Long-term Plan 2024-34

Respondent No. 240

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on behalf of an organisation

Write organisation name here Otaki Heritage

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

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Submission

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

SUBMISSION ON KĀPITI COAST DISTRICT COUNCIL'S LONG-TERM PLAN 2024-34(KCDC LTP 23/24) AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS FROM ŌTAKI HERITAGE (ŌTAKI MUSEUM)

Introduction

1. This submission on KCDC LTP 23/24 and associated documents is solely of the perspective of Ōtaki Heritage and so it focuses specifically on heritage and heritage related aspects and does not address the specific proposals raised in the documentation provided by KCDC.

Acknowledgement

2. Ōtaki Heritage receives an annual grant from KCDC which is vital to its ongoing operations, as is the ongoing support which is received from the KCDC property and heritage groups.

The LTP

3. What is notable in the LTP is the absence of references to 'heritage' or 'heritage institutions; with one notable and obvious exception. The whakatauki highlighted page 11, 'Me huri whakamuri, ka titiro whakamua | Using our past to inform our future', is the one explicit linkage to the importance of heritage but it is linked solely to mana whenua; and as a consequence, could be considered as being irrelevant to

all other groups. However, clearly the aphorism is equally relevant, and important, to those who are not mana whenua. This is a substantial shortcoming in the LTP which should be corrected.

- 4. Page 6 sees the introduction of 'resilience' as a priority aspiration for the district. However, the concept is firmly anchored in a physical context, and a financial one. Arguably, however, equally as important as these is 'social resilience', and it is here that heritage institutions such as museums can play a vital role in building social cohesion, pride and identity through making accessible and telling stories from our collective past. Not only do current social challenges give this capacity a special relevance, but so too do the efforts to create a Kāpiti Coast District among the five distinct communities that currently define the district.
- 5. Page 9 includes a table setting out the communities' 'Needs' and the 'Top 10' priorities for delivering on them. The priority identified alongside Need 4 is 'Increase inclusive spaces and creative opportunities for all...' While it may a consequence of the level at which the LTP is set, it would nevertheless be useful to know whether or not museums are part of the inclusive spaces/creative opportunities paradigm.

Draft Revenue and Financing Policy

- 6. The funding policy set out in this document are supported. There are, however, a number of minor editorial comments:
- a. Page 36, 37 and 40. The heading 'Museums and Art' would perhaps be more correctly 'Museums and art galleries' or 'Heritage and Arts'.
- b. Page 36. In the 'Activity Description' row under 'Museums and Arts', the first bullet point reads '.....and challenged through the medium of art.' 'Through the medium of art' is unnecessary and to remove it reduces any risk of perspectives that an arts advocate is being given more weight than a heritage one in this policy area.

2024-34 Capital Works Programme

7. It was understood that earthquake remediation work on the Ōtaki Museum had to be completed by 2033; the Government's four-year extension to this timeline came out after the LTP was provided for consultation. However, there is evidence in the information on page 8 of the programme that budget provision has been made for this work. It appears, therefore, to be a major gap in the Capital Works Programme.

Conclusion

8. The opportunity to provide feedback on the LTP and associated documents is very much appreciated.

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