

DCC Annual Plan 2023-24 tō tātou āpōpō

I am a Pākehā woman, in my early 70's, now retired from paid employment. I state this explicitly, as I am very aware that there are others of my generation (often very vocal) who do not share my views. I do, however, know that many of my contemporaries are of a similar mind to me.

Dunedin CBD and parking

The upgrade is looking fantastic! If there's one thing that slightly spoils the look, it's the car parking in George St. My preference would have been a pedestrian-only George St from Hanover Street to the Octagon - however this may have been problematic for deliveries to some businesses, and also would have constrained the location of mobility parks.

We need more - even more than are currently provided in the CBD upgrade, I suspect - mobility parks within the CBD, with these being monitored constantly and effectively by Parking Management staff. We do NOT need more car parks for the use of fit and healthy people, who (like me) are capable of parking slightly further away, and walking around the CBD.

Public Transport

I am a strong supporter of Public Transport. Unfortunately, ever since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, it has not been possible for me to use buses. The current lack of masking makes buses dangerous for me - even if our bus service was reliable. Routes 5 and 6 continue to have at least one or two service cancellations on many days. The scheduled frequency is 40 minutes off-peak, hourly in the evenings and at weekends. Add to this cancellations, and clearly Public Transport is not providing a service. I do realise that much of this responsibility lies with the ORC, not the DCC.

I strongly support a commuter rail link to Mosgiel.

I even more strongly support a return of passenger rail services along the Main Trunk line - Invercargill, Dunedin, Christchurch and beyond.

Walkways and cycleways

I strongly support investment in walkways and cycleways. Although I have never been a cyclist, and am not able to make use of cycleways, I recognise that safe cycling infrastructure is essential for the future liveability of our city and indeed our planet. Cycleways also, of course, reduce motor vehicle congestion for those who do need to use vehicles. I would support the installation of further bike storage facilities around the CBD.

2023 Zero Carbon target

I want to see the DCC committed wholeheartedly to the 2023 Zero Carbon target, and taking actions that reflect that commitment. Many things need to change if

there is to be a future for our young people. We need to stop pandering to the group of people who are opposed to any and all changes to 'the way it's always been'. The future is for younger generations, the grandchildren and great-grandchildren of my generation, and it is past time for older people to stop and listen and learn.

Engagement with mana whenua

I want to see the DCC engage **more** with mana whenua. There is much for Pākehā (like me) to learn from te ao Māori, and once again we need to stop, listen and learn.

Affordable Water Reforms (Three Waters)

I was disappointed that the Council's immediate response to the government programme initially known as Three Waters appeared to be an automatic 'No'. I did not get the impression that broader issues were considered seriously by councillors. Water infrastructure throughout Aotearoa New Zealand has become dangerously degraded, through years of neglect. This issue needs to be taken seriously throughout the country, and work towards a resolution requires co-operation, and an end to patch protection. It is extremely ironic that the amended approach will result in higher costs for local communities.

Waste Management

I am very much looking forward to the arrival of green bins. We compost as much of our food waste as possible, but there remain items which cannot be handled by a small domestic compost system, even using Bokashi (as we do). Similarly, we have garden waste which our compost bins cannot handle.

Street Art

More please!

St Clair beach

I do not support **any** further resources being put into one-off 'solutions' – groynes, in particular. The changes to the south coast have not happened overnight, and the conditions in which the original groynes were successful no longer exist. We see the consequences of single-focus approaches in the negative impacts of the boulder walls installed a few years ago.

Bouquet for DCC Customer Services staff

I am very appreciative of the support provided by the front-line Customer Services staff. I have always found the staff very knowledgeable (they are supported by good internal online systems, I suspect) and very pleasant and helpful. It is unusual for any query to need to be referred to someone else, which I value!