

APRIL 2025

DRAFT

9 Year Plan

2025-2034

SPECIAL EDITION

FYI

YOUR DCC NEWS



DUNEDIN | kaunihera
CITY COUNCIL | a-rohe o
Ōtepoti



Message from the Mayor



Kia ora and welcome to a special edition of FYI – Your DCC News all about our Draft 9 Year Plan 2025-34.

Preparing budgets is always a big task. It is about investing in what we need and making savings where we can, while keeping the community in mind.

Despite challenges, we've chalked up some significant milestones – the South Dunedin Library will open this year, and soon we'll see the tertiary hospital inpatients building rise from the ground.

The pressure is on as we struggle with rising costs. Things we've done in the past are more expensive now. Some spending can't wait and so our draft plan includes money for pipes and pumps projects in South Dunedin to provide additional flood alleviation. We have had to make some tough choices on infrastructure projects. Many items have been removed and others modified. We know this will be contentious for some.

None of these decisions are easy for Council. The plan aims to balance the priorities of the community and the burdens we're all facing. Councillors will need to decide where to draw the line.

But first, it's your turn. Have your say, and help shape the future of Ōtepoti Dunedin.

Jules Radich
Mayor of Dunedin

What is the 9 year plan?

The 9 year plan outlines the services and activities we are proposing to provide, what we want to do and what the community can expect. The plan includes how much things cost, how we pay for it and what it means for rates and debt. It's a chance to think about the city's future.

This special edition FYI highlights key points you need to know. For more detailed information about our proposed plans, such as finances, policies, projects, and the services we provide, head online at www.dunedin.govt.nz/9yp.

Working with mana whenua

As part of our work, we have a commitment to the Treaty of Waitangi and working with mana whenua.

We have an agreement to advance our strategic relationship with mana whenua to bring us together, build understanding, and discuss strategic issues and our aspirations for Ōtepoti Dunedin, and how to achieve equity and ensure whānau thrive. Mana whenua principles also guide us to ensure wellbeing across the city, and protect the environment from a te ao Māori perspective.

This will play an important role in the 9 year plan and help promote tākata Māori values in our work.



How will the Council spend its money?

The DCC gets its money from a range of sources. About 65% comes from your rates, with the rest from fees, rents, subsidies and grants, debt and revenue from Council-owned companies.

We use these to pay for our core services, activities and capital programme.

Investing the right way

For the past few years we have budgeted an operating deficit, but our draft 9 year plan aims to achieve an operating surplus by the second year of the plan, while Three Waters achieves an operating surplus by year three of the 9 year plan.

In our deficit year, Council will borrow more to balance affordability and delivery. We aim to ensure a balanced budget, meaning everyday costs of running the city can be funded from everyday revenue.



find out more

www.dunedin.govt.nz/9yp

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Fees and charges

Sunday Parking

We are proposing to introduce fees for parking on Sundays. This initiative is designed to support our central city business community and help ensure compliance with time limits while increasing parking turnover.

