hike will truly impact people who least need to be impacted. Rates increases will gush down upon people who rent, first home owners, those who are already on the, or below the poverty line. Now is not the time to engage in vainglory projects, now is the time to show the people whom you serve that you understand their predicament. I firmly believe WDC needs to start again, drop the big ideas, and realise people are truly in a bad situation.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 515

Speaking

First name: **Bruce John**
Last name: **Murphy**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Option 2 even if you teach one child to swim and it saves their life the cost has been minimal not everyone can get to the splash pen - no car and cost

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: We can't close everything down we need some things for people who don't want to do arty thing to do

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: My sister one of many who often comes to wanganui from Wellington and is a florist always says how beautiful they are they take the blandness off the Main Street

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Must keep the drop off points in the rural areas - but must be kept tidy

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts: The Whanganui East pool must stay open we need somewhere for the schools and people to go to learn to swim in that area children especially

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Maintain the current level of funding, which isn't enough to get us to where we need to be. Noting assets will deteriorate further (save \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Don't know

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: People on lower incomes are able to get rates relief to help pay for rates as they increase.

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 211

Speaking

First name: James
Last name: Newell
Organisation: Wanganui Surf Lifeguard Service

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the Winter Gardens (save \$7.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Maintain the current level of funding, which isn't enough to get us to where we need to be. Noting assets will deteriorate further (save \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 41

Speaking

First name: Jango
Last name: not given

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Why is it costing more to close for a day on the weekend?

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Lack of maintenance is why Council finds itself in this position. Stop with these feasibility studies, get on and look after Whanganui East public and other who enjoy being out in the fresh air. I might ask what is teh Spalsh Centre costing us rate payers. In Mayor Michael Laws time it was \$65 per rate payer

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: A number of years ago I believe Daryle Greeks and others used to rear baby swans (cynets) and sell them which off set operational costs of the aviary. However m understanding was this was stopped. Maybe this could be revisited. I suppose this \$190,000 also includes a manager for aviary?

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: The current budget for this service of 230,000 on the face of it looks a bit high. My thoughts are, keep what we have already budgeted for and stop adding to this which is quite apparent that we cant afford-like 6M on Kowhai park.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Cut Community grant funding by 10 percent or \$110,000 (save \$11.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: At very least leave funding as it is- no increase

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Maintain the current level of funding, which isn't enough to get us to where we need to be. Noting assets will deteriorate further (save \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Who ever wants this idea needs to take a business acumen course-there is absolutely no viability in Council taking this on-only 'liability'! Stick to core work, running the town services. Example of Council run project Art Gallery \$14M over & flight school- thats going great isnt it. Council also closed a great Hotel didnt they

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: I am sure they can get funding from government sources or from their iwi teaty claims- times are tough Marae have benefitted from the Better off funding but council provides no figures or who else has benefitted. Council need to tighten its belt.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Cost is upward of \$830,000 for a judder bar across a high volume road and an over dimension road therefore inappropriate-leave it as it is. Road is close on times it gets used. Council has not been upfront with an accurate assesment of full cost of job either. Please leave the way it is.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Council needs to get its act together and approach LTSA and get funding for 100% of the cost. Council seems to be able to get funding for all the judder bars around the town. Where is your costs for maintenance, as "after all youre only laying shell rock'. Times are tough Councillors.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Re: Wanganui and Partners/Innovation Quarter- Council missed a brilliant opportunity to save 2.6M but lacked the mettle to follow through. This has added 139:70 to this years rates. Thats the approximate increase for my new recycling service too. Theres 5% saving with two items.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Council needs to stick to its budget for year and stop setting the rate increase with line by line savings then borrowing through out the year. Eg Dec 2023, Jan 2024 \$30M was it. Question- why am I paying a debt retirement levy?

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 923

Speaking

First name:

Michael Daniel Albert Francis

Last name:

Organ

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Keep the aviary open and run by volunteers, with council covering all expenses

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Keep the hanging baskets but wit the cost split evenly among all ratepaying entities

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close Gonville Library completely (save \$12.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Cut Community grant funding by 10 percent or \$110,000 (save \$11.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Council takes the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to outcome of detailed business case (Council's preferred option - this would add \$30 per property per year from 2025/26 through to 2038/39, after which the returns from the hotel and carpark will start to offset rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Provide no funding to the project (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: The sale of assets would stimulate economic development and employment

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **1**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 42

Speaking

First name: **Bruce**
Last name: **Osborne**
Organisation: **Aramoho River- Bank Enhancement Project**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Seek private investors!

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Council takes the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to outcome of detailed business case (Council's preferred option - this would add \$30 per property per year from 2025/26 through to 2038/39, after which the returns from the hotel and carpark will start to offset rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents	Yes
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Aramoho River Bank Enhancement Project

Bruce Osborne

On behalf of the Enhancement Committee

Background

The initiators of the Point of entry business case for the Aramoho River Bank Enhancement Project were firstly most appreciative that the WDC had given priority to the initiative and secondly by including the overall project in the draft Long Term Plan

Background - Project Scope

The range of investigation and consultation over two years by the initiators has been comprehensive, inclusive and challenging but rewarding and reassuring when the WDC acknowledged the significant benefits that will accrue with investment long term in a fully developed Aramoho Rail Bridge to Tutaeika stream and onwards to the TE AO HOU Marae.

Benefits

Enhancement of the river bank facade, safe access to the river, community toilets, improved flood resilience and optimisation of the area for Rowing, Waka and all water sport activities that will lead to greater financial returns into the local economy by attracting and retaining visitors over a longer period of time are all tangible outcomes and sources of benefit when **considering Whanganui's attractiveness to all its stakeholders and communities.**

Background

The Financial case as articulated in the point of Entry Business Case 29/09/23 described a staged investment over one to five years with estimated costs of 1.5 million whilst noting that a design concept and engineering analysis of 100k expenditure in 2024/25 was noted in the draft LTP. From this standpoint the Aramoho River Bank Enhancement Committee have identified and prioritised the scope of work that may assist WDC prioritise funding availability over a designated period of time.

Proposed Project Programme

1. Floating Boat Launching pontoons
2. Secure the riverbank to stabilise crumbling embankment
3. Further develop /concrete the Philippa Baker Walkway and shared pathway initiative
4. Develop the parking area for boat trailers and community recreation, at the Rowers Camp
5. Design and build public toilet facilities at the rowers camp
6. Design and build terraced spectator seating on the Somme Parade bank from the Rowing Associations finish tower to the Aramoho Whanganui Rowing clubs car park
7. Install 3 water hydrants on the river bank side of Somme Parade to aid flood relief clean up.
8. Bitumen/Concrete the Northern and Southern entrances to the river bank amenities.

Proposed Project Programme

1. Floating Boat Launching pontoons - concept design



Proposed Project Programme

2. Secure the riverbank to stabilise crumbling embankment



photo taken outside of Whanganui Collegiate Rowing Club Shed on 3/08/2023

Proposed Project Programme

3. Further develop /concrete the Philippa Baker Walkway and shared pathway initiative



Proposed Project Programme

4. Develop the parking area for boat trailers and community recreation, at the Rowers Camp



Proposed Project Programme

5. Design and build public toilet facilities at the rowers camp



photo taken at Canoe Club Whanganui East

Proposed Project Programme

6. Design and build terraced spectator seating on the Somme Parade bank from the Rowing Associations finish tower to the Aramoho Whanganui Rowing clubs car park



Example at Cooks Garden of terraced seating

Proposed Project Programme

7. Install 3 water hydrants on the river bank side of Somme Parade to aid flood relief clean up.



For proposed shared pathway upstream

Proposed Project Programme

8. Bitumen/Concrete the Northern and Southern entrances to the river bank amenities.



Northern entrance at Field St



Southern entrance at George St

Proposed Project Programme

Note: Proposed Shared Pathway Route (Philippa Baker Walkway)



Background

It is acknowledged that the initial indicative sum of \$1.5 million was more rough calculations than reality and in times of significant inflationary pressures a constant comment is to double or even treble **ones initial analysis and maybe it's somewhere near? In making this** comment the committee hopes to convey to the council that a staged investment in small realistic chunks is sensible and hopefully achievable.

Background

The River Bank Enhancement Committee has also mentioned previously that there is no shortage of volunteers to call upon with technical expertise, building, engineering, design ideas and muscle should aspects of the projects allow notwithstanding the fact that specifications and construction must comply with local body regulations and the employment of certified entities.

Background

Should the initiative acquire 100k seed funding 2024/25 to undertake concept design and engineering analysis the committee would undertake to implement the following process whilst also seeking guidance from the council at every stage.

Short-term Work Plan

1. Convene another meeting of all stakeholders seeking in particular their total commitment to each aspect of the initiative.
2. Ratify, amend or change the projects order of priority
3. Identify with whom the various projects responsibilities lie. I.e. Council, Doc, Horizons, Iwi/Hapu, Community organisations etc.
4. Obtain written support and commitment for each segment of the project within the bounds of reason.

Short-term Work Plan

5. Integrate each project into time lines for design, cost, consult, and comply, resource/fund towards build.
6. Work with Council in allocating a percentage of the seed funding to each segment of the project for design, costing, regulatory compliance, and community consultation where appropriate
7. Establish a blue print for the entire project to give tangible evidence of overall likely costs and where the likely source of funding could come from including proposals for the next LTP update.

Background

As identified above the number one priority for the project committee is to Design and Build one Floating boat launching pontoon at a location on or near the Whanganui Collegiate Boat ramp. The Collegiate Boat ramp has become undermined, threatened with collapse and is a safety concern. It is hoped that a portion of the 100k, if forthcoming from WDC, would be allocated towards a floating boat launching pontoon design with engineering specifications.

Background

As mentioned previously the committee has people resources willing to **give of their time sometimes for free or for ‘at cost rates’** and along with **the council’s expertise it is believed possible that completed design /build and cost specifications could be undertaken as stage one to show at least some tangible outcome for money spent and one of the projects getting underway.**

Background

Once stage one of the process is complete the possibility that grant money sourced by the various riverbank stakeholders, along with a council financial allocation, could well enable a prototype pontoon to be built which floats up and down on poles as tides and floods dictate. This would be a first for Whanganui of its type, highlighting to the Whanganui community a forward thinking WDC project initiated with significant community investment both in time and money in a partnership model.

Background

Into the future at least two further pontoons built to accommodate a growing river users cohort (rowers, waka, recreational users, boaties) is envisaged, noting that all projects as identified in the river bank enhancement will be seeded in priority.

Summary

The Aramoho River Bank Enhancement Committee is very cognoscente of the financial constraints facing the WDC. Notwithstanding this, investment in river bank beautification, linking connectivity to the mountain to the sea cycleway, improved river bank habitat and spawning areas as already identified, and safer entry to the Awa. Complimentary community services for all river users are all deemed to be in the wider community interests when appropriate funding is allocated with a long term vision in mind.

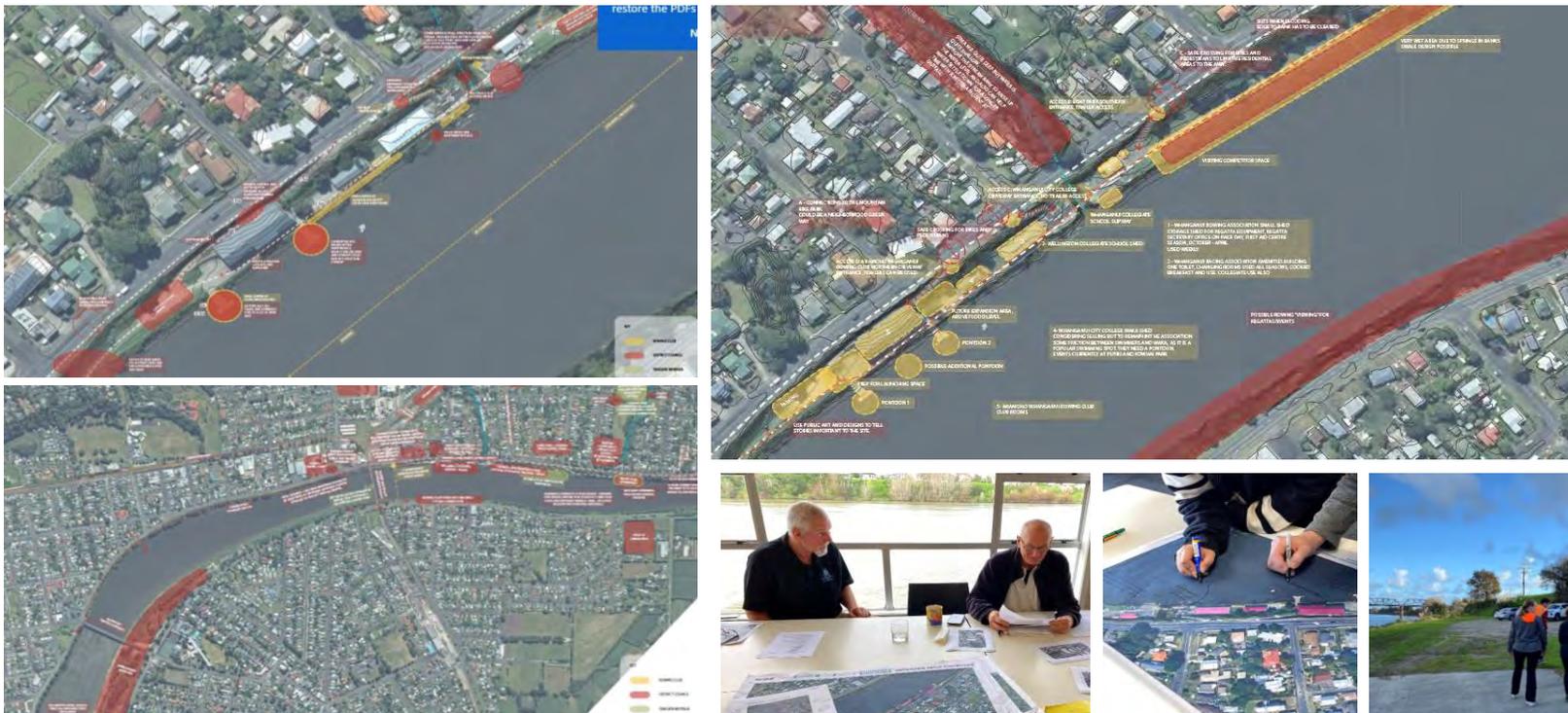
Summary

The River Bank Enhancement Committee is aware that Beca Consultants from Wellington have been engaged by WDC for an integrated plan of the Aramoho riverbank area from the Rail Bridge to and including Te Ao Hou Marae.

Our River Bank Project Enhancement Committee welcomes this initial investment and encourage WDC to integrate Beca Consultants funding with this proposal.

WDC taking ownership/leadership of the initiative and assisting pulling together the main regional entity stakeholders is viewed as an imperative for progress and ultimate success.

Beca consultants concept design planning - 01/May 2024



WHANGANUI RIVER WORKSHOP NOTES

Thank You

Bruce Osborne

On behalf of the Enhancement Committee

May 2024

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 424

Speaking

First name: **Robert**
Last name: **Oscroft**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Parking at the central library is a problem. people have stopped using it because they have limited mobility & can't find parking.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Keep the pool open and figure out the future plan with it open. Work with the local community and schools etc for funding, volunteering, donations etc.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: I don't know how easy it will be for the theatre group to find a new venue so hard to say. What possibilities do they have and are they able to fund raise / contribute to a new venue? Would stabilising the bank allow for continued use of the building until a solution is found? This might be a good solution, if it adds to the value of the site for sale or rebuild.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: It seems the largest cost for the aviary are wages - \$150K but these have not been made public in a specified manner. There seems to be a lot of space there for savings, especially since improvements have already been made. I think a plan for this part of the park could produce something really special for the city. Upgrade / rebuild the cafe to include a venue for small concerts (Theatre?) and art. make it family friendly and a portal and advertisement for the city. A good place to stop for travelers on the way to Taranaki. The aviary could be a part of that attraction and help to showcase the city as a place worthy of visits.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Keep the baskets. We need the colour and uplift on Victoria Ave. It really helps to make the city attractive. Are there opportunities for sponsorship? Memorial donations?(I know a lot of people like to sponsor benches - but we only need so many of those) Could some businesses create their own or cater for their own? Could it be a cost that the businesses have to cover? Is there a cultural opportunity here, something for the oldies - festival of flowers or something like that, where relevant local businesses contribute and a fund supports the ongoing costs. Could it be managed by a community group?

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: In reference to previous comment about developing the cafe to include a venue. It would be great to have some eye catching architecture that combines the (hyper)modern and Art Deco, so it stands out as a marker for the whole recreational complex. Could there be sale of plants at the cafe to help fund the winter garden and could there be memorial donations to a fund to help running costs? (Maybe there is already?)

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Its great to have the grants - however the cost of living are outstripping incomes and rates increases are adding to this. Very few people have incomes that increase by 10%, so in reality you are creating more problems than you are solving. We need to get the rates increases to be at most in line with wage increases.

Further comments on service cuts: I think the council is operating with a false premise. Raising rates beyond income increases is not sustainable and only serves to hollow out the economies of residents, who are already struggling with necessities. You should not be even considering 10.6% (in reality more

like 13-15% for households), unless your aim is to impoverish the community and make the city unaffordable.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: If there is a business case for this development then allow a business to work with it. Something could be done to sweeten the deal for them but we should not be covering their risks economically. If a business has its risks covered by the public, then they have less incentive to make good decisions. Peak moments do not reflect the overall demand for accommodation during the year. A hotel with staff & other investments needs to be leveraged every day / week to not become a loss. More work could be done to encourage flexible accommodation, such as Air BnB (Not much on offer here - which for me indicates a lack of demand). How was the Porters hotel in central Havelock North developed? Who took the risk there?

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments: It would be great to do a bigger upgrade - if this could be funded by donations and profits from the enterprise. I don't think households should be burdened with the costs.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: If there is further funding for community and civil defense purposes, this should go to village and community halls. \$500,000 should buy a lot of generators and rainwater tanks, so the money must be going to something else as well...

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: It is a good idea to support this. It is a fantastic position so could a business also be involved for a seaside cafe / bar / ice cream bar / wedding venue with a deck and a view. Is there an opportunity there to generate income and initial funding?

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: 830K just seems like a slap in the face for those who are trying to save money and make do. That's the cost of two small homes! Linking the site and the river is a great idea but it is not a need for the general community and there is generally very little foot traffic there. Put in a zebra crossing. Bollards, paint on the road, done. If you spend 830K on this in the middle of a housing crisis, then all credibility is lost.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Having driven this road many times, I do not recall seeing horses, cyclists or trampers using it. Please save the money.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: You have to keep rates rises at parity with incomes. Raising them beyond incomes is abuse of power and misuse of position. Increased costs of living are hitting hard at households and rises in rates are hurting those who are already struggling. How can rates increases of 13 - 15% work for pensioners? Dig deeper into efficiency and council spending, rather than into the pockets of ratepayers. Encourage decentralised solutions and community engagement, rather than taking peoples money and throwing it at problems and projects that don't serve the wider community. Push back at central governments demands. They are not offering good solutions for everybody, just more control and authoritarianism. We need to push back.

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1220

Speaking

First name:

Dipti

Last name:

Pandurangi

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: 1) Would like to see our beautiful Whanganui as a little town where we can all thrive and celebrate. It would be great to have a community hub available for the youngsters (5-15 yr olds) where they can learn the life skills by just playing together and socialising without any cost barriers between 4pm - 8pm. It helps them to avoid screens and also provides the community to volunteer and spread their knowledge and skills. Enabling that kind of opportunity makes a lot of difference for the future of young people. 2) Would be good if there is a shared space available for Whanganui Creative Space (Currently on the Dublin Street) where they can use the space for their art days (Mon, Tue, Wed) for the community and just pay rent for those days. At the moment the WCS is paying rent for 7days a week on the Dublin street but use the space only for 3 days a week where their major chunk of funding is being used (not very helpful). 3)Community vegetable gardens to encourage the community to grow their own kai and share the kai. It helps in encouraging being active, educate about healthy kai and also growing local. I understand we all talk about school vegetable gardens but having the same option to the adult community helps to role model for our future generations. It also helps the community to get together and build relationships. Providing this opportunity helps in enhancement of physical, mental and general wellbeing of our Whanganui's community. Thanks for giving me the opportunity for expressing the thoughts on the behalf of our community. Ngā mihi nui. Kia ora.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 111

Speaking

First name: William
Last name: Payne

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: While I know everyone is cash strapped. I wonder whether a small modest entry fee of \$1 to be too much? It would offset the running costs and for example places like the Whanganui Museum used to in fact have a modest entry fee.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: I would like to see a break down in costs for the proposed 2 million in costs to invest in the pool? I imagine the pool was originally modestly built by local contractors and depending on the work required I feel it only proper to open costs for independent review to make sure that public projects are not being over quoted by contractors who see dollar signs in "government work".

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: I would need to be more informed on the views of the organisations who use the theatre to know what they want before casting a potentially improper vote.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: I vote to keep it open but I do so with restraint. The people have stated they want it open and I feel the cost to be minor compared to the the public disappointment in losing the facility. I also on a personal level want the birds to be well taken care of.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Like the Aviary I don't think the cost savings is enough to justify the reduction. We really do need to make our city a nicely appearing city and if the hanging basked allow that than \$5 dollars is a very modest price to pay.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: I feel there is more that could be done with this organisation. Glass blowing classes are often sold out a year in advance. There is obviously a demand.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: I do not live rural and am not informed enough on their needs to have an opinion.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: The Gonville library is in an area of lower economic status. These people need access to knowledge and a place of learning. I feel that access to educational facilities for poorer residences to be very important.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: I also do not feel the savings are grand enough to justify the closure. It is really a nice thing within our city.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: These are causes that I think benefit the community.

Further comments on service cuts: I don't think these cuts are enough to justify. Broken down to weekly costs we would only be saving at most a dollar or two. These are tough times but not that tough.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Like it not we do need good infrastructure.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Council takes the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to outcome of detailed business case (Council's preferred option - this would add \$30 per property per year from 2025/26 through to 2038/39, after which the returns from the hotel and carpark will start to offset rates)

Submitter Comments: Go forth but proceed with caution. This may be great for Whanganui but needs to be done cautiously and with economic caution. Who ever runs this projects needs to be able to manage it very carefully.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: What do the people who operate the Opera House feel is best? I fully support the Opera House and feel culture is important within a community but those who operate the facility should be most informed on what they need.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: I am not informed enough on the needs of local Marae. This should be addressed with the individual Marae.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Surf lifesaving is very important. Though I am not informed enough on the subject to give a good opinion on this.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: I am voting no for now on this one. The cost does not compute in regards to what the outcome would be. While it may be a feel good project, as someone who is often in that area I don't see how said project could cost this much.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a

Something else (state below)

feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: I am not familiar with the needs of people in that area.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: I refuse to have an opinion until all assets that are proposed for sale are disclosed.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

4

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 138

Speaking

First name: **Beverley**
Last name: **Pearce**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: 1. Cancel Davis Library extension \$2.5M 2. Totally unnecessary 3. Concentrate resources on supporting and enhancing Gonville, Hakeke and Castlecliff community libraries. 4. Moratorium on buying books/digital resources for a year

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Absolutely do not close. Critical for community and cultural wellbeing.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Option 2 options appraisal and point of entry business case. 'undertake remedial works establish a trust and sell the building to repertory theatre'

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: 1. I said to close the aviary last year. 2. It is not council business to operate an aviary. 3. Council got ambushed at the last moment last year.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: I don't understand how it costs/saved \$93,000 p/a, particularly if commercial shops contribute funds too. Does enhance main street. Put out tender again and see what reduction can be achieved. Put an upper limit on what council is prepared to pay, say \$50,000

New Zealand Glassworks

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: If no impact on rates, then leave well alone.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: A critical community hub. Very well used.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Increase to \$200,000. Make a significant contribution/pool of money.

Further comments on service cuts: I haven't seen any reference to reducing staff numbers i.e 'back room' service as is happening at the national level.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: What is meant by 'in the future' yr 10 and 'sooner' = yr 5. Obviously, the sooner the better, but what has to be put to the side to get core infrastructure in a reasonable state sooner. The only other significant projects are hotel/carpark and Opera house

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: You are not a developer! Get the business case first. Council owned a hotel and sold it!! Again not your business to build and run a hotel so then option 2 seems best for the community/ratepayers.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 4 - Full upgrade, including front of house improvements (add \$74 per property per year for 20 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: Do it once and do all. Noting assumed rates impact is \$17.3 million. If not then option 3.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: or \$2 million. Vital community service.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: I cannot believe you even suggest spending \$830k to 'cross the road'! Who thought up that brainless idea!

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments: Very busy road. Needs to be made safer. Do you need a feasibility study is that part of \$2.4m. Again how come so costly

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with

and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Sell whatever you can

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 384

Speaking

First name: **Graham & Lyn**
Last name: **Pearson**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Reducing the hours of operation and/or closing libraries Whenever we use the services of Gonville and Castlecliff libraries they are being well used by other residents. Careful consideration needs to be given to what hours/days they are used before any reductions are considered. These need the back up of central library to deliver reserved books and to keep their systems going. We strongly support the retention of Gonville library. It provides and supports much more than book reading. Community groups, educational events and learning opportunities for youth, are ones we know of.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: We recognise that Whanganui East is home to some of our more vulnerable people. Closing this pool takes from these people and the schools that utilise that pool. We do not think everyone has the means or income to utilise the Splash Centre. This is Whanganui's only outdoor pool, a different experience

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: This facility is not in our suburb and cannot be reached easily by a cycle or bus so is not somewhere we visit. On the rare occasion we have visited it seems crowded and not all birds seem settled. There seem some definite welfare issues here. With the current tough financial situation getting worse for many people in Whanganui, young families are struggling to pay school fees, sports club fees etc. opportunities to enjoy acceptable open-air activities in all suburbs should be supported by WDC

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Visitors really love them. They are part of "Whanganui"

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: We support a significant increase into your community grant funding – an increase of \$100K. This funding enables grassroots community groups to access funds which they often need for their start up and survival. We know that groups intimately connected with our community are well placed to meet the needs of people in our district. We believe in supporting community groups to do what they do best.

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: We think there needs to be significant investment in future proofing our city infrastructure. There are three options – we prefer option 2 ‘a significant increase’. Any other option feels like a tinkering on the edges. This is vital, as demonstrated by the problems cities like Wellington and Auckland are facing. Whanganui is fortunate to be well placed now, and must stay ahead as it grows the population

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: we think WDC developing a hotel is stupid. if it was a good idea it would soon be picked up by a developer

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: There is a need in Whanganui for a venue that is suitable for large live performances. We have enjoyed many local school productions at the Opera House

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments: Council has identified marae needs continued funding and we support Council helping marae to support their hāpu and the larger community. Marae are important, if our Māori communities are to thrive, and vital to the whole community in times of natural disaster.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSL as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: We support Council’s decision to contribute to this community project. The Lifeguards, many of whom are quite young, provide an amazing beach rescue service. In addition water safety training is a vital service provided. The opportunity to fully develop new community facilities at Castlecliff’s Rangiora beach, as part of the proposed Whanganui lifesaving building replacement, is a golden, once in lifetime, opportunity that must not be wasted.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:**Rapanui Road Trail**

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: We support the connection of this area between Ka Iwi and Whanganui with a pathway on Rapanui Road. The pathway will safely accommodate cyclists, runners and walkers and horse riding. We are disappointed funding for Manuka Street, Mill Road and Moston Road upgrades with cycling lanes was reallocated to fund a rural bridge. We certainly hope this vital project will be funded in the near future.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: This depends entirely on the types of assets. It is impossible for us to provide a sensible answer until assets are identified.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: We commend the Council for [] We believe WDC and staff are doing a far better job maintaining our water and sewage systems than either Wellington, Christchurch, or Auckland. We know some of our pipes are as old as those in these bigger cities. Congratulations [] The rubbish clearance team who respond to “snap and send” requests to pick up rubbish. Dumping seems a continual problem in some of our more scenic spots [] Increased Iwi relationships, particularly in relation to the Te Awa Tupua legislation. Particularly we commend Kritzo Venter’s Three Waters delivery team for their engagement with the Mokoia Catchment Rōpu. Participation in this Hapū lead project is very exciting. [] Promotion of Whanganui as great place to live, bring up a family and work. [] Supporting cycling with the continued development of shared pathways across town and along the river. [] The effort Council staff and Councillors make to gather resident’s opinions. Disestablishment of Youth Council We oppose the closure of the Youth Council. Now is the very time we need to be better utilising such programmes to upskill our young people on governance and democracy. Young people will be the people who are faced with the decisions that we make now, they need to have a seat at the table. Further a democratic institution has some responsibility on education it’s constituents on government and governance. There are great examples of young people coming through to Council. Others must have gone on to make a difference further afield. Youth Hub We hope you will reconsider the decision not to fund the Youth Hub There seems to be very little for our city’s youth to do, outside the traditional sports, arts, and music/culture groups. We believe a Youth Hub could meet the needs of young people and help those on the edge of society. Reducing vandalism and tagging should be an outcome. We see the equipment that Sport Whanganui has provided for Castlecliff skate park being needed and well respected by many age groups. Tide Bus We are VERY disappointed you are not supporting “The Tide” bus service. We have observed that this bus service is very valuable, not only to us, but to many others less mobile, many who need walkers or trollies and often have limited vision. , and rangitahi from our local kura. We see people catch the bus at the outer Castlecliff stop to travel to Castlecliff 4-Square or to Gonville Shopping Centre, library, and health services. Others from within Gonville suburb travel to these local services or into town. Making return trips with groceries and purchases. People also travel to and from the hospital. On a personal basis Graham found the Tide wonderful on a Saturday when his bike had a flat tyre while at the riverside market. Being able to load his bike on the bus carrier of the Tide, quickly got him back to Castlecliff & home. Comments are made that busses are seen with “only 5 people on the bus”, but a single observation, as the bus passes, does not recognise those who have got on and off the bus along its route. Such as those mentioned above, who are just travelling across to the next suburb for shopping or sporting activities. Social housing We think WDC supporting this is much more important than supporting a hotel development. Building a hotel is a crazy idea, if it was a good commercial option, then a company experienced in this industry would be interested already. Putiki climate adaptation plan We support this plan as we acknowledge the need to future proof our city for the impacts of changing weather. We are enjoying being part of the Mokoia Catchment Rōpu wetland development. This work is establishing an important base for this community and hapu lead development which is taking place within the Te Awa Tupua legislation. Working in the same way to reduce Putiki’s vulnerability to flooding is to be commended. Support Bushy Park education programme We would like to see this education programme continued. The joy and love of our native flora and fauna is a key component in growing children who will care for the Earth Management planning for Waitahinga Block 5K to pull together a volunteer pest control and forest restoration group. We know community led groups are vital for environmental restoration and with the slashing of central funding for DOC we absolutely need for the community to step up and fill the space. Castlecliff Coast Care has had predator control program since 2020. Sustainable Whanganui Trust Enviro Hub It is disappointing Councillors did not see the opportunity for a 5 fold increase on investment that would result from a modest contribution to a bigger and improved Enviro Hub On 1st July SWT will commence its third year of \$40K annual funding from the Ministry of Environment. In addition, the Enviro Hub currently has funding of \$56K from Lotteries. A significant proportion of which support the Green Bikes team to service WDC’s “Bikes in Schools” project. A modest investment of \$20K in 2024/25 (only half that being contributed for Central Government)

would allow SWT to provide Whanganui with a expanded Enviro Hub, operating with a \$100K plus budget. Coastal plan support Te Mata Puha and Nga Ringaringa Waewae have continued to work extremely hard over this period and are not getting sufficient support from WDC and Horizons. The continuing changes in Council staff supporting the project are unhelpful. As members of Coast Care we also find these changes frustrating, especially as they are not communicated to us. The efforts of these committed and dedicated people needs to be acknowledged, supported, and encouraged. Fitzherbert Avenue and Manuka Street Traffic Unfortunately, the job is only half done with the completion of the Fitzherbert Avenue extension. An even greater volume of traffic is now using the far end of Manuka Street, which is hardly wide enough for two cars let alone passing utes, trucks, pedestrian, and cyclists. Excessive speeding traffic has arriving down Manuka Street into the 50 km zone has increased now they have right of way past Polson Street. There is also a need for a shared pathway for dog walkers, runners, and cyclists. This connection is needed throughout this area, as well as to and from Mosston School and allowing pathway connection to Rutherford Junior High. Housing There is a major expansion of housing along the Fitzherbert Avenue extension. We see no development of parks, trees and playground facilities or "corner dairies". For a climate resilient and family friendly city, these facilities should be within 20 minutes' walk for young families and people with limited movement. Can you please reassure us that planning includes such facilities ? Traffic calming We are pleased with the traffic calming efforts in Guyton and Cornfoot Streets and also Seafront Road. Finally, it is good to read that Bullocks are reusing old concrete to make an eco concrete mix. However, it would be great if Council helped them make a thicker hedge to protect us cyclists and the Awa from their dust.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 326

Speaking

First name: Clive
Last name: Pedley
Organisation: Te Awa Community Foundation

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Te Awa Community Foundation welcomes the opportunity to work with WDC to support the Whanganui District to a sustainable future through investment of expenditure currently proposed, namely \$100,000.00 increase for grant funding, into a designated community fund/funds that supports and benefits the wellbeing of communities in Whanganui now and into the future. The investment by Council in a community fund at this stage provides opportunities for generous people, families and businesses to join WDC by giving to the future needs of the community they know and love. TACF focus is on gifts held in perpetuity to support our local community and the causes donors care most about for generations to come.

