

Areas of focus for 2010/11: Rugby World Cup

The 2011 Rugby World Cup provides a unique opportunity to showcase Wellington to a global audience.

The Cup will bring thousands of visitors to Wellington from New Zealand and overseas, and provide worldwide media exposure. The city is hosting seven matches featuring among others France, Australia, South Africa, the United States, and the All Blacks.

Preparing for the Cup is a major undertaking, involving Cup organisers, volunteers, local authorities, transport and accommodation providers, other businesses, and the wider community. Key Council initiatives recently completed or already under way include improvements to the Courtenay Place precinct, development of the indoor community sports centre, and installation of artificial turf on Rugby World Cup training grounds. The region has also launched a website www.Wellingtonnz2011.com.

These initiatives aim to ensure that visitors enjoy the best the city has to offer. By taking advantage of the huge opportunity to showcase our city to an international audience, the benefits of hosting Cup events are maximised for residents and businesses alike.

RUGBY WORLD CUP VILLAGE

As part of our bid to host matches for the Rugby World Cup 2011, Wellington made a commitment to construct a Rugby World Cup Village on the waterfront. The village is to be the focal point – the place to soak up the atmosphere of the event, meet the players, meet friends, purchase memorabilia and find out what to do or where to go, and at the same time provide a uniquely New Zealand experience.

Funding is planned to develop the village around the Wharewaka, which is currently under construction on the waterfront. The combination of Rugby World Cup festival activity and the Wharewaka's outstanding cultural dimension would provide a strong point of difference for Wellington.

Budget: \$100,000 operational expenditure in 2010/11 and an additional \$50,000 in 2011/12. This is funded by commercial ratepayers.

RUGBY WORLD CUP SCULPTURE

Weta Workshop – Wellington's iconic and award winning special effects company – embodies everything that is great about Wellington. That's why we're working with them in the production of a sculpture as a centrepiece of the city's association with the Rugby World Cup 2011. The sculpture is planned to be placed on Wellington's waterfront during the festival. It would be a popular drawcard for visitors and has the potential to provide an enduring legacy for the event.

Budget: Funding of \$350,000 capital expenditure and \$11,000 operational expenditure in 2010/11. This is funded by commercial ratepayers.



MĀORI HERITAGE TRAIL

The Māori Heritage trail – Te Ara o Nga Tupuna (the pathway of our ancestors) highlights sites that are important to Wellington’s history and Māori culture. We are planning to enhance the trail by providing interpretation panels at existing sites where pou whenua and waharoa have been installed. The enhanced trail will educate Wellingtonians and international visitors about tribal stories and legends that make Wellington unique.

Budget: \$36,600 of additional capital expenditure.

CBD STREET CLEANING

As more people live and use the CBD, the demand for street cleaning is exceeding our current cleaning capacity. We are planning to spend an additional \$225,000 in 2010/11 (increasing to \$450,000 per annum in future years) to meet this increased demand.

We are also planning to invest an additional \$350,000 to meet the peak demand that will be experienced during Rugby World Cup 2011 events (2011/12).

Budget: An additional \$225,000 of operational expenditure in 2010/11 with an extra \$450,000 per annum thereafter. An extra one-off \$350,000 during 2011/12 for Rugby World Cup 2011.

NEWTOWN PARK SPORTSFIELD UPGRADE

Newtown Park has been identified as a training venue for Rugby World Cup 2011. To comply with host obligations concerning size and use of training venues the Newtown Park sportsfield requires additional work, including installation of rugby posts and extending the length of the playing field. This work is in addition to our existing commitment to create an artificial training surface adjacent to Rugby League Park in Mt Cook.

Budget: \$37,000 of operational expenditure in 2011/12.


COURTENAY PLACE TOILETS UPGRADE

The current facilities in Courtenay Place are not coping with the amount of use they are receiving, particularly during the evening. As a result they are sometimes unhygienic despite regular cleaning. The amount of vandalism and abuse they sustain means that they are also not standing up to expected standards so need to be upgraded.

As Courtenay Place will be used by thousands of visitors during Rugby World Cup 2011, appropriate facilities will need to be in place.

Budget: \$500,000 capital expenditure in 2010/11.

“The enhanced trail will educate Wellingtonians and international visitors about early stories and legends that make Wellington unique”.



