

# **STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL AUGUST 2013**

**Have your say on our proposed changes to the camping provisions in the  
Wellington Consolidated Bylaw 2008**

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## **Statement of proposal**

This statement of proposal is prepared under section 11(5) of the Freedom Camping Act 2011, and sections 83, 86 and 89 of the Local Government Act 2002.

## **Summary of information**

As a City Council, we're seeking feedback on proposed changes to the camping bylaw and we want to hear what you think.

The changes will make it easier for people in campervans and other vehicles to stop in Wellington for overnight stays, and also prohibit or restrict camping in some areas including Balaena Bay, Evans Bay (Marina car park), Owhiro Bay (Te Kopahou Reserve entrance car park) and Te Raekaihau Point.

The proposed changes would be included in the Wellington Consolidated Bylaw 2008 part 5 (Public Places), part 12 (Camping). They are designed to make the Council's management of camping consistent with the Freedom Camping Act 2011 and contribute to a national approach to freedom camping.

'Freedom camping' is defined in section 5 of the Act as including camping in a tent, caravan, car, house truck or similar vehicle, but does not include simply parking a vehicle, day trips or resting to avoid driver fatigue.

Freedom camping is not generally a problem in Wellington except at a few areas during summer. Of more importance for Wellington is attracting visitors, meeting their needs and delivering on their expectations. Very few campgrounds are available close to the city and, up until now, freedom camping has only been permitted in places set aside for it or with our written approval.

Our proposed camping bylaw changes are part of a wider approach to managing campers and providing more camping opportunities in Wellington. The amended bylaw will confirm where freedom camping is allowed in the Wellington City area on Council-controlled and managed land, and specify some areas where it is prohibited or restricted. The bylaw would provide the flexibility to enable camping by written consent, for example if necessary for a sporting event.

The Council would be able to enforce the new bylaw through prosecution or a \$200 fine. However, education will be the preferred approach.

## **Have your say**

### **We need your feedback by 5pm on Friday 4 October 2013.**

You can make a submission online at [Wellington.govt.nz](http://Wellington.govt.nz) under the 'Have your say' section, email your submission to [policy.submission@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:policy.submission@wcc.govt.nz) or fill out the form in this document and send it to Camping Bylaw, Freepost, Wellington City Council, PO Box 2199, Wellington 6140.

Further copies of this proposal are available at [Wellington.govt.nz](http://Wellington.govt.nz), from our Service Centre, 101 Wakefield Street, and our libraries. You can also phone 499 4444 to request a copy or email [policy.submission@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:policy.submission@wcc.govt.nz)

If you wish to make an oral submission to City Councillors, please indicate on the submission form and ensure you have included your contact details. We will contact you to arrange a time for you to speak.

The Council’s Strategy and Policy Committee will consider the submissions and make recommendations to the full Council. The Council will then decide whether to change the camping bylaw.

**Timeline for considering the proposed bylaw**

3 September – 4 October	Consultation period
November	Oral submissions
November	Strategy and Policy Committee considers submissions
December	The Council decides whether to adopt the proposed changes
Following Council adoption of the proposed changes	The amended camping bylaw will come into force

**Background**

Freedom camping is a generally permitted activity under the Freedom Camping Act 2011. The opposite approach is taken in the current camping bylaw which prohibits camping, ‘other than in a place set aside by Council, unless prior written approval is given’. The Council’s Camping Bylaw is now inconsistent with a fundamental change in law<sup>1</sup>.

We have not set aside any areas where camping is permitted, although in practice we do not enforce the bylaw. This is confusing for visitors – there is an informal network of information about where to camp in Wellington but many see the lack of official information and opportunities as unfriendly and they go elsewhere.

The current bylaw can only be enforced through prosecution, which is expensive and difficult, and does not resolve immediate issues.

The proposed changes will make it easier for more visitors to stay in the city, and will help us to manage demand and any irresponsible campers. We will be able to designate specific sites for freedom camping, any restrictions on these areas, and designate sites where camping is prohibited. We can then promote these areas via formal and informal networks and ensure that camping in suitable places can be easier for visitors.

Ideally Wellington would have a range of commercial and free sites near the city with public transport links. Low-cost options should also be part of the mix. The campervan park on the waterfront is not expected to be available after this coming summer.

Under the Freedom Camping Act, camping is permitted on all Council-owned land, unless the Council makes a bylaw defining the areas where:

- freedom camping is restricted, and the restrictions that apply in those areas
- freedom camping is prohibited.

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<sup>1</sup> DLA Phillips Fox, 2013, Legal advice on draft Freedom Camping Statement of Proposal.

Restrictions or prohibitions on camping made under other legislation remain, for example the Town Belt Management Plan. However the ability to enforce camping prohibitions under other Acts is likely to be limited, particularly for immediate issues.

Many parks and reserves are covered by management plans prepared under the Reserves Act 1977. Several of these plans have policies prohibiting overnight camping. Overnight camping is prohibited in the parks and reserves covered under the following management plans:

- Wellington Town Belt Management Plan
- Combined Management Plan - Wellington Botanic Garden, Anderson Park, Bolton Street Memorial Park
- Otari Wiltons Bush Management Plan
- Oruaiti Reserve Management Plan

Under the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, a council cannot impose a blanket ban that prohibits freedom camping on land it controls or manages.

It must be clear to campers where they can and can't camp and for this reason the bylaw must include a map and/or a clear description of the areas where camping is restricted or prohibited.

Most campers are responsible, and making Wellington City Council's management of campers consistent with the Freedom Camping Act will reflect what is already happening – that people can camp anywhere and get away with it – and provide better and more targeted management options where required.

### **Why change the bylaw?**

We propose to use a range of approaches to manage camping, including restricting or prohibiting camping at some sites. To make a bylaw it must be shown that it is necessary to protect the area, protect the health and safety of visitors and protect access to the area.

We propose that the camping bylaw needs to be changed to help manage the following issues.

#### ***Protecting the amenity of an area***

In some parks and reserve areas that are not covered by a reserve management plan, it may be necessary to prohibit or restrict camping to protect the amenity of these areas.

#### ***Protecting popular areas from high demand***

Not all vehicles used by freedom campers have toilets, which is a common issue at sites frequented by freedom campers. The most popular 'unofficial' camping sites have toilet and shower facilities nearby. However, these facilities are often locked at night due to the risk of vandalism, and for security and public safety reasons. This means some campers will choose to defecate outdoors, or in other inappropriate places. This is a public health risk and is unacceptable.

Keeping some toilet facilities open at night is an obvious solution, but will make these areas more popular. Ways to manage demand include restrictions on the maximum number of nights campers can stay and having more than one site available to help spread demand.

Other problems can arise where people camp. Most campers are responsible but the Freedom Camping Act can help curb irresponsible behaviour and includes offences for:

- damage to an areas, flora or fauna, or any structure
- dumping rubbish inappropriately.

Campers can also be asked to leave if there are reasonable grounds to believe they are committing, or have committed, an offence. Failing or refusing to leave an area when requested by an enforcement officer is also an offence.

### ***Protecting the health and safety of visitors to certain areas***

At popular sites where there are no toilets, or where toilet facilities are inadequate or can't be opened at night, we propose that camping is prohibited or restricted to certified self-contained campervans (CSC) with toilets and sewerage storage tanks. This will help to protect the health and safety of visitors to these areas.

### ***Protecting access to popular areas***

At some sites there is already considerable demand for parking and use of facilities from day visitors. Where there is room for campervans but the site is also popular with day visitors, we propose to restrict camping to the evening and overnight. If there is not enough space to cope with demand from campers then we propose to prohibit camping.

