

Submission theme	Relevant unit/s	Officer comment	Officer recommendation to amend draft LTP
<p>The CityTown programme should have proceeded as per the last LTP; the reduced level of funding in this LTP will not be sufficient to regenerate the CBD and enable associated economic benefits and vibrant communities</p>	<p>CityTown</p>	<p>It is correct that the reduced level of funding for the CityTown programme in the present LTP is insufficient to undertake a meaningful programme of renewals and upgrades aligned with the CityTown Strategic Framework. Operational budgets are also insufficient to address stakeholder feedback seeking a higher level of interim maintenance and beautification.</p> <p>We are still completing the CityTown Master Plan and the Caroline Bay Master Plan with final stakeholder and community consultation scheduled for June 10 – 19. The plan will outline what Council can/will do as and when funding becomes available and will be presented for endorsement by the Infrastructure Committee on 30 July 2024 (no specific financial commitment).</p> <p>Affordability is an issue across the entire capital programme, elected members will need to comment on why this project was deprioritised while others were retained.</p>	<p>Final LTP to provide transparency for the community around the decision making process/reasons why funding in the Draft Long Term Plan for projects had funding committed or reduced.</p>

<p>Council should play a role in improving the CBD</p> <p>The Master Plan will be an important part of regenerating the CBD; Council should implement it, and resource it adequately</p>	CityTown	<p>Council remains responsible for its own assets within the city centre. Basic renewals work can still proceed on a like for like basis without further budget allocation, subject to dependencies with other asset owners (eg utilities). At present there is \$1.5m sitting in the draft budget of which \$500k is to be used for tile resurfacing and \$1m remains for capex projects aligned with CityTown. The project team is recommendation that this money be purposed to undertake an affordable upgrade to Strathallan Corner in line with the evolving Master Plan, and in line with the separate Property Unit project to replace the public toilets with a smaller and more attractive, functional block in a corner location of the site.</p> <p>The Master Plan remains a critical tool in the regeneration of the city centre as it will guide strategic ratepayer investment as and when council units renew infrastructure elements, and will highlight the processes, plans and policies that facilitate urban regeneration led by the community and private sector. The Plan will also provide guidance for private investors looking to anticipate the direction that city centre development will take over the coming years.</p>	<p>As above, updated LTP should provide elected members' reasons for reduction in scope/scale relative to other projects still proceeding as applicable. It could also be revised to make explicit reference to the role of the Master Plan as a framework for investment in future renewals and upgrades within the city centre.</p>
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Stafford Street is increasingly derelict and the buildings are not earthquake-safe

A laneway should be created with cafes and retail opportunities, ideally by demolishing 123 Stafford Street

More entertainment options should be available, e.g. a bowling alley

Stafford Street should become one-way or car-free

Free public WiFi in the CBD

Council has also commissioned and will soon be in a position to distribute its private sector guide to residential development in the city centre which will leverage insights from our building/business owner Development and Investment Group, and from our former Earthquake Prone Buildings Liaison Officer. We anticipate that this guide will also include recommendations for Council to better support private development and activities and a report with costed response options will be prepared for Council's consideration in due course.

Specific recommendations (eg laneway proposal, additional commercial activities such as bowling alley, Stafford St to become one way or car free, free public wifi in the city centre) have been forwarded as relevant feedback to the designers working on the draft Master Plan (to note, they are reasonably well aligned with ideas already in the draft).

<p>Council should have budget for grants to community groups seeking to protect our native environment</p>	<p>Biodiversity Fund – see Environmental Services Comment: district Planning Administration response</p>	<p>This fund is administered via District Planning’s Biodiversity Fund. The fund has been reduced from \$100k to \$50k in this LTP.</p> <p>Currently 1/3 of this fund is contestable funding, from which these activities are funded.</p>	<p>The council may wish to consider retaining the previous quantum of available funding which has been \$100 000 per annum, rather than reducing it to \$50 000 to ensure ongoing investment for the protection and sustainability of biodiversity in our District.</p>
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<p>Council should provide more community housing, and upgrade the existing stock</p>	<p>Council Housing</p>	<p>Over the last year Council has been actively updating the housing stock. The portfolio is managed on a self-funding basis as per Council direction. We allocate funds after all other expenses have been noted.</p> <p>Work has been carried out reroofing Huffey Street flats in Geraldine. We have upgraded and tenanted numerous flats in Pleasant Point, Timaru and Temuka. We have recently completed a full makeover of two flats in Geraldine which have since been leased out.</p> <p>We have been upgrading three sets of bedsit flats since January 2024 to convert to small one bed flats. Work is due to be completed by June 2024 and the flats available for rental.</p> <p>Council requested a 17A Review of how Council manages this service for the community. A local authority must review the cost-effectiveness of current arrangements for meeting the needs of communities within its district or region for good quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions. This 17A for council housing will look at the above as per Local Government Act 2002 requirement to do a review every 6 years.</p>	
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<p>Upgrade/ modify public toilets</p> <p>Public toilets in Temuka require more cubicles and the doors should swing outwards</p> <p>The majority of CBay toilets require upgrading or replacement</p>	<p>Public Toilets</p>	<p>We have a rolling maintenance plan for all toilets across the district and will make note of this request. Whilst we may not be able to introduce more cubicles because of the nature of the site we can look at changing the access to swing outwards.</p> <p>CBay toilets form part of the maintenance plan for swimming pools in the recreation department. This comment will be noted in the maintenance plans going forward.</p>	
<p>The new Gleniti cemetery is “poorly located”</p>	<p>Cemeteries</p>	<p>It is important that the new site services the Timaru Community and is close to the urban area. The land required needs to be sufficient for the long term. 23 sites were considered, and all others were either unavailable or unsuitable.</p>	
<p>Council should develop a road within Geraldine Cemetery to ensure access is maintained for contractors and visitors during winter.</p>	<p>Cemeteries</p>	<p>This is a practical solution but there is currently no funding provision in the Draft Long Term Plan to implement this.</p>	
<p>I see you have to confirm a site for a new cemetery but there's no money set aside for this in the projects list for the next 10 years. Where is the money coming from for this project?</p>	<p>Cemeteries</p>	<p>There is funding allocated to this project in year 3 of the Draft Long Term Plan.</p>	

<p>Council Housing should be reviewed to determine if they are suitable for the needs of the community</p>	<p>Council Housing</p>	<p>Council requested a 17A review of the Council Housing stock. The review is underway. A local authority must review the cost-effectiveness of current arrangements for meeting the needs of communities within its district or region for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions. This is required as part of the Local Government Act 2002. A review of this nature should occur every 6 years.</p>	
<p>Timaru township should have street trams and communal electric vehicles for public use</p>	<p>Roading and Footpaths and CityTown</p>	<p>A tram network would be a significant cost to ratepayers both to construct and operate. Timaru has a innovative public transport system, MyWay that provides a flexible and convenient public transport service. MyWay is an on demand, point to point service within the Timaru urban area.</p>	
<p>Build new toilet blocks at the Piazza and CPlay</p>	<p>Public Toilets</p>	<p>There are public toilets available down in the CBay area in three locations. One set near the bird aviary, one set down near the beach camping ground area and another set down at the beach at the end of the long walkway from the Piazza to the beach. There is no plan at this stage to install further public toilets in this area.</p> <p>We are investigating the reopening of a toilet near the CPlay area in an old block that is not currently utilised.</p>	

		<p>If we use the detailed submission from Dr P. Driver as a useful reference for responding on the issue identified, it reminds Council of its published climate-related commitments and draws on his experience as contracted facilitator of a TDC public engagement process 'Action on Climate Change' begun in 2022. He has documented this in two detailed written reports presented to Environmental Services Committee in 2023. He was assisted by an Advisory Group of volunteers, drawn from a varied background. Their focus was District-wide impacts of and responses to climate warming in future years. In addition, he refers to the statistically likely risk of a large magnitude Alpine Fault earthquake. A need to increase community resilience, as a theme, links both observations.</p> <p>This District-wide work was paused in the 2023-24 financial year during a period of Council-wide reduced expenditure on consultancy. Council has focused subsequent activity in-house, adopting a Climate Change Response Policy in February 2024. The submission expresses concern at subsequent loss of focus on District-wide impacts, at a perceived lack of urgency, and argues that an opportunity for community leadership is being lost.</p>	<p>1. Council could consider restoring the Climate and Sustainability annual budget to \$360,000 (plus an inflation adjustment) and recruit a second Climate Change Advisor from July 2024. Ask managers to divide that team of two's work time allocation equally between:</p> <p>internal issues for Council (e.g. risk mapping, carbon inventory, emissions reduction and energy efficiency, assisting future infrastructure and building design adaption, protecting landfill sites), and</p>
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Council should invest in the district's climate change resiliency and support residents and businesses to adapt to the changing climate.

Climate Change

Dr Driver and the Climate Change Advisory Group's proposal to find or create an independent advisory body to assist the Council, perhaps managed as a Trust, was declined by Environmental Services Committee in November 2023 who suggested re-consideration within this LTP process.