PARKING ADVISORY SIGNS

We're planning to install electronic signs on key transport routes to inform drivers about availability of vacant parking spaces in publicly accessible car parks. This would help drivers to head directly to the most convenient park with available spaces, reducing the congestion, and emissions that would otherwise result from drivers looking around for parks.

The Council plans to proceed if it can share costs with owners of private car parks.

Budget: \$300,000 capital expenditure (subject to gaining external funding).

WATERLOO QUAY ROADING IMPROVEMENTS

Waterloo Quay is an important gateway to our city welcoming the large number of cruise ships entering our harbour. We have previously outlined our plans to improve Waterloo Quay and budgeted to do this work over three years. This work is part of a wider plan to develop and implement improvements for traffic and freight access to CentrePort and the ferry terminal whilst addressing future traffic growth on the Quays route.

With an increase in cruise ships and visitor numbers expected to come to Wellington for the Rugby World Cup 2011 we are planning to bring the roading improvements programme/budget forward to ensure the work is advanced in time for the event.



Areas of focus for 2010/11: Climate Change

We're working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and prepare the city for the potential impact of climate change.

In a coastal city, the potential effects of climate change may be significant. Scientists have predicted that Wellington in future is likely to face more frequent storms, stronger westerly winds, heavier rainfall, and increased coastal erosion – all of which could mean increased risks of property damage, as well as increased risk of surface flooding and landslips.

We have committed to a vision of becoming a carbon neutral city, and are working to reduce the city's carbon footprint.

Our Climate Change Action Plan sets out a range of initiatives aimed at encouraging energy efficiency, reducing waste, supporting more efficient transport options, and storing carbon dioxide in carbon sinks. These planned actions build on existing Council activities such as:

- promoting more sustainable urban development (through the Growth Spine framework)
- supporting more energy efficient transport options (through bus priority measures, and our Cycling and Walking Plans)
- reducing landfill greenhouse gas emissions by using landfill methane for electricity generation
- providing a planning environment that supports sustainable energy generation
- upgrading Council housing with improved insulation
- providing grants for households installing sustainable energy solutions
- improving energy use in Council buildings and facilities.


Most of the initiatives outlined in the Climate Change Action Plan can be delivered within existing budgets. However, additional funding has been allocated in 2010/11 to implement the following initiatives – which are aimed at better understanding the potential impacts of climate change on the city, and at reducing the city's carbon emissions.

ASSESSING WELLINGTON'S VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE CHANGE

This initiative aims to gather information about the potential impacts of climate change on Wellington, so we can take a strategic approach in preparing for and responding to those impacts. The initiative includes:

- A regional coastal study, led by the Greater Wellington Regional Council, to identify areas most vulnerable to rising sea levels.
- A detailed 'city vulnerability assessment' to determine the potential impacts of rising sea levels on infrastructure in various areas of the city including the CBD, Hutt Road, and southern, eastern and western suburbs.

Budget: \$30,000 of operational expenditure in 2010/11 with an additional \$100,000 in 2011/12.



“We have already saved around \$50,000 annually through energy efficiency measures since 2007”.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE PILOT

Wellington’s compact urban form, growing number of inner city residents, and short commute times means the city is well placed to be an early adopter of electric vehicles.

We’re planning to invest \$50,000 of operational funding to work with private/state-owned enterprise partners on a pilot programme aimed at facilitating uptake of electric vehicles, particularly by business vehicle fleets. The pilot would gather information about the benefits and risks of using electric vehicles, provide that information to businesses and other potential adopters, and work towards providing an environment that supports use of electric vehicles. The pilot may also include electric bicycle and public transport initiatives.

Budget: \$50,000 of operational expenditure in 2010/11. A further \$50,000 of operational expenditure is budgeted for 2011/12.

COUNCIL ENERGY EFFICIENCY INITIATIVES

We spend around \$6 million on electricity and natural gas each year, resulting in greenhouse gas emissions of more than 15,000 tonnes of CO²-equivalent. Reducing energy consumption in our operations will reduce emissions and save ratepayers money.

We have already saved around \$50,000 annually through energy efficiency measures since 2007. We plan to fund further initiatives that include:

- committing to the Energy Management Programme out to 2011/12 (currently capital expenditure was budgeted to end after 2010/11)
- increasing the scale of the programme, focusing on facilities to be used in the Rugby World Cup.

Budget: \$25,000 operational expenditure in 2010/11 with a further \$25,000 in 2011/12 plus \$50,000 capital expenditure in 2010/11 with further \$150,000 in 2011/12.

