

Submission Form

11-15 Victoria Avenue,
Private Bag 11025, Manawatu Mail Centre,
Palmerston North 4442
T 0508 800 800 F 06 952 2929
www.horizons.govt.nz



Have your say on the key issues discussed inside. For more information, check out the supporting documentation online at www.horizons.govt.nz or at your nearest Horizons office.

Name _____ Phone (home/mobile) _____
 Organisation _____ (business) _____
 Address _____
 Email _____ Postcode _____
 Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

I am happy to speak in support of my submission ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, you will be contacted to arrange a convenient time. Please make sure we have your contact details. The 26th, 27th and 28th April have been set aside for submission hearings depending on the volume of submissions received. These hearings may be held at locations other than Palmerston North.

☐ Tick here if you would like to receive further information via email regarding the work Horizons Regional Council carries out on your behalf.

I support/oppose	I support/oppose	I support/oppose
because _____	because _____	because _____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
An alternate option could be _____	An alternate option could be _____	An alternate option could be _____

The consultation document outlines the work Horizons Regional Council will do in the year ahead and what it will cost. We want to hear your feedback through the submission process. Submissions close Tuesday 12 April 2016.

To make a submission you can:

- Fill out this form and post it to Freepost 217932, Horizons Regional Council, Private Bag 11025, Manawatu Mail Centre, Palmerston North 4442.
- Write your submission as a normal letter and post to the same address as above.

Make sure you include your name, main contact phone number, full address, postcode, email address and whether you want to speak to your submission at a Council submissions hearing as stated in the conditions above if you wish. Submissions hearings may be held at locations throughout the Region based on demand. Please note: all submissions received are considered public. Any contact details provided with your submission will be published in the resulting council report which will be made available to the general public.

- Go to www.horizons.govt.nz and submit online.
- Email your submission to submissions@horizons.govt.nz
- Drop this form off at Horizons' service centres



Whanganui



Palmerston North



Ruapehu



Manawatu



Horowhenua



Taranaki

Rangitikei



ANNUAL PLAN 2016-17



As your regional council we work with communities in the areas of natural resource management, biodiversity and biosecurity, transport, river management, emergency management and regional prosperity. Our work ranges from riparian planting alongside water ways to trapping possums, from designing flood protection to contracting bus services.

Message from the Chairman & Chief Executive

Welcome to the consultation document for the 2016-17 Annual Plan. Last year we embarked on a very comprehensive Long-term Plan 2015-25 (LTP) that detailed planned works for the next three years. While we don't intend to deviate from the decisions we made in Year 2 of the LTP, we do invite your feedback on a few key issues.

With events such as the June floods taking place, we need to adapt in some areas. This document includes information on those changes to the river management and transport areas of our business and our role in regional economic growth. These proposed changes will result in a rate increase of 2.9 per cent on average across the Region for 2016-17. This is down from the 3.5 per cent increase originally set in Year 2 of the LTP. More detail can be found in the supporting documentation at www.horizons.govt.nz or at your nearest Horizons office.

To have your say about our plans please go to our website or fill in the submission form on the back of this document. Feedback from the LTP consultation last year has resulted in a lower rate increase than previously signalled so having your say on how we manage the Region's natural resources can make a difference.



Bruce Gordon
CHAIRMAN

Michael McCartney
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Our Role in Regional Growth

A strong Region requires coordinated leadership, but what role should Horizons play in economic growth? Over the past 24 months, in collaboration with the Region's mayors, ministers, iwi and business representatives, we've been actively involved in the production and implementation of a Regional Growth Study. We're currently assisting in the implementation of this study's findings under a programme called Accelerate25.

Accelerate25 is focused on developing a number of opportunities to grow employment, investment and incomes across the Region around key areas of business including: sheep and beef productivity; fresh vegetables; manuka honey and tourism among others. For the 2016-17 year our involvement in this work is funded from reserves and has no impact on your rates.

However, going forward we want to know what you think our role should be. Should we be leaders in this space or play an important supporting role by better using the information we hold regarding the Region's resources, bringing key parties together and utilising our connections to central Government?

While we're not looking to take over the work of economic development agencies already active in some parts of the Region, we would like your feedback on how Horizons might take a longer-term role in working with others to develop our regional prosperity.

