

Waimate Community & Council Working Together

Waimate District Council is very pleased that the public have made a record number of submissions to the LTCCP this year. While there is much to be said about the onerous task of producing this document, the public debate and consultation which it gives impetus to, is good for the community. There is nothing so bad for a community as apathy.

It was great to see the young people of Waimate be part of the submission process and we were very impressed with the way they presented themselves in this public forum. We would like to share the decisions on the three subjects that received the most submissions from the public.

Waste Not – Want Not!

Urban rate payers in particular, have made two things very clear in their submissions regarding waste disposal options. Firstly, they would like to retain the option of using either bags or bins and secondly, they think that Council should move towards a fairer user pays system.

The good news is – Council listened to you and agreed!

The bag option will be retained with the bags costing \$4.00 each. The increased cost reflects the fact that this collection and disposal service will no longer be subsidised by the bin service. New easily identifiable bags will be introduced and only these bags will be collected. Those rate payers who have bins will also retain that weekly service but will have a smaller 80L bin at an annual cost of \$220. Replacement bins will be delivered during the last collection in October.

Green waste – unfortunately there will be no collection service for green waste. Due to the low number of residents requesting a green waste bin, it would be uneconomical for the contractor to provide this service.

Recycling – unchanged for residential, however we are pleased that businesses will now be able to use this service if they wish to do so.

To get the best possible outcome for a user pays system there will be strict monitoring of all bins to ensure that the appropriate types of waste are in the appropriate receptacles. Green waste and recyclables cannot be placed in the refuse bin! Further information will be coming your way on this subject.

Two new rural drop-off sites have been included at Willowbridge and Holme Station. Rural Townships will have the option of 240L bins emptied fortnightly; however they will not have a bag collection option.

While it is never possible to meet everyone's needs, we have endeavoured to meet the needs of as many residents as possible.

Please watch your letter box, as more detailed information will be delivered to you before the new service begins in November.

Sport and Recreation Venue

Council recognise the need for a dry sports facility and the \$2.5m grant remains in the budget, however this will only be accessed if a number of conditions are met. These include a substantial contribution from the community and acceptance of site and design options, by both the community and council. We are aware that the Trust is currently working on providing options for consideration.

Youth on the Move

There is strong public support for the establishment of a skate park in Waimate. A working committee is being formed and the youth of our town, their families and

supporters, now have an opportunity to move this project forward. The BMX track is “on track” and it would be great to see similar support being given to this second group as they try to establish another outdoor venue for the benefit of the youth of our town.

Of course there were several other subjects that rate payers submitted on and they will all be receiving written notification of those decisions in their letter boxes next week. For anyone else wanting to catch up on the submissions and decisions you will be able to do so by visiting our website later next week www.waimatedc.govt.nz