



Submission of Civic Trust Auckland

Section 4.6 (Transportation) Hamilton City Council 2010/11 Draft Annual Plan

Name: Audrey van Ryn (Board Member)
Organisation: Civic Trust Auckland
Phone (daytime): 379 4008
Phone (evening): 368 1516
Email: cta@civictrustauckland.org.nz
Postal address: PO Box 74 049 Market Rd, Auckland

1: PROPOSED HAMILTON-AUCKLAND COMMUTER/PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE

1.1 We are supportive of a commuter rail service between Auckland and Hamilton. Both cities will benefit from better connectivity.

1.2 Civic Trust Auckland recently made a submission on the Draft Auckland Regional Public Transport Plan where we stated under the heading Future Services: "We support the establishment of a commuter line between Auckland and Hamilton".

1.3 A petition of 11,500 signatures as well as surveys on the issue demonstrate that Hamilton City ratepayers are willing to pay through their rates for a commuter rail service between Hamilton City and Downtown Auckland.

1.4 The proposed Hamilton to Auckland commuter rail service should be included as an important part of the Draft Annual Plan, specifying planning and funding for:

- Re-opening of the Hamilton Central underground station in preparation for the commuter services in a condition that is secure and modern and will attract usage.
- Fully developing Hamilton Railway Station (Frankton), including signage, security cameras, lighting and parking, and so that it can serve future passenger routes to the Bay of Plenty and Rotorua.
- Investigating a suitable site for a railway station at Claudelands.
- Running a two-year trial (in conjunction with funding required from the NZ Transport Agency and Environment Waikato).
- Providing a station at The Base (Te Rapa).
- Providing infrastructure to work with Environment Waikato provide conveniently linked public transport services to train schedules at Frankton Station or at the Underground Station/transport centre.

1.5 We support Environment Waikato implementing the two-year trial of the rail service in 2010 and urge Environment Waikato to seek the PT subsidy or rail subsidy from NZTA immediately.

2: 53 (or more) Tonne Trucks:

2.1. We request the inclusion in the draft annual plan of a ban on all 'normal purpose' trucks weighing in excess of 44 tonnes from local roads, with the exception of specialised heavy haulage contractors hauling over-sized equipment.

2.2 There is a significant transfer to local government of the costs of operating these larger vehicles.

2.3 Productivity gains should not be at the expense of other forms of transport or cost transfers to ratepayers, taxpayers and local government. Meanwhile, rail suffers from under-investment.

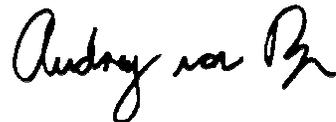
2.4 Larger, heavier trucks mean greater danger to other road users, due partly to increased stopping distances.

2.5 Freight should be encouraged to move by rail through increased public/private investment and operation opportunities for the freight sector in rail.

We do not wish to be heard in support of our submission.

Date of Submission: 23 April 2010

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Audrey van der BEEK". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Board Member, Civic Trust Auckland