

Att: Mayor Phil Mauger, Deputy Mayor Pauline Cotter, Councillors & Council Staff

## 2025-2026 Draft Annual Plan | Topics

- T. 1. Shirley Community Reserve | Feasibility Study
- T. 2. Shirley Centre | Business Case
- T. 3. Emmett Street | Trees Removal

### Topic 1: Shirley Community Reserve | Feasibility Study

In response to the '2023 Feasibility Study' included in the Agenda for the Waipapa Papanui-Innes-Central Community Board's meeting on the 13th June 2024, I have researched & written my own Feasibility Study, available here:

<https://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/shirley-centre-report/>

### Topic 2: Shirley Centre | Business Case

I do not agree with the Waipapa Papanui-Innes-Central Community Board's decision on the 13th June 2024, for 'Item 9. Shirley Community Reserve: Proposed Community Facility':

"3. Request that staff initiate the process to design an 'on budget community building' on Shirley Community Reserve that will enable a mixed use of the Reserve and support recreation, play and social connections."

[https://christchurch.infocouncil.biz/Open/2024/06/PCBCC\\_20240613\\_MIN\\_9127\\_AT.PDF](https://christchurch.infocouncil.biz/Open/2024/06/PCBCC_20240613_MIN_9127_AT.PDF) Page 5-6

I have researched & written my own 'Shirley Centre' Business Case for the Shirley Community Reserve, available here:

<https://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/shirley-centre-report/>

### Topic 3: Emmett Street | Trees Removal

#### 3.1. 'Shirley Centre 10 Shirley Road' Facebook Post: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1AP2bFNwGY/>

"I speak for the trees, for the trees have no tongues." The Lorax by Dr. Seuss

To tell the 'Emmett Street Trees' story, I did some research to find out when they were planted, by whom & why their story is an important part of our local history, landscape architecture in NZ, Christchurch the 'Garden City' & Shirley's identity. Below are four parts to the 'Emmett Street Trees' story:

1. 'Emmett Street Trees' (How did we get here?)

<https://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/emmett-street-trees/>

2. 'George Brington Malcolm' (Who was G.B. Malcolm?)

<https://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/george-brington-malcolm/>

3. 'Significant Trees' (They were, but now they're not?)

<https://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/significant-trees/>

4. 'Emmett Character Area' (Plenty of character, but not an Area?)

<https://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/emmett-character-area/>

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better it's not." The Lorax by Dr. Seuss

UNLESS someone...cares:

George Brington Malcolm cared & we have benefited from his vision in the Emmett Street Oak Trees & MacFarlane Park. Christchurch City Council please care...'Save our Trees'...'Save our Character Area'...'Save our History'...

#### 3.2 'CCC Works Notice: Emmett Street and Riselaw Street – tree removals and road closures'

<https://ccc.govt.nz/transport/works-3/show/1677>

What: We're removing 22 trees in the area, due to non-compliance with the NZ Electricity (Hazards from trees) Regulations and other safety concerns. Some road closures on Emmett Street will be necessary.

Why: These trees are within the prescribed clearance distances of overhead powerlines. While various solutions allow many non-compliant trees to be retained, there are no viable solutions for these trees.

Where: Emmett Street and Riselaw Street, Shirley.

When: 7 April 2025 to 24 April 2025. Monday to Friday, 7am to 5.30pm. (weather/site condition dependent).

#### 3.3. Emmett Street Flooding Remediation

Has the CCC considered the ramifications of removing "19 trees on Emmett Street"?

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/129394267/residents-on-floodstricken-christchurch-street-feel-forgotten-it-looked-like-lake-emmett>

#### 3.4. Emmett Street Replacement Trees

Does the CCC consider the '2 for 1' replacement tree deal enough compensation for these established significant trees?

<https://ccc.govt.nz/environment/trees-and-vegetation/urbanforest>

## 2025-2026 Draft Annual Plan | Questions

- Q. 1. When will our Rates & Development Contributions be invested back into the communities around Shirley Road?
- Q. 2. When will the CCC Equity & Inclusion Policy be applied to the communities around Shirley Road?
- Q. 3. When will Elected Members vote in favor of Capital Projects to benefit the communities around Shirley Road?

While researching I found this article from 'The Press' on the 5th May 1980, nearly 45 years later it is still relevant today: "Funds for libraries': The Christchurch City Council has yet to adopt the recommendation of its cultural committee to go ahead with the new Shirley library...Part of this expense is for the new central library. It should not be forgotten that Christchurch people have been getting a central library service on the cheap because they have not had to pay for an adequate central library building for a long time past.

Because the cost of books and of everything to do with presenting books to the public is going up at a staggering rate, it must be a temptation for those in charge of public money to restrict expenditure.

The central government has, after all, shown in the past that cultural expenses can be an early casualty in difficult times. All times are difficult to some degree, and a case could always be made for standing still.

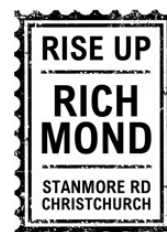
It is not the way of the Christchurch City Council to fail to consider a worth-while project just because the funds for it are hard to find. The Shirley library comes into this class.

If the council were concerned only to shelter its ratepayers, some notable facilities would be wanting in the city today.

Vital as the new central library may be, the local suburban services must be given a high rating.

They are an essential extension of the central library's service to readers of all kinds and it is to be hoped that the council will endorse the committee's recommendation in the interests of a fuller service."

<https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers/CHP19800505.2.108>



Joanna Gould  
W: [www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/](https://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/)  
F: [www.facebook.com/ShirleyCentre10ShirleyRoad/](https://www.facebook.com/ShirleyCentre10ShirleyRoad/) | [www.facebook.com/groups/www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/)  
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Joanna Gould  
W: [www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/](http://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/)  
FP: [www.facebook.com/ShirleyCentre10ShirleyRoad/](https://www.facebook.com/ShirleyCentre10ShirleyRoad/) | FG: [www.facebook.com/groups/www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/)  
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