

Notice of Meeting:

I hereby give notice that an ordinary meeting of the Dunedin City Council will be held on:

Date: Tuesday 19 February 2019
Time: 1.00 pm
Venue: Council Chamber, Municipal Chambers, The Octagon, Dunedin

Sue Bidrose
Chief Executive Officer

Council SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP

**Mayor
Deputy Mayor
Members**

Mayor Dave Cull	
Cr Chris Staynes	
Cr David Benson-Pope	Cr Rachel Elder
Cr Christine Garey	Cr Doug Hall
Cr Aaron Hawkins	Cr Marie Laufiso
Cr Mike Lord	Cr Damian Newell
Cr Jim O'Malley	Cr Conrad Stedman
Cr Lee Vandervis	Cr Andrew Whiley
Cr Kate Wilson	

Senior Officer

Sue Bidrose, Chief Executive Officer

Governance Support Officer

Lynne Adamson

Lynne Adamson
Governance Support Officer

Telephone: 03 477 4000
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Note: Reports and recommendations contained in this agenda are not to be considered as Council policy until adopted.

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PUBLIC FORUM SUBMISSION - DIANE YELDON

Diane Yeldon has provided the attached submission to be presented at the public forum.

Attachments

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From: Diane Yeldon
Sent: Saturday, 16 February 2019 12:14 p.m.
To: Lynne Adamson
Subject: public forum 19th Feb 2019 Diane Yeldon

Kia ora, Lynne,
I am attaching and also pasting below my public forum submission to the council for 19th February.
I don't need to speak to it - am happy just to answer any questions.
Sincerely
Diane

Public Forum Submission To Dunedin City Council at the meeting held on 19th Feb 2019
from Diane Yeldon

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

Could you please consider the following initiative promoted as a climate change mitigation measure and whether to join it and promote it and its goals in Dunedin.

<https://www.4p1000.org/>

Explanation

(Quoting from website)

Human activities emit enormous amounts of carbon dioxide (CO₂) into the atmosphere, which enhances the greenhouse effect and accelerates climate changes.

Every year, 30% of this carbon dioxide (CO₂) is absorbed by plants thanks to the photosynthesis process. Then, when those plants die and decompose, the living organisms of the soil, such as bacteria, fungi or earthworms, transform them into organic matter. This carbon-rich organic material is essential for human nutrition because it retains water, nitrogen and phosphorus, essential for growing plants.

Global soils contain 2 to 3 times more carbon than the atmosphere.

If this carbon level was increased by 0.4%, or 4‰ per year, in the top 30-40 cm of soils, the annual increase in carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the atmosphere would be stopped.

This is what the 4 per 1000 Initiative proposes, soils for food security and climate.

The increase in the amount of carbon in soil contributes to:
not only stabilise the climate
but also to ensure food security, i.e. to provide food in sufficient quantity. (ends)

Why I think this is the business of the Dunedin City Council and how it would be good for the city.
Carbon soil sequestration efforts are not just for conventional rural residents and workers: city dwellers can also take part in and benefit from carbon soil sequestration. Since more than half the world's population live in cities, it is important, even critical, that they do as a climate change mitigation measure.

The most commonly reported on climate change mitigation measure is to recommend desisting from burning fossil fuels. However, this is usually seen as at odds with economic well-being,

especially within a short-time frame, until affordable alternative fuels, especially for transport, have been devised and have become widely accessible.

In contrast, soil carbon sequestration is presently part and parcel of sustainable agriculture and food production. As a consequence, it is of economic benefit in its own right when producing food and other agricultural goods and has likely further future benefit as an earner of carbon credits.

The success of farmers' markets throughout New Zealand is clear. More and more people are concerned about the food they eat and the health consequences of their choices.

Worldwide, people are adopting city farming on small but effective scales.

<https://futurism.com/urban-farming-future-agriculture>

One researcher and experimenter, believes that land being turned into desert by unwise human agricultural practices (including burning off vegetation) is a far greater driver of climate change than the burning of fossil fuels.

https://www.ted.com/talks/allan_savory_how_to_green_the_world_s_deserts_and_reverse_climate_change?language=en

Journalist Kristen Ohlson's book "The Soil will save us" makes a sound scientific case.

