



To: The Chief Executive
Environment
Southland Private Bag
90116 DX20175
Invercargill

SUBMISSION FORM

Submission on a Notified Application for a Resource Consent

I: Bruce & Margaret Thomson (Name(s))
of: 30 HALTON ST GORE 9710 (Address)
at: (03) 208 7245 (Phone) - (Fax) bruce.maggie@kinect.co.nz (E-mail)

Wish to SUPPORT / **OPPOSE** / submit a NEUTRAL submission on (circle one) the application of:

Name: Gore District Council

And/or Organisation: _____

Application Number: APP-20202268 Location: The intersection between Church and Huron Streets, on the east bank and Surrey Street on the west bank

My reasons for my submission are: (State the nature of your submission and give clear reasons. Continue on attached pages if necessary)

See attached submission

I wish the Council to make the following decision (*Give precise details, including the nature of any conditions sought*)

We seek that the application be declined

I, ~~am~~/am not (*choose one*) a trade competitor* of the applicant (for the purposes of Section 308B of the Resource Management Act 1991).

**If trade competitor chosen, please complete the next statement, otherwise leave blank*

I, am/am not (*choose one*) directly affected by an effect as a result of the proposed activity in the application that:

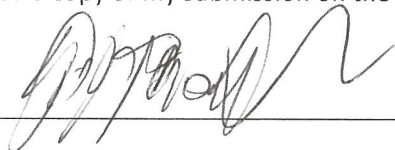
- (a) adversely affects the environment; and
- (b) does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

I, ~~do~~/do not (*choose one*) wish to be heard in support of my submission.

I, ~~do~~/do not (*choose one*) wish to be involved in any pre-hearing meeting that may be held for this application.

I have served a copy of my submission on the applicant. Yes No

Signed





Date

11-09-2020

If you have any queries about this form or its purpose please contact the Consents Division of Environment Southland (03) 211 5115 or 0800 76 88 45.

Note: The applicant has also applied to Gore District Council for resource consents in respect to this proposal. Submissions on the application made to Gore District Council must be made to the Gore District Council. Further information is available from the Gore District Council web site lets.talk.goredc.govt.nz. Submissions on all aspects of the application will be heard together as part of a joint hearing process involving Commissioners independent of the Gore District Council.

To: The Chief Executive
Environment Southland
Private bag 90116
Invercargill

11 September 2020

Application to Environment Southland and the Gore District Council for the Proposed Longford Bridge ,App 20202268.

Location: The Intersection between Church and Huron Street on the East Bank and Surrey Street on the West Bank

Submitters and address for service of documents:

Bruce and Margaret Thomson

30 Halton Street,

Gore 9710

Ph: (03) 208 7245

Email: bruce.maggie@kinect.co.nz

We are directly affected by an effect as a result of the proposed activity in the application that: (a) adversely affects the environment; and (b) does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition. We are not a trade competitor of the applicant for the purposes of Section 308B of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Name of Person Applying for Consent: Gore District Council

Proposed Activity and Location: The Longford Bridge and Pathway APP 20202268

We wish to **oppose** the application on the following grounds:

1. Beautiful views down the River

We have beautiful views of Mataura River and Waimea Plains and we don't want this bridge spoiling those views. We would like to keep the landscape the way that it is. We request that photographs be taken from various angles on our property to fully assess the visual impact of the bridge and the mast. We believe the mast projects beyond the ridgeline of the Hokonui Hills which is a direct breach of the Gore District Plan.

The mention in the survey report of perhaps painting the high cable support to hide it, indicates to us he has not thought through the future outcome of his suggestion. It would be bad enough as it was.

2. Safety

- After serving with the NZ Police as a Constable in Gore for over 17 years, safety is of major concern for both my wife and I in regard to this application. Access onto the bridge from Huron Street/Church Street is a major issue with poor visibility and speed related incidents on Huron Street. There have been numerous incidents involving cars losing control near the Church Street/ Woolwich Street area.
- There will be an increased need for parking in the area, which will have a direct effect on visibility for cyclists and pedestrians accessing the bridge.
- As yet Gore District Council have not disclosed the exit point of the pathways but I understand the children will be expected to cross over State Highway 94 or a Heavy traffic bypass in an Industrial area.
- We request that prior to any decision being made a Safety Impact Report be undertaken for the entry and exit points of the Cycleway/Walkway

3. Flooding risk on and near the proposed cycle/walkway bridge over the Mataura River will increase due to:

The building of an embankment on the West Bank of the Mataura River creates an obstruction on a floodplain. This embankment will affect the direction of the flow of floodwaters.

