

Name: Hannah Palmer
Organisation (if applicable):

WHICH OPTION DO YOU SUPPORT?

- Option 1 (the Council's proposal): Right investment, right time** Yes
Comments:
- Option 2: Borrow more, do some projects earlier**
Which projects would you like to see completed earlier and why?
- Option 3: Borrow less, do some projects later**
Which projects would you like to see deferred to later and why?
- Other:**
- None of these options**
Comments:
- Don't know**
Comments:

PROPOSAL TO PERMANENTLY CLOSE THE MUNICIPAL POOL

Do you support or oppose the proposal to permanently close the Municipal Pool? Oppose

Comments: The Municipal Pool is part of the city's fabric and is a fantastic asset for city workers, the community and the schools it services. Council should be encouraging the retention and development of this asset as it is in a convenient location, supports health and well-being and is one of the only community pools servicing this part of the city. Furthermore, the mix of office and cafe space around the pool is a fantastic idea and would add vibrancy to the city centre.

OTHER COMMENTS:

The Council has some commendable priorities set in the Long Term Plan, however the budget that follows does not really talk to these priorities and is heavily weighted towards infrastructure. It largely focuses on prioritising the motor vehicle which is a worrying trend if Hamilton is to become a liveable and family oriented city with the third largest economy, as reliance on this mode of transport does nothing for our health, social connection, or the environment.

An increase in people doesn't have to mean an increase in traffic and congestion. Providing for walking and cycling as a commuter choice, and ensuring these routes receive priority and are connected to major employment and activity nodes will go a large way towards easing congestion and improving the health and well-being of the city and the community that resides within. Our streets are wide enough to retrofit with proper connected cycle lanes, and Council needs to look to international examples to see that this can be a successful model. On this note, spending on cycle infrastructure in year 13 is too little too late - bring this forward.

Whilst I recognise that our city is growing and we need infrastructure to support this growth, it is important that aspects that bring vibrancy to the city are not overlooked and underfunded as a result. Spending on community, including older persons housing, should be increased, as it is important to create an inclusive and supported society. Council should also support attracting big corporate businesses back to the CBD, especially those with high numbers of employees. One

potential way to do this could be for Council to buy land in the CBD and lease to such businesses to avoid them re-locating to Te Rapa.

Make the River Plan a priority, and do it well - \$500k per annum is not enough. This could be a major win for the city. Ensure that people with the right expertise lead this project and provide full financial support. Breakdown silos and employ people with place-making skills to complement the traditional top-down architecture/design led approach. A happy city is one where the community can buy into the vision. Benefits of this approach include an enhanced environment for entrepreneurship and enterprise. A similar approach to 'Waterfront Auckland' with a Council Controlled Organisation could be a good option to deliver the River Plan. This approach could be extended to other projects in the city and would help achieve Council's vision of a 'Liveable family oriented city'.

Hamilton City has great untapped potential - we can be the city of the future if we really want to be.