### ***Necessary restrictions and prohibitions on camping***

The table below outlines the proposed restrictions on camping at certain sites and the rationale. The restrictions are consistent with those used by the Department of Conservation, and with freedom camping restrictions already in place in the Wellington region.

### Proposed prohibited and restricted areas for freedom camping

Site	Proposed classification	Proposed restrictions and rationale
Central city parks: Civic Square Glover Park Te Aro Park Midland Park Wellington Railway Station Post Office Square Wellington Waterfront parks <u>Frank Kitts Park</u> <u>Waitangi Park</u> <u>Memorial Park (Te Puke Ahu)</u> <u>Basin Reserve</u> <u>Cobblestone Park</u> <u>Canal Reserve</u>	Camping prohibited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Camping prohibited to protect the amenity of these areas.</li> </ul> The inner-city parks are not covered by a reserve management plan and are not suitable for camping.
Balaena Bay	Camping prohibited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Camping prohibited to preserve access to the beach.</li> </ul> Balaena Bay is very close to the city and very popular with campers and day visitors however the site is too small to accommodate everyone.
Evans Bay – Marina car park	Camping restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Camping restricted to certified self-contained (CSC) vehicles to protect the health and safety of visitors to the area.</li> <li>CSC vehicles can stay a maximum of four nights per calendar month, <del>between 5pm–9am (they must move on during the day).</del></li> </ul> The toilet facilities at this site are not sufficient to accommodate campers other than in CSC vehicles.
Owhiro Bay – Te Kopahou Reserve entrance car park	Camping restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Camping restricted to protect the site and protect access to the site.</li> <li>Vehicles may stay a maximum of four nights per calendar month, <del>between 5pm–9am (they must move on during the day).</del></li> </ul> This site has some toilet facilities but the number of nights must be limited to manage demand.
Te Raekaihau Point	Camping restricted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Camping restricted to protect the site and protect access to the site.</li> <li>Vehicles may stay a maximum of four nights per calendar month, <del>between 5pm–9am (they must move on during the day).</del></li> </ul> This site has some toilet facilities but the number of nights must be limited to manage demand.

## **Legislative requirements**

The following legislation is relevant to the proposed amendment:

### *Freedom Camping Act 2011*

The Freedom Camping Act 2011 requires the Council to use the special consultative procedure in the Local Government Act 2002 to make, amend or revoke a freedom camping bylaw.

### *Local Government Act 2002*

The Local Government Act 2002 sets out the special consultative procedure the Council must follow to make, amend or revoke a bylaw.

To make a bylaw the Council must be able to show that the bylaw is the most appropriate and proportionate way of addressing the perceived problem in relation to a specific area, and that the bylaw is not inconsistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.

### ***Is a bylaw the most appropriate and proportionate way to address the perceived problem?***

The proposed bylaw will form part of a wider approach to managing and providing opportunities for campervans in Wellington, and will contribute towards a nationally consistent approach to freedom camping. It will also align the Council's bylaw with the provisions in the Freedom Camping Act.

The restrictions and prohibitions on camping within the draft camping bylaw are consistent with the requirements of this Act. The Council considers the proposed bylaw is the most appropriate way to resolve camping-related issues in Wellington City, while providing appropriate protection to the specific areas identified. The proposed bylaw is necessary to manage camping at these specific sites, in conjunction with other non-regulatory tools such as signs and information.

### ***Bill of Rights implications***

Everyone lawfully in New Zealand has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly (section 16), association (section 17) and movement (section 18) in New Zealand. The Freedom Camping Act provides a specific statutory framework for local authorities to manage camping, by only restricting these rights in areas where it is justified and necessary.

The Council considers that the proposed bylaw is not inconsistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act, and does not unlawfully interfere with the rights of people to move and reside in Wellington. The restrictions on freedom camping are reasonable in the interests of protecting public places and visitors. By amending the camping bylaw, the Council's approach to camping will be more consistent with the Freedom Camping Act.

## **Draft camping bylaw**

*The following proposed wording and schedules are to be included in part 5 (Public Places) of the Wellington Consolidated Bylaw, as part 12 Camping as an amendment to the existing part 12.*

## **Part 12 – Camping**

### **Purpose**

12.1 The purpose of this bylaw is to encourage responsible camping in Wellington, as part of a nationally consistent approach to freedom camping. This bylaw regulates camping in specific public places to:

- protect the area
- protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area
- protect access to the area.

### **Interpretation**

12.2 The following definitions apply to the camping bylaw:

The Act means the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

**Definitions:** where this bylaw uses terms also used in the Act, those terms have the same meaning as defined in section 4 of the Act.

Camp or camping means to stay overnight, or more than one night, at any public place:

- a. in a building, tent, or other structure; or
- b. in a car, campervan, caravan, or other vehicle.

Certified self-contained vehicle (CSC vehicle) means a vehicle designed and built for the purpose of camping, which has the capability of meeting the ablutionary and sanitary needs of occupants of that vehicle for a minimum of three days without requiring any external services or discharging any waste, and complies with New Zealand Standard 5465:2001.

### **Restricted and prohibited areas as outlined in Schedule One**

12.3 A person must not camp in an area in which camping is prohibited, as identified in Schedule One: Restricted and prohibited areas for camping, unless they have prior written consent from the Council.

12.4 A person may camp in an area identified in Schedule One: Restricted and prohibited areas for camping, but must comply with the specific restrictions listed for that site unless they have prior written consent from the Council that waives these restrictions.

## **Areas where camping is permitted**

12.5 Camping is permitted in any local authority area in Wellington City, unless it is restricted or prohibited in an area under:

- a. this bylaw; or
- b. under any other enactment.<sup>2</sup>

## **Prior written consent from the Council**

12.6 If written consent is sought in accordance with clause 12.3 above then it must be applied for in writing to the Council at least two weeks in advance of the date planned for freedom camping in the prohibited area. Consent may be granted at the Council's sole discretion, with or without conditions.

12.7 If written consent is sought from the Council in accordance with clause 12.4 above then it must be applied for in writing to the Council at least two weeks in advance of the date planned for camping in the restricted area. Consent may be granted at the Council's sole discretion, with or without conditions.

## **Schedule One: Restricted and prohibited areas for camping**

Camping in Wellington is restricted or prohibited as illustrated and described within the following aerial photographs.

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<sup>2</sup> A list can be obtained from the Council's website of all areas where freedom camping is restricted or prohibited under any other statutory powers.

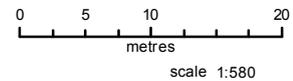


Balaena Bay is situated on Evans Bay Parade between Oriental Bay and Evans Bay. Freedom camping at Balaena Bay is prohibited.

### Balaena Bay, Wellington

Freedom camping restrictions & prohibited areas

-  Restrictions apply
-  Camping prohibited



Property boundaries, 20m Contours, road names, rail line, address & title points sourced from Land Information NZ. Crown Copyright reserved. Property boundaries accuracy: +/-1m in urban areas, +/-30m in rural areas. Census data sourced from Statistics NZ. Postcodes sourced from NZ Post. Assets, contours, water and drainage information shown is approximate and must not be used for detailed engineering design. Other data has been compiled from a variety of sources and its accuracy may vary, but is generally +/- 1m.

MAP PRODUCED BY:  
Wellington City Council  
101 Wakefield Street  
WELLINGTON, NZ

ORIGINAL MAP SIZE: A4  
AUTHOR: presto2j  
DATE: 28/08/2013  
REFERENCE:



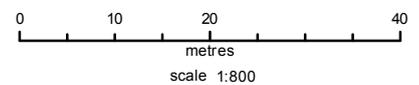


Civic Square is situated off Victoria Street bounded by the Town Hall, Council buildings, Wellington Central Library and City Gallery. Freedom camping at Civic Square is prohibited.

## Civic Square, Wellington

### Freedom camping restrictions & prohibited areas

-  Restrictions apply
-  Camping prohibited



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# Appendix 1



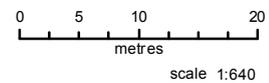
Evans Bay Marina is situated at the south end of Evans Bay Parade, where it meets Cobham Drive. The south end of the Marina car park is available for freedom camping with restrictions. Freedom camping in all other areas of the marina complex is prohibited.

Restrictions: Certified self-contained vehicles only, four nights max in a single calendar month. between 5pm and 9am the following day.

## Evans Bay, Wellington

### Freedom camping restrictions & prohibited areas

- Restrictions apply
- Camping prohibited



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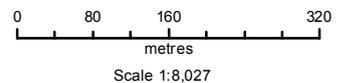


# Appendix 1

- a** Civic Square
- b** Glover Park
- c** Te Aro Park
- d** Midland Park
- e** Central Railway Station
- f** Post Office Square
- g** Wellington Waterfront Parks
- g** Waitangi Park
- h** Frank Kitts Park



## Prohibited Camping Areas Wellington C.B.D.



Property boundaries, 20m Contours, road names, rail line, address & title points sourced from Land Information NZ. Crown Copyright reserved. Property boundaries accuracy: +/-1m in urban areas, +/-30m in rural areas. Census data sourced from Statistics NZ. Postcodes sourced from NZ Post. Assets, contours, water and drainage information shown is approximate and must not be used for detailed engineering design. Other data has been compiled from a variety of sources and its accuracy may vary, but is generally +/- 1m.

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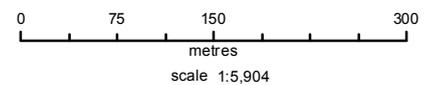


# Appendix 1



## Prohibited Camping Areas Wellington C.B.D.

- i Cobblestone Park
- j Memorial Park (Te Puke Ahu)
- k Basin Reserve
- l Canal Reserve



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Owhiro Bay Parade

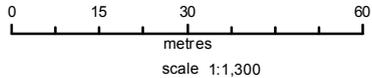
The car park at Owhiro Bay Quarry is situated at the western end of Owhiro Bay Parade. Marked parking spaces within the car park are available for freedom camping with restrictions. Freedom camping in the area outside the car park entrance on the roadside verge is prohibited.

Restrictions: four nights max in a single calendar month.  
between 5pm and 9am the following day.

## Owhiro Bay, Wellington

### Freedom camping restrictions & prohibited areas

-  Restrictions apply
-  Camping prohibited



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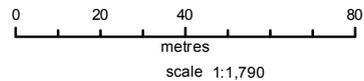
Te Raekaihau Point and Princess Bay are situated just to the east of Houghton Bay where The Esplanade and Queens Drive meet. The car parking area is available for freedom camping with restrictions.

Restrictions: four nights max in a single calendar month.  
between 5pm and 9am the following day.

### Te Raekaihau Point, Wellington

Freedom camping restrictions & prohibited areas

-  Restrictions apply
-  Camping prohibited



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# APPENDIX 2

## WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL CONSOLIDATED BYLAW 2012 PART 8: WATER SERVICES

### Introduction

The Local Government Act 2002 (the Act) enables the Council to make bylaws for the management and protection of water supplies, waste water, drainage and sanitation. These matters are also subject to statutory controls in the Act and other enactments. The need for a bylaw covering these matters is founded upon addressing perceived problems that are not effectively controlled by statute or regulation. This bylaw is made pursuant to Part 8 of the Act.

### Title

The title of this bylaw is the Wellington City Council Consolidated Bylaw 2012 Part 8: Water Services.

### Commencement

The bylaw shall be operative from (date). Unless revoked or reviewed sooner, it shall be reviewed no later than (date). If not reviewed by (date) this bylaw is revoked on (date).

### Bylaws revoked & amended

From (date) the consolidated bylaw shown in Schedule 1 (Wellington City Council Bylaw 2012 Part 8: Water Services) is revoked.

### 1. Interpretation

In this part of the bylaw, unless inconsistent with the context, or where otherwise expressly provided:

**"Air Gap Separation"** means a minimum vertical air gap between the outlet of the water supply fitting which fills a storage tank, and the highest overflow water level of that storage tank.

**"Backflow"** means a flow of water or other liquid through any service pipe or supply pipe in a reverse direction to the normal supply flow.

**"Council Approved Contractors"** are contractors approved in writing by Council from time to time. A current list of these contractors is available from the Council.

**"Customer"** is the owner or occupier of the premises that is being supplied with water.

**"Extra-ordinary Supply"** is a category of on demand supply for which water is supplied for purposes other than that of an ordinary supply and which may be subject to specific limitations, terms and conditions.

## APPENDIX 2

**"Extra-ordinary Use"** means the use of water for purposes other than ordinary domestic use. These uses include, but are not limited to:

- (i) domestic spa and swimming pools in excess of 10 cubic metres capacity and fixed garden irrigation systems;
- (ii) fire protection systems, other than sprinkler systems installed to comply with NZS4517, which have prior approval of Council; or
- (iii) temporary supply.

**"Level of Service"** means the measurable performance standards on which the Council undertakes to supply water to its customers.

**"On Demand Supply"** A supply which is available on demand directly from the point of supply subject to the agreed level of service.

**"Ordinary Supply"** is a category of on demand supply used solely for domestic purposes.

**"Ordinary Domestic Use"** means the use of water solely for domestic purposes in a dwelling and subject to clause 8.3. This use includes, subject to prior Council approval, use in a fire sprinkler system installed to comply with NZS4517:2002 and the use of a hose for:

- (i) washing down house, a car, or boat or other domestic vehicle;
- (ii) garden watering by hand; and
- (iii) garden watering with one portable sprinkler per premises.

**"Non-Domestic Use"** means the use of water for purposes other than ordinary domestic use. These include, but are not limited to:

- (i) commercial and business uses;
- (ii) industrial uses;
- (iii) horticultural, agricultural and viticultural uses;
- (iv) fire protection systems, other than sprinkler systems installed to comply with NZS4517, which have prior approval of Council;
- (v) temporary supply.

**"Point of Supply"** - the point on the service pipe leading from the water main to the premises which marks the boundary of responsibility between the customer and the Council, irrespective of property boundaries.

**"Premises"** means:

- (a) a property or allotment which is held under a separate Certificate of Title or for which a separate Certificate of Title may be issued, and in respect to which a building consent has been or may be issued; or
- (b) where a building exists, whether or not a building consent has been issued; or
- (c) a building or part of a building that has been defined as an individual unit by a cross-lease, unit title or company lease and for which a Certificate of Title is available; or
- (d) land held in public ownership, such as a reserve, for a particular purpose.

## APPENDIX 2

**"Prescribed Fee"** means any fees or charges approved by the Council for and items or services associated with the supply of water and includes any fees/charges adopted by the Council in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002 and the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

**"Publicly Notified"** means published on one occasion in one daily or weekly newspaper circulating in the district, or under emergency conditions, in the most effective way to suit the particular circumstances.

**"Restricted Flow Supply"** is where a small continuous flow is supplied by a flow control device across an air gap separation, and storage is provided by the customer to cater for their demand fluctuations.

**"Restrictor"** means a control device fitted to the service pipe or service valve to regulate the flow of water to a customer's premises.

**"Service Pipe"** means that section of water pipe between a watermain and the point of supply. This section of pipe is owned and maintained by the Council.

**"Service Valve (Toby/Manifold)"** means the valve at the customer end of service pipe used to control and/or isolate the supply.

**"Special circumstances"** means the circumstances that may lead the Council to install a meter on the supply to an "Ordinary Domestic Use" to a customer's property. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Known leaks that remain unrepaired
- Where excessive usage is being investigated
- Where water is being wasted.

**"Supply Pipe"** means that section of pipe between the point of supply and the customer's premises through which water is conveyed to the premises. This section of pipe is owned and maintained by the Customer.

**"Termination"** means the physical cutting off of the supply to a premise.

**"Water Meter"** means the approved device fitted to a service to determine the volume of water passing through that point.

**"Water Supply Area"** means any property or allotment serviced by reticulated water supply.

**"Water Supply Connection Standards"** means the Council's Water Supply Connection Standards, which is a public document and is available on the Council's website: [www.wcc.govt.nz](http://www.wcc.govt.nz).

**"Water Supply System"** all of the components of the network between the reservoir and the point of supply. This includes but not limited to rising mains, trunk mains distribution mains, rider mains, pump stations and pumps, valves,

## APPENDIX 2

hydrants, scour lines, service pipes, boundary assemblies, meters, backflow prevention devices, manifolds and tobies.

**"Water Unit"** means the basis of measurement for a restricted flow supply and equals to a volume of 365 m<sup>3</sup> delivered at the rate of 1 m<sup>3</sup> per day.

### 2. Application of the Bylaw

**2.1** Any person being supplied with, or who has made application to be supplied with, water by the Council is deemed to accept the terms and conditions contained in this Bylaw, and any subsequent amendments.

**2.2** This Bylaw and its terms and conditions shall come into effect on the date notified by the Council, for customers receiving a supply at that time, and at the date of receipt of supply for customers connected after that time.

### 3. Application for Supply

**3.1** Any person who wants to:

- (a) obtain a new connection to the water supply; or
- (b) replace an existing connection; or
- (c) alter an existing connection; or
- (d) change the use of the water or level of service,

must make an application on the prescribed form, including all the information required by the Council and pay any prescribed fee. No connection to the water supply, replacement or alteration of existing connections or change of use, shall be made without the prior written approval of the Council.

**3.2** The applicant must be the owner of the premises or have the written authority to act on behalf of the owner of the premises for which the supply is sought.

**3.3** On receipt of a complete application the Council will either:

- (a) approve the application, subject to any conditions the Council considers appropriate; or
- (b) refuse the application; or
- (c) request further information to be supplied by the applicant within a specified time.

The Council will notify the applicant of its decision in writing within 10 working days.

**3.4** New connections, including all pipes, fittings and any other equipment, up to the point of supply, shall only be installed by Council approved contractors and shall be at the cost of the applicant. The applicant shall arrange for the Council approved contractor to complete the work and provide to the Council written confirmation from that contractor that the work was completed by them. No water can be taken from the water supply until that confirmation is received by the Council and acknowledged by the Council.

**3.5** An approved application under clause 3.3, which has not been implemented within six months of the date of application, will lapse unless the Council

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approves an extension, before the 6 month period expires. Any refund of fees paid will be at the sole discretion of the Council.

- 3.6** Any water supply connection must comply with any requirements of the Council, including any requirements contained in the Water Supply Connection Standards.

### **4. Point of Supply**

- 4.1** For each customer there shall be only one point of supply, unless otherwise approved by the Council. The service valve (Toby/Manifold) shall be located 450mm from the boundary, in the berm where possible or as close as possible where fences, walls or other permanent structures make it difficult to locate it at the required position. Other positions shall require specific approval.
- 4.2** The point of supply for single dwelling units, for customers on joint rights of way, common access strips and for the different forms of multiple ownership of premises and/or land shall be located as shown in the Water Supply Connection Standards unless otherwise agreed by the Council.
- 4.3** For a multiple ownership supply which was in existence prior to this Bylaw coming into effect, the point of supply shall be the arrangements that existed at that time, or as determined by agreement with the Council in any individual case.

### **5. Responsibility for maintenance**

- 5.1** The Council shall own and maintain the service pipe and fittings up to the point of supply, including any water meter where fitted. The customer shall own and maintain the supply pipe beyond the point of supply. Without limiting that obligation on the customer, the customer shall undertake any specific maintenance or repairs on the customer's side of the point of supply, as directed by Council.
- 5.2** The Council gives no guarantee as to the serviceability of the service valve (Toby/Manifold) located on the service pipe.

### **6. Ordinary supply**

- 6.1** Every residential premise shall be entitled to an ordinary supply of water, subject to:
- (a) the premises being within the Water Supply Area, and the Council's reticulated water supply being available and capable of servicing the premises;
  - (b) During the official periods of 'daylight saving' garden and lawn watering by sprinkler, irrigation or watering system, or a single unattended hose is only permitted during the hours of 6-8am and 7-9pm on alternate days; even-numbered houses on even-numbered days and un-even (odd) numbered houses on uneven (odd) numbered days;
  - (c) the exclusion of its use under any restrictions imposed by the Council under clause 8.3 of this Bylaw;
  - (d) payment of any prescribed charges in respect of the premises;

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- (e) compliance with the terms and conditions of this Bylaw or contained within any Council approval;
- (f) payment of any other charges or costs associated with sub-divisional development; and
- (g) Council reserving the right in “special circumstances” to:
  - (i) install an approved water meter; or
  - (ii) install a flow restrictor.

### Extra-ordinary Supply

- 6.2 The Council is under no obligation to provide an extra-ordinary supply of water. However, if it does:
- (a) it shall be metered and charged for in accordance with any prescribed fee;
  - (b) the customer will meet all costs in relation to the initial installation of the water meter and testing of it if requested by the customer; and
  - (c) the Council will retain ownership of the water meter and be responsible for maintaining it

### 7. Restricted flow supply

- 7.1 Restricted flow supply shall only be available to premises within an area and/or under special conditions approved by the Council.
- 7.2 The Council reserves the right to require customers to have a meter fitted and to charge any prescribed fee.
- 7.3 A Restricted Flow Supply shall be measured on the basis of an agreed number of units supplied at a uniform flow rate.

### 8. Continuity of Supply

#### Uninterrupted service and maintenance of pressure

- 8.1 The Council does not guarantee an uninterrupted or constant supply of water, nor does the Council guarantee maintenance of an existing pressure and flow.
- 8.2 If a customer has a particular requirement for an uninterrupted level of service (flow, pressure or quality) it will be the responsibility of that customer to provide any necessary storage, back up facilities, or equipment.

#### Demand Management

- 8.3 The customer shall comply with any restrictions which may be approved by the Council to manage high seasonal or other demands. Any restriction or prohibition, as contained in Schedule One, will be imposed by authority delegated to the Chief Executive Officer and will be advised to the Council and publicly notified prior to their coming into effect.

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- 8.4 No person may use, or allow to be used water from the city's reticulated supply in contravention of any restriction or prohibition made by the Council under this bylaw.

### **Emergency Restrictions**

- 8.5 Where there is an emergency (including natural hazards such as floods, drought or earthquake) this may result in disruption to the supply of water and the level service may not be maintained.
- 8.6 During an emergency the Council may restrict or prohibit the use of water for any specific purpose, for any specific period and for any or all of its customers. Such restrictions shall be publicly notified. Where an immediate action is required any restriction or prohibition may be imposed by an authorised officer of the Council subject to subsequent Council ratification.

### **Repair and Maintenance**

- 8.7 Wherever practical the Council will make every reasonable attempt to notify the customer of a scheduled repair or maintenance shutdown of the supply before the work commences. Where immediate repair or maintenance is required and notification is not practical, the Council may shut down the supply without notice.

