

APPENDIX ONE

APPENDIX ONE 2007/08 DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL

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Wellington City Council's
2007/08 DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN
+ amendment to the long term council community plan

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Should Wellington accept \$220 million in government funding to upgrade our **social housing**? ■ Should we spend more money on attracting **events** to the city? ■ Do we need an anti-**graffiti** 'flying squad'? ■ Should the city have sirens to warn residents in coastal areas when a **tsunami** is coming? ■ Should the **City Gallery and museums** get additional funding to allow them to maintain current levels of service? ■ Does the city need a wet hostel to put a roof over the heads of the most vulnerable **homeless** people? ■ What about access to the **port and ferry terminals**? ■ Should the network of **Outer Green Belt tracks** be expanded and upgraded? ■ Should responsibility for **regional economic development** be transferred to a new economic development agency overseen by the Wellington Regional Council? ■ What are your views on a **3.84% average increase in rates**?

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This is Wellington City Council's **draft annual plan** for 2007/08.

It explains **what** we're planning to do in the coming year, **why** we plan to do it, **how much** it will cost, and **how** we propose to pay.

It's a consultation document. **YOUR VIEWS WILL INFLUENCE US**. Every year, hundreds of people comment on our plans, and those comments lead to changes.

After you've had your say, councillors will consider your views and develop a **final plan**, which will be made public in July.

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Welcome to our draft annual plan for 2007/08. We look forward to hearing your views.

Wellington is in great shape – in the latest survey of New Zealand's largest cities we once again came out top, with 93% of residents rating their quality of life as good or very good.

This plan is about building on the city's existing strengths, and on the vision set out last year in our 2006-16 long-term plan – a vision of Wellington as a thriving, internationally competitive city.

In our suggested new initiatives for 2007/08 (see page XXX) we're seeking to upgrade key infrastructure, further increase the role that events play in the life of the city, and boost our support for the grass-roots organisations and communities. We're proposing an average rates increase of 3.84% – just over 1% above inflation.

Please let us know what you think. Your views will be heard.

KERRY PRENDERGAST

MAYOR

We deliver the services expected of an internationally competitive city.

Wellington City Council is determined to keep the city moving forward. We want to make sure we maintain momentum by efficiently and effectively delivering services that benefit our residents and city.

We are responsible for transport, libraries, water and wastewater, recycling and waste disposal, recreation facilities and events, looking after the environment, protecting public health, and much, much more. Some of this work is required by law. Much of it is needed to meet community expectations about the services an internationally competitive city should offer.

At the same time the Council is facing significant challenges to the way it does business including increasing expectation from our citizens, and construction costs increasing at a rate faster than inflation.

This changing environment is requiring the Council to review the way it does business to make sure it delivers the best outcomes for the city.

It's my job to ensure the agreed work programme is delivered. After listening to you, Councillors will agree a final programme that is consistent with us being an internationally competitive city and is within acceptable financial parameters.

The Council's work affects your quality of life, so it's worth making your views known.

GARRY POOLE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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OUR ROLE & DIRECTION

We have two key jobs. 1. To promote the **well-being** of Wellington and its people. 2. To facilitate **democratic local decision-making**.

The Wellington City Council is made up of 15 elected representatives – the mayor and 14 councillors. It's their job to make bylaws, set the city's overall strategic direction, and approve budgets, policies and plans aimed at achieving that direction. Part of their role is to listen and take the pulse of the community before making decisions.

The elected representatives are supported by the Council's chief executive and 1,450+ staff, who provide advice, implement Council decisions, and look after the city's day to day operations.

We seek your views before determining our work programme. Then we make ourselves accountable by reporting on our delivery of that programme.

Every three years we take a long-term look at how the city is doing, what the community's aspirations are, and how we can help to meet those aspirations. This helps form the basis of a long-term work programme – including budgets, policies, and information about how we'll monitor the levels of service we provide and the quality and effectiveness of our work. These details are published in a long-term plan.

In-between these three-yearly plans, we take a fresh look at our annual work programme and consider whether any changes are needed – changes to our budgets, for example, or new projects to help deal with issues or challenges facing the city. We publish a *draft annual plan* (this document) and listen to your feedback before publishing an *annual plan*. In recent years, the number of submissions on our draft plans has increased. In 2006/07, more than 1,300 Wellingtonians made their views heard.