Meanwhile the strong consensus of the international science community is that climate change is accelerating (see examples in part 2 of Dr Driver's submission). Global ocean and air temperatures have reached record highs in 2024. Torrential rain floods hit several regions of NZ in 2023 incurring high public and private expense, and insurers are beginning to withdraw cover from most-vulnerable locations.

externally-focussed work for Ratepayers and community, to include: public education on adaptation and mitigation by households and small businesses, support for coastal communities facing inundation and erosion, biodiversity aspects of 'working with nature' on managing coastal change and influencing design of future urban development areas (FDAs) in river valleys.

And

Climate change impacts have been identified as increased risk significance for the Council (TDC Audit and Risk Committee, March 2024) and are the top identified strategic risk for TDC: “the risk that adaptation and mitigation actions may not be adequate to respond, absorb and/or reduce impacts of climate change.” The second major strategic risk is recorded as “extreme weather events or earthquakes.”

There will be a climate response dimension within TDC Infrastructure repairs and renewals budget, to better adapt to changing weather impacts on roads, bridges, pipes, etc.

However, since the 2021 LTP decision (made by Council from a choice of three options: see Page 14, adopted LTP 2021) to ‘do more’ using an annual budget of \$360,000 for ‘climate change and sustainability’ the actual spend has been smaller than budgeted: \$38,241 in 2021-22, \$247,776 in 2022-23, and \$118,783 to end March 2024 (for 3/4 of the current financial year).

2. Advance and enable an independent advisory body capable of taking a long-term, science-informed view of necessary adaptation to climate change in South Canterbury, which could help to inform decisions of this Council and perhaps neighbouring councils. Recognise that funding for its operation would be required from varied sources including making the business case to seek a grant from the TDC.

Council could resolve to accept one, both or none of these recommendations.

		<p>The limited availability of climate change expertise constrains optimal delivery of the activity, possibly below the community expectations of the 2021 LTP consultation. The annual budget currently proposed for this work area for 2024-25 onwards is now smaller again, at \$203,819</p> <p>There is no additional allocation currently to help fund an external advisory body responding to needs of the wider community. The submission urges Councillors to reconsider this.</p>	
<p>Council should recognise the adverse effects of climate change on historic heritage and implement measures to prevent further degradation wherever possible</p>	<p>Climate Change</p>	<p>Most relevant to cultural and archaeological sites in coastal locations facing inundation or erosion; and to historic buildings in flood-vulnerable river valleys.</p>	

<p>The district's infrastructure is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, and requires investment as a priority to mitigate the impacts</p>	<p>Climate Change</p>	<p>Risk mapping may assist planning, e. g. for identification of lifeline exit/access roads (for use in event of threats from natural hazards) and key water infrastructure will assist prioritisation of public investment.</p> <p>For example, the Land Transport Unit has introduced a new system to categorise lifeline infrastructure across the District. This assists with prioritisation of works during emergencies and helps with priority assessment for potential upgrades. Very limited funds are available to support resilience upgrades so we carefully consider lifeline priority, safety, age and condition of assets, and community impact when selecting projects.</p>	
<p>Council needs to be proactive in the community response to climate change, and a leader in the clean energy transition</p>	<p>Climate Change</p>	<p>Current staff resource provides for some public engagement and more resource in this area would permit more engagement. A pro-active role on energy transition going beyond in-house projects would be useful. What is proposed would be in the spirit of 'Climate Action' in the community from 2022-23, if additional resourcing permitted.</p>	
<p>Council should include in the Long-Term Plan a Sustainability Strategy incorporating reporting parameters under the relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals by 30 June 2025.</p>	<p>Climate Change</p>	<p>Reference to these would be possible in a Climate Change Response Plan.</p>	

<p>Council should support in principle the Sustainable South Canterbury Trust in the promotion of and facilitation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as a guide for the community.</p>	<p>Climate Change, Water, Community Development,</p>	<p>Sustainable Development Goals of the UN offer a potential framework for project development and public reporting which combines climate change response and sustainability: a toolkit developed by Christchurch City Council has applied this approach, which TDC could investigate if Council had an appetite for this work to be completed.</p>	
<p>Council needs to prepare resources to respond to likely significant natural disasters, e.g. AF8</p>	<p>Emergency Management</p>	<p>Council continues to invest in all aspects of emergency management, including training volunteers and council staff and projects to improve resilience such as installing Starlink internet at key council buildings.</p>	
<p>The Airport is currently a poor gateway to our region and requires upgrading</p>	<p>Airport</p>	<p>There is project funding provided in the Draft Long Term Plan (LTP) to upgrade the terminal and lengthen the runway to support larger aircraft and/or more frequent flights into the future.</p> <p>The Terminal Extension is currently planned for year 4 & 5 of the LTP The Runway Extension is currently planned for year 5 & 6 of the LTP Passenger numbers arriving and departing Timaru Airport were 45,756 for the 2023 year. Scheduled flights are currently good loadings with an average 80% seat capacity.</p> <p>There has been an increase in cyclists arriving, choosing to start and finish their journey at Timaru Airport.</p> <p>Aircraft landings were 15,690 for 2023.</p>	