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Te Awa Community Foundation welcomes the opportunity to work with WDC to support the Whanganui District to a sustainable future through investment of expenditure currently proposed, namely \$100,000.00 increase for grant funding, into a designated community fund/funds that supports and benefits the wellbeing of communities in Whanganui now and into the future. The investment by Council in a community fund at this stage provides opportunities for generous people, families and businesses to join WDC by giving to the future needs of the community they know and love. TACF focus is on gifts held in perpetuity to support our local community and the causes donors care most about for generations to come.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: We look forward to working together with the Whanganui hapori for a sustainable future.

Supporting documents

Yes



Submission to:

Manawatū Long Term Plan 2024 – 2034

Submitter: Clive Pedley, Chair, for

Te Awa Community Foundation (TACF)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into the future of Manawatu, and the effort put into the consultation process. It is clear that Manawatū District Council (MDC) needs to make some very difficult decisions about service and infrastructure priorities.

Manawatū District Council Long Term Plan 2024 – 2034 proposes several areas for immediate expenditure on infrastructure and community development, placing an additional financial burden on the Council and the ratepayer. Te Awa Community Foundation suggests that much of the proposed expenditure is focusing on short term rather than long term outcomes for the community. The issues MDC face are medium to long term rather than an immediate need e.g. population growth and subsequent infrastructure, along with community development and wellbeing to support this growth.

Te Awa Community Foundation is a regional charity that provides established and proven opportunities for sustainable community funding from the community, for the community. We propose that MDC take a more strategic view for positive long term outcomes and positive impact for the growing community while also reducing the immediate financial impact on ratepayers during a difficult financial time for all.

Te Awa Community Foundation welcomes the opportunity to work with MDC to support the Manawatū to a sustainable future through investment of expenditure currently proposed into a designated community fund that supports and benefits the wellbeing of communities in Manawatū. The investment by Council in a community fund at this stage provides opportunities for generous people, families and businesses to join MDC by giving to the future needs of the community they know and love. Our focus is on gifts held in perpetuity to support our local community and the causes donors care most about for generations to come. This has been proven to be effective in other regions throughout New Zealand over the past 20 years through other community foundations, such as the Acorn Foundation, Nikau Foundation, Momentum Waikato and Aoraki Community Foundation. MDC is in the position to lead these opportunities in our community for the long term benefit of Manawatū, in partnership with TACF.

We note that the Revenue and Financing Policy 2021 is also up for review at this stage. The current policy focuses on current/immediate rather than investment now for the needs of the future. All areas of the current policy would benefit in the future from a community fund, and TACF would suggest that investment is included in the revised policy.

We welcome the opportunity to present this submission in person.

Contact details: Kate Aplin, co General Manager

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



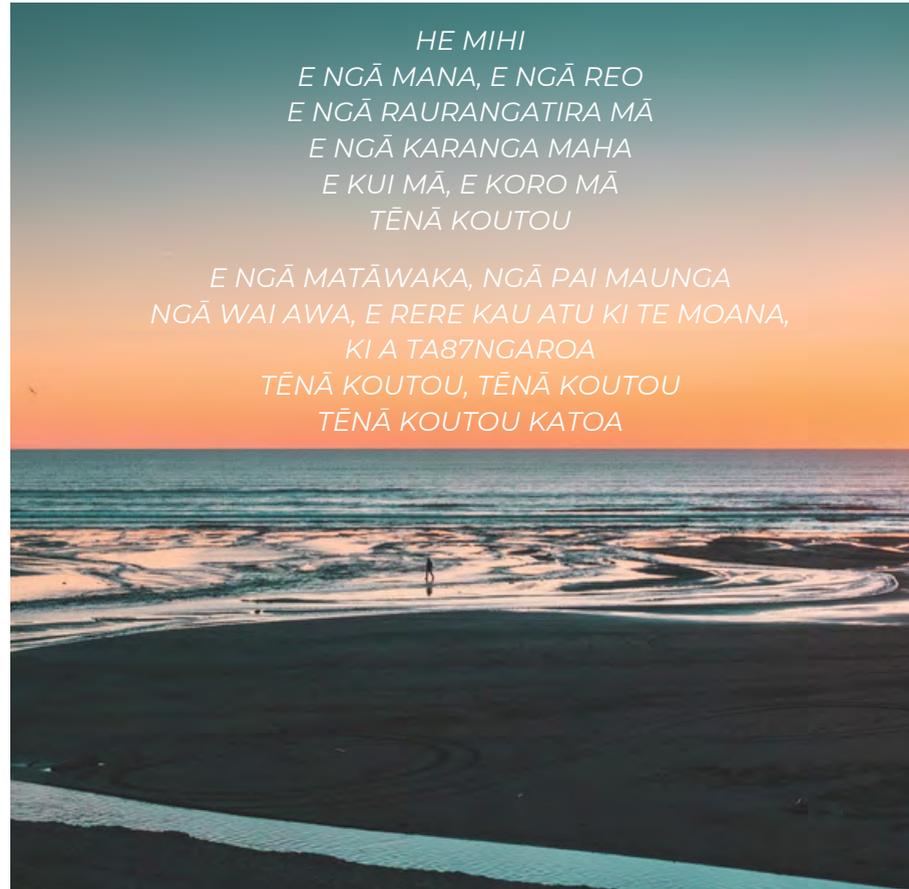
INTRODUCING YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Everyone can make a difference



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ENDORSEMENT



“Community Foundations enable people to give back to their own communities and support local projects.”

— Sir Stephen Tindall



Founder and Trustee
Tindall Foundation

OUR PURPOSE

OUR MISSION

Connecting generous people
with causes that matter in
their communities

OUR VISION

Growing sustainable
funds to enhance our
communities for future
generations

OUR GOALS

Sustainable support of
local communities,
donors, supporters and
volunteers

OUR TEAM



Clive Pedley
CHAIR



Andrew McLean
TRUSTEE



Owen Grieg
TRUSTEE



Jasmine Groves
TRUSTEE



Clint Dunstan
AMBASSADOR



Rebecca Coulson
AMBASSADOR



Wayne Macpherson
AMBASSADOR



Paul O'Brien
AMBASSADOR

The operational staff and local volunteer District Committee members are supported by the Board, and Ambassadors 05

OUR SCOPE



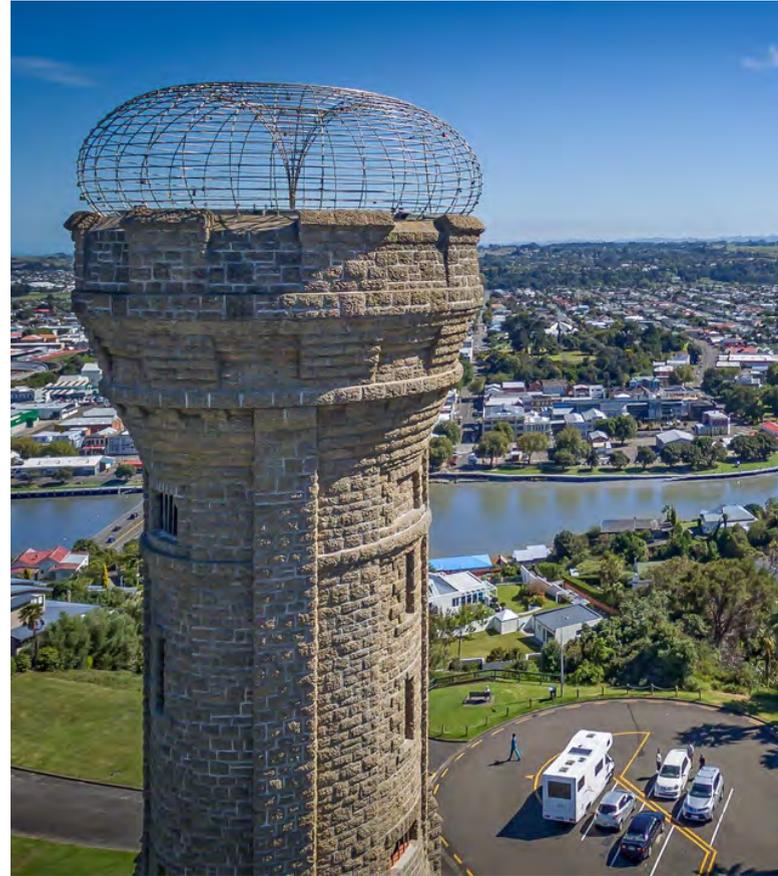
TE AWA - THE STORY

THE COLLECTIVE GOOD

Through New Zealand's Community Foundations over **\$50 million** has been granted to NZ communities in the past five years and today over **\$200 million** has been invested in endowment funds for the future.

Te Awa is the most recent community foundation in New Zealand and is looking to build on this successful model of **sustainable intergenerational support** for local communities.

Te Awa provides a range of ways to give to great local causes and as funds grow over time the community will benefit from **grant making** opportunities and support for **local projects**.



TE AWA - THE STORY

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Throughout New Zealand there are hundreds of anticipated bequests adding up to many millions of dollars that will be invested for future community transformation.

With our endowment fund model your gift is invested and the interest gained on the gift is given back to the community for charitable purposes.

An endowment is a perpetual gift. The impact on [future generations is boundless.](#)



How an Invested Endowment Fund Works

2003 - The Edna Brown Fund established, giving to healthcare causes locally



First established with a fund balance of **\$67,200**

2023 - After 20 years



\$93,252 Fund balance + **\$75,839** Grants distributed

2053* - After 50 years



\$134,247 Fund balance + **\$210,030** Grants distributed

** Estimated growth rate of 6.5% for future years and an annual distribution of 4%
Thank you to Acorn Foundation for this real example of a live invested endowment fund.*

SUCCESSFUL MODEL



The concept of pooling and investing charitable donations for the good of a local area has been a growing global movement for over a hundred years now.



Granted to New Zealand communities in the past year



Invested in managed endowment funds



Number of grants made to local communities in the past year



Number of committed bequests for future endowment funds

NB: All figures current June 2023

HOW YOUR GIFT IS GROWN



Your gift is **invested and grown** and the ongoing income earned goes to the local causes you love.

GIVING MADE SIMPLE



Te Awa provides a variety of giving options designed to make it as easy as possible to give back to your community. We offer flexible solutions designed to meet your charitable goals and provide you with maximum tax benefits.

Named Endowment Funds

When making your will consider giving back to your community or leaving a bequest to your chosen charitable cause.

Donate during your lifetime

Give to a cause you are passionate about and watch the satisfying journey of seeing your gift make an impact in your lifetime.

Transfer of an existing charitable trust

Te Awa Community Foundation can take over the management of existing charitable trusts by creating a perpetual fund within the Foundation.

Community Groups

If you are a charity or community group you can create an endowment fund through Te Awa to ensure you are supported into the future.

Workplace Giving

Giving through your workplace is a great way for employers to enable employees to give back to their local community.

Ask us about our volunteering opportunities

We are always looking for [Te Awa Ambassadors](#) to support our charitable causes.

[Everyone can make a difference!](#)

For Professional Advisers

HOW WE CAN HELP

Are you a professional adviser such as a lawyer, accountant or financial adviser? You are in a unique position to introduce the concept of philanthropy to your clients.

Many people want to give to charitable causes as part of their wealth and estate planning but are not often aware of the options.

Te Awa Community Foundation provides a variety of options for those at any stage of life and can assist you with the resources needed to begin those conversations with your clients.

Contact a team member or email us at support@teawafoundation to receive an Adviser Support Pack.



CONNECT WITH US

Your next step is to connect with one of our local Te Awa Community Foundation team members below:



Cat Rikihana
Co-General Manager

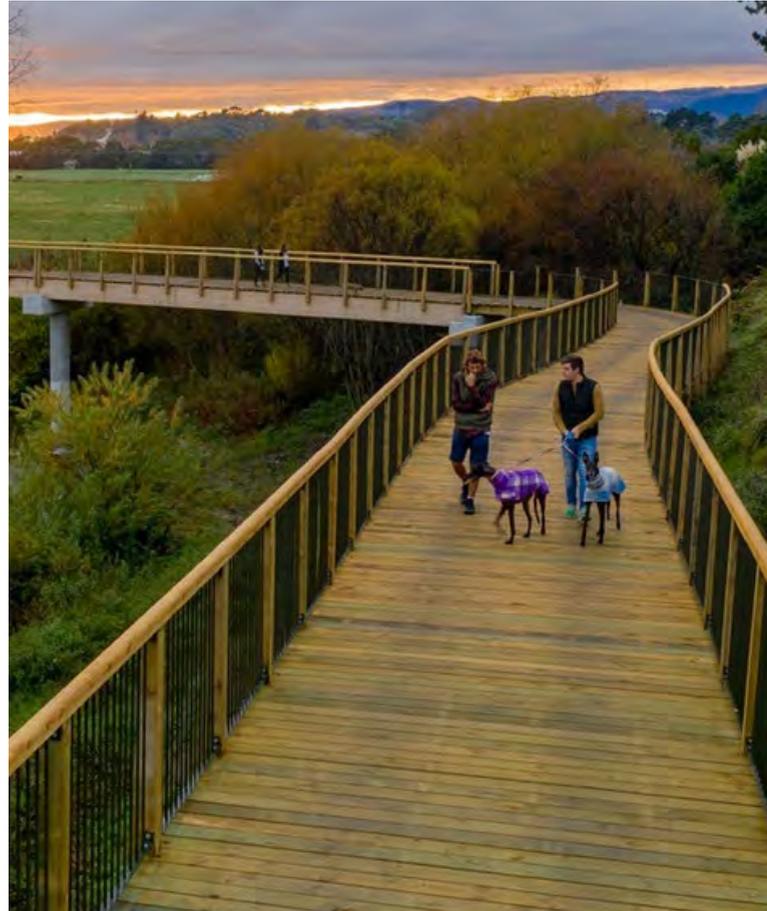


Kate Aplin
Co-General Manager



For general enquiries and to subscribe to our updates please email us at: support@teawafoundation.org.nz

Te Awa Community Foundation is a registered charitable organisation (CC56373) in New Zealand.





teawafoundation.org.nz



facebook.com/teawacommunityfoundation

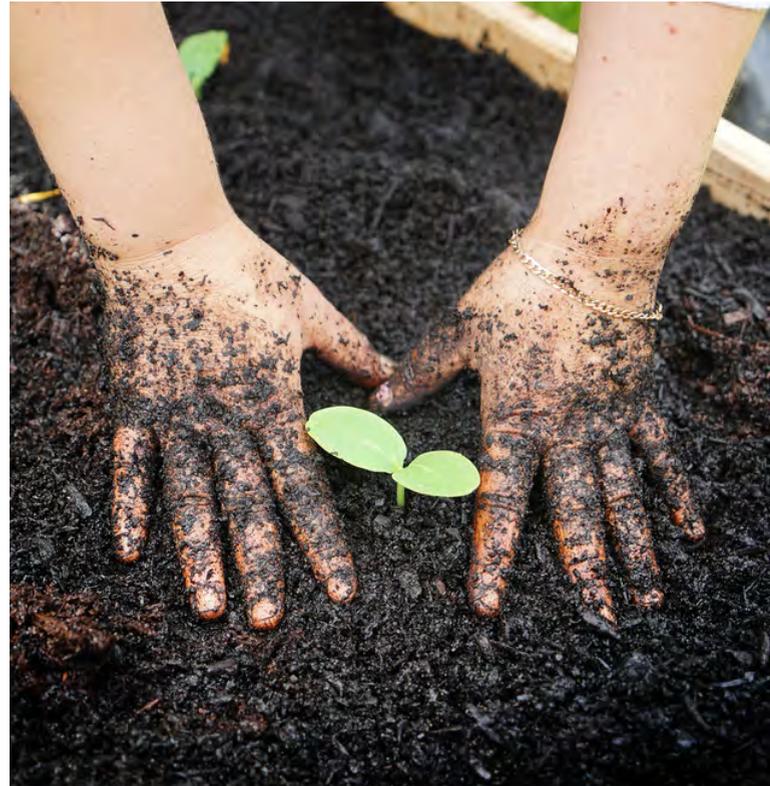


linkedin.com/company/te-awa-community-foundation



instagram.com/teawacommunityfoundation

Join us on social media to keep up with the news around our region and share our content with your networks.



Picture From: Kai Security Fund
See our website for more details about our list of funds.



CONNECTING GENEROUS PEOPLE WITH CAUSES THAT MATTER

Donate to Te Awa today in
support of your community!

Ngā mihi nui.



Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1318

Speaking

First name: **Hayden**
Last name: **Potaka**
Organisation: **Whanganui Maori Tourism Organisation**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:**Gonville Library**

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:**Winter Gardens**

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the Winter Gardens (save \$7.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:**Level of Community Grant Funding**

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: And additional investment in Maori Business

Further comments on service cuts:**Proposed Future Investments****Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:**Hotel and Car Park**

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:**Royal Whanganui Opera House**

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: More information is needed here

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments: There is a bigger discussion around this development

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: Needed

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Just block off the road all together

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Needs to be directly discussed with Maori organisations

Supporting documents **No**

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 5

Speaking

First name: **Michael (Mike)**
Last name: **Punch**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: I have insufficient information.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: As this theatre is becoming less fit for purpose closure of the facility is inevitable. It may be possible for the build to be sold to a private developer to upgrade and maybe turn into apartments thus saving council expense and retaining another piece in the heritage building aspect of this precinct.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: This is probably something that was originally set up by enthusiastic volunteers, many of which have probably moved on, I have found it is a pleasant stop when entertaining visitor to town. Perhaps it could be sold to some existing tourist business as an attraction.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: I favour keeping the hanging baskets because they add a pleasant vibe to the town centre on hot summer days and are one aspect that encourages visitors to the city to return.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Same comments as for the aviary.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: This is core council business. A need to have not a nice to have.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Council has no place in commercial business. I am unaware of any successful commercial enterprise run by any council that has been able to sustain profitability and it is common for these enterprises to consistently run at a loss.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: While I see some merit in a few selected Marae being supported as the centre of their community (I understand that Central Govt has provided support in the past). With modern transport there is probably less need in much the same ways as there is less need for rural community halls nowadays.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: When Pakaitore Reserve is getting a lot of use the roads are normally closed to traffic. While some raised crossings are proving valuable in busy areas, it seems that they are now becoming a status symbol and are now becoming a hindrance.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: I have a preference for option 2 as some of the anticipated outcome of option 1 will most likely be achieved by option 2. A possible better priority could be something like this to Kaitoke because of the size of the community it would serve, and also may receive funding from Transit NZ.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: There are probably assets that are now surplus to needs. Provided the sales are managed in an appropriate manner I have a belief that surplus assets and unprofitable ventures should be sold. NZIPA being an example.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: There are three questions that should always be asked whether governmental or private when considering any expenditure 1/ Do we want it? 2/ Do we need it? 3/ Can we afford it? And a fourth regarding investment. Will I be prepared to invest my own capital in this venture?

Supporting documents

No

POINT OF ENTRY BUSINESS CASE.

Project initiation date:

Click or tap to enter a date.

Project title:

Putiki Emergency Response

Hapū/iwi active partnership consideration: Partner / Co-design (joint solutions & decision-making)

Note: your consideration for active partnership must take into account [Tupua te Kawa](#) – a set of indigenous values at law.

Business case prepared by: Tim Crowe

Business owner: Deputy Chief Executive

[\[Link\] to guidelines "The PoE template explained..."](#)

PROBLEM / OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

This project seeks to set up an active community hub in Pūtiki, resourced with emergency equipment alongside embedded support to increase community resilience and preparedness for flooding or any other similar event in Pūtiki.

Pūtiki is at risk from multiple sources, the Whanganui Awa and the Ngataura stream. There is also some risk to the adjacent Onetere Drive and lower Marybank area from the Awarua stream catchment in heavy rain. The most recent localised flooding was in May 2023 and damaged a house in Marybank along with leading Police to evacuate the low lying Kaumatua Flats on Putiki Drive/SH4.

The Putiki community is currently refreshing its Community Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan. This proposal is also seeking support with emergency response planning and resourcing of emergency equipment specific for community response.

The proposed project in principle has the endorsement of Whanganui District Council CDEM staff. Putiki Emergency Response Group (PERG) is liaising with Civil Defence and District Police commander to ensure any planning aligns with the CD district.

BENEFITS STATEMENT

Adequately resourced, PERG will take ownership of the problem and provide community driven solutions and strategies for responding to our hazards and their consequences. Developed with and by the community, it will also have the ability to assist within the wider community in direct support of Civil Defence and other agencies.. This will improve community preparedness and resilience. It will enable us to respond quickly and safely to what are re-occurring local events as well as providing a resource and capability able to be used in support of the emergency services in larger events

Social Benefits:

This is a community driven and owned kaupapa which can be shared with other at-risk Whanganui communities. A community-led and local government supported and enabled partnership is key to building an effective and enduring emergency plan that is most responsive to its needs. Empowerment of the community to effectively respond by and for its members will reduce stress and enhance resilience as well as reducing the burden currently on other response agencies.

Economic Benefits:

Environmental Benefits:

The Whanganui River and its tributaries (Te Awa Tupua) are central to the existence of Whanganui Iwi, providing both physical and spiritual sustenance to iwi and hapū. Te Awa Tupua is an indivisible and living being consisting of physical and metaphysical elements.

Cultural Benefits:

The assessment of cultural values for Pūtiki or of tiaki taonga (the preservation of iwi taonga and heritage) must be considered in any reports or actions. Taonga cover marae, Urupā, and sites of significance such as Pā sites, wāhi tapu, wāhi Tupuna and papakāinga.

Iwi and Hapū of the Whanganui River have an inalienable interconnection with, and responsibility to, Te Awa Tupua and its health and well-being. Decision makers under the primary legislation affecting the Whanganui River and Uri must recognise and provide for both the legal status of Te Awa Tupua and Tupua Te Kawa. The engagement of those who live within this community is intrinsic to ensuring that any structural or physical changes to the environment resulting from either events or mitigation measures meet the intent of the Te Awa Tupua Act.

STRATEGIC CASE

This community plan aligns with “the four well-being’s” that Local Government Act follows as the basis for assessing strategic alignment along with Council strategies such as Te Rautaki Huringa Āhuarangi Climate Change Strategy (2021).

FINANCIAL CASE

To fund the purchase of a container, a generator and solar power alternative generation capability \$17,500.
To purchase initial PPE and response cache emergency equipment, for 10 emergency responders \$25,289.00

To provide an upkeep budget to allow for servicing and rotation of generator fuel and other perishable stores or for replenishment. \$1,200.00 per year although this does not fit under the community led initiative criteria.

Training for responder personnel can be provided by Whanganui CDEM via the National ACE training fund for volunteers.

Other avenues for funding will be explored specific to mitigation and/or possible future warning system measures.

Year of LTP for delivery:	Y 1	Y 2	Y 3	Y 4	Y 5	Y 6	Y 7	Y 8	Y 9	Y 10
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>								
	\$43,000k	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29	29/30	30/31	31/32	32/33	33/34

External funding contributions: To be explored

Capex \$43,000	Opex \$1200	Funded by
		Debt

*Note: providing explanation via free text is also acceptable in the above boxes.

RISK EVALUATION

Item	Potential Risk Event	Likelihood	Consequence
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1	Lack of, or dissipation of direct community engagement in the short and long term, with local volunteers absent or diminished in numbers and being unavailable or insufficient to meet the expectations and needs of the community in a sudden onset event within effective timeframes.	Possible	Major
2	Loss of stores or equipment cache due to theft or natural hazard impacts, particularly if located poorly	Possible	Moderate
3	Emergency event occurring requiring response activities before proposal is functional	Possible	Minor

OPTIONS APPRAISAL

Option 1: To work with Council CDEM staff to finalise emergency response plan and funding to set up emergency response hub, equipment and training costs. Team is resourced to respond to multiple possible scenarios including earthquakes, main river floods and localised (nuisance) flooding.

Option 2: To work with Council CDEM staff to finalise emergency response plan and funding to set up emergency response hub, equipment and training costs. Team is resourced and trained to respond to a limited number of localised scenarios, primarily weather events and specifically providing community support to local flooding.

Do Nothing / Status quo: To remain within existing Iwi/Haapu/Marae frameworks, seeking alternative funding via TPK and other central and local Government sources and relying on emergency services and CDEM response alongside local residents.

STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

Stakeholder	Influences	Key interests & issues
Putiki Marae Committee	High power/highly interested (Manage closely)	Owens and manages effected area of Kaumatua Flats via a seperate trustee organisation. Marae area is susceptible to main Awa flooding
Tumango Putiki Hapu	High power/less interested (Keep satisfied)	Local Community Hapu and representitives of both Iwi/Maori perspectives and Te Awa Tupua. Need to define representation and responsibilities between this proposal and the Deep South Project.
Horizons Regional Council	Low power/highly interested (Keep informed)	Responsible for rural stream catchments and flood warning management. Local Ngatarua catchment is small, floods quickly with localised very heavy rainfall and devices are unlikely to provide timely or useful early warning of more than a few minutes.
Whanganui District Council	High power/highly interested (Manage closely)	Manages local CDEM activities and urban drainage. Putiki to

		the West of SH4 is classified in General Residential Zone, East of SH4 is mainly zoned Rural.
Massey University – Deep South project	Low power/highly interested (Keep informed)	Undertaking research into Climate Change adaptation with Putiki being one focal area
Waka Katohi	High power/highly interested (Manage closely)	Responsible for SH4 and Culverts associated with the Putiki Ngatarua catchment as well as the Awarua where it crosses SH3 near Marybank.
Whanganui Community Foundation	Low power/highly interested (Keep informed)	Potential funding source (on application)
District Police Commandor	Low power/interested (Monitor)	Local subordinates are often responsible for ordering precautionary evacuation of Kaumatua Flats. Police have Lead Agency status for evacuations in CDEM emergencies under CIMS
Putiki Parish Anglican Church	Low power/highly interested (Keep informed)	Owner of the local Church hall, possible location for local hub or community shelter. Area is not suitable for tsunami or main river flood scenarios as is too close to evacuation areas, but is a location that could be used to wait out local flooding.

KEY CONSTRAINTS, DEPENDENCIES AND ASSUMPTIONS

PERG as it currently exists is not an established formal volunteer or community organisation but is an emergent group in the early stages of forming. PERG will need to undertake a formalising of their structure and membership along with governance provisions.

A significant number of the members of the Group do not live permanently in Putiki. There will be a substantial reliance on increasing the size of the core group and particularly with engaged local residents, to ensure they are able to respond effectively.

The PERG will be responsible for ensuring they have a system of rostering and alerting to ensure they can meet their goals, and for making their volunteers available for regular training and courses.

The PERG produce a detailed administrative plan for financial matters, asset management and personnel (training) competencies of team members.

WDC CDEM will provide training in First Aid, Psychological First Aid, Civil Defence courses and other operational level training activities, on application to the Regional CDEM ACE Fund for volunteers

That PERG team members undergo police checks or clearances to allow them to operate in a wider CDEM response environment.

The PERG will be responsible for equipment and facility maintenance, insurance, and any Health and Safety concerns.

The PERG will inform CDEM in (advance) of when they are unable to provide rapid local response capabilities.

Unless otherwise informed, CDEM will operate under the understanding that local emergency response to nuisance or other flooding in the Putiki area will be managed and led by PERG in the first instance but will be included and coordinated as part of a wider response in more significant events.

That PERG operational activities will not contradict or countermand the directions of Police, FENZ, CDEM or other authorised response agencies.

NEXT STAGE

Councils desired role is to:

Ensure a co-designed approach with PERG/Hapū including a MOU to be developed with the backing of Hapū and mana whenua to embed sustaining relationships. Emergency Response & Evacuation Plan:

- Support with project management, funding, planning, and a partnership approach.
- Include planning and disaster risk mitigation for Pūtiki and other vulnerable areas in LTP.

Please contact the PMO (interim Stuart White: stuart.white@whanganui.govt.nz or 021738273) for any inquiries relating to this form or the business case process.

Team Leader/Project Manager Self-Review		Strategic Panel FINAL score	
Strategic Fit	3	Strategic Fit	3
Benefits	3	Benefits	3
Economic Impact	2	Economic Impact	2
Level of Service Improvements	3	Level of Service Improvements	3
Risk of doing nothing	2	Risk of doing nothing	3

*Note a copy of the anchored scoring matrix is available at the end of this document.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE TO COMPLETE

Communications team level of involvement: Choose an item. (PMO to liaise with the Communications team)

ELT REVIEW

Date: Click or tap to enter a date.

ELT Minutes Reference: Click or tap here to enter text.

Agreed next steps:

Click or tap here to enter text.

If this project is approved for a detailed business case, then –

Name and job title of Project Sponsor

Click or tap here to enter text.

ANCHORED SCORING MATRIX

SCORE	Strategic Fit: <i>How well is this project aligned with our Strategic Vision for Whanganui?</i>	Benefits: <i>How valuable are the benefits this project delivers?</i>	Economic Impact: <i>How will this project contribute to the wider economic activity of the Whanganui District?</i>	Level of Service: <i>How well does this projects address shortfalls in our Level of Service?</i>	Risk of Doing Nothing: <i>What risks would NPDC be exposed to, if the investment is not made?</i>
Weight	35%	25%	20%	15%	5%
5	This investment plays a critical contribution to Council Objectives, Goals and Strategy.	This investment has a measureable Costs Benefit Ratio (CBR) and the benefits will return more than double the costs.	This investment is a key enabler for ongoing economic activity (i.e. ongoing annual GDP or employment) with the economic benefit being at least three times the cost of the project.	This investment addresses critical (e.g. regulatory non-compliance or safety issues) shortfalls in our current levels of service.	WDC could be exposed to very high risks.
4	This investment is a direct component or enabler to achieve Council Objectives, Goals and Strategy.	This investment has a measureable Cost Benefit Ratio (CBR) and the benefits will return more than the costs.	This investment is a key enabler for ongoing economic activity (i.e. ongoing annual GDP or employment) with the economic benefit being greater than the cost of the project.	This investment addresses significant (material user experience issues) shortfalls in our current levels of service	WDC could be exposed to high risks.
3	This investment contributes to a wider programmes of work designed to progress the Council strategic objectives and goals.	This investment has no measureable Cost Benefit Ratio but our community are clearly willing to pay for the benefits.	This project is the catalyst or key enabler for one-time only economic activity that is at least three times the cost of the project.	This investment addresses small (nuisance level issues) shortfalls in our current levels of service	WDC would be exposed to medium risks.
2	This investment is aligned to at least one of the Council strategic objectives and/or goals with limited direct contributions.	This investment has no measureable Cost Benefit Ratio and we think our community is willing to pay for the benefits, but we have not confirmed this.	This project is the catalyst or key enabler for one-time only economic activity that is greater than the cost of the project.	This investment makes no change to levels of service.	WDC would be exposed to low risks.
1	This investment has no direct contribution to Council goals and strategy.	The costs outweigh the benefits.	The economic benefit of this project is less than the cost of delivering the project.	This investment reduces levels of service.	WDC would have to put in a work around or keep using a poor or inefficient process.

POINT OF ENTRY BUSINESS CASE.

Project initiation date: 1 July 2024
Project title: **Putiki Climate Adaptation**
Hapū/iwi active partnership consideration: Partner / Co-design (joint solutions & decision-making)
Note: your consideration for active partnership must take into account [Tupua te Kawa](#) – a set of indigenous values at law.