Every year, we also publish an annual report. This sets out how we performed against the long-term plan or annual plan for the year. Did we do all we said we'd do? Did we meet our budgets? Did we do as good a job as we should have? Did we contribute to improvements in the overall well-being of Wellington and its residents?

We aim to manage the city in line with community aspirations.

After public consultation during 2005 and 2006, we set 13 long-term goals (or "outcomes") for Wellington. They are:

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- Wellington will become more **liveable**
- Wellington will develop a stronger **sense of place**
- Wellington will become more **compact**
- Wellington will become more **eventful**
- Wellington will become more **inclusive**
- Wellington will become more **actively engaged**
- Wellington will become more **sustainable**
- Wellington will become **safer**
- Wellington will become **healthier**
- Wellington will become **better connected**
- Wellington will become more **prosperous**
- Wellington will become more **competitive**
- Wellington will become more **entrepreneurial and innovative**.

The indicators that we use to measure our progress towards these are contained in the appendix. More details on the outcomes can be found in the long term plan.

WHAT'S DIFFERENT ABOUT THIS PLAN?

We've always worked hard to make our plans as clear and easy to understand as possible. That's part of being accountable and consulting effectively.

This year, we've made some improvements to the 'Our Activities in Detail' section of our plan by grouping some activities together that we'd separated in the past. This change means you can more clearly see our plans in their full context – for example, we're describing all of our work relating to the transport network in one place, instead of considering separate parts of the network (roads, cycle ways etc) over several pages. There's no change to the level of formal detail that's available about our finances and expected service performance – it's just presented in a simpler, clearer way here. (You'll also see that activity numbers are provided in the 'what it will cost' tables for easy references back to the long term plan.)

We hope you find the changes useful.

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SNAPSHOT OF THE CITY

	Wellington City Now	Wellington City Then	Did you know?
Population	Wellington city has a population of 179,466. Wellington city makes up 40.0% of the region's total population.	In 2001, our city had a population of 167,187. Wellington city made up 39.1% of the region's total population.	Our population is expected to increase to 201,100 people by 2021.
Population density	Wellington city has an estimated 620.9 people per square kilometre.	In 2001, our city had an estimated 576.5 people per square kilometre.	Wellington city residents have access to 34.7 square kilometres of Town Belt, park and reserve land.
Employment	Employment continues to grow, with 132,720 people being employed in Wellington city in 2006.	In 2001, 108,910 people were employed in Wellington city.	The property and business services industry employees more Wellingtonians than any other industry (approximately 20%).
Average earnings	Wellington city employees earn an average of \$28.25 per hour (December quarter 2006)	In 2004, the average employee earned \$25.64 per hour (December quarter 2004).	Wellington city employees have the highest average hourly earnings of all major cities in New Zealand.
Travel to central Wellington	34% of Wellingtonians who travel into central Wellington on a weekday use public transport, 45% use a car and 10% walk.	In 2001, 30% of people used public transport, 52% drove and 14% walked.	Wellington city has the largest proportion of residents who use public transport of all major cities in New Zealand.
Average sale price for dwellings	In Wellington, the average home now costs \$400,900 (December quarter 2006).	In 2004, the average home cost \$317,300 (December quarter 2004).	Wellington city average home prices are the second most expensive in New Zealand, behind Auckland.

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OUR WORK

We focus our work on **seven strategic areas**. The two biggest areas involve managing major **infrastructure** such as water supply, drainage, and transport.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT – Our built environment work includes enhancing the **waterfront** and city and suburban centres, developing public spaces such as **urban parks and squares**, looking after **heritage** sites, assessing and issuing **building and resource consents**, ensuring earthquake-prone buildings are strengthened, and planning for the city's **future growth** and development.

The significant growth and development expected in Wellington over the next 20 years creates some challenges for us. We're aiming to respond to those challenges in ways that are sustainable and preserve the city's special character.

