

Long-term Plan 2024–34



Respondent No. 317

Response ID 5676077

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Personal information

First name Anonymous

Last name Anonymous

I'm providing a submission (choose one): as an individual

Please let us know what ward you live in Raumati

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission at our public hearings on 2 May? Yes

Are you happy for your name to be published with your feedback: I do not want my name published with my feedback

Submission

Proposal 1: Three waters funding
Which option should we choose? (select one option)

Option 1: Fund \$4.7 million shortfall with an additional 5% rates increase in Year 1.

Would you like to expand on your answer for option 1?

We need to pay for what we use.

Does this year's shortfall includes additional infrastructure (capital development) or is it purely running costs of existing 3 water services?

As any household would do - cut your cloth according to your income. Negotiate with ratepayers about increasing rates for the 3 water services and differentiate between vitals (running costs), additional (capital development)

Proposal 2: Proactively reduce Council's debt
Which option should we choose? (select one option)

Option 3: Apply average rates increases of 6% per year from 2025/26 to 2033/34

Would you like to expand on your answer for option 3?

Stop adding to debt with consultants' reports. In the 36 years I've lived in Kapiti our council has engaged in a vast array of consultants reports at a huge cost. Yet engagement with the community of ratepayers is limited and/or ignored. That's not the right way round and needs to change. Remember that the Kapiti Community contains some eminently qualified people who can speak as 'consultants' on all community topics. So, ASK. And make it easy for the community to know that you are asking and make it easy for the community to respond to questions about our community.

Proposal 3: Transfer Council's housing for older people Which option should we choose? (select one option)

Option 3: Older persons' housing continues to be delivered by Council with no option to grow the portfolio

Would you like to expand on your answer for option 3?

If the housing is owned by KCDC then steward these properties with the necessary maintenance and upgrading as necessary.

'With no option to grow the portfolio' is an addition that confuses the question.

1. Care for what KCDC owns (on behalf of rate payers)
2. The question of growing the portfolio is a separate question. Do ratepayers want KCDC to grow the portfolio? What sized financial investment is envisaged or proposed? How is that financial investment to be recovered - over what time period? through rental charges? subsidised or market rate?

New climate action rate

Which option should we choose? (select one option)

Option 2: Make no change to how we allocate funding our climate change activities

Would you like to expand on your answer for option 2?

No, No, No, No, No.

KCDC is not charged with managing the planet or the climate.

Climate change is based on conjecture, future projections, and modelling. No one knows. Modelling is based on someone's science, and the assumptions that science is based on.

Covid 19 Response did similarly - dire projections, fear of massive overload, modelling that warned of devastation that, in fact, did not occur as stated. The modelling proved false in the long run. Hospitals were not overwhelmed. Thousands were not dying in the streets. Children were not at risk of dying as stated by central government.

Climate Action is based on similar assumptions, modelling, projections, and quasi 'science'. I call it BELIEF SCIENCE. It is not science in the classical sense of reproducible experiments that prove a hypothesis.

Thus adding a targeted climate action rate is the gathering of funds for something unknown, based on an unproven hypothesis, and future projections.

Question - what are climate change activities?

If giving away \$100,000 pa for 'climate action' grants for 'climate sustainability' constitutes a climate change activity, I say NO.

STOP THE NONSENSE.- increasing rates to give rate funding away in climate action grants is like a lollie scramble amidst campaigning for reducing sugar intake to improve childrens' health.

Rate payers don't pay rates for them to be given away.

Rates are to pay for community infrastructure.

STOP THE GIVEAWAYS.

KCDC has not done its job in keeping ratepayers informed.

CAP meetings were initially poorly attended until community groups became aware of the poor process. Council reaction limiting meeting size and cancelling meetings in UNDEMOCRATIC and shows the process to be a SHAM.

There has not been an effective avenue to discuss 'the science' the whole premise is based on - namely the Jacobs Report. Few ratepayers have heard of this report. A COSTLY CONSULTANT'S REPORT

No effective debate on 'the science' in this report has taken place.
The first KCDC letter to arrive in my letterbox about CAP, and Takutai Kapiti arrived mid April 2024, 6 weeks before the end of the 3 year process. SHAMEFULLY INADEQUATE CONSULTATION WITH PUBLIC

If you have any views on these policies, please comment here:

Consult with ratepayers before simply increasing rates year by year.
We need to know how rates are being spent.
We need confidence that council spending reflects the buoyancy of the current state of our economy.
Post pandemic the community (business and private) is still recovering. 17% rates increase for 2024 is not in line with cost of living index, wages and salaries.
Perhaps the KCDC CEO's recent salary increase is a good example of liberality in a time when the community is more characterised by being in recovery mode and struggling to thrive, post Covid.

If you have any views on these other items, please comment here:

Enhancing Democracy - STOP creating non-elected positions at the Council table.
This is not democracy.
I understand there are mana whenua advising community boards to make submissions to council.
But unelected seats at the table with full voting rights is a subversion of the democratic process in a liberal democracy.
This needs to be put to the voting public to decide.

Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about this LTP?

Covid 19 is over - stop perpetuating the pandemic.
We don't need security guards at the KCDC service centre entrance.
The council is there to serve the community.
It's not a bank with gold and silver to protect.

Water Services

ASK RATEPAYERS - do we want fluoride in our water? Let us decide, since we are the consumers of that water. If the community replies with a clear NO, reduce rates by the amount saved by not adding the chemical to the water supply.

Roading -

The section of Main Road South between Raumati Road and Poplar Avenue needed to be repaired by Transit before handing it over to KCDC as a local road. This section of road took a hammering in the construction stage and has not yet been effectively restored. The section of Main Road from Raumati Road to Kapiti Road has had millions spent on it, yet the southern section has been neglected.

I have seen various contractors (e.g. Opus) performing road inspections. Yet years later there are still sections of asphalt surface that remain pot holed and deteriorating. Money is spent on consultant reports but not on the task of repair. WRONG. Ask bus drivers, local cartage companies, taxi companies, NZ Post delivery, driving instructors, etc which parts of roading need attention.

Paraparaumu Transport Hub

I call it a THEME PARK. The Pohutukawas were saved only under protest. NO CONSULTATION
The time taken to do the work - SHAMEFUL.
Placing another set of traffic lights on a main road - UNNECESSARY
The subway - NO CONSULTATION regarding its use and its effectiveness
The crossing - NO CONSULTATION, and though the crossing has turned into a ratepayer funded theme park, with traffic lights, the very item approved by council - A CROSSING - is not evident. There is no crossing. As I understand it, a crossing is standard and governed by legislation. White lines in a specified size and order. No evidence of this can be seen. Yet 9 million has been spent on the pretext of a crossing. SHAMEFUL
Don't take away the subway.
Paint the crossing across the road - IN WHITE (NOT IN RAINBOW COLOURS!!!)

Cycle and Pedestrian Path on Waikanae River Bridge

The finished pathway is not what was voted on by council, it is not held by the cantilever arms installed in 2023 for the option voted on. The cost is eye watering, including the cost of traffic management. The finished product looks like a maximum security prison. Yet the bridge crossing south of Paekakariki, which accesses the coastal escarpment track is simple, effective, and cost a fraction of what has been spent at Waikanae. OVER EXPENDITURE OF TAX PAYERS FUNDS, IN THE EXTREME.

Parks and Open Spaces

Raumati South Park has just had a 'scorched earth' policy enacted.
Who decided to cut virtually every mature tree from the park land all at once?
ASTOUNDING.
And the wood? Where has that ended up?
Sale of the firewood could help pay for the expense of hiring the arborists.

Our Libraries

STOP FUNDING DRAG QUEENS to read to children.
This is wokism - pandering to an ideology.
There was a protest outside the event by women offended at the whole gag. Interesting. Women see through the pretence.
I attended. It was embarrassing. The drag queens were not skilled oral readers - a poor showing at a library. Stop sexualising children. Stop the misrepresentation of women. Having drag queens reading to children, clearly looks like grooming. STOP THE NONSENSE.

Community Facilities

Ngahina Community Centre
Closed due to mould concerns
What would a business do? Have a builder investigate and then make a plan to have it fixed.
Knocking it down is a huge waste.
Fix the roof, stop any leaks, reconfigure the rooms inside, open the community centre to community service providers, interest groups and community hire.
A consultant was hired to engage with the community. HOW MUCH WAS SPENT ON THIS?
I have been a service provider hiring community centre rooms to run defensive driving courses.
I have met with council employees twice to talk about the community centre's future, yet, strangely, had not been contacted by the consultant. Surely, the people to engage with would be those who hire the facilities, regular users, and information on the types of groups hiring and how the facilities serve them

Major Events Funding

Again, rates money comes from rate payers for the funding of council infrastructure. Giving rates money away for the funding of major events, contrasts with continuing to maintain and develop infrastructure, a sharp increase in the cost of materials since the Covid era, and then expecting to increase rates by 17% is DIFFICULT FOR RATEPAYERS TO SWALLOW.
I suggest this is not the core business of council. ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF GIVING RATE FUNDING AWAY when it is sorely needed for core council business.

Consultation

Consult with community. Limited use of consultants to report - THIS IS A COSTLY EXPENDITURE

Review facilities provided for campervan visitors to Kapiti - approved parking places, toilets, water, waste disposal, etc.

Climate Change and Sea Level Rising -

These are creating further fear in the community.
The most obvious 'climate change' we all observe is called WEATHER and SEASONS.
Sea Level Rising - is not obvious, and not currently observable. It is a future projection and modelling. It is based on assumptions that the community needs to be consulted over.
This is NOT KCDC CORE BUSINESS.
This is coming from the Ministry for the Environment and Dept of Conservation and United Nations International Panel on Climate Change.