Business case prepared by: Kritzo Venter

Business owner: Deputy Chief Executive

[\[Link\] to guidelines "The PoE template explained..."](#)

PROBLEM / OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

This project seeks to address the ongoing risks of flooding in the wider Pūtiki catchment and develop short-medium-long term climate change adaptation plans in partnership with Hapū and community.

Pūtiki Pā and the community is at risk of significant impacts from climate hazards including the increase in frequency and severity of flood events and will become more exposed as sea level rise and coastal inundation increases. Pūtiki is at risk from multiple sources, the Whanganui Awa and the Ngataura stream. There is also some risk to the adjacent Onetere Drive and lower Marybank area from the Awarua stream catchment in heavy rain.

Reports commissioned by Whanganui District Council, Horizons Regional Council and Waka Kotahi over the past 20 years have identified specific concerns in respect of the infrastructure, particularly the existing culverts and climate change challenges for Pūtiki (Opus, 2004/2004/2009/2018, Blackwood, 2016, Horizons, 2018). Pūtiki is identified as a community at risk yet omitted from Long Term planning and has not been included in measures taken by WDC, Horizons or Waka Kotahi or other government agencies responsible for managing these risks. The solutions for the wider issues involve a collaborative approach with all responsible agencies.

Pūtiki is one of 4 communities in the Manawatū-Whanganui and Taranaki regions comprising the Massey University Deep South Project. This project involves undertaking research into Climate Change adaptation to prepare and implement community-based adaptation plans to reduce climate-compounded risk & build resilience. The community-based plan for Pūtiki will be completed by June, 2024

BENEFITS STATEMENT

The engagement of those who live within this community is intrinsic to ensuring that any structural or physical changes to the environment resulting from either events or mitigation measures meet the intent of the Te Awa Tupua Act. Decision makers under the primary legislation affecting the Whanganui River and Uri must recognise and provide for both the legal status of Te Awa Tupua and Tupua Te Kawa.

The assessment of cultural values for Pūtiki or of tiaki taonga (the preservation of iwi taonga and heritage).

Social Benefits:

This is a community driven and owned kaupapa.

Economic Benefits:

Environmental Benefits:

The Whanganui River and its tributaries (Te Awa Tupua) are central to the existence of Whanganui Iwi, providing both physical and spiritual sustenance to iwi and hapū. Te Awa Tupua is an indivisible and living being consisting of physical and metaphysical elements. Natural environment can sustainably support activities.

Cultural Benefits:

Recognises the critical importance of cultural values for Pūtiki and of tiaki taonga (the preservation of iwi taonga and heritage). Taonga cover marae, Urupā, and sites of significance such as Pā sites, wāhi tapu, wāhi Tupuna and papakāinga.

Iwi and Hapū of the Whanganui River have an inalienable interconnection with, and responsibility to, Te Awa Tupua and its health and well-being.

STRATEGIC CASE

This community plan aligns with “the four well-being’s” that Local Government Act follows as the basis for assessing strategic alignment along with Council strategies such as Te Rautaki Huringa Āhuarangi Climate Change Strategy (2021). This is a community driven initiative with whānau and hapū that supports the health and security of the community and concerns environmental and cultural priorities of not only Pūtiki but the Whanganui community.

FINANCIAL CASE

Further reports are required to be funded by council or crown agencies to ensure an evidence based approach is taken for any further capital works. This has not been the approach taken in previous reports with information missing regarding: Cultural and heritage impact report, the impact of a multi-flooding event from Whanganui Awa and Ngatarua/Awarua streams, exploration of the hydraulics of Awarua stream pre diversion and post and impacts. Modelling reports on various scenarios i.e upgrade of culverts Noting that some of these responsibilities fall outside of WDC, however

Fund further reports to inform infrastructure requirements

- Cultural and heritage impact report: \$20,000
- A report on the historical natural hydraulics of the Awarua and Ngatarua streams – and the impact from Crown agencies redirecting these streams: \$30,000
- Modelling reports on various scenarios i.e upgrade of culverts – ongoing work from existing budgets with Waka Kotahi, and WDC Stormwater collaborating.

Other avenues for funding will be explored specific to mitigation measures eg the Climate Action Joint Committee is looking into establishing a regional fund for community led adaptation planning.

Year of LTP for delivery:	Y 1	Y 2	Y 3	Y 4	Y 5	Y 6	Y 7	Y 8	Y 9	Y 10
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						
	\$	\$30,000	\$20,000	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29	29/30	30/31	31/32	32/33	33/34

External funding contributions: To be explored

Capex	Opex	Funded by
\$50,000	\$20,000 per annum for adaptation planning under the stormwater activity.	Rates/Debt?

*Note: providing explanation via free text is also acceptable in the above boxes.

RISK EVALUATION

Item	Potential Risk Event	Likelihood	Consequence
1	Climate change impacts accelerate causing more frequent flooding events.	Possible	Major
2	Awarua stream diversion during the SH3 and motorway bridge construction in 1960's is a case for arguing a breach of Te Tiriti	Possible	Moderate
3	Climate change event occurring before mitigation and adaptation plans are implemented.	Possible	Minor

OPTIONS APPRAISAL

Option 1: Work collectively with iwi/hapu, Waka Kotahi, and Horizons to finalise a climate adaptation plan taking account of the Massey University Deep South project.

Option 2:

Do Nothing / Status quo: To remain within existing Iwi/Haapu/Marae frameworks, seeking alternative funding via Waka Kotahi and other central and local Government sources.

STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

Stakeholder	Influences	Key interests & issues
Putiki Marae Committee	High power/highly interested (Manage closely)	Owns and manages effected area of Kaumatua Flats via a seperate trustee organisation. Marae area is susceptible to main Awa flooding
Tumango Putiki Hapu	High power/less interested (Keep satisfied)	Local Community Hapu and representitives of both Iwi/Maori perspectives and Te Awa Tupua. Need to define representation and responsibilities between this proposal and the Deep South Project.
Horizons Regional Council	Low power/highly interested (Keep informed)	Responsible for rural stream catchments and flood warning management. Local Ngatarua catchment is small, floods quickly with localised very heavy rainfall and devices are unlikely to provide timely or useful early warning of more than a few minutes.
Whanganui District Council	High power/highly interested (Manage closely)	Manages local CDEM activities and urban drainage. Putiki to the West of SH4 is classified in General Residential Zone, East of SH4 is mainly zoned Rural.

Massey University – Deep South project	Low power/highly interested (Keep informed)	Undertaking research into Climate Change adaptation with Putiki being one focal area
Waka Katohi	High power/highly interested (Manage closely)	Responsible for SH4 and Culverts associated with the Putiki Ngatarua catchment as well as the Awarua where it crosses SH3 near Marybank.

KEY CONSTRAINTS, DEPENDENCIES AND ASSUMPTIONS

WDC will supply relevant information to the appropriate agencies for inclusion in their Long-Term planning, i.e Horizons, Waka Kotahi to ensure a joined-up approach to flood risk reduction.

MoU is finalised and agreed for WDC, Horizons and Waka Kotahi to work collectively on designs for future plans.

Planning is based on a 800mm sea level rise.

Next stage

Ensure a co-designed approach with iwi/Hapū including:

- Support with project management, funding, planning, and a partnership approach.
- Include planning and disaster risk mitigation for Pūtiki and other vulnerable areas in LTP

Consider the community-based adaptation plans proposed by the Deep South project.

Please contact the PMO (interim Stuart White: stuart.white@whanganui.govt.nz or 021738273) for any inquiries relating to this form or the business case process.

Team Leader/Project Manager Self-Review		Strategic Panel FINAL score	
Strategic Fit	3	Strategic Fit	4
Benefits	3	Benefits	3
Economic Impact	2	Economic Impact	2
Level of Service Improvements	3	Level of Service Improvements	4
Risk of doing nothing	2	Risk of doing nothing	4

*Note a copy of the anchored scoring matrix is available at the end of this document.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE TO COMPLETE

Communications team level of involvement: Choose an item. *(PMO to liaise with the Communications team)*

ELT REVIEW

Date: Click or tap to enter a date.

ELT Minutes Reference: Click or tap here to enter text.

Agreed next steps:

Click or tap here to enter text.

If this project is **approved for a detailed business case**, then –

Name and job title of **Project Sponsor**

Click or tap here to enter text.

ANCHORED SCORING MATRIX

SCORE	Strategic Fit: <i>How well is this project aligned with our Strategic Vision for Whanganui?</i>	Benefits: <i>How valuable are the benefits this project delivers?</i>	Economic Impact: <i>How will this project contribute to the wider economic activity of the Whanganui District?</i>	Level of Service: <i>How well does this projects address shortfalls in our Level of Service?</i>	Risk of Doing Nothing: <i>What risks would NPDC be exposed to, if the investment is not made?</i>
Weight	35%	25%	20%	15%	5%
5	This investment plays a critical contribution to Council Objectives, Goals and Strategy.	This investment has a measureable Cost Benefit Ratio (CBR) and the benefits will return more than double the costs.	This investment is a key enabler for ongoing economic activity (i.e. ongoing annual GDP or employment) with the economic benefit being at least three times the cost of the project.	This investment addresses critical (e.g. regulatory non-compliance or safety issues) shortfalls in our current levels of service.	WDC could be exposed to very high risks.
4	This investment is a direct component or enabler to achieve Council Objectives, Goals and Strategy.	This investment has a measureable Cost Benefit Ratio (CBR) and the benefits will return more than the costs.	This investment is a key enabler for ongoing economic activity (i.e. ongoing annual GDP or employment) with the economic benefit being greater than the cost of the project.	This investment addresses significant (material user experience issues) shortfalls in our current levels of service	WDC could be exposed to high risks.
3	This investment contributes to a wider programmes of work designed to progress the Council strategic objectives and goals.	This investment has no measureable Cost Benefit Ratio but our community are clearly willing to pay for the benefits.	This project is the catalyst or key enabler for one-time only economic activity that is at least three times the cost of the project.	This investment addresses small (nuisance level issues) shortfalls in our current levels of service	WDC would be exposed to medium risks.
2	This investment is aligned to at least one of the Council strategic objectives and/or goals with limited direct contributions.	This investment has no measureable Cost Benefit Ratio and we think our community is willing to pay for the benefits, but we have not confirmed this.	This project is the catalyst or key enabler for one-time only economic activity that is greater than the cost of the project.	This investment makes no change to levels of service.	WDC would be exposed to low risks.
1	This investment has no direct contribution to Council goals and strategy.	The costs outweigh the benefits.	The economic benefit of this project is less than the cost of delivering the project.	This investment reduces levels of service.	WDC would have to put in a work around or keep using a poor or inefficient process.

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 409

Speaking

First name: Clare
Last name: Raisin

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Look at aligning to a school pool fir outdoor swimmin.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: We need to maintain existing amenities. The Bird aviary is an important branch to our leisure and visitor amenities, in that it provides a different experience. As visitor numbers increase with our renovated Sergeant Gallery, we need to have other amenities available for visitation.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Whanganui city was the first to introduce this main street decor. We need to keep and maintain the flower baskets as they provide floral beautification to our unique historic buildings. They provide a point of difference to other city mainstreets; flower baskets with historic buildings.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Seek a partner, retaining 51% ownership. This way you keep the Glassworks in our city.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the drop off points for rural rubbish (save \$9.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: These gardens offer a varied experience to resident and visitors showcasing plants ad well as garden art.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Thus proposal while visionary, lacks detail to be considered. Research on demand should have been done before including this in the draft plan. Secondly, property development is not part

of council's core business and I doubt the council has the expertise required to follow this through to a successful outcome. Develop a register of homestays for large events like the Masters Games to cope with increased visitor numbers.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 4 - Full upgrade, including front of house improvements (add \$74 per property per year for 20 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: This aligns with closing the Repertory Theatre -put money into renovating one theatre only.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: I strongly feel that the Council does not provide any funding for Marae upgrades. The government through Nanaia Mahuta handed out \$100 million to upgrade maraes across NZ. They have also received millions of dollars in treaty settlements, some of which should surely be spent on their maraes. If maraes get funding, why not churches and schools, eg Presbyterian churches? They have halls with kitchens and toilets which could be used for civil defence and emergency purposes.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: Thus is a worthy project that serves a wide proportion of our community, particularly the Young.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: We are strongly against such a large sum of money, \$830,000 being spent on a crossing to a little used reserve. This reserve gets nowhere near the visitation that Kowhai Park gets, and that doesn't have or need a crossing. Unbelievable. I go past Pakaitore regularly and have rarely seen many people in the reserve. Definitely not a need to have, nor a nice to have. It is a luxury we as a city can't afford.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments: This project will encourage more people to ride their bikes around Whanganui. I would also like to see a continuation of the track alongside the railway line by Pak n Save go right along to the river. What a safe pathway through the city streets that would be.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: It is difficult to have an opinion on this when the assets to be sold are not named.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: I commend the efforts that have gone into this draft plan, and the work being done by Mayor Andrew Tripe and Rob Vinsen. The Council is a business with social responsibility.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 160

Speaking

First name: **Keith**
Last name: **Ramage**
Organisation: **Whanganui East and wider community. From a meeting hosted by Whanganui East School Board that I am the presiding member of.**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: The representatives of the community (not just Whanganui East residents) who attended a meeting on 9th April wish that the Whanganui East Pool remains open. Attached is a document of 50 comments from this meeting.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes

Your views on the Council's
proposal to close the Whanganui
East Pool

No - in fact expand its
operation and have it
meet the needs of East.

Why is SPLASH the only
option. Can it ever take
the load of every school doing
lessons there in school hours?

The pool needs
to remain open as
vital learning for our tamariki...
Not all tamariki can get into
Splash for lessons (Capacity limits as
provide as distance etc) So East Swim Club should
+ Reopen the toddler pool to our people.
Safe spaces and stay @ home whānau somewhere to
go in their own community.

No - we need equity for our
tamariki. Expand the pool. This
is a low socio-economic area
and these tamariki should all have
access to a public pool on the side
of town they live in

If the pool closes, what happens?
Is it gifted back to Kura?

Your views on the Council's
proposal to close the Whanganui
East Pool

Please don't
close ill be
scared my
tamaviki will
start swimming
in the Awa!!

feasibility studies are expensive
a new pool is even more.

As a Special Olympic Swimmer I'd rather
train there in an open air pool. As
Great Facilities

Concern More Paperwork and hassle/stress
for School Management.

Has anyone asked the
community to help the same
way it was built in the first place??

The pool is a great
asset for our community. Tautoko?

Where will our
kids learn
to swim
one pool for
the whole town?

This is about our
NE kids having the
same opportunities
that we had to
learn and grow
in a safe place for
families. It's about
health and wellbeing
of our communities,
it's about equity for
our W.E residents

Your views on the Council's
proposal to close the Whanganui
East Pool

1 Where will the kids go!

✓ They will not travel to Splash Centre.

✓ Will they turn to crime because they are bored.

* Some are not allow to swim in the Awa!

WHAT ABOUT THE COST OF GETTING SCHOOL CHILDREN TO SPLASH
AND PAYING FOR THE USE OF.

THERE WILL BE NO INCONVENIENCE TO USERS OF THE CLUBS CENTRE WHEN SCHOOL USE IT.

IF THERE IS A PROPOSAL TO BUILD A NEW POOL BESIDE THE SPLASH
CENTRE WHY CAN IT NOT BE BUILT IN WHANGAUI ETC?

At present the school classes from WE walk
to swimming lessons at the pool (as do St Annes?)

Who finances getting all these classes to the Splash
Centre? The Schools? The Council? Or Government?

Your views on the Council's
proposal to close the Whanganui
East Pool

We need more than just the splash center.

Whatever the cost, we need a sustainable & functional
option for East. Absolutely no to a closure. However, we need
a long term option. No patch work, practical options for the future.

10 yrs ago we took
our granddaughter to
swimming lessons at it.
We dont need a
flash pool just
a safe place for
our kids to swim!

Your views on the Council's
proposal to close the Whanganui
East Pool

No!

10 yrs ago we took
our granddaughter to
swimming lessons at the
Splash Centre. We went on
a waiting list 3 months.
Is the Splash Centre any
better able to cope with
increased learn to swim
entrants?

The splash is
already over crowded!

Your views on the Council's
proposal to close the Whanganui
East Pool

Bloody disgusting. Its been there aim for many years,
so they put out bullshit figures to back it up. M. Doyle.

Crap idea keep it open

Your views on the Council's proposal to close the Whanganui East Pool

WHANGANUI EAST SCHOOL SHOULD NOT HAVE TO PAY

POV

The Pool should remain open & be regularly maintained. Continue to teach our children. Less risk More community

Keep Pool Open.

REWARD AND GET THIS POOL UP & RUNNING FOR EVERYONE & FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR KIDS.

School should not pay! Keep the pools open for our kids! This pool is necessary for our rangatahi so that they dont turn to crime!

It is a good idea to have a pool at school. It is a good idea to have a pool at school. It is a good idea to have a pool at school.

It's necessary to keep the pool open for the benefit of our rangatahi and tamariki. Lets get creative on how we can keep this space open for the community - its an equity issue.

"HANDS OFF"

Should never have got to the state it has - open

Dont make my kids swim in the pool. That is so dangerous!!

Whanganui East Pool Should Remain Open for Our Tamariki & Whanau!

I dont have a pool it should remain open for the use of the schools, tamariki and community.

Where is the equity for our tamariki in this community? Do we all need to squeeze into one pool that I cant even get swimming lessons at?? Hence the agreement!!

Your views on the Council's
proposal to close the Whanganui
East Pool

Don't lose it we'll never get it back

Where will
our kids learn
to swim?

50,000 people in
Whanganui meant to
share 1 public pool?

If you close it to "fix"
it what about the 10 year gap
our kids will miss out on and
probably have to swim in the river.

Where's your evidence??
that the pool is broken??

If one man can manage the
pool by himself for a year
imagine what a whole community
could do for many years to come!!!!

Our kids will swim
in the river where it's
not safe and some
Whānau can't swim there.
Keep maintained.
Tash King

Where is the equity? The tamariki
in this community NEED their own
pool that is affordable. We don't
care about a fancy pool.

It's always going to cost
and you're always going to
put the rates up anyway!!

We don't need a "FLASH" pool
we just need a pool out EAST! that
our kids can learn to swim in!!

Maybe if you maintained it
as you should! have we wouldn't
have to close it.

My concern about children
swimming in the awa (river) is
the strong currents that are out.
Concern children could drown.
Health + Safety.

Your views on the Council's
proposal to close the Whanganui
East Pool

Terrible idea - aren't there
enough drownings already???

My kids haven't been
able to go to swimming
lessons at the splash
apart from the wait but
the cost is high. Our kids
touching these kids at the
pools here is VITAL

Terrible!
Where would my kids go?
to the river and drown?
I'd rather pay more rates.
We won't be able to travel
to the other side of town!

I'd prefer to pay
higher rates to
keep the pool for
the whole WE community

How will the
Splash cater to
8 more schools
doing swimming
there????

I'd rather pay more
rates than lose one
of my students to
drowning!

His pretty obvious
that none of the
councillors live in the
Whanganui East.
Child your privilege.

Whanganui East School hosted a public meeting on 9th April regarding a historic agreement on school use of the Whanganui East Pool. As the LTP documents were released before this date there was considerable discussion on the proposal to close the pool.

100 people attended with 70 of them choosing to record their names including 6 councillors who contributed to the discussions.

This document is a summary of the feedback left by participants who emphatically declared their desires for the pool to remain open. There were many offers of assistance from community members across our city who would like to see practical solutions considered rather than an expensive feasibility study and normal industry costs when engaging with local government work. Council could engage with community groups to find solutions rather than their risk adverse expenditure on consultants.

Comments recorded from the meeting and attached to this submission:

Why is Splash the only option? Can it even take the load of every school doing lessons there during school hours?

The pool needs to remain open as vital learning for our Tamariki. Not all Tamariki can get into Splash for lessons (capacity limits as well as distance etc)

Reopen the toddler pool to give young children safe spaces and stay at home whanau somewhere to go in their own community.

We need equity for our Tamariki. Expand the pool. This is a low socio-economic area and these Tamariki should all have access to a public pool on the side of town they live in.

Feasibility studies are expensive. A new pool is even more.

As a special Olympic swimmer, I'd rather train in an open air pool.

Where will our kids learn to swim – one pool for the whole town?

Has anyone asked the community to help the same way as it was built in the first place?

This is about our Whanganui East kids having the same opportunities that we had to learn and grow in a safe place for families. It's about health and wellbeing of our communities, it's about equity for our Whanganui East residents.

Please don't close. I'll be scared my Tamariki will start swimming in the awa!

The pool is a great asset for our community.

Where will the kids go? They will not travel to Splash Centre. Will they turn to crime because they are bored?

Some are not allowed to swim in the awa!

What about the cost of getting children to the Splash Centre and paying for the use of.

There will be an inconvenience to users of the Splash Centre when schools use it.

If there is a proposal to build a new pool beside the Splash Centre, why can it not be built in Whanganui East?

At present the school classes from Whanganui East School walk to swimming lessons at the pool (as do St Annes? – *So have Keith St*) Who finances getting all these classes to the Splash Centre? The schools, council, government?

We need more than just the Splash Centre. Whatever the cost, we need a sustainable and functional option for East. Absolutely no to a closure. However, we need a long term plan. No patch work, practical options for the future.

We don't need a flash pool, just a safe place for our kids to swim.

The Splash Centre is already overcrowded!

10 years ago we took our granddaughter to swimming lessons at the Splash Centre. We went on a waiting list for 3 months. Is the Splash Centre and better able to cope with increased learn to swim entrants?

Revamp and get this pool up and running for everyone and for the benefit of our kids.

Don't make my kids swim in the awa. That is so dangerous!!

It should remain open for the use of the schools, kindy's and community.

Where is the equity for our Tamariki in this community?

Do we all need to squeeze into the one pool that I can't even get swimming lessons at?

Whanganui East Pool should remain open for our Tamariki and whanau.

It's necessary to keep the pool open for the benefit of our Rangatahi and Tamariki. Let's get creative on how we can keep this space open for the community. It's an equity issue.

The pool needs to stay open. As a rate payer and citizen of Whanganui I would be prepared to increase my rates for the Tamariki and a safe environment to learn to swim and have fun.

The pool should remain open and be regularly maintained. Continue to teach our children. Less art, more community necessity.

Revamp and get this pool up and running for everyone and for the benefit of our kids.

Should never have got to the state it is in – open it.

Keep the pools open for our kids! This pool is necessary for our Rangatahi so that they don't turn to crime.

Don't lose it, we'll never get it back.

Where will our kids learn to swim?

So, people in Whanganui want to share one public pool?

If you close it to "fix" it what about the 10 year gap our kids will miss out on and probably have to swim in the river?

Where's your evidence that the pool's broken?

If one man can manage the pool by himself for a year, imagine what a whole community could do for years to come!

Maybe if you maintained it as you should have, we wouldn't have to close it.

My concern about children swimming in the awa is the strong currents that occur. Concern that children could drown.

We don't need a flash pool. We just need a pool out East that our kids can learn to swim in.

Our kids will swim in the river where it's not safe and some whanau can't swim there. Keep it maintained.

Where is the equity? The Tamariki in this community need their own pool that is affordable. We don't care about a fancy pool.

It's always going to cost and you're always going to put the rates up anyway.

Terrible idea – aren't there enough drownings already?

I'd prefer to pay higher rates to keep the pool for the whole WE community.

How will the Splash Centre cater to 8 more schools doing their swimming there?

I'd rather pay more rates than lose one of my students to drowning!

My kids haven't been able to go to swimming lessons at the Splash. Apart from the wait list the cost is high. Our kura teaching these kids at the pools here is vital.

Terrible. Where would my kids go? To the river and drown? I'd rather pay more rates. We won't be able to travel to the other side of town.

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 95

Speaking

First name: Phillip T
Last name: Raweti

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Didnt know it opened on weekends

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Open summer months

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Hang it!

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Most people enjoy them

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Enough fly tippers around already

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Closed monday wont hurt?

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: we need life savers

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Dublin St Bridge!!

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Long as carparking isnt flooding

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 4 - Full upgrade, including front of house improvements (add \$74 per property per year for 20 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: More if possible. \$\$\$ = lives

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Construct new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa (This is Council's preferred option, and would cost \$6 per property per year for 10 years from 2029/30)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents **No**

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 305

Speaking

First name: **Dean**
Last name: **Raymond**
Organisation: **Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Central**

Region **Area Manager**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes



HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND
POUHERE TAONGA

**Tairangahia a tua whakarere;
Tatakihia nga reanga o amuri ake nei
Honouring the past; Inspiring the future**

01 May 2024

File ref: 33002-081

2024/34 Long Term Plan Submissions

Whanganui District Council
101 Guyton Street
Whanganui

Email: policy@whanganui.govt.nz

Dear Sir or Madam,

**SUBMISSION FROM HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND POUHERE TAONGA ON WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL
LONG TERM PLAN 2024-2034**

1. Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga is an autonomous Crown Entity with statutory responsibility under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 for the identification, protection, preservation and conservation of New Zealand's historical and cultural heritage. Heritage New Zealand is New Zealand's lead heritage agency.
2. Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the Whanganui District Council Long Term Plan (LTP) for 2024-2034.
3. Heritage New Zealand submitted to the Council on the LTP for 2018-2028 which highlighted the importance of heritage incentives and supported a proposed allocation of funding to a heritage grants scheme. It is promising that the Council is retaining heritage funding through the Heritage Grant Fund.
4. Heritage New Zealand supports the retention of the Heritage Grant Fund which provides financial assistance to building owners to undertake heritage enhancement work in the Whanganui District. The Heritage Grant Fund contributes positively towards the development of heritage buildings while preserving historic value in the Whanganui District. Heritage New Zealand believes that the retention of the Heritage Grant Fund will substantially benefit the wider community in the Whanganui District.
5. Heritage New Zealand also provided a submission to the Council on the Whanganui Draft Heritage Strategy in late 2021. Heritage New Zealand considered the Draft Heritage Strategy as an excellent source in helping to protect and promote Whanganui's wonderful heritage places. Heritage New Zealand also commended the Draft Heritage Strategy as an excellent blueprint which provides a good

foundation for further protection and enhancement of Whanganui as one of the premier heritage districts of New Zealand.

The Royal Whanganui Opera House

6. The Royal Whanganui Opera House has gained national and international recognition for its architecture and acoustics since its inception in 1899. The Royal Whanganui Opera House is the last surviving purpose built Victorian Theatre and is the only theatre in New Zealand to have a Royal Charter. The Whanganui Opera House has very significant historic and cultural value, with the historic building warranting retention and preservation.
7. The Royal Whanganui Opera House is granted the status of Historic Place Category 1 in the New Zealand Heritage List / Rārangi Kōrero. The Whanganui District Council has nominated the building as a Class A heritage in its revised Heritage List. The Council is responsible for the maintenance and upgrade of the building to comply with the New Zealand Building Code. Heritage New Zealand encourages the Council to maintain and upgrade the existing stagehouse building structure which would provide a positive outcome for Whanganui's heritage character.
8. In the 2024-2034 Whanganui Long Term Plan, Heritage New Zealand is supportive of the Council implementing either **Option Two or Option Three** as both the options would be associated with positive heritage values. **Option Two** would retain the building exterior and the building interior as identified in the heritage features and assessments in the Draft Conservation Report by Bruce Dickson Architecture (2004).¹ **Option Two**, would retain the built form of the entire heritage building while maintaining more of the heritage fabric of the original structure. **Option Three** would involve partial demolition of the building while still retaining much of the heritage features of the built form while also improving the functionality and vitality of the Opera House, by enabling varied types of performances.
9. Heritage New Zealand recommends that a conservation architect is involved for both Option Two and Option Three in order to mitigate any impacts on the heritage values of the Opera House, so that the Opera House is retained and enjoyed by future generations. Both options would enhance Whanganui's heritage character and align with the vision of the Heritage Strategy for Whanganui *to be a district that values, protects and promotes its historic heritage.*¹

The Repertory Theatre

10. The Whanganui Repertory Theatre building has a rich history dating to 1882. In recent decades, the building has hosted four to six plays each year to a high professional standard and provided the Whanganui community a place of historic value to congregate and celebrate while watching highly regarded performances. The Whanganui District Council has included the Repertory Theatre as a Class B heritage resource in the Whanganui District Plan.
11. Heritage New Zealand is supportive of the **Second Option** which is **to invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold.** Heritage New Zealand

¹ [Whanganui District Heritage Strategy Consultation Document](#)

encourages the Council to consider investing in the permanent retention of the building, rather than an option to revert to demolition if a buyer is not found. Heritage New Zealand is supportive of adaptive re-use of the buildings by retaining the street presence including the façade of the building. The interior fabric is of significance which would be desirable to retain and would help the public to interpret the historic nature and contribution of the building to the town.

12. Heritage New Zealand is disappointed that the Council's preferred option for the Repertory Theatre is to close the theatre for demolition. The Council should be mindful of the high cost of demolishing heritage buildings, particularly with regards to embedded carbon and effects on climate change. Demolition of heritage buildings can result in loss of embedded carbon and energy used in the construction of the buildings, as well as the generation of additional carbon from the construction of new buildings and structures. Retention of buildings and giving them a new lease of life is often the most environmentally friendly option.

Sarjeant Gallery

13. Sarjeant Gallery Te Whare o Rehua Whanganui is widely regarded as among the finest provincial art galleries in New Zealand and is granted the status of Historic Place Category 1 in the New Zealand Heritage List / Rārangi Kōrero and is protected as Class A in the Whanganui District Plan.
14. Heritage New Zealand is supportive of the earthquake strengthening and restoration of the existing heritage building, and the addition of a new, modern wing joined to the rear face of the Sarjeant Gallery which is projected to re-open in late 2024. Heritage New Zealand is pleased to note the partnership between the Council and Whanganui Iwi in the redevelopment of Sarjeant Gallery.

Concluding remarks

15. Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga looks forward to further opportunities to be involved in future decision-making stages. We are available to speak to our submission at a council hearing on the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan.
16. We are available to answer any queries that Council may have regarding the submission and continues to be able to offer advice to Council and other owners of heritage buildings regarding heritage conservation, and advice concerning archaeological authority requirements under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014.

Yours sincerely

Dean Raymond



Area Manager / *Kaiwhakahaere ā-Takiwā*
Central Region / *Te Takiwā o Te Pūtahi a Māui*
Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga

Address for service

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga
Central Region *Te Takiwā o Te Pūtahi a Māui*
PO Box 2629
Wellington 6140
Ph: 04 494 8320
Contact person: Dean Raymond, Area Manager
Email: draymond@heritage.org.nz

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 297

Speaking

First name: **Trudy**
Last name: **Reeves**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Cut costs elsewhere such as online books and subs. keep the physical library open to children, homeless and the elderly. The library as a venue is important to so many in the community.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Once again a facility for the youth targeted in a cost cutting exercise. Just don't. Invest in the children who can learn to swim and be outside. Keep the pool. Cut down the summer hours at the splash centre and force people over to the East pool.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: If the council can spend millions in Drews Ave and talk about retaining Heritage Buildings by private investors, there needs to be some answers around how this rate payers asset/building was allowed to fall into ruin.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Cover the wages with volunteers, and some staff.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: The people have spoken. Keep it.

New Zealand Glassworks

Option 3: Close New Zealand Glassworks (save \$10.30 per property per year)

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: This does not benefit the wider community in the way the aviary does.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the drop off points for rural rubbish (save \$9.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Dont see why this is a service.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Much needed community asset

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: keep the funding. increase the rents at for community groups that use rate payer owned facilities. I was a LTP meeting at the Museum where Councilor Helen Craig said groups are paying only 10% of market rate!!! Here is an opportunity to keep rates down.