A key priority through to 2009 is to improve land use and transport by focusing development along a 'growth spine' stretching from Johnsonville in the north, to the central city, and Newtown and Kilbirnie in the south. Other priorities include improving the way we manage infill development in residential areas, and improving the quality of the city's urban design.

TRANSPORT – We look after 670km of **streets and roads**, as well as footpaths, **cycle lanes**, traffic signals, **car parks** and so on. We also: support public transport through **bus priority measures** such as bus lanes, letting buses go first at traffic lights, and providing bus shelters; work suburb by suburb to improve **road safety**; and plan to ensure the city's transport network meets **future needs**.

Our transport system is generally performing well – Wellington's streets are safe by national standards, we're high users of public transport, and most residents believe the city is easy to get around. However, we do face challenges such as ensuring the transport network can keep up with growing demand, and reducing harmful environmental effects such as noise, water and air pollution.

For the period to 2009, key priorities include managing demand on the transport network, advocating for investment in the city's state highway network, further developing our bus priority measures, and improving access to the port and ferry terminals.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – We work to attract major **events** such as the World of WearableArt Awards and the International Sevens. We also fund **tourism** promotions, and support **attractions** such as Te Papa and conference venues such as the Wellington Convention Centre. To support businesses, we:

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provide free weekend parking in the city, fund **business development** and incubator programmes, and programmes to attract businesses, investment and skilled people to the region; provide grants to help community projects with economic benefits for the city; and **marketing the city** as a destination of choice.

Key challenges are to make the city more internationally competitive, foster innovation and entrepreneurship, and lift Wellington's sustainable economic growth.

Priorities for the period to 2009 include: implementing the Wellington Regional Strategy to guide economic development; strengthening the city's status as a centre of creativity and innovation; and attracting at least one regular long-haul air service to Wellington from a south-east Asian market.

ENVIRONMENT – We look after the city's 34+ square kilometres of **reserve land**, as well as **beaches**, coastline, and **botanical gardens**. We fund the **Zoo** and the **Karori Sanctuary**, and work to develop other world-class nature-based visitor attractions such as the **Marine Education Centre**. We also: provide **water supply**, stormwater and sewage disposal; provide **recycling** and **waste disposal** services; offer grants for environmental initiatives; run the Kiwi Point Quarry; and promote **energy efficiency** and sustainability.

Though Wellington enjoys a stunning natural environment, we also face some significant challenges. Like other cities, we need to find ways of becoming more sustainable – to address broad issues such as climate change – by producing fewer greenhouse gas emissions, dumping less waste, using resources such as water and energy more efficiently, and protecting biodiversity and ecosystems.

Over the period to 2009, key priorities include promoting water and energy efficiency, improving protection of streams, developing a coherent plan to address biodiversity issues, and strengthening our partnerships with stakeholders to increase environmental awareness, community participation, and the achievement of environmental goals.

CULTURAL WELL-BEING – We fund the city's popular **art galleries and museums**, operate Toi Poneke – the Wellington Arts Centre, and support the **NZ International Arts Festival**, the St James Theatre and the NZ Symphony Orchestra. We also provide **cultural grants**, support community **events and festivals**, and run the **City Archives**.

Wellington's arts and culture scene is thriving. Our key goal is to maintain this strength, and to ensure that all Wellingtonians can participate in the city's cultural life.

Over the period to 2009, our key priorities include: protecting and enhancing local 'sense of place'; enhancing the area at the top of the Cable Car; strengthening our partnerships with arts organisations; and engaging more effectively with grass-roots arts and culture communities.

SOCIAL AND RECREATION – We provide **homes** for people whose needs are not met by state housing or the private housing market, fund projects to help **homeless people**, support **community**

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organisations, and provide **community centres and halls**. We also work to protect **public health and safety** through projects such as monitoring the city centre, banning liquor consumption in public in parts of the city, licensing food and liquor outlets, animal control, regulating other public health risks, providing toilets and cemeteries, and preparing the city to deal with emergencies such as earthquakes.

Our recreation work includes: providing **libraries, playgrounds, swimming pools, recreation centres, sports fields and marinas**; running recreation programmes; and reducing the costs of using sport and recreation facilities for people who have community services cards.

A key challenges include providing for a population that is growing in size and diversity, and catering for a wider range of recreation activities.

