

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
Sent: Wednesday, 15 May 2024 6:03 pm
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form 'Submission Form - Draft Long Term Plan 2024-2034' was submitted

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Form Results

Full Name

Phil Brodie

Organisation

Ratepayer

Phone

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Postcode

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Email

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

Yes

Introduce a targeted or differential rate on the District Rooding Rate -

Which option do you prefer? :

Option 2 (our preferred option)

My comments on this proposal

This is a national problem with no simple solution. Presently there is a \$0.33/t levy on all logs sold, which goes to the Forest Growers Levy Trust to fund industry good projects. Could something similar be used nationally to go toward solving this problem.

Te Kūiti flooding remedies

Option 2 - Build retention ponds, storm- water modelling and capacity improvement planning long term (preferred)

My comments on Te Kūiti flooding remedies

The emphasis should be on modelling and sharing and discussing the outcomes with all effected landowners, above and within the flooding areas. If flotsam, and gravel from unsealed driveways, are contributors to the problem, landowners need to made well aware of this and that they bear some responsibility toward reducing those exacerbators, in other words, serious public education.

Funding and future of our Rural Halls - what should we do?

Option 2 - Transfer ownership of Council halls to community groups (preferred)

Your comments on the funding and future of our Rural Halls

The process is already underway, and I suspect each community involved will have a different response, and the actual solution for each Hall will depend on that response.

Elder persons housing - how should we fund it?

Option 2 - Council increases rental levels (preferred)

Elder persons housing - is Council the best provider for elder persons housing?

Option 2 - Explore options to transition elder persons housing to a provider (preferred)

Your comments on elder persons housing

With our aging demographics will be an increasing challenge for the future, with forecast substantial shortfalls in beds for elder persons within 15 - 20 years (nationally ~ 40,000). This will become an area for specialised investment and management, which may fit with the Future for Local Government.

Update the Te Kūiti Stormwater Rating Area

Option 2 - Extend the Te Kūiti Urban Rating Area (preferred)

Your comments on updating the Te Kūiti Stormwater Rating Area

I have no specific opinion on this proposal.

Simplifying the rates structure

Option 2 - Simplifying the split of rating costs between General Rate and UAGC. (preferred)

Your comments on simplifying the rates structure

I support the idea of simplifying the rates calculation process, but am perturbed that there is no policy set out to guide the splitting of costs between the General Rate and the UAGC. My Capital Value is much higher than residential properties, so I find the erosion of the UAGC as a percentage of the General Rate, from the 26% it was a number of years ago, and 21.5% in 2024, with a further drop to 17.5% by Year 3, totally unacceptable. The transfer of costs to higher CV properties, ie, Rural, is not equitable. Is this how Council is proposing to fund in the future, the Three Waters depreciation you are choosing not to fund at this time, but will come to charge at a future date, forcing future rate payers to meet present day costs: what an inspiring legacy for your children and grandchildren!

Conversation: Impact of retaining 3 Waters

I do not agree with keeping the status quo

I agree with installing water meters

Your comments on our approach to how we will deliver our 3 Waters services

On page 13 of the CD you have four bullet points that fully justify the installation of water meters, and the following statement 'This expenditure will be funded by loan' indicates the installation project should start immediately (Yr 1, not Yr 4). 'Local Water done Well' is probably going to take 5 years to become functional and the labour force increased to the appropriate level so we're on our own in the meantime. The future viability of our District depends on our supply centres (towns) having fully functioning Three Waters services. They are also the foundation for your Housing Strategy and Vibrant Waitomo, so get after it.

What do you think about our plans for projects and activities?

I fully endorse the Councils Housing Strategy, along with Vibrant Waitomo, so I cannot understand Councils decision to not contribute \$30k to the Maru Trust. You have abrogated your recently approved policy position and shown a very poor example to others you expect to provide time and funds towards these two strategies. A very poor decision, which should be reversed immediately. The Piopio Rising main (Yr 9) has been planned for 10 years, and along with Te Kuiti & Piopio Water meters (Yrs 4 & 5) should move to Year 1, as they are debt funded & urgently required for our towns well being.

What do you think about our plans for finances and rates?

As a member of previous Councils that used rates affordability to justify minimal annual increases, I now realise we were very wrong. The costs to maintain and upgrade our expensive infrastructure, and the levels of service that are being legislatively set, are huge, and increasing. No white knight is coming to help meet those costs so we need to be getting the benefits of those upgrades sooner rather than later. The plans for finances and rates are what they are, and influences out side our, and your, control will dictate whether they are right or wrong.

Do you have any other feedback on our Draft Long Term Plan 2024-2034? (for example our landfill and sludge disposal)

I am concerned that we were shown a functioning system for harvesting and dewatering sludge 10 or 12 years ago and the

'wheels appear to have fallen off', so I hope a similar fate doesn't befall the latest options.

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)