

What is your preferred option for the future of Yarrow Stadium?

1: Demolish both stands, replace them with grassed banks

Climate Justice Taranaki opts for Option 1, demolishing the stands in favour of grass banks. Our chief reason for choosing this option is our belief the funds are better spent on TRC projects that reduce carbon emissions. Given climate scientists' estimate that humankind can only prevent catastrophic climate change (and the potential extinction of humanity) by halving carbon emissions by 2028, we feel TRC has an obligation to place the reduction of carbon emissions at the very top of their spending priorities.

Since TRC already funds a bus service, a commitment to subsidise that service to the extent that it significantly reduces private vehicle use would seem a good place to start. Currently many Taranaki car owners express interest in using the bus service for work commutes and errands - but simultaneously lament the total impracticability of doing so. This relates either to the infrequency of scheduled buses (especially in South Taranaki - buses serving coastal towns between Hawera and New Plymouth run only once a week) or because the fares are so high it's still cheaper for them to take their cars.

WITT has consistently requested a daily coastal bus service to facilitate student access to further education. There is a clear need for this service which upon improvements such as frequency, will empower the 'transport disadvantaged' as defined in the Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki (2014-2024). The plan is coming up for review, so it is timely to consider potential savings that can be channeled into public transport.

Financial support for community initiatives such as shared electric vehicles would also be very much worthwhile.

By going with Option 1 (which costs \$6 million), TRC has the opportunity to use the \$49 million difference between Option 1 and Option 2 (TRC's preferred option) to reduce fares, increase the frequency of service and otherwise improve Taranaki's public transport to the point it makes a serious dent in private vehicle use.

Other venues like the Brookland Bowl get huge crowds despite having no seating. Winter sports people are tough people so they should be used to bringing umbrellas and seats if needed. There are other venues for indoor winter concerts.

This feedback was collected from: <https://trc.govt.nz/council/plans-and-reports/strategy-policy-and-plans/long-term-plans/annual-plan-20192020-consultation/> on Monday, April 22 2019

Comment (field will expand as required)