

## Megan Geng

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**From:** Kirsten Wilson <kirsten@outlandish.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 June 2017 8:55 p.m.  
**To:** Megan Geng  
**Subject:** Re: Late submission? - Growth Management Strategy Review

yes please do consider this a 'late submission'

I have made a few typo corrections and added some clarification to the original text.

I recently read the feedback on the growth management strategy that was sent out by Megan on 29th May. I really regret not getting around to providing my input especially when I read in the newspaper how much support there is for rural lifestyle living in the likes of Hadlow. As you'll know this kind of development is really inefficient for Councils and crap for communities and a waste of productive land. The world stage illustrates that the tighter the city, the better it is.

I know I've well and truly missed the deadline for feedback but I hope my opinion here can count for something.

NZer's have a culture of wanting their own slice of land and they think that the bigger the better, especially if you can't see, smell or hear your neighbours then life will be bliss. Who will tell them any differently? Only people who can see the bigger picture and have observed examples from around the world can see that this isn't the answer to blissful living. I grew up on a 5hectare lifestyle block 15min from a local township, but my opinion was changed when I studied Landscape Architecture. Initially I was aghast and somewhat confronted, even offended that my tutors considered lifestyle living a wasteful inefficient way to live. However in time, I learned they were right. I can now see a bigger picture and value different qualities in the community that we live. I believe that everybody should at least have this opportunity to learn about a better way to build a city.

If the Council can somehow promote or educate or illustrate that the closer you live to the centre, the better you'll be then we might have a chance at reducing the demand for rural lifestyle properties. No other business or organisation is doing this and someone's got to do it otherwise we'll all end up spread out across the land like marmite.

The other point I want to make is the population forecasts in the strategy seemed to be focused on quantities of people and houses. Does the strategy take into account the ethnicities of the future population? I think a significant proportion of our current and future populations are people from overseas - who will be much more open to central living instead of rural - in fact they might need to live centrally if they don't have driver licenses and vehicles.

I'll bet that most (if not all) of your respondents are middle class white people. Yet more and more people that I come into contact lately are not of this demographic. Off the top of my head I can think of the following young people I've met through antenatal classes and young people who have purchased my old junk off trademe as they set up their new homes here. Indian x 3, a Fijian-indian, Tongan, SouthAfrican, Filipino x 3, Madagascan, Japanese, Black African, Mexican, Venezuelan, Scottish, Irish, German, British, Swiss. All of these people will be in their 40s and 50s in 30 years time.

If you have been watching What Next on TVOne? last night you will have heard that this young generation of multicultural mix will make up more than 50% of our total population in 30years time. They'll be the working force supporting the economy while most white people are in the retired age bracket. It will be quite a different looking community to what it is now. Change is happening more rapidly than ever before.

My point is, we need to make sure our city is suitable for this crazy mix of cultures too... and I'm afraid that the feedback you've received so far may not represent this wider demographic very well.

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