



Media release

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Consultation closing soon on Selwyn's future

Anyone who is yet to make their voice heard on Selwyn District Council's 10-year plan for the district is being urged to make a submission before consultation closes at 5pm Thursday 2 May.

The Council is asking Selwyn communities to provide feedback on three big decisions facing the district, as it seeks to balance affordability with the need to deliver infrastructure for the fast-growing district.

Mayor Sam Broughton says the engagement from the community so far has been exceptional, with over 400 residents and organisations making submissions to the Council.

"Thank you to everyone who has taken time to jump online and submit as well as those that stopped to chat at one of the many drop-in sessions across the district. It's been especially valuable to hear what you have to say face to face."

This feedback is vital to help the Council with balancing delivering on the community's vision for the future and managing the rising costs councils across the country are facing to maintain essential services. Over 80% of the proposed capital spend is on Water and Transport projects which are 30% more expensive than they were when budgeted only three years ago, Broughton says.

"Weighing up the increased costs of delivering the great services we already offer and our community's desire for a sustainable, connected Selwyn is going to be a tough task. That's why these submissions are so critical."

Selwyn communities are being asked about options and timing for new park and ride facilities and other public transport infrastructure upgrades, as previously relied-upon Government subsidies remain uncertain.

Waihora Whata Rau, Ellesmere's new Council service centre, library and community facility and upgrades to the adjoining Leeston Park, are also up for consideration, with several options and costs put forward to deliver the project.

Meanwhile, a new recreation and sports facility is on the cards for Darfield, as demand for indoor courts in Malvern grows.

"We need as many people as possible to make their voice heard by 2 May to help us decide what the future of Selwyn is going to look like and the impact it will have for communities now and the generations to come," Broughton says.

The draft Long-Term Plan 2024-34 is proposing a rates increase of 15.6 per cent for the 2024-25 year to deliver the Council's work programme, with an average increase across the 10 years of 8.5 per cent.

Consultation closes at 5pm Thursday 2 May. Any submissions received after this time will not be considered.

The consultation document and online submission form is available at selwyn.govt.nz/ltp.

ENDS

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