Further comments on service cuts: Keep a focus on the youth of this town. They are being sadly ignored. Libraries, youth council, pool. They are the future.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Its shocking how much each area and service is not talking to each other. Wasted time and effort before anything gets down.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: This is a vanity project of the current mayor? Is this instead of the commonwealth games he thought he could bring to Whanganui that he used for his mayoral campaign. Just NO on this one.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments: No. This is not needed. We will NEVER get the ROI for this one.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Double that money.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: Save lives.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Why a colonised looking cobblestone crossing. Back to the drawing board. Terrible idea.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: That's a lot of money spent on shell rock, so put the focus elsewhere

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: What assets are these? it seems negligent to ask this without exact details, not an honest question to ask.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? *(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)*

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? *(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)*

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Way too brief, not enough detail, not enough consultation from all the councilors who said they would be out there listening. Too much focus on the small trite cuts. And not enough detail on asset sales or suggestions on where else to make cuts. I would like the recycling to extend to commercial properties immediately, for those which are "residential" in nature or offer accommodation.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 537

Speaking

First name:

Fergus

Last name:

Reid

Organisation:

I'm submitting on behalf of myself, and my business

- Whanganui Tech Services LTD

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: This is my take on options as a career long event technician, theatre worker and technical services business owner involved in Whanganui's event industry, currently working in venues and theatres around NZ. Previously working at RWOH for 4-5 years and was the one to make the current WDC CEO aware of issues with the Opera House. That notification was part of what started this in regards to RWOH's rigging & stagehouse structure. Option 1 & 2 are a waste of time. Option 4 is really what's needed but unjustifiable in current economic climate. Option 3: The only realistic way forward given the options on the table. This option fixes the rigging problem, and beyond. It is the only feasible long term solution, in the sense that it sets the RWOH stage structure up for many years to come, improves (leaving heritage and community out of that) on what was before without creating other issues such as limiting floor space. It'll increase the likelihood of the venue being hired, provided the hireage fee doesn't go up substantially. It's important that this plan accounts for the building of retaining walls at the back of the building to deal with sand encroachment from Cooks Gardens hill (similar issue to Rep Theatre), and an area is allowed there for a future aircon/heating plant to deal with well known issues regarding heating/cooling of the stage area and auditorium (If that can't be included in Option 3). Regardless of the option chosen, there are significant issues with the operation which will continue to plague this venue and the others, after this work is completed. Fixing the structure of RWOH is well and good, but serious damage is being done to Whanganui's reputation as a touring location and relationships with national touring operators, local hirers and volunteers are in an extremely bad way. Considering the shape it was in a few years ago, it is a great shame to see how far reputation has fallen. For the sake of making this consumable, I will not go into detail on these issues, however I would be happy to speak to councilors about this. I highly recommend speaking with long term local users of RWOH, as they will speak to the issues mentioned, rather than just hearing it from me, an ex employee. Finally, a significant amount of money could have, and can be saved in the future by using local contractors and retailers for the supply & installation of technical equipment. At the moment you are buying hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of equipment (eg lighting fixtures and audio equipment) at retail price from out of town businesses. This is a great shame given that there are local suppliers connected to the exact same distribution networks, who would gladly offer significantly better pricing given the opportunity. Yet WDC seems to prefer out of town businesses who are not locally minded and have no desire to support you beyond making the sale. What a waste. I thought that council was supposed to support local businesses.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: WSLS is an important service. My business was one of those to sponsor the "Running of the balls" during this years Vintage Weekend, fundraising for WSLS to build a new life guard tower for Castlecliff Beach. Quite a few other local businesses also took part in sponsorship and thanks to a great fund raising effort, WSLS achieved their target and then some. This goes to show that the service is widely valued by Whanganui people and businesses. With the potential closure of Whanganui East Pool, it is very important that we retain what swimming and water safety programmes we can. One of the draw cards of moving too or living in Whanganui is its known as a good place to raise a family. These services contribute positively to that reputation.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: I agree that Pākaitore Reserve is a significant historic site... however a raised walkway between that and the river seems like a total waste of money. How many people currently cross from the river side to Pakaitore? How many people travel by boat to Pakaitore? I have never seen the foot traffic to justify this project. The entrance to the park is pretty clearly defined by the current paths leading into the area, none of which feed into the area from the proposed route. Would a pedestrian crossing not provide the link to the awa? Given the economic climate, I feel this project should be dropped.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments: Option one is valid but thought should also be put to making the road safer/wider.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: Without knowing what assets are up for sale it is hard to support this idea.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure)

and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents No



**Submission by the
Royal New Zealand Society for the
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Inc.**

on

Whanganui District Council

Long-Term Plan

02 May 2024



Executive Summary

- SPCA is concerned with a recent decrease in the number of companion cats that are desexed, only half of companion cats are microchipped, and very few are kept at home and prevented from roaming.
- Desexing and microchipping companion cats helps protect cat and kitten welfare and are some of the few tools we have for addressing stray cat problems in our communities.
- The cost of the procedures is the most common barrier for companion cat owners to desex and microchip their cats.
- Our Snip 'n' Chip programme offers subsidised desexing and microchipping for people who need help with overcoming the cost of the procedures.
- We have included our Snip 'n' Chip Council Package with more detailed information about how we work with local councils to promote more responsible cat ownership.
- Through this submission, we invite the Whanganui District Council to help us achieve more responsible cat ownership by supporting our Snip 'n' Chip programme.



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Introduction

The following submission is made on behalf of The Royal New Zealand Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (trading as SPCA).

SPCA is the preeminent animal welfare and advocacy organisation in New Zealand. The Society has been in existence for over 150 years with a supporter base representing more than 100,000 New Zealanders across the nation.

The organisation includes 29 Animal Welfare Centres across New Zealand and approximately 60 inspectors appointed under the Animal Welfare Act 1999.

SPCA welcomes the opportunity to submit on the Whanganui District Council Long-Term Plan 2024-2034.

Submission

SPCA thanks the Whanganui District Council for the opportunity to contribute to the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034 consultation. Through this submission, we invite the Whanganui District Council to help us achieve more responsible cat ownership by supporting our subsidised desexing and microchipping programme, Snip 'n' Chip.

New Zealand needs more responsible cat owners

Cats are one of New Zealand's most popular companion animals. SPCA supports responsible ownership of companion cats to promote cat welfare and reduce problems with cat overpopulation. SPCA is concerned with a recent decrease in the number of companion cats that are desexed, only half of cats are microchipped, and very few are kept at home (Companion Animals New Zealand, 2020).

Each year, on average 20,000 cats and kittens come into our Centres. Many of these animals are directly or indirectly (through stray cat populations) a result of an owner failing to desex their



companion cat. Our SPCA Centres regularly see the welfare problems related to irresponsible companion cat ownership, including:

- the predictable cycle of unplanned litters of kittens born each year because there are too many undesexed companion cats allowed to breed; and
- the number of cats and kittens who are lost or have strayed, and we cannot find their owner because they are not microchipped, or their microchip details are not registered on a national database.

We also know that irresponsible cat ownership can lead to nuisance in communities (e.g., spraying, toileting, fighting), predation on wildlife, and the spread of toxoplasmosis to people and animals including farmed animals and vulnerable native marine mammals (e.g., Hector's and Māui dolphins).

Desexing and microchipping companion cats are some of the few tools we have to address problems with stray cats in our communities. Desexing a companion cat helps prevent unplanned litters of kittens which can end up as stray cats. Having a microchip registered on the New Zealand Companion Animal Register can help us identify an owner to reunite with a lost companion cat that may be living as a stray.

The cost of the procedure is the most common barrier for companion cat owners to desex and microchip their cats (Companion Animals New Zealand, 2020).

Support more responsible cat ownership

Our work in New Zealand communities to increase the number of cats and kittens that are desexed and microchipped is fundamental to our mandate to prevent cruelty and advance animal welfare. We provide more details on the welfare benefits of desexing and microchipping cats in the Background section of this submission.

Our Snip 'n' Chip programme offers subsidised desexing and microchipping for people who need help with overcoming the cost of the procedures. SPCA works closely with local veterinarians to



provide this service. The vouchers 'sell out' quickly once they are available, indicating this is a much sought-after service in communities.

SPCA has worked closely with Whangārei District Council, Auckland Council, Waitaki District Council, Dunedin City Council, and four Auckland Local Boards to address the barriers to desexing and microchipping cats.

We invite the Whanganui District Council to join us in our efforts to prevent problems before people end up dealing with difficult decisions about unwanted cats and cat behaviour in their communities.

We have included our Snip 'n' Chip Council Package with more detailed information about how we work with local councils to promote more responsible cat ownership.

Background

SPCA advocates for more responsible ownership of companion cats to improve the welfare of cats and to help address the problems with community nuisance, predation, and the overpopulation of stray cats.

Welfare-related benefits of desexing cats

Desexing can reduce the risk of certain diseases, reduce the likelihood of roaming (which can increase risks of harm such as disease and infection, injury, and becoming lost), and increase lifespan. Desexing can also prevent the mortality of unplanned kittens which is often overlooked as a welfare problem.

Table 1: Welfare-related benefits of desexing cats

Decreased risk of reproductive disease
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mammary gland tumours are common in cats:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 16.3% of all tumours are in the mammary gland in an Italian registry, making this the second most common tumour site (Vascellari et al., 2009).



- 17% of all cancers reported were in the mammary gland in a California registry (1963-1966) making this the third most common cancer (Dorn et al., 1968).
- 8.2% of tumours in a Swiss feline cancer registry (1965-2008) were mammary gland tumours (Graf et al., 2016).
- Japanese and Siamese breeds are at increased risk of mammary tumours (Graf et al., 2016; Ito et al., 1996).

- Mammary tumours in cats have a high risk of being malignant:
 - >90% of mammary gland tumours in cats are malignant (Dorn et al., 1968; Hampe & Misdorp, 1974; Hayes et al., 1981).
 - A more recent study with a Swiss feline cancer registry found that 83% of mammary tumours were malignant (Graf et al., 2016).

- Desexing is protective against mammary tumours in cats:
 - Sexually intact cats have seven times the risk of developing mammary gland neoplasms when they get older compared to spayed female cats (Dorn et al., 1968).
 - Ovariectomy was found to protect against mammary carcinomas but not against benign mammary tumours. Intact cats are seven times overrepresented in the population of cats diagnosed with mammary tumours (Misdorp et al., 1991).
 - Desexed female cats had significantly lower odds than entire female cats of developing tumour/malignant tumour in the mammary gland (Graf et al., 2016).
 - Desexing before one year of age is protective against mammary carcinoma: 91% risk of reduction if desexed before 6 months, 86% reduction if before one year. Desexing after two years increased the risk (likely due to very few cats being desexed after this age) (Overley et al., 2005).

- Pyometra (uterine infection) risk increases significantly with age for female cats (Potter et al., 1991).

Increased lifespan and improved overall health

- Undesexed companion cats have significantly shorter lifespans than desexed companion cats (Hamilton et al., 1969; Kent et al., 2022; O'Neill et al., 2015).



- Being undesexed is a risk factor for cats developing degenerative joint disease (Lascelles et al., 2010; Slingerland et al., 2011), which is considered a leading cause of pain in cats (Robertson et al., 2010).
- Improved health for both male and female cats in managed colonies may be related to reduced reproduction-related aggression in males (Cafazzo et al., 2019; Finkler et al., 2011).
- Desexed male cats live a mean of 62% longer than undesexed male cats, and desexed female cats live a mean of 39% longer than undesexed female cats (Banfield Pet Hospital, 2013).
- For companion cats over five years of age in an English veterinary database, desexed female cats lived .6 months longer than undesexed female cats and desexed male cats lived 1.8 years longer than undesexed male cats (O'Neill et al., 2015).
- For companion cats over 1 year of age in a California teaching hospital database (Kent et al., 2022):
 - desexed females had a median lifespan of 10.48 years, compared to undesexed females that had a median lifespan of 4.68 years.
 - desexed males had a median lifespan of 9.84 years, compared to undesexed males who had a median lifespan of 3.67 years.
- For companion cats over the age of five years of age in a Pennsylvania database (Hamilton et al., 1969):
 - desexed male cats lived a median of 10.8 years compared to undesexed males who lived a median of 8.6 years. Deaths from trauma and infections were less common in desexed males.
 - male cats desexed before the age of five months, had a median lifespan of thirteen years compared to male cats desexed at six to seven months who had a median lifespan of eleven years.
- Cats at least six years of age and not desexed in an English database were twice as likely to have signs related to degenerative joint disease (Maniaki et al., 2021).
- Desexed stray cats were in better welfare condition compared to intact cats likely due to reduced reproduction-related aggression in males (Gunther, et al., 2018).



- Desexed male and female cats in a TNR (Trap Neuter Return) managed colony were less likely to be injured or have impaired health which may be related to decreased risk of infectious disease, nutritional deficiencies, and stress associated with reproduction (Gilhofer et al., 2019).

Decreased roaming risks

- Intact male cats are at higher risk of traffic accidents, injuries, bite wounds, and disease transmission compared to desexed males (Finkler et al., 2011; Gunther et al., 2015; 2018).
- Roaming (and fighting and spraying) reduced or eliminated in 80-90% of cats (Hart & Cooper, 1984).
- Desexing reduces activity related to territorial behaviour. Authors note cats are less active, which they do not specify includes roaming (Cafazzo et al., 2019).

Improved kitten welfare

- Unplanned kittens contribute to high numbers of animals surrendered to shelters. Kittens under the age of six months made up the largest proportion of owner-surrender cats to an animal shelter in Australia; 34% of all owner-surrendered animals were emaciated (Marston & Bennett, 2009).
- Kittens that enter the shelter system because they are from unplanned breeding can often be in a poor state of welfare. This is before shelter entry and not related to shelter stay. An average of 30% of kittens that came into SPCA Centres are categorised as not healthy at intake. Not healthy categories include Dead on Arrival; Unhealthy not treatable; Unhealthy treatable (urgent); Unhealthy treatable (non-urgent) (SPCA Intake Health Data: Jan 2021-Jul 2023)
- Free-roaming kittens had the highest prevalence of emaciation and thinness, lowest BCS (Body Condition Score) scores, and higher prevalence of severe injury or disability than adults. (Gunther et al., 2018).



- There is high variability among kitten mortality in stray cats, however, at least one study showed 75% mortality before six months, with trauma being the most common cause of death (Nutter et al., 2004).

Welfare-related benefits of microchipping cats

SPCA prefers microchipping as the primary form of identification for a cat because the chip cannot be removed, dislodged, or lost without surgical intervention. Once a cat is microchipped, the 15-digit microchip number and the animal and owner’s details can be registered with a microchip registration database, such as the New Zealand Companion Animal Register (Companion Animals New Zealand, 2018). Microchipping helps ensure a lost cat can be reunited with their owner, which can be especially true during emergencies.

Table 2: Welfare-related benefits of microchipping cats

Welfare-related benefits of microchipping
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• During the 2011 Christchurch earthquake, 85% of owners of microchipped animals were contacted within 3 hours by the New Zealand Companion Animal Register, compared to only 25% of non-microchipped animals reunited with their owners within seven days (Companion Animals New Zealand, 2018).
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 39% of microchipped cats were returned to their owners, compared to 2% returned for un-microchipped cats (Lord et al., 2010).
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 51% of microchipped cats were returned to their owners compared to only 5% of un-microchipped cats (Lancaster et al., 2015).

The addition of a collar and tag for companion or managed stray cats can provide a visual indication of a cat’s ownership/management status and successfully help reunite lost cats with their owners/carers (Alberthsen et al., 2013; Lord et al., 2007, 2010).



Other benefits of responsible cat ownership

More responsible cat ownership can reduce the negative impacts cats can have including nuisance, predation on native wildlife, and spread of toxoplasmosis to both native animals and pastoral animals. Desexing and microchipping are longer-term strategies that will address problems with the overpopulation of cats and keeping cats at home can provide immediate local benefits for reducing nuisance such as spraying and toileting on neighbouring properties and reducing predation. Preventing cats from defecating away from home can also contribute to a reduction in the spread of toxoplasmosis to other animals and people.

Table 3: Other benefits of responsible cat ownership

Benefits of responsible cat ownership
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduced risk of toxoplasmosis transmission to farmed animals (Aguirre et al., 2019; Stelzer et al., 2019).
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Decreased risk of toxoplasmosis transmission to native wildlife (Aguirre et al., 2019).
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Decreased predation on native wildlife (Bell & Bell, 2003; Bellingham et al., 2010; Dowding & Murphy, 2001; Imber et al., 2003; Veitch et al., 2011).

Conclusion

Supporting more responsible cat ownership by subsidising the cost of desexing and microchipping cats helps protect cat welfare, breaks the cycle of unplanned kittens born each year, and reduces the number of cats and kittens that either end up in our Centres or remain as stray cats in our communities.

SPCA appreciates the opportunity to contribute to the Whanganui District Council's Long-Term Plan consultation. SPCA is happy to provide further information if needed.



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SPCA® *snip'n'
chip*



PROMOTING DESEXING AND MICROCHIPPING IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Snip n Chip is a desexing and microchipping service aimed at reducing the number of unwanted and unowned cats — a humane solution for the feline population and welfare management.

Launched nationally in 2022, SPCA's Snip n Chip offers low-cost, accessible desexing and microchipping for cat owners who need it most.

SPCA values working with local councils to increase the number of desexed and microchipped animals in their area and promote responsible pet ownership.

What is Snip n Chip?

- Available through an online system where owners can obtain a voucher to desex and microchip their cat at a heavily discounted rate.
- Designed to educate and promote responsible companion animal ownership by encouraging owners to desex and microchip their animals.
- Encourages owners to develop positive relationships with their local veterinary clinics.

What are the benefits for Councils?

- Promote compliance with Councils cat bylaws
- Reduction in abandonment and euthanasia of cats
- Reduction of feline behaviour issues in the community – noise, fighting, breeding
- Ability to target specific suburbs within the Councils region
- Reduced complaints from residents
- Positive community relations
- Demonstration of commitment to humane reduction of stray, unowned, or unwanted cats and kittens.
- Please see our desexing website for more benefits to both Councils and members of the public <https://desexing.sPCA.nz/councils>

What does the service cost for Councils?

- A set price for each surgery and microchip
- Run as many campaigns as your budget will allow
- Administration and marketing support included
- Regular reporting to allow for greater transparency and reporting back to constituents and councillors

What have been the results?

Since launching in February 2022

- We have desexed 18,947 cats across numerous campaigns
- We estimate this has prevented 75,788 unwanted offspring
- Campaigns selling out in as little as one day
- Positive feedback from local communities for Councils participation
- Four councils and five local board partners have supported Snip n Chip campaigns in their communities

What has been the feedback?

Dr Imogen Bassett, Principal Advisor Biosecurity, Auckland Council

Desexing and microchipping are an important part of our responsible cat ownership work in Tāmaki Makaurau. As the fence at the top of the cliff, snip and chip is good for cats, wildlife, and people. Working together with the SPCA, we can share responsible pet ownership messages with more Aucklanders. The SPCA's online system and helpful staff have made it really easy for us to prioritise our support towards areas with threatened species in need of protection from cats.

Waitaki District Council

Regulatory Manager Andrew Bardsley said “As well as the benefits for cat owners, Snip ‘n’ Chip will have an impact in the community in terms of a reduction in unwanted breeding and the number of orphaned or feral cats. Animal welfare is at the centre of this campaign, with the added benefits of a reduction in nuisance caused by cats and the ability for lost pets to be reunited with their owners through their microchips. The SPCA team’s work is extremely challenging and demanding, so it’s great that Waitaki District Council has been able to contribute towards this partnership and hopefully to reduce some of the cat welfare issues in Waitaki”

Communications Team member Sonia Martinez said “Our residents were really supportive of the campaign and we had lots of positive feedback saying it made a big impact on their ability to get their pet spayed and microchipped. Lots of sharing and engagement on social media not only resulted in the vouchers selling out super quickly but also helped spread the message of responsible cat ownership throughout the district”.

Cat owner feedback:

Waitaki resident, Helen, on Facebook said "Thank you so much for this wonderful initiative. I live on a rural property and got a huge surprise when a little wildie/dumped kitten wandered into my kitchen in late January. S/he (I think he's a 'he') has settled into domestic life perfectly. He's staying in the house with another former wildie until I can build an outside house/enclosure for them. The subsidised spaying/neutering is greatly appreciated."

Duration:

- Studies have shown that to make effective change, desexing initiatives should be run regularly over a number of years
- A Campaign funded at \$15k per year over 3 years (\$45k total), could desex 350 cats and prevent thousands of unwanted kittens.

Reporting:

An example of the types of reporting available



SPCA Key Contact:

Contact Name	Title	Phone Number	Email Address
Rebecca Dobson	National Desexing Programmes Manager	027 880 2476	rebecca.dobson@spca.nz

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1542

Speaking

First name: **Grant**
Last name: **Rogerson**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Without a proper financial breakdowns, it is impossible to see where the money is going to be spent. Insufficient information is provided with the LTP. Please supply the financial reports complete under the POI Act.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: This building is a historically significant building built in 1882 and has a rich history which requires preservation for the future.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Again the financial information is lacking. I am aware that wages are \$150,000 per year. But these wages are not clear if it is just the aviary or the whole lake wildlife included. I am aware that there is very little staff activity in the aviary and assume that the real wages involved is much less than what is being quoted. Again a POI act request for a financial breakdowns of the wages for maintaining the aviary.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Appears to have no financial gain if sold. Retaining is the only option that protects our interest until it can be sold and not require council funding.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the drop off points for rural rubbish (save \$9.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: All rural residents can use low cost bins to pick up rubbish from the main roads for as little as \$5.00 per empty. Residents not living on the main access roads that are currently serviced by low cost bins would need to drop bins at the nearest pick up point. Problem solved and low cost bins gets a larger customer base.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: This option is not a viable business proposal that a council should be involved with. The proposed spend is excessive and will have little interest in commercial operators to take on such a huge debt with no guarantee of a profitable return. I will provide a simple business plan to show how uneconomical this would be. I propose that the council look at providing low cost emergency housing to allow motels and hotels to stop being emergency accommodation and return to be able to act as short term accommodation for visitors to Wanganui. With over 30 motels plus hotels, caravan parks and home stays there will be enough accommodation to meet our needs into the future. Also I request under the POI act information on how motel/hotel and other accommodation is currently being used for emergency housing. This is the number of rooms that are being used for emergency housing needs.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Work on the Opera house was only recently completed. The scaffolding should be returned to the hire company and maybe if scaffolding is still required for this length of time it should be purchased outright. Would certainly be cheaper to buy it outright and when finished it could move to the next job or it could be sold.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: No assets are sold to repay debt (add \$23 per property to next year's proposed rates rise of 10.6% and \$43 per year thereafter)

Submitter Comments: Council does not own a large number of parks and reserves. The land is administered by council but includes crown land, gift of deed from residents and as such can not be disposed of. I have documents that prove this from a prior attempt in 1998-9 when the council sold Gonville Domain for full emersion Maori school to be built there.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Last question is improperly worded so that council can put long term plans like a motel in the same context as core services. This question should be removed immediately or have long term projects removed and put in a seperate question. It is deceptive and misleading.

Supporting documents

Yes



Our Reference: LAN 7200

7 January 1999

Mr Grant Rogerson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

WANGANUI

Dear Mr Rogerson

**RE: PROPOSED LETTER TO WANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL
CONCERNING GONVILLE RECREATION RESERVE**

I refer to your fax of this morning.

1. Legal Description

In paragraph 2, you refer to land commonly known as the Gonville Domain. This includes land subject to the Reserves Act 1977, Council freehold land, and municipal reserve administered by Council. The legal descriptions are given below. Attaching a plan you your letter showing the land could be helpful in clarifying the status' of various lands.

The legal descriptions are:

(a) Land Subject to Reserves Act

Section 396 Right Bank Wanganui River held in Certificates of Title 270/31, 9C/838, 132/80, 146/119, 138/38, 137/104, and GN 1961/1385.

(b) Council Freehold

Lot 4, DP 4177, held in Certificate of Title 465/215.

(c) Reserve for Municipal Building

Part Lot 2 DP 1638 held in CT 252/109, Lot 1 DP 6311 held in Certificate of Title 302/299, Lot 1 DP 11412 held in Certificate of Title 467/35, Part Lot 2 DP 11412 held in Certificate of Title 467/35.

2. Paragraph 2. A review into 'current status' may be taken to mean the way the land is held - e.g. which parts are in which Certificates of Title, administered under which authorities etc.

You should clarify whether a review of land status, or of recreational usage is sought.

3. Paragraph 5. "Current reserve status". The Council freehold and municipal buildings reserve are not reserved for recreation. Maybe 'purpose' should replace 'status'.
4. Paragraph 6. Replace 'owned' with 'administered'. E.g. the domain is not owned by Council - it's vested in Council under the Reserves Act.
5. Paragraph 8. It could help Council if you clarify what kind of review you want e.g. is it a review of the recreational use of the domain?

Yours faithfully

A large black rectangular redaction covering the signature of the Community Relations Officer.A black rectangular redaction covering the name of the Community Relations Officer.

Community Relations Officer
for Conservator

Gonville residents force council to rethink land sale

18/2/99.

By Kim Purdy

Residents opposing the sale of Gonville Domain land claimed a small victory yesterday when Wanganui District councillors recommended the sale be re-examined.

Gonville residents' fight to save the public reserve began late last year when council approved selling 2.5ha to the Education Ministry for the future site of a Maori primary school.

A petition of more than 2000 signatures opposing the move was received yesterday by the Wanganui District Council's community services committee.

The committee meeting had to be

relocated from a committee room to the main council chambers to fit the residents attending.

Petition organiser Grant Rogerson told the committee the domain was an extremely well-used recreational facility and that a proper public consultation process had not been carried out with the community before the sale was approved.

Moore Ave resident Brendon Haig agreed the domain's future had not been made clear. He said they were not opposed to the school but were against any building going on the domain.

"There's been a lot of emotion about this. We need to give all those involved a proper chance to hear their cases," Mr Haig said.

Deputy Mayor Pam Erni said the strength of feeling showed people needed to know exactly how the sale would affect them.

Cr Gerald McDouall said he was unsure whether council looked close enough at the issue and suggested it revisit the decision.

However, Cr Stephen Palmer believed council should let the Education Ministry apply for resource consent. The subsequent independent hearing would let the protesters' and ministry's case be heard.

Mayor Chas Poynter said petitioners had made valid points and thoroughly researched their cases.

"If ratepayers are not aware of a situation then we as a council are failing to uphold democracy in our community."

Campaign to save domain keeps up momentum

2/2/99

Kim Purdy

Signatures of support to save Gonville Domain are still rolling in at top speed, with numbers growing to more than 100.

Opposition to the Wanganui District Council's approval of the sale of 2.5ha of Gonville Domain as a future site of Maori language school Te Kura Kaupapa O Tupono marked a petition late last year to save the land.

Objections to the land sale have come from a wide cross-section of people living in Gonville and other suburbs, as well as sports people.

The Ministry of Education will now seek resource consent so construction can begin.

Petition organiser Grant Rogerson said most who opposed the move saved the domain as a recreational facility on a regular basis.

A letter outlining their objections would be presented at the next Wanganui District Council meeting. He said they were not opposed to a Maori school but to losing such well-used park.

"This is not a racism issue. We're against a new school, but we're against the fact it will sacrifice a park regularly used by all walks of people."

Wanganui Touch Rugby Association president Les Lunny said the school's construction would mean the association lose about three fields on the domain.

"If the school's built, then we simply won't be able to operate," Mr Lunny said.

He said the number of people playing touch was steadily growing and 60 children's teams competed Wednesday nights alone.

"There just won't be enough room for them to play."

He said the association strongly supported the petition and would

oppose the resource consent process.

Tawhero Golf Club driving range owner Wayne Lourie said the club had plans to develop the course in the near future and would speak to the council about that option.

Wanganui Hockey Association administration officer John Cosford said the hockey grounds would not be affected by the move and that the council had allowed the association land for future development.

"We have land set aside, so at this stage we're not opposed," Mr Cosford said.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Education is pushing ahead with plans to build but is keeping an open mind on the situation.

"We feel Gonville is still the best site for the school, but we're keeping the possibility of alternative sites open," the Education Ministry's district property officer, Leon Carter, said.

The ministry is busy finalising a site proposal which will be presented at a public meeting in the near future, before it begins the resource consent process.

"We're hopeful that we can show those with concerns that the development will enhance the domain," Mr Carter said.

He said the new school building would be modern and attractive with little on-site development needed.

He did not believe that the Maori school, now operating out of two classrooms in the Hinaiu St kohanga reo, could have expanded on site.

The school's principal, Stuart Kawanui, could not be contacted for comment.

Wanganui District Council parks and property manager Rowan McGregor said public recreation on the domain would not be sacrificed if the school moved in.

He said the council approved the sale because it viewed the move as a



PHOTO: DEREK FLYNN G2569

Grant Rogerson and supporters stand on land they want to keep public.

declared surplus before the ministry applies to council for the resource management process.

Consent is required from the Department of Conservation so reserve status can be revoked, and also to lease the land to the ministry while the purchase is being worked through.

An independent commissioner will be appointed for the resource consent hearing, but a date for that hearing has not yet been set.

Mr McGregor said Gonville Domain was one of Wanganui's

parks and reserves that the council began reviewing in 1977.

"We found the domain was under-utilised, and to reduce the costs of maintenance it was decided the land was best divested back to the Crown."

He said the golf and hockey clubs would not be affected by the construction. When council approved the sale, the touch rugby club was using other venues.

"Touch rugby developments at the domain have only started happening over the past couple of months."

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 280

Speaking

First name: Joan
Last name: Rosier-Jones

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: This is core Council business

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: See attached. Suburbs are important parts of the city as a whole. The pool at Whanganui East is essential for local children to learn to swim; for a cool recreation area in summer.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: This is a heritage building. It is an important part of the cultural landscape of Whanganui. If Repertory own the building they could apply for funds to help maintain the building from LOTTO etc. Repair the bank at the rear of the building, then sell to Repertory for token cost.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: This not core business for Council

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Nice to have but of little citywide value.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: All users is the operative here. It's a great nice-to-have item but not under present circumstances.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: Option one is too vague. Exactly what does that \$16mill represent.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: How can anyone answer this question? CORE services. "Stick to your knitting".

Supporting documents

Yes

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 173

Speaking

First name: Peter
Last name: Russell

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: The weekend is important for community use.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Cr Anderson is correct. Children will drown in the river if the WE Pool is closed. This is an equity issue...the chlorine drenched Springvale pool is too far away.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: This design was ambitious at the time but obviously no longer fit for purpose. I think we could be putting resources into native birds if we must do birds. However the aviary has been a long time popular free attraction. So I reluctantly support its improvement.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: The baskets really dress up the street and would be missed. Why don't vacant Avenue etc building owners get a nice big charge on their rates for the flowers ?

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Humans are pigs

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Survey the users on their preferences

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Marvelous and under promoted treasure

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Increase it, funding is hard enough as it is

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: I fear option one will still be treading water

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: "The hotel and carpark would only proceed if the business case demonstrated that there is demand and that the projects are financially viable i.e. that the hotel and carpark will be able to provide returns to offset rates by 2038/39. " Is that meant to be a joke. Option 1 What happened to Will only proceed with ratepayer support ??? Sounds like this dream scheme has already been decided ?

Hello ??? Will start offsetting rates in 20338 ? Seriously are we supposed to swallow this nonsense ? If there is a need then find an investor. Cr Vinsen is correct. The WDC is not in the hotel business.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments: go back to the drawing board on update required, restrict goals...this isn't Covent Gardens

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: If the Government is supporting the marae now, they should continue...WDC (and LGNZ) should lobby the govt to that effect

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: Give them the resources they need, lives will be saved...just like the ...Whanganui East Pool...

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Construct new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa (This is Council's preferred option, and would cost \$6 per property per year for 10 years from 2029/30)

Submitter Comments: The Iwi have very patiently requested this for years, do it. However the budget is ludicrous ...try halving it

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Would have supported but for the over budget...do all these things have to be gold plated ?

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Option 2: No assets are sold to repay debt (add \$23 per property to next year's proposed rates rise of 10.6% and \$43 per year thereafter)

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Where is the detail ? What assets ? For relief of debt is it ? Where are the figures ? Not a nice pot for a new hotel at all ? Giving a bit more headroom for big borrowing is ? This proposal should be thrown out in it's current state.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Yes the last two options "Drag the circle" on service cuts and long term investments are dumbed down so as to be useless...nice slider though)

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 372

Speaking

First name: Marion
Last name: Sanson

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: This is not a unique situation. Costs will continue to increase: energy particularly fossil fuels, costs to keep infrastructure in good repair, emergency management. Cutting on services is not a good approach as WDC will run out of things to cut. Rates have been kept too low for too long. A larger rates increase is needed.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Option 1 was my preferred approach on the previous consultation. There will be a cost in re-homing the birds.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Possibly those running a shop in the vicinity would be interested in caring for a basket.