<p>Council should prioritise engagement with community partners, and investment in community development initiatives (such as hosting the Mayoral Welcome for International Students) and facilitating forums</p>	<p>Community Development and Funding</p>	<p>The Community Development Team are adept at doing 'more with less' in delivering programmes and support to the community. By applying for avenues of external funding and keeping operational costs to a minimum, this activity delivers positive outcomes alongside the many community groups and organisations that make the region such a great place to live. Council have been very supportive of the Safer Communities, Welcoming Communities, and Age Friendly programmes and their visibility has been appreciated by government and community organisations alike.</p> <p>The Community Funding programme is another way that Council actively supports and promotes positive outcomes in the Timaru District. From supporting the arts, local events, sporting opportunities, youth initiatives, upgrades of community buildings and a wide range of other activities, the funding that Council provides is a welcome and necessary part of this district's social infrastructure.</p>	
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<p>We encourage Council to consider developing a Pacific Strategy to support goals and vision of the Pacific community in the district.</p>	<p>Community Development.</p>	<p>Council does not have a current specific Pasifika Strategy, however the Welcoming Communities remit is to support and enable all newcomers to the District.</p> <p>There is no specific funding allocated to complete this work.</p>	<p>Council may wish to consider this as part of an overall Newcomers Strategy supporting settlement and connection as part of the Welcoming Communities portfolio. Should EMs consider this a priority area, some funds will need to be allocated to this. Alternatively council may support or facilitate a community-led approach</p>
<p>Council has not adequately funded or provisioned its response to climate change, i.e. commitments made in the 2021 LTP have not been kept</p>	<p>Climate Change</p>	<p>The council has had re-prioritise some resource in a challenging fiscal environment. It is hoped that more resourcing can be sourced in future years.</p>	
<p>Council should create a Climate Resilience Fund to help manage the dynamic nature of climate change.</p>	<p>Climate Change</p>	<p>Council does provide some funding for response and recovery activities arising from emergency weather events. The thinking is that it's cheaper to access borrowing when it's needed, rather than rate the community for a large reserve fund that sits unused for long periods.</p>	

<p>Council should (at least) maintain current levels of community and major events funding to develop and attract events</p>	<p>Community Development and Funding</p>	<p>The Community Funding programme is one way that Council actively supports and promotes positive outcomes in the Timaru District. From supporting the arts, local events, sporting opportunities, youth initiatives, upgrades of community buildings and a wide range of other activities, the funding that Council provides is a welcome and necessary part of this district's social infrastructure.</p> <p>Venture Timaru and Timaru District Council are working in tandem to refine and streamline current funding processes to ensure greater clarity is provided to applicants of both funders.</p>	
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<p>More thought should be given to the airport as air transport will continue to increase in the future with probably other destinations than Wellington.</p> <p>Ensure the protection zones are maintained and any land development that impacts future expansion of runways is closely examined before approved.</p>	<p>Airport</p>	<p>There is project funding provided in the Draft Long Term Plan (LTP) to upgrade the terminal and lengthen the runway to support larger aircraft and/or more frequent flights into the future.</p> <p>The Terminal Extension is currently planned for year 4 & 5 of the LTP</p> <p>The Runway Extension is currently planned for year 5 & 6 of the LTP. Sufficient land is owned by Council to enable this.</p> <p>The airport monitors Obstacle Limitation Surfaces and noise contour assessments around the airport to ensure safe operation of the airport, now and into the future.</p> <p>These will allow an increase in size and volume of aircraft into Timaru and giving more options for other destinations. These destinations maybe serviced by smaller aircraft from air services other than AirNZ. Freight opportunities are also an option.</p> <p>Airport navigation system upgrades are in progress now, with a DVOR (Doppler VHF Omni Directional Range) beacons being installed by Airways to replace the NDB (Non Directional Beacon) to increase flightCo reliability.</p>	
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<p>The proposed runway extension is not required; Council should negotiate with Air New Zealand for an alternative type aircraft instead that can use existing infrastructure</p>	<p>Airport</p>	<p>AirNZ operate a national fleet of aircraft. Council is not in a position to negotiate with AirNZ on the type of aircraft that they operate. If the infrastructure does not meet the aircraft requirements the service will be discontinued.</p>	
<p>There should be better provision for travellers stranded by cancelled flights</p>	<p>Airport</p>	<p>Council enables the scheduled flights by AirNZ but has no control over flight cancellations or is responsible for stranded travellers. This is the responsibility of AirNZ. Council continues to express concern at the number of flights cancelled and has on-going discussions with AirNZ to improve this.</p>	