BUSINESS ENERGY SAVER PROGRAMME

Commercial and industrial buildings are responsible for around 20% of Wellington’s total greenhouse gas emissions. Energy efficiency opportunities in these buildings have been shown to provide high return on investment.

We plan to provide \$25,000 in each of the next two years to support *eMission* – a programme that helps small-to-medium-sized Wellington businesses reduce energy, waste and water use. The *eMission* programme is managed by the Greater Wellington Regional Council with support from other Wellington local authorities, the Ministry of Economic Development and the Energy Efficient and Conservation Authority.

Budget: \$25,000 operational expenditure in 2010/11 with an additional \$25,000 in 2011/12.




HOME ENERGY SAVER PROGRAMME

International studies show that the easiest and most cost-effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions is through building energy efficiency projects. We plan to spend \$100,000 in 2011/12 on establishing a programme that would provide incentives to households for low-cost energy retrofits targeting energy efficient lighting, low flow shower heads, and hot water cylinder wraps. All of these technologies are low-cost and pay for themselves over time through reduced energy use.

In 2010/11 we'll participate in the Commonwealth Climate Challenge project run by the Royal Commonwealth Society as a lead-in to the Home Energy saver Programme for 2011/12. This involves 12 households in 12 cities in 12 commonwealth countries monitoring and reducing energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.

These initiatives will complement others including the Government's Warm Up New Zealand programme, which provides funding for homeowners installing insulation and energy efficient heating.

Budget: \$100,000 of operational expenditure in 2011/12.



Areas of focus for 2010/11: Strengthening Facilities and Infrastructure

We've budgeted additional funding in several key areas to maintain facilities and infrastructure in good condition.

The Council owns and manages over \$6 billion of assets on behalf of the people of Wellington. These assets have to be maintained in good condition, both to protect health and safety and to maintain a high quality urban environment. We have well established asset management practices to ensure this and that associated budgets are in place. Despite this, new needs arise from time to time. The following variances have emerged for the coming year.

FENCES AND GUARDRAILS

The city's topography means that access to a significant number of properties is through inclined footpaths and steps. We own 117km of handrails protecting these accesses. We recently clarified an approach to the maintenance of public and joint ownership access ways which has meant the demand for reactive maintenance/repairs to damaged rails has increased. This additional funding allows us to meet obligations as a responsible property owner.

Budget: \$115,000 of operational expenditure is required each year.

ST JAMES THEATRE CHARITABLE TRUST

The St James Trust manages and promotes the St James Theatre and the Opera House as venues for cultural and artistic events. It has a responsibility to maintain both venues in good condition. The Trust's income has been sufficient to cover operating expenses but not depreciation, raising concern over its ability to fund asset maintenance and renewals. The Trust has carried out an asset condition survey and, based on that survey, is developing an asset management plan for both venues. Funding is planned for work identified in the survey as being necessary during 2010/11. We're also exploring opportunities for delivering these and convention centre services from a shared platform.

Budget: \$217,000 of operational expenditure for 2010/11 and additional funding in out-years.

LYALL BAY SURF CLUB

The Lyall Bay Surf Club has plans to build a new clubhouse. We're planning to provide funding support for public toilets to be incorporated into their new building. We will consider ongoing funding support for Lyall Bay Surf Club to provide a surf life saving service at Lyall Bay and other Wellington beaches as part of next year's annual plan process (2011/12).

Budget: \$300,000 of capital expenditure for 2010/11 for incorporating toilets into their new building.



BUS SHELTERS

Across the city there are 1,300 bus stops, of which 450 have shelters. Our long-term target is to install bus shelters on all high use bus stops on city-bound routes. Currently, only 300 city-bound stops have shelters.

Towards this target we plan to install shelters at 50 of the highest priority sites in the next two years. After that, over the next decade we plan to keep installing new shelters in conjunction with bus priority measures on key routes (on average 10 per year).

Budget: \$250,000 of additional capital expenditure for 2010/11, and further funding in out-years.

BASIN RESERVE TRUST

The Basin Reserve is New Zealand's premier test cricket venue. To maintain that status, the Basin Reserve Trust needs to maintain the ground and its buildings to international standards. The Council owns most of the Basin Reserve buildings and funds depreciation, but has not allocated any budget for capital works over the next decade.

The Trust has carried out an asset condition survey and is completing an asset management plan. Funding is budgeted for capital works identified by the survey as being necessary during 2010/11.