New Zealand Glassworks

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 4 - Full upgrade, including front of house improvements (add \$74 per property per year for 20 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: Can't be left as it is. The full upgrade sounds the best investment.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Not clear where the central funding will take Marae upgrades to by 2027. Can we look at this again closer to 2027?

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Prefer to do the feasibility study and then come back to the public.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: No assets are sold to repay debt (add \$23 per property to next year's proposed rates rise of 10.6% and \$43 per year thereafter)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Whanganui Youth need an avenue for their voice in local government. I note that the Youth Council has been disestablished. The process behind this decision concerns me and that many important decisions which impact on the resilience of our infrastructure, community assets and environment are being made now by people who will no longer be around when the effects of these decisions will be felt. I am asking Council to consider a process for consulting with young people and finding a way that they can have an effective voice in Council.

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1585

Speaking

First name: Tom
Last name: Seaman

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Close for 2 days a week. Take an immediate aggressive cost cutting approach and you can always come back to closing 1 day a week if other savings allow.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Its a sad position of a valuable community asset. But we are faced with costs for repairs resulting from lack of past repairs and maintenance. Close this facility. Sell the land to private developer for housing development to create a one-off sale plus on-going new rates.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Sadly this has to close, we can't afford it. Aging failure of regular annual repair and miniatous. Like many iconic building we should be keeping we can't afford this and need to act now. Sell the land to a private developer for housing. Create a one-off sale price boost plus on-going rates.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Close, demolish and grass the area. Its a small cruel for the birds which needs a lot more funding to make it work properly. I know its a vote catcher but councillor must step up and close it and offer lower rates.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: The hanging baskets are iconic to Whanganui and feature in photos and advertising. We must try and keep these. If we can fund this from savings elsewhere then to stick to my

"cut" if we can't pay for it they have to go. I'm proposing not to spend \$55m on the new hotel (see below) us that saving to put here.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Sell ASAP to a private buyer or close. I know Whanganui has a glass reputation but if it's not commercially viable then it has to go. IF the Hotel project is abandoned then savings from that wasted \$55m could be used to run the glass works which are already visitor attraction.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: If these are removed then people will only dump there rubbish somewhere else and council will have to fund it's clean up.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Close the Gonville and Castlecliff library. There is now a good regular bus service.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: We don't have enough money to really run these now and the displays are pretty "timid" and not special. This saving would be better spent on the hanging baskets.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Cut Community grant funding by 10 percent or \$110,000 (save \$11.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: This is all valuable stuff in it's own way, but it is not core business, it is nice to have vote catching for councillors. It needs to be cut to the bone at this time.

Further comments on service cuts: Anything that is not core infrastructure should be cut. push back to central Government and its Departments to tell them to fund it.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: This is core council business. Not doing repairs and maintenance and upgrades leads to big projects no one can fund later. Drop the hotel project and put some of that saving here.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: STOP this is not council core business. In fact I challenge the very idea councils should be doing this type of work at all. The council should facilitate private business powers and developers in this projects

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: Fund this by not doing the planned hotel development for \$55m, plus. The opera house is essential iconic building and facility. All repertory to use the facility and a much lower cost than full commercial shows.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: I'm torn on this. Maree provide an essential community service and often central points of gathering in emergencies. But they are privately owned. Would council fund my roof replacement, of course the should not as it's privately owned. This situation comes about because over the long run there has not be regular repair, maintenance and upgrades. It's now back us into a corner. If this is funded there has to be caveats added. Maree must have in place annual repair, maintenance and upgrade plans that a self funding and monitored.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: Again another example where frailties have been left to run down because of lack of annual maintenance, repair and upgrades. I'm inclined to say no to this expect they do save lives every year. Can Council provide a 30-year load subject to the building having a funded annual repair, maintenance and upgrade plan that is self funding and monitored?

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: We simply can't afford to do this right now

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: We simply can't afford to do this work even though it's important.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Sell! Target the money created specifically to infrastructure and nothing else - no vanity community projects.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Most of what's proposed "nibbles" around the edges of cost cutting. There are still far too many nice-to-haves. What's needed now is painful cuts to take pressure off people living in the city who are faced with lower wages, fixed incomes, rising costs and rates. "Nibbling" around the edges by elected officials to try and minimise vote loss is not why you're elected. The cuts need to be much more

aggressive with social services and grants added back in when funding allows. Many things cut will have undesirable consequences but we cannot fund what we can't afford. Where are the cuts or disestablishment of Whanganui & Partners? Most Councils attempting these types of originations (for good reasons) provide very little real outcome for the money spent. Councils job is managing Infrastructure the job of business development if for private sector. How much would be saved by disestablishment of Whanganui & Partners? The council putting money into the development of a hotel is an idealistic dream. It will go well beyond \$55m. Yes continue to find private developer who will do the project. but abandon the council funding this. All local floral societies and orchard societies to freely use the Winter Garden space for meeting, shows and space to put their plants. WiFi is defiantly NOT needed at Castlecliff play area. The area is focused on people playing and directly interacting with each other. If anything we should put in WiFi blocker. Lets encourage people to get off devices and play. We cannot afford to extend community housing, push back on central Government and start making them uncomfortable. The stock we have must be maintained, repaired and upgraded otherwise we should sell the lost to community housing organisation.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 502

Speaking

First name: Hayley
Last name: Sellars

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: *Sell to Rep or Whanganui Performing Arts for \$1 - with a commitment to the heritage fund for refit. Our historic small theatre holds significant cultural (arts) value, representing the architectural, social, and artistic heritage of a community. Saving such a theatre preserves a tangible link to the past, providing future generations with a sense of continuity and identity. The theatre offers a platform for local artists and performers to showcase their talent. It enriches the cultural landscape by hosting a diverse range of performances, including plays, concerts, dance recitals, and film screenings, thereby enhancing the quality of life for residents.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Keeping the colour and vibrancy, by once-a-year commissioning some sort of sculpture or mural.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Alternative closed day to the Davis Library.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Look at breaking up major roading contracts to smaller contracts, who do the work anyway for tier One companies.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Council takes the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to outcome of detailed business case (Council's preferred option - this would add \$30 per property per year from 2025/26 through to 2038/39, after

which the returns from the hotel and carpark will start to offset rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 4 - Full upgrade, including front of house improvements (add \$74 per property per year for 20 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: I 100% support a full upgrade, however the management of the theatre needs to be investigated. As a long term hirer of the theatre, pre covid the pricing, staff, client service etc was outstanding. Post covid, the theatre has gone from bad to worse. Multiple requests were made to speak to management, about concerns and were dismissed. The theatre has a revolving door of staff and techs, almost all of whom don't know the theatre. Double booking the venue. A poor ticketing system, as a promoter. The current management and staff are a disappointment to Whanganui, with staff using the venue / out of town events, such as Six60 to promote their own production companies. We are not returning to the Opera House in 2025 due to cost, poor building standard and disappointing staff / management. (We are a local 112 year old theatre group, who loaned the opera house funds back when it was built)

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Not buildings or venues that are currently used daily.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Most large companies are subcontracting / acting as project managers, clipping the ticket. In roading, if the council had their own traffic management crews, they could save thousands daily.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 609

Speaking

First name: Clinton
Last name: Sewell

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Close the pool and don't waste money with the feasibility study.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Tender the demolition so council will get paid to have it demolished and the materials can be reused privately.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Keep the aviary open. But look for community sponsorship.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Again, I'm sure most businesses would be happy to sponsor them if asked

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Not sure we need to sell as I would've thought it should be able to pay for itself

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Again, seeking community sponsorship would be the answer. And yes I would put my money where my mouth is

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Cut Community grant funding by 10 percent or \$110,000 (save \$11.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: If our core infrastructure isn't strong, what do we have as a city?

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Council should not enter business or hospitality to this extent. If private investors aren't willing, it kind of says its not wise spending does it not?

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: This is not necessary spending

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Marae are the responsibility of their iwi. If you invest in these you will have to invest in other gathering places (ie churches) to show neither prejudiced or racist notions

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: Surely community sponsorships could help

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Waste of extravagant amount of money. Put it towards a new bridge so heavy traffic can stay away from the riverfront

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Waste of money for a small amount of people (40 odd?) wanting it. Use the money where it's actually needed not wanted

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: No assets are sold to repay debt (add \$23 per property to next year's proposed rates rise of 10.6% and \$43 per year thereafter)

Submitter Comments: Long term better to keep assets

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Honestly, most people don't want to lose anything we have (including myself). We need to stick the essentials needed and not wanted. If rates need to increase, make it what is needed and get it over and done with. It will hurt us all but our infrastructure would benefit

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 152

Speaking

First name: Dr Roger
Last name: Shand
Organisation: Montgomery Reserve Group (spokesperson)

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Increase entrance fee

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Reduce by 50% until financial position improves

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Maintain the current level of funding, which isn't enough to get us to where we need to be. Noting assets will deteriorate further (save \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Get by as best I can until finances improve.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Reserves and open spaces be permanently exempt from sale (divestment) Reasons attached.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents **Yes**

Asset Sales to repay debt

Consultation Document p19 "...some assets including reserves are not used to their full potential including many that are passive, generating minimal or no revenue...."

Reserves and Open Spaces (R&OS) are always the easy target for central and local government administrators searching for revenue. And the proposed criteria for divestment of "full-use" and "revenue generation" are flawed/non-applicable.

Such places give space for recreational activities and/or naturalness and wellbeing. They are sanity-savers in an increasingly populated and fast-moving city, introducing an element of calm for passers-by whether they are aware of it or not.

Since this council's formation in the early 1990s, R&OS divestments were initiated in 1993, 2005 and 2013, the latter two under the Laws and Main administrations. In each case the communities had to call-to-arms demonstrating with media line-ups, petitions, submissions and presentations to council that their Reserves and Open Spaces, active or passive, were much valued. Those which were not so valued were sold. Those that remain passed the value test.

Mayor Hamish McDouall, later issued a proclamation that future divestment proposals by council must stop. The community has adequately demonstrated the remaining areas are valued and they (neighbourhoods and the public in general) should not be subjected to such stress once again.

But Mayor McDouall's proclamation is being overlooked with further R&OS divestment onslaught now in officers' sights one again.

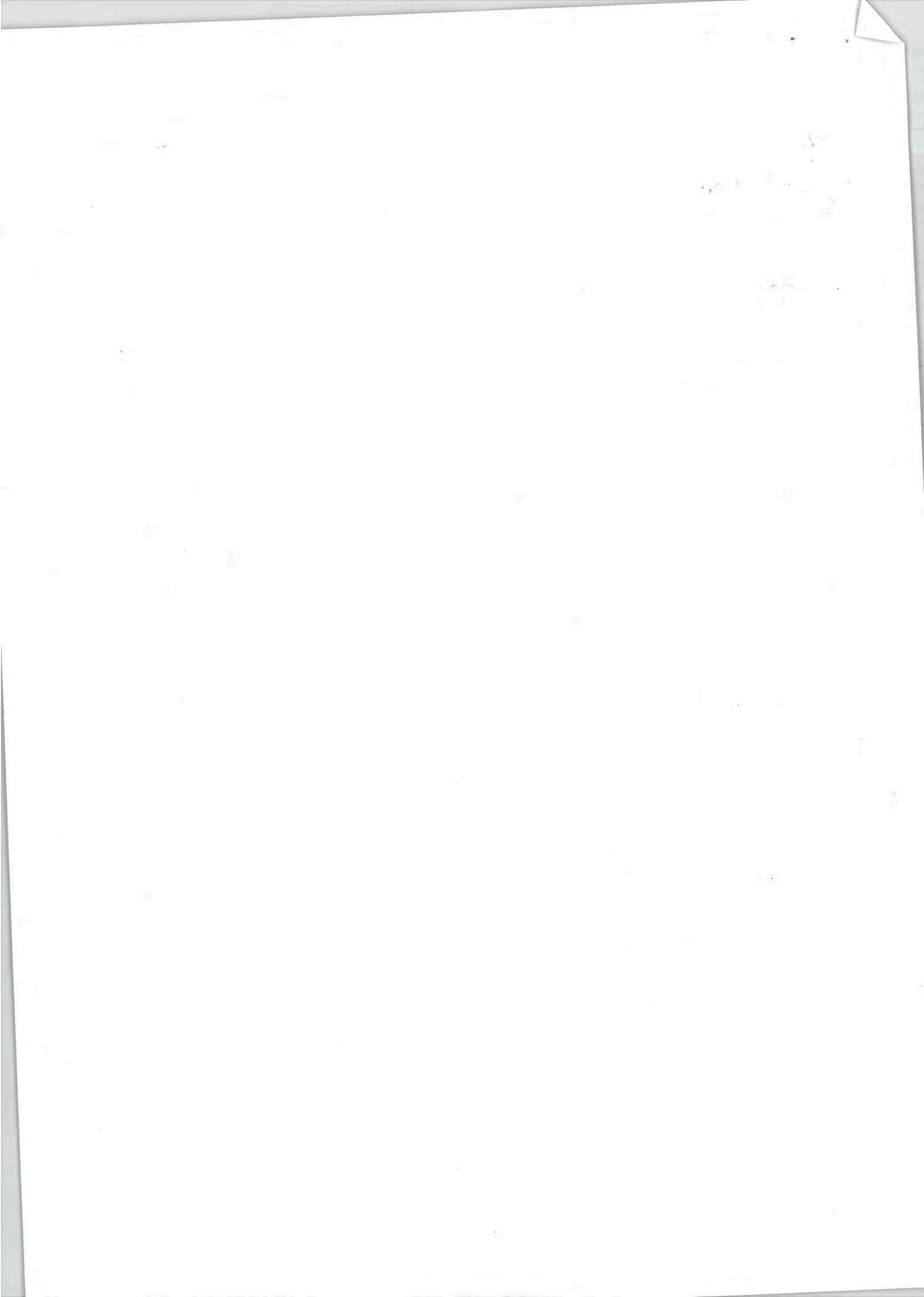
There is no doubt the central government's spending spree in recent years flowed through to local government and austerity measures are now required.

However, community assets in general, and R&OS in particular, are equivalent to the family silver which has been built up over generations involving decades of sacrifice. They are sold only under the most extenuating of circumstances such as immanent eviction or destituteness – neither of which are applicable to the present WDC situation.

Whanganui's population is rapidly increasing and our existing R&OSs are a finite and irreplaceable resource, a resource that is continually increasing in appreciative value.

My requests are as follows:

- 1) Leave Reserves and Open Spaces for the wellbeing of the present and future generations, and find savings elsewhere;



- 2) That the McDouall proclamation be formally adopted by council resolution and policy, and
- 3) If the council decides to proceed with Reserves and Open Spaces divestment regardless, then I request to be consulted early in the assessment process as low status could result from past council management or lack of.



Dr Roger Shand

1/10/16

1/10/16

1/10/16

1/10/16

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1088

Speaking

First name: Mandy
Last name: Shaver

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Keep the current rates. Instead, assess whether funds are publically value-tested and effective. It's nice to support hobbies, but such hobbies could be supported by club fees. If a club wants to be more inclusive and provides true value to community, for example, then qualitative and quantitative support must for shown by that grant receiver. Religious organisations should not be exempt from same measures. Effective altruism can be praticed for the benefit of Whanganui citizens

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Along with the issues brought up, grafitti should be minimised. To do this, more policing is needed as well as community service for those who offend (cleaning up grafitti across Whanganui). The same enforcement is needed for dumping and littering. Instead of a fine at first, offenders have required community service to clean up streets and remove rubbish.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: I see the need for better accomodation as Whanganui's hotels do not meet most international standards. However, the cost of car parks (especially in a city which should aim to be more walkable for tourists) and the cost of a new hotel does not seem like a reasonable way to spend money now. Yet, there could be incentives for hotels to upgrade. Food and retail services are also a bit behind for the most part. Perhaps, it is time for Whanganui to modernise (more in-line with New Plymouth and Wellington) whilst still maintaining its heritage.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Construct new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa (This is Council's preferred option, and would cost \$6 per property per year for 10 years from 2029/30)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: I would possibly like to comment. Pests need to be eliminated, especially possums and hedgehogs in parks and then see about cats. Although, my main concern is safety, in particular for vulnerable people. Whanganui, and New Zealand in general, needs to reduce violence. The only way to successfully reduce violence is effective policing, economic incentives for men, empowerment for women, and matching sentencing for crime. I am not for punishment for the sake of simple vengeance. Instead, punishment should act as a deterrent for safeguarding communities. I live in Whanganui East, where I need to feel safe as a woman in the home I own. As a social scientist as well as a woman who was attacked in Auckland, I have knowledge and first-person experience of what can work, how police are actually trying, and how the current justice system is failing victims. The rising violent crime rate is not a Whanganui only problem. Yet, Whanganui can take the lead for the nation in providing evidence-based policing and community initiatives from the ground-up. There has been press about military camps for men...women need employment opportunities embedded in community that empower women not to put up with violence and not to see ourselves as only victims. Until attitudes change as to what is acceptable in intimate relationships and family life, violence against vulnerable peoples will continue in New Zealand. However, the rates of violence will decrease over time as criminal sentences match crimes and opportunities match communities. New Zealanders do not have to settle for being poor and without options.

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 803

Speaking

First name: **Wiremu**
Last name: **Simmons**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Mondays and Fridays would be better to provide contingency for cost overruns

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Keep the pool operational and offer a commercial management concession for the facility with a council contribution provided from savings made by reducing costs at the Splash Centre

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Options include selling land and building or selling building with land lease as the area is a separate parcel C/T WN25D/829. Retention of the land may be desirable in the long term.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Past its use-by date. Sell the mesh and poles to chicken farmers!

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: They are nice but expensive!

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Cost saving measures need to be sought for both Gonville and the main library. The demand for library resources should have declined with internet availability in most homes and country-wide library access portals such as epukapuka

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Commercial opportunities at Virginia Lake and Funky Duck need better terms and certainty to attract and maintain commercial interests operated under concession arrangements.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Times are tight. Funding should be maintained but not increased.

Further comments on service cuts: There are much wider opportunities to reduce service levels across many discretionary areas without denying residents and visitors the opportunity for access to these. Shortening opening hours, reducing days per week and seasonal closures are a fact of life in other many other places. Cuts so far are rather superficial. Discretionary spend can be reduced further.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Our history of avoiding or deferring maintenance and upgrades of core infrastructure while funding a range of nice to haves, has created many problems in this area, as have some poor decisions surrounding wastewater treatment, soft water and stormwater which in combination have seen tens of million dollars wasted. We need to address this urgently after seeking the best available advice. The cost of this should be shared between those who benefit directly and rural people should not pay for loans covering services they do not use.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: The commercial risk for ratepayers is significant in contrast for the low expected NPAT (7.3%) after the 13 years of proposed rates contribution. Hotel accommodation has become a niche market in NZ with most visitors preferring the self service option of affordable, tastefully designed, self-service, short stay accommodation. The \$55m investment risk is too high whereas a \$20m facility with higher occupancy rates might provide better returns and provide opportunity for additional development at a later date. Private sector investment or a council-private partnership arrangement is suggested.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments: This is the wrong economic climate in which to be committing tens of millions of dollars to stage props.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Wealth re-distribution amounting to billions of dollars in treaty claim settlements has allowed most Iwi to restore their dignity and mana whenua, and to invest in commercial ventures making significant financial returns. The maintenance and upgrading of cultural buildings important to tangata whenua should be covered by these sources after the government funding ends.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: An essential service and facility achieving public safety.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: While this may be an important symbolic gesture, the substantial cost of the gesture is not justified by the deliverables. The use of public funds for this purpose would be irresponsible.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: This is an expensive proposal which will be used by a small sector of the community. Rapanui road is an inherently dangerous, wind-affected road and a cycle trail would be better established elsewhere, for example along on of the more scenic, less wind-blown unformed legal roads running inland towards Tayforth from the Castlecliff - Broadbeach areas.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Agree - but market value, not a fire sale!

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: I am particularly concerned about the inclusion of the Rural Lifestyle Zone (RLZ) in the kerbside recycling collection area due to: 1. Parts of the RLZ appear to have been "cherry-picked" for inclusion. 2. During the consultation, there was no hint that the RLZ would be included (as required by s14 LGA) in the collection area 3. The RLZ is outside the mandatory urban kerbside collection areas described under MFE January 2024 guidelines - the inclusion is a Council decision, not an MFE one. 4. RLZ residents are already managing their recycling effectively and conveniently via the Resource Recovery Centre 5. The adverse effects of kerbside

collection in the RLZ, would conflict against operative District Plan objectives for protecting the amenity and rural character of the RLZ 6. The requirements of duty under s17 of the RMA require every person to avoid adverse effects on the environment. 7. An increased risk to traffic and pedestrian safety will occur in RLZ areas with narrow roads, no footpaths and no street lighting, through bins on grass refuge areas normally used by vehicles passing in opposite directions. 8. Unacceptable animal welfare risks to livestock via noise disturbance and windblown plastic ingestion. 9. Proper consideration by Council of these zone-specific risks include the effects due to long sight and sound distances across open spaces, and a lack of infrastructure and buildings to reduce sound and visual impacts especially for elevated homes close to bin aggregation points. I seek a council enquiry on this matter with a decision compatible with the RLZ District Plan objectives and purposes of s17 of the RMA

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 171

Speaking

First name: **Bill**
Last name: **Simmons**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: POLICY REQUIREMENT Extending the kerbside collection to areas outside the urban zone warrants a new, specific, council policy. Page 12 of the LTP consultation document states that Council intends to widen the kerbside recycling service to "other" rural properties over the next few years, where it can. Ministry for Environment requires all Councils to introduce kerbside recycling for urban areas only, as explained by MFE Guidelines published in January 2024.. The MFE requirements on Council therefore do not include kerbside recycling in rural areas, The Whanganui District Council has nevertheless signalled its intention to add some rural areas in the service to be introduced in July 2024. This is a decision made without notice or consultation, in the case of the Rural Lifestyle Zone. The rural residents in these areas feel that democracy and transparency have not been properly applied and that no consideration has been given to District Plan Provisions and objectives for their zone or the wider impacts of and effects introducing kerbside recycling in rural zones. The present proposal to include some rural areas and not others appears to be inconsistent, ad hoc, cherry picking that is neither necessary nor approved under any approved Council policy. There is therefore, an obvious need for policy around the inclusion of zones or areas not covered by the MFE directive because this inclusion potentially raises other environmental concerns or risks. Rural areas are laid out very differently to urban areas, they have relatively low housing densities, different land uses, less developed streetscapes, higher amenity and other rural characteristics such as low service and infrastructure levels which are fundamental to the more self-reliant, independent rural lifestyle. Open spaces make them much more sensitive and susceptible to noise and visual impacts however. A policy must be developed under full consultation, with stakeholders and should include consideration of at least the following: Will the costs be outweighed by the benefits to the environment and rural ratepayers? Assessment of potential adverse effects and impacts on traffic and pedestrian safety, livestock disturbance and their protection from ingesting plastic, windblown litter accumulation and its removal, and other issues? Is the service warranted or necessary or do current arrangements meet the desired environmental outcomes? Will bin aggregations at certain points be a problem? It is important that the consequences of introducing the service to any area be properly thought through using pre-determined procedure prescribed by policy, before the kerbside service is introduced in any area outside the urban area. Thank you.

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1486

Speaking

First name: **Bradley**
Last name: **Slater**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Offer for community "donations" of time (maintenance and running the pool during swimming season) and funding. This could be an advantage to businesses through advertisement (visual and/or name sake rights) and whatever costs are left be covered by council. This is a valuable asset and part of Whanganui history.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Sell the grounds and building off. Possibly transform the land into lease held so it still belongs to Whanganui council? If this is the case then have it a very low price with some sort of contract that whoever buys this (say even at \$1) will complete all required works and own the lease for 10 pr so years.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Offer to businesses/community to donate and/or run this through volunteers over hours or monetary donations. This could have a private enterprise essentially run this (possibly investigate how the running of the zoo in New Plymouth by the bowl of Brooklands is currently run)Again, businesses could have advertising rights through name or signage.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Offer for submissions from local businesses for naming rights to donate for this and have their name to it. Volunteers from the community also for time/donations towards upkeep.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Seek donations from local businesses for advertising rights.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and

Option 1 - Council takes the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to outcome of detailed business case (Council's

carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

preferred option - this would add \$30 per property per year from 2025/26 through to 2038/39, after which the returns from the hotel and carpark will start to offset rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 4 - Full upgrade, including front of house improvements (add \$74 per property per year for 20 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: There is a serious need for the footpath and road to be repaired (and an actual footpath installed at the top of the hill) in Marybank as it is very unstable and in a very bad state (cracks, uneven surface to the point of danger levels). There are many new properties being built and proposed to be built in the near future here also - with a very large future subdivision that has been on the books (similar to the tirimoana estate) for some time. The footpath leading up the hill is in such bad condition that I would encourage all council members to visit and walk this. The road is starting to collapse also and needs serious investigation. If the works were to be done to fix this, a water pipe could be placed under the road to bring water to all properties as it has already been brought to the bottom of Marybank hill. This would eliminate the need for rural water tanks required for firefighting and encourage even more building to occur as I know that having 45 000L of water is a large hindrance for many to subdivide and build up Marybank. Please call me to discuss this and prove that these points have been read and discussed - Bradley Slater 0273494245

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 261

Speaking

First name: Frank (Toddy)
Last name: Sollitt
Organisation: Personal Submission & for Whanganui East

Swimming Club - Chairman

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Re - option 1. Totally reject Council's proposal to close this pool. the Council needs to find a way to continue to operate the pool for a further year. At the same time Council needs to proceed with the proposed feasibility study for an outdoor swimming in Whanganui. The feasibility study needs to incorporate an option for the Whanganui East pool to be replaced with a new complex or for further upgrading of the existing pool, for continued community operation and access. Re Option 2. Personally and for the Swimming Club this is our preferred option for this year. A way needs to be found for the continued operation of the pool for the 2024-2025 season for; - Community use, - School use and -Whanganui East Swimming Club use. The Club would like to discuss with Council the time period (Days)that the pool can be made available for use. Also for an arrangement for the Club to have access to the pool (in the evenings) for the purposes of club training and events

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and

carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which

assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes

Council 02.05.2024

Whanganui East Pool

Re - option 1.

Totally reject Council's proposal to close this pool.

The Council needs to find a way to continue to operate the pool for a further year.

At the same time Council needs to proceed with the proposed feasibility study for an outdoor swimming in Whanganui.

The feasibility study needs to incorporate an option for the Whanganui East pool to be replaced with a new complex or for further upgrading of the existing pool, for continued community operation and access.

Re Option 2. Personally and for the Swimming Club this is our preferred option for this year.

A way needs to be found for the continued operation of the pool for the 2024-2025 season for;

- Community use,
- School use and
- Whanganui East Swimming Club use.

The Club would like to discuss with Council the time period (Days) that the pool can be made available for Swimming Club use.

Also for an arrangement for the Club to have access to the pool (in the evenings) for the purposes of club training and events

I wish to speak to this option.

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1495

Speaking

First name: Peter
Last name: Stokes-Chapman

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: As a regular user of the library this is my preferred option. Libraries are a vital integral part of a community such as wanganui

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: My main concern is in the wording a feasibility study. Who will you consult with and who will carry this study out. It can't cost us even more to use private consultants.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Can this theatre be resited. Surely it can't be right to just demolish it. The building has stood for many years and although not necessarily a landmark needs to be respected.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: As I've never been in the Winter gardens here so my idea maybe not feasible. However I will suggest anyway. Could the aviary not be incorporated into this building.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Ask for company sponsorship of baskets Alternatively ask for sponsorship of other areas to off set the cost of the hanging baskets. Whilst I agree these are nice to have but "nice to have" sometimes is essential. I suspect to visitors they mean quite a lot. How do you think we've won awards for our city.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Selling off assets which can later be closed by the new owners does not make good sense

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: I'm surprised rural owners aren't surcharged for this service already.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: I've used Gonville library and if I lived in the area I would want this facility to remain as is.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts: I trust that there are a lot of innovative remarks on mine and others feedback.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: I thought we'd got a suitable hotel on College Estate. It's not the role of the council to build hotels. Allow some entrepreneurs to build one. But don't make it too difficult for them with burgeoning consents.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Surely we don't need a flying system. How many times are we doing Peter Pan. I've been several times and from an audience perspective I've enjoyed every visit.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Marae are exclusive to Iwi and therefore need to be self sufficient.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Once an asset is sold the council and the ratepayers no longer have a say in that asset. In the main I disagree with asset disposal. Often too the asset is under valued.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Managing budgets needs careful thought. It's easy to strike out with a pen a figure on a budget planning sheet. However there are far wider implications that affect the well being of a society when cuts are made. I trust our council will think outside the box when making these crucial decisions. Even down to their personal responsibilities. What savings can be made "in house".

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 26

Speaking

First name: **Name**
Last name: **Supplied**
Organisation: **Fitzherbert Avenue Berm Residents**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

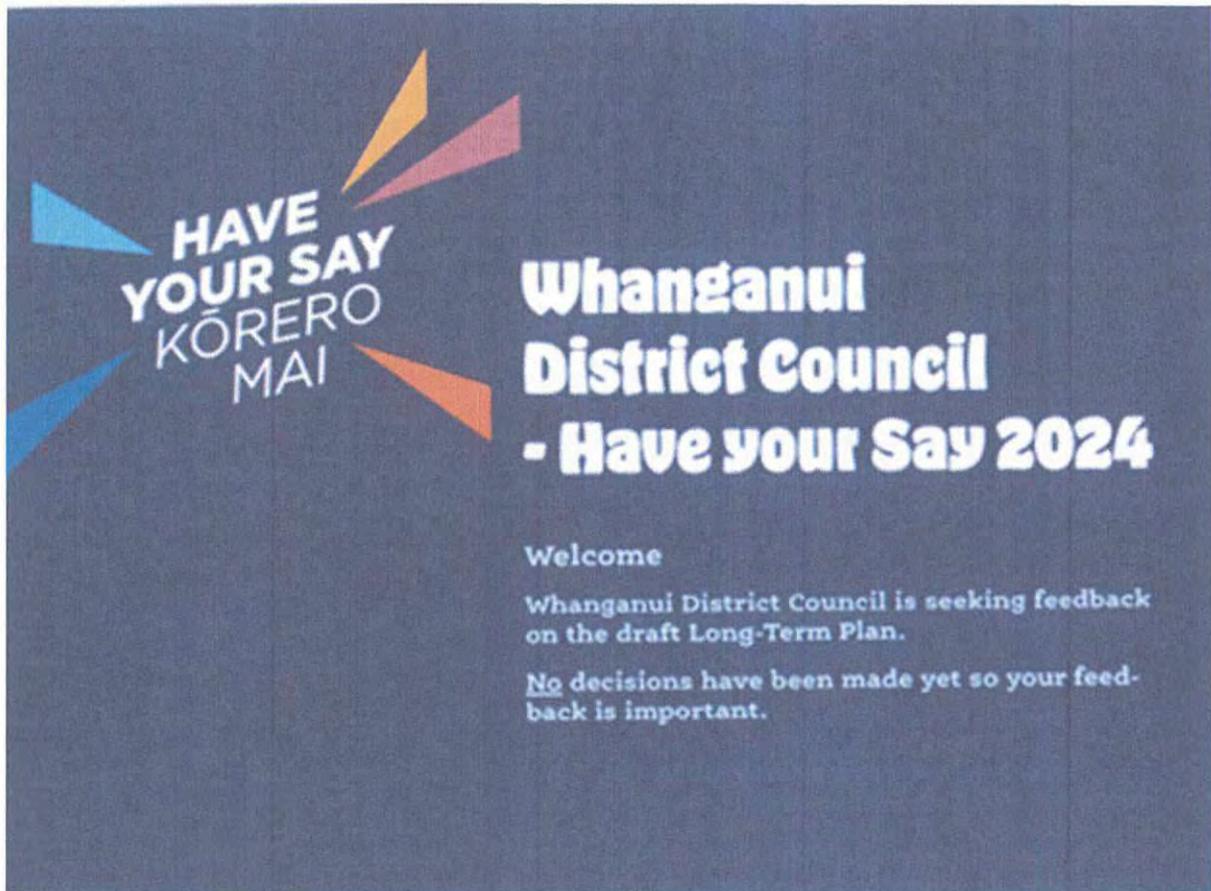
On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes



Fitzherbert Avenue Residents
Submission to
The Wanganui District Council's
Long-Term Plan 2024 - 2034

Fitzherbert Avenue Residents

Submission to

The Wanganui District Council's

Long-Term Plan 2024 - 2034

Request for a Change to the

Quality and Service

Provided for

Berm Mowing

and

Spraying Frequency –

On Fitzherbert Avenue

Reasons for Submission

1. Letter from –

Wanganui District Council –

Copy of - Letter to Residents – 21 December 2023

2. Fitzherbert Avenue Berm Residents

- Names
- Addresses
- Phone Numbers
- Email Addresses

3. Photographs of Berms Along Footpaths

- 1 St Helens Place
- Between – Fitzherbert Street and Kelsi Street

Copy

Wanganui
DISTRICT COUNCIL

21 December 2023

RE: Mowing along Fitzherbert Avenue

Dear Residents,

I am writing to you to outline the Wanganui District Council's position on mowing of berms, as there have recently been a number of requests, emails and calls to the council regarding the mowing of berms along Fitzherbert Avenue from Totara Street to Mosston Road. I want to take this opportunity to explain our current mowing contract and specifications.

