

- 9 SEP 2020

To: The Chief Executive
 Environment
 Southland Private Bag
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 Invercargill

SUBMISSION FORM

Submission on a Notified Application for a Resource Consent

I: Gary Weir and Wendy Weir (Name(s))
 of: 32 Huron Street, Gore (Address)
 at: 03 2084296 (Phone) (Fax) gary.wendy@tra.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)

Please see attached.

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

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 5/9/20

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.

Resource Consent: LU2020/012

Name of Applicant: Gore District Council

Location of Site: Mataura River and River Street and River Terrace Road Reserves.

We oppose this proposal:

I Gary Weir and Wendy Weir of 32 Huron St, Gore, Oppose the application from GDC to construct the bridge for the following reasons;

1. Landscape and Visual Impact.

Because of the height and sheer bulk of the structure, we feel it does not fit into the natural landscape and impacts on our view of the stunning Waimea Plains, Hokonui Hills and Mataura River, the main reason we bought and spent a lot of money on our home. This structure does not naturally fit into the rural setting and outstanding natural features of our community that are appreciated by locals and visitors alike.

No consultation was carried out with us before the public meeting to discuss the impact the structure would have on our property and natural surrounding area. We are angry that no representative came to our property which is hugely impacted by this proposal to discuss the visual effects and probable devaluing of our property.

2. Noise Effects

We are majorly concerned that there have been no investigations into the possible effects of wind noise from the pole, bridge and cables. We know from living close to the river how strong the wind blows down the river.

We also have concerns about the noise and disruption during construction. If the structure is built we are also concerned about noise from increased pedestrian traffic in the area.

We are concerned about possibility that water pumps could be installed to push water across the bridge up to the water treatment station which would add to the noise pollution aspect.

3. Light Pollution

There is not a current lighting plan for this bridge and we fear that the amount of lights needed and the need for an aviation beacon will severely impact our

night-time view. We are also concerned at the amount of lights that would be needed on a walk/bike track on both ends of the bridge.

4. Safety

Bike / Walk Tracks: We feel this is an integral aspect of the bridge and yet there is no plan in place. This should be part of the application as it is an important aspect of the bridge design and the reason it is being built.

55% funding was given by NZTA to provide safer access from East to West Gore but there is no plan how pedestrians will safely enter and exit from Huron Street, which has a high crash rate nor on the West side where they have to cross a heavy traffic bypass or enter SH1. Discussions with NZTA indicate that the proposed site was the only option given to them for funding.

5. Bird Strike

We regularly observe many varieties of birds travelling up and down the Mataura River and are concerned on the impact the cables and the stay will have on their welfare. It could prove lethal to bird life, especially at night.

6. Flooding / Erosion

This is a major concern as we have lived at our current address for three years and have seen three floods, the latest in February where water was stop bank to stop bank. There is no report to show what the effect flood waters will be when the structure is in place.

The Western embankment to be built has earthworks volume of 1168m³, with a height of approximately 5860mm which must impact the river flow when in flood. This will cause even more erosion on the river bank and soil loss.

We are concerned about the condition of walk ways / bike tracks leading on and off the bridge during floods and the ongoing costs of repairs and replacement as these will be significant and ongoing.

We are concerned that the placement of the water pipes along the base of the eastern flood bank will have an adverse effect on the flood banks integrity as they are quite vulnerable during high water flows.

7. Car Parking

We have concerns about cars parking on River Terrace and Huron St, and blocking access for home owners.

8. Lack of Consultation

We are disappointed at the lack of consultation from the Gore District Council during this process. It took two years before the GDC consulted with us by which stage we believe it was too late to have any input as the decision was already made as to what they wanted.

Two affected parties were met with earlier in the day before the meeting at the East Gore Church Hall was held. We were not consulted but given a brochure of what the new bridge would look like – we do not consider this appropriate consultation! No one has been to our property to show us what the impact will be, and we are directly affected!

We believe this is grounds enough to reject the application from the Gore District council and a proper consultation process undertaken.

The Consideration of Alternatives

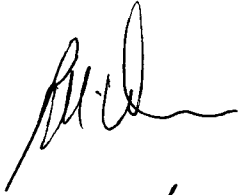
We understand the GDC has to address the water issues in Gore but we would like them to do it in a long term cost effective way that is less disruptive on the beautiful natural landscape of Gore. We see many people, locals and tourists enjoying fishing and walking along the river, enjoying the gorgeous views – they do not want to see a huge structure looking so out of place!

We propose the GDC bore or entrench the water pipes across the Matura River at the Maitland Street site. This site is in direct line with the water treatment plants and closer to the Jacobstown wells. Once these are built there are no further costs to the ratepayer, not like the ongoing costs of the bridge and walkways.

Money from the NZTA could be used to address safety issues with access on and off the existing bridge. Money also needs to be spent on suitable safe bike tracks as the current ones that we do have are totally unusable. These were done by volunteers and completed with unsuitable materials which are now in poor condition and unsafe to bike on.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our opposition to this project.

Gary & Wendy Weir

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gary Weir', written in a cursive style.A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Wendy Weir', written in a cursive style.