### **Liability**

- 8.8 The Council shall meet level of service requirements but is not liable for any loss, damage or inconvenience which the customer (or any person using the supply) may sustain as a result of deficiencies in, or interruptions to, the water supply.

## **9. Fire Protection Connection**

- 9.1 No connection to the water supply for fire protection shall be made without the prior written approval of the Council. Any proposed connection for fire protection shall be the subject of an application (on the prescribed form) to the Council. It shall include all the details required by the Council and be accompanied by the prescribed fee (if any). Any such application may be granted, subject to any conditions the Council considers appropriate, or refused. The Council will notify the applicant of its decision in writing within 10 working days.

Any fire connection must comply with the requirements of the Council, including any requirements contained in the Water Supply Connection Standards.

- 9.2 The Council shall be under no obligation to provide a fire protection supply at any particular flow or pressure.

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- 9.3** The Council reserves the right to require the customer to supply and install an approved water meter at any time for water supply for fire protection and pay any prescribed fee. The metering of fire connections shall be as shown in the Water Supply Connection Standards, unless otherwise agreed by the Council.
- 9.4** Notwithstanding clause 9.3, for a fire connection (including those installed prior to the coming into effect of this Bylaw) which is so constructed or so located that it is likely or possible that the water will be drawn from it (including hydrants) or from any part of it by any person for purposes other than fire fighting, the Council shall require the customer to install a water meter suitable for the purpose, on the connection.
- 9.5** The right to gain access to, and draw water from, fire hydrants shall be restricted to:
- (a) the Council or its authorised officers;
  - (b) Fire Service personnel for the purpose of Fire Service operations; and
  - (c) fire hydrant permit holders, during the period for which the permit has been issued.
- 9.6** To obtain a fire hydrant permit, the applicant must make an application to the Council, including all information required by Council and payment of the prescribed fee (if any). The Council may, in its discretion, grant or decline such an application and if granted, may impose whatever conditions it sees fit, including limiting the time period when water can be drawn from the hydrant.
- 9.7** Where an unmetered connection has been provided to supply water to a fire protection system this shall be used for no other purpose than fire fighting and testing the fire protection system.
- 9.8** Handheld hoses intended for fire-fighting purposes are not to be used for purposes other than fire-fighting or testing of that system
- 9.9** It shall be the customer's responsibility to ascertain and periodically monitor whether the fire protection supply available is adequate for the intended purpose.
- 9.10** Water used for the purpose of extinguishing fires will be supplied free of charge. Where the fire protection connection is metered and water has been used for fire fighting purposes, the Council shall, upon notification, assess the quantity of water used, and a sum based on the estimate at the appropriate charge rate shall be credited to the customer's account.
- 9.11** Customers intending to test fire protection systems in a manner that requires a draw-off of water shall obtain approval from the Council beforehand. Water used for routine flushing and flow testing does not constitute waste but quantity of water used may be assessed and charged for by the Council.

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### 10. Backflow Prevention

- 10.1** It is the customer's responsibility to take all necessary measures on the customer's side of the point of supply to prevent water which has been drawn from the Council's water supply from returning to that supply. Council retains the right to fit a backflow prevention device on the customer's side of the point of supply at the customer's expense.
- 10.2** All water for shipping and fire service connections shall have an approved backflow prevention device installed on the customer's side of the point of supply at the customer's expense.
- 10.3** The customer is required to maintain the backflow prevention device in proper working order and undertake the annual inspection by an Independent Qualified Person (IQP). The annual inspection certification shall be forwarded to Council's Building Consents and Licensing Services Department
- 10.4** Failing to comply with 10.3 will result in the Council Building Consents and Licensing Services Department issuing an infringement notice to the customer.

### 11. Meters and Flow Restrictors

- 11.1** "Ordinary Domestic Use" is not required by the Council to be metered unless the provisions of clause 6.1(g) are in place.
- 11.2** "Non-Domestic Use" shall be metered. All meters must be installed by the customer in compliance with the requirements of the Council. The customer will pay for the initial installation of the meters as prescribed in the Water Supply Connection Standards. The Council will own and maintain the meter thereafter. All owners of premises which have a metered supply shall pay the prescribed fee in relation to that supply
- 11.3** All extra-ordinary supply shall be metered. All meters must be installed by the customer in compliance with the requirements of the Council. The customer will pay for the initial installation of the meters as prescribed in the Water Supply Connection Standards. The Council will own and maintain the meter thereafter. All owners of premises which have a metered supply shall pay the prescribed fee in relation to that supply.
- 11.4** Restrictors for restricted flow supplies, shall be supplied, installed and maintained by the Council and shall remain the property of the Council.
- 11.5** In "Special Circumstances", subject to Clause 6.1(f), where known water wastage remains unresolved, subject to the 'Special Circumstances Water Service Bylaw Procedure' establishing water wastage, a metered supply shall pay any prescribed fee and any fee in relation to that supply.

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- 11.6** Where a customer requests the Council to test the meter, the Council will arrange a test to be carried out as prescribed in the Water Supply Connection Standards and all costs associated with test shall be paid for by the customer.
- 11.7** A customer (with an ordinary supply) may make application for the installation of a water meter to enable the customer to change from a capital value rates charge for water to a water-by-meter charge. The customer will meet all costs in relation to the installation of the water meter. The Council shall own and maintain the meter.
- 11.8** If the customer suspects that the meter has been tampered with the Council should be notified immediately.
- 11.9** Should any meter be out of repair or cease to register the Council shall estimate the consumption for the period since the previous reading as prescribed in the Water Supply Connection Standards.

### **12. Customer Responsibilities**

- 12.1** The customer's plumbing system shall be designed, installed and maintained, both in its component parts and its entirety, to ensure that it complies with the Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Act 1976, the Building Act 2004 and the New Zealand Building Code and any other relevant statutory requirements in place at the time. In addition, the customer's plumbing system shall comply with any requirements in the Water Supply Connection Standards.
- 12.2** Customers must not allow water to run to waste, allow leaks to continue unchecked or repaired or allow the unattended operation of hoses.
- 12.3** Where a customer ignores advice from the Council to repair an on-going leak, the Council may repair the leak and charge the customer all associated cost as provided in the Local Government Act 2002.
- 12.4** Pumps, hydraulically driven equipment, quick closing valves of any kind or any other equipment which may cause pressure surges to be transmitted, shall not be connected directly to the supply pipe.

### **13. Working Around Buried Services**

- 13.1** Any person proposing to carry out excavation work shall:
- (a) Be responsible for locating all buried services prior to commencing excavation work, and
  - (b) Follow the procedures required for obtaining a Road Opening Notice (as laid down in the Council's Code of Practice for Working on the Road).

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**13.2** Any damage which occurs to a Council service shall be reported to the Council immediately. The person causing the damage shall be liable for the cost of repair.

### **14. Council Equipment**

**14.1** The customer shall take due care to protect from damage the Council equipment up to the point of supply, including pipework, valving and restrictors.

**14.2** The customer shall maintain the area in and around the point of supply free of soil, growth, or other matter or obstruction which prevents or is likely to prevent convenient access.

### **15. Payment**

**15.1** The customer shall be liable to pay for the supply of water and related services in accordance with the Council's prescribed fee.

**15.2** The Council may recover all unpaid water charges for metered water usage, in the manner prescribed in the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

### **16. Transfer of Rights and Responsibilities**

**16.1** The customer's rights and responsibilities provided for under this Bylaw are not transferable.

**16.2** Water which the customer draws from the Council supply shall not be provided to any other party without prior Council approval and a customer shall not extend the water supply by means of any hose or other pipe to a party beyond the customer's property.

