



P.O. Box 1271
145 Cuba Street
Palmerston North 4410
P 06 355 0126
E admin@enm.org.nz
www.enm.org.nz

Submission to PNCC Draft Annual Budget Consultation

To: Palmerston North City Council

Contact Details:

Organisation: Environment Network Manawatu (ENM)
Contact Person: Stewart Harrex.
Address for service: 145 Cuba St, Palmerston North 4410
Phone: (06) 355 0126
Email: coordinator@enm.org.nz.

Overview: A submission linking to support and suggestions around the Draft Annual Budget.

Background:

Environment Network Manawatu (ENM) is the environment hub for the Manawatu Region with the key purpose of facilitating and enabling communication, cooperation, and increasing collective action amongst its member groups and the wider community. ENM provides leadership by underpinning, fostering, and encouraging environmental initiatives in the region and our 60 current member groups are from throughout the Manawatu River Catchment with interests including biodiversity regeneration, freshwater management, citizen science, food security and resilience, sustainable living, alternative energies, and active transport. The network is organised into two collective focus areas: Manawatu Food Action Network and Manawatu River Source to Sea.

ENM's constitutional purposes are to:

- coordinate and communicate the efforts of the member groups to enhance the local environment:
 - actively protect, maintain, restore and enhance the environment of the Manawatu

- promote ideas to the wider community to encourage them to participate in environmental projects
- develop concerted long-term plans of action to enhance the environment and actively progress the implementation of these plans
- encourage the provision of “green” areas for passive recreation
- work together to identify, initiate, support, implement and maintain environmental projects that benefit the wider community
- initiate, develop, implement and participate in environmental education
- act as a central point of access to environmental information.
- advocate for ecological sustainability and matters of agreed environmental significance.
- work in partnership with iwi to recognise kaitiakitanga and environmental aims and objectives in common.
- liaise with similar organisations elsewhere in Aotearoa New Zealand and around the world as appropriate to source and share ideas for environmental projects and issues.

Submission:

We acknowledge the pressure that the last two years of living with a pandemic has placed on council operations. The pandemic and the slow-moving emergency that is climate change have highlighted the need to allow for risk velocity in budgets in order to build up the city’s resilience.

- We support the major timing and capital programme cost changes on page 8. The timing of the 3 Waters “ Better Off Funding” of 8.1 m could align well with the potential within the city’s waste water upgrade to optimize resource recovery opportunities.
- The disparity between the rates increases for residential properties as opposed to others appears unfair. All property owners benefit from improvements to services and infrastructure.
- We particularly support the following budget lines:
 - 2026,2056. Active transport and cycling infrastructure
 - 2027,2120 and 2121 Shared pathway networks, off road and footpaths
 - 1680 Public Transport Infrastructure
 - 1073, 2000 and 2005 Active communities supporting city reserves. We support these and would like to see this including naming reserves to recognize their history e.g. Opie Reserve with an explanation of the man and his achievements. These stories are likely to reduce to cost of vandalism and connect users to the place.
- We strongly support:
 - 111 The work of Pitt Park
 - 558 Urban Growth Local Reserve Takaro

- 967 Edible Planting City Wide
- 1099-Parks and reserves and city-wide shade provision.

In areas of new urban growth developers should have factored in space for local reserves or contributions towards them. Councils should not have to purchase land for reserves.

- Connected Communities We particularly support the value of building resilience through
 - 2023 Small Grants Funding for Community Development
 - 2116 Funding for SPG's
- Climate Change adaption and mitigation. We support this budget item
- Environmental Sustainability. We strongly support funding as outlined on Pages 57 and 58 and appreciate the ongoing support for the sector
- Resource Recovery We strongly support the budget proposal and items listed on pages 62,64,65, and 66 item 2129 – investigating kerbside food waste recovery is a very welcome inclusion
- Water. We support the budget proposal items on page 69,70 and 71
- Stormwater. We support the budget proposal set out on pages 73 and 74
- Wastewater Operational. We support the budget proposal set out on pages 77,78,79 and 80