Let us know what you think via the submission form on the back of this document or by visiting www.horizons.govt.nz and making an online submission. You can also keep up with the programme on Twitter @Accelerate25

We invite your feedback on these key issues

Have your say via the submission form on the back of this document or at www.horizons.govt.nz



Changes to Transport

For the 2016-17 year, our transport function will remain relatively unchanged from what was proposed in Year 2 of the 2015-25 Long-term Plan (LTP). This includes no changes to both the Road Safety and Transport Planning programmes.

In regards to Passenger Services, a number of new and improved services were proposed across the Region. This was particularly so for Palmerston North with a new Summerhill service to be established and additional late night services on Thursday, Friday and Saturdays to run across the network. After careful consideration, and following the recommendation of the Passenger Transport Committee, Council resolved to make changes to the proposed improvements for Palmerston North. Specifically the proposed changes are:

- The Palmerston North Late Night Services (\$150,000) be substituted for the following:
 - Increased frequency on the Milson/Cloverlea route to 10mins peak, being a two year trial to gauge whether there is demand for increased peak frequency across the network (\$77,500);
 - Increased frequency on the Fernlea Heights route to 20mins peak and 40mins off-peak (\$44,500);

- A project to collect people movement data to gauge demand opportunity (\$8,000);
- A project to improve timetable information (\$8,000).
- An increase in the projected cost of the new Palmerston North Summerhill service (\$16,500);
- A Levin to Waikanae bus service will be established (\$12,000). This was to commence in the 2017-18 financial year and it is now proposed to bring this forward.

A key aspect of these changes is that they will be incorporated within the original proposed Year 2 budget of the LTP. However, as there has been an adjustment to the Year 2 work programme, this will have a flow on effect to Year 3. It is proposed to undertake the following improvements in Year 3 and onwards, provided they can be accommodated within the existing LTP budget:

- A two year trial of splitting the Highbury/Takaro alternating loop into two direct routes;
- Additional weekend services and extended day services (later hours) across all Palmerston North routes.

The delivery of these services will also be contingent on receiving New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) subsidy and availability of buses and infrastructure.



Changes to River Schemes

River control and flood protection is one of our core services. Council proposes to continue with its programme of maintenance, renewal and capital works within 34 river and drainage schemes, as set out in the 2015-25 Long-term Plan (LTP). However, following the June 2015 flood event, we propose to address issues within two schemes that were not identified in the LTP in order to increase community resilience to flooding.

The first issue concerns the failure of a section of stopbank within the Koputaroa Scheme which resulted in extensive and prolonged flooding between the

Koputaroa Stream and Aratangata Drain. Following discussions with affected landowners, we're proposing to construct a new spillway and to upgrade No.1 pumpstation to clear flood overflows more efficiently. These works are estimated to cost \$235,000 and Council proposes funding them with a 20 year term loan. We're also proposing a minor change to the indirect benefit category of the Koputaroa rating system to reflect resolutions of Council following the 2013 scheme audit and 2014-15 Annual Plan submissions process.

Both of these changes have been fully explained in a newsletter sent directly to all Koputaroa Scheme

ratepayers. The significant rating impact will be on 23 properties that will receive a high degree of benefit from improved flood water clearance and drainage pumping.

The second issue highlighted during the June event was an issue of channel capacity loss in the lower Oroua River, as a result of silt deposition. While provision has been made within Lower Manawatu Scheme LTP budgets for the ongoing removal of silt from the river channel, the June event confirmed that the mobilisation of sediment that was disturbed or deposited in the middle and upper reaches in the February 2004 storm

event, and its subsequent deposition in the flatter graded lower reaches, has considerably exceeded predictions. Prompt action is required to address specific areas of channel capacity loss while further investigations are undertaken to quantify longer term impacts. It is proposed an additional \$100,000 be included in the scheme budget for 2016-17 for this purpose. This will result in an overall increase in scheme rates of 1.5 per cent, compared with the proposed 0.7 per cent for Year 2 of the LTP.



Your Councillors



Bruce Gordon
Chairman,
Manawatu-Rangitikei



Paul Rieger
Deputy Chairman,
Palmerston North



Bruce Rollinson
Ruapehu



Colleen Sheldon
Horowhenua-Kairanga



David Cotton
Wanganui



Gordon McKellar
Manawatu-Rangitikei



John Barrow
Tararua



Lindsay Burnell
Horowhenua-Kairanga



Murray Guy
Palmerston North



Pat Kelly
Palmerston North



Rachel Keedwell
Palmerston North



Rod Pearce
Wanganui