### **17. Change of Ownership**

**17.1** In the event of a premises changing ownership or tenant the Council requires the outgoing owner/tenant to advise details of the new owner or tenant as being the customer at that premises. Where a premise is metered the outgoing customer shall give the Council 48 hours' notice to arrange a final reading.

### **18. Termination**

**18.1** The customer must make an application to Council for termination of water supply on the prescribed form, including all the information required by the Council and pay any prescribed fee.

**18.2** On receiving approval of termination from Council the customer must arrange for any termination to be undertaken by a Council approved contractor.

**18.3** Where a metered premise is to be demolished the customer shall give 48 hours' notice to arrange a final reading. The customer must also make an

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application to Council for removal of the water meter and termination of water supply as per 18.1 above.

### 19. Offences

**19.1** Every person commits an offence against this bylaw who:

- (a) does or permits anything contrary to this Bylaw;
- (b) omits or neglects to do anything which ought to be done at the time and in the manner provided in this Bylaw;
- (c) fails to comply with any duty, obligation, or condition imposed by this Bylaw;
- (d) fails to comply with any resolution made under this Bylaw;
- (e) fails to comply with any approval granted under the Bylaw, including any condition of an approval granted under this Bylaw;
- (f) provides an incorrect application for supply which fundamentally affects the provisions;
- (g) gains access to and draws water from a fire hydrant without prior approval from the Council;
- (h) makes any connection to the water supply system without prior written approval from the Council; or
- (i) tampers or interferes with Council equipment or water supply system, either directly or indirectly.

### 20. Resolution power

**20.1** The Council may, by resolution, impose such prohibitions, restrictions, controls, or directions regarding the use of water and impose any requirements it sees fit in relation to the installation and maintenance of infrastructure necessary for water supply.

## SCHEDULE OF WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

### Clause 8.3 and 8.4 require that:

- 8.3 The customer shall comply with any restrictions which may be approved by Council to manage high seasonal or other demands. Any restriction or prohibition, as contained in Schedule One, will be imposed by authority delegated to the Chief Executive Officer and will be advised to Council and publicly notified prior to their coming into effect.
- 8.4 No person may use any water, or allow to be used, water from the City's reticulated supply in contravention of any restriction or prohibition made by the Council under this bylaw.

The Schedule of Water Use Restrictions (Level One to Five inclusive) that may be imposed by Wellington City Council through the authority delegated to the Chief Executive Officer is as follows.

Level Six and Level Seven may only be imposed following the declaration of a state of local emergency as per section 68 (Declaration of a state of local emergency) of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002.

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Level One (provides for):

- Daylight Savings alternate day garden watering allowances and hand-held hose use
- Water Patrols (providing advice on allowed watering hours)
- Joint advertising across Councils

Level Two (provides for):

- Level One, plus,
- Increased advertising
- Increased use of water patrols

Level Three (provides for):

- Level Two, plus,
- Increased advertising (restrictions/leak reporting) and water patrols
- Ban on garden sprinklers and unattended irrigation systems (watering only by hand)

Level Four (provides for):

- Level Three, plus,
- Increased advertising (restrictions/leak reporting) and water patrols
- Ban on domestic hose use (watering can/bucket use only)

Level Five (provides for):

- Level Four, plus,
- Increased advertising (restrictions/leak reporting) and water patrols
- Ban on all outdoor water use (other than for emergencies)

Level Six (provides for):

- Level Five, plus,
- Increased advertising (restrictions/leak reporting) and water patrols
- Ban on all non-essential water use (emergency use only)

Level Seven (provides for):

- Level Six, plus,
- Increased advertising (restrictions/leak reporting) and water patrols
- Life-sustaining and emergency water use only

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### **Commentary**

**The following comments do not form part of the Bylaw. They are included to provide advice on the relevant legislation and information that relates to the Bylaw.**

#### **Statutory authority**

This Bylaw is made pursuant to the Council's bylaw-making powers in the Local Government Act 2002.

#### **Legislation**

There are a number of statutory provisions that relate to the control of the supply of water, wastage of water and the Council's powers of entry onto private premises. Please refer to sections 171-173 and sections 192 -193 of the Local Government Act 2002.

#### **Obtaining approval from the Council**

Should you need to obtain approval from the Council in relation to this Bylaw, you should contact the Council's Central City Service Centre, phone 499 4444, and they will direct you to the appropriate person. There will be an application form you will need to fill in. Council officers will be able to assist you in completing an application form.

### International Relations Policy

#### 1. Purpose

The purpose of Wellington City Council's International Relations Policy is to enhance Wellington's reputation as an attractive city for migrants, a great place to invest and do business. While the Council's international relations policy has traditionally focused on cultural ties and tourism, this policy puts more emphasis on economic development.

#### 2. Policy Objectives

- Strategic focus: support the Council's strategic vision – Wellington Towards 2040: Smart Capital.
- Economic development: pursue new city-to-city relationships that offer economic opportunities.
- Productive relationships: build on existing city-to-city relationships to develop economic partnerships and projects.
- Foster linkages: provide local businesses with access to new markets and networks.
- Promotion of the city: raise the profile of Wellington internationally as an attractive city and a great place to work, invest, visit, do business, learn and live.
- Identity: Enhance Wellington's character and prosperity through well planned and managed relationships, partnerships and activities.
- Engagement: enhance opportunities for international dialogue.

#### 3. Principles

- a) All international relationships must fit with the Council's strategic vision: Wellington Towards 2040: Smart Capital.
- b) Any new economic partnerships or projects must fit with the common priorities and objectives as agreed between the Council and its international relations stakeholders (i.e. local business, tourism, education and political and diplomatic leaders).
- c) New international relationships should be assessed on their potential to provide demonstrable benefits for Wellington.
- d) Decisions on allocating the Council's limited international relations resources must be made with confidence that the city derives sufficient value to justify Council engagement.

#### 4. Benefits

International relationships contribute to Wellington's:

- *Economy* – access to markets, commercial opportunities, international investment in Wellington and the attraction of skilled migrants and international students and tourists all contribute to the city's economic prosperity.
- *Community and culture* – people that visit and settle in Wellington support the vision for a creative, knowledge-based city and contribute to the capital's reputation for being diverse and open.

## 5. Policy outline

The Wellington City Council can use a variety of mechanisms to ensure effective international relations. The use of these will be guided by the following:

### 5.1 *Focus international relations resources where Council has a distinct role and can make a difference*

International relations activities will focus on opportunities and initiatives where the Council does not displace other actors and is best placed to be a facilitator, political or community leader.

Decisions on allocating the Council's international relations resources must be made with confidence that the ratepayer derives sufficient social, cultural or economic value to justify Council engagement (partly demonstrated by assessment of actual or likely stakeholder participation, engagement and resource commitment).

### 5.2 *Encourage local, regional, national and international collaboration*

A key principle underlying the policy is partnering with local, regional, national and international organisations, recognising that the Council cannot act alone in achieving the aims. Significant skills and resources exist in other agencies (e.g. New Zealand Trade and Enterprise). Just as it is important for Council to focus effort on where it adds most value, it is important to ensure Council continues to be well linked in to key national agencies and to diplomatic missions, and to ensure our stakeholders can fully capitalise on the advantages of being the nation's capital. Specifically, the Council will leverage its relationships and agreements with institutions (ie WOW) to promote Wellington internationally.

### 5.3 *Council and stakeholder perspectives*

There is a wide range of stakeholders who may participate in developing and maintaining Wellington's international relations. Stakeholder perspectives can inform Council's planning by helping to:

- Identify and prioritise opportunities
- Establish the level of stakeholder commitment to supporting International Relations activities. (Stakeholder commitment to engage directly in supporting international relations activities provides a useful proxy for stakeholder assessments of the value of specific initiatives.)