Parking

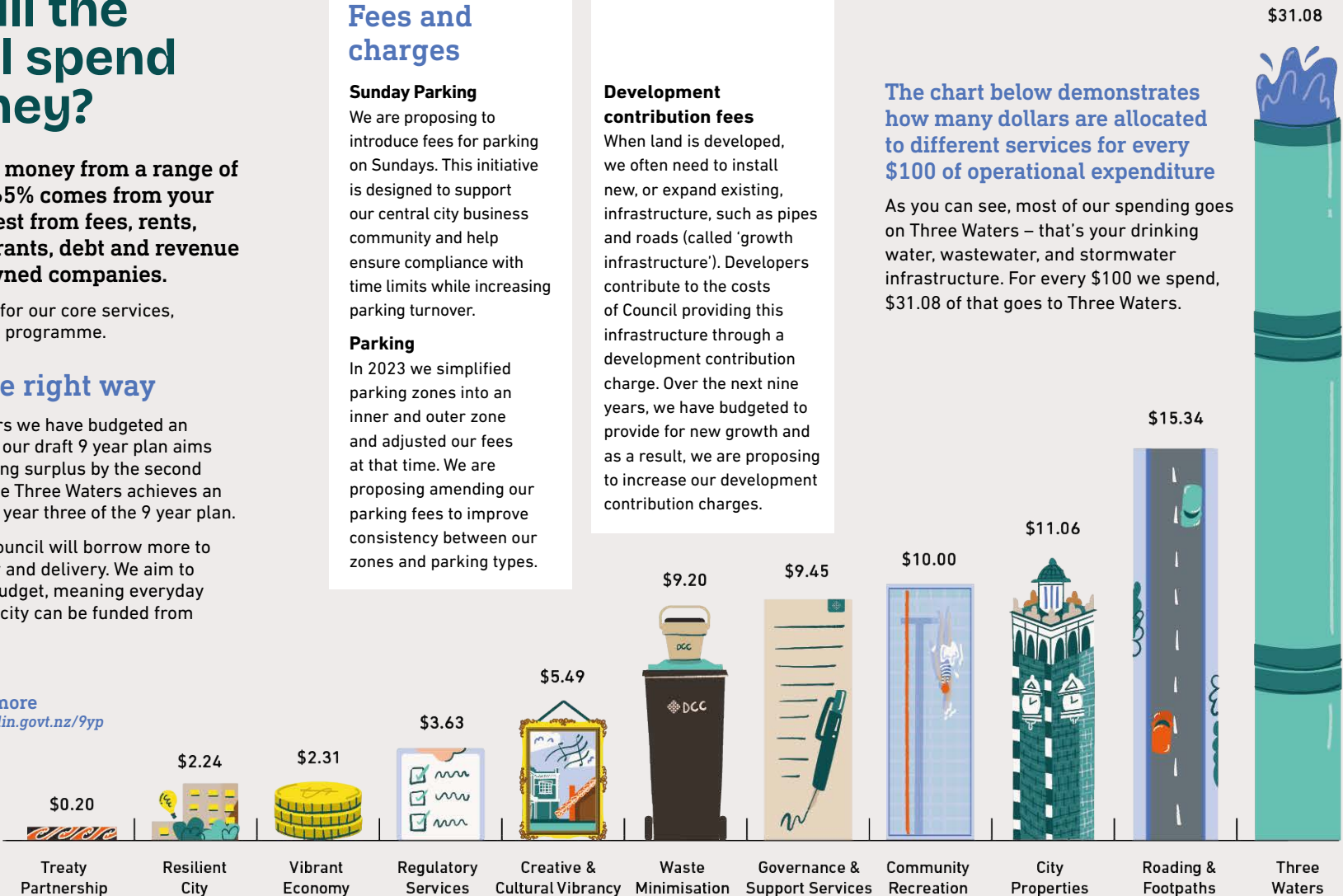
In 2023 we simplified parking zones into an inner and outer zone and adjusted our fees at that time. We are proposing amending our parking fees to improve consistency between our zones and parking types.

Development contribution fees

When land is developed, we often need to install new, or expand existing, infrastructure, such as pipes and roads (called 'growth infrastructure'). Developers contribute to the costs of Council providing this infrastructure through a development contribution charge. Over the next nine years, we have budgeted to provide for new growth and as a result, we are proposing to increase our development contribution charges.

The chart below demonstrates how many dollars are allocated to different services for every \$100 of operational expenditure

As you can see, most of our spending goes on Three Waters – that's your drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure. For every \$100 we spend, \$31.08 of that goes to Three Waters.



What does that mean for ratepayers?

We know higher rates can be hard for people to afford, but we need to increase rates to provide essential services and deliver what our community wants.

Rates are a key source of funding for Council services, and we aim to balance increasing costs with affordability for our ratepayers.

Our 9 year plan proposes rate increases of:

- 0 10.5% in year 1
- 0 10.2% in year 2
- 0 10.1% in year 3
- 0 an average of 6.2% for the remaining 6 years



Local Water Done Well

At the same time as the 9 year plan consultation, we are also asking your feedback about the way Council delivers and manages water.

This consultation is called Local Water Done Well (LWDW) - Ōtepoti Dunedin and is part of a Local Government reform process.

In the LWDW consultation we provide information about two water delivery model options we are considering:

Our proposal

OPTION 1

Staying in-house

Alternative option

OPTION 2

**A water services
Council Controlled
Organisation (CCO)**

If you want to learn more about the pros and cons for both options and what they mean for Council and for you, please visit dunedin.govt.nz/lwdw.

Both consultations talk about water, where do I make a submission?