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/18050026-the-soil-will-save-us>

I am pretty sure that we have world-class expertise in the two completely intertwined fields of optimum nutrition and eco-agriculture here in Dunedin and the lower South Island, particularly at Otago University, Otago Polytech and amongst the community of soil scientists who were at Invermay. We also have a number of farmers carrying out sustainable eco-agriculture on their own land, often way ahead of the understanding of central government scientific advisors. For example, as Allan Savoury, demonstrates, it is not over-grazing or high stock numbers which result in land degradation, but rather the way in which high stock numbers are managed.

I am adding a large number of weblinks, many from ODT. I urge you to do your own local web search with key word "climate change". I suspect you will find, as I did, that everyone at all levels of society wants something done but is also impatient and frustrated that no-one is doing anything or enough or anything with any hope of success in time.

But I believe a city of ethical travellers (lowest impact travel mode for each journey that is fit for purpose), ethical consumers (only buying sustainably produced products) and urban soil guardians (kaitaki) will work and there is certainly no clear downside in trying it, as all these measures have many other benefits even if climate change mitigation were not one of them.. Obviously, the action of a single city is not enough to fix a worldwide problem. But a single city can set a good, well-researched example which others can follow.

Dunedin would be a great place to start taking action on climate change in a world which is still mostly only talking about it. We have the expertise, all the necessary resources and plenty of Kiwi resilience, determination, ingenuity and resourcefulness to lead the world in this.

More and more research is being done all over the world on the climate change issue and I believe one of the best sources of leading edge information would be Otago University students and other tertiary, even secondary and primary students. I think regular updates to DCC Councillors from these sources would be an excellent two-way information exchange.

<https://www.odt.co.nz/news/dunedin/councillors-briefed-climate-change>

More links – DCC may consider it worthwhile lobbying central government, particularly on behalf of Southern food producers if it sees central government as having counterproductive climate change legislation, especially with respect to carbon credits. (The economic future of the lower South Island is arguably to a significant degree in eco-agriculture.)

Promoting the city as a place where people can eat interesting and healthy food, especially locally produced, is another important aspect. Otago University Nutrition department has expertise on this: 'saving the world one meal at a time'..

<https://www.odt.co.nz/lifestyle/magazine/eating-safe-space>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/lifestyle/food-wine/news-features/sustainable-diets-embracing-whole-process>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/rural-life/rural-people/grazing-coach-keen-help-others>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/regions/central-otago/500000-ets-bill-pay-if-alexandra-pines-go>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/news/politics/farmers-called-match-45m-research-funding>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/rural-life/red-meat/focus-native-vegetation>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/news/national/farmers-lobby-fear-foreign-foresters>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/lifestyle/magazine/keen-sense-conservation>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/business/farming/nz-crossbred-wool-industry-crisis>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/business/farming/paddock-talk-remedies-need-rethink>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/news/national/new-test-show-if-vegetables-are-really-organic>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/rural-life/rural-life-other/eco-farming-can-solve-hunger-climate-crises-experts>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/lifestyle/magazine/ghg-still-our-biggest-challenge>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/news/national/researcher-measures-sustainability-organic-orchards>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/news/world/10000-tonnes-co2-successfully-stored-otway-basin>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/lifestyle/resilient/locking-carbon>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/news/dunedin/nz-climate-change-laggard-palmer>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/opinion/editorial/walking-climate-change-talk>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/opinion/editorial/climate-change-stand>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/opinion/planet-saver-or-global-mania>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/entertainment/books/cookbooks-inspire-and-inform>

<https://www.odt.co.nz/lifestyle/food-wine/veges-front-and-centre>

<https://theconversation.com/how-carbon-farming-can-help-solve-climate-change-86087>

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/sep/22/soil-carbon-storage-not-the-climate-change-fix-it-was-thought-research-finds> (there is always criticism of all research)

<http://www.nzcan.org/about#members>

Hi, Lynne, sorry, another link and I would appreciate it if you could also add a note that I am asking DCC to join New Zealand Climate Change Action Network if they have not already done so.

Kind regards

Diane