<p>Council needs to develop the (former) Hydro site</p>	<p>CityTown</p>	<p>This site is privately owned and Council is unable to develop this site.</p> <p>However, the adjacent intersection, the Piazza and the Bay Hill have been repeatedly cited by stakeholders as priorities for redevelopment to enhance the connection between the north of the town centre and the views and recreational opportunities offered by Caroline Bay. The draft CityTown Master Plan will include some recommendations for future upgrades to this area aligned with stakeholder aspirations. There is a tension between improving amenity and safe/convenient pedestrian connections in this area and the reality that this intersection is a State Highways asset and a key infrastructure component in the effective and efficient operations of the Port. The draft Master Plan balances those two considerations.</p>	
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<p>Council is aware of the potential archaeological and cultural importance of areas which are subject to development proposals or pressures, and continues to consult with HNZPT.</p>	<p>Property/ District Planning</p>	<p>All applications for development of Council sites follow the same rigorous process that any developer would follow, including a resource consent process that gives effect to Sites and Areas of Significance to Maori as well as all heritage values. We work with HNZPT and follow all due process as required. We also follow and work with suggestions from HNZPT for developments.</p>	
<p>Flood protection</p> <p>Proactive capital investment by Council in the Opuha Dam will save money in the long term by reducing climate-change-related flood repair or mitigation costs</p> <p>Council should support enhanced flood protection work at Arundel</p>	<p>Climate Change/ Emergency Management</p>	<p>This is a commercial project: shareholder investment would be expected to support greater resilience to likely increased rainfall flow input to the dam.</p> <p>Flood protection work at Arundel in the Rangitata River is the responsibility of the Regional Council, ECan. Other flood protection works that may be funded by Council requires a business case to ensure good value for money and public benefit.</p>	
<p>Recreational aircraft users should not be responsible for/ cross-subsidising commercial air costs; the accounts need to be separated</p>	<p>Airport</p>	<p>The airport fees and charges including leases are being reviewed. We recognise the value of both recreational and commercial operators. The airport is currently subsidised by district ratepayers.</p>	
<p>The Airport should provide flights to more locations, such as Christchurch and Dunedin</p>	<p>Airport</p>	<p>Timaru Airport accommodates air services but does not provide them. We are open to working with all airlines including minor ones that can provide small aircraft for short services.</p>	

<p>To meet the needs of the district’s ageing population, Council should invest in additional community support and development initiatives, and appropriately resource the execution of the Age-Friendly Strategy</p>	<p>Community Development and Funding</p>	<p>The Timaru District Age-Friendly Strategy 2022-2025 serves to guide Council officers when planning future design or development of Council places and spaces. The key points of the strategy include:</p> <p>Upgrades or new facilities should be designed in ways that are accessible to older people, with good surface conditions, clear signage, good parking, safe pedestrian crossings, good lighting, shade, seating, and clean, accessible toilets.</p> <p>Planning of Council amenities and events, communication, and information sharing need to be mindful of those members of the community who do not have access to digital platforms.</p> <p>The mapping of accessible public facilities, walkways, parks, and transport options would resonate with members of the aged community.</p> <p>Housing options need to consider the aging population and provide more availability of smaller units near to local amenities and services.</p> <p>The SJ Café has been established in partnership with St. John, TDC’s Community Development Team and other community organisations to address the growing issue of social isolation.</p> <p>Established relationships with groups such as Grey Power and Age Concern help to provide input into Council’s consultation processes.</p>	
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Aoraki Foundation requests an increase in operational support from Council from \$7,500pa to \$30,000pa		Noted. As the agreement between Aoraki Foundation and TDC has been arranged and funded at a Governance level, elected members will take this request into consideration as part of their deliberations. These are funds that are not directly related to the community funding programme administered by council officers	
Hut communities are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change (e.g. coastal erosion); Council needs to take a proactive role in relocating residents/ managed retreat	Fishing Huts	Council is currently working on a new Rangitata Management Plan and information will be shared with Hut owners in due course for consultation purposes. We are also working with ECAN in regards to coastal erosion and other vulnerable communities.	