Budget: \$112,000 of capital expenditure.

ENVIROSCHOOLS

The EnviroSchools programme aims to engage young people to create sustainable schools and communities. Students and teachers work with an EnviroSchools facilitator as they plan and take action to move towards sustainability. Examples of the types of projects undertaken by EnviroSchools students include planting/restoration projects, waste and energy audits, and inquiry learning programmes.

EnviroSchools is a nationwide programme with more than 600 schools taking part. Our support complements that of other local authorities in the region and our programmes that aim to raise awareness of conservation and sustainable practices.

Budget: \$10,000 of operational expenditure in 2010/11.

STRENGTHENING THE CITY TO SEA BRIDGE

A recent structural assessment of the iconic City to Sea Bridge, which links the Civic Square to the waterfront, has identified the need for remedial work and earthquake strengthening to meet current standards.

Budget: \$250,000 of capital expenditure in 2010/11.

REPILING OF ARO VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Aro Valley Community Centre's foundations have settled unevenly, causing damage to the floor structure. Over time, this will get worse and eventually undermine the structure of the building. We've budgeted to repile the building, add floor bracing and install a new floor (including under-floor insulation) during 2010/11.

Budget: \$110,000 capital expenditure.



NEW SIGNAGE FOR DOG AREAS

During 2009 the Council's Dog Policy was reviewed. As a consequence new signage needs to be erected to inform dog owners of the locations of dog exercise areas, areas where dogs are prohibited, and places where dogs are permitted off the leash or allowed at specific times.

Budget: \$40,000 capital expenditure for 2010/11.

SAFETY UPGRADE OF RIDDIFORD/CONSTABLE STREET PARK

A safety audit in Newtown has identified the park at the corner of Constable and Riddiford Streets as a 'crime attractor.' This is due mainly to the design of the playground area and its fencing, position of the seating, poor lighting and overgrown trees shading the park. We're planning to redesign the park including: improving the lighting, relocating the existing playground equipment, and improving seating to incorporate a wider use of the park which will improve safety.

Budget: \$14,200 operational expenditure and \$200,000 of capital expenditure for 2010/11.

SOCIAL HOUSING UPGRADE PROGRAMME SCHEDULE CHANGES

After a review of the Social Housing Upgrade Programme a number of changes are being made to the timing of some upgrades. This includes: Newtown Park construction being brought forward from July 2011 to February 2011; Berkeley Dallard Apartments moving from October 2012 to February 2014; work on Rintoul St Villas moving from July 2013 to July 2014; and work on the Kotuku Flats is moving from July 2011 to July 2012. The revised programme ensures that the annual capital spend is in line with the annual grant funding.

Note there is no budget impact resulting from this change.

NEW SIGNAGE FOR LIQUOR BYLAW

The liquor bylaw was reviewed during the year and the introduction of the new bylaw will need to be communicated to residents and visitors. We've committed funding to implement the liquor bylaw, install signage around the city and communicate the changes to the bylaw.

Budget: \$15,000 operational expenditure each year and \$75,000 capital expenditure for 2010/11.

GOLDEN MILE RESTORATION LEGAL COSTS

Last year we included funding in the long-term plan to restore the Golden Mile. The project includes construction of two-way bus lanes through Manners Mall and shared space in lower Cuba Street as well as other public space and transport improvements.

Following public consultation the project was adopted by the Council but subjected to extensive legal challenge in the courts by those opposed to the project. The legal challenge was unsuccessful but the cost of defending the Council's decision eroded the project budget. To ensure the full project – as consulted on with the community – can be implemented, additional funding has been allocated.

Budget: additional capital funding of \$277,000 for 2010/11.



CHANGES TO THE WAY WE COLLECT RECYCLING

Last year we reviewed options around kerbside recycling services. As a result of the review we are changing our recycling and collection service to meet more robust health and safety, and environmental standards.

Later this year we're moving to fortnightly kerbside collection of recycling materials in wheelie bins. Residents will get a free 140 litre wheelie bin and will be able to mix together: clean paper and cardboard; washed and squashed plastics; tin and aluminium cans. On alternate weeks, we'll collect glass in the existing green recycling bins. These changes should significantly reduce worker injuries and the amount of recyclable materials going to landfills.

We estimate that 12,000 of the city's 57,000 households won't be able to use the wheelie bins because of steep or difficult access, so they'll be given a see-through recyclable bag for their plastics, paper and metals.

