

Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust  
PO Box 5  
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Christchurch City Council  
53 Hereford Street  
Christchurch

17 April 2024

Kia Ora,

Submission on Te Mahere Rautaki Kaurera – Our Draft Long Term Plan 2024-34

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Council's 2024-34 Draft Long Term Plan. We value the opportunity to provide feedback.

The Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust is a Christchurch City Council controlled organisation founded in 2010 for the benefit of Banks Peninsula/Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū residents and visitors. Our vision is:

*Ko te whakawhanake kaitiaki taiao nā te whakahōu ara hīkoi, ara paihikara, te whakaniko rerenga rauropi, te whakamana mātauranga me te mahi tahi ki ngā tāngata e kaingākau kaha ana ki Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū hoki.*

*Developing environmental guardians of the future through improved public walking and biking access, enhancing biodiversity, promoting knowledge and working in partnership with others who share our commitment to Banks Peninsula.*

Banks Peninsula is uniquely placed geographically and ecologically as both a recreation and biodiversity hotspot. Because biodiversity is mobile, Banks Peninsula acts as a seeding node, and a storehouse of carbon for Greater Christchurch and the wider Canterbury area. Banks Peninsula contributes significantly to CCC's aspirations for a Greener Liveable Climate Resilient City. It provides for walking and biking so that residents of Banks Peninsula and Christchurch can take care of the mental and physical wellbeing and develop into environmental guardians.

***The Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust appreciates and strongly supports the following budget allocations remaining at these levels or above:***

- Operational and capital funding for the Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust (\$100K and \$1.35M respectively)
- Biodiversity funding (\$439K increasing to \$552K)
- Enviroschools (\$75K)

***The Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust also supports:***

- Council support and collaboration with the initiatives of the Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust.
- Support for the Banks Peninsula Destination Management Plan. Banks Peninsula provides an ideal place to increase opportunities for tramping, walking and cycling through its beautiful natural

environment, and to encourage domestic and international tourists to stay for longer in the area and to connect and participate with local communities.

- Continued support for the Head-to-Head Walkway with a focus on creating new sections, where there are no existing tracks.
- Little River Link cycleway funding.
- Funding for the formation of a cycle and walking path on the old railway line, between the Little River Inn and the Little River township.
- Retaining rather than removal of the Environmental Partnerships Fund (EPF)
- Continued funding of the programmes delivered via the Regional and Community Parks teams that support our vision.
- The strategy documents that underpin the Draft LTP especially where nature-based solutions and enhancing indigenous biodiversity have been given preference: Open Space Strategy; Ōtautahi Climate Resilience Strategy; Ōtautahi Urban Forests plan; Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū/Banks Peninsula Destination Management plan; Banks Peninsula Community Board Plan 2023-25; and Whaka-Ora/Healthy Harbour Plan.
- All the community outcomes 2024-34

***The Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust seeks in addition:***

- Retaining, rather than removal, of grant support for Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust's operational costs, so they can focus on their leadership and facilitation of collaborative community-led programmes rather than searching for funding to "keep the lights on". An annual contribution of \$30K.
- Retaining, rather than removal, of funding for Pest Free Banks Peninsula so that re-incursion of animal pests (such as goats) does not occur. An annual contribution of \$50K for the programme and \$40K for feral ungulate removal.
- Funding for Banks Peninsula Geopark so that the stories of what makes Banks Peninsula so special can be shared
- Funding for Orton Bradley Park
- Funding for Te Kāhahu Kahukura (TKK) programme – an annual contribution of \$30K. After the third Port Hills fire the role of this community-driven programme in supporting landowners has never been more vital. If appropriately resourced, this community-led programme can support: ecological; proactively plan for fire risk mitigation of existing and future indigenous biodiversity across the Port Hills; and establish an ecologically robust Port Hills forest that is a biodiversity hub for Christchurch City, with significant climate resilience benefits.
- Funding and a stronger commitment to reducing carbon/climate change emissions, including grant funding to support EV charging facilities on Banks Peninsula
- Bringing forward funding for adaptation planning and boost overall community preparedness and resilience, including a Climate Resilience Fund. Banks Peninsula communities and ecosystems are very vulnerable to coastal hazards and other impacts of climate change.
- Funding for public transport and urban and rural walking and cycling trails.
- Ensuring safe drinking water, stormwater and flood protection, and improving wastewater discharges
- Integration of Banks Peninsula Ecological Vision into the Council's biodiversity work including:
  - Continued provision of the Christchurch Biodiversity Fund to support protection of high value indigenous biodiversity on private land.
  - A greater focus on controlling weeds that threaten local ecosystems so that CCC can protect its investment in biodiversity on Council land and not undermine the conservation efforts made by adjacent private landowners (and others).

- Retention of public land that has biodiversity, carbon sequestration and recreational benefits and funding for purchasing land for that has high recreation, biodiversity, carbon sequestration values.
- Increased support for other groups and organisations that work together to deliver biodiversity and climate change outcomes, including carbon sequestration through natural regeneration, regenerative tourism and low-carbon recreational opportunities.
- Support for landscape scale regeneration, restoration and fire management in collaboration with Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust, Te Ahu Pātiki Charitable Trust, landowners, Te Kākahu Kahukura and other community groups.
- Planning protection of cultural and natural landscapes and sites of ecological significance.

We thank you for the opportunity to submit on this Plan. We would value the opportunity to speak in support of our submission at the hearing.

Ngā mihi



Shelley Washington  
Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust Manager / Manahautū