

Hamilton City Council Submission

Infrastructure Funding and Financing Amendment Bill

**Parliament's Finance and Expenditure Select
Committee**

16 February 2026

Strategic Context for this Submission

Council has endorsed [The Mayor's Plan 2025 - 2028](#) to inform the projects and services it will deliver to ensure Hamilton has what it needs now and for the future – efficiently, responsibly, and sustainably. The seven guiding themes of The Mayor's Plan are:

- **Sensible, cost-effective infrastructure**
- **Grow with balance**
- **A central city to be proud of**
- **City places and services that work for people**
- **Open for business**
- **A transparent and efficient organisation**
- **Financial responsibility**

Council Approval and Reference

This submission was approved by Hamilton City Council at its meeting held on 12 February 2026.

Submission # 829

Key Messages

1. Summary of Changes and Why Hamilton City Council Supports Them

2. Hamilton City Council strongly supports the proposed legislative improvements aimed at enabling efficient, responsible, and sustainable infrastructure delivery.

3. What the changes are:

- **Streamlined levy process:** Cuts unnecessary steps so levies can be approved faster and with fewer barriers. It simplifies proposal requirements, reduces ministerial considerations, and removes affordability checks where landowners agree.
- **Broader scope:** It widens the IFF tool to fund transport, water, and community infrastructure beyond council-owned assets, and introduces levy deferrals.
- **Enables water entities:** Enables water entities to use IFF, and integrates levies more cleanly into existing rating and water billing systems to streamline administration.
- **Improves certainty:** Limits councils' ability to withhold endorsements and strengthens recovery mechanisms.
- **Technical refinements:** Clarifies treatment of protected Maaori land and aligns levies with rates for recovery.

4. Why Hamilton City Council supports them:

- Reduces complexity and delays, enabling faster infrastructure delivery.
- Provides flexibility for diverse projects, including housing and transport.
- Maintains protections for levy payers while improving certainty for developers.
- Supports growth by removing funding barriers and aligning with urban development goals.

Further Information and Hearings

5. Should Parliament's Finance and Expenditure Select Committee require clarification of the submission from Hamilton City Council, or additional information, please contact **Blair Bowcott** (General Manager Strategy, Growth and Planning), phone **07 838 6742** or **021 775 640**, or email Blair.Bowcott@hcc.govt.nz in the first instance.
6. Hamilton City Council representatives **do wish to speak** at Parliament's Finance and Expenditure Select Committee hearings in support of this submission.

Yours faithfully



Lance Vervoort
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

FURTHER INFORMATION

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