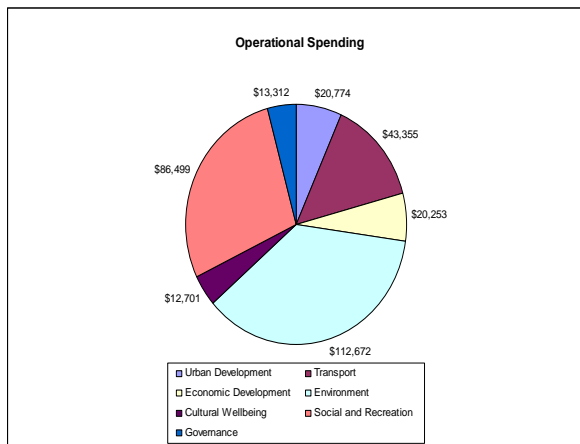
Over the period to 2009, priorities include increasing the value of community facilities to their communities, promoting social cohesion and sound social infrastructure, and promoting participation in sport and recreation, particularly for youth.

GOVERNANCE – Our governance work includes running **local elections**, holding meetings of the **Council** and its committees, producing policies and strategies to guide our work, producing annual plans and annual reports to make ourselves **accountable to residents**, seeking feedback on our proposals from members of the public, engaging with Maori and stakeholder groups, and **providing information** about our services and activities.

The key challenge we face is to increase participation levels and build trust and confidence in civic decision-making. Our priorities for the period to 2009 include improving the transparency and quality of processes for public involvement in civic decision-making, and increasing participation rates in democratic processes.

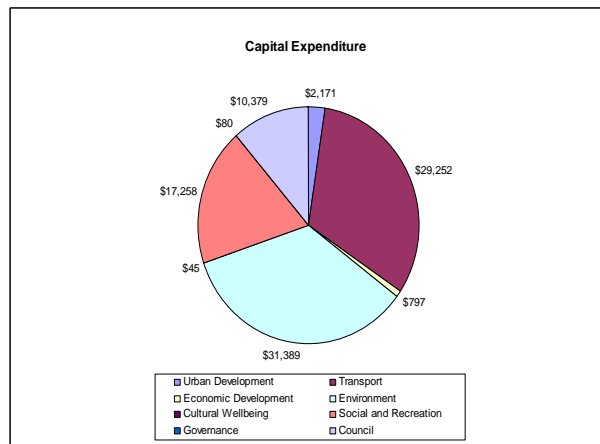
OPERATIONAL SPENDING

Our main areas of operational spending are environment, transport, and social & recreation.



CAPITAL SPENDING

Our main areas of capital spending are environment and transport.



NEW PROPOSALS

We'd appreciate your comments on several **new projects** we're proposing.

These projects deal with challenges facing the city. We're suggesting them because we believe they will contribute to a **higher quality of life** for Wellingtonians.

1. We're proposing to increase the size of our Events Development Fund, which has helped to **bring major events** such as the World of WearableArt Awards and the International Rugby Sevens to the city. Increasing the size of the fund will help us to contribute to the city's buzz by attracting more major events. *For more detail, see page XXX.*
2. We're proposing to enter a partnership with the Government for a **\$220 million upgrade of our social housing** over the next 10-15 years. This will allow us to improve insulation and ventilation, carry out earthquake-strengthening, upgrade kitchens and bathrooms, reconfigure some bedsits to larger accommodation, and enhance safety and security. *For more detail, see page XXX.*
3. We're proposing to set up a 'flying squad' to **protect the city's streetscapes from graffiti**. This will be a trial for one year. The service will provide a rapid graffiti removal service for eligible small businesses, utilities, sports clubs, community organisations, and private homes. The flying squad will also provide education on how to remove, discourage and report graffiti; and engage with local artists and community groups to develop murals. *For more detail, see page XXX.*
4. We're proposing to make Wellington safer by installing a **tsunami warning system**, consisting of sirens at fixed positions around the coast, as well as two mobile sirens which can be fixed to helicopters and heard almost 2km away. If a sizeable earthquake strikes the Wairarapa faultline again, the risk of tsunami will be high and residents may have little time to get out of its path. In that event, Wellingtonians in coastal areas and the CBD will need early warning. *For more detail, see page XXX.*