There is increased potential for inundation of flooding due to work on the East flood bank for the construction of water pipes or any part of the Bridge structure creating instability and weakness in the flood bank, potentially leading to a breach when the river is in flood.

The proposed height of the new bridge does not address the effect of branches of trees coming down the river and converging at the embankment on the West side on the floodplain.

I also have witnessed flood waters penetrating the East Gore flood bank during the high floods of 1968 just south of the East Gore hall. The situation was only saved by two people up to their necks in water on the river side trampling down sand bags. Old Civil Defence notes from that flood will probably show this. It also indicates that the flood bank may be of suspect stability.

4. Bird Strike.

The cable stay bridge is in direct line with the Natural Flight Path of Birds travelling down the Mataura River. Wires are reported to be especially lethal when they cross above rivers. In particular the most damage is done at night when the cable wires are not visible, but as Gore District Council have not submitted a lighting plan with this application we are unable to determine their intentions in regard to lighting.

Wetland birds such as waders often migrate or travel at night and using the shine of rivers is one of their methods of navigation. Collisions with black-billed gulls and South Island pied oystercatchers would be of particular concern because of their declining status and their significant breeding populations in Southland.

We request that prior to any decision being made a “Bird Strike Risk Assessment” for the Proposed Cable Stay Bridge be undertaken by a suitably qualified Ecologist.

5. Light and Noise Pollution

There will be increased wind noise by Nor Westers on the cables of the bridge, and increased noise from the water pumps

The proposal by GDC, if the project does proceed, to have machinery operating from 7.00am until 10.00pm at night is unacceptable in a residential area.

Because of our location we are blessed with a quiet and peaceful area. The proposed bridge will undoubtedly bring periods of disquiet and disturbing times to the locality through young people congregating and necessary lighting of the structure. The people of Gore can well do without adding to problems they already have. .

- There is no current lighting plan for this bridge, yet from a safety aspect the 39 metres high pole would need to be lit for aviation flight paths and for the safety of cyclists the pathways would need to be lit at night.
- We request a lighting plan which includes the effects on affected parties.

6. Safety Issues with the Wind

Because of our location overlooking the river we experience very frequent strong and dangerous winds that travel either up or down the Mataura River. A bridge in this location will be highly dangerous to anybody trying to walk or cycle across it during these winds and we believe there will be a tragedy in the future with somebody chancing it.

7. Lack of Consultation

On 15 June a letter was placed in the mail boxes of residents in selected streets in East Gore inviting them to a meeting at the East Gore Church Hall. Nowhere in the letter did it mention a bridge.

Due to ill health and such short notice we were unable to attend this meeting.

The full application document was only made available to the immediate neighbours at the time of resource consent lodgement.

In the application it states that discussion with neighbours was undertaken yet we are unaware of any discussions held in regard to this and no contact was made via phone asking us as Affected Parties to meet with Gore District Council.

We would like to know if a survey has been undertaken of residents in Gore to assess how many cyclists and pedestrian will actually use this bridge. If this assessment/survey has not been undertaken we would like the Gore District Council to consult with the wider Gore Community and provide such a report.

8. Ongoing Maintenance Costs to the ratepayer

The ongoing maintenance with pipe joins, painting of the bridge, rebuilding of the abutment after each flood and the increased pumping costs will add to an already burgeoning ratepayers rates.

The people of Gore can well do without adding to the problems they already have. The bridge appears to us to be just an excuse to get money from Government to help the cost of laying a water pipe across the river. In our opinion the pipe should be buried underground in the river bed.

9. Increased Crime rate

- Because of our location we are blessed with a quiet and peaceful area. The proposed bridge will undoubtedly bring periods of disquiet and disturbing times to the locality through young people congregating and necessary lighting of the structure.

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

We wish to be involved in any pre-hearing meeting that may be held for this application.

We have served a copy of our submission on the applicant. Yes

We seek that the application is **declined**.

B.M Thomson:



M A Thomson:

