

Submission ID: 601

Date: Apr 11 24 07:37:10 pm

Name:

Matthew Larsen

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

I believe you have your heart in the right place as far as this goes subject goes I would lie to advocate for option 1 but. I want to prioritise sewerage and roading and transport infrastructure. If I am unable to punish the porcelain i am not going to want to live in town much longer.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 2: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

We shouldn't. we should worry more about the damage our waste water and sewerage will have on drinking supply in future if we don't act on it now. If the govt tells me I cant put food waste including meat in the bin i'd rather bury it or compost it myself. (Different if living in high rise buildings or highly built up areas.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 1: Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

We are already in a recession get it sorted now and hope for a better future.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 1: (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

We have to pay some how or some way. make it worth the pain do not spend on frivolous expenses like the rex morpeth (full monty) Keep it basic.

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Victor Luca I would like this to come to you. How do you propose we deal with our aging water and roading network when we are proposing spending money on carbon burning, plastic abusing boxes for food waste when we could be legislating that for high rise buildings and commercial only. Leave home owners to do it however we deem fit and focus on the important stuff. Remember, when anyone looks at moving into a community the look at 3 things. Safety, health (drinking and waste water) and safe streets. These three things underpin a functioning healthy society and we need these so that high value people consider whakatane as a great district to move into. Thankyou.

**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 2: Close the gap in the short-term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

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Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

I feel the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub works well as it is. I feel adding unnecessary expense to our large outstanding debt is unnecessary.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Keep the system as simple as possible .Most rural residents have their own compost heaps.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

17.1% is a significant rates rise in our current financial environment

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Areas that have services should not be paying the same as those that have lots of services

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

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**Submission ID: 604**

**Date: Apr 11 24 08:01:09 pm**

**Name:**

Eric Smeith

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

Galatea Trails Trust. GTT is a registered charitable trust. The trust would like the WDC to be involved in establishing a shared walkway , cycle track, horse riding trail

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

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**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

None of the above. Only what is necessary for basic up keep. We can't afford to borrow for this. DO NOT TAKE ON ANY MORE DEBT.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 2: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

I didn't realize this was happening. So again the very basic only. Is central government going to pay for it since it's their idea?

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

We are in a cost of living crisis and a recession. This needs to be slow until we recover.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

None of the above. There should be NO rates increase. We can't afford it. Nobody can. Everyone is struggling. Is the council and staff so highly paid they are immune to the current struggle? We are in a cost of living crisis and a recession. The council needs to do what we are all doing. Tightening our belts and reducing spending and services until we get out the other side.

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Two things concern me. The first is the councils obvious lack of awareness of how the community is coping (or not) during these tough times. I think the term is "not reading the room". We cannot at this time take on more borrowing. Secondly the compounding of late penalties is overwhelming for people who are struggling to pay. A late payment fee is fine but the compounding part makes it almost impossible to clear ones debt. Honestly currently the time is very wrong for all this crazy borrowing. Interest rates are high. Offshore borrowing would lock us into some horrid agreements.

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Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 2: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

An upgrade will help attract further events to town, but spend timing should be in line with affordability to the community and in line with the greatest community needs; i.e. is restoration of the rugby grandstand a better spend in terms of community value and use, compared to upgrade of the Little Theater.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

More education on minimising foodwaste and composting. Encouraging worm farms or supporting compost / worm farm kits. Separating is more costly and don't see a lot of gain.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 2: Close the gap in the short-term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Preference is to reduce long term debt. Council also need to be more prudent in their spending and increase of FTEs. Nice to have like installation of jutter bars and courtesy crossings should be way down the priority list before upgrades to out dated waste water treatment facilities and secure drinking water sources are achieved.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Affordability and council required to be more prudent with their spend.

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

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Name:

Maja Mihelic

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)****How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?****Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

I don't agree to any options above . We should just keep Rex Morpeth park as it is for now and re visit the issue in next 3-5 years . Many rate payers are really struggling to put food on table with increasing costs . Council needs to for at least next 3 years stick to maintenance only .

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?****Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Leave things how they are . We don't need any extra foodwaste bins. Council needs to stick to maintenance only for at least next 3 year .

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?****Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

If council didn't renovate the council building and recently purchased new electric vehicles then we would not need to be dealing with this extra debt. Council needs to become more RESPONSIBLE . You have been dealing with our rates money as if it is growing in trees . Rate payers didn't ask you to renovate the current building you operate from or purchasing new vehicles. Some of us are still driving a car made in 2003 , why can't council employees do the same? If some of council employees who are in charge of these decisions weren't so greedy, then our council would not be in this negative financial situation . Please stick to spending money that you have ( from our rates) and STOP borrowing money you don't have . It is ENSLAVING us all.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?****Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Rates increase needs to be ONE digit number , not two. If you need to CUT some maintenance services to accomplish this then please do so . You need to decrease the borrowing . Rate payers don't want you to borrow any further funds!!! We don't want to leave our kids and grandkids with huge amounts of debt due to POOR DECISIONS made by current council managers and elected members.

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Tighten your belt and STOP SPENDING& BORROWING for at least next 3-5 years! Thank you .

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**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Basic maintenance only. No extra expenditure

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Neither option. We have a compost system and we don't want to pay for a service we don't need. Can this be a user pays opt in system?

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Remove any unnecessary expenditure. Stop paying for consultants over projects that need to be shelved.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Neither. Inflation rate increase only.

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Budget our money like you can't pay for your own groceries. Drop the nice haves for now until the economy improves. Consider starting charge user pays for library membership, museum entry etc. Boat ramp usage charge? Number plate recognition similar to tolls.

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Submission ID: 609

Date: Apr 11 24 08:42:43 pm

Name:

Jonathan Edmeades

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 2: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

This work is necessary and about meeting the needs of future generations. We must bite the bullet and create a space that meets the needs of the future. As much external funding as we can access should be sought - partnerships are key here.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 2: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

The ideal would obviously be for individual whānau and households to manage their own composting, but where this is not possible then diverting waste towards a usable and sustainable product seems wise.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 2: Close the gap in the short-term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Will any of these options help us to meet our essential upgrade needs when it comes to Three-Waters and other key infrastructure? Now that the burden has been put back onto ratepayers with no capacity to share resourcing, it seems that it is inevitable that the cost will be increased and debt will be required. Ideally we pay down debt as quickly as possible whilst managing the weekly cost to households in as sustainable way as possible.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Support the council's move in this regard.

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

I would also like to request that the safety of the red pedestrian crossings on Harbour Road, Ōhope be evaluated, with particular reference to the NZTA recommendations around the use of these crossings - preference would be for either a raised crossing and/or a zebra crossing to be installed to support the safety of our elderly and differently abled community. I would also like to see attention given to restoring physical connection between Awatapu and Poroporo, as well as greater investment in the health of the lagoon. The aspiration of our community for our tamariki to one day be able to swim in this area that has been ecologically ruined for the sake of protecting the rest of town from flooding must be acknowledged and addressed.

Name:

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 2: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

There are two parts to this project. First, the need to carry out essential maintenance. Secondly, to develop the recreational hub. This needs to be overlaid with the inflation issues for the community. Thus doing what is necessary to maintain the assets should be prioritised with the upgrades pushed into the future when the Aotearoa New Zealand economy will better cope with the rates increases. Recreation brings income into the community so money spent on recreation has a positive money inflow. Thus I agree with Council that money should be spent on this project.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Rural communities bury food waste or feed animals. If costs can be saved by allowing food waste to be added to the green bins then this should be preferred.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Interest rates are currently high. Managing loans in order to take advantage of future declining interest rates would ease the general rate burden.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 1: (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Equitable. If the UAGC is lower then additional income will need to be raised. Essentially, increased pay for use. This in turn has increased administration costs which increases the UAGC.

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

During this inflation period the Council needs to act like a household. With limited income and rising prices, Council/household costs need to be prioritised so that the nice to have things are postponed until economic equilibrium returns. If just the cost to maintain Council essential services is about 13% increase, then the Councillors should set a rates ceiling on any additional spending of, for example, 2% taking the rates increase to 15% which is palatable to many. The long term plan was interesting but it did not paint, for me, a picture of what Whakatane/Ohope and the surrounding areas will actually be like. The increase in population is there but not linked to where they will live, the work they will do, the impact on infrastructure, social areas, sporting facilities and so. on. All is an interrelated network, but

this was not reflected in the long term plan, nor was it discussed at the open meeting I attended in Whakatane.

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Name:

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 2: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

We really need some dedicated education to all households and include the high schools. It is so sad to see how much waste can be recycled that is not been recycled. Please also visits to takeaway outlets to support them to use recyclable options for their takeaways. I need more info on recycling on your website and people to directly ask who actually know. There is huge confusion over what can be recycled and what cannot and also a lot of apathy that needs to be worked on.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 2: Close the gap in the short-term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

No to the marina development. The land contamination is a major factor and there is no cost effective solution. Please take a holistic view of the development not just focusing on Stage 1 for now and other stages later. This project is a massive money drain with unknown costs for dealing with the contamination. Please look hard at this and I suggest an independent review be made now of the whole project before more money is poured into a black hole trying to remove pfas and dioxin contaminated soils. The dioxin contamination rehab sites that currently exist do not have enough space for all of the dioxin contaminated soils from the marina site. Where will the remainder be taken to? How much will it cost? How much does it cost to truck pfas contaminated soils to an approved site and then the problem is just moved elsewhere. The harbour funds can be used for another viable project or spend more time finding a better marina site. The current proposed site is not viable.

**Name:****Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)** Whakatane Roller Club Incorporated**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

As much as i would love to see an intergrated aquatic centre and sports hall, it appears that this would be at the consequence of losing the Theatre! What would be the plan for a future Theatre? As we frequently have hall booking issues & have often had to call the hall convenor to open the doors for us fo rour sessions as communication from our bookings online has not reached the convenor. They are often taken away from their persona life to open the hall for us & that is not satisfactory & that is something that if we had ian integrated approach could be resolved. However The rex morpeth hall is one of the best in the region, which is also being able to be taken up by people wanting to use it from outside of the town. I think that the fascitliy has significant issues especially for our roller skaters safety as we often find water on the floor after a rainy day/night. So if the roof could be fixed then i think that the hall would be a better fasciltiy.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Mixed food &amp; greens can be used to go back into the soil surely that makes sense

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 2: Close the gap in the short-term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:****How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 1: (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:****Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

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Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

This needs to be reviewed and looked at being completed in stages. My question is, what is the current maintenance schedule for the War Memorial Hall, why have small issues not been rectified to now leave it in a state where it needs major works to be done. Also my other question is, what about the fees that will be paid to use the facilities, how are these put back into the complex? Or do they go into the pool of income that is distributed to other costs?

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

As the council has done in the past, how come the option of compost bins/worm farms not being provided as an alternative. This is not being brought into legislation as yet so there is time to look at alternative options. As food waste will still be put into general rubbish and there needs to be more work put into how this can be limited rather than providing more bins and more expenses for every household.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

No Confidence Vote. There needs to be more transparency and trust of spending and accurate information provided.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

No Confidence Vote. Again there needs to be transparency and trust. Rates are for services provided, so how come the Edgecumbe library is run by volunteers and is only open 3 half days per week. This is a service for the community that is not able to be accessed. Referring to the 2021-31 long term plan there was 'rates smoothing' put in place and the forecast for 24/25 was 1.05% increase. This is a huge difference that has been brought out in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan.

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

As a council you need to put the wellbeing of the community in the forefront of you decision making. There are so many increases that need to be kept up with for every household. Mayor Luca you already know the average income of an individual and household for our community - which is likely to be less than most working in council. The impact of rates increases this year will be detrimental to our community and those that live here, we are already struggling to keep up with current rates, pay bills and put food on the table for our children. How are we expected to keep up with further rates increases.

The criteria for rates rebates sets out to have an income lower than minimum wage (with a family of 5), so we are not even able to seek relief in terms of a rebate. I urge you to think of the wellbeing of those who live here, otherwise rates payments for households will become lower down the priority list than they already are.

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Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

The people of whakatane DONT have spare money right now for a rates increase. Stop wasting our money on stupid shit, we can not afford your endless spending.

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**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Minimally, financially speaking

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Encourage people to home compost

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Reduce Council spending. Eg personal use of council vehicles. Review payments processes to contractors. Ie mowing and roading contractors (esp poor workmanship issues) no payments until contract cimetely satisfactorily and to standard. No payments up front.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Low income/ pensioners should qualify for discounts

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Building consent extension s to time. Auckland city have a policy allowing ongoing extensions. Changes effective from 1 December 2022 In recent years, we have seen an increase in the number of time extension requests. Due to this demand, we now automatically grant an extension of time for all building consents issued from 1 December 2022. Given the ongoing challenges with prohibitive extortionate construction costs, existing house price falls, rising interest rates, and national house, could whakatāne council please consider an ongoing policy to accommodate local building projects that cannot quote get underway, once a BC has been issued. This will allay expensive Consents from lapsing and the associated problems thereafter.

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Submission ID: 616

Date: Apr 11 24 09:29:13 pm

Name:

Mere McLean

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)** Murupara branch of the Māori Women's Welfare League

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 3: Separate foodwaste collection for all properties.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 1: Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

No increase.

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Murupara and our surrounding communities are feeling the weight of your decisions. Please take into account that increases on costs will cause an increase of hardship already being put on our whānau.

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Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 1: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 2: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 1: Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 1: (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

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**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 1: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

The sooner we can improve this wonderful facility the better

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 1: Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Pay less in the long term

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Make it fairer

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Very disappointed that the rates rise is so low. We are (partially) in this position because previous Mayors and Councillors have put off the hard decisions for future generations to pay the bill. While it will hurt in the short term, we should pay what we need to now to get the job done. Also very worried that the Mayor and Councillors will be swayed by the noisy (and moronic) few. They are not the voice for the (apathetic) majority.

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Name:

Darrin Hawkes

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)****How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

It is spoken about at length in the consultation document that we have significant financial pressures at the moment and there are limited funds available. It is acknowledged the Rex Morpeth hub facilities needs some necessary upgrades, and we WANT improved facilities for our future population. Address the NEEDS now and PLAN for the WANTS and what they may look like, but ONLY do the NEEDS in a way that will allows the WANTS to be effectively staged in future when funding is or becomes more available. We should not be spending money on WANTS now, but we can plan for them so when the timing is right we can take effective action. If external funding for specific aspects of the upgrade is 100% available proceed with those. Interested groups could assist with driving for the funding council could support those groups with resources or guidance.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Separate food collection creates additional complexity and requirement for sorting at the beginning of the process (households). As much as we would like to think people will abide by the rules and doo the right thing, there are many in our community who will not OR are just lazy. Many people talk the talk about looking after environment but unfortunately they don't act on that talk OR are just lazy. Unfortunately this will cause more problems further down the line for council to try to manage. If we are being forced into it then combined food and green seems to be a logical solution. A local food processing plant would also reduce transport costs. Would council support this? If so why not seek expressions of interest? Someone may be able to make some money out of it AND save the council some money. It will only work if both of these are achieved. Push back on central government if it is not practical, seek public support/opinion on that. WDC may find they have a lot of public backing against idealistic central government policy.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Some of the numbers in the financial information provided in the consultation document do not make sense, excess rates are being charged for the actual cost of services, water, solid waste.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 1: (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

It is an idealistic and inaccurate view that all people with high value properties can afford greater proportion of rates. Yes some can afford the additional rates, many cannot as society today tends to chop down tall poppies adding financial burden upon the supposed wealthy that have worked hard to

get where they have. They are paying more often for less services/support. Are all properties private/public/Maori equally/fairly rated? UAGC should not be reduced, it is already low. 30-40% would seem more fair.

### **Supporting document**

Attached

### **Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

The increased public appearances and engagement is very much appreciated. It is appreciated this is your freetime, however it is also the publics freetime that it is giving up to provide you the feedback. Thank you.

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# Long Term Plan 2024-34

Additional feedback and submission – Darrin Hawkes, [REDACTED]

## WDC Key Priorities

### Enhancing the safety, wellbeing and vibrancy of communities

Agree with investing in recreation events and things to do, this does not have to be total funding and organising. Forward planning/budgeting should also consider a relative spread of interests across our community not purely on the arts and culture events which appear to take a priority.

### Strengthening relationships with iwi, hapū and whānau

Agree to consider, consult and partner with iwi/hapu, however increased care must be taken to avoid the consultation and partnering stifling progress OR creating excess/unfair bias. Care needs to be taken to avoid/curb the developing feeling of separatist race privilege amongst the wider community.

What is the proposed financial support mentioned in this section? Who is funding this financial support? If it is supporting the consultation and engagement then this should be disclosed and other groups that have interest in consulting and planning be afforded the same funding. The LTP appears to indicate potential funding to iwi for consultation services. There appears to be a lot of requests/demands for consultation however this is being forced/driven by iwi. Forcing consultation on almost everything and then wanting to be paid for that time is not fair or ethical, unless the opportunity is afforded to all equally. If this occurs it will be financially unjustifiable causing progress, development, improvements to stall.

Is WDC looking to increase iwi participation in planning and decision making? There is already significant opportunity and representation. Increasing this beyond reason will create more division and frustration within the community in addition to delaying progress of works. I recognise the need to include and consider, however there are aspects of the cultural mix within our community that create frustration and discontent. WDC needs to apply opportunities for funding equally AND transparently.

Please publish the “legislative obligations” that are imposed upon councils regarding this focus. That will help the wider public to understand the Council’s obligations and drivers. If not published then point to where it can be found.

### Building climate change and natural hazard resilience, including our infrastructure

Apply some practical and common sensibility to the ‘rules’ on how land and buildings can be developed. There are some dumb and impractical application of the climate change guidelines that are being forced on developers and builders, eg a requested step change in height of an extended workshop floor caused significant unnecessary cost and delay to a local business, stupid and unreasonable, ultimately it was withdrawn.

Agree MORE” Support people to navigate District Plan rules and requirements”

Personal experience and discussion with others has found WDC staff are more likely to say “NO that does not comply” than “This is what could be done” or “lets look at the actual risks”. Experience as shown WDC council staff find it is easier to say “no” rather than “yes”. That culture within WDC should change.

### Facilitating economic regeneration and responding to development pressures

Agree with all of this BUT significant frustration and failure occurs when there is unbalanced and illogical application of the “increased lwi in decisions” and “Building Climate change resilience” focus. Unbalanced application of these focuses stifles economic regeneration. Again personal experience has demonstrated WDC departments don’t appear to talk or coordinate with each other and work in their own silos, counter acting each other’s objectives. Request encouragement of greater cooperation and transparency between council departments.

## **Other comments**

### Policy updates

There may be a desire to update some policies, however this can be a time consuming and expensive exercise requiring/consuming resources that could be more effectively utilised on practical deliverables for the community rather than creating more red tape. A particular example is the road naming policy that I understand is about to be reviewed. Council staff are not following the existing policy therefore (that is practical, very clear and easy to understand) therefore why occupy more resources forcing a particular agenda. It is the developer (private individuals/organisations that is funding the infrastructure, they should retain some preference in selecting a name. The current policy provides suitable guidelines for naming. Just because some proposed road names are not fitting the agenda of some staff or sectors of society does not make the policy broken. Recently council staff have forced developers into unreasonably lengthy and delayed consultation that were not required AND beyond their legal authority. Developers will move elsewhere if the rules are made too tough and unreasonable. Ratepayers are also potentially having to pay for increasing bureaucratic policy that has a narrow application, therefore minimal practical benefit. Spend the money and time engaging with developers up front to facilitate practical outcomes, rather than stalling a process at the end citing bureaucratic policy.

### Keeping strategic property options open

There is specific mention in the LTP about procurement of “Strategic Properties”. Please provide some additional clarification on the potential requirement and drivers for this, eg transport, cultural, climate change mitigation. This appears cloak and dagger ‘ish’ as permission /notification to stretch the ability to purchase someone’s property.

Page 17 shows an increased focus on this. What are the rules and drivers to guide the purchase?

The Bennit block was purchased many years ago under public works act depriving the Bennits of ongoing income and livelihood, they would rather not have sold. Nothing has come of that land. There needs to be more transparency and projection of why particular land purchases are desired.



## Roading and transport

**Keepa road upgrade** - Coastlands/Piripai is now a significant community and Keepa road and the footpath needs surface and safety improvements as a matter of urgency.

There is a safety problem at the hub end of Keepa road where right turning traffic is having to cross the yellow line to get past left turning traffic caused by the congestion at the bridge. Those wanting to get out of town are legally prevented due to congestion because they cannot cross the yellow line at the Hub end. An additional lane (or additional width) from the proposed marina entrance up to the roundabout may assist with this safety issue.

The footpath from Coastlands/Piripai is a disgrace and safety issue for small children and disabled. There is mention about access to playgrounds being upgraded, however this public access way THAT WILL REDUCE CAR traffic into town from Coastlands is in a poor state of repair.

**Road barriers** - Lobby Whaka Kotahi to removal of the barriers along SH30 as a significant amount do not appear to be providing any benefit and actual create hazards for our community. There is minimal cost to WDC for this and it is providing benefit to the community.

**Speed limit** – Lobby central govt/Whaka kotahi to restore sensible speed limits to our district. WDC represents the community and the community is overwhelmingly frustrated with the ridiculous widespread application of 60 and 80 kph speed limits. WDC should have a bigger voice than Joe Public. There is minimal cost to WDC for this and it is providing benefit to the community.

## Financial pressure

Accept and agree WDC staff need to be suitably paid for the roles they perform, and it should be comparable to what they would get in the private sector. HOWEVER, they should also be expected to perform, deliver and be accountable like the private sector. It appears WDC are hiring more staff. More publicity/disclosure where additional staff are felt they are needed to improve the service to ratepayers. It appears somewhat easy to justify additional staff in a government/council organisation, which potentially explains the growth and then significant cut cycle when it is obvious cost to deliverable measure are unjustifiable.

It is understood infrastructure costs have increased, however a look at affordability should be considered in this current plan rather than just hiking up rates.

## Park, Reserves and Activities

The Bennit block was a forced sale to acquire land for parks and reserves. Nothing has ever come of it, in spite of attempts (boat harbour – stifled by iwi). It has been leased to maze growers for many years which could have been done by the Bennits. WDC deprived the Bennits of income and livelihood for no reason. Make something of this land that is available to WDC, OR support the community to fund and do something with the land. Use it for an 'Active Space' to allow other activated that WDC are restricting on other public land, eg horse events, motorcycling (noise may be an issue but e-bike are upcoming), Golf range, off road vehicles, Archery, Kites, Boating ,,,, something different not available elsewhere in the district. Start getting some traction on what it could be used for rather than it sitting as wasted space.

**Name:****Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)** WDC**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

By law I suppose it has to meet minimum safety requirements; however any additional building needs to be carefully thought through, as it may be old and some areas quite dated but its just not possible to complete at this time. Yes it will never be cheaper than yesterday. I did note (wednesday night at the meeting) that the ceiling tiles in the main foyer where showing signs of water ingress surely this would come under a maintaiance programme and who has dropped the ball over this.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?****Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

None of the above for as long as possible, is it really a problem in Whakatane, and how much would be actually collected ( my guess < 8 tonne/month?) and to what cost. Although it is from central government and is to become a requirement, then central Government should put money up for this. Sure landfill charges and cartage will increase marketly and no doubt waste management are in business to make money and not a service to community. Maybe obtain some collaboration with the worm farm in Kawerau to accept this waste and not to Keepa rd due to odour issues. or operate vertical digester with other councils ie Opotiki and Kawerau ?

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Middle of the road not to short not too long but the best deal avaiable looking at the crystal ball

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:****Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

It would be nice to know what the annual cost of current and ongoing compliance costs that are required by Central Government and as they keep asking for more requirements then Central Government should provide money for this. The LGDC and WDC should be pushing back on some of the latest requirements, are they really necessary?, a nice to have . Take for instance all the extra water monitoring now required for potable water and future requirements like the addition of Fluouride/pH correction and the likes. The money WDC have spent at Breamar to remove arsenic etc, All due to NZDWS, has anyone died or become sick from our current water supplies, but are CG paying for this extra cost- no. On that note the Whalkatane and Ohope supply currently sourced from the Whakatane River is never going to improve

with Cyanobacteria/salt/ Tanueatua sewer/rural runoff all sources of contamination. Secure water at Paul rd/Johnson/Braemar need to be reticulated into Whakatane as a priority rather than dealing with things like food scraps and a Marina location which may only be accessible by shallow draft boats. Is there any river soundings showing the river level to the bridge and at what river flow, this would be an interesting graph to view, let alone the extra fuel to travel that extra distance.

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**Name:****Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)****How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

In its 2019 SUBMISSION ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING AND FINANCING ISSUES PAPER (NOVEMBER 2018) Whakatāne District Council noted over the past 10 years' rates increases have outstripped mean annual earnings for the district 50.8% versus 29.6%. The Council went on to state "that this continued escalation cannot be sustained within the limitations on current funding mechanisms" and "While a broader range of funding mechanisms are needed, the Council also recognises that the cost drivers themselves need to be addressed to arrive at a longer-term sustainable position". This gap is likely to have increased further over the subsequent 6 years to 2024 given Council spending and inflation pressures. And although the funding mechanisms have not materially changed for Council the cost escalations have materially increased with a 64.5% rates increase forecast over the next 5 years (pg31 of LTP consultation document). Until Council is able to address the cost drivers and arrive at a longer term sustainable position it is not financially prudent to plan for large rates-funded discretionary expenditures, particularly when regressive rates (see 'how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district') are being proposed as the preferred option as this will disproportionately harm those least able to afford the increases and increase deprivation levels/poverty in the district. See <https://www.royalsociety.org.nz/assets/Spotlight-on-poverty-digital-v2.pdf> on the impacts of poverty. "material hardship and low family incomes reduce childhood wellbeing... when controlling for other variables, child poverty can significantly affect a person's whole life course, contributing to protracted and repeated ill health, limited employment prospects, insecure housing, and persistent poverty". This is counter to Council's stated vision and priorities "a great quality of life" and "Enhancing the safety, wellbeing and vibrancy of communities". Noting the majority of the district are amongst the most-deprived families in Aotearoa with higher than average unemployment rates and lower than average income.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

According to a recent Beacon article quoting waste management staff the district produces 14,000 ton of food waste annually, this represents around 1kg per person per day that is currently going to landfill and producing emissions. Community food waste collection and processing will materially reduce food waste to landfill and if composted/aerated will reduce methane emissions.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Option 3 has the lowest net present cost of the options presented. If cost reductions cannot be achieved to reduce increases then using Council debt to smooth cost increases is preferred as the Council is able to access considerably better financing rates than the general public.

### **How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

#### **Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

A progressive rating with a lower UAGC percentage (as opposed to a regressive one) is more equitable as it, by in large, recovers funds from those most able to afford the cost increases, as there is a strong correlation between rating value and overall wealth. See

<https://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/an/an-21-01#house-price-growth-decreases-the-overall-gini-coefficient>

#### **Supporting document**

N/A

#### **Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

I would encourage the Mayor and Councillors to: 1. Critically review the progress that has been made towards Council's stated intention to arrive at a longer-term sustainable position for the district and its people as indicated in its submission in 2019 to the Productivity Commission. And reconsider whether the draft LTP is moving us towards or away from this position, and whether it is being equitable in terms of both costs and services to the various communities in the district. 2. Review the Council's annual plan definition of the "Rates Affordability" benchmark and set new benchmarks that are customer-focussed ie reflect our community's ability to afford the increases. As the current definition does not measure the rates affordability for our society/socio-economic groups (ie relative to deprivation, disposable incomes etc). By way of example, comparing the proposed rates increase to the median disposable income change would indicate whether a proposed rates increase is likely to erode disposable incomes and to what extent (and takes into account other inflationary pressures on households). Materially reducing disposable incomes will have impacts such as less money circulating in the local economy, reduced wellbeing and more families in material hardship/deprivation.

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Submission ID: 622

Date: Apr 11 24 11:32:17 pm

Name:

Nicola Dobson

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation) -

### How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Option 2: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.

### Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

As a regular user of many of the spaces within the Rex Morpeth Hub, I strongly support the FULL REDEVELOPMENT of the Rex Morpeth hub. I would like to see external funding not just limited to 50 % but strive to source as much as possible through external funding sources including sponsorship opportunities. Many of the areas in the 'Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub' have had the bare minimum done to them over the years they are now in a state where a lick of paint will not do the trick. The Little theatre is so 'quaint' it's embarrassing. The toilets are grossly run down with mould on the ceiling tiles in many places with significant parts of facility that look like they belong in the 80's. I don't think much has changed since I was a child doing my school production in the theatre in the 90's. With a thriving arts and theatre community this space needs addressing. Benefits would be bigger productions which can generate economic growth for the town and district. The playground is very outdated and uninviting. Parking is NOT adequate. We've seen this numerous times with key events. This limits future potential to host more. The sports stadium is very limiting and regularly overbooked. Schools from across the district use this facility for interschool competitions daily/weekly / monthly. The sports stadium also feels unsafe when busy with poor entrance and exit design when you have large amounts of people entering and exiting at the same time. My daughter has been knocked over a few times. :( It has been proven through research that the value of sport and participation in youth and adolescence is vital to their wellbeing. Let's support that through quality experiences and recreational facilities to draw more youth to participate in sport. We know that mental health in youth is at a crisis point. Council please do not add to this. See attached a supporting NZ research paper on the benefits of youth wellbeing and sport participation or visit this link. <https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/19/14/8579> Let's look to the future - we have many possibilities in this hub space - Bigger events and productions = more economic benefits for our town and district. Both the rugby and football pavilions are not fit for purpose and need to be better aligned to meet current and future needs for both sports. This is a decision affects our current residents as this space is not fit for purpose and will greatly affect future generations if full redevelopment does not proceed. Council missed the boat in the 2015 LTP by not redeveloping the War Memorial hall into a modern flexible facility. Which has resulted in it degrading further and not meeting health and safety standards and increased costs! It must go ahead.

### How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

### Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

As someone who already manages their food waste through compost and scraps which are fed to chickens, my preference would be to at least keep it in greenwaste not adding another bin to the mix. Also what happens to all the current waste bins?

### **How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

### **Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Times are tough for many. Let's ease the burden where we can without compromising on the wellbeing of our future generations by attempting to cost cut on projects which are not actually the ones hurting our pockets (Rex Morpeth hub needs to go ahead as this facility is not fit for purpose in its current state)

### **How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

### **Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

### **Supporting document**

Attached

### **Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

My views above are my personal opinion. Please be aware I am a current staff member of the Whakatane District Council. I live in the district and am also a ratepayer and regular user of many facilities in our district. Matatā Wastewater Project • Thank you for the many years of work that has been poured into trying to find a Wastewater solution for matata. Please continue to complete this project and not let that funding be wasted. • Council needs to find a solution for the management of mains wastewater for the Matatā community to address the current failing septic tank systems in Matatā. • The project must proceed to address long-term contamination issues and protect the health and wellbeing of our whānau, hapū and iwi and for future generations. • Staying with the failing septic tank systems isn't an option due to a large number of properties not being able to meet BOPRC OSET regulations at present. We are in a housing crisis, and cannot lose further housing Matatā. • This project enables Matatā to grow and housing to be developed in the future. • This project will help restore the mauri to Te Awa o te Atua (Matatā lagoon) which is a treasure that should be nurtured! • Please continue to work with the Central government, BOPRC and other agency to source funding to make this happen. Thanks for all the hard mahi that has gone into this LTP. :)

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Article

# The Value of Sport: Wellbeing Benefits of Sport Participation during Adolescence

Oliver W. A. Wilson <sup>1</sup>, Chris Whatman <sup>2</sup>, Simon Walters <sup>2</sup> , Sierra Keung <sup>2</sup> , Dion Enari <sup>2</sup>, Andy Rogers <sup>3</sup>, Sarah-Kate Millar <sup>4</sup>, Lesley Ferkins <sup>2</sup>, Erica Hinckson <sup>2</sup>, Jeremy Hapeta <sup>5</sup> , Michael Sam <sup>5</sup> and Justin Richards <sup>1,3,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Te Hau Kori, Faculty of Health, Victoria University of Wellington, Wellington 6140, New Zealand; oliver.wilson@vuw.ac.nz

<sup>2</sup> School of Sport & Recreation, Auckland University of Technology, Auckland 1011, New Zealand; chris.whatman@aut.ac.nz (C.W.); simon.walters@aut.ac.nz (S.W.); sierra.keung@aut.ac.nz (S.K.); dion.enari@aut.ac.nz (D.E.); lesley.ferkins@aut.ac.nz (L.F.); erica.hinckson@aut.ac.nz (E.H.)

<sup>3</sup> Sport New Zealand, Wellington 6140, New Zealand; andy.rogers@sportnz.org.nz

<sup>4</sup> Faculty of Health, University of Canterbury, Christchurch 8140, New Zealand; sarah-kate.millar@canterbury.ac.nz

<sup>5</sup> School of Physical Education, Sport and Exercise Sciences, University of Otago, Dunedin 9016, New Zealand; jeremy.hapeta@otago.ac.nz (J.H.); mike.sam@otago.ac.nz (M.S.)

\* Correspondence: justin.richards@sportnz.org.nz

**Abstract:** Insight into the unique benefits of sport participation above and beyond those associated with participation in other physical activities among adolescents is limited in Aotearoa New Zealand (NZ). The purpose of this study was to examine the association between wellbeing and organised sport participation among adolescents whilst accounting for demographic characteristics and other recreational physical activity. Demographic characteristics (age, gender, ethnicity, deprivation, (dis)ability status), organized sport, recreational physical activity, and wellbeing were assessed in cohorts of NZ adolescents (11–17 years) between 2017 and 2019. After adjusting for demographics, better wellbeing was associated with participation in any recreational physical activity (OR = 2.49, 95%CI = 1.97–3.13), meeting physical activity recommendations (OR = 1.63, 95%CI = 1.47–1.81), and each additional hour of recreational physical activity (OR = 1.03, 95%CI = 1.02–1.04). After adjusting for demographics and overall recreational physical activity participation, better wellbeing was also associated with participation in any organized sport (OR = 1.66, 95%CI = 1.49–1.86), and each additional hour of organized sport (OR = 1.09, 95%CI = 1.07–1.11). Although participation in recreational physical activity appears to be beneficial for wellbeing, organized sport appears to offer unique additional wellbeing benefits. Positive experiences of organized sport participation may offer additional wellbeing value above and beyond other recreational physical activity types in young people who are active.

**Keywords:** physical activity; sport; exercise; recreation; leisure; wellbeing; happiness; youth; young people



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## 1. Introduction

The promotion of national wellbeing is acknowledged as a priority internationally [1–3], including in Aotearoa New Zealand (NZ) where child and youth wellbeing in particular is increasingly being prioritized [4,5]. While there is ongoing conjecture concerning exactly what defines wellbeing internationally, in the NZ context, NZ's Living Standards Framework (LSF) clearly sets forth 12 domains that comprise individual and collective wellbeing and the roles of institutions and organisations in facilitating wellbeing [6]. The development of the LSF was informed by decades of international wellbeing research [7].

There is an emerging evidence base supporting the wellbeing value of quality physical activity experiences. Numerous studies have indicated that there is a positive association



between subjective wellbeing and physical activity [8,9]. Evidence among adolescents also suggests that there is a reciprocal relationship between physical activity and subjective wellbeing [10]. Beyond subjective wellbeing, there is a wealth of evidence demonstrating an association between physical activity and constructs related to wellbeing among children and adolescents, including: mental [11–15] and physical health [16]; social connections and support [17–21]; cognition, academic achievement, and physical literacy [12,22–25]; socio-economic status [26]; and, housing, environmental amenity, and safety [27–31].

Continuing to develop an understanding of the potential and nuanced contribution of physical activity and sport to population wellbeing is indicated. Evidence indicates that recreational physical activity may have an additional benefit to wellbeing beyond other domains of physical activity [32]. Similarly, sport participation may have benefits that are unique when compared to other forms of recreational physical activity [33]. However, limited conclusive evidence examining the contributions of different types of physical activity to wellbeing among adolescents is available [34], particularly in the context of NZ. Mixed findings from recent research concerning sport and wellbeing in NZ indicate that further investigation to better understand this relationship is warranted [35].

Thus, the aim of this study was to examine how wellbeing is associated with overall recreational physical activity and organised sport participation in young people, whilst accounting for a broad range of relevant socio-demographic characteristics [36]. This will provide an insight into the potential unique contribution to the wellbeing of young people of participation in organised sport vs. recreational physical activity more generally. In doing so, findings will offer an insight into whether quality sport experiences have an additional wellbeing benefit in a NZ context, as well as offer guidance as to what types of physical activity should be prioritised to optimise its contribution to the wellbeing of young people in NZ.

## 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1. Participants and Procedures

Data were collected as a part of the Active NZ Young Peoples survey [37]. Data included in the current study were collected continuously from the beginning of 2017 to the end of 2019. Young people, children and adolescents aged 5–17 years at baseline, were recruited via adults residing in their household who were identified to participate in the Active NZ adults survey using the NZ electoral roll as a sampling frame. Full survey methods are detailed in the annual Active NZ Technical reports [38–40]. Participants who did not have complete socio-demographic characteristics, physical activity, and wellbeing data were excluded. Those younger than 11 years and those no longer at school were also excluded. The final analyses included data for 6771 young people.

### 2.2. Measures

#### 2.2.1. Demographic Characteristics

Age: Participants identified their age in years.

Gender: Participants identified their gender (male, female, or gender diverse). Due to limited sample size for gender diverse our inferential analyses focused on cis-gender individuals.

Ethnicity: Participants identified their ethnic group(s), and there was no limit on the number of ethnicities they could choose. For the purposes of these analyses, participants who identified multiple ethnicities were categorised to only one ethnic group using the following prioritisation: Māori, Pasifika, Asian, Middle Eastern/Latin American/African (MELAA), European, other. These ethnic groups were selected based on those specified by Statistics NZ. Due to limited sample size for other ethnicities our inferential analyses did not include this group.

Disability status: Participants who did not report using a wheelchair, using a walking aid, using prosthetics, or dealing with an ongoing physical illness were classified as someone without a disability.

Deprivation status: Deprivation was determined using the 2018 NZ Index of Deprivation, which combines census data relating to income, home ownership, employment, qualifications, family structure, housing, access to transport and communications to designate small geographic areas (60–110 people) with a decile number ranging from 1 (least deprived) to 10 (most deprived) [41]. Participants were classified as residing in low (deciles 1–3), medium (deciles 4–7), and high (deciles 8–10) deprivation areas.

### 2.2.2. Physical Activity and Sport Participation

Participation: Participants were asked whether they had performed any physical activity that was specifically for the purpose of sport, exercise, or recreation in the past seven days (yes/no).

Those who answered yes were classified as participants in “recreational physical activity” and were then asked to identify from a list of 77 options which activities they participated in during the past seven days. There was also an “other” option provided with free text for participants to describe any activity they had performed that was not listed.

Setting: For activities that they had participated in, participants were asked in what settings they had participated in (“in PE or class at school”, “in a competition or tournament”, “training or practicing with a coach/instructor”, “playing or hanging out with family or friends”, “playing on my own”, or “for extra exercise, training, or practice without a coach or instructor”).

Duration: If participants indicated that they had participated in a given activity in a given setting they were asked how long they participated in the activity/setting in a given week (15 min, 30 min, 45 min, 1 h, 1.5 h, 2 h, 3 h, 4 h, or 5 h or more).

Physical activity and sport classification: The list of recreational physical activities included non-sport recreational activities (e.g., tramping or bush walks) and exercise (e.g., gym), as well as a range of sports. For the purpose of this study, the following activities were considered “sport physical activity”: Adventure racing, athletics, badminton, basketball, body boarding, boxing, canoeing or kayaking, cheerleading, cricket, croquet, cross country, cycling or biking, dance/dancing, football/soccer, futsal, golf, gymnastics, handball, hockey or floorball, indoor climbing, jiu jitsu, ki-o-rahi, kapa haka, karate, mountain biking, motorbiking, motocross, netball, orienteering, paddle boarding, parkour, rock climbing, rollerblading, roller skating, rowing, rugby or rippa rugby, rugby league, running/jogging, sailing or yachting, scuba diving, scootering, skateboarding, skiing, snowboarding, softball, squash, surf lifesaving, surfing, swimming, table tennis, taekwondo, tennis, touch, trampoline, triathlon or duathlon, ultimate frisbee, volleyball, waka ama, wake boarding, water polo or flippa ball, water skiing.

Recreational physical activity and organized sport definitions: Several recreational physical activity and organized sport variables were included in analyses in the current paper. These variables were defined as follows:

- Physically active—participation in any recreational physical activity (active vs. inactive)
- Recreational physical activity duration—sum of durations (hours/week) across all listed activities and settings
- Meeting physical activity recommendations— $\geq 420$  min/week of recreational physical activity (meeting recommendations vs. not meeting recommendations) [42].
- Organized sport participant—participation in any sport physical activity “in a competition or tournament” and/or “training or practicing with a coach/instructor” (participant vs. non-participant)
- Organized sport activity duration—sum of durations (hours/week) for sport physical activity “in a competition or tournament” and/or “training or practicing with a coach/instructor”.

### 2.2.3. Wellbeing

Participants were asked to respond to a question rating their wellbeing on a 10-point scale ranging from 1 (very unhappy) to 10 (very happy). Whilst it is recognized that

wellbeing is a multi-dimensional construct, the single item measure used in this study has been shown to be a valid overall wellbeing indicator and aligns with the OECD Guidelines on Measuring Subjective Wellbeing [43]. Based on the distribution of the data, participants whose response was  $\geq 8$  were categorized as having “better wellbeing”.

### 2.3. Statistical Analyses

Analyses were conducted using SPSS (Version 28.0, IBM, Armonk, NY, USA). Descriptive statistics were computed to describe the sample. Binary logistic regression analyses were conducted to examine the association between wellbeing and the various recreational physical activity and organized sport variables. Two different analyses were conducted for the association between wellbeing and the physical activity and organized sport variables: Model 1 was a crude unadjusted model; Model 2 was adjusted for socio-demographic characteristics. A third model was completed for the organized sport variables, which adjusted for socio-demographic characteristics and total recreational physical activity duration. We calculated 95% confidence intervals (CIs) for all of the odds ratios (ORs) reported and used these to assess statistical significance (i.e., 95% CIs not crossing 1.0 equivalent to  $p < 0.05$ ).

## 3. Results

### 3.1. Participant Characteristics

Participant characteristics are reported in Table 1. The sample was relatively evenly split between males and females, and the majority were European (58.5%), were without a physical disability (94.7%), and resided in low–mid-deprivation areas (77.7%). Nearly all of the sample were active, i.e., reported participating in some physical activity (94.7%). The average duration of recreational physical activity participation was  $10.9 \pm 10.1$  h/week and most of the sample reported participating in sufficient physical activity to meet physical activity recommendations (58.4%). The average duration of organized sport participation was  $2.8 \pm 3.6$  h/week, with most of the sample reportedly participating in organized sport (63.5%). Most participants were categorized as having good wellbeing (63.0%), with an average response to the wellbeing item of  $7.7 \pm 1.7$ .

**Table 1.** Participant characteristics.

	<i>n</i>	%
Gender		
Boys	3033	44.8
Girls	3708	54.8
Another gender	30	0.4
Ethnicity		
European	4772	70.5
Māori	1052	15.2
Pasifika	210	3.1
Asian	665	9.7
MELAA	86	1.3
Other	16	0.2
Disability status		
Without physical disability	6407	94.6
With physical disability	364	5.4
Social deprivation		
Low deprivation	2827	41.8
Mid deprivation	2714	40.1
High deprivation	1230	18.2

### 3.2. Association between Physical Activity/Organized Sport Participating and Wellbeing

All the physical activity and organized sport variables have a significant positive association with wellbeing in the crude model (Model 1). The results from Model 2 indicate

that adolescents that do any recreational physical activity have 2.49 higher odds of having better wellbeing than those who do no recreational physical activity. Those who met physical activity recommendations had 63% higher odds of having better wellbeing than those below this threshold. The odds of having better wellbeing were also 3% higher for every additional hour of participation in any recreational physical activity. The results from Model 3 indicate that participation in organized sport was associated with 66% higher odds of having better wellbeing, independent of total recreational physical activity participation. Every additional hour of organized sport participation was associated with 9% higher odds of having better wellbeing, independent of total recreational physical activity participation (Table 2).

**Table 2.** Binary logistic regression analyses examining the association between physical activity/organized sport participation and wellbeing.

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
	OR (95%CI)		
Active (any physical activity; referent: no physical activity)	3.07 (2.46–3.83)	2.49 (1.97–3.13)	
Meeting physical activity recs ( $\geq 420$ min/week)	1.85 (1.67–2.04)	1.63 (1.47–1.81)	
Physical activity (hours/week)	1.04 (1.03–1.04)	1.03 (1.02–1.04)	
Any organized sport (referent: no organized sport)	1.96 (1.77–2.18)	1.78 (1.60–1.98)	1.66 (1.49–1.86)
Organized sport duration (hours/week)	1.12 (1.10–1.13)	1.11 (1.09–1.13)	1.09 (1.07–1.11)

Note. Model 1—no adjustments; Model 2—adjusted for socio-demographic characteristics; Model 3—adjusted for socio-demographic characteristics and total physical activity.

#### 4. Discussion

Our results indicate that participating in recreational physical activity is positively associated with wellbeing during adolescence in NZ. Young people who do any recreational physical activity are more likely to have better wellbeing and there appeared to be additional benefit for each additional hour of participation. However, our findings also suggest that participation in organised sport was even more strongly associated with wellbeing outcomes for young people in NZ, even after taking into account total duration of recreational physical activity participation.

The positive association between physical activity participation and wellbeing among adolescents is consistent with previous research, which has also identified several potential neurobiological, psychosocial, and behavioural pathways for this relationship [10,12,44]. Our findings suggest that any recreational physical activity participation is better than none, and that there is a positive dose–response relationship. This also aligns with the dose–response curve observed in previous research examining the association between wellbeing and physical activity among adults [9]. The cross-sectional nature of our study prevents determination of the direction of causation for the associations between physical activity participation and wellbeing. Although there is strong evidence regarding the impact of physical activity participation on wellbeing [11,15,33,45–48], a reciprocal relationship is probable [10]. This means that while physical activity participation improves wellbeing it is also likely that better wellbeing facilitates greater physical activity participation (i.e., a virtuous cycle). Thus, beyond advocating for physical activity and sport to promote youth wellbeing, fostering youth wellbeing using other means could also directly contribute to enhancing participation in physical activity.

Our findings also indicate that participation in organized sport offers a unique benefit to wellbeing above and beyond participation in other recreational physical activities. This is consistent with the conclusions of a prior systematic review concerning the benefits of participation in sport for children and adolescents [33]. It is worth noting that the magnitude of the apparent benefit from additional participation in organized sport is considerably larger than that of additional participation in overall recreational physical activity in our study. This was the case for participating in any organized sport (i.e., vs. none) and for each additional hour of participation. That being said, it is well established

that there is a limit beyond which the impact on wellbeing of additional participation in organized sport plateaus and may actually start to decrease. This is particularly pertinent when participation is driven by early specialization, which can contribute to burnout and musculoskeletal injuries stemming from overuse [49–51]. We were not able to examine this in our analyses due to limitations in the physical activity duration data available.

Although examining the mechanisms that explain why sport may offer benefits to wellbeing above and beyond participation in other recreational physical activities is beyond the scope of our study, we can surmise several hypotheses from the existing literature. Positive sporting experiences may provide young people with a better opportunity to realize benefits stemming from social connections and a sense of relatedness, competence, and achievement. The organized sport context in NZ is widely recognized as a space that aims to facilitate both bonding and bridging social capital in local communities [52]. There is also evidence from studies of young adults suggesting that more intrinsic motives (enjoyment and challenge) are associated with sport, whereas more extrinsic motives (appearance, weight, and stress management) are associated with exercise [53]. Indeed, evidence suggests that intrinsic motivation, perceived competence, and relatedness tend to be higher among adolescents who participate in sporting activities compared to those who participate in non-sporting physical activities or are inactive [54]. Positively influencing these interpersonal and intrapersonal characteristics are explicitly recognized as key objectives in the coach development pathways for numerous sports in NZ [55]. Given the prominence of “coaches” in how we have defined organized sport in this study, it is likely that experiences with sport coaches have directly contributed to our wellbeing findings.

The current study is not without limitations beyond its cross-sectional design. Self-report measures of physical activity tend to overestimate activity levels [56]. However, given our focus on physical activity behaviour (i.e., type of activity), rather than on duration of movement (i.e., device-based measures), self-report methods are the most pragmatic and valid way to collect data from an adequate sample as in our study. There are also limitations in the way we have measured wellbeing. Although the single item we used does not encompass all of the domains of wellbeing outlined in the LSF, such single items have been shown to be valid and robust measures of overall wellbeing internationally [57]. However, it is unknown how well the wellbeing single item we used captures the wellbeing of Māori and/or Pacific people in NZ. Wellbeing described by these population groups emphasizes interpersonal relationships (particularly whānau and family), culture, religion, connectedness, belonging, and geographical dimensions [58–61]. Consequently, further research is warranted to understand the relevance of our findings in these population groups and more broadly across all of the wellbeing domains outlined in the LSF and other constructs of wellbeing for different population groups.

## 5. Conclusions

In summary, participation in organized sport appears to offer a unique benefit to wellbeing above and beyond participation in other recreational physical activities. Thus, while quality experiences of recreational physical activity are evidently beneficial for wellbeing, promoting participation in organized sport may offer greater value for those who are already active. Further investigation into whether the wellbeing benefits of sport vary based on setting and/or type of sporting activity is warranted, as is further research on understanding the mechanisms that underpin why sport may offer benefits beyond those of other recreational physical activities in different population groups.

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Submission ID: 623

Date: Apr 12 24 02:11:58 am

Name:

Donna HALL

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 1: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

I think we need to develop a for profit business plan for the management of our town. I realize that this is not a model that is typically used by councils, however, it is clear that we have put band aids on band aids for too long and now we have a broken system. We should come together; council, residents and business leaders to devise a plan that not only makes RMRH profitable but also the various other projects around town that can revitalize Whakatane. I would also like to propose that a committee be formed to explore municipal bonds. It seems more palatable to raise money by issuing secure Municipality bonds and facilitating investing in our town than it does to just keep looking to residents to find more money when the majority cannot. What could be better for this town than having a community with a sense of belonging, ownership, pride through secure, interest yielding bonds? Please do not "patch" anything else in this town. We need to optimize the full potential of Whakatane.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 3: Separate foodwaste collection for all properties.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 2: Close the gap in the short-term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

No more debt! Close the funding gap with bonds and not debt transferred from the broken council to the broken people.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Asking people that calculate the cost of their shopping as the search the aisle of the grocery store to find \$927.50 makes no sense, especially at this time when people are behind on their mortgages or rent, living in cars or sleep outs, worried about employment and finding it impossible to make ends meet.

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Dr Luca and Councilors, I urge you to form a committee to explore the possibilities for designing a business model of profitability for Whakatane. The system is beyond broken.

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Submission ID: 624

Date: Apr 12 24 03:35:23 am

Name:

Joe Parker

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Maintain only until the next review. No extra spending. Carry out only necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

By pass this though, proven that this does not work, Mix foodwaste and greenwaste.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Stop borrowing money until ratepayers can afford to pay it back

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

User pays

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Live within our means, Number 1. Do not re-employ your current CEO.

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**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)** N/A

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Upgrades and safety are necessary- spending over 100mil is unnecessary

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

That's what the majority seem to be doing now and it seems to work. Not sure on how this looks at your end

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Times are very tough, we are in recession so ease the burden makes sense

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Once again times are tough so you need to be pragmatic with cost hikes

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

The bridge is a challenge that requires careful thought, are there other towns cities that have encountered similar for us to learn from?

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**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Remove any buildings which require upgrades and only maintain the grounds. Any sporting or other groups wanting to have facilities should fundraise.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Do not increase the debt with unnecessary projects.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 1: (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Using area and unrealised property value as a surrogate for people's ability to pay is not evidenced. Perhaps those using council facilities should pay more.

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Please stop putting flowers in the roundabouts. This is a waste of money. Please seal the footpath/cycle path from Ōhope to Whakatane so that cycling becomes less of a risk for commuters.

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Submission ID: 627

Date: Apr 12 24 07:32:14 am

Name:

Chris and Anita Etter

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

we the people, have not the money to upgrade and rebuild the rex morpeth recreation hub. we cannot carry on spending millions and millions of money that we don't have. back to basics, if you can't afford. get your books in order before you make big plans. like everyone out there who has to deal with ever increasing insurance, rates, electricity, food bills, repair on their own house etc.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

people need to compost. personal responsibility.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

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**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

This is only used by a handful of people. Do only minimal fixes required. I don't agree with any rebuild it is a waste of rate payers money.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Seen in other places this just creates mess and dogs get into bins.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 1: Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

People can't afford to make ends meet this is just another whack in the face because of over spending!

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Stop unnecessary spending! Treat our money like a business or a household if you don't have it don't spend it. Focus money on the effluent ponds and don't let any new builds go ahead unless they have septic systems in place. We are rural and we get nothing but roadside collection out here. We do all our own roadside mowing as no mowers come down our road, there is no curbing, no drainages, the road is coming away at the sides and yet the rates keep going up. Make contractors liable for shitty repairs they do for jobs pay the first 2 quarters of bill and rest if road actually stays good for a year instead of paying them over and over to fix same fixes they should have done properly in first place.

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Submission ID: 629

Date: Apr 12 24 08:10:47 am

Name:

Gail Dawson

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation) 032-551-211

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Do not do any work on Rex Morpeth Park as Matata is in urgent need of Sewerage

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

None of above

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Whatever is the most efficient and cheapest way for the ratepapers

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Equally across every ratepayer in Whakatane District Council

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Please help Matata as the Council need to look at Matata and its needs especially sewage.

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Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Where's the question about the proposed charges for the Murupara dump. I am against the proposal. Our community is a low socio-economic community with a large amount of ratepayers that are unemployed as well as a large number of home renters that are unemployed. You mention the fact that dumping of rubbish is widespread. We don't have too much of an issue in our community (that I am aware of) because the dump is free. Responsible people use our dump and if the change is made to start charging for the usage then these responsible people will be forced to become irresponsible due to not being able to afford the cost of dumping. If there is no other option then to start charging for the use of the dump, then it should be at an affordable rate in keeping with what our community can afford. There is a never ending complaint that our little town pays our rates so that Whakatane can be made beautiful. Prove the complainants wrong and support our community.

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Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation) Ratepayer

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Definitely No expense done on Rex Morpeth as sewage in Matata a high priority.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

None of the above choices. Foodwaste individual for ratepayers to put in their gardens

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

The most economical course for the Whakatane District Council ratepayers

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Equally across all ratepayers and as low as possible

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

You all must look after Matata which is always overlooked. Please we need a sewage system with our water table being so high in Matata which is a risk to the people of Matata

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Submission ID: 632

Date: Apr 12 24 08:32:17 am

Name:

Dave Stewart

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

My name is Dave Stewart and I have been a resident of Coastlands, Whakatane since 2015 when I was 58 years old. When I arrived here I was having trouble with a knee and was told by my doctor that I would need a knee replacement. I registered at the Doctors in Whakatane on arrival and was again diagnosed after x-rays this time, that I would need a knee replacement. Before coming here I lived in a remote rural community in Waikaretu, North Waikato and everything was an hour away. I was able to go to the gym once a week if I was lucky. On arrival here I started going to Jets gym every weekday using a treadmill and an exercycle. I loved the exercycle and spent many hours on it cycling and reading. I bought a traditional bicycle and started using it from Coastlands into town and back a few days a week using the Keepa Road Cycleway and the Warren Cole Cycleway. Within 3 months of arrival here and cycling most days my next doctor's appointment the doctor asked how my knee was. It was the first time I had thought about in weeks. I had to ask him which knee was the crook one. I now cycle using an e-bike most days. However I will only cycle where it is safe and that means I won't ride on Landing Road, Commerce Street or The Strand. Cycling has seen me lose over 20 kilos in weight, caused a reduction in all my medications for diabetes, cholesterol and heart pills and has resulted in me not requiring expensive publicly funded surgery for knees and hips. The reason for this is the walk and cycleways. My submission to this council is to save more lives and make the general health and wellbeing of this community better by investing much more than it does in walk and cycleways. If you build it, they will come. I am proof of that. The cost of these civic facilities is chickenfeed compared to the enriched lives

and physical wellbeing of the people in the community who will use and benefit from them. My e-bike costs me .36 cents to fully charged the battery, and I can get over 50 kilometres on that charge. I hardly ever use my car unless I need to do a big shop. I don't take up a parking spot and I'm not spewing emissions form my Holden Commodore. Everyone is winning from the Keepa Road and Warren Cole Cycleways. It is a complete no-brainer to expand the network and I am in full support of this council spending my rates money on improving and developing cycleways in particular the Rangitaiki Plains Cycleway Network. If possible and if required I would like to present this submission in person. Please keep up the good work.

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**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

maintenance only on the War Memorial Hall

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

keep current system

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

stop spending

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 1: (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

stop spending and put costs where they lie

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

please focus on the core business, go back to basics and get them right first

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Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

I am really excited to hear about the food waste collections and am proud that Whakatane are planning to introduce the collection well before the government requirements. Placing food waste into the green waste bins makes the most sense. I live in Whakatane and my family compost and worm farm all our food waste so I would not actually use this service personally. We live in a large section with plenty of room to do this so we are very lucky. I am more concerned with and I would like to know how local schools fit into this new proposed scheme - especially schools that offer free school lunches. It would be a real shame for schools not to be included in the food waste collections. Schools sending waste food for collection to be made into compost would help close the circle of this government initiative. Food waste from school lunches is a big peeve to the taxpayer. I feel great that schools put excess meals out into the community for people in need but there is a lot of waste at school that could be disposed of better. I think taxpayers deserve this. Free school lunches is an incredible service to our rangatahi and one that should not be questioned because of issues like waste that we can solve quite easily. PLEASE GIVE SCHOOLS IN WHAKATANE FOOD WASTE COLLECTION BINS!!!

---

Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

I am really excited to hear about the food waste collections and am proud that Whakatane are planning to introduce the collection well before the government requirements. Placing food waste into the green waste bins makes the most sense. I live in Whakatane and my family compost and worm farm all our food waste so I would not actually use this service personally. We live in a large section with plenty of room to do this so we are very lucky. I am more concerned with and I would like to know how local schools fit into this new proposed scheme - especially schools that offer free school lunches. It would be a real shame for schools not to be included in the food waste collections. Schools sending waste food for collection to be made into compost would help close the circle of this government initiative. Food waste from school lunches is a big peeve to the taxpayer. I feel great that schools put excess meals out into the community for people in need but there is a lot of waste at school that could be disposed of better. I think taxpayers deserve this. Free school lunches is an incredible service to our rangatahi and one that should not be questioned because of issues like waste that we can solve quite easily. PLEASE GIVE SCHOOLS IN WHAKATANE FOOD WASTE COLLECTION BINS!!!

---

**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Focus on health and safety requirements and essential maintenance

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Let's have a big campaign to teach people to compost wherever possible.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Those that can afford more should pay more. I guess option 3 is most likely to deliver that. But Property ownership is not a great way to determine what people can afford. I would not like to see older people or others whose income has changed be forced out of their homes because they can't afford the rates. This could be addressed by a more comprehensive approach to rates relief.

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

A housing needs assessment is urgently required for our district so that we have a clear idea of current conditions, how people want and need to live so that we can ensure planning rules allow for the variety of housing we need. Council should actively support the development of affordable housing. The implementation of planning rules must focus on maximising wellbeing and supporting people to find solutions. Rules should be rationalised and communicated in plain English so that ordinary people are able to gain the consents they need without spending a fortune. Council staff must work with compassion to support people to achieve the basic right of a roof over their head. The focus must be support rather than compliance. People must not be forced to spend many thousands of dollars on attempts to gain consent only to have their application declined. I am absolutely opposed to any marina development on the Whakatāne river. Marinas benefit a few who can afford that lifestyle and spoil the environment for the rest of us. I do not believe a marina would bring much additional income to the town. Please don't allow this. There are many better uses of the Harbour fund eg use this fund to do more to increase climate change resilience.

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**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Your Long Term Plan consultation document refers. You say, quite rightly, that “trade-offs always need to be made between desires and affordability”. So before making any decisions on future projects, try talking to anyone on a low income, who has for years struggled to cover “normal” council rate percentage rises and who is now, in order to meet rises in the region of 17%, going to be facing significant reductions in their quality of life! They won’t be pleased. Next mention that their sacrifices will enable a sports facilities project to keep going and apoplectic might be a good word to describe their reaction! It’s a no-brainer. With the possible exception of essential health and safety rectifications, please postpone your “desired” Recreation Hub until “affordable” times return.

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Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

I have read most of the information on the LTP and don't feel the guided answer sheet covers my responses so I have decided for better or worse to submit this document.. 1. I think we should at this moment look to choose the cheaper options some of which are preferred. 2. Borrowing is Ok for infrastructure and sporting and cultural developments. They should be paid for over the longer term as they will benefit future generations. 3. So far as possible rates should target those who can most afford to pay – not sure how to do this but a worthy aim. 4. Though well into my 9th decade I am concerned by the clamour coming from my fellow grey power ratepayers. I am amused by their concern about 10 year plans when my LTP is putting my feet on the floor tomorrow. I fear their 'noise' might unduly influence decision making just to keep them quiet. For example the War Memorial Complex is vital for Whakatane's well being. In the 1970s I thought it was ridiculous to go ahead with upgrading the original Hall. How wrong I was. It has given us hours of pleasure and unleashed great sporting and artistic talent in this community. It must at least be maintained in a good state for future generations. I liked the cheapest option. 5. For me one of the disappointments of the consultation document is that we seem to be viewing the next 10 years through the present lens. The endless arguments about a second bridge and where to put it for instance. I ask the question 'Would another bridge ease congestion? Or just make it easier for more cars to get into the CBD and clog it more quickly. I wondered if we could tackle the problem by doing what other urban areas (certainly bigger than ours) are doing and gently persuade people to get out of their cars and thus reduce the pressure on the existing bridge. Not so easy with our

dispersed population but better brains than mine might come up with some interesting suggestions.. Actions that might achieve some change – more car parking charges, park and ride at The Hub with buses bringing people over the bridge and back, differential charges to cross the bridge, free charging for ebikes, preferential entry lanes for bikes and buses to cross the bridge. It will need a huge change in mind set and a very courageous council. If we could embark on something like this it would be a NZ first but I think we could at least start to put ideas such as this into the discussion. 6 Does the river offer any possibilities for moving people to the town wharf? 7. We got our wish and had the Government return the 3 Waters problem to local authorities. I think that we should wait along with Kawerau to see what doing water better means in terms of hard cash before finalising the LTP . Would there be any advantage for the Council in persuading/helping more people to get their own water tanks and use roof water for flushing toilets and watering gardens rather than potable water. I am an avid reader of The Opinion page in The Beacon and enjoy reading the thoughts of some of the occasional contributors as opposed to the old diehards. We have some very clever people in our community. It would be beneficial for our future if we could enthuse them to come up with some new directions for our lovely community . Regards and best wishes for your deliberations. You will be damned if you do and damned if you don't so I hope you can point us in some new and interesting directions. Having said that I understand that it all comes down to MONEY.

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Submission ID: 639

Date: Apr 12 24 08:57:31 am

Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

Attached

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?

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# Whakatane District Council Long Term Plan Submission 2024

From [REDACTED]

Phone [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED]

I wish to speak to this submission.

This years LTP has a lot in it, but not much has been brought to our attention., as it only asks for feedback on 4 points which makes it very misleading. It also reflects that times are tough for council and ratepayers. Its times like these that the council needs to show some **resilience** and be **innovative** and cut costs. Unfortunately, there appears to be an attitude of let's see what we can hide and extract as much money as possible from an already struggling community. This begs the question of" is it poor Governance" and on whose behalf, the staff, or councillors. This just heightens concerns to the fact of "can we trust council to make the right decisions for our community?"

Your vision of "more life in life" is for communities to flourish, fulfil their potential and live to its fullest. Etc etc . and a thriving circular economy.

Is more like a life sentence of debt and unaffordability, while council aims to provide infrastructure for our great grandchildren! It is evident council loves to spend money from doing up the WDC building and see Rex Morpeth Park as another empire to build and spend more of ratepayer's money. Will our grandchildren thank us for the debt?

## 1. Rex Morpeth Recreation hub

**The preferred option if it is only fixing up the lack of maintenance to the hall complex. How has this got to the state it is? It is not acceptable.**

While the planning is important to get facilities in the right place for the future, I wonder if more consideration should be given to a site out of town. As a further alternative there looks like space around the netball courts at Awatapu that a wide span shed construction could cater for the increase of night-time/indoor sports of a size of the number of badminton courts we have at present. Naturally as much funding should be sourced externally as possible should such an alternative be done. This would keep the green space at the Rex Morpeth Park. My Preference at the current time would be to **tidy up the War Memorial Hall and put the pride back into it.** The lack of changing rooms in the Rugby Park stand could be offset by using the near by facilities at the pools of even the War Memorial Hall or soccer clubrooms.

## 2. Food waste

**Maintain what we have. People cannot get the current recycling system right.** How will they manage a food waste system and biweekly rubbish collection? They won't. There will be more dumping and fly tipping of rubbish around the district.

## 3. Funding Gap

The option 1 would appear to cost us the least long term but would only encourage more council debt. This also begs the question of why the deficit and councils' inability to do what others have done by tightening their belt to fit the money they have. They must stop treating ratepayers like an ATM machine. We had a 9.7% rate rise last year as well as the difference predicted in the confusion of figures versus the text in the discussion document. So, what exactly are we closing the gap on and how was it formed? Council need to be more innovative working with what they have.. Please get back to the basics and provide it in a cost-effective manner the services you have been tasked to do. You simply cannot continue to pile on debt and spend more than you earn. You have a huge responsibility to the people of the district.

I think that most people realise that there will need to be a rate rise but should be a single digit. Due to lack of evidence to show what is actually been funded, **Council will have to make do with what it has.** The re-inclusion of 3 waters cannot be used as an excuse to have big rate rises. I have failed to find if there is to be any increase in the cost of a cube of water within the different schemes around the district.

The 4 pillars you have been told by central government to be responsible for need to be more focused and wrapped around our core infrastructure activities and not seen as some stand-alone entities.

The social and economic impact of rate increases from both the BOPRC and WDC will leave many who derive their income from the land, to just give up. The world can not live without food despite what your climate policy may want. The BOPRC LTP see rates for the river scheme in the Te Rahu basin going from \$15,000- to \$37,000 over 10 years and on top of that is a drainage rate of \$6273 to \$9921. How or what is a sustainable and resilient rating system when we have councils that just love to spend! It may tick your box of a "circular economy" but why should we subscribe to your 2030 agenda of "we will own nothing, and we will be happy" can you not think back to what we have had in our lifetimes and how it was the best of times. The council debt will compromise what we have had and would like for our great grandchildren to have! **I would like to see the council have stronger restraint on any further debt increases!**

**It should be noted that the dairy milk price has not increased very significantly over the last 10 years and is highly unlikely to exceed the \$10 per kg of Milk solid price within the next 10 years.**

**I see in the numerous budgets, upgrade to the museum aircon systems. I am assuming this is actually in need of upgrade to start with and not just because new technology is available. Only upgrade if the old system needs to be replaced which I doubt it does.** How many other inconspicuous expenses are there like this in the budgets? Nice to do but just not necessary!

**Council needs to relook at figures and really prioritize them down to the last cent. Are contractors' bills for concrete checked to the last square metre of concrete for jobs done or are the accounts just paid. It's not our money!**

At the very well attended evening meeting at the War Memorial Hall I noticed that on the introduction of council staff and councillors, I counted 5 or 6 General managers that could have had responsibility for the hall just by their title. Do we need that many staff? Please don't blame central government for passing extra work onto local government. Push back!

#### **4. UAGC**

**Option 1 24% is fairer on the rural farming areas as most have their own water and sewage systems.** So therefore, a smaller portion of rural general rate will go to funding urban 3 waters. If you decrease the % to allow for lower value, you are only going to increase their general rate. In essence it's just how its portioned out. I will point out that we were up to 28% uagc

#### **5. Climate change let's make it resilience. Climate Resilience**

**With Electric Vehicles** has the council given consideration to whether they will get an increased life span from having these vehicles and what is their method of disposal?

I think given the recent large drop in sales that an all-electric fleet is only going to pose issues. That they can only go so far in them and this must be of concerned as the vehicles age that the range will decrease. **Perhaps hybrid vehicles will be a better decision.** If it is a government directive, I think all councils should start pushing back on it. Spending money on climate change at our council level is not going to change anything and is another waste of money that could be saved. It's a Central government and global problem. **Any electric vehicle charging infrastructure must not compromise power supply to existing power customers in the district.**

**In the policy there is talk of alternative food protein source. There are enough other government and industry groups in this space. This council does not need to be there and this also extends to staff training in "climate change learning module" and to facilitate staff e-bike purchases. This is a classic example of some expenses to cut to reduce costs.**

YES, make vulnerable roading and water infrastructure more resilient as opportunities arise in repairs and maintenance so as to minimize or mitigate risk to council infrastructure

## 6. Second Bridge into Whakatane

I support the need for a business case study to be completed for a Second bridge into Whakatane, even if it is the much-needed replacement of the Pekatahi bridge

## 7. LGNZ.

Is the WDC still a member of this organisation? If so, is there a cost benefit basis to the council still belonging to the organisation? If not, should we cancel our membership?

## Summary

**A single digit rate rise that is inline with inflation would be the best outcome.** Is our rating system broken or is it just the council?

While there is a climate pathway that says a lot but does nothing on “that our council business will be resilient into the future” by being resilient and innovative itself.

Does the vision “more life in life” and “a circular economy” really challenge the council to deliver to the community? No, it will see businesses close and what is the future of all the farmland and business that currently pays rates to the 2 councils?

Please, you must get serious about how you spend ratepayers’ money. You simply cannot continue to pile on debt and spend a lot more than you earn. You have a responsibility to the people of New Zealand

Thank you, [REDACTED]

Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

N/A

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?

A 17% increase on rates is just not doable after all the increases we've had in recent years. People can't afford this. The grandstand is hardly ever filled/utilised, the little theatre doesn't need upgrading. What a waste of money.

---



**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

I writing to you to ask for the cessation of planned council rate rises which to date are between 28% and 30%. The proposed rate hike which far exceeds inflationary increases will plummet most Whakatane citizens into a state of financial hardship. When families are struggling to manage mortgage increases, the cost of food and living expenses it is inconceivable that the WDC thinks it prudent to invest in superfluous projects such as the harbour fund development, the refurbishment of council buildings, and the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub. The council should be exercising prudence and sound financial management to protect its citizens, and should, at the very least, be seeking full public support and consensus for rate increases that exceed 10%. Yet it appears the opposite is at play, the WDC demonstrates a lack of transparency owing to woeful surveys that have zero outreach. How is this democratic? Who is going to profit from this? When gaining sufficient representation of public opinion on financial proposals that will bludgeon the average ratepayer, not enough has been done to fulfil your democratic obligations. Until there is evidence that you have full support from the majority of local ratepayers that can be substantiated and fact-checked so as not to comprise a convenient 'silent majority' and until you can offer clear justification for even a minimal rate hike (such as for urgent infrastructure) then the proposed rate hike must be abandoned. By reply, please provide evidence that you have representative public support for the proposed rate increase. Can you also supply evidence of surveys you have carried out to gauge public receptivity?

**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

To be honest, to me these 5 points look nothing like the outstanding issues i see posted on Facebook on a daily basis. It's mostly parking, traffic and infrastructure. Which i would have thought would be your main role!

---

Name:

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Carry out the upgrades required, this is not the time for a large redevelopment programme. The focus must be on key infrastructure projects.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Put the mixed food waste in with the greenwaste or subsidise household worm farms.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 2: Close the gap in the short-term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

There are many households under pressure at the moment, the Council needs to be cognizant not to compound this pressure. Prudent financial management is critical including spreading the burden.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 1: (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

I haven't seen anything about reducing the wasteful spending by the Council ie Construction of expensive roundabouts and intersection redevelopment with no discernible impact on traffic flow. Costs have been increasing and the Council must show more prudent financial management. What has been done to grow the area; encouraging more business or industry here, we have a great location and proximity to the port of Tauranga etc. but there appears to be no effort to leverage our advantages and encourage growth. Our focus should be on: 1. Second bridge to reduce congestion 2. A deliberate programme to encourage industry & investment to the area. People would not mind paying a bit more in rates if they saw that things were happening and there were positive steps to grow the economy of the region. We are seen as an economic backwater and this needs to be turned around, otherwise we will continue on that downward spiral of a shrinking economy with increasing costs just to maintain the services we have.

---

Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

N/A

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?

We.... the Chain Gang put in a submission to the Long Term plan asking for more off road safe cycleways for families.... 2yrs ago would love to know hear what progress has been made.

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Submission ID: 645

Date: Apr 12 24 09:07:15 am

Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

Attached

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?

---

## Submission to Whakatane District Council in Support of “Option4 Enhance Status Quo”

Background of applicant:



Resident of Whakatane for 48 years, lived on Goulstone Road for 40 years.

My children and grandchildren have used the Rex Morpeth Park facilities for over 40 years.

### Supporting Option 4: Maintaining the Status Quo

I write offering the strongest support for maintaining the status quo, but with the proviso that there is no need for the extra carparking facility to be extended to the east of the existing hall.

I live across the road from the park, and I see the amount of time that the car park is empty, yet the trees and green grassy spaces are there perpetually, enhancing the natural serenity of the surrounding environment.

No more car parks needed! When big events occur, the Touch and League Tournaments, the 2000 people that flood into the area all find somewhere to park within the vicinity and after such events, things return rapidly to normal.

You must be there to observe the capacity of the area to absorb so many cars without needing extra parking.

Once the asphalt is laid, it is there for a long time. It reduces the green space that makes Rex Morpeth Park so special. It also has the effect of reducing the cost of the development.

To have a park in the middle of the town, surrounded by trees, is a blessing. A large part of the special character that the town has. It is rare to have such a central space. Towns like Cambridge and Paeroa have similar spaces, but they have not desecrated the green space with car parks!

Further, the area designated for car parks in the plan is where the circus and the Gypsy fare operate from when they come to town! and the practice nets for cricket would have to be put somewhere else.

### The War Memorial Hall Upgrade:

The current hall in part has been here since I arrived in Whakatane in 1976. It needs to be maintained, it needs to have its facilities upgraded, its leaks fixed and a total maintenance overhaul and upgrade. It was embarrassing to have the blemishes in the Hall pointed out at the meeting the other night. It deserves to be modernized, not demolished!

Apart from being part of the War Memorial, a significant issue in itself, the Hall design reinforces the appearance of many of the Art Deco buildings on the Strand, giving the town character., and enhances the effect, which makes Whakatane one of New Zealand’s most beautiful towns.

The Financial effects of the more expensive options:

We are living in troubled times and on the verge of a recession. People are genuinely frightened of the increase that will occur to their rates. The community needs to live within its means.

We have already spent some of the pocket money on upgrading the council offices. This allows the Council to function more effectively. But it does come at a cost to the rate payers. We also have to accommodate the increased cost of the Three Waters Scheme, a significant burden for the next generation to bear.

Let us be pragmatic, and in an environment ravaged by the cold winds of a recession, at least defer some of the more expensive projects until the economy is more buoyant!

Finally, I feel that for the safety of our children and grandchildren the tidal pool at the Heads should be removed or replaced with a safer structure. If we cannot get that right, what hope have we of constructing a Marina.

Thank you for your time and thoughts.



Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

I think the councils just push forward and do what they want. I don't want cameras around town so everybodies watched and eventually the step controlled. I don't believe in climate change. Look into cloud seeding and Chemtrails. The elites manipulate weather and sell it to the masses as climate change. That's why we have so much cloud cover. Do you homework and stop believing everything that is in the news. None of it's real. Wake the fake up.

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Submission ID: 647

Date: Apr 12 24 09:09:06 am

Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

Attached

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?

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# Whakatane District Council Long Term Plan 2024-34

## Submission

From [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

### We wish to speak to our submission.

[REDACTED] was formed out of frustration that council was not listening to the ratepayers and that ratepayers and issues within the community were just been recklessly overridden. It is an obvious need for the individual and we will continue to focus on issues around the community as they arise whether the issue is with a council of some other need.

We feel the submission form is very misleading and is only in the interest of council to get an outcome that suits their direction of travel. By having only 4 topics and limited choices and a very poor presentation of figures that could be misleading

### 1. Rex Morpeth Park

That only necessary repairs and maintenance for damaged and unsafe areas be carried out to the War Memorial Hall and waiting till the economics improve before proceeding in a staged development.

### 2. Food waste and Rubbish

We would like to see the current system maintained with no change. Can the new system be delayed till the direction of the new central government is confirmed.

### 3. Closing the Gap

How was it formed and how did it get there? When is it going to be paid off? The council needs to live within it means!

We cannot make an informed decision about his matter from the information provided and query the calculations provided. But also feel more options could have been included along with timeline. Not in favour of any options

### 4. UAGC

Due to so many different factors and the make of our group it was difficult to form an opinion on this option due to the lack of supporting figures.

### 5. Debt

We would like to see council Debt level stay the same.

## 6 Climate Resilience

**With Electric Vehicles** has the council given consideration to whether they will get an increased life span from these vehicles and what is their method of disposal? Has there been consideration given to downtime regarding ensuring a charged vehicle is available whenever it is required. Also, is there currently enough infrastructure to cope with the increased demand for electricity.

Given the recent large drop in sales of electric vehicles as more people become aware of the negatives of one, that an all-electric fleet is only going to pose issues in the near future. Our District is a large area, and we would question the range that is provided by electric vehicles would be enough. Perhaps hybrid vehicles will be a better decision. If it is a government directive, I think all rural councils should start pushing back on it.

## 7. Second Bridge into Whakatane

We support the need for a business case study to be completed for a Second bridge into Whakatane. We are also pleased to note that Bay of Plenty Regional Council is making some \$500,000 available to assist with the cost of the necessary research necessary to put a business case to funding authorities.

## 8. Childrens pool at the heads.

We are still waiting for a resolution on this matter!

## Summary

Any rates rise should be kept to 10% or less. The Whakatane District Council must continue to make efficiency gains and cuts to lessen the impact on **all** Ratepayers.

Please, you must get serious about how you spend ratepayers' money. Please get back to the basics and provide in a cost-effective manner the services that you have been tasked to do. You simply cannot continue to pile on debt and spend a lot more than you earn. You have a responsibility to the people of New Zealand

Thank you,



Submission ID: 648

Date: Apr 12 24 09:13:18 am

Name:

Alan and Melanie McClumpha

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

We should delay this until Jan 2027.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

Attached

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

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# WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34 - SUBMISSION FORM

Name\*: ALAN + MELANIE McCLUMPHA

Town/area of the district\*: MATAIA.

Organisation (if on behalf): \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Privacy note: The information on this page (including fields above) forms part of your submission and will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda. Please leave any fields blank if you do not want this to be available on a public meeting agenda.*

<p><b>How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub</p> <p><i>Please refer to pages 24-26 of the Consultation Document for approximate costs and ratepayer contributions.</i></p>	<p>Your thoughts</p>
<p><b>How should we manage foodwaste collection?</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Separate foodwaste collection to all properties.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p> <p>WE SHOULD DELAY THIS UNTIL JAN 2027.</p>
<p><b>How quickly should we close our funding gap?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Close the gap in the short term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Close the gap in the medium term (in six years) to ease the burden now.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p>
<p><b>How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p>

**Need more space for your feedback?**

Please add more pages and make sure your name and organisation (if relevant) are at the top of each page.

ALAN & MELANIE McCLUMPHA - [REDACTED]

## Submission to Whakatane District Council 10 Year Long Term Plan

On reading the long term plan, we are concerned that the only mention of the Matata Wastewater Scheme was a mention as "Works in the Pipeline." We were promised by Council that this project was to be made an absolute priority and a Project Manager would be brought in to ensure we would have "spades in the ground" by early 2024.

We are now hearing rumours that not all of our current Councillors are committed to fulfilling the promise made to the village by previous Councils.

This project is crucial to the wellbeing of the village, both in terms of health and wealth. The Health Department declared our aging septic tank system to be unsafe in terms of overflows and poor drainage fields. Indeed the Department of Health put money aside to assist with a reticulation scheme. The Regional Council have also stated a reticulation scheme is of utmost importance. The village has been fighting for a reticulation scheme for many years now and still we have brown stuff bubbling up all over the village during high rainfall when the drainage fields cannot cope. This gets worse in the lower lying areas close to the lagoons, where undoubtedly, it all ends up.

In terms of wealth, there are many sections in Matata, both residential and commercial, which cannot be used for development until a sewerage scheme is introduced.

Regarding the redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub and a new bridge would be nice, we would be horrified if these projects were prioritised ahead of our sewerage scheme.

When considering which projects are unaffordable, we submit that the Matata waste water scheme is so crucial to the health and wellbeing of this village, that it will be tragic to stop the project at this point, and expose the village to many more years wait and expose us to larger costs further down the track.

Alan & Melanie McClumpha  
Matata



McClumpha

Submission ID: 649

Date: Apr 12 24 09:23:06 am

Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

Attached

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?

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## AMENDED VERSION OF COVERING LETTER



Presentation to Whakatane Ohope Beach Community Board – 15 April 2024

### **Deteriorating Condition of Ohope Beach Lion's Shed**

We are the Ohope Beach Lions Club, established in June 1972 and are currently leasing month by month from the Whakatane District Council, the building situated at 340/1 Harbour Road Ohope. Our main fundraising for the community stems from this building, namely our monthly garage sales. This building has the benefit of being in a desirable public location and well known by locals and others. The club is grateful to have the opportunity to use this space. The lease does not allow us to undertake maintenance and also restricts the club's ability to future proof our valuable community work. A variation to the lease would be a possible solution.

On average our monthly garage sales raises between two to three thousand dollars. Funds which are predominantly returned to the local community. Our garage sale is a "win win" situation as it upholds the recycling and repurposing initiatives. It also provides a venue for those with financial constraints, or those effected by the cost-of-living concerns, and the club is happy to be a part of that type of community assistance.

Examples of funds dispersed to our local community are Whakatane/Trident Yearly Student Scholarship Fund, EBOP Hospice, Whakatane Kiwi Trust, Cycling without Age EBOP, Whakatane Riding for the Disabled, Camp Quality, Rescue Helicopter, Whakaari/Hayden Marshall-Inman Memorial Golf Tournament.

The building is deteriorating due to inadequate weather proofing and damaged exterior corrugations. This means donated items have become spoiled in the damp conditions – photos available.

We have very recently sighted the budgeted Port Ohope Wharfside Master Plan and it is noted we have an allocated footprint. This gives the club an opportunity to be involved with future developments. We have the ability to contribute financially, with others towards a new structure if that is deemed appropriate. As we operate our garage sales regularly, we would wish to continue this valued community activity, whilst putting in place any changes to the way we function.

We are looking at our options in relation to the current building's condition. As a club we are keen to plan for the future but we realise that it must be in conjunction with the other users of the Wharfside area. As a stakeholder, to the Wharfside Plan, we are very keen to attend any meetings, consultations or on-site deliberations.

We are seeking the support of the Whakatane/Ohope Community Board with our submission to the Whakatane District Council

Thank you on behalf of the members of the Ohope Beach Lions



Please find attached a submission from the **Lions Club of Ohope Beach** - we wish the document to be reviewed as a part of the on-going developments at the Ohope Wharf.

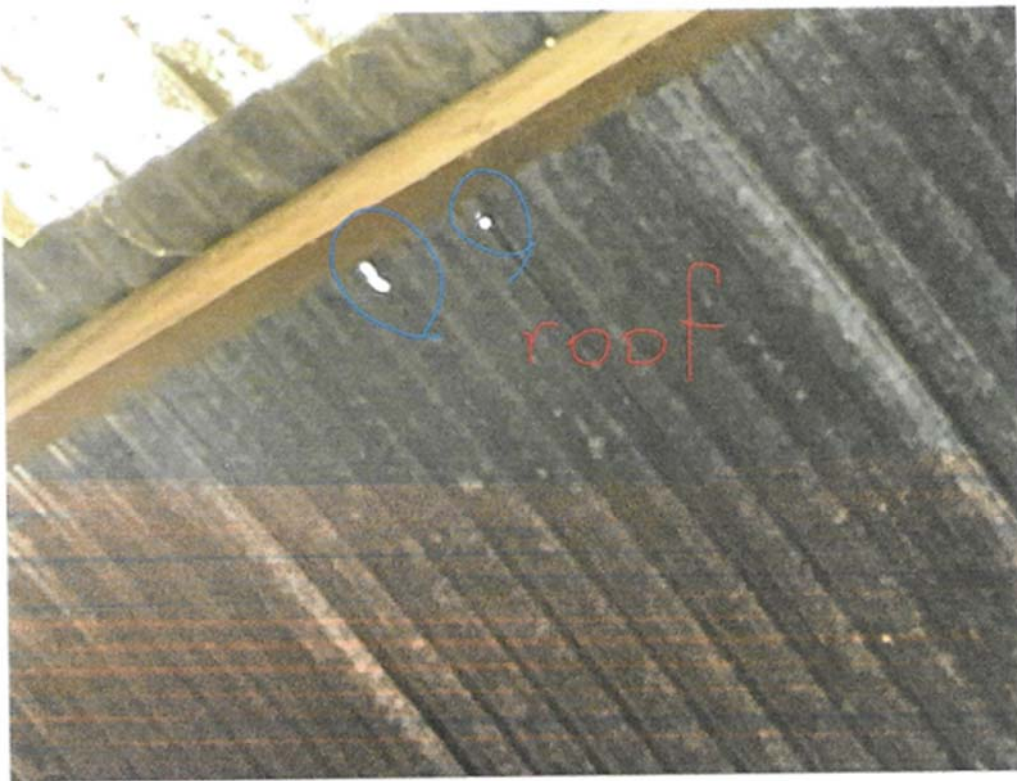
As a stakeholder with an important community function, we are keen to contribute to any future plans for the area. The Lions Shed currently is suffering from weatherproof issues and we wish to remedy this situation in the best way possible. We have sought the support of the Whakatane Ohope Beach Community Board, at their April meeting.

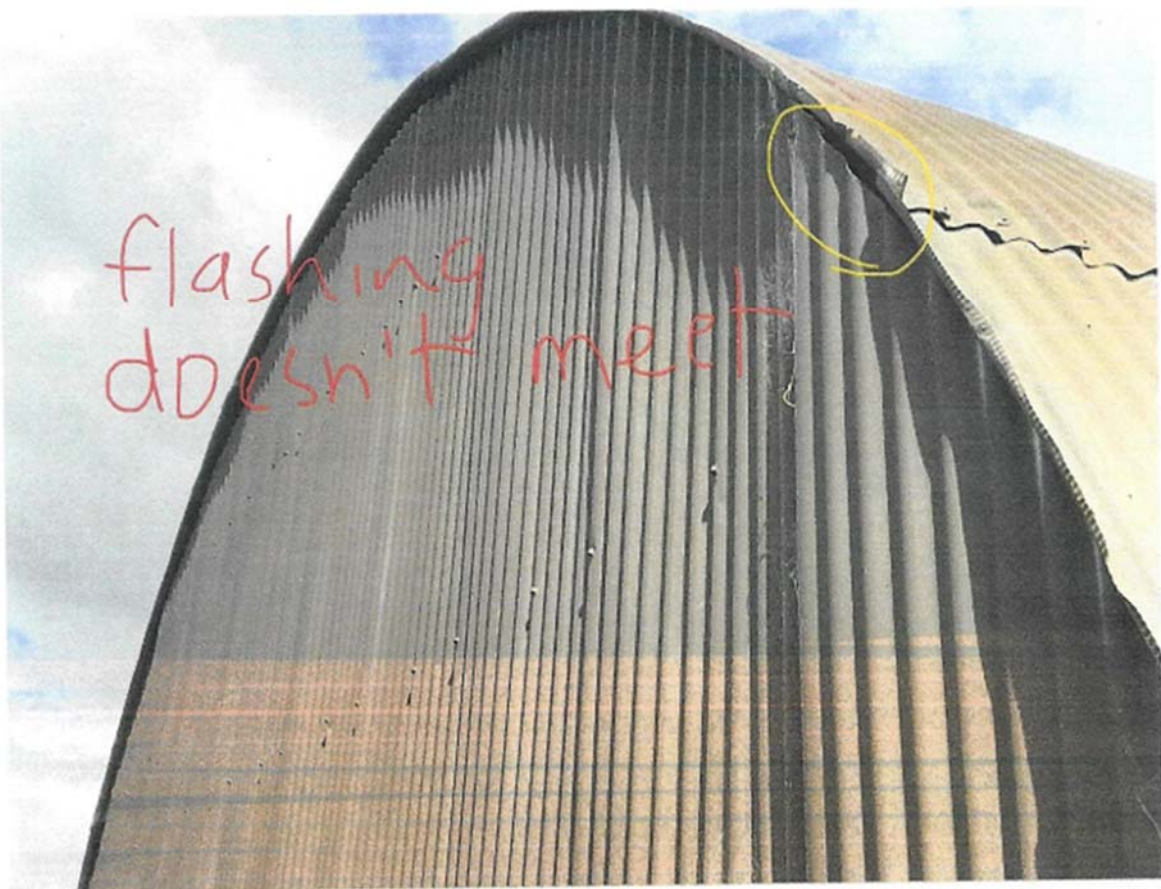
As a club we are able to make ourselves available for any questions at any time. We want to continue in what we see as a vital fundraising operation - that benefits the local community and serves to uphold the Council's drive for recycling and assisting those with limited budgets.

regards

sample photos of deteriorating conditions at the Lions Shed







Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

We should incorporate in the long term plan savings, cost reductions, spend only on maintenance (keep the lights on). Not wasteful spending.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Leave it as it is, don't change anything that could cost money (Operational overheads)

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Cutting cost and savings should be used for this, not exorbitant rate increases.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Why is option 3 the lowest increase, 16%? Who gets an increase of 16%, my salary has not gone up with 16%. What happened to the previous promises that the rates would remain at 6% (capped)

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

People are hurting, things are costly. The long term plan should be focused on saving money only spend on maintenance.

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Submission ID: 651

Date: Apr 12 24 09:31:51 am

Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

Attached

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?

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## Submission

I am compelled to put in this submission after seeing the outcome of Rate payers money being spent in an outlandish manner. For one example the extravagant building upgrade and refurbishing of the Whakatane Council Building.

I have seen the upgrade of the Landing round about, noting the left lane coming into town rather tight. Now I see the flower boxes being put in. Was that really needed or just something to look good ,coming into town. Instead of this how about painting the mouldy green/ white rails on the bridge that have not been done for years. Cutting costs to help the people, should be the Councils main focus.

The Counsellors have been voted by the public to work in the best interest of all public, which I believe is not happening, as I have heard of a lot of disgruntled people out in the Community

We have all gone through COVID and now a technical recession, which has shown globally/ nationally businesses closing down and price increases on every sector .Everyone I know has struggled to make ends meet with every day living and you the Council, feel that we the ratepayers have a bottomless pit of money to pay the exorbitant rate increases for your fanciful adventures you want to do.

As you can see I have put a line through them all as the options , I believe are out of reach.

I continually hear about the options for Whakatane Civic Centre – stop over indulging, only do the essentials that need immediate attention. Stop the cosmetic work you would like to undertake. For once please listen to the people. What are the accurate costs of these ???

We do not need nor want to increase futher dept cap. Instead we should be looking at the amount of people being employed by our Council and see if all job descriptions are necessary. If not get rid of these people. Also no pay increases within the Council, to help us the rate payers ,that seem to be paying for everything.

It is a sad statement to make , But I have no longer got any faith in our Council

# WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2021-31 - SUBMISSION FORM



Name\*: .....

Town/area of the district\*: .....

Organisation (if on behalf): .....

*\*Privacy note: The information on this page (including fields above) forms part of your submission and will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda. Please leave any fields blank if you do not want this to be available on a public meeting agenda.*

<p><b>Should we do more to support active and alternative transport options?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Increase funding to complete Active Whakatāne projects faster.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Do not increase funding for Active Whakatāne projects.</p>	<p>Your thoughts:</p> <p>stop spending</p>
<p><b>Should we fund a sealing programme for metal roads?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Increase funding to seal approximately 2km of metal roads per year.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Increase funding to seal approximately 4km of metal roads per year.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Do not fund sealing of metal roads.</p>	<p>Your thoughts:</p>
<p><b>What option should we take for upgrading the Whakatāne Civic Centre?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Enhance the Civic Centre as a community hub (this option also includes upgrades listed under options 2 and 3 below).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Provide more modern, adaptable workspaces to enhance productivity (this option also includes upgrades listed under option 3 below).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Undertake core improvements for health, safety, and security.</p>	<p>Your thoughts:</p>
<p><b>Should we 'set' rates for the first three years?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Set rates for the coming three years to provide more certainty to ratepayers.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Continue to set rates on an annual basis to provide more flexibility for our budgets.</p>	<p>Your thoughts:</p>
<p><b>Should we increase our debt cap?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Increase the debt limit to 175% of total revenue.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Keep the debt limit at 150% of total revenue.</p>	<p>Your thoughts:</p>
<p><b>Have we got the balance right between the things we deliver and the cost to our communities?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> It's about right - the balance of costs and services is about right.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Do more - the Council should deliver more for our communities, even if this mean an increase in costs.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Do less - the Council should focus on keeping costs down, even if this means reducing or stopping some services.</p>	<p>Your thoughts:</p>

**Need more space for your feedback?**

Please add more pages and make sure your name and organisation (if relevant) are at the top of each page.

Submission ID: 652

Date: Apr 12 24 09:33:12 am

Name:

pete fergusson

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 2: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

this is the simplest model and therefore most likely to be used by householders, Urgent need to reduce methane from landfills

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

this is the most sustainable and fairest system

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

the model is flawed in its assumption that the value of a property is always a reflection of the owners ability to pay particularly for older people who may have lived in the property for a long time and the properties value increase is not matched by any income increase

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

These are difficult decisions and there is a lot of misinformation circulating that vulnerable people cling to in stressful times. Clear and patient communication is essential

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Submission ID: 653

Date: Apr 12 24 09:35:47 am

Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

Attached

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?

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**Reuben Cohen submission (dated 11 April 2024) to  
Whakatane District Council's Long Term Plan 2024 – 2034**

Pg 1 of 2

I will start with a quote from The Local Government Act of New Zealand 2002, as at 17 February 2024.

Part 1 Section 3 (d)

“... provides for local authorities to play a broad role in promoting the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of their communities, taking a sustainable development approach.”

This submission will focus on the economic well-being while also including aspects of social, environmental and cultural well-being and of taking a sustainable development approach.

First – there is nothing sustainable about your proposed Rates increases.

We are presently in a recession, and haven't got enough funds to spend on goods and services without going into debt. Your proposal for Rates increases rests on the Council going further into debt which is to be serviced by Rates payments from residents' pockets while some residents will need to go into further debt to make those payments in the first place. In other words to go into debt to pay off a debt. How nonsensical is that? Why would you want to do that? I cannot see what is sustainable about that situation. It seems to only lead to unnecessary poverty with loss of homes for some people.

The Auditor General comments that some Local Councils are not defining parameters when needed. How do we know what your goals are and if we have reached them? What is your version of sustainable and what limits would you apply to it along with your reasoning? Transparency is a laudable goal for a Council and it seems especially necessary when financial times are obviously difficult.

You say your costs have risen considerably and that the index you use is showing this; but you expect residents who get smaller income increases (roughly linked to an index which is much lower than yours) to pay beyond their income.

Why have your costs risen so much in comparison to the general cost of living? Do you need to take on as many projects as you intend and just expect that you will be supplied with the funds somehow?

You need to be prudent (as required by governing principles) and residents need to expect less for the Rates we can afford. It is evident that you have overspent, albeit on our behalf, and in doing so we are unsustainable. Our attitudes and expectations need to change; we all have to realistically accept that.

More on our present economic state later but for now, in the absence of your defined parameters, we as a District have failed to promote sustainability as an economic well-being.

Second – there are many ratepayers who are struggling financially.

Just because some people are owner occupiers does not mean they are fair game for a Rates rise. In many cases owner occupiers treat their property as their home and not as an asset in the financial sense. Their well-being is sometimes finely balanced between coping financially and being overwhelmed by debt and usually they cut back by accepting hardship rather than by not paying their bills. Why are food banks growing? Why is child poverty prevalent? Why are more people

homeless? Why is our Health service struggling? Why do we have high suicide rates? Home owners are not exempt from hardships. Rates bills based on wants rather than needs are an unnecessary burden.

Your approach needs to be tailored to reality. The fact that many Local Councils are feeling the same pressures is because the present funding model is not sustainable and not realistic. The sooner we innovate to decouple from it the better for all of us. Not content with passing on massive environmental problems to the next generations we also want to ensure they are enslaved economically.

One aspect of our Council's proposed spending which astounds me is that the lowest budgeted Rates spending is for Climate Change and Resilience. This is expected to be close to one percent of the Rates.

There is so much more we could do to ensure our well-being by focusing on Climate Resilience than by Recreational Wants. Let us not forget that this District and this Town is very, very well served by recreational activities and options. Only a portion of this is hosted at the Rex Morpeth complex. Let us also not forget that it is all functioning and is not near to collapse. We are positively spoilt for recreational options. Their priority is not tied to refurbishment. Their usage should not be tied to upgrades but to enthusiasm. On the contrary, much wilful damage is inflicted on some of the facilities. By all means, do the absolute minimum works for safety but not for upgrades in this time of financial hardship for the ordinary non rich-list residents.

Why the Marina? Why the Paddling Pool? Why the proposal to increase parking spaces when we haven't got a decent traffic plan for Whakatane with alternative forms of sustainable public transport? Why is land being opened for housing in areas which can easily be water inundated? Where is the space for adequate soakage? Where are the designated retreat areas? What about our future well-being?

I am also concerned with the fairness of how you conduct yourselves when consulting with the public about projects and I mention this with regards to this Long Term Plan and other works. The Auditor General has a lot to say about "fairness" in this regard and I am sure you have access to that.

I wish to speak to my submission at the appropriate public included hearings/forum.

Meanwhile, I ask:

- \* that you cancel all but absolutely essential works and that you make a long term plan for a suitable schedule of essential works,
- \* that you appropriate more effort to Climate Resilience,
- \* that you do not increase the Rates or that you limit any increase to a low one digit percentage,
- \* that your interaction with the public is clearer and fairer,
- \* that you accept my right to speak to my submission,
- \* that you don't only wait for Central Government to help out but that you innovate within the rules on our behalf.

Thank you



Name:

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 1: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Council could do more to earn rental from the main building. Fix the heating, supply plates and cups to make catering easier. In terms of arts, there would be benefits from a stronger Maori presence - and interchange - perhaps the new pottery facility could be out of town e.g. Te Teko, Poroporo or Edgecumbe and located near housing and schools so it draws in a broader population

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

I got a \$15 worm bin from Council - which I use and am grateful for - but maybe this resource could be diverted into workshops in local areas where people can build their own

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Assuming the population growth estimates are accurate - there will be more ratepayers in future

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

they are such big amounts for everyone

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Thanks for the lovely planting and cycling/walking spaces. I really hope you can build the cycleway from Edgecumbe to the coast

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Submission ID: 655

Date: Apr 12 24 09:40:35 am

Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

Attached

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?

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## **Submission of the Iwi Collective for the TARSG to the WDC Long Term Plan 2024**

### **Introduction**

1. This submission is made by the four iwi also known as the 'Iwi Collective' comprising - Ngāti Awa, Ngāti Mākino, Ngāti Rangitahi and Ngāti Tūwharetoa ki Kawerau under the Tarawera Awa Restoration Strategy Group (TARSG). The Ngāti Rangitahi Claims Settlement Act 2022 legislation requires the TARSG to develop a Tarawera Awa Restoration Strategy Document aimed at restoring the mauri of Te Awa o Te Atua and Tarawera Awa. The TARSG has agreed to meet the legislative requirement of producing a Strategy Document in three stages.
2. The Iwi Collective, together with Regional and District Councillors, serve as members of the TARSG forum and actively participate in co-governance decision making. In doing so, they represent the interests of the Tarawera Awa ki te awa o te Atua.

### **Background**

#### **Stage One – Tarawera Awa Aspirations Document**

3. Since the inception of the TARSG in December 2022 as prescribed in the Ngāti Rangitahi Claims Settlement Act 2022, the membership has gone onto developing the Tarawera Awa Aspirations Document. This document is aimed at informing a wide range of stakeholders that the TARSG exists, its membership, its legislative purpose and high-level intentions for land use change necessary to restore the mauri of the Tarawera Awa ki te awa o te Atua catchment.

#### **Stage Two - Develop a Tarawera Awa Restoration Strategy Document**

4. The second stage involves developing the Strategy Document in line with legislative requirements, which includes outlining a common vision, objectives and desired outcomes for the catchment. The settlement legislation describes the matters to be included in the Strategy Document and the process to be followed to ensure all stakeholders are consulted and can participate in a submissions and hearings process that will lead to approval of the Strategy Document. Once the TARSG has approved the Strategy Document, local authorities will be required to 'recognise and provide for' the common vision, objectives and desired outcomes of the Strategy Document each time changes are made to regional or district planning documents which have direct application in the Tarawera Awa catchment.

### **Stage Three - Action Plan**

5. This stage involves developing and implementing an action plan that outlines what projects, specific activities and land use changes will be undertaken to deliver the Strategy Document's common vision, objectives and desired outcomes.
6. The TARSG was quickly established, and a project team to oversee the writing of a Strategy document is in progress.
7. The Ngāti Rangitihi Treaty settlement was awarded \$788,000 by the Crown to provide for the establishment of the Tarawera Awa Restoration Strategy Group. This one-off grant, held by the Bay of Plenty Regional Council is committed towards preparation of the Group's strategy document. The funds have been allocated to an external Strategy Document Writer, dedicating a portion to a Project Manager, covering Council Hearings, and supporting TARSG Strategy Group forums and workshops.
8. The purpose of this submission is to seek additional funding for secretariat support for engaging iwi and non-Māori stakeholders, and to undergo cultural monitoring of Tarawera Awa in order to help the TARSG and the Iwi Collective effectively complete the Tarawera Awa Strategy Document and subsequent Cultural Monitoring Plan.
9. This submission is to request continued secretariat funding for the next 3 years to provide support to the iwi members of the TARSG.

### **Secretariat 2022-2024**

10. The position of Secretariat was established in 2022 and is externally contracted. This position provides independent support to the TARSG Chair and Iwi Collective which contributes towards the delivery of outputs and effective efficiencies.
11. It is necessary to seek counsel from an independent specialist in RMA (Resource Management Act) as a Council Officer cannot offer the same level of impartiality, nor could they be expected to do so. The Forums prioritise maintaining autonomy and independence from the Council when it comes to seeking advice. The advice and support provided by the present Secretariat has been immensely beneficial and crucial in allowing the TARSG to concentrate on their objectives.

### **Future Work Plan**

1. As already mentioned, the Tarawera Awa Strategy document is currently being drafted. Having secretariat support for the Iwi Collective members and the TARSG Chair will help immensely in the development of the document.
2. The Iwi Collective intend to hold workshops to understand how cultural indicators can be used to determine the cultural health and wellbeing of the Tarawera Awa.
3. To enable and measure the integrated restoration of the mauri of the Tarawera catchment, the iwi members wish to:
  - a. capture the cultural indicators for the Tarawera River catchment,
  - b. create a baseline dataset for the current health and wellbeing of the river,
  - c. use the data captured over time to help determine whether or not the TARSG is achieving its purpose.
4. The purpose of the Tarawera Awa Restoration Strategy Group is to:

*Support, coordinate, and promote the integrated restoration of the mauri of the catchment (Bay of Plenty Regional Council, 2024).*
5. As the TARSG is also interested in undertaking Cultural Monitoring to measure the impact of any activity on the mauri of each awa, it is envisioned that the secretariat will help plan and implement this as well as provide funding to researchers and cultural monitors as required.

### **Conclusion**

12. Therefore, through the Long-Term Plan, the Iwi Collective of the Tarawera Awa Restoration Strategy Group requests that ongoing funding be given for Secretariat support.
13. We seek to be permitted to provide input on this submission during the upcoming LTP hearings.



**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)** Self Employed

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Now is not the time for luxuries. Do what is necessary only.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 2: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Food waste for urban rate payers - user pays - apportioned to urban rate payer rates.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 2: Close the gap in the short-term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Few people are in the position to have a rate increase for the gap to be narrowed in 1 year. Taking 6 years to ease the burden? We may not be in a better position then. 3 years is a more realistic term.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Lessen the burden on lower value property owners.

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

The basics - water supply and its distribution and rubbish collection need to be priority issues. Trimming the overall wage package to cover council staff may be a way of saving money and give credibility to rate payers.

---

Submission ID: 657

Date: Apr 12 24 09:44:44 am

Name:

George Carter

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Opt 4 No upgrades necessary maintenance only

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Use worm compost bins available from Council already

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Reduce costs so increase to less than 10%

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Everyone is having reduced income why should Council and council employees be immune. No to fancy spending like WDC building

**Supporting document**

Attached

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

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# WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34 - SUBMISSION FORM

Name\*: GEORGE CARTER

Town/area of the district\*: WHAKATĀNE

Organisation (if on behalf): ✓

*\*Privacy note: The information on this page (including fields above) forms part of your submission and will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda. Please leave any fields blank if you do not want this to be available on a public meeting agenda.*

<p><b>How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p> <p>Option 4. No upgrades Necessary maintenance ONLY</p>
<p><b>How should we manage foodwaste collection?</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Separate foodwaste collection to all properties.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p> <p>USE worm Compost bins available from COUNCIL ALREDY</p>
<p><b>How quickly should we close our funding gap?</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Close the gap in the short term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Close the gap in the medium term (in six years) to ease the burden now.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p> <p>Reduce costs so increase to less than 10%</p>
<p><b>How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p> <p>EVERYONE IS HAVING REDUCED INCOME WHY SHOULD COUNCILS &amp; COUNCIL</p>

EMPLOYEES BE IMMUNE  
No TO FANCY SPENDING LIKE  
WDC BUILDING

**Need more space for your feedback?**

Please add more pages and make sure your name and organisation (if relevant) are at the top of each page.

Submission ID: 658

Date: Apr 12 24 09:45:49 am

Name:

Whakatane High School Enviromental Club

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

Whakatane High School

### **How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 2: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.

### **Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Although as a group we decided Option 2 is the most appropriate of the three because many of our students hope to be homeowners or will contribute in some way to the rating pool, they feel that the main focus should be on urban community spaces. Shaw Rd has a children's playground, but many other subdivisions do not have community spaces in place. We are concerned that with the increase in medium to high density housing work residents will not have green shared high quality spaces to gather. Expecting residents to go to Rex Morpeth whenever they want to go on a playground is not viable. Local community areas need to be our focus as well. People need to see their rates evident in their suburbs. Planting wetlands is a great idea in suburban areas but they are not useful for families with prams and small children or the elderly. Wetlands and planting needs to sit alongside proper green community spaces for our rate payers and families.

### **How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

### **Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

We think it is appropriate for mixed to be an option but we thought that the initiative to offer composting bins in the last few years has been a great idea. We were concerned though that they could only be picked up from town where there was not enough parking and many people were at work. It wasn't accessible for many of our ratepayers and especially as people couldn't get there during work time. A more accessible space like schools or sports clubs would have been a better option. If we encouraged people to use compost bins and worm farms we could reduce the amount of waste that left homes and they could recycle the compost back into their gardens. Green waste could be reduced to once a month with a scheduled pick ups for pruning season and times when we might need more support with managing green waste. Education is the key. Teach our communities how to manage their own waste and the reliance on trucks and waste centres will reduce. We think you should reward people for recycling glass and cans like they do in Australia. Lots of our teachers can remember collecting bottles and taking them to a collection place to swap for small amounts of money. There are lots of opportunities like this that will reduce your need for collections. A credit or points system could be used instead of cash for things like the use of the pool or buses or items such as jackets, vouchers or bikes.. Your Facebook page has lots of great posts. Keep using education on this site.

### **How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 2: Close the gap in the short-term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.

### **Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Many people are struggling and we understand that. Our concern is that if we don't address the funding gap our facilities will become more and more run down and cost more in the end to keep running. BUT

we know it will have an impact on our communities as they are suffering with feeding their families and coping with the increasing costs of everything.

### **How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

### **Supporting document**

N/A

### **Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

We have concerns that we can see funds going to spaces where our communities will not have benefits. Although the council members have been voted in and act on the behalf of the community, we feel that the voices of the community are not at the forefront of the decisions that have been made. We support upgrading to an extent but want to see significant upgrades in areas where the majority of our communities live not just a focus on tourists. We want support for students to have free access to the bus service during the holidays. Many of our students are keen to go to the beach or town but the bus service can do more to encourage us to use the bus service. If we get into habits now we will be less likely to use cars. Creating good habits is the key to changing our communities. We want the council to provide more courses for residents. There is a massive opportunity for connecting with the community such as worm farming, managing waste options, how to set up water harvesting tanks to reduce water use over summer on gardens. We need an inorganic waste collection a few times a year. This allows residents to keep their properties clear and safe when they may not have the means to get items to the waste centre. Auckland city has a very successful inorganic collection with strict guidelines and many of the items are reused within the community and don't end up in the waste collection. With the Edgumbe flood we saw how effective this programme could be to support residents to remove waste in a short period of time. We would like you to also consider where the greatest number of ebike users could be - schools. By placing ebike chargers in secondary schools again you will create good habit where students could choose an ebike over a car. We already have ebike users in our school and would see an opportunity to encourage other users in the Kope area to leave their ebike charging in a secure area. This could be rolled out to other areas such as Apanui school where there are a lot of businesses close by and there could be a central charging area that was not on the public footpath like in the centre of town. Many bikers do not feel comfortable leaving their ebikes there. We would like to see the same care and concern for residents as the District Council shows for their own staff and facilities.

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Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

I attended the public meeting at the War Memorial Hall on the evening of Tuesday 9th April 2024 I was pleased to see so many rate payers there and I believe they all were very concerned about the direction the Council is going in. I feel the rate payers present are feeling the squeeze of inflation and this is causing anxiety among the population. I heard that last year the Council spent around \$14,000,000 more than they earned. If this was a private business, then the entity would be rapidly heading to insolvency. When a private business is in this situation the manager reviews all budgeted expense and makes cuts so that the entity ends the year close to budget expense. In my opinion a Council should do the same. I believe that any building owner should keep their property in watertight condition following usual maintenance procedures. I was disappointed to see areas in the War Memorial Hall where this was not occurring. From the comments made during question time I believe that many of the ratepayers felt the same. I believe that such maintenance be done to keep the building in watertight condition. I was surprised to see coffee and tea and biscuits being provided for a 7:00pm meeting. This surely is a cost where the manager should have said is a nice to have but not essential. People might say this is only a small cost and does not matter but when I review my expenditure during this inflationary period, I look at everything. A business must look at all costs during such a time and I take this as an indication that the Council is still to go through their budget expenses and cancel the nice to have and only let the essential costs proceed in the long term plan. A ratepayer made comment that the Council has many millions of debt, which is resulting in a large interest expense and restricts the options of future Council spend. I was

brought up to live within my budget and to prioritise the repayment of debt. This rule has done me well and I believe that many of the rate payers present at the meeting would have the same priorities. The Council has recently spent many millions on the Council chambers including niceties that many rate payers do not enjoy at home. It is with the above thoughts in mind that I list my points below:

- Council needs to restrict the rate increase to the inflation rate.
- Council including all managers responsible for all areas of expense need to review all costs of previous years and determine the nice to have and the essential and the future budget adjusted to restrict expense to the essential only with total cost not exceeding revenues. The Council General Manager needs to review the benefits obtained from employing each Council employee and if those benefits are not essential the position should be done away with.
- Council needs to develop a plan to reduce debt and this plan included in the Long Term Plan.
- The Council should prepare a detailed analysis of all projects covered under the umbrella of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub including a cost estimate for each individual project. This should include the number of people that would benefit from each project and the period of time needed to complete the project. This list should be distributed to the rate payers with notes on each project on if external funding sources are available to provide funding for that project, leaving the balance to be funded by the Council. The final long term plan should include the balance of costs needed from Council for the projects which benefits the most members of people and can be completed without extra debt being needed.
- If this process takes years to finish all projects considered in the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub so be it.

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**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

Attached

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

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## WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT MTB WORKING PARTY

### LTP Submission 2024-34

The Whakatāne District MTB Working Party was formed in 2020 in response to overwhelming community requests for a MTB park/trails from numerous community groups and individuals. In the LTP 2021-31 Council agreed to support the scoping and development of MTB trail opportunities with funding of \$50K initially, then \$100K per year for two years. Since that time the MTB Working Party has been meeting regularly, and actively pursuing trail opportunities in several land parcels with multiple landowner discussions.

We request that Whakatāne District Council continues to provide funding of \$100,000 per year over the next three years to enable the progression of these opportunities for developing recreational MTB infrastructure. This will directly support Council objectives for growing tourism opportunities in the Whakatāne District as well as health and recreational outcomes for residents.

This funding will enable:

1. The option of lease arrangements in suitable private land that is open to trail development by the landowners (We are currently in discussion with two prospective parties).
2. Necessary improvements to proposed land parcels to enable the proposed trails to operate safely and sustainably, such as the construction of safe access and the provision of carparking.
3. Funding for trail development and maintenance to supplement charitable grant funding obtained through community groups. Bike Whakatāne Trust is specifically set up to apply for funding to cover the costs of professional trail development and support community groups' trail development operations, maintenance, and associated environmental enhancement works (e.g. plant and predator pest control or restorative native planting programmes).
4. The continued scoping of opportunities for off-road MTB trails in other land parcels.

As a District we are lacking in MTB trails, and we still have huge community demand for both recreational cycle trails and MTB trails. The awareness of the benefits from both recreational cycle trails and MTB trails is building as we see many other Districts around the motu obtaining strong economic returns on the back of investment in cycle infrastructure. On behalf of the MTB Working Party we strongly encourage Council to keep investing in this area, as we work towards the establishment of MTB trails in our rohe.

Thank you for considering our submission and we would be happy to speak to it in person.





Whakatāne District MTB Working Party

Submission ID: 661

Date: Apr 12 24 09:52:20 am

Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

Attached

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?

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is the registered short form of:  
**Whakatane District Community Arts Council Incorporated**  
P.O. Box 599, Whakatane 3158, Bay of Plenty, New Zealand

To the Mayor and Councillors  
of the Whakatāne District Council

7 April 2024

**Re: Long Term Plan 2024 – 2034**

Kia Ora Dr Victor Luca and Councillors,

Arts Whakatāne is an organisation of volunteers, which creates arts events such as the Summer Arts Festival, including the Molly Morpeth Art Award and Jazz in the Park, and are co-producers of the Trust Horizon Light Festival. We advocate for the Arts in our district. We have been operating continuously since 1986.

The Arts Community of Whakatāne consists of diverse groups, since people are engaged in such different activities as singing, composing and performing music, dancing, acting, theatre technicians, costume and props design, arts events promotion, woodcrafting, photography, sculpture, ceramics, jewellery, furniture design, film making, recording music, photography and film making, writing of poetry and books, kapa haka, whakairo and raranga. People work privately at home or belong to one of many groups.

To complete this picture, we include our exhibition centre, Te Kōputu a te Whanga a Toi and our research museum Taketake as important arts and culture assets. In addition we have commercial outlets, which sell arts objects such as 4Arts Sake in Ohope. We have an astonishing number of local and travelling performers, presenting many events here.

We have a number of groups engaged in the arts, e.g. performing arts and visual arts private schools, private music teachers, Theatre Whakatāne, Music Whakatāne, the Whakatāne Arts and Crafts Society, The Whakatāne Photography Club, Te Whare Wananga o Aotearoa's weaving course, Kapa Haka groups, the Brass Band, The Scottish Pipe Band, The Eboppers Jazz Band and The Edgecumbe Choir. We have lively music, drama and visual arts departments at our High Schools and engagement in the arts in our Primary Schools.

If you add the numbers of local residents who are either active or passive participants in the arts, you can see that the number is quite significant. Creative NZ has done surveys to determine the need and impact of the arts within communities and the result is a high engagement. The arts are a significant contributor to the health and wellbeing of many people. You find the results here: <https://creativenz.govt.nz/advocating-for-the-arts/fact-finder> Here are some examples from this research:

"70% of New Zealanders believe that the arts and creativity is important to the wellbeing to their family and whanau." And "The creative industries strengthen community and enhance local democracy".

Attractive art galleries and arts related events attract visitors to our district. The arts have the power to generate income through visitors who spend money in our shops, restaurants and accommodation providers. Here is another quote from surveys published on the Creative NZ website:

“Between March 2020 and March 2021, the Maori arts and creative sector contributed over 1.05 billion to NZ’s GDP.”

In view of all this information, Arts Whakatane strongly supports the upgrade of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub (Option 2) and the building of an Arts Hub.

The Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub is a very important community asset that is in need of an upgrade. (See my separate letter, published in the Beacon on 3 April). We concur with Nándor Tanczos’ Opinion Piece in the same Beacon edition as to how a future-proofed upgrade can be achieved over time.

It is disappointing how the Society of Arts and Crafts has been treated in the past by their landlord, the Whākatane District Council. They were given an old house in Short Street on council land to use as a place for regular workshops. The low rent was a positive. Pam Mossmann, the President, tells me that about 160 people use the facility each week. They have regular meetings of groups engaged in woodcraft, ceramics, fibre arts, painting and drawing and decoupage.

The outside workshops are cramped and the house is in desperate need of an upgrade. There is a high demand on pottery places but the limited space does not allow for accepting new members. Members of this society have repaired and added onto the building over the years themselves as support from the landlord (WDC) has been slow or negligent. They were often told that they would have to move out soon so that it was not viable to do any repairs and they had this hanging over them for years, which is quite demoralising.

A modern Arts Hub would include better and safer workshop spaces for these groups, an exhibition space and spaces for other art forms, such as recording music and digital arts. Good examples of such facilities can be found in the arts villages in Rotorua and Tauranga. The WDC should not leave it to volunteers to provide these essential facilities for the community but support it by constructing a suitable arts hub or include the existing Arts House in Short Street in the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub upgrade.

Letter to the Editor, Whakatāne Beacon (published 3 April 2024)

## War Memorial Centre needs an Upgrade!

I agree with Rosemary Sloman that we need to have a vision for our children and grandchildren when planning for infrastructure and public amenities in the Whakatāne District for the next ten years and beyond. Economists say that the recession is going to be over in one year. Let us think further ahead.

I have been a frequent user of the Rex Morpeth War Memorial Centre over many years. I am a past member of Theatre Whakatāne and a long-time member of Arts Whakatāne. I have been production manager and backstage worker for many Whakatāne High School school shows and I have taken students to other stages in Rotorua, Tauranga and Hamilton with the Stage Challenge competition. Arts Whakatāne booked out the whole War Memorial complex for many years over Anniversary Weekend to fill the gymnasium with an arts and crafts exhibition, including the Molly Morpeth Art exhibition, an Antique Fair in the lounge and performances in the Little Theatre. The War Memorial Centre is a wonderful asset, but it is in urgent need of an upgrade. Backstage we have dealt with rain pouring through the roof onto electric stage lighting systems with steam rising, seats in the auditorium need replacing, the air conditioning was faulty and we were freezing during rehearsals or were too hot in summer. Theatre Whakatāne had to purchase their own sound and lighting system as the permanent one is woefully inadequate. They truck it in and install it for every of their wonderful performance seasons and then put it back into storage afterwards. Visiting performance companies are amazed at the antiquated manual rope pulling system to fly scenery in and out of the fly floor and the non-existence of audiovisual comms between the stage manager and the control rooms. I salute the boys and men who spent hours up in the gallery for weeks doing the tedious and dangerous manual rope pulling job night after night. In other theatres this is done by pushing a button on a hydraulic system. The War Memorial Centre is well used by locals and by visiting companies. WHS uses the gymnasium as an additional sports facility during the day and it is used by clubs and other organisations throughout the year. Other users are Have a Heart, Anzac Day Commemorations, Dancing with the Stars, The Leisure and Business show and others. Buildings deteriorate over time and have to be well maintained and upgraded regularly. Technical systems become obsolete. 'Do nothing' is not an option for the War Memorial Centre. Believe me, this well used community hub is overdue for a future proofed upgrade.



Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

As a rate payer and a member of this community since 1984 ish i have lost confidence in the council staffs attitude and despise the down right lies that we have been told re the submissions and the options made available to the citizens re rates increases , Firstly who ever wrote the booklet needs to find another job because its a very poor document and contains untrue facts there is no division of parts into the areas of concern ? so one can only assume you dont give a hoot for the ratepayers every expense should be listed separately there has been a serious lack of maintenance on the war memorial hall area , the same for the little theater no maintenance and the sports areas are to be used by different groups of citizens no maintenance we do not need want or can afford any grandiose building or complex on this site so fix the required mess and then leave it alone if there is a need for future sporting grounds then let that come from the clubs themselves and it is NOT a essential service as far as council funding is concerned not by ratepayers we have serious other concerns of a more devastating concern the war memorial hall is and was built by residents as a recognition of the sacrifices made by those who chose to fight for this country and does not need to be stuffed around unnecessarily for the sake of being able to do it totally not ?It was never meant to be part of a complex so its in a vulnerable position it was never intended to be a civil defence building and should not even be considered as such what a foolish idea that is a flood goodbye hall a tsunami goodbye a earthquake goodby a eruption good bye so spending millions on it is downright senseless leave the bloody thing alone and do the required maintenance Next the water i dont think any body is fully aware of this situation it is very old and thanks to a few staff in

reasonable condition given the facts there has to be a few pats on the back for these people BUT they have been warning just how precarious it is , yet not even mentioned ??? we cant live without a water supply we have no backup plan just a old sand trap type tanks that are not very big to support the town of this size and are seriously overloaded rex morphet no water yes considering that we ARE going to face a calamity of a natural cause that has the potential of multiple deaths a exit strategy is high on the agenda therefore it seems to me that the roading engineer needs a holiday in a mental institution as he has lumps in his head because that's what he puts on our roads bloody great lumps i hope he experiences a ride in a ambulance over these it would appear he doesn't know the difference between a road and a foot path pedestrians dont belong on roads and cars dont belong on footpaths never the twain should meet so lets get real and only have legal road crossings as gazetted not stupid temptations to get a granny ran over because she think its a crossing ? We need a town that has a good sensible traffic flow the "improvements" to the bridge roundabout is a joke and a total was of money and the stupidity of changing other roads caused several serious crashes because the were never gazetted correctly we dont need a one dee ten tee like that sucking on the ratepayers its Not the councils job to enforce the speeding laws ti the cops job they get trained and paid to do it so dont tell me its for safety as you have created crashes already and i think made the council liable for then Next item the council has to get into the real world and look seriously at colour blindness which is the most anti racist thing required heres a link to the principal

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/1/#inbox/FMfcgzGxSbrvHVpJQwQqDfqBtXHcWqrW?compose=DmwnWrRspPdjZnxvBmBhsPGzxbLHPNllwQXIXbMtfwqNjfGZDmlGgmZTtCWDJZbDhRkVcXfXRMVI> this is the way of the future and a promotion of racial harmony with democracy in mind just ask that you look at this and then the nz situation next item I have done a bit of a plan in my mind with regards emergency management firstly we have a urgent need for a river crossing to the south area of the town my thoughts are that a substantial bridge could be built in a area that meets up at the bridge street roundabout and comes along the old river bed this area is vacant and cannot be built on for many years into the future a four lane bridge from the roundabout on a angle to meet up with te rahu road and improvements to the road would create a excellent escape route, with the numbers that could use it quickly and be away past awakeri given the modern conditions it proves to be the cheapest as well as the most beneficial to the community . next item lack of care and responsibility from council staff some are really bloody good and helpful others obnoxious to the extreme and could give a sh-t for the residents my proposal is that the elected councillors have the say on who gets employed as staff and no one else can employ any one without this process and i would prefer the existing staff to go through this process every five years the existing laws have removed the democracy from the council powers result is they cant sack the bad eggs so the whole council blames the smell on those elected but the smell comes from within It would be a damned good idea for someone like david bewley to run this as he has proved he has ears that work This is my submission and would speak to it if required any explanations thank you ps please get a jack hammer and get rid of the piddling pool at the wharf

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Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Here are my thoughts regarding the 3 questions posed 1. Funding re Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub. Please stop spending money! This is not a wise or necessary project! This is not a priority. This is not urgent. This project will benefit few people of the Whakatane area. All of the benefits promised by this project are already provided. The people of Whakatane cannot afford to spend more money, to pay further rate increases. If you were a family you would tighten your belts not embark on a big expensive project. 2. Food waste. Mix foodwaste and green waste for urban properties. Encourage people to compost. 3. How to close funding gap? Oh what strange language! Stop spending on projects like Rex Morpeth. Most importantly do not keep creating more debt. Question- How can you make money without spending more? Creative ideas and new perspective required. Tighten your belts, like we do. Conclusion. Whakatane is not looking vibrant. Many businesses are on their knees begging for respite, shops are closed. People are hurting. Any spending of money should be only on vital projects. Improving drinking water quality is a top priority for me. There is lots we can do without spending money to improve Whakatane District. What are creative inexpensive ideas? People have lots of talents and kindness.

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Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub. I believe that there should be no redevelopment or 'nice to have' upgrades at the Recreation Hub. We should make sure that the Hub has necessary maintenance - e.g. new roof and is compliant with Health and Safety rules, but that no money is spent on new developments while we, the Council, does not have any money to carry these out. How should we manage food waste collection? Option One appears to be the best option for urban dwellers at present.. One would hope that if the greenwaste and the foodwaste is composted in the open air allowing worms and microbes the best conditions to break down the materials, the process will be as quick as possible. It will be necessary to control methane emissions so that we work towards reducing conditions that exacerbate climate change. Rural dwellers have recourse to worm farms, compost heaps and animals to help with the food waste. Our bins should remain as they are at present - a recycling bin, a general rubbish bin and a glass recycling 'bin'. I am concerned that the general rubbish bin will be changed to a larger bin and believe that households should have a choice as to the size of bin they could fill. In years gone by the Council changed our bins from a large bin to a smaller one, to encourage people not to dispose of so much rubbish. Our aim should be to reject, as far as possible, packaging that cannot be recycled, and find other places to dispose of 'stuff' such as soft plastics (at Woolworths), Nespresso capsules (Bouquet Floral), metal objects at places like MaCaulay Metals, e-waste at CREW, and other goods and clothes at the various opportunity shops in Whakatane. How quickly should we close our funding gap The quicker the better is the short answer - but, of course

most people cannot afford the rate rise that paying off the debt will entail. Option 2 would be better than Option 1, but too many people will still be hurt by this rate increase. Sadly, Option 3 is probably the only option that people can tolerate, even though the interest will increase, and the pain of paying it off will be a burden for many years. We must not spend money on any big projects that we cannot afford. Thank you for your attention.

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**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

While I agree some maintenance/future proofing for the Rex Morpeth facility is needed, I think that in the current local and national financial situation, it is prudent to reduce spending to essential needs. I also wonder about the merits of investments in the current sport fields etc, when there are potentially larger sites in the locality which could be developed for a range of sporting activities, and help grow those areas, eg the old Whakatane Race course, at TeTeko.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Unsure of these options, how will the waste in option one be processed, and what will be the end result of it.? Why aren't worm farms being promoted in the urban areas. ?

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

That high level of communication and transparency by council to rate payers displayed around all councils plans/actions.

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Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

My submission relates to two major concerns. 1 While physical facilities will always require expenditure, I am totally against any form of significant additional development of Rex Morpeth Park. The multi millions of proposed expenditure cannot be justified in my opinion. 2 Any development of a Boat Harbour is a project for private enterprise. It is a commercial enterprise that is NOT for local government to be involved in. Only larger boats owned by a relatively privileged few will use it. The expenditure in both resources and staff commitment is not the task of the Whakatane District Council.

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Submission ID: 667

Date: Apr 12 24 09:58:30 am

Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

Attached

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?

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## **Submission on the Long Term Plan 2024-34**

Although I am a previous president of the Whakatāne MTB club, current chair of the Bike Whakatāne Trust and a member of the WDC MTB working party I wish to submit this as a personal submission to the LTP.

I have been advocating for the development of a Mountain Bike Park close to Whakatāne township since the closure of Rawhiti after the district was affected by cyclone Pam. With the closure of Rawhiti there was a groundswell of public support for development of trails. I am still regularly questioned on what is happening with the development of trails or a park close to town and remain optimistic, that with the continuing support of council, we can develop a facility for the benefit of the community. In the LTP 2021-31 Council agreed to support the scoping and development of MTB trail opportunities with funding of \$50K initially, then \$100K per year for two years. Since that time the MTB Working Party has been meeting regularly, and actively pursuing trail opportunities in several land parcels with landowner discussions. There are two possible opportunities with suitable terrain where progress has been made.

My request is that Whakatāne District Council continues to provide funding of \$100,000 per year over the next three years to enable the progression of these opportunities for developing a publicly accessible area for recreational MTB infrastructure. This will directly support Council objectives for growing tourism opportunities in the Whakatāne District, as well as recreational and sporting outcomes for residents.

This funding will enable:

- The option of lease arrangements in suitable private land that is open to trail development by the landowners.
- Necessary improvements to proposed land parcels to enable the proposed trails to operate safely and sustainably, such as the construction of safe access and the provision of carparking.
- Funding for trail development and maintenance to supplement charitable grant funding obtained through community groups such as the Bike Whakatāne Trust. And to support community group's trail development operations, maintenance, and associated environmental enhancement works (e.g. plant and predator pest control or restorative native planting programmes that may form part of lease agreements).
- The continued scoping of opportunities for off-road MTB trails in other land parcels.

As a District we are lacking in MTB trails, and we still have huge community demand for both recreational cycle trails and MTB trails. The awareness of the benefits from both recreational cycle trails and MTB trails is building as we see many other Districts, such as Ōpōtiki, seeing economic returns on the back of investment in cycle infrastructure. I strongly encourage Council to keep investing in this area as after many years of coming up against barriers we are starting to see progress.

Nga mihi nui



**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

set funding cap at 5% of funding allocated to three waters and roads. Establish a cap that reflects prioritisation of collective use and dependency assets

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 3: Separate foodwaste collection for all properties.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

rotten fish and maggot ridden chicken carcasses cannot be grouped with green waste. A two week turnaround is a likely health hazard.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

severely reduce services that are not infrastructure priorities. Sports and the arts are unnecessary burdens and should all be user pays

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

reduce unnecessary services like sports and arts to lower impact

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

The provision of sports and the arts should not be within the WDC brief. The council must remain focused on infrastructure, access and safety of its ratepayers. All other uses must be user pays

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Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

I wish to endorse the submission made by Sullivan Lake Care Group. Whilst the spraying of the waterlilies has opened up leads for the waterfowl there are still many patches of grasses which extend into the water obscuring the perimeter of the lake which a child or someone of impaired vision could mistake for dry land and fall into the polluted water .I reinforce the care groups plea to improve the water quality of Sullivan Lake.

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Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 1: Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

Attached

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Just to offer some clarity, the very poor judgement on the use of rates raised in Whakatane is a reflection of the lack of common sense and logic of the staff who are employed to make good judgement, not on those who carry out the orders or the councillors that we vote in. It does appear that neither of them are able to make the decisions that they are voted in to make.

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If all of the unnecessary wants are dropped or are paid for by users then there is no need for the proposed rates rises. To save even more money reduce the number of employees especially the ceo and manager and consultant level, retaining those who's practical skills maintain and develop the town.

The presentation of the Long Term Plan online is a great example of wastage now produced by the administration of this council. A well presented word document have been so much quicker, cheaper, clearer and probably make it easier to present our feedback. However, on the plus side it also set out so much of the way in which they are happy to wastefully spend rate payers money with no practical advantage to them or the town.

It totally proved that now the majority of employees are on desks, and not necessarily assisting ratepayers in any way but dreaming up concepts to justify their underworked and overpaid jobs followed by meetings with others of the same ilk encouraging each other to increase their numbers. We must go back to the structures that were proved so economical and effective as the current methods and staffing systems are obviously failing so badly. Yes, there have been changes but expenditures simply have not been controlled, as above.

At least reduce those employees to the numbers who are actually on the ground really earning and deserving of their income.

**What is the need of “Our Vision and Priorities” what was the cost and time of thinking it up and designing it? What a waste of time!!! and the result of “More life in life” is such a good example of wasted time and money. It has no reason and is obviously thought up by some overpaid and underworked ceo/manager/permanent consultant.**

It also provided a list of some of the questions and comments that need to be asked and made that I had not been aware of, such as

**1 Why do all the “strengthening of relationships” and “District Partnerships” require funding? 1 What specifically do each do and 2 what does the funding cover? Provide lists!** Historically people would see a need and step up and deal with it. This included family issues such as family harm, homelessness, the protection of children.

Strangers, in the form of national and local government were not needed.

2 Under the Needs and Wants only **the first two of the “5 Key Priorities” qualify for** all of the residents of Whakatane.

3 ***Please provide a list of departments and occupations of council employees and the number of employees in each. (At this time not requesting salaries).***

***By what numbers has Departments increased in the last 10 years? What percentage? What are the new Departments?***

***By what numbers has staffing increased in the last 10 years? What are new positions?***

4 We don't need a “great place to live” over a “**Safe** place to live”. That is a **Need**.

Before any money is spent every item needs to be classified, beginning with:

What is a need? What is a want?

**Need – cannot be done without to live safely and in good health**

**Infrastructure is definitely a need, including some future growth**

**Safety on roads is also a priority, especially for those who have no choice in their way of lifestyle, such as physically frail travellers who don't need the distraction of those selfish and self prioritising users of other modes of transport on the roads**

**Want – can live without**

**Leisure, definitely a want only and must be set to the side – we already have as many leisures as needed. Possibly maintenance if it brings in an income for the town, only. Rex Morpeth Park qualifies for that and no more, no upgrades or renovations. *Why are all those changes wanted?***

**Historically if people wanted something for their pleasure rather than the good of all the town then they voluntarily built it and paid for it themselves**

**Other than Infrastructure and Needs the town should always work on a User Pays Basis for wants which includes leisure of all sorts. Much of the activities in the town are paid for by rate payers but free to the users, very few who pay rates. Therefore I totally object to my rates being spent for the future wants of future users. ....**

**Use 10 year costings and reverse so that those charted 2034 is 2024, 2033 is 2025 and so forth. Therefore those in the future who are going to get most use, and are going to be earning more money will be paying for it and finding it easier to do so.**

**Rex Morpeth Park**

**None of the available options are acceptable. Morpeth families would be horrified**

**Maintenance only**

**Disgraceful that an option with the majority the submissions was not given**

**Food Waste Option  
(See User Pays)**

**1      maybe 2      Costed at reversed year 10**

**Gap**

**1      Costed at reversed year (See User Pays**

**Rates**

**3      Costed at reversed year (See User Pays**

**Please respond to my requests for information as indicated in RED**

Let's go back to 30 years ago, when people were satisfied and happy with their lives, not self-entitled and expect to be given whatever they want paid for by someone else.

The council were efficient with the majority productive, that is actually out in the community keeping our town in great shape.

*Obviously those who work at the Whakatane District Council must develop a change of mindset, prioritising the rate payers needs ove4r their jobs!!!*

**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Maintain our current complex and refurbish only

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 1: (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

Attached

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

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11 April 2024

The Chief Executive Officer  
Whakatane District Council  
Whakatane

Dear Steph,

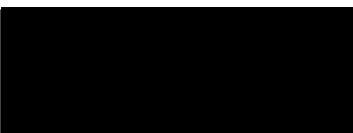
Re: Long Term Plan Submission - I WOULD LIKE TO PRESENT MY SUBMISSION IN PERSON

I have thought long and hard about whether I should submit to your Long Term Plan as I have always felt that being a past Mayor this was not what I would do. The community is what I would call not happy. The Long Term Plan has been presented in a way to make our community focus on a few issues while the major areas of focus are not mentioned. My submission is to bring points forward that I do hope have been fully covered by our elected members in the past. I would like the opportunity to speak and expand on the following issues:

1. Your budget that you have proposed.  
There has been talk that the budget that has been presented in the LTP is a budget put forward by the employees of council. One thing I was always reminded about when I was an elected member was that the budget is the Mayor and Councillors Budget. Therefore this is what you believe our community can accept. I will expand on the huge rates that I saw last year with the highest being 72% in Ohope. If these properties receive a 17% increase this year you're saying nearly a 90% increase in two years is acceptable. I say NO!
2. When a business is hurting financially, the first thing the governors would look at is staffing costs. I understand what is being suggested in the Long Term Plan is actually for more staff to be employed? I hope this is not correct, as you see right now the government of the day is taking corrective action in reducing staffing numbers throughout central government. Have you as councillors had reports on what is necessary and what is not? When we are in a financial crisis is every department necessary in council? Is there ways we can use voluntary labour as a cost cutting method,
3. Harbour Board Land and council commercial assets.  
Has the council looked at ways to get the best return for our community? I would suggest the Commercial Community Trading Organisation (CCTO) could bring wealth and benefits to our whole community, Maori and Pakeha.

I will use this time to give you information to consider and once you have the information I trust as our elected governors you will direct the Chief Executive to implement the changes you see fit. I wish you good luck as I believe the community of the Whakatane District is relying on the council to make the right decisions.

Talk to you soon





I wish to speak at the submission stage.  
 Thank you

WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34 - SUBMISSION FORM

Name\*: Tony Bonne

Town/area of the district\*: Whakatane District

Organisation (if on behalf):

\*Privacy note: The information on this page (including fields above) forms part of your submission and will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda. Please leave any fields blank if you do not want this to be available on a public meeting agenda.

<p><b>How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub</p> <p><i>Please refer to pages 24-26 of the Consultation Document for approximate costs and ratepayer contributions.</i></p>	<p>Your thoughts</p> <p>Maintain our current complex and refurbish only.</p>
<p><b>How should we manage foodwaste collection?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Separate foodwaste collection to all properties.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p>
<p><b>How quickly should we close our funding gap?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Close the gap in the short term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Close the gap in the medium term (in six years) to ease the burden now.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p>
<p><b>How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p>	<p>Your thoughts</p>

**Need more space for your feedback?**

Please add more pages and make sure your name and organisation (if relevant) are at the top of each page.

Submission ID: 672

Date: Apr 12 24 10:13:22 am

Name:

Michelle Beach

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

I am absolutely against any double digit rate increases for our district as our community can't afford it. WDC needs to start cutting their spending, salaries and staffing and to work within their funding means. WDC needs to re-prioritise and necessities instead of 'nice to have' projects like REx Morpeth Park upgrades. Moving forward WDC needs to find additional funding sources (other than through rates) for all projects and / or projects should be postponed until the economy improves or other more financially viable options are found.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

The food waste program is a 'nice to have' at this point so should be pushed back until 2027. And in the meantime the most economical option for our community and/or additional funding sources found to institute such a project.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Now is not the time to increase rates so the funding gap should be closed in the longer term (once we are all on better footing and possibly postponed until the next LTP cycle)

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

I am absolutely against any double digit rate increases for our district as our community can't afford it. Find a better way to bring rates under 9% and even then people will not be able to afford it and we may risk that many will need to move away,.

**Supporting document**

Attached

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

See attached

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# WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34 - SUBMISSION FORM

Name\*: Michele Beach

Town/area of the district\*: matata

Organisation (if on behalf): .....

*\*Privacy note: The information on this page (including fields above) forms part of your submission and will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda. Please leave any fields blank if you do not want this to be available on a public meeting agenda.*

<p><b>How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub</p>	<p><i>Your thoughts</i></p> <p>I am absolutely against any double digit rate increases for our district as our community can not afford it. WDC needs to start cutting their spending, salaries, and staffing, and to work within their funding means. WDC needs to re-prioritize infrastructure &amp; necessities instead of "nice to haves" projects like the Rex Morpeth Park upgrades. Moving forward WDC need to find additional funding sources (other than through rates) for all projects, and / or projects should be postponed until the economy improves, or other more financially viable options are found.</p>
<p><b>How should we manage foodwaste collection?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Separate foodwaste collection to all properties.</p>	<p><i>Your thoughts</i></p> <p>The Food waste program is a " nice to have" at this point, so should be pushed back until 2027. And in the meantime the most economical option for our community &amp; /or additional funding sources found to institute such a project.</p>
<p><b>How quickly should we close our funding gap?</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Close the gap in the short term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Close the gap in the medium term (in six years) to ease the burden now.</p>	<p><i>Your thoughts</i></p> <p>Now is not the time to increase rates, so the "funding gap" should be closed in the longer term (once we all are on better financial footing and possibly postponed until the next LTP cycle).</p>
<p><b>How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p>	<p><i>Your thoughts</i></p> <p>I am absolutely against any double digit rate increases for our district as our community can not afford it. Find a way to bring rates under 9% and even then people will not be able to afford it and we may risk that many will have to move away.</p>

**Need more space for your feedback?**

Please add more pages and make sure your name and organisation (if relevant) are at the top of each page.

You 'people' seem to forget who  
pays you! Stop spending OUR  
Money without our mandate.

Stop the administration ~~road~~.

You keep hiring people for reasons  
not understood by the ratepayer.

You are adhering to an agenda

WE the PEOPLE dont want or need.

WE SEE YOU 🙄🙄

**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

There really is little and/ or no need to go on an expensive, time consuming up grade to an already viable park. Croquet "works, the swimming pool "work", the sports fields "work', the hall "works" . Spend only what is absolutely necessary on maintenance only. After consideration of the expensive submitted plans by Council for the re-development, none have real merit

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 3: Separate foodwaste collection for all properties.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

We have a lot of input to the grounds of our property, hence we need greenwaste seperate (as at present) to food waste. All food waste we can compost is actioned on our property

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

NO NEW STAFF !!!!!!! The now heavy monopoly gifted to Council is becoming staff heavy and far too many "bright" ideas emerging ( to justify employment positions) At 75 yrs old, I now view Council as an enemy and foe, instead of as an ally and friend.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

UAGC ?

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Most stated above. If there is any options available for staff training, please consider a course in "common sense" .

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Submission ID: 674

Date: Apr 12 24 10:19:30 am

Name:

Daniel Dawick

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation) Basketball New Zealand

### How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Option 1: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.

### Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

The growth and popularity of basketball in Aotearoa is at an all-time high. It is the number one ranked recreational activity in New Zealand for tamariki and rangatahi, According to School Sport New Zealand, basketball is also the second largest sport in the country after a massive 45% increase in players over the past decade. Even though the participation numbers, growth and popularity of the game continues to rise, there remain some real challenges and opportunities to grow participation. One of these major barriers is the lack of suitable indoor facilities, reducing accessibility and future opportunities. We can't continue to have tamariki playing basketball late at night or missing out completely. We can do better. Our local association, Tauranga City Basketball Association, has also experienced this participation growth, and is struggling to cater for the demand in the Eastern Bays, opting to implement other outdoor strategies to ensure tamariki and rangatahi do not miss out. Basketball New Zealand supports and endorses Option 1 | Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. The additional benefits of more fit-for-purpose indoor facilities cannot be understated. Sport active recreation and play create happier healthier people and better-connected communities. We've already witnessed this through our outdoor initiatives, Hoops in Schools, and Hoops in Parks. Active New Zealanders are 59% more likely to have the highest level of wellbeing. Upgraded facilities not only enhance community engagement, but they also serve as vital community hubs and foster social cohesion. Our vision is 'Hoops in the heart of every community'. We want to make sure opportunities are accessible and inclusive for all residents, regardless of age, ability, or socioeconomic background. Additional indoor facilities will also improve the ability to host more regional and national tournaments. Having more people visit the region, having fit-for-purpose spaces and places, and maintaining great assets, can enhance local economies. Basketball New Zealand fully acknowledges the critical support and investment Whakatāne District Council offers to support sport, recreation, and play in the Eastern Bay. Without this support, many in our community would have the great opportunities they currently have to participate. With that said, we encourage and support a long-term perspective in planning and investing in sport and recreation infrastructure, crucial for the sustainability of all sport. Future planning needs to consider future population growth, demographic trends and evolving community needs to ensure sustainable development over time.

### How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

### How quickly should we close our funding gap?

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

Attached

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

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**BASKETBALL**  
New Zealand

**FACILITIES**



# **INDOOR FACILITIES** GUIDE



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## INTRODUCTION

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This guide is designed to assist Basketball New Zealand (BBNZ), basketball Associations, territorial authorities (TAs) and regional sports trusts (RSTs) to work together to enhance the basketball facility network and so enable more people to get active and participate in basketball.

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Information for the guide has primarily been informed by the National Facilities Strategy for Indoor Sports (NFS for Indoor Sports)<sup>1</sup> and the BBNZ All of Basketball Plan (The Game Plan)<sup>2</sup>. Links to TA and/or RST regional facility plans are also referenced so that basketball Associations can influence and leverage off the opportunities created through these plans.

### The guide is designed to provide:

- A profile of basketball so that TAs, RSTs and other readers gain an understanding of the relationship between the sport and facilities and opportunities for mutual benefits.
- An easy summary of the NSF for Indoor Sports, highlighting key findings that relate to basketball.
- A link between the NSF for Indoor Sports and BBNZ's strategic vision outlined in the "Game Plan" document.
- An increased understanding of ways in which Associations and the Zones should engage with TAs, based on Sport New Zealand's (Sport NZ) existing work on TA engagement.
- Recommendations on ways in which the Zones and Associations can work towards resolving the challenges they are facing through collaboration with facility providers.
- A case study that will explore some of the key challenges faced by basketball Associations (Refer to Case Study - Tauranga City Basketball Association).

<sup>1</sup> National Facilities Strategy for Indoor Sports prepared for Sport New Zealand, May 2014.

<sup>2</sup> Basketball New Zealand All of Basketball Plan, June 2012.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Basketball is one of the most popular participation sports, and one of the biggest team sports in New Zealand, but its growth is arguably hampered by lack of access to community facilities.

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Sport NZ's NFS for Indoor Sports has identified that there are sufficient facilities in New Zealand for international events and national or regional tournaments but there are insufficient local community facilities for basketball and other sports. Population and demographic changes will increase or decrease that demand in some areas.

BBNZ has developed this guide, based on the NFS for Indoor Sports, to identify gaps and opportunities in provision of community indoor facilities for basketball. The guide also addresses the need to develop outdoor 3x3 facilities for the youth market.

The guide identifies critical needs in some areas to address access issues and the high reliance on the school network. The TA network is also under pressure with a number of ageing facilities and other facilities that have not been designed with sufficient flexibility to meet the needs of different indoor sports.

BBNZ has introduced a winter and summer national community participation programme offering basketball programmes over 12 months of the year for all ages, levels and abilities in order to spread use of the facilities.

Because basketball is not a direct provider of facilities, the role of the basketball Associations is to work with TAs and RSTs to influence the development of facility plans that address the shortage of indoor space and/or the need to redevelop some centres to better meet the needs of sport.

A collaborative approach, with other basketball Associations within the Zone and with other sports, is essential when advocating for additional indoor space. Competing with the same sport or between sports within a city or district will compromise the effectiveness of any approach to a TA or RST.

A flexible approach to court sizes and game times is also needed. Basketball needs to be playing games where spaces are available, rather than being constrained by the size of the court. Smaller courts for juniors creates more opportunities for more children to play basketball. For many levels of the game playing to a set length of time, rather than stopping the clock may mean that more games can be played within the same time frame.

Associations will need to have a clear understanding of their own facility usage and participation in basketball in their area, as well as understanding the gaps and opportunities for redistributing utilisation from winter to summer.

### **Possible strategies for increasing facilities available for basketball include:**

- Increasing access to school courts for community use.
- Modifying and increasing access to outdoor courts such as netball courts, tennis courts and recreation spaces.
- Increased flexibility about court sizes for all levels of the game.
- Increased flexibility about game times for all levels of the game.
- Adapting and redeveloping existing facilities.
- Developing new facilities.

## BASKETBALL IN NEW ZEALAND

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Basketball was introduced into New Zealand by the YMCA, encouraged by Mormon missionaries and popular among servicemen returning home after World War II.

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Basketball is an Olympic sport and in 2000 and 2004 the Tall Blacks and Tall Ferns participated in the Olympic Games. The Tall Ferns also participated in the 2008 Olympic Games. The Tall Blacks and Tall Ferns have regularly competed at world championship events.

The New Zealand Breakers are the highest profile and successful basketball brand in New Zealand. The team has achieved outstanding success and this has ignited a committed and loyal following and achieved sell-out crowds for what is an entertainment spectacle.

Basketball in New Zealand is gaining momentum, but its growth is limited by a critical shortage of access to indoor court space, particularly in Auckland and Christchurch. Until this issue is addressed the sport will be unable to grow beyond the current limitations imposed on it by factors that are largely outside its control.

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### **Basketball Participation Levels**

Basketball is one of the most popular participation sports for New Zealand youth, and one of the biggest team sports in New Zealand. The Active NZ Survey<sup>2</sup> shows there are 209,427 adults (age 16+) participating in basketball. The NZ Young People's Survey<sup>3</sup> shows that 367,000 young people (age 5-18 years) participate in basketball.

The combined figures, adjusted for the age overlap, show that half a million Kiwis play basketball on an annual basis. Basketball is the number three team sport for adults (behind cricket and touch football).

**Based on the NZ Young People's Survey, basketball is the number one "mucking around" sport and recreation activity for young New Zealanders:**

- Number one for boys 10-14 years (61% of all boys participated)
- Number one for boys 15-18 years (48% of all boys participated)
- Number one team sport for girls 10-14 years (59% of all girls participated)
- Number one team sport for girls 15-18 years (41% of girls participated)

There are approximately 75,000 members currently registered with BBNZ. The challenge for basketball is converting the half million participants into 150,000 people who play basketball regularly in local competitions and events.

<sup>2</sup> Active NZ Survey (2008), Sport NZ

<sup>3</sup> NZ Young People's Survey (2011), Sport NZ

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## Hierarchy of Facilities for Basketball in New Zealand

Basketball in New Zealand needs a range of facilities to meet the different levels of competition.

The following outlines the needs for different levels of basketball:

**International Event Facility:** Meets all the criteria required for hosting international events, with a centre court, and usually played at an entertainment venue e.g. New Zealand matches played at Vector Arena or the North Shore Events Centre.

**National (or regional) Tournament Facility:** The need for a six court facility able to host multiple games on courts with sprung floors and spectator facilities for up to 1,000 persons.

**Local Level Facility:** A 1-4 court localised facility commonly used to promote participation and develop the sports club network.

The NSF for Indoor Sport has identified that there are insufficient local community facilities to meet the needs of sport. The community network of indoor facilities is ageing, the network is mainly owned by schools, and the network is often poorly maintained.

The focus of the guide is therefore on the gaps in provision of community indoor facilities as they apply to basketball.

At a community level basketball's growth is impeded as it relies on the TAs and schools to provide indoor facilities and then it competes for this space with a growing number of other indoor sports. In particular badminton, volleyball, Gymsports and Futsal have been identified in the NSF for Indoor Sports as sports that are increasing their demands for indoor space.

As demand from these sports increases, there is also increasing demand from traditional outdoor sports moving indoors, in particular netball. These pressures indicate that the situation is likely to get worse rather than better for all indoor sports. Therefore BBNZ's long-term plan should be directed at securing increased space for playing basketball at a community level.

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## The Basketball New Zealand Game Plan

The BBNZ Game Plan has been developed to align all basketball development programmes to provide a unified pathway into the game and to deliver a consistent experience to all participants.

**The Game Plan formed six “virtual” basketball Zones that create opportunities for integrated planning aligned with the One Game, One Team, One Plan approach. The six Zones are:**

1. Northern Zone
2. Mid-North Zone
3. Central Zone
4. Capital Zone
5. Mainland Zone
6. Southern Zone

Appendix A has a list of the Basketball Association with each Zone.

The Game Plan proposes that a national participation programme be introduced offering quality, consistent participation experiences and engagement over 12 months of the year for all ages, levels and abilities.

Planning the participation programmes throughout the year will help ensure basketball receives sustained revenue opportunities, better utilisation of gymnasium availability and greater basketball participation experiences and choices.

**The winter and summer national participation programmes are as follows:**

	Target market	Winter Brands	Summer Brands
<b>Adult</b>	Generation Y (20-37 years)	Club Hoops	Summer Hoops
<b>Youth</b>	Generation Z (13-19 years)	School Hoops	3x3 National Tour
<b>Junior</b>	Generation Z (5-12 years) Parents - Generation X (28-52 years)	Kiwi Hoops	Kiwi Hoops

The Game Plan focuses on key strategies to address the critical shortage of facilities that are available and necessary to grow the sport of basketball through developing these winter and summer brands.

**The strategies identified in the Game Plan are:**

- Develop a Zone Based Regional Facility Plan aligned with the NFS for Indoor Sports to cater for growth in the numbers participating.
- Develop a National Participation Programme offering basketball over 12 months of the year for all ages, levels and abilities to spread use of the facilities.

The Game Plan creates an opportunity to work towards achieving the growth targets of having an accurate workable database of over 200,000 participants, with a minimum of 150,000 New Zealanders playing regularly, by December 2016.

Access to facilities has been identified as a key determinant of growth of the sport. Achieving that target will require a collective effort from BBNZ, basketball Associations, schools, TAs and RSTs.

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## Outdoor Facilities

The Game Plan includes summer outdoor programmes for the youth market in particular. 3x3 basketball can be played outdoors, in diverse locations and in highly visible urban locations. There are international opportunities for New Zealand teams to compete at the FIBA 3x3 World Cup and also World Tour events. FIBA are also actively pursuing 3x3 basketball to be an Olympic sport.

BBNZ has developed a national 3x3 brand that is aligned with the FIBA 3x3 brand. In the summer of 2013/2014 BBNZ launched the inaugural Burger King 3x3 National Tour with events in 10 centres around New Zealand. This tour will be expanded to 12 centres in 2014/2015 and link with community 3x3 basketball organised by Associations.

It is important that local basketball Associations establish communication with TAs and businesses to secure access to strategically located sites that are suitable for 3x3 basketball.

Outdoor courts also provide an opportunity to help overcome indoor court shortages. Associations and other providers should consider relocating suitable community basketball onto outdoor courts. TAs should consider increasing access for indoor sports to use outdoor spaces and look into the feasibility of modifying existing spaces for basketball. Outdoor facilities such as netball courts, tennis courts and other hard surface recreation spaces can be modified for use.

Appendix B provides a draft of outdoor 3x3 venue plans.  
BBNZ is also developing on Outdoor Facilities Guide.

## SUMMARY OF THE NATIONAL FACILITIES

Sport NZ commissioned the NFS for Indoor Sports to provide guidance and direction in the development of indoor sports facilities on a national basis.

### Key Findings of NFS for Indoor Sports

The NSF for Indoor Sports has identified that there are sufficient facilities available for international, national and regional sports competitions as measured against a set of defined criteria.

Within each BBNZ Zone these facilities are as follows:

Zone	Event Facilities		Tournament Facilities	
	International	National	National	Regional
<b>Northern</b>	Vector Arena Trusts Arena	North Shore Events Centre Vodafone Events Trusts Arena Bruce Pulman Park	NS Events Centre Trusts Arena Bruce Pulman Park	ASB Stadium, Whangarei ASB Stadium, Auckland Trusts Arena Waitakere Bruce Pulman Park Auckland Netball Centre
<b>Mid-North</b>	Claudelands ASB Bay Park Arena	Claudelands Taupo Events Centre ASB Bay Park Arena Rotorua Energy Centre	Taupo Events Centre ASB Bay Park Arena Rotorua Energy Centre	Taupo Events Centre QE Youth Centre Rotorua Energy Centre
<b>Central</b>		Pettigrew Green Arena Arena Manawatu	Pettigrew Green Arena Arena Manawatu	Pettigrew Green Arena TSB Stadium and Hub Wanganui Sports Centre
<b>Capital</b>	TSB Arena	Te Rauparaha Arena TSB Arena	ASB Sports Centre	ASB Sports Centre Walter Nash Stadium
<b>Mainland</b>	CBS Canterbury Arena	Trafalgar Centre CBS Canterbury Arena	Saxton Centre Southern Trusts Event Centre, Timaru	Trafalgar Centre (closed) Saxton Stadium Stadium 2000 Solid Energy Centre, West Coast Southern Trusts Timaru EA Networks Centre Cowles Stadium
<b>Southern</b>	Stadium Southland	Edgar Centre Stadium Southland	Edgar Centre Stadium Southland	Edgar Centre Gore Multisports Complex



The NFS for Indoor Sports shows that there is a shortfall in the number of community courts required for indoor sports. The following table shows both community and school courts, the total number of indoor courts provided in New Zealand and school gyms as a percentage of total provision.

It should be noted that not all school courts are available or suitable for indoor sports (size, accessibility, lack of toilets and change-rooms and/or playable condition). Additionally many schools do not make their courts available for community use.

BBNZ needs to continue to strongly advocate to Sport NZ and the Ministry of Education to achieve increased access to school gyms. This is critically important as there are insufficient community sports centres, the network of indoor centres is ageing and there are increased pressures on this space.

Given the current variable and limited access to school facilities, the number of *community* courts provided in the following table is a better indicator of available court space.

Region	Population	Number of Community Courts	Number of School Courts	Total number of Courts	School gyms as % of total
Northland	158,700	3	24	27	89%
Auckland	1,529,300	47	110	157	70%
Waikato	418,500	27	37	69	54%
Bay of Plenty	278,100	21	22	43	52%
Taranaki	110,500	9	11	20	55%
Gisborne	46,700	1	9	10	90%
Hawke's Bay	155,000	8	21	32	66%
Manawau-Wanganui	232,700	19	28	43	65%
Wellington	492,500	30	44	74	59%
Tasman	48,600	5	4	9	44%
Nelson	46,800	6	4	10	40%
Marlborough	45,900	3	3	6	50%
West Coast	32,700	2	5	7	71%
Canterbury	566,000	21	46	66	70%
Otago	213,200	25	29	54	54%
Southland	94,800	15	12	27	44%
<b>Total NZ</b>	<b>4,470,000</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>61%</b>

Although the above table indicates in some locations that the total number of available courts meets the criteria establish by the NSF for Indoor Sports of one court per 9,000 residents, the actual number of available *community* courts available is one court per 18,000 residents.

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## Indoor Facility Planning and Development

The NFS for Indoor Sports found that there are a number of influences on how the national network of indoor facilities has developed. **There are a number of strategies identified in the NFS for Indoor Sports that the basketball Associations can adopt to address shortages as follows:**

- Collaborate and engage with TAs and RSTs who are developing sport facility plans or who could be persuaded to develop sport facility plans and influence the outcome of those plans to provide increased indoor court space.
- Collaborate with other sports and advocate to TAs for rationalisation and development of new community facilities or refurbishment of existing sports centres that meet the needs of sport.
- Collaborate with other sports and advocate for cross-TA boundary development or redevelopment of regional community facilities that meet the needs of indoor sports.
- Identify spare capacity in existing facilities - adopt flexible timeframes for competitions by moving to evenings or weekend days not popular with other sports.
- Explore opportunities to spread basketball competitions over both winter and summer months.
- Explore opportunities to secure outdoor space for basketball competitions.
- Explore opportunities to use school facilities that are not currently available for community sport.

It is important that basketball defines its own needs for the sport. While the guideline of one court per 9,000 residents is helpful, basketball needs to ascertain how many courts it needs to meet its current needs, and given population changes, how many courts it will need in the future to meet its needs, and how this need can be met over a 12 month window of opportunity.

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## Impact of changes in future provision

There may be a reduction or shortage in the number of indoor courts available over time or the space available may be unsuitable for basketball. This will have, or is having, a significant impact on delivery of basketball because of lack of suitable court space and should be addressed by adopting the strategies described above.

- Some facilities are nearly 100 years old. As a result, a large number of the TA indoor facilities are reaching the end of their economic lives, making the network particularly vulnerable.
- Where there is a static but aging population there is likely to be a declining demand for indoor facilities and the TA may consider that keeping them open is not sustainable.
- A decline in the school age population will likely lead to rationalisation of schools and reductions in the availability of school gymnasiums to support the indoor facilities network.
- In recent times there has been a trend for TAs to develop event centres and entertainment venues. This has resulted in a surplus of centres for national and regional competitions and a shortage of indoor court space for community basketball.
- The historical TA structure (large number of smaller TAs) resulted in a high number (84%) of smaller one to three court facilities which are often not suitable for basketball competitions.

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## New Opportunities for Basketball

The Ministry of Education is the major provider of indoor courts in almost all regions within New Zealand (on average 63% of the total network). Small, old and often poorly maintained school gymnasiums dominate in some regions. The NFS for Indoor Sports identified limited access to school facilities as a major contributor to the shortage of court space in New Zealand.

- There are potential opportunities particularly in provincial centres to open up school facilities to the sporting community after school needs have been met.

The greatest need is to develop multi-use flexible facilities in areas of need which allow tournaments or multiple games to be played at once in order to generate long-term sustainable (financial) outcomes.

- Decisions to rationalise may lead to development of new centralised facilities. Providing a multi-use indoor facility as part of an urban renewal programme can promote economic activity as well as promote community engagement or identity.

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## Funding, Design and Development

The NFS for Indoor Sports identified a number of learnings that have been drawn from facility projects that have been less than effective in meeting needs of indoor facility users and managers.

- Lack of clarity about the role of a facility within the wider network. For example designing facilities for regional or national competitions when demand for this use is not sustainable.
- Local authorities competing to provide national level facilities to attract economic activity. Expectations about levels of use based on representations from the national or regional sport organisation, and the TA being induced to develop facilities on the unrealistic expectation of economic benefits from a calendar of events which ultimately may not arise.
- The overall provision of indoor facilities is generally inconsistent between urban and provincial areas and needs to be better understood during the needs assessment stage of development.
- Small communities having an expectation of facilities that were difficult to justify by their use or commercial relationships (often based on what they saw in larger centres). This usually involved creating a sports hub to replace a range of community funded, small community facilities.
- Capture of development proposals by either small community groups or individual councilors resulting in facilities that were out of scale with local demand.
- Opportunities to adapt existing facilities as a national base for some indoor sports, especially where there is potential to expand services offered including sports science or tertiary education.
- For most areas of New Zealand the adaption and redevelopment of existing facilities is a far greater priority than additional facilities.
- The role of any new facility needs to be fully understood so that any new development complements and supports the existing network.

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## Decision-Making Framework and Toolkit for Facility Development

The NFS for Indoor Sports contains guidelines that have been developed to assist in the consideration of projects (including re-development projects). The Decision Making Framework proposed is based on TAs developing indoor facility plans and the major national sports bodies aligning to this strategy.

## FUTURE DEMAND

The BBNZ Game Plan identified key challenges for the sport to grow and strengthen its game. The Plan had an emphasis on community development and growing participation, which in turn should encourage sustainability of the sport for the future.

This strategy for growth will place increased pressure on indoor court facilities in the national network. It has already been identified that in some regions there is a shortfall of indoor court space, particularly in Auckland and Canterbury.

To address this shortfall will take time and additional resources so in the interim there is the need for new thinking in accessing any spare capacity identified within existing facilities or developing outdoor spaces to add capacity in order to grow participation levels.

### Impact of Changing Demographics on Participation

The development of new sporting facilities or improvements require large levels of capital investment so 10 year minimum (and preferably 20 year) projections need to be analysed to fully assess the impact of any changing patterns.

**Table 1: Demographic profile of New Zealand 2011, 2021, 2031**

Age	2011	2021	2031
14 and under	894,500	918,400	934,800
15 – 24	642,400	604,100	635,300
25 – 44	1,169,400	1,277,100	1,386,500
45 – 64	1,112,000	1,174,800	1,131,300
65 and over	587,100	823,600	1,106,700
Total	4,405,400	4,798,000	5,194,600

Participation projections have been developed by Gemba<sup>5</sup> based on population projections. These are shown in the table below which indicate the projected level of participation in basketball. This is based on the assumption that levels remain consistent with those captured in 2011. However, this may not be the case across each region so it would be prudent for BBNZ to apply its own projections based on evidence to support BBNZ planning processes.

<sup>5</sup> Gemba Report, Section 4 of the National Facilities Strategy (2014), Sport NZ

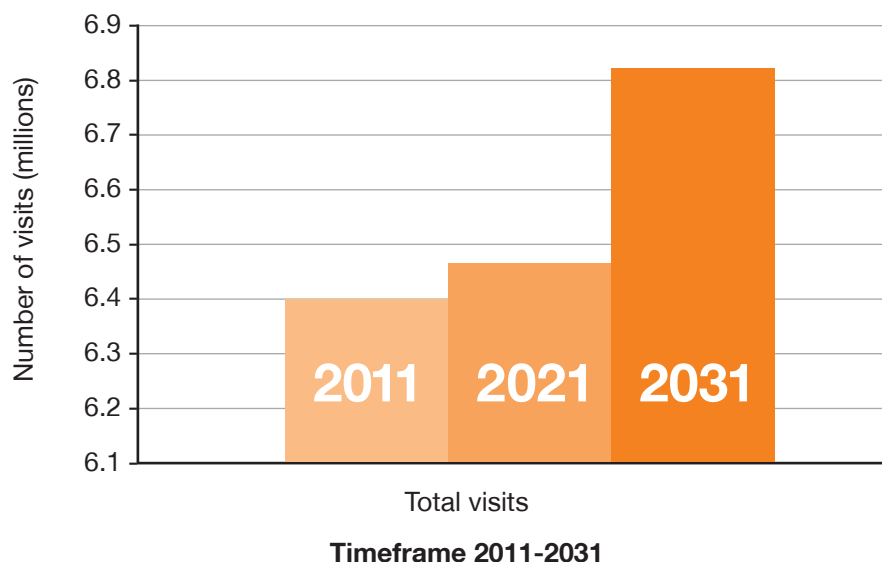
**Table 2: Projected Basketball Participation Trends by age group 2011, 2021, 2031**

<b>Basketball Participation</b>	<b>14 &amp; under</b>	<b>15-24</b>	<b>25-44</b>	<b>45-64</b>	<b>Total</b>
2011 (actual)	275,000	109,208	81,858	22,240	488,306
2021	284,704	102,697	89,397	23,496	500,294
2031	289,788	108,001	97,055	22,626	517,475

**Total volume of Basketball Participation 2011-2031**

The total number of implied visits specifically for Basketball between 2011 and 2031 is presented in the figure below. The average frequency that has been applied has been 30 visits per annum. This calculation has been taken from the NFS for Indoor Sport. The estimated volume of Basketball patronage increases from 6,399,180 visits in 2011 to 6,830,610 by 2031 (based on projected population and current participation levels remaining constant over the projected timeframe).

**Table 3: Total Basketball Visits between the period 2011 and 2031**



The population projection translates to an increase of more than 90,000 visits between 2011 and 2021 and a further 360,000 visits between 2021 and 2031. This projected growth, does not take into account any additional product or programme development initiatives by BBNZ.

The NFS for Indoor Sports has estimated the need for indoor courts to be one court per 9,000 residents. This is based on provision of both community and school courts, and does not take into account that the school network is often not available or is unsuitable for community sport.

The following information has been drawn from the NFS for Indoor Sports which shows the potential number of additional community indoor courts above or below the national benchmark estimation required to address the changing population and profile through until 2031. This has a direct impact on basketball and its ability to achieve its target of catering for the current membership and growing the game to meet demand.

Zone	2011 Population	2021 courts under (-) or over (+) benchmark	2031 courts under (-) or over (+) benchmark	To meet National benchmark by 2031
<b>Northern Zone</b>				
Northland	158,700	-5	-5	-5
Auckland	1,529,300	-21	-30	<b>-42</b>
<b>Mid-North Zone</b>				
Waikato	418,500	-9	-10	<b>-11</b>
Bay of Plenty	278,100	+7	+6	+5
<b>Central Zone</b>				
Gisborne	46,700	+6	+6	+6
Hawkes Bay	155,000	-6	-7	<b>-7</b>
Taranaki	110,500	+4	+4	+4
Manawatu - Wanganui	232,700	+4	+4	+4
<b>Capital Zone</b>				
Wellington	492,500	+5	+3	+2
<b>Mainland Zone</b>				
Tasman	48,600	+3	+3	+2
Nelson	46,800	+6	+6	+6
Marlborough	45,900	+1	+1	+1
West Coast	32,700	0	0	0
Canterbury	566,000	-6	-8	<b>-10</b>
<b>Southern Zone</b>				
Otago	213,200	+5	+4	+4
Southland	94,800	+10	+10	+10
<b>New Zealand</b>	<b>4,470,000</b>	<b>+3</b>	<b>-14</b>	<b>-32</b>

This study shows that the area with the greatest need for more courts in the long-term is predicted to be Auckland while the greatest over-supply is expected to be in Southland. Other areas predicted to have a significant shortfall in indoor courts are Northland, Waikato, Hawkes Bay and Canterbury. Auckland also shortage of facilities for national and regional competitions.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

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Because basketball is not a direct provider of facilities, the role of the basketball Associations' is to proactively engage with TAs, schools and RSTs to influence the outcome of TA and RST local and regional facility plans in order to secure spaces for both indoor and outdoor basketball.

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Sport facility plans have been developed, or are being developed by TAs and RSTs that largely align with the key findings of the NSL for Indoor Sports. BBNZ and local basketball Associations have an opportunity to leverage off these opportunities to plan for the future and specifically to give basketball a strong voice within the community and around the table.

All of the Associations, within each of the Zone areas, will need to demonstrate a willingness to forgo association boundaries to develop a plan for their area or Zone that provides for a hierarchy of facilities that meet the needs of the sport of basketball.

It is very important for basketball Associations to understand that TAs and RSTs will listen strongly to a voice from a sport that is united and going in the same direction. Where a sport is not united, and is offering differing views and/or is trying to compete with the same sport or other indoor sports within the same city or district, then their voice will be lost and their influence will be nullified.

The basketball Associations will need to use their influence with TAs and RSTs in order to meet the needs of the basketball community. Influence requires evidence based information to support the case that is being built.

A simple planning exercise will be able to produce all of the information required. The important thing is that the information is presented collectively to represent the voice of the sport in that city or district.

### **Key information to collect and present includes:**

- An inventory of all indoor sports venues within the TA area or Zone used by basketball.
- An assessment of the suitability of each venue - size, amenities, standard.
- Participation statistics and an assessment of latent demand.
- A gap analysis - current provision v required provision for winter use.
- A gap analysis - current provision v required provision for summer use.
- Identification of opportunities for redistributing utilisation from winter to summer.

Sport NZ has developed guidelines for forming productive relationships with TAs which can equally be applied to forming relationships with RSTs. These are included in the Appendix C.

In collaboration with TAs and RSTs, BBNZ and basketball Associations need to adopt a number of specific strategies to address the predicted shortfall to meet the needs of the sport.

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**Six key strategies identified for increasing facilities available for basketball in this guide were:**

- Increasing access to school courts for community use.
  - Modifying and increasing access to outdoor courts such as netball courts, tennis courts and recreation spaces.
  - Increased flexibility about court sizes for all levels of the game.
  - Increased flexibility about game times for all levels of the game.
  - Adapting and redeveloping existing facilities.
  - Developing new facilities (including facilities with both indoor and outdoor court provision).
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**An alternative approach: Hoops Centres**

In order to meet the long-term needs of the sport, BBNZ could test the feasibility of establishing Hoops Centre/s within each Zone area (scaled up or down in size depending on the population) linked with commercial activities such as cafes and physiotherapist/massage therapist/beauty spa operations.

An independent and professional business case needs to be developed when considering such a facility including both the capital and operating costs of a Hoops Centre. BBNZ needs to be involved in ensuring the level of analysis is appropriate and sufficiently robust to mitigate potential risks.

A priority for feasibility could be a Hoops Centre that is also the national centre of excellence for basketball. This is aligned with a key finding of the NFS for Indoor Sports that there may be opportunities to adapt existing facilities as a national base for some indoor sports, especially where there are potential linkages to sports science or tertiary education.

Creating a Hoops Centre/s would create opportunities for basketball to “own” their own venues rather than compete with all other indoor sports at the community sport level, based on a commercial operating model, possibly a franchise model with common branding and operating systems across New Zealand.

BBNZ could be the Franchisor with risk transferred to the franchisee. The Hoops Centres could be developed as a public-private partnership with support from TAs within the Zone (Council provide the land) and a franchisee/s.

A commercial operation, offering pre-school, school, after-school and holiday programmes as well as a range of summer and winter basketball programmes for all ages and abilities would enable basketball to achieve the growth target of having 150,000 people playing basketball regularly. Access could be provided to other sports, but basketball would have priority access to the Hoops Centres.



## REGIONAL FINDINGS AND ZONE PLANS

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### NFS for Indoor Sports – Regional Findings

The NFS for Indoor Sports makes a number of key findings that align with the predictions of an over or under-supply that relate directly to the needs of basketball in New Zealand.

- Northland needs one multi-court facility to reduce the dependence on the school network.
  - The Auckland region needs 3-4 multi-court facilities to meet demand, and also a range of 2-6 court facilities depending on evidence of demand.
  - Gisborne may require an additional community facility to address current shortfalls and dependence on the school network.
  - Canterbury's proposed Christchurch Metro Sports Facility needs to provide sufficient capacity for the needs of the region.
  - Canterbury needs a further four court facility providing a range of indoor facilities depending on the demographic growth in the region and the changing population patterns.
  - Regions with static but aging populations are likely to have a declining demand for indoor facilities.
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### Zone Plans

Facility planning within each of the Zones (Appendix D lists all of the Zones and Associations within the Zones) will focus on developing, redeveloping or accessing the facilities needed to deliver the winter and summer basketball programmes in order to work towards achieving the target of 150,000 people playing basketball regularly by December 2016.

All Associations need to keep abreast of sports facility planning work in their area so that they can contribute and ensure the needs of the sport of basketball are understood and incorporated into the planning.

#### **A draft scope for a Regional Facilities Plan could include the following:**

- An inventory of all venues where basketball is currently being played.
  - An assessment of the suitability of that venue for basketball - size, amenities, standard.
  - Basketball membership statistics and an assessment of latent demand.
  - A gap analysis - current provision v required provision for winter use for basketball.
  - A gap analysis - current provision v required provision for summer use for basketball.
  - Identification of opportunities for redistributing basketball utilisation from winter to summer.
  - Testing against the benchmark of one indoor court per 9,000 residents (extrapolated for basketball usage only).
  - An action plan to address the issues identified and work towards providing adequate space to achieve the target for the region.
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### Northern Zone Plan

Sport Northland is updating the 2008 Northland Sports Facility Plan, on behalf of the Far North and Whangarei District Councils. The brief is to take a regional view of sports facility provision across the Northland region (including documenting the condition of current sports facilities), assess and produce a sports facility plan based on predicted future sports facility needs.

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The Northland Sports Facility Plan includes both indoor and outdoor sporting and aquatic facilities at a district, regional and (possibly) national level. The NSF for Indoor Sport has identified that Northland needs one multi-court facility to reduce the dependence on the school network, and this need should be reflected in the Northland Sports Facility Plan.

**Action Required:**

- The Te Tai Tokerau Basketball Association needs to proactively engage with Sport Northland to positively influence the outcome of that plan, aligned with the NSF for Indoor Sport.
- Te Tai Tokerau Basketball should identify the court space required and a location (town) where ideally a multi-sport facility can be built to help grow the sport of basketball.

The NSF for Indoor Sport has identified that the Auckland region needs 3-4 indoor court facilities to meet demand, and a range of 2-6 facilities depending on evidence of demand.

The Auckland Council is currently finalising a draft community facilities network plan which was released in August 2014. They also advise that they want to encourage basketball to develop a code specific facility plan for the Auckland region. Auckland Sport has also expressed an interest and support for facility planning.

**Action Required:**

- All of the basketball Associations' within the Auckland area need to work collaboratively with Auckland Council to develop an Auckland Basketball Facility Plan, aligned with the NSF for Indoor Sports. They need to demonstrate a willingness to forgo association boundaries to develop a plan that provides for a hierarchy of facilities that meet the needs of the sport of basketball in this area.
- Auckland Council has offered funding support to develop an Auckland Basketball Facility Plan and the basketball Associations' have an opportunity to participate in a project team to support development of this plan.

---

## Mid-North Zone Plan

The majority of the Waikato TAs are currently involved in supporting Sport Waikato in the development of the Waikato Regional Sports Facility Strategy. From this will be developed a long-term strategy for aquatic facilities and indoor sports venues. Strategy documents are available from the Sport Waikato website, [www.sportwaikato.org.nz](http://www.sportwaikato.org.nz)

The summary consultation document identifies a preference for a mix of coordinated facility rationalisation (of aging facilities), optimisation (refurbishment) and new development requiring partnerships between multiple stakeholders with a requirement for cross-boundary partnerships between TAs and other partners.

Specifically the summary consultation document supports two x 4-5 indoor court facilities in the short-term (1-3 years) and two x 2/3 basketball courts in the medium-long term (4-10 years).

It is proposed that one of the larger court facilities is located in the north-east of Hamilton City to serve the wider Waikato district, Waipa and Matamata Piako residents. The summary consultation document recommends partnering with schools for the smaller facilities in the Thames-Coromandel District and/or in Te Aroha.

**Action Required:**

- All of the basketball Associations within the Mid-North Zone need to work (or continue to work) collaboratively with Sport Waikato.

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## Central Zone Plan

The NFS for Indoor Sports has identified that Gisborne may require an additional community facility to address current shortfalls and dependence on the school network.

Sport Hawkes Bay is developing a facility plan for this region. No further information is available at this time, but all Associations within this area should collaborate and seek to work closely with Sports Hawkes Bay to influence development of this plan.

### Actions Required:

- All of the basketball Associations' within the Central Zone need to work (or continue to work) collaboratively with Sport Hawkes Bay and the TAs in this area to influence development of a facilities plan that meets the needs for basketball in this area, aligned with the NFS for Indoor Sports.

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## Capital Zone Plan

Sport Wellington is leading a project to develop a facilities plan for the greater Wellington area.

### Actions Required:

- All of the basketball Associations' within the Capital Zone need to work collaboratively with Sport Wellington and the TAs in this area to influence development of a facilities plan, based around a hierarchy of facilities for community basketball, aligned with the NFS for Indoor Sports.

---

## Mainland Zone Plan

The NFS for Indoor Sports has identified that the proposed Christchurch Metro Sports Facility needs to provide sufficient capacity for the needs of the region.

### Action Required:

- All of the basketball Associations' within the Mainland Zone need to work (or continue to work) collaboratively with the Christchurch City Council to influence agreement to provide for 8-10 courts at the Christchurch Metro Sports Facility and to provide an additional four court facility within the city.
- All of the basketball Associations' within the Mainland Zone need to work (or continue to work) collaboratively with Sport Canterbury to influence agreement to develop a Basketball Facilities Plan based around a hierarchy of facilities for community basketball.

---

## Southern Zone Plan

The NFS for Indoor Sport has identified that the Southern Zone is well provided for with expectations of a surplus through to 2031.

### Actions Required:

- All of the basketball Associations' within the Southern Zone need to work collaboratively with Sport Otago and Sport Southland to influence agreement to develop a Basketball Facilities Plan based around a hierarchy of facilities for community basketball.

**APPENDIX A: BASKETBALL ASSOCIATIONS WITHIN EACH BBNZ ZONE**

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**Northern Zone**

Auckland  
 Counties Manukau  
 Harbour  
 Hibiscus Coast  
 Te Tai Tokerau  
 Waitakere West Auckland

**Mid-North Zone**

Central Country  
 Lake Taupo  
 Rotorua  
 Tauranga City  
 Te Aroha  
 Thames Valley  
 Waikato

**Central Zone**

Gisborne  
 Hawkes Bay  
 New Plymouth  
 Ngati Porou  
 Palmerston North  
 Taranaki Country  
 Wanganui

**Capital Zone**

Hutt Valley  
 Kapiti  
 Porirua  
 Wellington

**Mainland Zone**

Buller  
 Canterbury  
 Marlborough  
 Mid Canterbury  
 Nelson  
 North Canterbury  
 South Canterbury  
 West Coast

**Southern Zone**

Eastern Southland  
 North Otago  
 Otago  
 Southland

## APPENDIX B: OUTDOOR 3X3 BASKETBALL FACILITIES PLAN SCOPE

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**A plan for outdoor 3x3 venues should be developed by the Associations in consultation with BBNZ to include the following:**

- Establishing criteria for suitable 3x3 sites e.g. location relative to population, size of the space, access to toilets, access to parking, access to shade, access to public transport.
- Identifying potential sites in the community where 3x3 basketball could be played that meet the criteria.
- Identifying frequency of use and/or required dates of use i.e. for regular competitions or Zone events.
- Developing a budget for all expenditure and the income required to at least break-even.
- Identifying minimum registration numbers required to cover costs.
- Identifying equipment requirements and availability.
- Identifying grant funding needs for purchase of equipment where required.
- Identifying resourcing requirements including storage and transport of equipment.
- Identifying organisational requirements including registration of competitions and events with BBNZ, setting registration fees, appointing a 3x3 coordinator.
- An approach to the owners of the space to negotiate and confirm access at the required dates and times (for TA sites this will likely require a formal application for use).
- Identifying marketing activity required to generate registrations in the 3x3 competition or event.
- Developing marketing collateral or initiating social media activity to a level required to ensure market activity resulting in registrations sufficient to ensure a successful competition or event.

## APPENDIX C: SPORT NZ ADVICE FOR SPORTS ON ENGAGING WITH TERRITORIAL AUTHORITIES (TA)

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### UNDERSTAND THE TA YOU ARE APPROACHING:

- Develop an ongoing relationship strategy with the TA, not just for “one off” issues.
- Talk with the relevant TA Manager before submitting anything.
- Know the unique issues/challenges facing the Council and their priorities for investment.
- Use the right language/messages/approach that drives the Councillors (eg. economic development, community development, healthy lifestyles or major events).
- Link into the TA's own plans and LTP.

### WHEN COMMUNICATING YOUR “WHOLE-OF-SPORT” PLANS:

- Give evidence of a strategic and measured approach.
- Show confirmation of local RSO and/or Club buy in.
- Identify future national/regional events coming to their region.
- Identify key funding partners – nationally and regionally.

### MAKE SURE YOU KNOW ABOUT YOUR OWN SPORT IN THE REGION:

- Local RSO/Club capability and sustainability.
- Club participation demographics (now), trends (future) and issues.
- Degree to which demand meets current facility provision.
- Successes and failures - be honest.

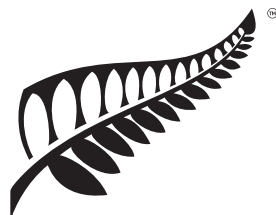
### AND IF YOU ARE PROPOSING A FACILITY DEVELOPMENT CONSIDER:

- Evidence of need – reliable and verifiable information.
- The different usage options available – such as amalgamation, partnering, multi-use, all weather.
- Its relationship to other facilities in the region and neighbouring regions – competing/complementing?
- Other capital funding partners – what are you doing to help yourself?
- Organisational capability to manage the facility.
- Financial sustainability – covering all future operational, maintenance and depreciation costs.
- Best industry practice.
- Benefits to the city/region - researched.



**BASKETBALL**  
**New Zealand**

This Guide was developed  
with the support of



**SPORT**  
**NEW ZEALAND**

Submission ID: 675

Date: Apr 12 24 10:21:57 am

Name:

John Spring

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Minimise the income of rates. Cap the rates rises to 7%p.a. for 3yrs. Look at alternatives for fund raising. Look at amalgamating WDC/KDC/ODC to reduce costs improve buying power to reduce costs, improve efficiencies improve effectiveness.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

We have a compost bin

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Ease the burden now. Look at the longer term solutions. Wait for 3w legislation work with private sector for funding solutions/options.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Support reducing rate costs for those with lower value properties.

**Supporting document**

Attached

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

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# WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34 - SUBMISSION FORM

Name\*: John Spring

Town/area of the district\*: [REDACTED]

Organisation (if on behalf): .....

*\*Privacy note: The information on this page (including fields above) forms part of your submission and will be made publicly available on a Council meeting agenda. Please leave any fields blank if you do not want this to be available on a public meeting agenda.*

<p><b>How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub</p> <p><i>Please refer to pages 24-26 of the Consultation Document for approximate costs and ratepayer contributions.</i></p>	<p><b>Your thoughts</b></p> <p>Minimise the increase of rates. Cap the rates rises to 7% p.a. for 3y. Look at alternatives for fund raising. Look at amalgamating wdc / kdc / odc to reduce costs, improve</p>
<p><b>How should we manage foodwaste collection?</b></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Separate foodwaste collection to all properties.</p>	<p><b>Your thoughts</b></p> <p>buying power to reduce costs, improve efficiencies, improve effectiveness.</p> <p>—//— we have a compost bin.</p>
<p><b>How quickly should we close our funding gap?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> Close the gap quickly (in one year) so we pay less in the future.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> Close the gap in the short term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> Close the gap in the medium term (in six years) to <u>ease the burden now.</u></p>	<p><b>Your thoughts</b></p> <p>Ease the burden now. Look at longer term solutions. Wait for 3 water legislation. work with private sector</p>
<p><b>How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 1:</b> (Status quo) – 24% UAGC – \$927.50 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 2:</b> 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Option 3:</b> 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.</p>	<p><b>Your thoughts</b> for funding solutions / options.</p> <p>—//— Support reducing rate cost for those with lower value properties.</p>

## Need more space for your feedback?

Please add more pages and make sure your name and organisation (if relevant) are at the top of each page.

Submission ID: 676

Date: Apr 12 24 10:23:14 am

Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

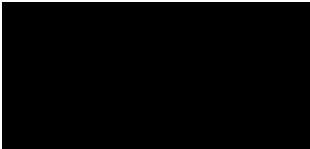
Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

Attached

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?

---



Whakatane District Council  
Private Bag 1002  
Whakatane

9 April 2024

Dear Members of the Whakatane District Council,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed construction of a sea wall around the town of Whakatane. This project, which was agreed upon two years ago, has raised significant concerns within the community due to inadequate consultation, lack of peer review, and potential adverse effects on the environment and local economy.

First and foremost, it is evident that the decision to proceed with the sea wall lacked proper consultation with the community. The absence of meaningful engagement with residents, stakeholders, and experts is alarming and undermines the democratic process. Furthermore, the absence of a peer review process raises doubts about the validity and effectiveness of the proposed solution.

One of the primary concerns regarding the sea wall is its visual impact on the town's aesthetics and the obstruction it poses to the scenic views. Whakatane's natural beauty is a significant asset that attracts residents, tourists, and businesses alike. Erecting a sea wall would not only detract from this beauty but also potentially harm the local tourism industry.

Moreover, the sea wall could impede access for boats, hindering recreational activities and negatively impacting local businesses reliant on marine tourism. Additionally, the design of the sea wall raises concerns about its effectiveness during flood events. If the wall acts as a barrier, it may trap floodwaters, exacerbating the situation and putting lives and property at risk.

The monitoring of water flow using a general residential water meter is inadequate and does not provide accurate data for assessing the impact of the sea wall on water dynamics. Alternative solutions, such as better management of the sand spit and Whakatane River entrance, employing a qualified harbour master, and regular dredging, should be explored before resorting to the construction of a sea wall.

Furthermore, any decision to increase rates beyond the rate of inflation would be unjustifiable and burdensome for residents and commercial operators. It is essential to consider the economic implications of such rate hikes, especially in the context of recovering from the ongoing challenges facing our community.

In conclusion, I urge the LTP Panel to reconsider the proposed sea wall construction and explore alternative solutions that prioritize community input, environmental sustainability, and economic viability. It is crucial to uphold transparency, accountability, and inclusivity in decision-making processes that affect the future of our town.

Thank you for considering my concerns.



**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 1: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

Attached

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

---



## **Whakatāne District Council Long Term Plan Submission**

**25 March, 2024**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into the Whakatāne District Council Long Term Plan.

As the major provider of play, active recreation and sport facilities and services in the Whakatāne District, we greatly appreciate the positive outcomes Council investment provides for a wide range of sports codes, demographics, cultures, ages and abilities. We also acknowledge the challenge council faces with balancing the various competing demands such as population growth, transport, climate change and water quality in the context of the current economic climate.

Council investment into the play, active recreation and sport sector makes an enormous contribution to the overall health and wellbeing of people in Whakatāne. However, Whakatāne, like many Councils in New Zealand, do face several challenges in relation to the provision of play, active recreation and sport opportunities. As a result, the opportunity to improve sustainability is to partner with others for play, active recreation and sport outcomes. Partners could include neighbouring councils, charitable trusts, central government (namely the Ministry of Education & via schools), and community groups and clubs.

Maintaining aging assets, current service levels and facility sustainability is likely to become even increasingly more difficult, especially for areas with minimal overall growth like Whakatāne (Note: 0.8% population growth Whakatāne District versus 2.1% National growth average to year ending 30 June, 2023 per [Regional Economic](#)

[Profile | Whakatane District | Population growth \(infometrics.co.nz\)](#)). However, any provision and investment into play, active recreation and sport needs to serve the significant youth population (i.e. 23.2% of total Whakatāne population is under 15 years) that is quite unique to Whakatāne.

For a number of years now, Sport NZ and Sport Bay of Plenty have been working with the play, active recreation and sport sector to develop a co-ordinated and collaborative approach for future sport and active recreation facility provision. This provides Council with a high-level strategic view of infrastructure needs for the region and the evaluation criteria to prioritise investment and ultimately make better decisions. Demands on capital funding and renewal budgets are likely to increase as assets age. It will therefore become increasingly important for all stakeholders to work collaboratively to improve the delivery of play, active recreation, and sport opportunities. Tried and true concepts like partnering, co-location and shared services that avoid unnecessary duplication and underutilisation of play, recreation and sports facilities needs to continue and rationalisation of poor performing facilities should be considered.

Whakatāne District Council has been a key partner and important contributor in the development of the Region's Spaces and Places Strategy, a regional strategy for active recreation and sport facilities provision. The Strategy is an important reference point, it identifies priority needs and facility developments for Whakatāne and the other districts in the region, providing a blueprint to meet future needs rather than wants.

## Summary

Sport NZ endorses Whakatāne District Council's vision of "*More life in life*" and your commitment for communities to '*flourish, fulfil their potential and live life to the fullest*'. Of note to Sport NZ is one of your 5 key priorities being "Enhancing the safety, wellbeing and vibrancy of communities" with a focus on investing wisely into recreation and events. We believe play, active recreation and sport can play a significant role in realising your vision and for that reason we support the following options.

Sport NZ **supports** the following in the consultation document:

- **First, Thank you:** Sport NZ acknowledges and thanks Council for its significant contribution to play, active recreation and sport. Thanks also for the part that it plays in the strong partnership that has long existed between Sport BOP and Whakatāne District Council, as evidenced by the numerous projects, programmes and quality opportunities that have been developed over the years.
- Proposal to invest in **Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub: Option 1**  
The recreation hub is a significant sport and active recreation sub-regional asset. It provides much needed play, indoor court, aquatic and sport field facilities, along with other valued community infrastructure, not only for Whakatāne but also neighbouring districts.

The optimisation approach to the development is commended rather than demolishing the War Memorial Hall and building all new facilities. The planned upgrade takes a long-term view to the renewal and redevelopment of the assets, which will be of value to future generations.

Given this was an identified priority in the last Long-term Plan, the identified maintenance and upgrade issues to address health and safety issues and the demand for particularly indoor court space, **we support Option 1**. Whilst it is a greater demand on ratepayer funding, the level of external funding required is more realistic in what is a constrained external funding environment.

- **Maraetōtara Playground Improvements**

Sport NZ endorses the prioritisation of investment into accessible play spaces across the Whakatāne District. As highlighted earlier, 23% of Whakatāne residents are 15 and under. While play is for all ages, public investment in play for this age-group is considered to be the most impactful and is linked to a raft of future benefits for our communities.

Playgrounds are an important part of the network of play opportunities that our tamariki have access to, although in future we would encourage Whakatane District Council to consider play as an 'everywhere activity' and encourage the integration of play across council workstreams. We are willing to support this transition.

- **Active Transport focus and improved accessibility for those with Disabilities**

Sport NZ supports councils focus on "increased safety for people moving around" with a focus on multi-modal transport and improved accessibility for people with disabilities. As of January 2022, an estimated 24% of New Zealanders live with a disability so any priority that council can place on improving access for this significant population would be critical.

## **About Sport New Zealand**

Sport New Zealand (Sport NZ) is the crown agency responsible for contributing to the wellbeing of everybody in Aotearoa New Zealand by leading an enriching and inspiring play, active recreation and sport system.

Sport NZ's vision is simple - to get **Every Body Active** in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Our role as a kaitiaki of the system focusses on lifting the physical activity levels of all those living within Aotearoa and having the greatest possible impact on wellbeing.

We achieve our outcomes by aligning our investment through partnerships, funds and programmes to our strategic priorities set out in four-year strategic plan.

## **Local government is uniquely placed to support play, active recreation, and sport**

Local government has a unique and critical role in the play, active recreation, and sport ecosystem, providing vital community assets that are part of the fabric of our

communities along with grants and opportunities that support local communities to participate in play, active recreation, and sport.

It is clear that prioritising investment in facilities, infrastructure, resources, and opportunities to encourage participation in play, active recreation, and sport can support the wellbeing of communities and the achievement of a broad range of local government priorities and outcomes. There is clear evidence about the value of play, active recreation and sport in supporting the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities.

*Provision of play, active recreation, and sport facilities, infrastructure, resources, and opportunities is important to a large proportion of the population.*

In 2022:

- 73% of the adult population and 92% of young people (aged 5-17yrs) participated each week in play, active recreation, and sport
- 79% of adults and 63% of young people would like to be doing more play, active recreation and sport
- High deprivation, Asian and Pasifika population groups are significantly less likely to participate.<sup>1</sup>

Research into New Zealanders' beliefs around the value of sport and active recreation in 2017 found a broad base of support for sport and active recreation and a belief in its value to New Zealand and New Zealanders. The value of sport and active recreation is seen to lie in the contributions it makes to individuals, families, communities, and the country as a whole.<sup>2</sup>

*The value of investment in play, active recreation, and sport is a cost-effective investment towards local government wellbeing outcomes*

International and domestic evidence clearly demonstrates that play, sport, and active recreation generate significant value for society across multiple wellbeing domains and outcomes, many of which are specifically relevant to the outcomes sought by local government:

- Recently published research from a Social Return on Investment<sup>3</sup> study found that for every \$1 spent on play, active recreation, and sport, there is a social return of \$2.12 to New Zealand. This means that for every dollar invested in play, active recreation, and sport, the social return is more than doubled. This is a conservative figure and the actual return, especially for those currently missing out on opportunities to be active, is likely to be higher.<sup>4</sup>
- In 2019 participation in play, active recreation, and sport generated \$3.32 billion return in subjective wellbeing (life satisfaction and happiness) within New Zealand.<sup>5</sup>

Play, active recreation and sport contribute to social, economic, environment and cultural wellbeing in the following ways:

- **Social wellbeing:**



- Development of social skills
  - Strengthened social networks
  - Bringing communities together and increasing a sense of belonging
  - Improving pride and reducing antisocial behaviours in communities
- **Economic wellbeing:**
    - Economic value generated for local communities and businesses
    - Employment of New Zealanders in the play, active recreation, and sport sector
    - Productivity gains as a result of physical activity
    - Savings for communities as a result of the volunteer workforce
    - Economic impact of major events
- **Environmental wellbeing:**
    - Creation of pro-environmental attitudes and behaviours
    - Creation of more environmentally friendly urban environments
    - Reduced emissions from active transport
    - Improved mental wellbeing from being active in natural environments
- **Cultural wellbeing:**
    - Strengthened cultural ties from participation in play, active recreation, and sport
    - Increased wellbeing from participating in culturally relevant physical activity.

Sport New Zealand has developed a resource for local government that illustrates the significant value that local government investment in the local play, active recreation, and sport system delivers. The resource can be accessed here: <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/u41hdovx/the-value-of-play-active-recreation-and-sport-for-local-government.pdf>.

This document summarises the evidence about how play, active recreation, and sport can support the four types of wellbeing that local government is expected to deliver (social, economic, environmental, and cultural), and includes some relevant case studies from around New Zealand.

### **Conclusion**

Sport NZ looks forward to continuing to work with the Whakatāne District Council and we are happy to provide whatever support we can to ensure Whakatāne District Council provides for the current and future needs of your communities to be active in the way that they choose.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission and for your consideration.

### **Sport NZ Contacts**

Should the Council seek information or clarification further to this submission, please contact:

[Redacted]

**Regional Partnership Manager – Northern**

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

**Spaces and Places**

[Redacted]

Submission ID: 678

Date: Apr 12 24 10:31:03 am

Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

Attached

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?

---

## SUBMISSION TO WHAKATANE DISTRICT COUNCIL LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34

### Introduction

Congratulations to the Council for the work being done on necessary infrastructure upgrades such as the bridge roundabout and associated works and the storm water improvements presently being carried out in Peace St. Unfortunately infrastructure such as water, sewage and storm water reticulation systems are continuing to need upgrades. These works are very necessary, and like roading, costly to maintain.

Many people in our district are feeling the financial pressure of increased costs. It's like running a household (but harder). Difficult decisions such as whether to do property maintenance, provide quality food for a growing family, or pay for music lessons or sport are the sort of choices which confront families every month. How do we live within our budget?

### Rex Morpeth Park Recreation Hub

It would be very nice to have upgraded facilities in this area. However, we are not a city and should not expect the same level of facilities as in places like Rotorua and Tauranga. I totally agree that necessary maintenance should be carried out, but no upgrades at this time please. The users groups will say this is all necessary, but the wider community benefit must be considered for all expenditure.

### Closing the Funding Gap

Good luck with this! As soon as you have a plan another flood comes along!! I hate the idea of a 17.1% rates increase, but the kindest thing in the long run is to pay down debt so there is room for extra borrowing when disasters strike.

### UAGC

I agree with the lowering of the UAGC to 20% for year 1 of the LTP, however please be aware that many single superannuitants live in high value properties. A large number have lived in these properties for decades and their capital value has risen, but this does not mean that the owners have much income or cash available. Just over \$500 a week is not a lot to live on. Yes, they can sell and move, as quite a few have – to Tauranga retirement villages.

### Food Waste Collection

There should be an opt out choice as some people compost everything already.

### Resilience

I fully support the investigation of a new bridge to Whakatane located to the south to take traffic from Edgecumbe and Rotorua. There is a suitable river crossing point on Rewatu Rd.

A bridge does not have to be built yet, but it does need planning for. I lived here when the Landing Rd bridge required repair after a downpour in December 1984. We used Peketahi bridge then and it was chaos. We have more traffic now (and I know the rails have been removed) but access is still a potential problem.

Good luck!



Submission ID: 679

Date: Apr 12 24 10:36:17 am

Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

Attached

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?

---

# Submission to the WDC LTP 2024 – 2034.

## Context of this submission

The New Zealand infrastructure has not grown for with the same increments as the population of New Zealand for decades. On top of that, in the same period, not enough funds were set aside to maintain the current infrastructure we have, to guarantee its full and safe functioning. Some very serious investments are unavoidable to make sure our drinking water is 'healthy' and safe, our country is moving again, and we offer health and education in appropriate buildings.

Local authorities are owning 37% of the infrastructure but only receive 7% of the tax (rates) to maintain it and expand according to our growing population. This enormous mismatch needs also to be resolved.

## Purpose of this submission

To support the Whakatāne Mayor and Councillors with making sensible decisions and executing prudent financial management to navigate our district through future turbulent waters with:

- With deciding what is a need and what is a nice to have. What needs to be dropped and what needs to be maintained. It is obvious that only the council service levels regarding the 3 waters need to increase.
- Only increasing the amount of debt to fund whatever the central government is mandating the councils through there new 'Local water done well' policy. (Standards; Compliance; and so on...)
- With adjusting the council organization to the new required service levels and find a 6.5% - 7.5% saving similar to the national government and Auckland Council.
- Petitioning, lobbying central government for an substantial increase of funding by NOT implementing the tax cuts. **(It is showing how inefficient the New Zealand governance is if we give residents money through a taxcut and then require them to pay that straight to the councils as a rate increase!!)** As an example, Government should be lobbied by local government to fund the monies earmarked for the taxcut directly to the required upgrades of the 3 waters. Far more efficient than pumping money around!

## I submit the following in detail:

1. Referring to 6.2.11 Appendix 11 – Consultation document Page 446 "Our activities and levels of service you can expect":
  - a. Strategic Property.
    - i. We must tone our ambitions down. We need to stop the Boat Harbour Project and return the money, without the already incurred costs, to the Harbour Endowment fund. This will save about 250000 NZD each year in interest costs and reduces the debt on the councils balance sheet.
    - ii. The council need to find way to onsell the properties acquired in the past to fund new town development like the former Wally Sutherland buildings. These buildings are sucking up interest costs and according to your own annual report the rents are not covering those costs. Again saves interest costs and reduces debt.
    - iii. In now way any new strategic property will be acquired as long as it is unknown what the exact capital requirement is needed for the 3 Waters.

- b. Māori relationships. This service is already at above average level if you compared with other councils. (We have Māori wards which not much other councils have! We have a **Kaihautū - Strategic Māori Partnership** which I could not find on any of the 10 with Whakatane comparable councils in New Zealand) No increase in service level required.
- c. Events and Tourism. In my view this is NOT a core council task. An *l site* should be operated by those ratepayers who have a business interest in hospitality, accommodation and leisure, not by the general rate payers. This activity should not be funded and accommodated by the council and therefore stopped by the council and handed over to the interest group.
- d. Whakatāne Holiday Park. In my view running a holiday park is NOT a core council task. The councillors should mandate the Council CEO to sell it.
- e. Parks, reserves, gardens, halls, and transport network connections. These activities need to be restricted to maintaining current service levels only. No ambitions here to increase the budget.
- f. War memorial Hall. If somebody at the council is able to organise a Taylor Swift concert than I believe the \$12 million is well spent. Otherwise maintaining the grass so kids can play soccer, touch, rugby and cricket is enough expenditure for now. No need to address the rugby stand because it is only used once a year and the patronage can also line up around the pitch.
- g. Obviously, the focus of expenditure is on the 3 waters. With the current debt level of \$116.8M or \$7234 per ratepayer, the council has no room to act on whatever the new coalition government comes up with. In order to guarantee future compliance and upholding standards has to seek collaboration with nearby councils but the financial situation at our closest neighbours looks also not rosy. Whakatāne Council will struggle to fulfil the future commitments. It has to start reducing debt. It has to start finding operational savings and a good place to start is whether we need 7 general managers. Nowhere else in New Zealand, a local authority has such an extended management team outside the major cities.
- h. The maximum level of debt should not relate with revenue. Central government has proven to be an unreliable partner with regards to subsidies, grants, and policies. Therefore, any extension of debt is always born by the ratepayers and this need to be capped off. I propose a maximum level of debt of \$8000 per ratepayer (\$130 M) and should be increased by the inflation level only. Example Dec 2023 CPI is 4.7%; maximum cap rises by 4.7% in the next financial year. **Note: This increase of current debt level should ONLY be used for future funding of 3 waters. Managing this will be easier if the council pulls out of the Boat Harbour and sells strategic property acquired in the past for currently stalled town developments like the Kakahoroa Development (Te Aro Hou) and the waterfront promenade.**
- i. The council needs help to petition, lobby central government to increase central funding. A council does all the hard yards for the RMA but is not rewarded sufficiently for that work by central government. We need to team up with The Opōtiki, Kawerau and Tairiwhiti councils to petition our East Coast MP Dana Fitzpatrick.

Submitter:





Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Avoid more borrowing - use a variety of fundraising methods

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 2: Close the gap in the short-term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

We need a second bridge. I don't want the Marina to go ahead as I can see costs rising phenomenally plus the river needing ongoing dredging. Problems would be like the tidal pool on a much bigger scale and it would benefit only a very few people. I would rather upgrade Rex Morpeth Park than put any money at all towards the Marina. Could the Provisional Growth Fund be transferred to the Rex Morpeth Park?

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**Submission ID: 681**

**Date: Apr 12 24 10:38:13 am**

**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

Attached

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

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Long Term Plan 2024-2034 Submission.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

So Mr Gary Connolly “notes that councils funding model is not comparable to a household or business budgeting process”. Really!!

For a household or business there is a simple rule: if your costs exceed your income (including possible borrowings or capital injection) you can't afford it. DON'T over spend or you will end up in a bankruptcy court and out of your house and / or, business.

For council, their answer is clever, TAX the residents some more.

So Local Government is different. Well done Mr Connolly you are right. TAX the local community more, cry poverty and carry on as you have always done.

Central Government is facing the same issues but their response is to seek savings , spend less , borrow less and earn the right to grow.

What Mr James (and the other Councillors of a like mind(less) as he is) have failed to grasp is the community is hurting---big time. Longtime farmers can typically ride the storm out. Most of us however work for a wage or salary. Take a walk through the business areas of Whakatane (and the region generally) and see the number of commercial facilities that are empty and forlornly looking for tenants. Ask yourself why ---- true it will not be simply rates increases but that and the dearth of customers with disposable income after they paying their rates or rent will have contributed hugely to costs exceeding income. Business owners face commercial AND household rates ---a double hit.

Councillors can simply bury their head in the sand and tell the community we know best ----we must think about the wider community , future generations , satisfy government compliance -----so we have to just keep spending.

A wage and salary earner only ever has his /her nett pay to pay their living costs from. A rates rise of 17.45% means they will need a wage increase of 24.9% to remain in a neutral after tax position.

The “Ground Zero rates increase “ Mr Connolly talks of would reduce that required gross wage increase to a mere (!!) 16.4%. Anything less and that citizen is going backwards economically.

I believe that **IMPROVING** the economic welfare of the region citizens is, or should be, the paramount objective of a Council.

Whakatane District Council , its senior staff and its elected representatives, have failed in this objective for many years.

**It is for this reason I think the 2024-2034 LTP needs to be taken off the table, ripped up and the process started again.**

**Nelson City Council, lead by a competent CEO and senior Management team, a mayor with a vision and able to provide astute guidance, like we have in Victor Luca, can reduce their first draft of their LTP that called for an over 30% increase in rates to a smaller increase for public consultation of 8.4% ----so why cant WDC?**

We have neither a competent Management team nor a Governance arm committed to the welfare of the people they serve but rather a group, the majority of who prefer to reflect on the grandiose wasteful glory of saying “yes” to all wants.

**I suggest you start by looking at the following cost saving /revenue enhancing initiatives:**

- Instruct each member of the senior management team to come up with an operations cost plan for their area of responsibility that is less than, or at the most equal of, the inflation adjusted budget they had for the FYE 2024. Look for a focus on maintenance of key infrastructure assets (roading, three waters, buildings, plant and equipment (excluding vehicle that should be replaced on sound fleet management principles) and not capital improvements. Adopting such a strategy for the next 3 years would place Whakatāne in a much stronger fiscal position to undertake improvement spending
- Adopt a sinking lid policy aimed at reducing FTE numbers to accommodate re prioritised approved increases (eg the Animal Control Officer numbers increase)
- Limit the wages increase in yr 1 of the LTP to 4% for non-senior team members and 0% for Senior Team members (not the plans 11.84%)
- Improve skill levels in key areas with better training and accountability (with consequence management). Particular focus needs to be on procurement to overcome the supplier perception the “Council is a soft touch”
- Develop a plan to better manage the operation of service delivery functions including productivity improvements.
- Task the CEO with producing and communicating monthly a Matrix of Council voting showing for and against by Councillor. The next local body elections must move away from the name recognition competition to one of selecting key skill shortages---entrepreneurship, legal, accounting, supply chain, procurement, engineering/construction, commercial. This concept will need Council to promote the change and actively solicit and promote such skilled individuals. A significant increase in remuneration for “Councillors” would be required along with a legal requirement that rates should never have an increase greater than 2% above the forecast net wage increase % of the median salary/wage for the region.

Unfortunately I will not be in Whakatane when the hearings are scheduled so I am unable to attend and speak to my submission.

Why do I have the feeling it would fall on deaf ears anyway.

Because in the past the proof of that deafness is the Council Chambers tart up AND last years broken promise on the level of the rates increase imposed.

Submission ID: 682

Date: Apr 12 24 10:39:46 am

Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

Attached

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?

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[REDACTED]

Copies, please, to Mayor and all councillors

The Secretary  
Whakatane District Council  
WDC Building  
Whakatane

Dear Secretary  
Ref. WDC Long Term Plan

Apart from financial allocations sufficient to complete absolutely essential maintenance on buildings, I believe that the status quo on Rex Morpeth Park should continue. I would strongly object if further work or changes were initiated.

The proposed Marina Boat Harbour shows strong indications of being a white elephant. I believe it would be in ratepayers' best interest if this project was abandoned. Should WDC decide to continue with the proposal, berth holders should be levied with a daily surcharge to recover WDC expenditure on the removal of contaminated soil, dredging in perpetuity and other relevant costs. This surcharge should be sufficient to recover all costs within (say) a maximum of two years.

When compared with other councils, WDC has an excessive number of senior executives, who, again in comparison with other councils, appear to be drawing highly-unjustified large salaries. WDC would save money if less important executive positions were downgraded. There should be no salary increases for executives whose salaries, including bonuses, are \$100,000 per annum or greater and this should continue until such time as comparable salary and workload approximate closely to those of similar councils.

I am 92 years of age and have some hearing and visibility impairment. I, and I would think, my following suggestion would be appreciated by other senior citizens. I would like to have WDC impose a 10k/h or 15 k/h speed limit on scooters, bicycles (e.g. downhill Ohope Gorge), electric scooters and electric bicycles using footpaths within the WDC area..

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Submission ID: 683**

**Date: Apr 12 24 10:40:03 am**

**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

Attached

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

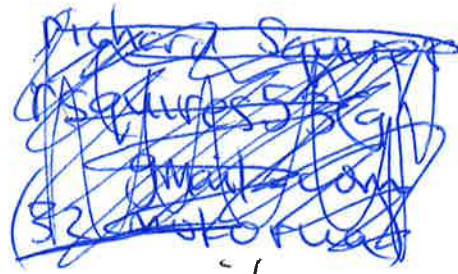
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27 March  
2024

H<sup>o</sup>i Council,

(07) 3124732

voice mail!



I would like to submit a suggestion request and an variation of the Christchurch Margaret Mahy play ground + centre city (pertaining to).

Could we please build our own Margaret Mahy playcentre for drupe beach residents. They need community + are not finding it in the current dairy super store as current.

I truly believe peoples need + consent for community. The shops there opposite drupe primary school are swagging every resident twice a day who pass through there.

Here is my suggestion: demolish the dairy + build a beautiful play ground ie. check out christchurch's success of colour + activity perfect



for people who want to be part  
of community + activity + positive  
physical movement etc. instead of  
purchasing foods that the dairy does  
not provide any of these positive  
attributes. It is a bad dairy  
or grocery shop, sells unsatisfying  
foods, greasy and it is not good  
for people's lifestyle as they feel  
obliged to stop.

Check out the area. It has a tennis  
court, a yard and a beach. It  
has room for the playground I  
propose to you. Excellent for children  
as it's a stone throw from the  
primary beach school otherwise it's a bad highway  
unhealthy for residents + school children alike (residential zone)  
Kind regards,

you could also  
install toilets on  
grounds!

Submission ID: 684

Date: Apr 12 24 10:45:36 am

Name:

Simon Akroyd

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation) Whakatāne Kāhui Ako

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 2: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

The Whakatāne Kāhui Ako comprises ten schools based in the Whakatāne region. We have more than 4500 students (Year 1-13) and 19 x ECE's, totalling several hundred children aged 0-5. Our schools and community require high quality resources so that we can come together to engage our students in their education. No school has the space to house hundreds of children for sports / cultural activities, as we can do at Rex Morpeth. We regularly use Rex Morpeth Park and the associated facilities. Issues for us include toilets, changing facilities (especially for our female students), ability / willingness to use the War Memorial Hall and the Little Theatre for The Arts and other activities. The Eastern BOP Principals employ a Sports Coordinator to organise events for our schools. This was formerly done by Sport BOP. We are noting increases in the numbers of schools / students engaging in these events (held at least fortnightly) in the EBOP region. Many of the events are held at Rex Morpeth as it has the facilities. As a region we need to provide quality opportunities for rangatahi through schools, sports clubs and other groups so that they have the opportunity to be part of a team / group, to win / lose, to develop social skills, to share their skills in The Arts and feel part of our region / town. The current resources are 'tired' but functional. The removal of the toilet block from the fields on Cutler Crescent means that we rarely use this site for primary schools. Rex Morpeth is central, with adequate parking (for all of our events) and it is a great position for our community to see our children involved in activities. If we do not plan and act now then costs will continue to rise and resources continue to age.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Just do the basics necessary, not go overboard on all the frills. Please check out Warren Park on a Saturday around 10am during Term 2 to see the parking problems we have there, when Junior Soccer and Junior hockey are on at the same time. All of the surrounding streets are being used to park cars, utes etc to get children to their games. It is very dangerous with all ages of children trying to cross the street to get to their games. There is very limited parking there now, just like Rex Morpeth Hub.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

We cannot afford any large increase in our rates.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Make the increase as little as possible for all ratepayers.

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Spend the money on the surrounding towns not just on Ohope and Whakatane. We need our local Edgecumbe Library to not just be run by volunteers, and more people/groups able to use the Lions Reading room attached to the Library.

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Submission ID: 686

Date: Apr 12 24 10:50:59 am

Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

Attached

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?

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## **Submission**

### **Whakatane District Plan 2024**

I'm not sure where to start this submission with such a clear disfunction so evident in the process of Council democracy, not just here in Whakatane but elsewhere as well. For rate increases to be continuously so much greater than the increase necessary to cover inflation there is obviously an ongoing scope increase. If left unchecked by our elected representatives this will continue indefinitely as the Council Executives will always seek to enable scope increase. This years proposed rates increase is about 17%. Obviously, the community has and will pay whatever increases are applied but this comes with the reallocation of family finances from accommodation, food and medical to funding a Council content to spend \$13M upgrading their offices. A quick comparison of the presentation of Council offices to the presentation of the average Whakatane home would quickly highlight the power imbalance of a monopolistic Council unable to be controlled by our elected representatives. I do not blame those elected parties but rather the system that they are required function in and the imbalance of power.

There must therefore be a fundamental change or else this disparity will continue. To further emphasise the extent of this impact upon our families it must also be recognised that rates increases of this scale are passed on to the families of our town through increased costs at the supermarket, petrol station, clothing shop etc as these businesses recover their increased rates cost. All of these costs also attract GST so a greater tax consequence also results. The combined impact is therefore far greater than just the initial rates cost.

This chain of increased cost needs to stop and as our elected Councillors you must find the discipline to address the fundamental changes necessary. This may not seem easy but collectively agreeing to reduce the ongoing scope increase is essential.

It could be easily achieved by simply changing the Terms of Engagement of the Executive to the simple objective of ensuring rates increases are no more than the rate of inflation and holding your ambitions to the same. While I am not aware of the current Terms of Engagement it obviously does not include this requirement. More likely it is a broad and inclusive perception of every perceived need of the community. This only enables this ongoing scope escalation.

## **Debt**

Debt is not the answer. Council debt has increased significantly over past years to fund past scope escalation. The justification touted is that it is being spent on assets for our children but the reality is that our existing infrastructure is not being maintained while we focus on new profile infrastructure often for the benefit of Council rather than the ratepayer. Wellington is really seeing the consequence of this approach right now where water leaks from every street corner while they focus of strengthening old buildings and creating cycleways. We have a responsibility to future generations for a sustainable public service which cannot be achieved through ever increasing debt levels.

### **Core Services**

There are so many savings possible through a close examination of core services and many of these will have been canvassed in these submissions. Do we need a communications team, do we need a cycleway liaison manager, do we need an iwi liaison team, do we need electric bike parks, do we need new street crossings etc. The Council staff level has increased significantly over the past years as a consequence of this scope escalation. Each of these staff are engaged to spend money so the consequence is obvious through not just the wage cost but whatever escalation they are managing. I understand that there may be as many as 100 additional staff over the past few years.

Please review your annual plan budget against that of 5 years ago to see the extent of this scope escalation rather than start from last years actual and add on new initiatives. Some of the previous new initiatives need to be removed. To do so the numbers will tell you where this has been happening.

### **Leashold Land**

I have previously submitted many times on this subject. The current management of Harbour Board land leases is the biggest impediment to the town and its CBD. Few will invest on this land resulting in the aging of this key and central asset further challenged by the oncoming expiry of the seismic strengthening period. Shortly we will see further abandoned and derelict buildings such as the Council owned properties in Strand Extension. Council currently employs a property team unable to make any decisions about the future of these properties while they steadily decrease in real value as the economic functioning of the town moves elsewhere.

These assets need to be moved outside the political jurisdiction to an independent investment arm so that they can be effectively managed. The rate payers are not receiving a fair return on these assets provided by prior generations, and indeed their value is continually diminished. No longer is ground rent being received on the Wally Sutherland site and instead the ratepayer has another \$2M loan than would otherwise have been the case.

### **Iwi**

Too much control has been ceded to Iwi interests. The council is responsible to all of the citizens of the town irrespective of race or culture.

### **Boat Harbour**

The proposal to divert a further \$10M to the Boat Harbour should not happen. These funds were originally provided for the rejuvenation of our CBD not to cover the inevitable escalation of other costs elsewhere. If there is no need for these funds to assist the CBD then return them to government.

## **Summary**

Fundamental change is required or else the current model will only continue to generate the same outcomes. This must be led by the elected Councillors. This 10 year plan is all about prioritising ongoing scope escalation. Please turn it on its head and determine what the town needs from first principals. A bloated public service ceases to serve.

Submission ID: 687

Date: Apr 12 24 11:01:53 am

Name:

Simon Akroyd

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

Apanui School

### How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Option 2: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.

### Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

Apanui School has 440 children. We provide education for 5-11 year olds. We support the development of facilities at Rex Morpeth. We do so for the following reasons: \* Rex Morpeth Park - we regularly use the space for many sports opportunities, at both school and interschool level. This includes athletics, rugby, cricket, touch etc. These occur both during school hours and afterschool. \* The Arts: school's having the opportunity to use The Little Theatre - providing children with a genuine theatre experience for their school shows. \* War Memorial hall: Having this space functional and available for community use. After our arson in Feb 2021 we used this space as our temporary school for almost two months. This is an example of having a space large enough in times of need / emergency. It would also be prudent to make spaces available for school / community groups for the future. \* Appropriate toilet and changing facilities for all users. This is an issue around Rex Morpeth currently. \* Having community resources that are generally central for most schools, makes sense. A number of our schools can walk to events at Rex Morpeth. This saves issues around transport, additional costs etc. There is some urgency with this work as the current facilities are 'adequate, but aging'. If things are not developed then we will find that the assets will deteriorate and become less functional over time. I acknowledge that this is costly, however, these are community resources for now and the future. Without them then we fail to provide what our children / communities need and deserve.

### How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

### How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

### How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

### Supporting document

N/A

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?



Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 1: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 35% external funding for major development works in 2028 and 2029.

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 2: Close the gap in the short-term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

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Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Any urgently required upgrades - like only ones necessary for the facility to remain open should be carried out but with funds raised from other avenues. Fundraising, other funding sources, private sponsorship, rather than rates - rates already are a huge burden to pay and there seems to be so much unnecessary spending on 'upgrades', beautifying the town etc while people are struggling to pay for food, fuel and other utilities.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

As a rural resident I manage all my own waste. However my question would be rather than how you collect that waste but what you intend to do with it. There are some amazing compost initiatives that other councils are doing and if processing this would not be of great cost and even bring in revenue would it not be wise to review these options (obviously with the rate payers approval :))

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Before we choose an option on how to close the funding gap I would like to be confident that the funding is being managed professionally and frugally. Maybe this is an ideal time to review how the councils funding is managed in totality. One option may be to review budget silos within the councils different areas so that short falls or surplus in the different areas can be shared across the different groups within council and not just either spend excess money for the next budget round or increase rates to pay for projects that need more funding.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

None of these are actually manageable by most of your rate payers at this time.

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Please review how your projects are approved, how budgets are managed, and review what works are absolutely necessary. From a rate payers perspective there seem to be so many nice to have projects not necessary work that is being done. Also a review of payment options and late payment penalties. I used to pay my rates in full each quarter, then last quarter I had a change in circumstance and could not do that. When I called to make payment arrangements (prior to due date) I was told I would have 2

weeks to pay the amount in full to avoid a penalty payment. Needless to say I have not been able to make that payment so my debt will just increase since paying for power and food have taken priority.

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Submission ID: 690

Date: Apr 12 24 11:04:17 am

Name:

Peter Frans van Alphen

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Do what is needed to do to keep the War memorial and the facilities in good order and within our means.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

To reduce our waste collection from weekly to fortnightly would require a much improved recycling system . More of the plastics should go in the recycling bin. Is that new 140 litre kerbside bin for general waste bigger than our current one or are you just halving our general waste collection.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

In these difficult economic times make sure that the most vulnerable ratepayers are not put into greater difficulties.

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

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**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Memorial Hall - Upgrade only Rugby Park - Sports Pavilion etc., Forget It

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Leave as is - extra bins - extra costs, and it won't be used by a lot of people

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Less borrowing in the short term

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Cut your spending down on fancy items including raised crossings - we need upgrade in water, sewage etc.,

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

it's difficult to justify the overall proposed expenditure by the Council at this difficult time for the community, and increased rates to facilitate them will make day to day living even harder.

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Submission ID: 692

Date: Apr 12 24 11:12:22 am

Name:

Ryan Topperwien

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 2: Carry out redevelopment of the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub as soon as possible. This requires us to secure 50% external funding for major development works in 2029 and 2030.

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Why is this presented like rates is the only way to get more money? WDC states that the "old way isn't working" but still revert to the same old methods. Why isn't more innovative ways of increasing the capacity for WDC to earn money being investigated? A more diverse investment portfolio, while having an element of risk naturally, would help reduce the burden on ratepayers.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Improved explanation as to how Councilors make decisions - how is this process facilitated if a consensus isn't agreed upon? is it majority rules? How is the weighting applied? "a single point of view can make a difference" was misinterpreted at the latest town hui. The consultation document while using accessible language was still tricky to make an informed decision. Of all the critical issues facing our town, i would have liked to see even a check list of all the "five key priorities" (enhancing wellbeing / strengthening relationships etc ) where i could either (re)prioritise as i saw fit or even have these heading with some pre-written statements i could agree or disagree with. Tip for public hui - spend more time of setting the scene and what behavior won't be tolerated. While there was an attempt made, any raciest rhetoric should be grounds for instant removal from the hui.

Name:

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Is this an absolute necessity or just a wish of a few users. We as a country are going through tough financial times at present and these will worsen over the next few years as the effects of the present govt cost cutting measures will be felt. So how can the council justify this spending for the few who use these facilities. Maybe user pay could be used in this case.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Don't know enough about it.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Spread the cost out over the long term.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Until the economy recovers rates should be used for maintenance and any urgent needs like roading maintenance , flooding damage etc

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

spend what we can afford

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Submission ID: 694

Date: Apr 12 24 11:29:23 am

Name:

Hayley Lougher

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

See comments below

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

See comments below

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

See comments below

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

See comments below

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

My submission is not on a specific service or proposal in LTP, rather just generally wanting to express my concerns around the proposed increase. A bit of background for context, my family and I live in Edgecumbe, we moved here post flood in 2018, we sold our house in Whakatane to get more bang for our buck and live the life we wanted for our family, and we absolutely love it here, it's been the best move we have made. As we all know, everything is going up and I understand that, but its really concerning at the rate WDC and BOPRC rates are increasing. I'd also like to point out here, I have a very good understanding of local government, the number of services they provide and how the LTP works after having worked for both BOPRC then WDC for over 18 years, so I understand the difference between the needs, nice to haves, and wants and all the red tape that comes with everything. Currently 2023/24 financial year we are paying \$4896.77 annually for combined WDC and BOPRC rates, that works out at \$94.17 per week. I'm sure you would all agree with me that's its quite a surprising number. With the proposed 17%(average) WDC rates increase and 12.6% BOPRC increase we are set to be paying a whopping total of \$5670.69 or 109.05 per week. That's a combine total increase of \$773.92 per annum. I'm struggling to comprehend where this additional \$773.92 per year is going to come from, and my husband are fortunate to have good jobs and a reasonable wage. I know how much anxiety it is causing me just thinking how we will come up with this extra money in an already tight budget, I shudder to think how the rest of my lovely little community and others throughout the district are going to manage. So



please consider how the decisions you make will affect us here on the ground, and really decide is it a need, a nice to have or a want. Nga mihi Hayley Lougher

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Name:

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)

How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

How should we manage foodwaste collection?

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

How quickly should we close our funding gap?

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?

Option 2: 20% UAGC – \$741.31 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

Supporting document

N/A

Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?

As a senior citizen I am aware that decisions made now will have more of an impact on the younger generation than on me. I know that our infrastructure needs to be maintained but I hope we do not forget to make our town a place where we support and care for each other and is a place that is accessible for us all. We need to make it a place that nurtures our young people and provides opportunities for them so that our town becomes a vibrant place to live, work and play.

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**Name:**

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

What is actually necessary? What truly matters? Peoples health, wellbeing and not stressing over their rates.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 1: Mixed foodwaste and greenwaste for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Look at the leading countries Sweden. Follow their foot steps.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Recycling and waste management. Let's take a look at Sweden and follow their foot steps. We can actually make money on Recycling and rubbish disposal. Why don't we become the region that leads this for NZ?

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Submission ID: 697

Date: Apr 12 24 11:40:36 am

Name:

Glen Crowther

Organisation (if on behalf of organisation) Sustainable Bay of Plenty Charitable Trust

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:

**Supporting document**

Attached

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Please see our attached submission for our views on the LTP question. We wish to present an oral submission.

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## **Submission by Sustainable Bay of Plenty Charitable Trust to Whakatāne District Council Draft 2024 Long Term Plan**

### **Responses to LTP Questions**

#### **1) How should we scale, stage and fund necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

We support Option 2 or 3, depending on the wishes of residents / submitters.

We prefer Option 2 to Option 1.

#### **2) How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

We support Option 2 or 3: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only or to all properties, depending on feedback received from across the District.

We do not support Option 1.

#### **3) How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

We also prefer Option 3, as the 17.1% increase this coming year is high enough and there is plenty of debt headroom – three waters uncertainties notwithstanding.

Option 2 is also acceptable if there is community support for that option, but we do not support Option 1, as that would result in far too big a rates increase this coming year.

#### **4) How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district? (UAGC)**

We support OPTION 3: 16% UAGC - \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

We believe a lower UAGC is more equitable.

## Funding Request

Sustainable Bay of Plenty Charitable Trust requested \$6000 from WDC's 2021 LTP and we were successful in getting granted that funding. The agreement with WDC staff was "to focus on the delivery of the quarterly sustainability events in Whakatāne as that's what the Trust's [sic] initially expressed interest for".

However, due to the impacts of Covid-19, we reluctantly did not proceed with events in 2021 and the first half of 2022 (the financial year relating to that WDC funding) - hence we never picked up that WDC funding.

We have since started running Green Drinks and sustainability events in the Eastern Bay, and plan to hold them quarterly from late 2023 onwards – so far all in Whakatāne.

We are also keen to engage more on sustainability issues in the Whakatāne District. However, although we received \$2500 of funding from a Whakatane business to cover our mileage costs and some other direct expenses for the Green Drinks events, that does not cover most of our Trust's costs to operate in the Eastern BOP.

**Therefore, we are requesting funding of \$5000 per year for the duration of this LTP to cover some of our organisation's operational costs, to allow us to deliver events and to work collaboratively on sustainability issues in Whakatāne.**

We suggest this funding be allocated for the first year of your LTP and then reviewed each year to ensure that WDC believes you are getting good value for money from that funding.

Our organisation fills a gap in the regional NGO ecosystem. We work with many organisations within our region and we collaborate with other Bay of Plenty NGOs as appropriate, including Bay Conservation Alliance and Envirohub BOP. We compliment these other two regional organisations, as Envirohub has only an environmental scope and directly targets households (mostly in WBOP), while Bay Conservation Alliance has a conservation scope and focuses on supporting conservation groups and volunteers (i.e. not directly targeting community members).

By contrast, Sustainable BOP covers environmental, social and economic sustainability. We focus on key strategic issues, aiming to help organisations and communities frame and evaluate their strategic and operational decision-making. We share information across the region and bring a sustainability lens to regional and local planning that allows communities and councils to partner to deliver cost-effective projects that meet the needs of local communities.

Feedback from stakeholders confirms that we are perceived as adding value to strategic discussions, increasing accountability, and raising the level of understanding of sustainability in councils, businesses and the wider community. In addition to a stakeholder survey, we have a range of performance measures that we believe strengthen our accountability for making good use of our limited resources and demonstrate progress towards our strategic outcomes.

# About Sustainable Bay of Plenty Charitable Trust

## Our Vision

To be great ancestors.

## Our Mission

Shaping sustainable outcomes through awareness, accountability and action.

## Our Purpose

To make environmental, social and economic sustainability a key lens through which organisations frame and evaluate their strategic and operational decision-making.

We do this by:

- Raising awareness of sustainability issues
- Connecting sustainability stakeholders, including businesses, councils and communities
- Disseminating evidence-based analysis relating to sustainability issues
- Promoting and delivering sustainability education, discussions and events
- Supporting the development of a low carbon circular economy
- Promoting sustainable urban development and transport systems

We provide evidence, tools and support to encourage, enable and evaluate sustainable decision-making by community groups, businesses, iwi and hapu, local government and central government.

## Our People

Glen Crowther is our Executive Director and together with an active and engaged group of trustees, each person contributes their unique experience and expertise. We have come together because we face an unsustainable and inequitable future.

The need for a strong sustainability organisation in Tauranga and the wider Bay of Plenty is clear. We have a housing crisis, our CO2 emissions have increased more than most other NZ regions, there is increasing social deprivation, we have water shortages, many of our region's waterways are polluted, Tauranga has the lowest mode share for public and active transport of any NZ metro, our urban planning has failed to meet the needs of our growing and aging communities, and engagement between Council and local communities is at an all-time low here in Tauranga.

We welcome partnership and collaboration with any other organisations or groups who share our kaupapa. Together with our supporters, we aim to create a more prosperous and sustainable future for Toi Moana | Bay of Plenty.

***We are independent, non-partisan, and evidence-based. We advocate for a systemic approach based on the principles of equity and strong sustainability / Te Ao Maori.***

Submission ID: 698

Date: Apr 12 24 11:48:04 am

Name:

Maurice Tooke

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Given the extra rates increases for households, businesses etc necessary over the coming years to just keep the 'normal' delivery to the District - 'extras' need to be judicially explored. However necessary upkeep and updating of buildings should take place as required.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 2: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

In terms of increasing costs to address our waste in general - and now foodwaste in particular - I'd like to see local 'answers' to dealing with our waste - so separating it may give us locally, 1.improved educational -2. compostwise -3. reduce waste in the first place opportunities: - to eventually not transport any foodwaste out of the area.

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 2: Close the gap in the short-term (in three years) to avoid greater debt.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Funding for Councils throughout Aotearoa is becoming the number one existential concern: I am supportive of local body elected members being aggressively involved in Central Government challenges to realign funding sources and implement Government funding streams for local bodys. The needed capital for infrastructure improvements/expansion can no longer fall to ratepayers on the current system - which if continued - will make living within many citizens budget an impossibility.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

Impresses as a good mechanism to share much of our rate costs evenly. However , the increased costs for delivery of these services is certainly challenging - once again how local can we become in meeting many of our services etc!? (I'm doing my best to understand the Globalisation on my dollar paid in the Eastern Bay lining the pockets of those who live well outside the Eastern Bay). (I am not one for our District becoming totally insular!!) However, our interconnectedness with the world has proved that local democracy challenges befall us much more than mere \$s and democratic processes such as the LTP have become - for me - so overwhelming that I understand that many citizens will not 'participate' in such choices as offered here. (I think there is a need for a 'street corner' approach from both Council staff and Councilors to share the 'workings' of Council a times like this).

**Supporting document**

N/A



**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

I don't envy the role of elected members in these times - so Kia Kaha and may there be sprinklings of greatness of leadership as we head on into the challenges for our District over this decade.

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Submission ID: 699

Date: Apr 12 24 11:48:28 am

Name:

Janice Hendl

**Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)**

**How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

There should be maintenance only work completed on the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub.... given the current economic situation for most of NZ and certainly a big proportion of Whakatane ratepayers it is ridiculous to expect them to absorb rates increases to 'pretty up' a facility that is only used by some NOT ALL ratepayers. I find the description 'necessary upgrades' interesting - why not 'necessary MAINTENANCE' and why has this not been done in the past on a regular basis?

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 2: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Leave it as it is! People manage their food waste fine at present, this levies unnecessary costs that most households won't want or use!

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Your numbers are inaccurate AND IF the gap is as big as you have suggested - then cut some of your costs (staffing, consultants etc) to meet them - that's what the rest of business people do - they don't look to just increase their prices as the total solution! WDC is noted by many out of town as having a reputation for being one of the most inefficient councils when it comes to building consent processes etc... maybe staff need to be held accountable for targets rather than just creating another position to continue to keep them 'comfortable' in their role at present

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

None of these! You have to be joking if you think anyone has an appetite for any sort of increase like this! Why is there no 'other' box on this form????

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

Yes... Time for a reality check people! You have a whole heap of unhappy ratepayers in the community. IF you continue to spend frivolously you are in danger of having people walking away from their properties not through choice but because they have no option.... We would all love to have unlimited funds to fulfill our dreams - but times are tough! Listen to the people that voted you in... And as for the hall upgrade - where is the user pay concept on this - all the community groups that 'WANT' the upgrade - are they prepared to pay to fund it exclusively? Perhaps that should be considered - my guess is they will all run for the hills if that is suggested! But it is real life - you want to put on a show in a newly built

theatre then you will have to pay for it - perhaps ask them how much they are prepared to pay and see if they still want an outlay of over \$100m.

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**Name:****Organisation (if on behalf of organisation)****How should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub?**

Option 3: Carry out necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub

**Your thoughts on how should we scale, fund and stage necessary upgrades to the Rex Morpeth Recreation Hub:**

Prefer no upgrades or spending until our current debt is paid off, especially with unknown cost of Three Waters.

**How should we manage foodwaste collection?**

Option 2: Separate foodwaste collection for urban properties only.

**Your thoughts on how we should manage foodwaste collection:**

Urban properties may wish to take advantage of worm farms or compost bins available to purchase from WDC .

**How quickly should we close our funding gap?**

Option 3: Close the gap in the medium-term (in six years) to ease the burden now.

**Your thoughts on closing our funding gap:**

Cost of living is affecting all in our community. Take the lead of central government and many councils and reduce costs across the board and stop spending until debt is paid off in full.

**How should we distribute rates increases across the properties in our district?**

Option 3: 16% UAGC – \$559.13 (GST exclusive) in year 1.

**Your thoughts on how we should distribute rates increases across the properties in our district:**

As per above, cut costs across all departments and stop spending unless required.

**Supporting document**

N/A

**Do you have any other feedback for your Mayor and Councillors?**

We have a great town and our council has done well to date though community feedback is clearly concerned about the rate increases and future spending and simply cannot afford it. It is clearly affecting everybody including businesses as we are not the thriving town of days past.

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