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5. We want to enhance and extend our network of **Town Belt and Outer Green Belt tracks**. The tracks make these areas accessible for walkers, mountain bikers, 4WD enthusiasts and others. Our long-term Open Spaces Access Plan aims to strengthen and improve the track network in order to increase recreation and tourism opportunities, and enhance links between communities and open space areas. The plan aims to ensure that tracks provide for a wide range of user interests and levels of fitness and ability. We're seeking comments on four options. The least expensive involves upgrading top priority existing tracks but building no new ones. The most expensive involves upgrading existing tracks and building a network of new tracks over the next decade. *For more detail, see page XXX.*
6. We're proposing to increase Wellington Museums Trust funding to allow it to maintain current levels of service. In 2006/07, it is budgeting for a deficit and has also had to make cuts for budget reasons. For example, the **Museum of Wellington City and Sea** has held two exhibitions a year instead of four, and the **City Gallery** has reduced its number of exhibitions from four a year to 3.5 a year, and has changed the mix away from international exhibitions towards Australian and New Zealand art. The increase is expected to retain the services to the previous levels.
7. A new fund is proposed to **support sports clubs** and active recreational groups seeking professional advice and support for programme development, club growth and expansion, asset management (but not maintenance), club diversification, and feasibility studies. Priority will be given to programmes that will increase youth participation in sport and recreation. Clubs will be able to apply for grants from the fund. *For more detail, see page XXX.*
8. We're proposing to redevelop the 'city gateway' area from Waterloo Quay to the inter-island ferry terminal, to cater for potential growth in traffic flow, freight movements and foot traffic in the area. The first steps will be to complete detailed plans for the area between the Hutt Road and Bunny Street, and start **street improvements along Waterloo Quay** between Bunny and Hinemoa Streets. *For more detail, see page XXX.*
9. We're proposing to support the **establishment of a wet hostel** in the city, to provide accommodation and professional support for homeless people with a history of alcoholism. A wet hostel is distinct from other accommodation for homeless people in that residents can drink on the premises. The proposal is a partnership between the Council and the Capital and Coast District Health Board. It is an opportunity to house and help some of the city's most visible and vulnerable homeless people – those who, through their alcohol dependence, are unable to meet their own basic needs of food, clothing and shelter. *For more detail, see page XXX.*
10. We're proposing to provide funding for a co-ordinator and advisory group to run the new **Newlands Community Centre**, establish a database of our community facilities, develop a partnership framework to allow non-Council facilities to be accessed more widely, and develop options for the refurbishment of the **Khandallah Hall**. *For more detail, see page XXX.*

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11. We're proposing more funding to our **grants** pool to assist with increasing day-to-day costs, for groups and initiatives with social, cultural, economic or environmental benefits. *For more detail, see page **XXX**.*
12. We're proposing to increase our budget to deal with legal costs from **leaky homes** claims. We have obligations to defend those claims when we think we have acted correctly, which means we have no choice but to incur legal costs. *For more detail, see page **XXX**.*
13. We want everyone in Wellington to have affordable access to **broadband networks** capable of meeting their needs, and we're considering ways we can help that happen. *For more detail, see page **XXX**.*
14. The Greater Wellington Regional Council is proposing to establish a new **regional economic development agency**, which will be funded from a Greater Wellington targeted rate. If this proposal goes ahead, we will no longer need to fund Positively Wellington Business. *For more detail, see page **XXX**.*

*We'd like to hear your views on our proposed new projects. To comment, you can use the form on page **XXX** or comment online at www.wellington.govt.nz.*

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RATES, CHARGES AND OPERATIONAL SPENDING

To fund our work programme, we're proposing a **3.84% average rates increase**, plus some increases in user charges.

We're forecasting total operational spending of \$310 million during 2007/08. This provides for all of our day-to-day operations and services – things like waste disposal, water supply, operating the transport network, issuing building and resource consents, maintaining parks and gardens and so on.

We fund this spending from a combination of general rates (which are paid on all properties), targeted rates, user charges, grants/subsidies, and other income (such as interest).