Consultation on 'Local Water Done Well – Ōtepoti Dunedin' will be **separate** from the 9 year plan process, so you can submit on either or both consultation documents.

The 9 year plan is about our proposed projects and budgets related to our water delivery services for the next nine years, based on the assumption water services are staying in-house. Local Water Done Well is about which water services delivery model you prefer.

Climate resilience updates

Zero carbon

Our emissions have reduced since we set our zero carbon targets in 2019. Our 9 year plan includes projects that will continue to bring these emissions down.

While our zero carbon targets were always ambitious, it is almost certain that we won't reach our 2030 goal without additional investment. Council considered two investment packages, in addition to the work that we are already doing, that would have accelerated our efforts to reduce carbon emissions as a city, but these have not been included in the draft budget. Instead, Council has asked for more information and allowed time to hear from the community as part of the 9 year plan consultation.

South Dunedin Future

We're working on the South Dunedin Future programme and developing a plan to help with flood alleviation in South Dunedin as it is the most immediately vulnerable area. This will help us manage water network systems in the face of climate change and increased rainfall and rising ground and sea water levels.

We need to identify what's important, what natural hazards and risks there are, and how to balance it with the needs of the community and environment. By 2026, we will have an adaptation plan in place to make it happen.

We are proposing to tackle South Dunedin's flood issues in four ways:

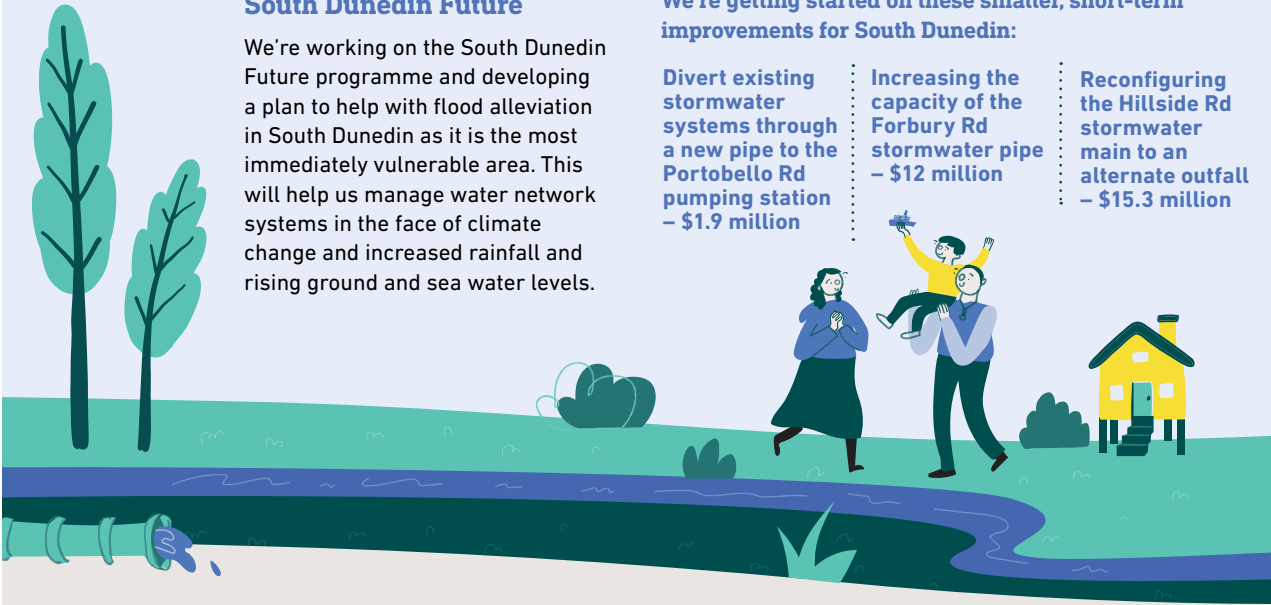
- 0 Continue the management of and upgrades to storm and wastewater systems
- 0 Deliver short-term and small-scale projects to reduce immediate flood risk
- 0 Work on mid-term and larger projects to reconfigure the stormwater system
- 0 Complete long-term and large-scale climate adaptation and flood resilience planning

We're getting started on these smaller, short-term improvements for South Dunedin:

Divert existing stormwater systems through a new pipe to the Portobello Rd pumping station
– \$1.9 million

Increasing the capacity of the Forbury Rd stormwater pipe
– \$12 million

Reconfiguring the Hillside Rd stormwater main to an alternate outfall
– \$15.3 million



What are some plans of action?

