



Media Release

Monday 28 April 2014

Annual Plan consultation closes soon

Submissions to Selwyn District Council's draft Annual Plan for 2014/15 close on 9 May.

17 submissions have been received to date.

Information about the draft plan, and how to make a submission, was included with rates information sent out to Selwyn ratepayers in mid - April.

A significant number of community initiated projects have been included in this year's annual budget. New reserves are planned for Lincoln and Darfield and works are programmed to start at Foster Recreation Park in Rolleston. Infrastructure projects are also planned including improvements to Leeston's stormwater system and upgrading the West Melton, Lincoln, Leeston, Rolleston, Castle Hill and Doyleston water supplies.

The draft Annual Plan includes a proposal to establish a new roading rate of \$60 per rating unit (household). Including this roading rate, the average rate increase for next year is 7.8%. If the roading rate was not included, the rate increase for the 2014/15 year would be 4.9% - less than the 5.6% forecast for next year in the 2012 – 2022 Long Term Plan.

Selwyn is the fastest growing district in New Zealand in terms of both population and economic activity and the district's roads are becoming busier as both rural and urban traffic increases. The \$60 roading rate would provide an extra \$1 million which would be spent on maintaining roads to their current standard.

The Council surveyed residents last year on whether spending on road maintenance should increase to keep Selwyn's roads at their current standard. 83% of residents supported more ratepayer funding being spent on roads rather than allowing roads to decline.

The draft Annual Plan also includes a proposal to amend its Development Contributions policy in relation to the way the Eastern Selwyn Sewerage Scheme is funded.

Copies of the draft Annual Plan, a summary and submission forms are available online at www.selwyn.govt.nz and from Council libraries and service centres.

Ends

For media enquiries please contact:

Allanah Jarman

Selwyn District Council

Phone 03 347 2807

Allanah.jarman@selwyn.govt.nz