Targeted rates include water rates, sewerage rates, stormwater rates, and Marsden Village, downtown, and Tawa driveways rates.

There are two categories of general rates: the base general rate, and the commercial sector general rate. In 2006/07, the commercial sector general rate was 4.4 times higher than the base rate for a property of the same value. We propose to reduce this to 3.8 in 2007/08 and, by 2009/10, we aim to reduce this differential to 2.8.

When we decide how to fund a service, we consider a wide range of factors including who benefits.

Decisions about how to fund a service are guided by our Revenue and Financing Policy. Under the policy, for each activity we consider the following criteria:

- who benefits – individuals, an identifiable part of the community, or the whole community
- whether the people or groups who benefit could be excluded from the service if they don't pay, and whether excluding them would be fair and equitable
- whether the benefits will extend to future generations as well as current ones
- the 'polluter pays' principle – that people and groups should pay for harm they directly cause
- overall impact on social, economic, cultural and environmental well-being.

We then agree the proportion of funding that each sector will contribute to pay for each activity. For instance *tourism* promotion is funded through the downtown levy (the retailers, restaurants, bars, hotels and other businesses located in the downtown area who benefit from visitors spending), while our city safety programme that is beneficial to everyone is funded by the general rate.

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The increase in overall rates take is significantly less than we proposed in our 2006-16 long-term plan.

In our 2006-16 long-term plan we had forecast a 5.45% increase (including inflation) in average rates for 2007/08. We're now forecasting a 3.84% average increase.

The lower figure reflects our efforts to manage the city's finances as efficiently and prudently as possible. While we're proposing some new projects which we think will benefit the city, we've also sought operational efficiencies and rescheduled some of our work programme to keep the rates increase below previously forecast levels. For example, we're proposing to reduce our grant to Wellington Waterfront Limited (see page XXX), and funding for upgrades of privately owned heritage buildings (see page XXX).

The actual rates changes affect each household or property differently, depending on changes in capital value. The capital value for the average residential property has increased by XX.X% to \$XXXX over the past year. We're proposing to increase rates on the average residential property by XX.X% in 2007/08.

The capital value of the average commercial property has increased by an average XX.X% over the past year. We're proposing to increase rates on the average commercial property by XX.X% in 2007/08.

Indicative residential property rates (without a water meter)	
Capital value	Total rates
\$200,000	\$
\$300,000	\$
\$400,000	\$
\$500,000	\$
\$600,000	\$
\$700,000	\$
\$800,000	\$
\$900,000	\$

We're also proposing to change fees and charges for some of our services.

We're proposing to raise fees for marinas, swimming pools, libraries, building consents/controls, pavement advertising/sandwich boards and trading in public places, trade waste, fire permits, burials and creations, and recreation centre facility hire.

Decisions about user charges and ratepayer funding of each service are made in accordance with our Revenue and Financing Policy, and reflect the criteria explained above. The proposed increase in swimming pool charges, for example, aims to balance the increased costs of running the pools between those who benefit directly from it (the users) and the general public who have the opportunity to use the pools. The pool charges are offset by an increase in the ratepayer subsidy to the pools – without this charges would be significantly higher.

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Similarly, the proposed increase in sandwich board fees for retailers reflects the cost of enforcing compliance with requirements about placement of sandwich boards. This enforcement work is needed to ensure sandwich boards don't get in people's way, causing inconvenience, potential harm or a barrier to some people passing, in particular to those with disabilities or prams.

You can find more detail on all of the proposed changes to user fees and charges in the appendices to this plan.

Insert graph covering operating expenditure and funding sources through to 2015/16.

We'd like to hear your views on our proposed changes to rates and user charges. To comment, you can use the form contained in this plan or comment online at www.wellington.govt.nz.

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CAPITAL SPENDING

We're managing our capital spending and borrowing programme with a **long-term view**, to ensure current spending doesn't reduce the **options** available to **future councils**.

Capital expenditure pays for property, plant and equipment. This includes buying, building, developing and upgrading assets such as buildings, roads, bridges, water and stormwater pipes, and so on.