The location:

The areas that are being mown are currently included in a mowing contract. These areas are scheduled to be mown to the specification detailed below.

The council will at this stage continue to mow the external berms (berms closest to the kerb and channel) along Fitzherbert Avenue, including the internal berms (berms closest to the property boundary) that were originally included in the contract.

As development continues, we will not be looking to include the internal or external berms for the properties that have recently or are now being developed, as it is not common practice to mow external or internal berms along street frontages.

The council is currently under significant financial constraint for vegetation management and mowing activities, therefore the road maintenance team is prioritising essential mowing and vegetation control. A change to the costing areas of mowing would represent a change to the level of service provided by council.

The mowing specifications:

The berms are mown to a Grade 3 (50 - 75 mm) and the clippings are not caught. The contractor is required to mow based on length and not frequency. We note that some people choose to mow the berms themselves, and will usually do them with a lower cut, however, a Grade 3 mow is standard across our parks and reserve areas around the city.

At this time of year the seed heads do bounce up quickly after a mow, but this is not always reflective of the length of the grass overall. In the spring and autumn, growth spurts will mean that times cut grass is left after the mow.

Edges are also cut periodically on an annual/bi-annual basis.
Weed spraying on berms is done by exception only.

Long Term Plan:

The council is currently going through the process of reviewing the levels of Service provided for berm maintenance as part of the Long-Term Plan process.

If you would like a different level of service to that currently provided. I would encourage you to make a submission to the Long-Term Plan process in early 2024 when public consultation commences.

Kind Regards

Damien Wood

Transportation Manager

Wanganui District Council

* **Wanganui District Council Present Level of Service –
in Italics**

1. *The Council standard for mowing these **berms** is a **Grade 3 Mow**.*

*Grade 3 mow is that the grass can reach a tolerance of 50-75 mm before mowing is required back down to 50mm - so what this means is that the **frequency of mowing isn't regular** (e.g. every fortnight), but is based on **growth rates**.*

Residents Response

Residents seek that Wanganui District Council would consider a **higher grade mow**.

- For our street frontage appeal and aesthetics.
- To stop weeds seeding and moving onto our garden areas.
- To allow dog poo to be picked up more frequently.

2. *Council will **not mow berms unless they are notified** and are over 30cm.*

Residents Response

Residents did **not know** –

They were required to measure grass **height** and **notify** WDC when berms require mowing.

[This will undoubtedly cause the elderly more stress.]

3. *Residents will generally mow their own berm to a **higher standard** for their own street frontage appeal and aesthetics.*

Residents Response

- These extensive berms require a **ride-on mower**
- The berms consist of - rough terrain, with Kikuyu Grass and multiple broadleaf weeds –
[Which appeared in the “seed” planted after the new footpath was finished]

- For the many elderly residents - this is impractical and will incur an extra financial burden on them.
- When purchasing our properties we were informed by Land Agents “that the Wanganui District Council mow the Fitzherbert Avenue Berm”.
- These berms are wider than most berms throughout the Wanganui District.
- Fitzherbert Avenue is now a high traffic area, and the berms are not an attractive look for Wanganui.
- Leaving the berms looking unkempt is **detrimental** to future **property sales**.

Wanganui District Council’s Vision for Wanganui

For the 2024 version, we are focusing on wellbeing under four headings: social, economic, environmental and cultural.

Why is wellbeing important?

By wellbeing we mean the social, economic, environmental and cultural health of our community; the things we can build-on or change to make a positive difference to everyone’s experience of living in Wanganui.

*Wellbeing has been one of the **core purposes** of local government since it was included in the Local Government (Community Wellbeing) Amendment Act in 2019. This meant **councils** would be responsible for improving the wellbeing of our communities.*

Residents Response

We see the Wanganui District Council places a high priority on **Community Wellbeing**.

However, with a **Grade 3 Mow** - the **Berms** and **Parks** in the area often present an untidy appearance which **DOES NOT** have a **positive** impact on residents' **wellbeing**.

We would ask that the Wanganui District Council take this into consideration when reviewing this request for **more frequent mowing** and **spraying** of the Fitzherbert Street berms and parks in the area.

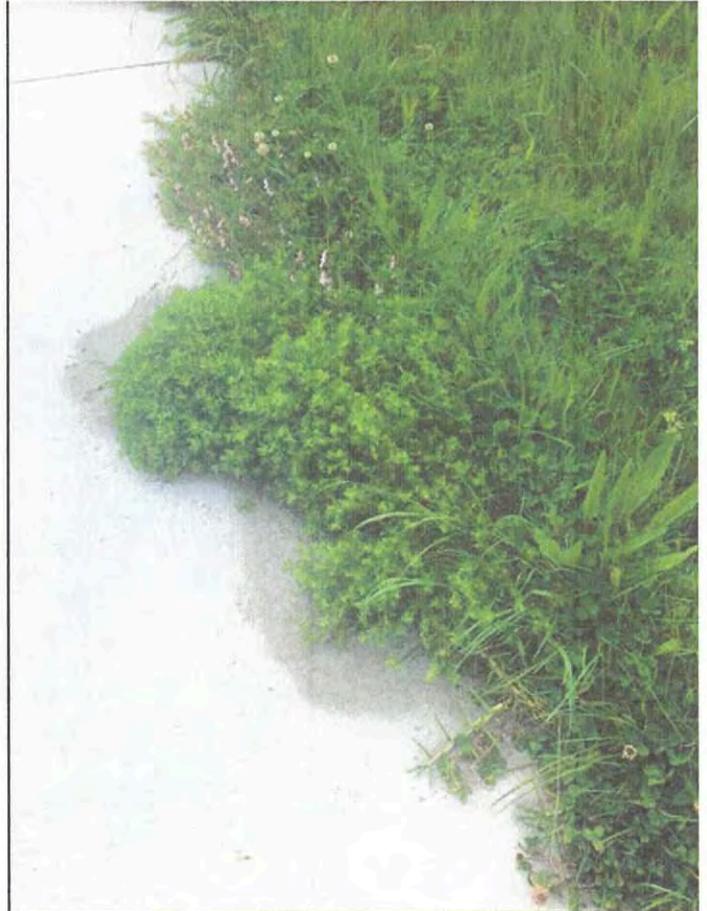
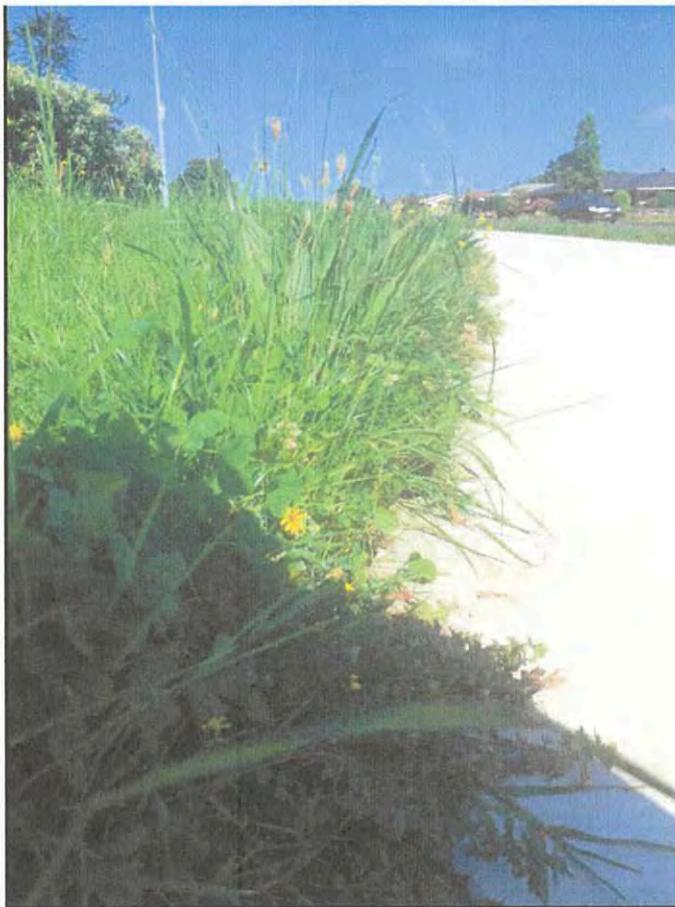
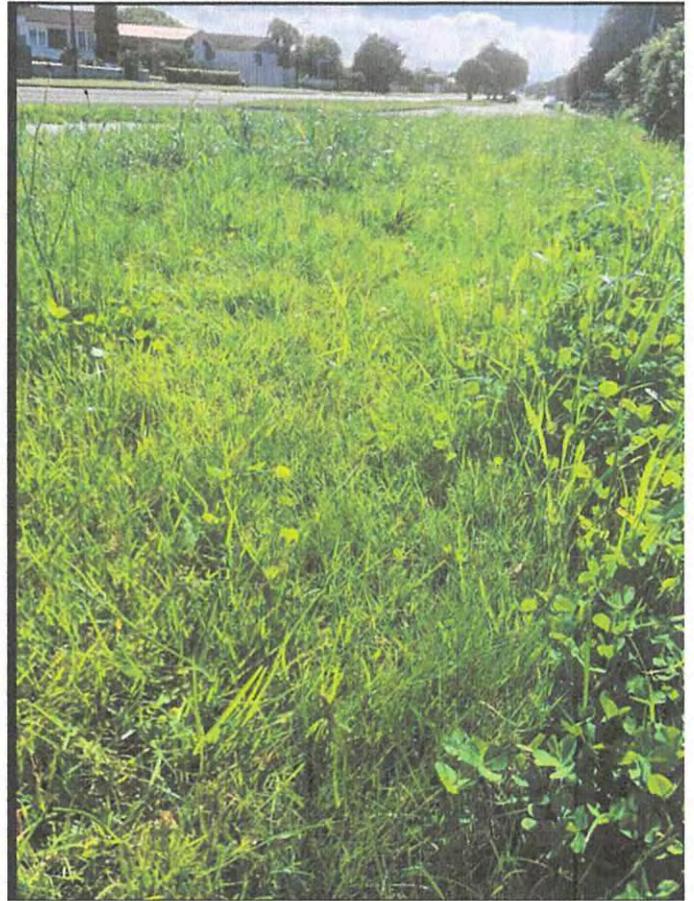
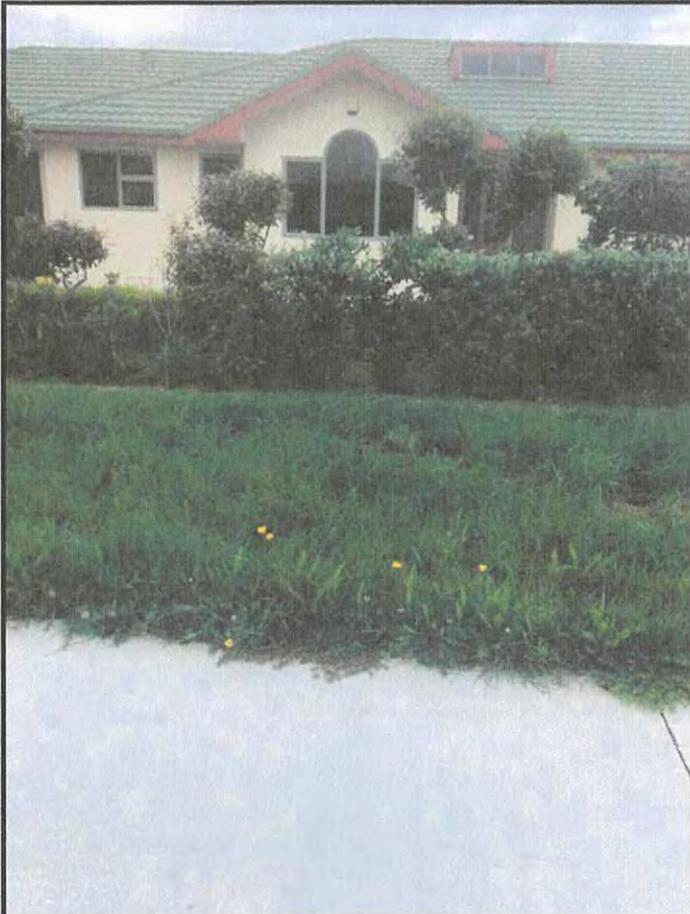
Fitzherbert Avenue Berm Residents

Name and addresses supplied

Weeds on New Footpath – Between St Helens Place & Kelsi Street



Weeds along Berm Footpath – Outside 1 St Helens Place Frontage on Fitzherbert Avenue





Steps Taken To Mow – Neaten Berm outside 1 St Helens Place.

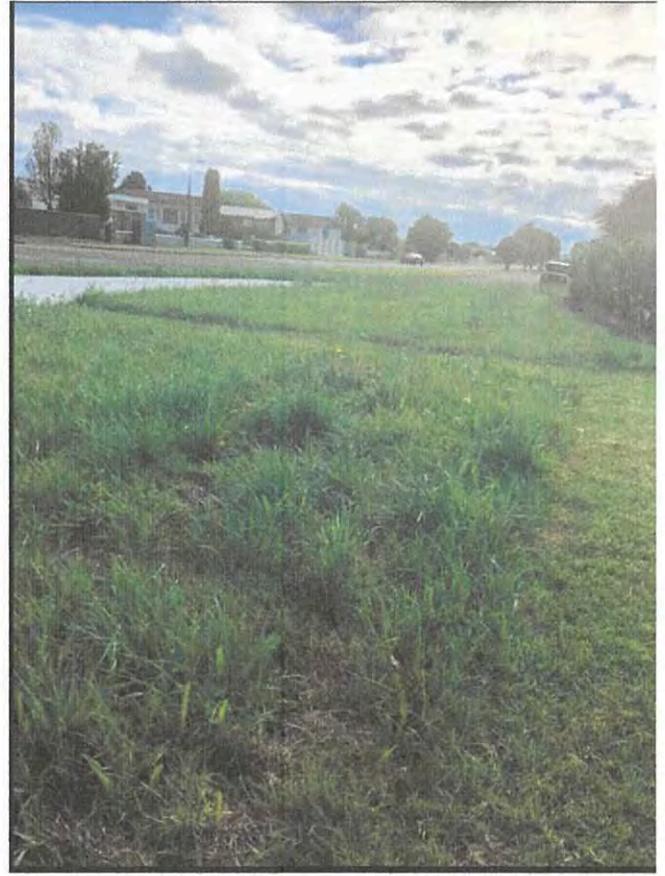
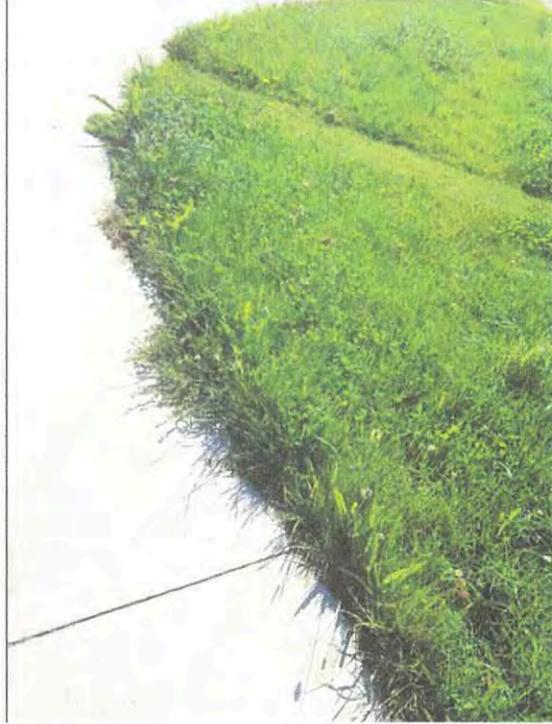
Path mowed to Footpath.

Mowed around Lamppost & Electric Box –

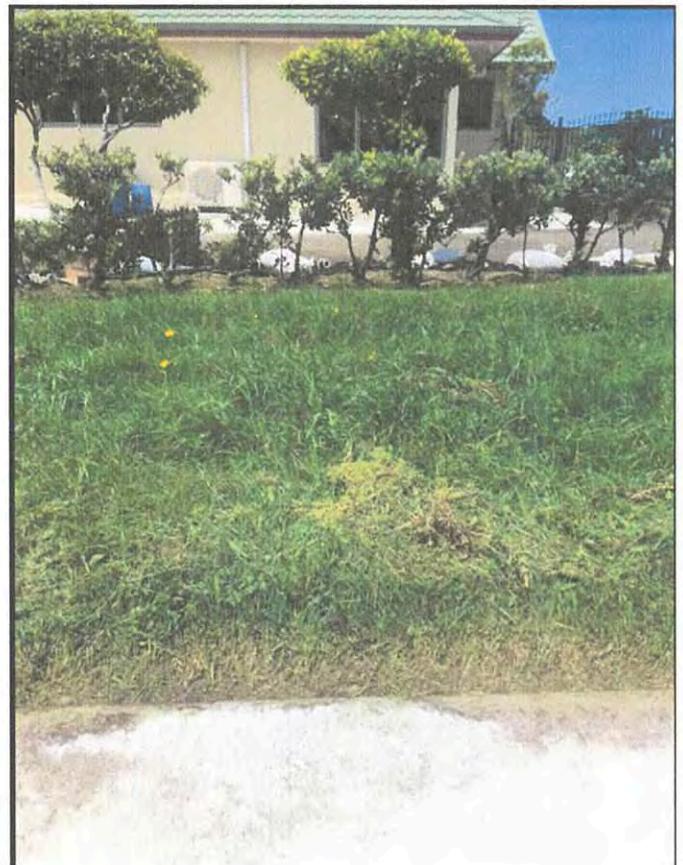
Mowed Boundary by Hedge –

Result

Small **electric-cord Mower** – Ceased working.



2. Weeds dug up - from side of footpath.



Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1310

Speaking

First name: Alan
Last name: Taylor

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Survey Avenue business owners to see if they are willing to cover the basket costs on a pro-rata basis according to street-front meterage

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: In spite of the blatant misuse of these sites in some instances, the environment demands they be retained.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Stormwater, in particular, has suffered from serious underinvestment. These assets will continue to struggle to provide an increasingly demanding level of service. Any further investment delay until it is more affordable or shown to be warranted demonstrates a sad understanding of what we are in for climatically and the resilience required to handle more frequent and intense precipitation events as well as storm surges. Roading, especially rural roading will continue to be a challenge until the exacerbators pay their fair share. The projected increased differential for forestry properties is still a very long way from where it needs to be.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments: Marae are so critical in times of emergency. (There will be more of these in Whanganui, especially flooding). The kicker is, however, some of our marae are located on particularly flood-prone land so how that is dealt with should be resolved.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Provide no funding to the project (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments: Option 2 contains an unachievable goal on this busiest of, quite narrow, rural roads. Please separate the vehicles from the bicycles in the interests of safety, public health (fitness), offering alternate transport options to cars, and environmental wellbeing.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: I will, when speaking to Council, comment on the clear lack of goals with respect to long-term planning when it comes to adaptation to an increasingly threatening future. I see little in the LTP that recognises rapidly increasing rates of climate change and its physical manifestations. To kind of illustrate this the Plan mentions 'growth' many times but such words as 'adaptation' and 'resilience' are rare. That is where the Plan fails. Council is way too shy of rate rises. Having made those criticisms I would commend Council for a very readable and well-presented Consultation Document. Kudos, staff and councillors.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 614

Speaking

First name: **Justine**
Last name: **Taylor**
Organisation: **Splash Centre Employee**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close New Zealand Glassworks (save \$10.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts: PLEASE CLOSE WHANGANUI EAST POOL

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1245

Speaking

First name: Jonathon
Last name: Te Huna

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close Gonville Library completely (save \$12.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: I was in Whanganui for Vintage Weekend. I actually spoke to a business man from Auckland who was wanting to invest in Whanganui. He wanted to buy and renovate an old building around Drews Ave and turn it into a Hotel, but was having major problems because the Whanganui Council was "making it impossible" for him to do so. Please dont build an ugly new hotel, that will be full once a year.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments:**Marae Development**

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: This is not necessary, I feel this just creates more of a division in the community.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: I would have no problem in the rebuild of the patrol building. They are saving peoples lives. The beach attracts tourists, make the area look better. The potential to hold more surf life saving regattas could be more attractive to other clubs if WSLS had better facilities.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Not necessary

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: No assets are sold to repay debt (add \$23 per property to next year's proposed rates rise of 10.6% and \$43 per year thereafter)

Submitter Comments: Maybe sell some buildings in town to a developer who could turn them into nice boutique hotels...then the council does not have to build a new hotel.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: The town I live, gives the residents free rubbish drop off at the transfer/recycling station. (maximum one use per household every year) ... this is to stop road side dumping. Most of the cost is made up from rates, but I feel a cleaner country side is better for it. The town also makes money off material that is being thrown away by residents.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 125

Speaking

First name: **Anthonie**
Last name: **Tonnon**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: I think the low hanging fruit for economic growth in Whanganui is moving from a town that is bustling 4 days a week and quiet for 3, to one that has something going on every day. While I initially found it charming that so much is shut on a Monday in Whanganui, I'm now missing the 7 day ambience of other cities I've lived in. Closing the library on a Monday would further entrench the feeling that things are dead on a Monday and I just feel it's the wrong direction to go. Furthermore, while I understand that the Opex is a very quick and noticeable saving - this money goes directly to low and middle income wage earners, many of whom then spend it at those bold businesses in town who are open on a Monday. I'd also just say that regional competitiveness in services is important to me, and I think we're performing poorly if the Palmerston North library is open 7 days (complete with their amazing maker's space blueprint) but we're not.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: I think Whanganui's competitive advantage is not our resources to build brand new things now - but our wealth of resources gifted to us from a wealthy past, and unusually well preserved. I'd like to keep the Whanganui East Pool for four reasons. From a project management point of view - we're in an era where it's very hard and expensive to build new things well. I suspect that even if we did create a business case on a new outdoor pool at the Splash Centre, it will come out much more expensive than keeping this pool, which also happens to be grand and impressive, and gives access and pride to another side of town. From a regional competitiveness point of view, I'd note that we've already consolidated our aquatic assets quite thoroughly for the size of our population. I had a great experience swimming at the Featherston Pool this summer, and I noted that the South Wairarapa District has three outdoor Summer pools which are all free entry, despite only having a population of 11000, and despite being close to a substantial aquatic centre in Masterton. Finally from a community pride point of view - I live near the former Gonville Baths and Town Hall, which were closed in the early 2000s. Talking to long-time residents, the loss of activity on Tawa St (which was Gonville's main civic street), the damage to pride of place, and the feeling that we had been divested in was wounding for Gonville. While the Baths have found a happy private owner now, I wouldn't wish that process on Whanganui East.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: We're just not in an era where we can build buildings like the Repertory again easily. 60 cents per property is a bargain to stabilise the bank, and see a community group or a private owner get the chance to make use of something that already exists rather than build from scratch.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: NZ Glassworks supports an ecosystem of practising artists and is why Whanganui is still a national centre for glass. For example, we are a centre for the import and redistribution of artist glass around the country, and we've often hosted national glass community events. Glassworks is also a rare institution that is open 7 days and adds life and tourism to the city centre even on Sundays and Mondays. I don't believe there would be a buyer who can keep the glassworks running with the benefits it has to the community now. One of the things that made Whanganui the artistic town it is now was it's art and design schools. They have suffered from consolidation with UCOL, and we're now not replacing our arts community as well as we could. In the future I think we need to attract more arts education and facilities, but in the near term, keeping the Glassworks can be a key asset we can hold on to while we rebuild.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: I suggest that, as part of this increase, you start to carve out a specific portion to public transport infrastructure - particularly as we get close to the launch of a new network. This recognises that a new network from Horizons will actually reduce cars on the road and the burden on our road network, and gives the public transport system the support it needs to thrive. In year 1 - as a cost neutral solution, I suggest that you move the current \$50 000 portion dedicated to public transport out of the roading alliance team and into another of our council teams - such as the team who do a really effective job on graffiti. Downer do a great job in their areas of expertise, but what is mostly needed at our bus stops are eyes, care, the odd wipe to remove cobwebs, and the odd replacement of wayfinding posters. Downer aren't really set up for this. Pride in our bus stops would do wonders for our sense of civic pride in the bus system and encourage people to make the most of the network. With great effort, we have succeeded in getting Horizons to invest in Whanganui public transport in a completely different manner to the last 25 years. However, PT infrastructure is, and always has been our responsibility. Greater Wellington Regional Council spends around \$170 per person per year on public transport service. But even more striking is that Wellington, through its city councils, also spends around \$170 per person on public transport infrastructure. Horizons are now likely to be spending \$40-50 per person on public transport service (a four-fold increase on 2017), but Whanganui are currently only spending about 50c per person (matched by Waka Kotahi) on public transport infrastructure. Looking wider, as roading is one of the most significant costs in this LTP, it's worth thinking about what can reduce the roading burden. Public transport will help a lot, but so will a really strong spatial plan that has public transport at the heart of it. The more we grow around central areas with existing infrastructure and good street layouts for public transport, the less we will need to be in our cars and hastening the next reseal of our road. I'd also note that one of the largest complaints I hear about life in Whanganui is around speeding cars on residential streets at night. One thing we might do is work towards a system where our heavy vehicles and higher speeds, as well as public transport are focused on arterial roads, and the residential streets are targeted for use by residents' cars and those visiting them. Some of this could be done with relatively cheap community-led calming measures like wooden chicanes. Finally, a quick point on the Dublin Bridge. I would note that it's a beautiful bridge, and it would be a real shame to have a third Town Bridge/Cobham Bridge type-design and lose that iconic structure. I'd also be concerned that in the costing stage we would lose the two lanes of walking and two lanes of cycling we have now and not get like for like. I'm heartened that others have suggested we keep it as a pedestrian bridge, but I suspect that will be hard to achieve. We also have to be aware of induced demand and how we can use it to or against the city's benefit in the way we design.

Hotel and Car Park

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Love to see a hotel and see you look at any option to facilitate, though I'd prefer us looking hard at options we don't build ourselves. Whatever we do - I'd say there's an opportunity in my view to save costs on this project by going minimal on the parking building part of this project. Hotel covered parking should be a premium product - at most Hotels I go to, this is at least \$30 a night. I fear this parking building might be trying to fulfill a civic need and I would suggest that we actually have more parking than we think. At the moment Wellington has a city provided park for every 38 residents while we have a park for every 28. 60% of Wellington's 5300 parks are metered, while only 38% of ours are. I really support the new parking changes, and I'd say that creating too much supply in a parking building could have adverse effects for those parking changes, but also for the long term attractiveness of public transport and other modes.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: I moved to Whanganui because of the Opera House and it's a great example of something we have already that we could never build again now. I strongly support Option 3 and I've used great venues like the Hastings Opera House which have had this treatment. I would like to suggest we look at our operating model now and in future to make sure we have a high use, flexible use and flexible price structure. We need to hold a lot of events - from community, to mid tier national, as well as the top priced bracket of international touring productions like Mamma Mia and the Tribute concerts. Sadly, Wellington and Dunedin have both created a model where only the latter group can afford to use their similar spaces and I would love to see us be careful on this.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Let's look at something even more clever when the Dublin bridge can take these heavy vehicles off our hands perhaps.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Horizons / WDC groups - Anthonie Tonnon - Public Transport Representative for Whanganui District Council to Horizons Regional Council.

With regards to parking of cars, bikes and other micro-mobility options in Whanganui

1. Are there any issues or challenges in our district which stand out to you?

Whanganui is seeing a very high use of city centre car parking, reflecting strong economic and retail growth in the city centre in the last ten years, and relatively cheap and abundant on-street parking compared to other centres - particularly in the form of angle parking on main streets. It is seeing a lower use of active modes like cycling, walking, and public transport, and lower use of council car parks, and parks just outside the retail centre. The lower use of active and public transport modes reflects much less convenient availability and support for these options from the 1990s to the 2010s, and migration away from these modes to private cars, which also became cheaper to purchase over this time. However, it is worth noting that active and public transport modes are becoming much more convenient, and this presents opportunities as noted below.

Whanganui is also seeing very high use of the private car to transport school children. This is despite good shared pathways to encourage travel by bike or other active transport, and despite dedicated school bus services - which are well-used, but still have plenty of spare capacity.

The lower use of council car parks and parks outside the core reflects the higher desirability of on-street parks on the main streets, and the fact that much parking in the city centre is still free and not time-limited, meaning that city commuters and students, who in other cities would consider walking, cycling, taking public transport, or paying for long-term parking, are taking parks close to the city centre for 8 hours a day, meaning they are not available for shorter term, higher-value shoppers.

Whanganui is now at a point where it will not be able to continue the strong growth of people and retail activity in the city centre retail area by the private car alone. Any increase in parking - whether on-street or off street, would require expensive infrastructure, and increase the growing traffic congestion throughout the city. But because of the poor spatial efficiency of cars, increases in parking would only result in very modest gains in the amount of people and economic activity in the city centre.

However, Whanganui is in the fortunate position of having opportunities to bring many more people into the city centre without adding to traffic and parking congestion, because of the investments it has made in shared pathways, the progress it has made in public transport planning with Horizons Regional Council, and because it has a very strong geography for walking, cycling and public transport. It also has the opportunity to encourage the highest value travellers to the city to make better use of the city's parking infrastructure like the council parks and the parks near the centre that are currently free. What is needed to make more of these opportunities is a rebalancing of incentives.

In general, traffic responds to induced demand. If there is cheap, abundant parking, car use and traffic congestion will expand until this is full - and this has been the story of the last ten years. If the response to this is to build more parking at a similar price, the new supply will also soon become full.

However, if there is a reversal of induced demand - for example the amount of parking decreases, or parking prices rise - traffic and parking congestion drops in the city, but this can happen without any decrease to foot traffic and economic activity, particularly if there is public transport service and active transport infrastructure ready to take more people. This is the situation Whanganui is in for active transport, and should soon be in for public transport, if network improvements are made through Horizons regional council.

Even in a city where traffic congestion is high and all available parking is utilised, many more people can be brought into the city centre by encouraging public transport and active transport, which can move many times more people for the space they take up on roads, footpaths and dedicated pathways.

One thing that can alleviate parking availability and traffic congestion is price: a higher price for parking on main streets will see more short term car parks available for shoppers who set a higher value on being able to park close to their destination, and will also see other drivers switch to active or public transport modes, or move to other, cheaper areas to park a little further from the main street.

This is particularly pressing in the case of Saturday mornings - where the combination of high demand (higher than a Monday or Tuesday) and free parking is causing some of the city's highest traffic and parking congestion. Simply charging the same as a weekday on this day would reduce traffic and increase availability of parking.

The great thing about this opportunity is that it is not just revenue neutral - it is actually revenue positive. Any increase in parking charges will also decrease the burden for other council costs on rates. Other cities like Queenstown have seen higher parking charges and a decrease in parking spaces reduce traffic demand and improve traffic congestion in the centre. They have also been able to use the increased revenue to fund improved public transport. Furthermore, whenever parking charges are increased, public transport patronage rises - leading to better economic viability of the public transport network and lower public subsidies.

For the issue of traffic congestion around schools - one thing that can make a difference is to reduce the perceived convenience of doing a school drop off by increasing the distance between drop off zones and the schools. This may help to encourage parents and school children to plan to use the bus or an active transport mode and reduce traffic congestion during the school peak.