Note there is no budget impact resulting from this change.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE WELLINGTON ZOO TRUST

We're keen to retain the highly trained and specialised staff at Wellington Zoo. Due to market conditions staff are finding employment overseas or within New Zealand in the farming sector where salaries are higher. We've committed an additional \$90,000 to the Wellington Zoo Trust for staff salaries to help retain their skills in Wellington.

Budget: additional operational funding of \$90,000 per year.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR TE WHAREWAKA O PŌNEKE

We've agreed an additional \$200,000 of operational funding for the Te Wharewaka o Pōneke Charitable Trust as a contribution towards the construction costs of the iconic Wharewaka being built on the waterfront. The additional funding will help meet a funding gap.

Budget: additional operational funding of \$200,000 for 2010/11.

CHANGES TO THE ADELAIDE ROAD PROJECT

Adelaide Road is an important part of the city. It is an employment and services hub as well as an access route to Wellington Hospital, the Newtown shops, the Basin Reserve, Government House, and Massey University's Wellington campus.


Over the past couple of years we've developed a framework with the community to strengthen public transport and allow for more intensive development along the northern section of Adelaide Road.

We had anticipated receiving funding from NZTA towards road widening work. They have since aligned their funding with the Government's priority on roads of national significance – although funding is available for safety and bus lane improvements components of the project.

Rather than meet the shortfall from borrowings, we will look to achieve similar outcomes with less – by reducing on-street parking on one side of the road and introducing a bus lane in both directions that provides a shared bus and cycle lane.

Other features include more pedestrian crossings to improve transport access, a landscaped median, increased street trees, and upgraded reserves to improve the look and feel of the area.

Budget: \$1.55 million of capital expenditure has been committed for 2010/11.



“These facilities bring people together and make significant contributions to residents’ well-being”.

We’ve also budgeted additional funding in several key areas to enhance community facilities and meet future demand.

The Council’s pools, libraries, recreation centres, community centres and halls receive many hundreds of thousands of visits each year, providing places for people to meet, play, exercise, and share information and interests. These facilities bring people together and make significant contributions to residents’ well-being.

They are also a major area of investment for the Council. Libraries, for example, account for over \$19 million of operating expenditure each year – over five percent of all Council spending. Pools and recreation centres together also account for \$24 million, while community centres and halls account for just over \$3 million.

Though we are the city’s main provider of community facilities, many other organisations – such as churches, schools, community groups and sports clubs – also contribute to the huge number of facilities available to residents.

During the past year we have reviewed our Community Facilities Policy, which guides investment in pools and recreation centres, libraries, and community centres and halls. Specific investment decisions are subject to detailed business cases and annual and long-term planning processes.

Under the policy, facilities will be located in and around existing town and suburban centres, with the size, type and design of facilities reflecting the area’s population and urban form. Specific proposals are that:

- The city centre, and sub-regional centres Johnsonville and Kilbirnie should have a pool, a large city or suburban library, and venues for meetings and active and passive recreation.
- Town centres with populations of 11-30,000 people – Karori, Miramar, Newtown and Tawa – should have a large suburban library, venues for meetings and active and passive recreation, and a pool if the nearest sub-regional centre is more than 3km away.
- District centres with populations of 5-10,000 should have access to a library and venues for meetings and active and passive recreation.
- Neighbourhood centres with populations of up to 6,000 should have access to flexible, multi-use community spaces.

Where possible the Council will partner with other organisations to deliver facilities.



The review has provided greater clarity to communities where they may anticipate the Council to provide or support community facilities and the level of service the Council will provide.

The review identified the following strategic priorities for Council investment in community facilities:

- Aquatics – improving opportunities for aquatic education, and providing facilities to meet demand and growth in aquatic sports.
- Libraries – increasing community access to digital information, integrating library and community services, and strengthening delivery in high-growth areas of the city.
- Community spaces – develop partnerships to manage demand for additional community space, and ensure existing buildings are accessible and comply with regulatory requirements.

The following projects support implementation of the policy. The Council's partnership approach is reflected through an extension of the existing grants framework to enable Council to partner with other organisation to increase community access to existing facilities, including school pools.