We ran some early engagement in the lead up to developing our draft 9 year plan, and we're grateful to everyone who engaged and shared their thoughts. There were calls to support small business and the city's arts, culture and music sectors.

We're working on supporting this in a number of ways. We're proposing to increase funding for some of our action plans to make Ōtepoti Dunedin a better place to live:



Ōtepoti Live Music Action Plan

This plan aims to support live music across the city, and we propose to increase funding to assist it.



Heritage Action Plan

This plan focuses on the conservation and protection of our significant heritage buildings. The plan also drives economic opportunities to make use of the city's rejuvenated historic buildings.



Dunedin Festivals and Events Plan

This plan aims to enrich the city's memorable events. It sets out ways to ensure our events are inclusive and diverse, drive tourism, and stimulate growth. Additional funding will help attract more events and increase promotion.

How can you provide feedback?

As you can see in this document, we've already got some ideas about what we think we should be focusing on based on the challenges we're facing and what you've told us before. To help us make good decisions, it's important to let us know what you think. You can give as much or as little feedback as you want – and on any topic.



Online

Complete the online feedback form on our website: www.dunedin.govt.nz/9yp



Written feedback

Write a letter or use a paper feedback form that can be found in our full consultation booklet and send to:

9 year plan
Dunedin City Council
PO Box 5045
Dunedin 9054

Paper copies of our full consultation document will be available at any of the DCC service centres and at our public libraries.



Face to face kōrero

There will be public forums and events where you can come and talk to us in person about what you think. Find out when these are on our website.



Hearings

Present your feedback directly to Councillors at public hearings on 5, 6, 7 and 8 May.

Two specific questions we have:

231 STUART STREET (FORMERLY FORTUNE THEATRE)

The property at 231 Stuart Street has been owned and maintained by the Council since 2000.

Formerly operated as the Fortune Theatre, the property has been vacant for seven years but still requires ongoing maintenance and upkeep. This property no longer fits with any strategic plans or policies for the DCC, so we're asking you to let us know whether we remove the property from the strategic asset list.

Removing this property from the list does not have any financial impact, however, if you say that we can remove it from the list, Council could then decide whether or not to sell it in the future.

Should we remove 231 Stuart Street (formerly the Fortune Theatre) from the list of strategic assets in our Significance and Engagement policy?

Preferred option

OPTION 1

Remove '231 Stuart Street' from the DCC Significance and Engagement policy list of strategic assets

OPTION 2

Keep '231 Stuart Street' on the DCC Significance and Engagement policy list of strategic assets

INTERNATIONAL VISITOR ENTRY FEES – TOITŪ AND DPAG

We are proposing to bring in a \$20 entry fee for international visitors aged 16 and over at Toitū Otago Settlers Museum and the Dunedin Public Art Gallery.

Introducing fees for these cultural institutions will increase our revenue by around \$150,000 per year, even if visitor numbers drop at first. Other cities commonly have entry fees for galleries and museums.

Should we charge an entry fee of \$20 for international visitors aged 16 and over at Toitū and Dunedin Public Art Gallery?

Preferred option

OPTION 1

YES, introduce an entry fee of \$20 (incl. GST)

OPTION 2

NO, do not introduce an entry fee of \$20 (incl. GST)

Submit your answers by going online to our feedback form or by the other ways listed in this document.

Timeline



1 MOANA POOL UPGRADES

Now 60 years old, Moana Pool continues to be a popular service in the community. We previously wanted to replace the hydro-slides, but we checked their condition, and they are still safe and fit-for-purpose if we keep maintaining them well. So, we have decided to delay their replacement for now. Instead, we propose a budget of \$18.5 million for strengthening work and maintenance and upgrades.

2 MUNICIPAL CHAMBERS

Work is underway to restore the Municipal Chambers building in the Octagon. Listed as a category one heritage building, the restoration will breathe life back into its ageing exterior and preserve it for future generations. \$13 million is in our budget for this work.

3 CHANGING PLACES BATHROOM

We are continuing with work to install a changing places bathroom with three cubicles near the Dunedin Railway Station costing \$750,000. A changing places bathroom is a fully accessible public bathroom with specialised facilities for people with disabilities and their caregivers. It includes amenities for toileting, showering, and changing for people with mobility issues.