Any reduction in availability and perceived convenience of parking on main streets would also reduce the high traffic congestion, particularly on Victoria Avenue between Ridgeway and Ingestre streets. If any reduction of carparks is combined with the installation of cycle parking or micro mobility facilities - this could actually see more foot traffic on the main street, even though traffic decreases. While Whanganui has a high quality shared pathway on St Hill street, more prominent and abundant bike parking on Victoria Avenue would help to encourage more people to use this pathway to get to the main shopping area. It is worth noting that in the space of one car park, bike parking can be installed for many more people than the average inhabitants of a car.

Draws Avenue serves as a positive example here. More than a dozen car parks were removed in 2021, and replaced with seating and bike parking. Two years on, retail activity is higher even though there is less parking, and the cycle parks are now well used for much of the week.

There are other things that Whanganui can do to aid more traffic coming into the city without the need for car parks, and these are covered below, but in essence, the simplest thing that Whanganui

can do for all modes is to use the lever of price - this will improve the availability of parking, as well as the uptake of cycling, walking and public transport.

2. Are there any opportunities you would like to see explored through this review?

- Higher pricing for car parks that reflects the value and opportunity cost of land the parks take up.
- Extending parking charges to Saturdays.
- Limiting parking and drop off areas very close to schools. Moving official drop off zones a 600 metre walk or more away from schools so that the perceived convenience of driving children to school is lower.
- An expanded area for time-limited, market-priced car parking on streets just outside the core retail area, like Rutland street.
- More availability of bike parking - most importantly in the form of simple and cheap bike parking, as well as more specialised e-bike and e-scooter parking.
- Some reduction of angle parking on congested main streets - especially when replaced for bike parking or micro mobility facilities.
- Adding funding to Public transport and public transport infrastructure through increased parking charges.

3. Do you think the amount currently charged for parking is fair?

The amount charged for parking is significantly below that of other centres in New Zealand.

Because car users don't generally price their ongoing maintenance, RUT or licensing costs for their vehicles, they tend to underestimate how much it costs them to use their car. Therefore they generally account for a rough cost of petrol and parking for a trip to town. At the current cost for parking of 50c for half an hour - a trip by bus at \$2 each way feels more expensive than a trip by car.

4. Is parking management in the district currently interfering with active/public transport goals in any way?

Our public transport goals are definitely made more difficult by the current low cost, high availability and perceived convenience of parking in the city centre. We could achieve a better balance and help encourage better use of public transport by increasing parking charges and expanding parking charges to Saturdays.

At school pick and drop off time, the theoretical ease of dropping children off leads people to use their car. However, the reality is that all of Whanganui pays a high cost for this perceived convenience in the form of school time traffic congestion, and many parents spending unpaid time in their cars driving their children to and from school.

5. Are there ways that parking management could better support active/public transport goals?

Whenever parking charges increase, public transport use also increases, so we could best support public transport by increasing the cost of parking, and the hours in the week it is charged for. Public transport use also increases when there is less availability and convenience of parking, so reductions

in parking, and particularly free unlimited parking near the centre would increase public transport use.

For school traffic - decreasing the perceived convenience of the school drop-off will make a big difference to public transport use to schools. The bus system aims to have most people within 600 metres of a bus stop. If there is a similar distance between school drop off zones and schools - the gap in perceived convenience between drop off and taking the bus decreases.

On the active transport side - Whanganui has a strong network of shared pathways, but active modes have little presence on the main streets. Creating more cheap and simple bike parking on streets like Victoria Ave and Ridgeway Street would make a big difference and help encourage people to think of taking active transport to get to the main street.

6. Do you feel there are enough bike/micro-mobility parks in the district? And - are there any areas you think it would be beneficial to have more of these kinds of parks?

On Victoria Avenue there is a real lack of bike parks, especially considering the very large amount of parks for cars by comparison. It would not take very much space to rebalance this.

Another street with very little bike parking is Ridgeway Street. Some streets have other poles of various kinds that bike users can tie to, but on Ridgeway there are almost no safe places to park a bike.



TRAMWAYS WHANGANUI TRUST

Moutoa Quay

Whanganui

New Zealand

tramwayswhanganuitrust@gmail.com

1 May 2024

David Langford
Chief Executive
Whanganui District Council
101 Guyton Street
Whanganui 4500

Dear David

Please accept this letter as a submission from our Trust regarding the future, both short and longterm for the Whanganui Tram, noting the amount of \$3.24 m currently allowed for in Year 4 of the LTP.

It is our view that funding a track extension alone, will not provide sufficient economic, social or cultural benefit to justify the current estimated cost. We do note however, that there was considerable and positive feedback provided by the public as a result of informal options provided by the Tram volunteer group. This feedback generally supported a track extension, albeit in the absence of any projected cost or a business plan

It has been suggested to us that creating a “heritage transport experience” which includes the Tram, the PS Waimarie, Whanganui Regional Museum, the Durie Hill elevator and a vintage bus or vintage vehicles, could be a more viable offering for an additional Whanganui visitor experience.

We caution against planning and potentially funding an expanded Vintage Transport visitor experience without considering other visitor options which may provide more community benefit, or undertaking the background research needed to identify the gaps in our existing visitor offering. As we recall, previous research undertaken by Whanganui District Council identified the Whanganui River as the best known attraction.

We note also that any Whanganui visitor experience would be enhanced considerably by including local Māori heritage in a form acceptable to our Whanganui iwi partners. This acknowledges current national visitor research which rates highly the opportunity for a cultural experience.

We ask you to consider whether the \$3.24 m proposed for a Tram track extension included in Year 4 of this LTP, could be spent more wisely if increased visitor attraction and awareness is the driver behind including this.

In the meantime, we do encourage the early consideration of a joint management function overseeing our existing heritage transport experiences and would be willing to assist in any such transition.

Our preference would be a joint management of both the PS Waimarie and The Tram operations.

For transparency, we have had no formal discussion with the Waimarie Trust regarding this.

But we do see some immediate advantages such as;

- Financial management
- Ensuring Health and Safety requirements are met.
- Management of staff and volunteers
- Joint marketing expanding on existing initiatives
- Associated economies of scale

We also suggest a closedown period for the tram over the winter months in 2024, in order to transition effectively to a new management structure by the time the summer season begins.

We assume that the rationale for extending the current route must have come from the feasibility study undertaken by council, however we understand that the \$3.24M estimate in the Long Term Plan only includes extending the track route.

We understand that this costing does not take into account the other costs we expand on below such as;

- the electrics (overhead wiring)
- road safety compliance issues,
- consultation with affected residents and businesses,
- tram maintenance,
- the cost of the restoration and licencing of a second tram restored for inclusion in an expanded operation,
- increased operating costs related to increased services, staffing and administration.

Relevant Existing Concerns

- The current Tram operation has a significant lack of local and readily accessible technical and mechanical infrastructure support.

- We are dependent on a single resource, namely, Allan Neilson, a Wellington based Electrical Engineer and WTM Life Member, on whom we rely for technical (electrical) advice, Safety Case Documentation, and his access to the wider vintage tram transport community e.g. COTMA, Wellington Tramway Museum Inc, and MOTAT for resources such as spare parts, compliance, audit advice etc.
- We do not have a pool of people that can provide the technical advice at the level that Allan has been able to provide.
- There is also a significant lack of local and readily accessible mechanical infrastructure support. Major mechanical work on the Tram cannot be carried out locally. This was clearly apparent when we had to remove the motors from the tram after the 2015 flood event. We had to go cap in hand to a few local workshop facilities and get temporary workshop access for the heavy mechanical work required to remove and refit the motors.
- The tram body that was gifted to WDC by Dave Harre was originally fitted out at the old Powerco workshop in Taupo Quay prior to the property being sold to Mitre 10. Basic mechanical work on the underside of the Tram in the existing “workshop” is hampered by insufficient clearance provided by a smaller shallower pit installed as a cost cutting method when the shed was constructed.
- The Tram operation also has a significant lack of local and readily accessible infrastructure support for the overhead electrical catenary system. The catenary wire system requires specialist equipment and technical support to maintain. Local overhead line mechanics e.g. Downer, are very limited in the level of support they can provide. In a road corridor this will be a major risk. The Direct Current (DC) supply for the Tram is well past its operational and supportable lifespan and the risk of failure is high. Capital cost for a new modern supportable power supply is currently estimated at \$200,000.
- Compared to other Vintage Transport operators e.g. Wellington Tramway Museum Inc and MOTAT, we suffer from a lack of sufficiently experienced technical and mechanical resources to support the operation. Wellington Tramway Museum has, compared to us, a huge pool of people with DC traction experience with experience from the Wellington Tram and Trolley Bus operation and have existing railway workshops nearby. They also have a huge pool of “bits” salvaged from the old Tram and Trolley bus system to keep the trams operating. Importantly they have wider area from which they can draw visitors and tourists.. The same could be said for MOTAT. Both

organisations operate within the boundaries of a dedicated area which is not primarily public roading space e.g. QE2 park for WTM. **We are trying to fit a vintage transport vehicle into a somewhat congested modern-day roading system.**

- It may also be useful to work with Steam Rail Whanganui Inc as there may be advantages in having them included under a Whanganui Vintage Transport operation. Steam Rail attracts a lot of visitors to Whanganui as part of their support of train excursions. Steam Rail also have volunteers experienced in heavy track and traction systems who are ex NZR.

We trust you find this submission and additional information helpful going forward . As current Trustees, while we retain our enthusiasm and support for the Tram, and have done our best to fulfil the role we have been asked to do, we are also realistic about the costs of expanding the current operation, and as we have described, do have concerns about whether this is the best use of the funding currently proposed for year 4 of the LTP.

All four current Trustees have offered their resignations as at the end of this financial year, which will assist in making new appointments for a changed structure, if our advice is seen as a practical solution to what is currently an unsustainable operation.

We would like to speak to this submission please.

Kia ora

Kritzo Venter, Robert Gaskin, Annette Main, Val Bartrum
Trustees
Tramways Whanganui Trust

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 472

Speaking

First name: Donald
Last name: Trott
Organisation: NZ Opera School, NZ Opera Foundation Trust, and St

Paul's in the City

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Monday would possibly be the most suitable day - people are used to facilities being closed on a Monday

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Only a suggestion. Could the pool be closed for a 'period' only until the economic situation improves? "Mothball" On the other hand, this wonderful facility should be retained.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: It is surprising that stabilizing the bank has not been addressed over the years. The theatre is a valuable performing arts venue!

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: This is a lovely idea - but birds should be able fly free! How many visitors are attracted to this facility?

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Whanganui set the pace in NZ with the hanging baskets and as a heritage city this should be continued.

New Zealand Glassworks

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: This is a celebrated Whanganui asset!

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: A wonderful and an historic facility - wonderful

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Much has been achieved with this Council initiative! We are a city proclaiming history. The funding thus far has helped Whanganui retain this title.

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Council would be well-advised to seek a firm dedicated to building and running hotels.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: Ideally, option three for now! Having been involved with the RWOH all my life, the stage wings have always been a problem but not insurmountable. To undertake the work suggested as an option would certainly enhance the stage and fly system for the next 20 years. The RWOH is a gem. It is warmly appreciated by visitors from Auckland, Wellington. An Auckland visitor wanted to take the RWOH to AK.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments: The Whanganui Marae are treasures to be maintained and enhanced.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: A necessary facility! It is a concern to learn the existing building is in poor condition. What happened to regular maintenance? This is essential and if a new building is the result, an ongoing programme should be required.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Construct new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa (This is Council's preferred option, and would cost \$6 per property per year for 10 years from 2029/30)

Submitter Comments: However I would have thought a prominent pedestrian crossing would suffice. Unfortunately Taupo Quay is seen as a street to speed.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments: A dangerous road!!

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt

and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Before commenting I would like to see a list of the assets the Council is proposing to sell.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: No! I have made my comments!

Supporting documents

Yes

Re: Service Cuts.

We have no idea what service cuts might be proposed.

The Council has, in my view well researched officers and the loss of any would no doubt result in a loss of services.

It would be an observation that there already appears to be a slimmed down staff.

One matter of real concern is the re-opening of the Baycent Gallery with its large extension that will require the appropriate staff numbers to service the extension and the celebrated and now famous city facility

Derwent

29-4-2024



Concerning the RWOT:

For thirty five or more years the "Friends of the Opera House" have provided passionate and dedicated service to performers and patrons alike. They are volunteers and carry out their responsibilities in a most professional way and engaging with them as I have over many years has seen a smooth operation at all times.

It seems that in recent times their engagement and responsibilities have been reduced and at times disregarded. The House is a community facility and community involvement should be well regarded and welcomed.

Janet Ross

New Zealand Opera School, PO Box 7268, Mid City, 4541, Whanganui

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Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 72

Speaking

First name: **Nancy**
Last name: **Tuaine**
Organisation: **Nga Tangata Tiaki o Whanganui**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No comment from an organizational perspective

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No comment from an organizational perspective

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No comment from an organizational perspective

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No comment from an organizational perspective

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No comment from an organizational perspective

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No comment from an organizational perspective

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: We support the retention for rural rubbish otherwise as rubbish not collected often transfers by wind into our waterways and oceans.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No comment from an organizational perspective

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No comment from an organizational perspective

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: From our observation community grant and funding organisations continue to operate in silos. Often there are other community funding organisations that have shared outcomes with those of the Councils. There should be greater collaboration and building single community investment approaches. Any increases in the fund should related to the increase in CPI as these are the cost pressures our community organisations are impacted by. Do better together.

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Delayed investment in infrastructure costs more in the future. Whanganui has certainly had its fair share of examples of poor or delayed investment costs in the past. It would help if there was more transparency about the state of the infrastructure and the nature and extent of the maintenance, repair or replacement costs.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No comment from an organisation perspective

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No comment from an organisation perspective

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Marae are also economic contributors to their communities every time a hui or tangi is hosted at a marae they investment anything from \$1000 to \$5000 back into the community through the purchasing goods and services. The economic contribution of Marae is not noted in the commentary. We congratulate the Council for including Marae Development. As noted before there are other organisations that contribute to Marae Development and we commend the grant funding from 2028. We believe if the Council partners with other organisations who also give to Marae would achieve greater efficiencies and lead to savings for the rate payers.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No comment from an organisation perspective

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Public safety is a necessity in this area not just as it relates to Pakaitore but the increased activity on the waterfront attracts numerous people particularly during events like the Saturday Market. The nearest raised walkway is by the I-site. If the walkway is not accepted we would still offer that a funding commitment is allocated to a development on Pakaitore that can add to the visitor experience and increase the opportunity for the use of that space for other iwi and community events. Ideas for its development contributions for ideas invited by the community.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: No comment from an organisation perspective

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Nga Tangata Tiaki o Whanganui would want to understand what the assets were before they confirmed any support for this proposal. Some assets of the Council now own were previously divested to Council from the Crown, in our opinion there are still unresolved Treaty of Waitangi breaches that exist in respect of some of these assets and we would expect engagement directly with hapu and ourselves in relation to the sale of any that are on the banks of the Whanganui River or its tributaries. The Council could implement a first right of refusal provision to hapu and iwi as one way to address this matter.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? *(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)*

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: There is a real opportunity for the Council to achieve a systems approach to some of the long term commitments. Connecting better across the community to align with other organisations and business that fund like minded projects could reduce the impact on the rating base but achieve the same original intents noted in this document.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 8

Speaking

First name:

Te Manawa

Last name:

Twomey-Waitai

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: I am aware that the bird aviary was first established by volunteers so perhaps a survey to see if volunteers of Whanganui would be willing to step up and take some responsibility for maintenance and repairs.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: No assets are sold to repay debt (add \$23 per property to next year's proposed rates rise of 10.6% and \$43 per year thereafter)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents **No**

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 666

Speaking

First name: Johannes Chans
Last name: Vanderschantz

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Good idea.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: This is the only outdoor pool left in wanganui. Savings from closing Gonville library and not increasing the community grants will help to keep this going we could also close the splash centre one day per week.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: We have both the Opera House and andram. There are also many other places of wanganui for theatre performances including the concert chamber.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: This could be looked after by one of the service clubs or even sponsored by a school or several schools.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: They have become and eye sore in the past few years so if we can't do this well we should not do it at all.

New Zealand Glassworks

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close Gonville Library completely (save \$12.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: We have a good Central Library and we are trying to develop our bus service. Furthermore people are going online for their reading why duplicate! Wanganui is not big and it is easy to get into the centre. The savings will help keep the Wanganui east pool open

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: This is a good tourist attraction.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts: A better use of rates would also be to drop the kerbside recycling which is not very popular and will create more problems than it will help we have a good recycling centre this could be expanded to include a pick up service for those who do not drive. We already pay for our own rubbish collection on a as required bases so to be forced to pay for a service that many people will not use is not good use of our rates and can help to maintain our city better IE parks roads verges.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Wanganui district council should not get involved in competing with private enterprise we have seen how projects blow out IE art gallery let's encourage business to invest in our town by rate rebates and fast tracked consents.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: An iconic building know around the word we must keep this going

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Why should local government have to pay for maraes one central government do not think that it needed maraes are and should be maintained by their owners (groups) just like all other organisations IE scout halls, churches etc.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: A very important service on this coast.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Totally unnecessary a luxury we cannot afford. Money needs to be spent on core needs and maintaining existing for the whole community not a small sector

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Another luxury we cannot afford

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Further public consultation on this.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: I do not believe we got good service out of our parks/reserves gardens contractors and this system should be relooked at we should not reduce the way our town looks we must be able to get better value for money from our contractors and better supervision of their work.

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 9

Speaking

First name: Katarina
Last name: Wade

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Monday is a good option for closing. Those working Mon-Fri are more likely to utilise Sat/Sun keep those days open

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: DO NOT SPEN ANOTHER DOLLAR ON FEASIBILITY STUDIES!!! What is the point? To be told we need to spend millions of dollars to make our outdoor swimming options safer & more accessible!? When we could just upgrade the safe, accessible option we already have.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: The aviary is not fit for purpose and is nothing but a trap for these birds.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: This is misleading - mainstreet does not 'maintain' them, they outsource this maintenance at a hefty cost. Local providers need to be utilised! Provider options - charities, enterprise, corrections.

New Zealand Glassworks

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Where did these visitor figures come from? Seems extremely over inflated. How does NZ Glassworks become self-sustainable? Sell it before it becomes a fruitless liability.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Cut the costs - how can the operational costs for this small & fairly average attraction cost this much!?

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts: Roading/parks & properties: too often outsourced contractors are seen doing little to nothing while on the job, eg a local tree service company that sent 3 employees to a road closure, where I observed them on their phones, vaping and chatting for close to 2 hours.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and

Something else (state below)

carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Reinstate the flight school as hotel, and FORGET the rest.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSL as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Surely there is a much more cost effective option than an outlay of \$830,000 to implement a crossing!?

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: \$2.4 million for a 8km shell rock trail? Who are we paying this ridiculous cost to? Enough of the FEASIBILITY STUDIES!

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Don't know

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Can't answer this confidently without knowing which assets WDC would put on the chopping block.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: This is a time to consolidate and fortify. Whanganui cannot compete on a regional level that warrants significant investment in accommodation. Leave that to the big players!

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 731

Speaking

First name: Emma
Last name: Walzl

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: It's 10am at 64 Tinirau street the summer pool is open and my family and I wake to sounds of cars , bikes , children and family all piling outside our house to get into the pool. The days are long and hot and the gate is always busy. From open till close. The diving board spring becomes a familiar background sound throughout the season along with the wonderful splash made by those enjoying the pool. This pool supports not only the East community but also the wider. This year we noticed a lot more using and coming from near and far to enjoy the facilities. Seldom you could nab a picnic table or a shaded spot as it was always so full. BBQs and children's birthday parties. Families gathering. Not only does the pool provide a haven for all who enjoy it but also to our tamariki who become the poster children of the pool itself. They are here to stay all day, will show without fail tomorrow and are enjoying a safe environment with supervision of professionals. If we don't have this space for our tamariki and whanau, where will our children go? To the river? With tides and slash? And with no knowledge of such. We will have more death on our hands. Our awa will become host to tragedy and known at that. We will lose children to the river. Our children learn to swim here many schools are utilising it so. This must continue. The splash centre although we use it weekly .. (we are swimmers.) to which my children are lucky enough to be enrolled in because that in itself seems to be impossible to get into.. which again seems bizarre that a city with all its water has one swim school??? ... what ludicrous.. is horrible. The doors are never open it's full of stressed hustling parents, and the facilities are certainly not big enough to cater for all. There are no fond summer memories made there, there is no sound of nature and happy families cooling off after a long hot day creating long lasting memories. It is parents supervising from the sides, kids turning out to be the next best thing in the lane and no room to breathe. Instead of upgrading splash why wasn't that money put into the east pool?? My family and I swim at the pool daily and at the beginning of this season suggested the idea of a season pass as I know myself and plenty of others who would absolutely utilise this option. Although I am not a rate payer in this district for most I have spoken to, would be happy to pay the rate to see the pool stay. Funnily enough to which over half don't use. They see the value it brings to our city, children , families and the history of our town. What a story this pool is. What treasure . A safe space for our people. Save our kids, find the cuts elsewhere and save our pool

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Invest in the stabilisation of the retaining bank, demolish the existing building and build a new theatre (add \$10 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Preserve our city. Rate increases are normal. Keep our city thriving. Retain our culture and heritage buildings.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Preserve our city. Increase rates and keep our city thriving.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Put the baskets to tender and keep the baskets. They aren't even in front of all shops and have been looking shabby. Keep our city beautiful

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: We have a wonderful bus service and options for libraries around our city.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Do nothing (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: We do not need a hotel run by the council, if there was such a gap why has it not already been filled by investors. Absolute waste t

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments: Upgrade The Rep Theatre and maintain our heritage

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments: Work local and alongside so much we can do together especially it comes to our marae.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Not necessary

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Not necessary

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: No assets are sold to repay debt (add \$23 per property to next year's proposed rates rise of 10.6% and \$43 per year thereafter)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1018

Speaking

First name: **Des**
Last name: **Warahi**
Organisation: **Mainstreet Whanganui**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: CBD Vibrancy and Street Appeal The Whanganui District Council preferred option 1 to Remove the hanging flower baskets. To permanently remove the iconic summer and winter hanging baskets which have been a vibrant part of the CBD for over 30 years. The current summer baskets are near the end of their season and are due to be removed, Council has instructed that there will be no winter baskets for 2024 which were scheduled to be hung in June 2024. a) It is disappointing to see the baskets removed as they have brought vibrancy, color, and street appeal to the CBD, we have received many positive comments from locals and visitors, and the baskets are also included in a range of Whanganui promotional materials engaging visitors to come to Whanganui. During the consultation process, we received positive feedback about the retention of the baskets and a contributor talked about the beauty of the basket and CBD as one of the reasons to relocate her business to Whanganui. The

baskets have been an important part of the CBD's restorations along with the gas lamps, wrought iron garden seats, terracotta pavers, London Plane trees, and Victorian, Edwardian architecture. Whanganui has been identified as one of New Zealand's most attractive Main streets and CBD restorations. b) The figure of \$93,000 does not reflect the actual savings and the contribution from the targeted rate A & B from Building Owners. The preferred Option 1 reports that the savings for removing the baskets would be \$93,000 or \$5 per property. The actual savings are still to be confirmed due to contractual commitments while approximately 50% of the current costs come from contributions from the Central Business District (CBD) differential targeted rate collected by the Council from building owners in the CBD which sits outside of general rates. Clarification from the Council on what the actual savings are and if the \$5 per property figure excludes the differential targeted rate paid by CBD building owners would be helpful. c) The Summer Baskets Only Option has not been investigated by the Council. During the consultation period, one suggestion arose to have no Winter Baskets and Summer baskets only with reduced numbers of baskets to displays in public areas only - Gaslights, Arches, etc. This option has not been discussed by the Council. The preferred option from the Council is the removal of all baskets. We would suggest that Mainstreet Whanganui would prefer a reduced number of baskets (option C). If the council aims to reduce the rating burden on residential ratepayers, then a reduced number of baskets entirely funded by the CBD ratepayers would achieve this while still giving many of the benefits of the existing baskets. The costs of this option would depend on the requirements of the council regarding coverage etc. d) Drews Avenue's maintenance is funded by Rates A&B where about half the street does not pay these rates, we believe this to be unfair and support the Council investigating bringing the old town into the Rates A&B area. Maintenance is funded from the Differential targeted rate for activities in Drews Avenue. Drews Avenue between Ridgway Street and Taupo Quay the area developed as part of the Innovative Street while the ongoing maintenance is funded by a differential targeted rate paid by CBD building owners. The majority of work is in the non-paying area, and we would comment that this is unfair to the differential ratepayers. We recommend especially with the growth and potential development in what is known as the old town the Backhouse side be included in the differential targeted rate area and that the Council investigate the option. We would note that the enhanced service level has been described as 'temporary' for several years now, with no end in sight. The existing arrangement where some building owners pay an increased rate for a higher level of service while others receive it subsidized by the rest of the community is unfair.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: New Zealand Glassworks is a significant center for glass art and popular with tourists, which links and draws visitors to the CBD and other Whanganui attractions. NZ Glassworks brings economic and social wellbeing to the city and district and a line with our City of Design status.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Support growth in the city and district.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Mainstreet Whanganui supports a hotel in Whanganui preferred in or close to the CBD. And that a plan is developed for the hotel to work in collaboration with other businesses in the CBD to benefit all parties e.g. hospitality and retail. That there be a greater connection facilitated by the Council between accommodation, events/ conferences, tourism, and business. We have concerns that at the same time council is removing highly visible & relatively inexpensive items such as the hanging baskets, they are happy to spend an ill-defined amount on potentially encouraging someone else to set up a hotel. The savings from removing hanging and baskets and other preferred options will be absorbed by the first consultant's report on the hotel. We comment on the Boutique Hotel models around the country, we see a range of Boutique hotel types that we believe would suit Whanganui CBD and the surrounding area examples can be seen in Hamilton and Napier. These models fit into the heritage environment of Whanganui and are more achievable.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Don't know

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Don't know

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Don't know

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Don't know

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Something else (state below)

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Hard to comment when we are not aware of the assets for sale. But would ask the question does include City Endowment and CBD Port Assets?

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?

3

(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Heritage enhancement we support the retention of the Heritage grant fund to provide financial assistance to building owners to undertake heritage enhancement work in Whanganui. Whanganui CBD has a high number of heritage buildings, and the fund has made a major positive change in the CBD. Economic Development: What's the future for Whanganui businesses? How will the new Whanganui & Partners model work for economic growth? We support Whanganui & Partners events funding at 2022 figures because events show social, economic (evidenced in market view data), and cultural well-being to the community. Town Center Regeneration: Will successful projects continue and how? With the funding focused on a new hotel. Inner City Living: We support growth in Inner-city Living in the CBD. How can we encourage more people to live downtown? We support developing Inner-city Living. And wonder if the revenue and financing policy/fees 2024/25 fees proposed increases for building and resource consents will be a barrier? Included in inner city living will need to be some thinking around residential car parking options. We support the concept of a 15-minute city. What is a '15-minute city'? The '15-minute' city concept – developed primarily to reduce carbon emissions by decreasing the use of cars and motorized commuting time – is a decentralized urban planning model, in which each neighborhoods contain all the basic social functions for living and working within a 15-minute walk, cycle or public transport ride. What's the point of it? Proponents of the concept argue that creating localized neighborhoods where residents can get everything, they require within 15 minutes will ultimately improve their quality of life. The concept requires multi-purpose neighborhoods instead of specific zones for working, living, and entertainment, reducing the need for unnecessary travel, strengthening a sense of community, and improving sustainability. How is it relevant to Whanganui? The concept has so far primarily gained traction with urban planners in larger international cities, such as Paris, Milan, and Bogota. And detractors could argue that Whanganui is perhaps by default already a 15-minute city on account of our size. Yet with our recent rapid growth, Whanganui is already dealing with issues relating to urban sprawl – such as bottlenecks on key parts of our transport infrastructure and a lack of adequate housing for our community. How does the concept relate to our town center? While our city is facing growing pains, Whanganui's town center is facing different challenges – with the rise of e-commerce and shopping malls (including those in Palmerston North), and the lingering impacts of Covid, people are often less inclined to shop locally. Yet within our town center, there is huge potential in the form of unused accommodation and housing spaces on the upper levels of buildings above retail spaces. We believe that moves to incentivize apartment living in our town center could have extremely positive impacts on our local economy and our city as a whole. Many of these outcomes would align closely with the 15-minute city concept. Potential benefits of increased inner-city living - More housing stock opened without using new space or contributing to sprawl - More people living within a short distance of their workplace and/or retail/service destinations, reducing stress on our transport infrastructure - A reduction in carbon emissions, with people living in our town center less likely to use motorized transport. - More consumers frequenting local

hospitality businesses and generally creating more of a vibrant atmosphere in our town center - A busier town center equals a vibrant local economy, leading to job creation - An incentive to future-proof heritage buildings, which further our reputation as a destination for tourism. What needs to be done to encourage more inner-city living? - We need to make it as easy and affordable as possible for building owners to meet earthquake-strengthening requirements. - We need to find compelling ways to incentivize building owners to convert unused spaces into housing/accommodation. -

We need to continue work to make our central city a well-connected, attractive space that is inviting for walkers, and cyclists and accessible for all community members. - We need to support the ongoing development of local businesses in our town center, especially those in the hospitality industry, who contribute to the vibrancy of the area. - We need to identify gaps in services and amenities that would contribute to our town center being a truly '15-minute city'.

Earthquake-prone buildings strengthening media release 18 April 2024 Hon Chris Penk, the government is bringing the earthquake-prone building review forward, with work to start immediately, and extending the deadline for remediations for four years. We support Central, Local Government, and Building Owners continuing to build collaboration on the issue. We support the Council system for managing earthquake-prone buildings and aim to strike a balance between protecting people from harm in an earthquake and managing the costs of strengthening or removing buildings and any impact on heritage. Key features of the act include: • clarifying the definition of an earthquake-prone building • establishing a national register of earthquake-prone buildings • categorizing New Zealand into three areas of high, medium, and low seismic risk • defining a new category of "priority buildings" in high and medium seismic areas and include accelerated identification and remediation time frames • providing for an opt-in extension of time to remediate our most important heritage buildings • providing for an opt-in exemption from the requirement to remediate for some buildings.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1366

Speaking

First name: David
Last name: Watson

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: I would prefer Option 3 and would be willing to pay \$5 per year for my library card to offset the increased cost. I would also support more ticketed or pay to attend events at local libraries (potentially out of hours if this would disrupt current services), cafes or other commercial opportunities within or associated with libraries, paid for services such as genealogical research or printing and a greater diversity of uses of library spaces for non-traditional purposes. If you do end up closing the library (or indeed any library) one day per week please consider using this space to run the previously proposed Youth Hub and/or as an alternative to the Youth Council.

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: I have never used the Whanganui East pool and I don't know how popular it is.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Given that the Opera House is likely to be closed for some time whilst repairs and upgrades take place it seems premature to be closing other venues. My preference would be to deliver Option 2 but retain the building in Council ownership until the completion of the Opera House works, then sell it.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Given the public specifically asked to retain the aviary in the Annual Plan there may be an opportunity for it to be transferred into community ownership. This would allow for the cost saving to Council provided by Option 1 and allow the continued operation of the aviary (presuming someone is willing to take it on). If nobody puts forward a workable plan for running the aviary within say six months then revert to Option 1 and close it.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the hanging flower baskets (add \$5 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Whanganui is a tourist and events destination and a large part of our initial external appeal is the main street, venues and market. Removing "nice to have" cultural or aesthetic elements from these areas is not a small loss but will affect the attractiveness and therefore economic prosperity of the city as a whole. I would put 'having a nice highstreet' in the same category as completing the Serjeant Gallery from this perspective. If you want to save money on the hanging baskets specifically there are alternative planting and maintenance arrangements such as using natives and drought resistant species, installing automated watering to reduce staff costs, etc. that could be implemented.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep New Zealand Glassworks in Council ownership (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: If the glassworks is successful enough that there is a willing buyer for it then it is successful enough that Council can operate it at minimal cost whilst also providing great benefits to the local economy by attracting tourists and increasing the mana of the city as a whole.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: There should be an onus on rural users to minimise their waste through at home composting, recycling and other waste reduction. Rural collections should be designed to encourage this, for example by excluding greenwaste from collections.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: I would also support more ticketed or pay to attend events at local libraries (potentially out of hours if this would disrupt current services), cafes or other commercial opportunities within or associated with libraries, paid for services such as genealogical research or printing and a greater diversity of uses of library spaces for non-traditional purposes.