The following table identifies the main categories of stakeholders, their possible roles and interests, and Council's potential roles in respect of each category. This is not a complete list and other key stakeholders may emerge over time. Council will engage with stakeholders to inform forward planning of international relations activities:

Categories of stakeholders	Council's potential role(s)
Central and local government agencies.	Support local business – government interface. Ensure synergies between council and national government priorities. Leadership role as capital city. Collaboration with other Wellington region local authorities.

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Local/ regional tourism, education and economic development agencies.	Cooperate to promote local and regional tourism, education and business opportunities.
Wellington businesses, business organisations.	Brokering, facilitation, political representation.
Individuals (visitors, overseas students in Wellington, Kiwi Expats Abroad)	Ensuring visitors/ students engage and positively identify with Wellington. Potentially facilitating ambassador role through easy access to relevant information material on Wellington.

### 5.4 City-to-city relationships

The purpose of city-to-city relationships is to foster cultural, historical, educational, sporting and economic links. Wellington City Council's city-to-city relationships fall into four sub-categories:

- *Sister city*: a formal, long-term relationship based on diverse linkages between the two cities including cultural, educational and business links. Sister city relationships require a high degree of commitment on both sides, and active involvement of a community committee.
- *Historical sister city*: Relationship based on historical or ceremonial links.
- *Friendly city*: Less formal and lower profile relationship than a sister city relationship. Likely to be a long term relationship, but the level of community support and involvement is not sufficiently high to warrant a full sister city relationship.
- *International social, cultural or sporting partnership*: A timebound relationship which is based on a specific non-economic project or initiative in which the city shares a significant interest with Wellington.

### 5.5 City-to-city economic development partnerships and projects

The purpose of economic development partnerships and projects is to facilitate investment in either ideas or capital in Wellington, to assist in the development of business and promotional opportunities for Wellington businesses in overseas countries, to promote people exchange (visitors, temporary and permanent migrants, and students) and to assist in the transfer of technical expertise and knowledge.

These would normally be a time-bound relationship which is based on economic development objectives in which the city shares a significant interest with Wellington. This category could include exchanges of technology and expertise (eg a city like Melbourne may not have sufficient cultural difference to Wellington to justify investment in improving cultural understanding, but may have sufficient common interest (e.g. earthquake technology) or common areas of business focus (e.g. leading edge information technology) to justify an economic development partnership.

### 5.6 Leading, hosting and participating in international delegations

Council supports and participates in both inward and outward delegations with a wide range of business, political, educational and cultural purposes. Support for, or initiation of, delegations will be determined by an assessment of their fit with

this policy. It is acknowledged that official approaches by sending countries will be appropriately supported as part of generic hosting obligations.

Wellington City Council will work with mana whenua as appropriate for formal delegations to ensure international visitors receive the best possible understanding of the cultural dimensions that is unique to New Zealand.

### **6. Other mechanisms and relationships**

The international relations policy has connections with other strategies and council activities including.

#### *6.1 Tourism promotion, attractions and events*

The Council funds tourism promotion, major and iconic events and support facilities that draw visitors to the city.

#### *6.2 An integrated approach to attracting and retaining talent*

Destination Wellington is a core component of the Economic Development Strategy that recognises the need to extend marketing beyond tourism. The initiative aims to target attraction of talent, businesses and investment to promote Wellington as the business capital of New Zealand. The Council is working with its tourism promotion and economic development agencies to deliver this.

#### *6.3 Cultural and settlement activities*

The Council's community, recreational and cultural activities provide opportunities for people to engage and feel connected to the city.

#### *6.4 International connections and networks*

The Council is a member of a number of international networks and institutions, and connects with others around the world across a variety of fields to share knowledge, information and expertise, combine efforts to resolve common problems and learn about best practice. These relationships are generally not city-to-city, are activity or industry focused, are generally informal, time-bound, and may not need formal ongoing relationships or commitments.

### **7. Monitoring and review**

Monitoring will include:

- committee report backs on the outcomes of international delegations.
- quarterly and annual reporting on initiatives and relationships relative to that period.

The policy will be reviewed as and when required.

**Work Programme**

<i>Short-term priority work programme</i>	
Strengthen China	25 years of sister city relations with Xiamen, 6 years with Beijing, and recent agreements with Tianjin and Zhejiang are long-term investments that are resulting in business successes and opportunities for Wellington firms. Regular contact is important as this demonstrates a commitment to the relationship. Regular (ie annual visits) would be a way of demonstrating this.
Sustain Japan	The city has 18 year of relations with Sakai. This means the city is well positioned to support any business initiatives that arise.
Grow Australia	Wellington has an existing relationship with Sydney. Australia is a key market and opportunities to expand business and attract investment and talent exits. Given proximity, similar values, culture and priorities, growing the relationship with Australia is possible without higher formalities. Business and civic connections are and can be readily made.
Connect with US western coast	Explore opportunities to strengthening institutional and agency connections between Wellington and the wider West Coast of the United States through agencies such as Grow Wellington, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and New Zealand Trade and Enterprise and pursue a relationship with San Francisco to enhance business collaboration – particularly to support digital and earthquake technology sectors. The entire west coast of the United States offers opportunities to support Wellington’s creative tech sectors.
Build strategic relationships in New Zealand	<p>Develop a programme of work to better engage and connect with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wellington’s national institutions</li> <li>• embassies and consulates</li> <li>• expats overseas</li> <li>• government departments (and their strategies, resources and connections)</li> <li>• other core cities in New Zealand</li> <li>• Wellington institutions and businesses.</li> </ul> <p>By working together more closely, we can collaborate, and align work to maximise opportunities, effort and resources. A more active engagement programme with stakeholders and regular focus groups will allow potential opportunities to be identified and assessments made for what role the council can play.</p>
<i>Long-term work programme</i>	
Explore India	India is an emerging world power. There may be merits in the council leveraging our capital city status to partner with Delhi (or other city) in the long term. This could act as a platform for economic and social developments. While there are no immediate plans to enter in to formal relations with Delhi it is considered appropriate to continue to engage in conversations with Indian Community in Wellington to identify areas of cooperation.
Consider other relationships	Investigate the possibility of establishing a relationship with Singapore. Singapore is a city where air links could be established to support the Councils long-haul strategy.

# OUR CAPITAL SPACES

AN OPEN SPACES AND RECREATION FRAMEWORK FOR WELLINGTON:  
2013–23

## Section 1 – summary

### Our plan for the next 10 years - what is different?

This plan is part of Wellington City Council's Our Living City programme and replaces and updates our Capital Spaces Strategy (1998) and Recreation Strategy (2003).

Much has been achieved for our open spaces, sports and recreation since the last Capital Spaces Strategy was developed. We want to build on these achievements and get more people active and enjoying the outdoors.

We can do this in some simple and effective ways, including raising awareness about what's on offer. We will make sure people know what's available by developing smart and easily accessed online information.

We will also ensure that there are well-designed park and neighbourhood signs, including informative maps and stories of different local areas.

We want to invest wisely and effectively in our parks, open space and recreation areas so that they appeal to a wider range of people. We propose focusing on short, accessible walking and biking tracks and well-located parks and open space (including the waterfront) that provide a range of activities. In-line with our Accessibility Action Plan, we will ensure that frequently used spaces are made as accessible as reasonably practicable and cater for all people regardless of ability.

We will prioritise the development of well-located hubs that contain multiple recreational facilities in the same space. Recreational and community hubs enable people to play in a range of ways, across a range of times, and to connect with a wider community. They also have the potential to attract more local, regional and national events.