We fund capital expenditure from depreciation, borrowings, sales, reserves and bequests, Land Transport NZ and other subsidies, and development contributions. For asset renewals, the main funding source is depreciation. For new assets, the main funding source is borrowings.

We aim to manage our borrowing within the following targets:

- total Council borrowing is less than 10% of equity and less than 150% of income
- net interest is less than 15% of income and less than 20% of rates income
- liquidity is greater than 110%.

Effective management of our capital spending programme has allowed us to borrow less than we'd planned.

We're forecasting total capital spending of \$91million for 2007/08. That compares with \$106 million we'd forecast for the year in our 2006-16 long-term plan.

These savings reflect our rescheduling of some capital works we'd budgeted for in our long-term plan. For example, we're proposing to defer: construction of the Messines Road water reservoir ; some wastewater renewal projects; some roading projects; some urban park upgrades including Hannah's Courtyard and Cobblestone Park; replacement of nursery buildings at the Wellington Botanic Garden; extension of Te Ara o Nga Tupuna – Maori heritage trails; hydroslide construction at Karori Pool; and upgrade the road at Makara Cemetery. (An explanation of each change can be found in the *proposed variances* sections in the next part of this plan.)

To fund our capital spending programme, we're proposing to borrow \$55million in 2007/08. This compares with the \$66million we'd forecast in our 2006-16 long-term plan. This ensures that we can meet current needs without compromising the ability of future councils to meet the city's future needs.

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Insert graph covering capital expenditure (and loans outwards) by funding source through to 2015/16.

We'd like to hear your views on proposed changes to our capital spending programme. To comment, you can use the form on page [XXX](#) or comment online at www.wellington.govt.nz.

We take great care to ensure that our budgets are robust. Each year we review the underlying assumptions and costs that make up each activity. For each activity we consider the impact of the:

- allocation of organisational costs / efficiencies
- appropriateness of inflation and CPI adjustments
- direct costs associated with staff and recruitment
- changes affecting our opening balance sheet (for example the Wellington International Airport Limited early repayment of subordinated debt in 2006/07).

This means that the proposed costs for each activity may differ from those we had originally forecast for 2007/08 in the long term plan. It is important to note that these allocations do not affect the intended level of service. Any proposed changes from current levels are explained in the "Our Activities in Detail" chapter (see the sections on our proposed new initiatives and variances).

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What do you think of our proposals?

You can make comments online or write to us.

Comments can be made online at www.Wellington.govt.nz.

Or you can write a submission, send a letter or email, or use the comments form in this annual plan or our *Absolutely Positively Wellington* newspaper.

Send comments to:

- Annual Plan, Wellington City Council, PO Box 2199, Wellington
- Annual.Plan@wellington.govt.nz
- Fax 801 3681.

You also have the opportunity to present your submission in person to a subcommittee of councillors.

We need to hear your views before 5pm on 18 May 2007.

Come to a meeting.

You can find out more about our proposals and the thinking behind them by coming to a meeting. We're having meetings for people interested in:

- Urban development – on [date] at [time].
- Transport – on [date] at [time].
- Economic development – on [date] at [time].
- The environment – on [date] at [time].
- Cultural well-being – on [date] at [time].
- Social and recreation issues – on [date] at [time].

All meetings will be held in the Council Chamber, 1st floor, Town Hall, Wakefield Street.

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Your views do matter. Every year, we change our plans in response to public input.

We appreciate the submissions we get, and we do take them seriously. The Mayor and councillors will get copies of every submission. A subcommittee will listen to oral submission in late May and they'll report to our Strategy and Policy Committee in late June. The committee will discuss your views and start finalising the work programme for the year.

Then, on 27 June, the full Council will meet to finalise the programme. If you've gone to the trouble of making a submission, we'll write to you and let you know what was decided. Our annual plan will be published in July.

Sidebar or panel

Copies of this plan: You can get extra copies of this annual plan from libraries, service centres, or Council offices. If you phone 499 4444 we'll send you a copy. You can also download copies from www.Wellington.govt.nz.

Watch the video: Check out the video on our website – www.Wellington.govt.nz – or in the foyer of our offices on Wakefield Street. Or, if you're a member of a community group, ask for a copy of the video to play at one of your meetings.