4 ROADSIDE VERGES

We previously cut back on how often we would mow roadside verges but have decided to reinstate the frequency in which we carry out grass and vegetation maintenance to previous levels, and have increased the budget for this.

5 DUNEDIN RAILWAYS LTD.

Dunedin Railways Ltd is in the process of reinstating its train services from the historic Dunedin Railway Station through the Taieri Gorge. DCHL will provide up to \$2 million annually to go towards the renewal of the Taieri Gorge rail track through to Middlemarch. The dividend that DCHL pays to Council will reduce by \$2 million for the next two years.

6 URBAN CENTRES UPGRADE

We propose upgrade work to our suburban centres starting with minor improvements in small centres and then more significant work in larger centres later on. The upgrades will focus on improving streetscape amenities, such as footpath treatments, landscaping and improved street furniture, and help building and land owners make better use of underutilised sites.

7 PIPE UPGRADES AND RENEWALS

We are planning to spend \$1.015 billion on our Three Waters infrastructure. Some of our big projects include work on pump stations and wastewater treatment plants, water supply improvements, stormwater upgrades and pipe renewals.

8 MIXED RECYCLING FACILITY / SMOOTH HILL

We plan to build a new mixed recycling facility and a composting facility and redevelop the Green Island Landfill Resource Recovery Park. We'll upgrade areas for dropping off recyclable material and garden waste, and the waste transfer station. We've also allocated \$92.4 million for the construction of a new landfill at Smooth Hill to replace the one at Green Island. It will help us maintain control, focus on waste minimisation goals, retain revenue, and provide self-sufficiency.

What's in

We have highlighted some projects in the city that are part of this 9 year plan.

For more details, visit the website or grab a copy of the full document at one of the libraries or service centres.



9 KETTLE PARK

The former landfill at Kettle Park is now used for sports fields, but continues to pose a hazard for the coast. Some of the landfill sits within the sand dunes and is exposed from time to time due to erosion. This risks contaminated material being released onto the beach and into the sea. We've included \$37.8 million in the operating budget to remediate the landfill, remove hazardous material, and change the profile of the dunes to better protect South Dunedin.

10 DESTINATION PLAYGROUNDS

We plan to develop three Destination Playgrounds in Ōtepoti Dunedin. These are usually larger than regular play areas, and are designed with more accessible features and a variety of play equipment to cater to all ages and abilities. We've allocated \$5.6 million for upgrades to existing playgrounds, \$11.22 million for three destination playgrounds at Marlow Park, Woodhaugh and Mosgiel, and \$964,000 for other improvements such as basketball courts and skate slabs.

11 ROADING UPGRADES / SHARED PATH

We have budgeted \$433.1 million for a programme of work to maintain, operate and renew the roading network to ensure the city has a safe and sustainable transport system. This includes roading, footpaths, cycle paths and bridges, as well as funding of \$18.5 million to complete the shared path Te Awa Ōtākou - the Peninsula Connection. This will make the harbour roads safer and more resilient to sea level rise.

12 FORSYTH BARR STADIUM

We provide funding to assist in securing major events that drive greater economic benefit to Ōtepoti Dunedin and the wider community. We've included funding for increased support from the Events Attraction Fund to help bring more acts and events to Forsyth Barr Stadium and the Dunedin Town Hall.

What's not in

Unfortunately, there have been some trade-offs. Tough choices were made, and we're proposing to put some projects on hold, or no longer include them in our budget. This includes:

X Community housing

There is no money allocated for new community housing units being built. Our priority will instead be on looking after and upgrading existing units so they are dryer and warmer with reduced ongoing costs.

X Public toilets

We have built six new public toilets in Ōtepoti Dunedin over the past four years, but will not include the construction of any more new toilets in this 9 year plan.

X Dunedin urban cycleways tunnels trail

We have delayed a plan to build a biking and walking path that was to go through the Chain Hills and Caversham tunnels between Ōtepoti Dunedin and Mosgiel. We will consider resuming this when more funding can be secured.

X Performing Arts Centre

We have removed funding for the development of a new performing arts venue. We will work with the community on how best to support performing arts in Ōtepoti Dunedin, and consider different operating and funding models in order to do this.