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Currently the Winter Gardens are kind of dull and mostly used to get out of the rain. There are opportunities to make this space more attractive and varied with events or other activities that would make it worthwhile going there more than once.

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts: I have not been able to find much detail on the other services you are cutting without consultation so this is more generic opinion. I would expect that the reductions in vegetation and parks maintenance presume a traditional short mown monoculture lawns and pansies on roundabouts approach that I agree is a waste of money. However, the numerous benefits in terms of shading, amenity, biodiversity, etc. that trees in particular bring should be provided to the whole of our community, not just the more affluent streets. Planting natives and properly planning perennial vegetation structure can reduce long term maintenance (and therefore cost) and this should be the goal of the parks team. If this means short term expense to transition to this approach then I would be happy to pay for that. For example the planting at Rangiora St. I don't know much about the youth council specifically but I think that listening to and engaging with young people in democratic institutions is vital for a healthy democracy. I would expect that even without a formal youth council there would be a regular scheduled opportunity for young people to present their views to council as a special interest / reference group (more than just the generic right to attend public meetings).

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Some infrastructure improvements have the effect of reducing the impacts on other infrastructure. For example the more safe segregated cycleways we have the fewer vehicles will be on the roads and the road maintenance budget goes down. Another example would be in alternate provision, so the more swales, rain gardens, infiltration ponds etc. we have the less the impact on the hard stormwater infrastructure. I would strongly support a "Significant Increase" in this sort of preventative intervention but I would not support it for resealing roads.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: I am not comfortable with Council operating a for profit business. We do not need more car parking. We need fewer cars. Any money for a car park should instead be put into public transport or used to provide a separate high density parking facility close to Victoria Avenue with a simultaneous removal of parking spaces along that street.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 4 - Full upgrade, including front of house improvements (add \$74 per property per year for 20 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: The Opera House is one of the key features of the city and is the main reason anybody outside of New Zealand knows we exist. If you want international tourists we need this venue to shine. We also benefit hugely from international artists both economically and in terms of public profile. Good luck getting Bill Bailey et. al. to come here otherwise.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments: Publically funded building upgrades (both to Marae and elsewhere) should aim to reduce operational costs and carbon emissions as part of fighting climate change. This means when you replace a roof you include well above code insulation, when you replace a kitchen you remove natural gas and replace it with electric, same for heating and hot water. The aim here should be to minimise the long term cost of operating these buildings whilst improving their functionality.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSL as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: It is worth including commercial (cafe, surf shop) opportunities to reduce long term operational costs. I would be in favour of providing more than \$1m if this forms part of a wider regeneration of these beaches.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: I agree that we need a safer way to cross Taupo Quay, in particular on market days. I would expect that a pelican or zebra crossing would achieve this at much less cost. As an aside I also think we should put a zebra crossing at the current raised crossing close to Dublin St roundabout so that traffic has to give way to pedestrians rather than visa versa. I am not convinced that we need a more extravagant entrance to Pākaitore Reserve.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments: I am very much in favour of more separated cycle lanes and paths. Ideally this would form part of a connected network of safe cycling routes across the city.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which

Option 2: No assets are sold to repay debt (add \$23 per property to next year's proposed rates rise of 10.6% and \$43 per year thereafter)

assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: I am willing to be convinced in specific cases but in general I think it is a bad idea for Council to sell assets, especially land. Unless Council can guarantee that the land will never be needed, there is a suitable long term alternative and that the amount of money raised is worth any residual risks I would be against this.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: The Long-Term Plan starts off by stating that we are in hard economic times and we need to take tough decisions in the short term until things come right again. This is true. It then goes on to detail how we will permanently remove, sell or demolish services. This is nonsense. If we expect things to come right again we need to keep things going, not demolish them. The tough decision is to explain this to the community, put forwards a 15% rates rise, mothball things where we have to without permanently closing them and put effort into reducing our operational costs through efficiency savings and seeking additional income. This may need greater rates relief for some but that is preferable to losing important assets and harming the status of the city and by extension the local tourist economy. I am also somewhat disappointed in some of the choices being presented here and the phrasing of the cost statements. None of the proposals should have only two options, there is always an alternative. When stating \$X per year from what is proposed some choices appear as cost savings or greater expenses than they are. For example saying that keeping community grant funding is a \$100,000 saving when in fact it's just not spending any extra appears disingenuous. I am also very disappointed at the almost total lack of mention of climate change in the plan. The 2021 strategy mentioned on page 7 contains very little of substance and in many places indicates that the 2024 long term plan will clarify things and fix the tentative proposed emission reduction targets. It does not. There is also no budget allocated for solving any of the issues highlighted in the strategy document such as coastal erosion or flooding (outside of Putiki). This is not the action of a council responding to an emergency. At the very least council should be making it clear it will be moving away from fossil fuel use wherever practical and will be funding replacements and upgrades such as heat pumps wherever this will pay for itself over the long term. I

am hopeful that when this is debated Councillors keep a keen eye on the long term and remain optimistic about Whanganui and it's peoples willingness to pay for its ongoing vibrancy and prosperity.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 662

Speaking

First name: Pamela
Last name: Welch

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: In gonville we greatly regret the loss of the gonville swimming pool. The more activities available for children the better their spare time is occupied with ongoing benefits resulting from exercise, better use of time and less phone/screen use.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Why can't amdram be a shared theatre venue. More people involved must surely increase funds/earnings and support from members with maintenance.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Wanganui used to be known throughout the North Island (maybe also the South Island) for its beautiful hanging baskets in Victoria Ave. The idea was replicated very well in smaller towns I have seen and they remain proudly kept in other towns. Since the contract has be re let the baskets look shocking, and I have heard many comments along these lines. If we can't do better than has been the situation over several years, the town would look better kept without them.

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Maintain the community grant funding at its current level (save \$5.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts: Re Rubbish Collection - Our household have for many years been about 98% recyclers so prefer to remain responsible for collection/disposal of our regular very small once a month bag of true rubbish.

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: I would prefer any money available to be spent upgrading existing hotel buildings of heritage value which is a major draw card for visitors.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: We have to keep attracting local and international shows

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Perhaps local iwi could band together so money already received could be fairly utilised.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: A service providing for the safety and well-being of all.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Unnecessary (as perceived from my frequent use of facilities in this area).

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments: Endorse further public consultation re which assets could be dispensed with.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 327

Speaking

First name: **David**
Last name: **Wells**
Organisation: **Whanganui Rural Community Board Chair**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Would like investigation into including these sites for recycling pickup.

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: we are concerned the roading allocation is insufficient to maintain rural roads.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Rate payers should not be exposed to the financial risks of large specialized projects such as this.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments: Look for cost savings by including some of the work, with the Mowhanau waste water project.

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Discretion essential. Once sold difficult to get back,

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **2**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents Yes



DRAFT

30 April 2024

Whanganui Rural Community Board

Via email:

Whanganui Rural Community Board submission to the Whanganui District Council Long Term Plan 2024

The Whanganui Rural Community Board (the Board) is a statutory body responsible for representing and acting as an advocate for the interest of the rural community within Whanganui District.

The Board expresses the following concerns:

Road Funding Inequity:

- Many forestry blocks are not accessed by Council roads. Some are carbon forests; in other blocks, foresters use state highways. Simply increasing the roading rates does not address the inequity in forestry rates.
- The WRCB is concerned that the LTP budget allocation for roading is insufficient to maintain rural roads and cover rising costs.
- The WRCB believes there is insufficient buffer in proposed roading allocations to cover severe weather events.

Drop off Points for Rural Rubbish:

- The WRCB supports rate-funded drop off points for rural rubbish, per option one in the draft LTP. The board agrees that discontinuing this service would result in more fly tipping.
- The board would also like to suggest that Council research a rural recycling option.

Hotel:

- The WRCB prefers option 2; the board believes that Ratepayers should not be subjected to the financial risk of a project like this. We strongly support Council facilitating a third party to progress this project.

Asset Sales

- The WRCB supports Council effort to identify surplus land to offset debt; however, the board is concerned about losing valuable assets. Discretion is essential. Once an asset is sold, it is gone forever.

Rural Connectivity

- Our latest survey indicates digital connectivity is a significant issue in our rural communities, particularly with copper wire services ending. The WRCB understands that the Council digital strategy has been discontinued; but rural connectivity remains a focus area for us. The WRCB signals that it may approach Council for support for small projects that help in this regard.

William Birch Memorial Reserve

- Doing nothing is not an option. The WRCB would like to see the Whanganui District Council actively working with community groups on this project. The WDC must capitalise on community momentum and enthusiasm.

Rapanui Road Trail

- The WRCB supports this initiative. The board suggests Council integrate the Rapanui Road walkway with the work planned for the Mowhanau wastewater system. The board believes that there are significant cost savings by integrating these two projects.

Thank you for considering the WRCB submission.

Yours sincerely

David Wells
Chair
Whanganui Rural Community Board

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 660

Speaking

First name: **Mel**
Last name: **Wheeler**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the theatre for demolition (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Keep the aviary open (add \$10.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close New Zealand Glassworks (save \$10.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the drop off points for rural rubbish (save \$9.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Close Gonville Library completely (save \$12.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the Winter Gardens (save \$7.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Cut Community grant funding by 10 percent or \$110,000 (save \$11.20 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: At times of hardship we are all in the same boat, community funding is not an essential only serves as an extra burden, preventing essential council expenditure.

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: stop wasting rate payers money on STUPID things, such as useless road judder bars, (6 in Garton road within 150 meters, near traffic lights and roundabouts etc.

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Council should be concentrating on essential services first, ie, water, roads, footpaths, rubbish collection etc.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments: Again I feel the council is more concerned in catering for a small section of the community, and trying impress outsiders at our expense.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Again, Council needs to remember there appointed duties, to maintain the city and area for ALL the community, not just a selected few. If Council do there job properly, like, supply normal good services for all there is no need for extra money waisting.

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: A much smaller facility than the existing one is much wiser option considering the small amount of public use of our beaches in comparison to other areas .plus I believe is pretty lax in doing there own fundraising,i cant remember any.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: I believe our council has forgotten there duties to there ratepayers, and should be more concerned about doing things they are elected to do. Infrastructure is what we need, not toys like hotels, (that are always a risky business, or owning motels to supply a private pilot training company assistance, as well as many other bad decisions. And don't lose site of the fact that ratepayers are also being hit by Horizons fees, that were promised not to increase when they were first introduced.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 127

Speaking

First name: **Richard**
Last name: **White**
Organisation: **The Friends of The William Birch Reserve**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Don't know

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Council takes the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to outcome of detailed business case (Council's preferred option - this would add \$30 per property per year from 2025/26 through to 2038/39, after which the returns from the hotel and carpark will start to offset rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes

Date:

2nd May 2024

Project:

William Birch Reserve

Submitters:

'Friends of the William Birch Reserve'

Background:

The William Birch Reserve is the western gateway to Whanganui.

It is an amenity used and enjoyed by a large number of travellers, visitors and locals. It is an area of cultural and historical significance. It is taonga, gifted by the Birch family in 1930.

We, the Pākaraka community, Ngati Maika, and Whanganui District Council (WDC), have a responsibility and obligation to cherish and care for the Ototoka stream and the William Birch Reserve.

Concept Proposal:

The 'Friends of the William Birch Reserve' are extremely disappointed that WDC have decided not to support the application submitted by the Whanganui West Catchment Group (11 October 2023) to restore and improve the water quality of the Ototoka stream at the William Birch Reserve. The situation at the Reserve, in particular the state of the former swimming pool, is extremely dire. As disappointed as we are, we also appreciate WDC's current tight financial position.

In light of this, we propose that WDC vest the responsibility for maintaining the grounds, pool, and toilet at the Reserve to the 'Friends of the William Birch Reserve' (to be formed as an Incorporated entity).

In line with this approach, we have had discussions with the following people:

1. [REDACTED] informs us that there is a budgeted amount of \$9,000 per annum, allocated for grounds maintenance work at the Reserve. Sarah also informs us that this year the spend to date has been \$11,960 (all figures excluding GST).
2. [REDACTED]: Discussed the workings of the pool cleanout and ongoing maintenance. His key comments in regards to the environmental benefits of cleaning out the pool:
 - i. Sediment fills all the gaps under and between rocks and woody debris that koura need for habitat. As the waterfall is a significant barrier to native fish migration, koura are a keystone species in the Ototoka, acting as the garbage cleaners of the stream.
 - ii. Sediment carries phosphorous, which when settles in an anaerobic environment is released into the waterway leading to deterioration in water quality (this can drive algal growth).
 - iii. Sediment particles absorb warmth from the sun and increase water temperature, resulting in decreased dissolved oxygen.
 - iv. Sediment loads in waterways also result in further instream erosion and instability of streambanks, causing stream channels to become wider and shallower.
3. [REDACTED] is a specialist in the design and workings of bunds, silt traps, and removal of sediment build up. [REDACTED] has stated he can "also assist with developing a monitoring programme including advice on equipment and sampling protocols."

Financial Case:

We propose an annual grant of \$18,000 to the 'Friends of the William Birch Reserve'.

This would be made up of \$15,000 for grounds and toilet maintenance and \$3,000 for pool maintenance. The pool maintenance costs are two 6-monthly cleans by Holland Underground (\$1,440 p.a. and manual labour costs estimated 16hrs p.a.). All figures exclude GST.

We are mindful of the negotiating power the WDC will have over an individual group thus an increase on current costs.

The former submission by the Whanganui West Catchment Group calculated \$80,000 required to clean out the silt from the pool and establish a track to provide access for vehicles and equipment.

How have we reduced this cost so significantly? Simply, by engaging with our local community.

The community have provided key knowledge about the history of the pool structure and the surrounding reserve, along with offers of resources and time.

1. The vehicle access track has an established hard layer of metal. Removing the grass grown over the track will provide a solid surface for vehicles. A local farmer has donated his time and digger to do this work (verified by local contractor, Darren Luff).
2. The water bypass pipe for the pool has been identified and cleared (this was part of the original design to allow the stream to bypass the pool so the water in the pool could 'warm up' for swimming). This allows cheaper methods to clean out the pool as there will be no, or little, silt entering the waterway when it is being cleaned. A local business has offered, at no cost, to clean out the bypass pipe.
3. Local business people and farmers have offered to donate their time, a digger, and trucks to remove the silt.
4. The local community has offered to provide time and labour to manually clear silt away from the sides of the pool to ensure it is not damaged during the clean out phase.

Ongoing annual maintenance is key to ensuring the Reserve will not go back into decline. We have had the following offers:

1. Holland Underground have generously contacted us and offered their services to assist in maintenance work with their equipment. They have quoted an annual budget of approximately \$1,440 plus GST per annum to clean the silt from a silt trap and deliver it to a dump site.
2. North Whanganui Rotary Club to restore the walking track.

Viability

We have already demonstrated our ability to get things done, both practically and financially:

1. In 2011, WDC replaced the toilet facility. The quote to WDC to do this work was approximately \$100,000. Members of our group sourced the facility for \$15,000.
2. Promoting the Reserve through our Facebook page inspired Comvita to donate their 'Community Volunteer Day' to tidy up the walkways and remove fallen trees. This work was carried out in April and has greatly enhanced the area.

Summary

Ngati Maika, the Pākaraka community and wider Whanganui community strongly desire to improve the water quality of the Ototoke stream and to have the William Birch Reserve restored, and maintained, to its former beauty. This is evidenced by their generosity, already given and offered into the future; the tremendous support we have from the results of a recently started petition already signed by 113 people <https://www.change.org/p/mandate-whanganui-district-council-to-include-william-birch-pool-maintenance-in-the-long-term-plan/c/849679836>; and the support of the descendants of the Birch family who are the original donors and instigators of the pool and Reserve.

Please support the 'Friends of the William Birch Reserve' by vesting them the responsibility for care and upkeep of the Reserve and providing an annual grant of \$18,000 (GST excl) to complete this work.

Support

This submission is supported by:

1. Ngati Maika
2. Whanganui West Catchment Group
3. Whanganui Catchment Collective

(Supporting documentation attached)

'Friends of the William Birch Reserve' members: Ray Hina (Ngati Maika), Ike Katene (Ngati Ruaiti), Richard White, Hamish Reid, William Reid, Kate Lynch

Storm Hope

From: Ray Hina <rayhinalbt@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, 2 May 2024 2:59 pm
To: Storm Hope
Subject: Fwd: William Birch Reserve

"The William Birch Reserve has long been part of Ngati Maika's tikanga and with the close proximity to the Pakaraka Marae, it holds a long-standing cultural connection. The whole Reserve has played a big part in the lives of many generations, some of whom helped with the construction of the swimming pool.

It is a special taonga for Ngati Maika and to see the pool be allowed to deteriorate to such a state, is a real disappointment for our Iwi. Water sustains life. Improving and maintaining the water quality of the Ototoke stream is critical for our, and all people's, wellbeing.

We are strong on partnerships and through our involvement with the Friends of the William Birch Reserve, we share a common connection to this very special part of our environment. "

Ray Hina



Kaumatu Ngati Maika



2nd May 2024

Whanganui District Council
101 Guyton Street
Whanganui 4500

Dear Whanganui District Council,

The Whanganui Region Catchment Collective alongside the Whanganui West Catchment Group support the Friends of William Birch Reserve in this submission, as part of our continual commitment to improve water quality throughout the entire Whanganui Region. We are committed to working alongside the landowners within the Ototoke Catchment, by way of continued water monitoring, helping access experts to provide education to our local landowners and provide workshops, identifying risks to the health of the Ototoke Stream and looking at possible mitigations that could be put in place. We will also help our landowners identify possible funding sources for these mitigations.

The William Birch Reserve is of great historical and cultural value to the local community and it is a key part of the overall quality of the water for this catchment and its community.

Warm regards,

Tarsh de Rose
Lower Catchment Coordinator
Whanganui Region Catchment Collective.

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 157

Speaking

First name: Kevin
Last name: Wilkie

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: It is a Heritage building and needs to be retained.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: This is a major drawcard for visitors to Whanganui and needs to be retained. Look to establish an artists/community trust for ownership model.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Council needs to support the creation of a Digital Twin by a Whanganui not for profit community organisation using free to air software tools such as QGIS and Unreal Engine. This Digital Twin needs to be for, as a minimum, the areas that have LiDar datasets. Digital Twins are an excellent tool for undertaking public consultations for projects. Instead of paying consultants/staff resources to do the consultations required for Council projects/initiatives community groups with an interest in the project/initiative could be funded to undertake the task from the project/initiative's budget using the Digital Twin thus providing them with an income source additional to the community grant funding scheme for their areas of interest.

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Establish a CBD development short term loan fund [using the same model which was used for Asheville in North Carolina] to enable the upgrading of existing CBD property assets to mixed shop/office/residential use thus expanding the rates income to Council.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Construct new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa (This is Council's preferred option, and would cost \$6 per property per year for 10 years from 2029/30)

Submitter Comments: In the 2024/25 year install some extra catchpits/drains to enable level crossing to be established now which can be defined with paint i.e. kerb and channeling to be removed over area of level crossing. Introduce reduced speed zone from Market Place to Bates Rd and control with fixed speed cameras.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets.

Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 296

Speaking

First name: Nicola
Last name: Williams

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 4 - Full upgrade, including front of house improvements (add \$74 per property per year for 20 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLS as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: All along Taupo Quay to the north of Victoria Avenue there is a need to cross the Road. The River markets is a prime example. To accomodate this need would require 2 if not 3 overbridges. The most effective way to keep pedestrians safe and mitigate risk is to install a number of pedestrian refuges in the middel of the road and also implement traffic slowing barriers and road bumps.

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **3**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents Yes

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 295

Speaking

First name: Nicola
Last name: Williams
Organisation: Sarjeant Gallery Trust Chairman

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

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Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

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Submitter Comments:

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

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Submitter Comments:

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Submitter Comments:

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Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

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Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?**Service Cuts**

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents

Yes



The Sarjeant Gallery Trust | P.O. Box 998 Whanganui 4540

Sarjeant Gallery Te Whare O Rehua Whanganui

1 May 2024

Dear Councillors

The Sarjeant Gallery Trust strongly urges the Council to retain the funding on the Sarjeant Gallery operational budget in the current Long Term Plan. While we acknowledge the pressures the council is facing, decreasing the budget at this time will seriously disadvantage our ability to realise the benefits which underly the entire strengthening and development project.

All sources of funding, whether from government, our community or donors were sourced based on these benefits.

The time to reduce the current operational budget is not now, when we have so much ahead of us after years of emphasis on fundraising, the time to look at the necessary operational budget will be more valuable once we are well established in the new building.

Not only will the move from the small temporary premise to a considerably larger building be complex, it is inevitable that challenges in the settling in process will arise.

Adequate operational funding from Council will enable successful delivery of the programmes and visitor experience for the public taking part in gallery activities in the years ahead.

Additionally, as you will know from the Economic Impact Report (<https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/4/reports/sarjeant-gallery-redevelopment-investment-assessment.pdf>), the Sarjeant redevelopment is set to become a key economic driver of the region.

As such, it needs to be properly resourced at an operational level. This will give the public and supporters confidence, and enable the Sarjeant Gallery Trust to deliver on its Memorandum of understanding with the Council and continue to successfully raise money for the Endowment Fund. This fund is essential to cover all those essential costs that are not included in the operational budget, being education programmes, internships, art acquisitions, restoration work of art, and travelling exhibitions.

Additionally, the reopening will need the resources to ensure this huge opportunity for Whanganui is showcased within Aotearoa New Zealand and internationally. There is an expectation that the Reopening will be one that will create great interest and be a unique opportunity for Whanganui to really put itself before not only the New Zealand visitor industry but indeed international visitors as well. This is a once in a life time opportunity to really showcase Whanganui and put it firmly on the visitor destination map.

It is an opportunity to impress visitors to the Reopening to the extent that they continue to be our advocates, returning regularly and encouraging others to visit.

For a decade ratepayers, taxpayers and generous benefactors from throughout Aotearoa have stood by the Redevelopment Project and they need to be honoured and given a memorable experience. It must be noted that not only \$17 million of ratepayers money has gone into this, NZ taxpayers have invested around \$40 million and private benefactors and charitable trusts in excess of \$10 million.

The budget for this needs to be at an appropriate level which ensures our guests feel welcome, and their support and generosity recognised. And the events need to be of a level that puts Whanganui in the right light ie of a city being able to perform and deliver at a high standard of excellence and celebrate its creative community at the same time.

The Sarjeant trustees will stand behind and support this event using all our networks and influence to do so. Given the Council can fund the event manager and provide a reasonable budget to deliver the essential experience, we can access funding from the private and business sector to really put the icing on the top and make this a remarkable event that gets national and international media coverage.

We urge Councillors not to waste the opportunity here. Too much is at stake. Despite the current fiscal constraints let us envision the medium to long term significant economic benefits that this occasion can bring to Whanganui. If we all can summon the courage to stage an unforgettable event, we will set the media abuzz and mobilise visitors to come surging in, not just once but returning again and again.

Yours sincerely

Nicola J Williams MNZM MBA

Chairman, Sarjeant Gallery Trust

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Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 610

Speaking

First name: Ellen
Last name: Young

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Assets like this are bigger than an economic proposition. In a society where community connection is disappearing and kids aren't getting enough physical time away from devices this is an incredibly intrinsically valuable asset. It needs to be retained to ensure continued community health. The whanganui east pool is a very different pool from the splash centre, it is much more pleasant as it is outside and it provides kids in Whanganui east with a healthy activity close to home. The charm of the pools needs to be valued, Whanganui's character is embedded in its older assets and getting rid of them removes uniqueness.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the permanent stabilisation of the retaining bank required so the building can be sold (add \$0.60 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Retaining these buildings means retaining Whanganui's point of difference. So an effort to keep it standing is warranted but council can't do it all.

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: The aviary is not a key community asset, it is small and pretty grubby and unpleasant. We have other more important things to preserve that are directly related to our identity.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: The hanging baskets should be retained but planted with succulents. There are a few already planted this way and they require little upkeep as they are very hard wearing. They actually

look better than flowers as they have a more interesting and unique character. Be creative in your solutions!

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: This is an important establishment that contributes hugely to our reputation as an arts capital and Unesco city of design. It must be retained in some form.

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close Gonville Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (save \$1 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: I think often community run projects and services give us more bang for buck and better outcomes. The community know what they need and have the networks to deliver in a unique and locally relevant way. Council often limits possibilities where as Community

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: Council should not run a hotel. The way in which council has run the Opera house and other assets makes it clear they should not be in this business. They do not understand their key clientele and business stakeholders.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3 - Build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system (Council's preferred option - add \$38 per property per year for 20 years from 2026/27)

Submitter Comments: The way in which the Opera house has been managed in recent years is abysmal. I have been to a number of shows at the Opera house and the technicians that are being Brought in from Palmerston North did a terrible job of sound and lighting, so much so that we couldn't hear half of 2-3 shows. This is disappointing for the groups hiring the venue, the people involved in the show and the audience. It doesn't encourage usage to increase. Whanganui has many talented and capable musicians, creators and technicians that could do a better job but the council is terrible at networking or valuing the expertise in their own city. Even though procurement policies require a preference of local providers the council shoots themselves in the foot by preferring outsiders to do these jobs, paying more and getting worse outcomes. The fees involved with the Opera house are now prohibitive for many valuable touring acts. The services provided to those hiring the Opera house are not professional. There has also been a lack of appreciation of local cultural contributors and volunteers, who are the backbone of a healthy community. The Opera house is iconic and beautiful, the experience of going there is unique and awe inspiring. The fact that our communities kids can grow up seeing shows and being in shows in such a magical building is significant - I wish the council staff interacted with that side of our community more.

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSLs as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments: We are a coastal city and having a functioning surf life saving club is of paramount importance. Having said that council should enquire with the surf club in Whanganui about whether they are taking full advantage of surf life saving nz 's funding. Castlecliff life saving club needs more resources for sure

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:**Rapanui Road Trail**

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do nothing and focus on road safety improvements to benefit all users (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: This is very hard to answer given we don't know what assets the 16 million is made up of.

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer?
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

3

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: I feel there are some fantastic staff at the Council in Whanganui but there is also a culture that doesn't value the key character of Whanganui and the communities identity and skill set.

Some of the decisions pushed for/shut down by staff show their lack of ability to look at things holistically and understand the intrinsic nature of value in things. I would like to see more support for local peoples expertise when it comes to council projects and operations. A more regenerative and collaborative, grassroots effort to evolve this place, rather than risk averse and limiting. Staff need to upskill and understand that they are literally shaping reality in our town. I highly recommend that council gets staff to participate in the Regenerative Practice courses run by the Regenesi Institute. This course would help staff understand the potential, meaning and regenerative potential that their role as a civil servant provides to them and their community. Upgrading their mindsets upgrades our town and its capability.

Supporting documents

No

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 1113

Speaking

First name: **Catriona**
Last name: **Yule**

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close Davis Library for one day during the week, i.e. a Monday (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments: Invest more into the splash centre. Funding for outdoor pools.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Invest in the stabilisation of the retaining bank, demolish the existing building and build a new theatre (add \$10 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Something else (state below)

Submitter Comments: Invest in Virginia Lake Aviary and surrounding area. Cafe needs updating. Make the lake a lovely family area.

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Close the drop off points for rural rubbish (save \$9.50 per property per year)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are (this is our preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments**Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters**

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future (This is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Seek an operator to develop a hotel and carpark for Whanganui (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments: We do not a large car parking building. We need accessible (for elderly) car parking, ground level like farmers.

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Do nothing – leave stagehouse as it is with scaffolding and restricted level of operation (add \$3 per property per year for three years)

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Do not provide grant funding for Marae upgrades beyond 2027 when the central government funding ends (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Funding of \$1 million to WSL as contribution to this project (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$7 per property per year for 10 years from 2027/28)

Submitter Comments:

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 – No changes to existing road layout in this location (no impact on rates)

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments:

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt - noting we would return to community with specifics on which assets could be sold (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **4**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments:

Supporting documents **No**

Long-Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission # 110

Speaking

First name: Peter
Last name: Zolno

Consultation Question	Submitter Feedback
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Proposed Service Cuts

Davis Library

Our preferred option is to close Davis Library for one during the week i.e. a Monday. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Keep the Davis Library days and hours as they are (add \$2.30 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: this is less than 10¢ a day. do it

Whanganui East Pool

Our preferred option is to close the Whanganui East Pool and complete a feasibility study for outdoor swimming in Whanganui. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2: Invest in the Whanganui East Pool upgrade and continue to operate the pool (add \$22.40 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: If this helps kids stay busy and happy, I'll pay for it, even if I don't ever use it.

Repertory Theatre

Our preferred option is to close the theatre for demolition. Which option do you prefer?

Option 3: Invest in the stabilisation of the retaining bank, demolish the existing building and build a new theatre (add \$10 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Whanganui is known as an 'artists' community. Closing down one of its best small theatres dings into that flailing reputation severely, hurting tourism and general sense of possibilities and hope for kids. \$10 is so cheap! Let's go!

Rotokawau/Virginia Lake Aviary

Our preferred option is to close the aviary. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Close the aviary (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Mainstreet hanging flower baskets

Our preferred option is to remove the hanging flower baskets. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Remove the hanging flower baskets (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

New Zealand Glassworks

Our preferred option is to keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep New Zealand Glassworks, but seek a buyer (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Drop off points for rural rubbish

Our preferred option is to keep the drop off points for rural rubbish. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Keep the drop off points for rural rubbish (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Gonville Library

Our preferred option is to keep Gonville Library days and hours as they are. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Winter Gardens

Our preferred option is not to close the Winter Gardens. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Do not close the Winter Gardens (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Level of Community Grant Funding

Our preferred option is to increase the community grant funding by \$100,000. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1: Increase the community grant funding by \$100,000 (this is Council's preferred option and is included in the proposed 10.6% rates rise)

Submitter Comments:

Further comments on service cuts:

Proposed Future Investments

Funding of core infrastructure – roading, footpaths & three waters

Our preferred option is to increase funding for our core infrastructure to get us to a reasonable state in the future. Which option do you prefer?

Option 2 - Significant increase of funding to bring our core infrastructure up to a reasonable state sooner (add \$56 per property per year)

Submitter Comments: Want to become the next Wellington, with sewage in the streets? Then definitely go cheap on infrastructure! (Sarcasm)

Hotel and Car Park

Our preferred option is for Council to take the lead with the development of a hotel and carpark, subject to the outcome of a detailed business case. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Royal Whanganui Opera House

Don't know

Our preferred option is to build a new stagehouse and implement a new fly system. Which option do you prefer?

Submitter Comments:

Marae Development

Our preferred option is to provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 - Provide grant funding of \$3.5 million over the seven years (2028 to 2034) for Marae upgrades (This is Council's preferred option and would cost \$27 per property per year from 2028-2034)

Submitter Comments:

Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service

Our preferred option is to provide funding of \$1 million to Whanganui Surf Lifesaving Service as a contribution to its facility rebuild project. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: Beaches are unsafe because of people driving on them, many of them dangerously. It's insane. Address that.

Pākaitore Reserve Paving and Crossing

Our preferred option is to construct a new raised pavement crossing between Pākaitore and the awa. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments:

Rapanui Road Trail

Our preferred option is to provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1 – Provide full funding for this project at \$2.4 million, provided that a feasibility study is conducted (this is Council's preferred option and would add \$12.50 per property per year for 15 years from 2032/33)

Submitter Comments: Making Whanganui more attractive to anything other than more loud, polluting cars sounds good to me. Adds value to mental health and properties

Asset Sales

We have the opportunity to sell some of our assets which could then be used to repay debt and off-set rates. We want to understand how comfortable you are with selling assets. Our preferred option is to sell \$16 million worth of assets to repay debt – noting that we would return to the community with specifics on which assets could be sold. Which option do you prefer?

Don't know

Submitter Comments: need more info

How would you strike the balance?

Service Cuts

Based on the proposed rates rise for next year, and on the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to reduce and close more services to get the rates lower and 5 being to keep more services open but see a higher rates rise)

Long-term investment

On the sliding scale, what would you prefer? **5**
(Rating scale of 1-5 with 1 being to make the lowest possible investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects and 5 being to increase investment in our core infrastructure and long-term projects to future-proof Whanganui)

Final comments or questions on the Long-Term Plan 2024-34

Submitter Comments: Listening to short term thinkers only suits to damn everyone in the short, medium, and long term. Investing in mental health now and long term sustainability is the only option that will make sense with 2035 (and beyond) hindsight.

Supporting documents

No