POOL UPGRADES

We're bringing forward several already-budgeted pool upgrades. The following will start in the coming year:

- development of a teaching pool at Karori Pool (\$585,000 of capital expenditure)
- development of a hydrotherapy pool at the Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre (\$2.1 million of capital expenditure)
- planning for the redevelopment of the Keith Spry pool in Johnsonville to incorporate a new teaching pool, a leisure and water play area, and plans to develop a joint administration area with the new library (see below). Funding of \$180,000 is budgeted in 2010/11, \$3 million in 2011/12, and \$1.7 million in 2012/13.

This programme would also see the Tawa Pool roof replaced in 2011/12 (\$1.6 million) and installation of a retractable roof (in 2013/14) at Thorndon Pool so it can be used for 9–10 months of the year. Funding of \$50,000 is budgeted in 2010/11 and \$1.25 million in 2013/14 for this work.

We've also increased our recreation grants by \$500,000 in 2010/11 to help upgrade existing school pools where this will improve public access for the learn-to-swim programmes and aquatic sports. A further \$1 million is budgeted in 2011/12 and \$500,000 in 2012/13 for partnering with schools.

In the coming year we will carry out further work to identify options on how to best meet future demand for aquatic activities – including consideration of a new 10 lane, 25 metre pool at the Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre and for other aquatic facilities. We've budgeted \$60,000 for this work in 2010/11 and the findings will inform the 2011/12 draft annual plan. We'll also continue to monitor demand for pool space and will look to manage that through programming where required.



JOHNSONVILLE LIBRARY EXTENSION AND RELOCATION

Johnsonville library is currently undersized for its population. We are planning to relocate the library to a site adjacent to the Johnsonville Community Centre and Keith Spry Pool to develop a community facility hub. The redeveloped library will be considerably larger than the existing one and will cater to the areas growing population.

Budget: \$59,000 of operational expenditure and \$330,000 of capital expenditure in the coming year for planning and design phase. Construction is scheduled for 2013/14.

COMMUNITY CENTRE FUNDING

The Council supports community centres by providing funding through three-yearly contracts. The amount of funding provided to each centre is typically based on historical arrangements, which has resulted in some disparity between centres. We are increasing the budget (see below) and introducing a fairer funding allocation in which each centre receives a 'base' level of funding, along with additional funding calculated according to the facilities it offers, and the size and level of social deprivation of the population it serves.

Budget: \$203,800 operational expenditure per year.

GRANTS

The Council also supports community facilities through partnerships with schools, community groups and other organisations. We're increasing our annual social grants funding pool by \$55,000 in 2010/11 to support partnerships that increase public access to community spaces.

Budget: \$55,000 operational expenditure per year.

CHURTON PARK COMMUNITY FACILITIES

In consultation with the Churton Park community the following three community facility priorities were identified: multipurpose indoor (sports) space, meeting rooms and playground upgrades. We've deferred capital funding of \$812,500 for Churton Park community space improvements for one year to align this investment with the Churton Park centre and school developments, and have included \$10,000 of operational spending in the 2010/11 budget to begin work in the suburb as well as support awareness of the progress of the development of the new school, link road and commercial centre.



Areas of focus for 2010/11: Looking Ahead

How should Wellington's CBD develop over the next 30 years?

One of our roles is to think ahead: to anticipate and prepare for changes in the city's population, and the economic, social and technological forces that will influence residents' quality of life into the future.

This long-term approach allows us to guide the city's development, and make decisions about what infrastructure will be needed in coming years and decades.

In the coming year, we are focusing on the future of the city centre.

WELLINGTON 2040

We are developing a strategic framework for the growth and enhancement of Wellington's city centre for the next 30 years. The aim is to develop a vision of what type of central city Wellingtonians want, and guide investment and development to achieve that vision.

The framework will cover the role of the central city relationship with the waterfront, including the built environment, and issues to do with transport and infrastructure. It will also deal with how the central city can work as a place to work, live, do business and hold events.

Initial public feedback was sought during 2009 and further work is continuing during 2010/11.

To support this project, we're committing funding to two new initiatives:

- Development of a Spatial Structure Plan (a blueprint) to guide future decisions on the design and form of buildings, public spaces and public infrastructure.

Budget: an additional \$55,000 of operational spending.

- Development of a computerised model to analyse possible future central city infrastructure changes and their likely impact on vehicle and pedestrian movement; the model would cover all streets and pedestrian connections in the central city and 3km beyond, and would inform future infrastructure decisions with the aim of demonstrating that they contribute to economic development and quality of life.

Budget: \$180,000 of operational spending.