We want to connect with and protect nature in our own backyard – making local ecosystems stronger and healthier. We will bring more species of plants, birds, and lizards into our city and daily lives. We want to show off all of Wellington's natural attractions, including making Wellington a premier walking, cycling and events destination.

# We will invest wisely and effectively in our parks and recreation areas so that they appeal to a wider range of people

We need to manage our open spaces in partnership with the wider community. At a local level, we want to help community groups share the responsibility for looking after our parks. In return, local communities will have a greater say on how the park will work. We will continue working with mana whenua, other Councils, schools and sports clubs too.

We have worked hard to establish a good, consistent level of service, but people expect more and needs change.

Our Capital Spaces gives us the flexibility to meet these changing needs. This plan will ensure decisions on funding consider and prioritise areas where demand is high, and where activities contribute to the outcomes being sought.

This will mean we have to do less of some things and it is important to be upfront about that. Examples of the things that could change are:

- 1 limiting investment (including maintenance) in parks that do not appeal to a wide range of people or do not have important roles for protecting nature. This might mean handing some of those parks to community groups to maintain. This has worked well in some places already (for example, the Jay Street Community Garden, see case study 1 on page 22).
- 2 changing our focus from developing some of the longer and more remote tracks, identified in the Council's Open Spaces Access Plan, to tracks that incorporate and join shorter tracks between suburbs.

We will fully involve local communities when proposing any significant changes to any spaces (including but not limited to the types of changes outlined above). This will include considering the present benefits and future potential of each space.

**This document provides a vision of what the community wants to achieve with the development, promotion and prioritisation of investment in the city's open space and recreation framework. Budgets and timings will be confirmed for all proposed outcomes and priorities as part of the long-term plan and annual planning processes.**

# Section 2 – introduction

## What are ‘Our Capital Spaces’?

**Our Capital Spaces are our open spaces – areas of land or water with recreational, ecological, landscape, cultural and/or historic value which provide public access. Our Capital Spaces include natural reserves, Town Belt, the harbour, coastal areas, sportsfields, playgrounds and other outdoor recreation facilities.**

### **Why are Our Capital Spaces important?**

The open spaces and natural areas of Wellington City are a key part of what makes Wellington unique. These are well used and valued by a huge number of Wellingtonians and visitors.

These open spaces and recreation areas are vital to our lifestyle, health and wellbeing, culture, environment and economy. Increasingly, cities worldwide are competing for the economic benefits derived from attracting talented workers, visitors and hosting events. Good quality open spaces and recreation opportunities will make Wellington more attractive. Through our open spaces and recreation areas, we connect with our friends, neighbours and meet new people.

Open spaces protect important natural habitats and functions. Having clean water, growing food, and caring for native plants and animals are values which run deep within the many cultures of our city. We are a sporting city and our recreational facilities provide a range of opportunities to get active.

### **Why is a plan needed?**

In 1998, the Council endorsed the Capital Spaces Strategy which focused on expanding the area of open spaces including the Outer Green Belt.

In 2003, the Council approved the Recreation Strategy which focused on providing:

- 1 a diverse range and an abundance of quality recreation and leisure activities that are easily accessed and affordable
- 2 increased participation in recreation and leisure activities to enhance overall health and wellbeing
- 3 year-round recreation activities and events to contribute to the economic prosperity and identity of Wellington
- 4 a wide range of recreational opportunities in our open spaces that do not compromise environmental values
- 5 good public health by encouraging health and fitness.

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The Capital Spaces Strategy and the Recreation Strategy seek similar outcomes which overlap. The Council has reviewed these strategies and looked at how open spaces are being used, and consider that these plans should be combined and updated.

### **How will this plan improve our open spaces and recreation opportunities, and how did we identify the outcomes sought in the plan?**

Our plan focuses on getting more people using, relaxing in and enjoying our open spaces, including our sporting and recreational facilities.

This plan provides details on how the Council will make decisions on our open spaces from 2013–23 and beyond.

To get more people using, relaxing in and enjoying our open spaces and recreation areas, the new plan outlines a number of outcomes that we feel Wellingtonians would like to see achieved. We have based our outcomes on the expectations expressed in public surveys, on information provided by focus groups and on information gained through talking to other organisations\*. This told us that:

- 1 People have many competing priorities, and more often do shorter activities (of up to three hours) rather than longer activities in our open spaces.
- 2 People often have limited knowledge of the extent of opportunities available in different spaces, so more easily accessible information is needed to raise awareness.
- 3 Being able to conveniently and affordably access areas, sport and recreation is important for increasing use.
- 4 People want more flexibility to participate in a growing range of activities at different times on sports areas, parks and other open spaces that are well located for communities.
- 5 Different cultures want greater diversity and involvement in open spaces, including the promotion of cultural art and heritage.
- 6 Increasing the numbers of native plant and animal species, and protecting key waterways, the harbours and cultural and natural landscapes is increasingly important to people, particularly as our population grows.
- 7 Communities are becoming more involved in our open spaces.
- 8 We need to increasingly cater for older people as the proportion of people in our population aged over 65 grows.

\*For example, the “Open Spaces” Focus Group research by Wellington City Council, November 2012; Porirua City Council Leisure and Recreation Services Users Survey, June 2010; Sport New Zealand Young Peoples Survey, September 2012.

### **Where does the plan fit?**

Our Capital Spaces supports the strategic outcomes and goals identified in Wellington Towards 2040: Smart Capital. The following diagram shows how this plan fits within Council’s strategic framework:

# THE OPEN SPACES IN OUR CAPITAL CITY ARE WELL USED AND VALUED BY A HUGE NUMBER OF WELLINGTONIANS AND VISITORS

## Section 3 – Our Capital Spaces

### What outcomes are we seeking and what will we focus on?

The plan is a framework which will help the Council to make good decisions. Specifically, four outcomes and a number of areas of focus will guide decisions around funding and the use of open spaces and recreation areas. We can achieve these outcomes in many different ways. For example, by encouraging diversity of use, supporting increased participation and ensuring better use of our assets.

#### OUTCOME 1: GETTING EVERYONE ACTIVE AND HEALTHY

##### **Focus: Awareness**

We want to increase the use of open spaces to get even more people physically active in our city.

Our open spaces can sometimes be our best-kept secret. We will spread the word about the great opportunities these spaces provide through:

- high quality, consistent signs and appropriate entrances to make it easy for people to find and use our tracks, parks and other spaces. Signs will also explain the historical, cultural and environmental significance of different spaces
- developing smart and easily accessed information to tell people about what's on offer. This includes smart-phone applications, interactive mapping of walking tracks and cycle ways, and working with online 'meet-up' groups, such as Adventure Wellington, that plan regular events in our open spaces.

We will make sure that as many signs, online and other information as possible can be accessed by everyone (including those with hearing or sight impairments).

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### **Focus: Supporting sport and recreation and increasing participation**

Sport and recreation are important to Wellingtonians. We are involved in a greater range of these activities than ever before and participation is changing. For example, the numbers of casual participants turning up and taking part is growing. While many sports clubs and recreation clubs are thriving, others are struggling to retain membership.

We want to ensure that we support these changes so that sport and recreation continues to thrive in the city and participation increases. To do this we will engage early with sports and recreation clubs to provide support. This could be by linking clubs with other sports or activity-based clubs to share facilities and expertise. Where relevant, we will encourage clubs to broaden their community role and /or deepen partnerships with the wider community including businesses.

We also need to provide a range of open spaces and recreation links for informal activities such as walking, running, cycling and kick-around areas, as well as passive recreation and leisure activities such as picnics.

We are committed to ensuring that the Council's user fees continue to be affordable and will encourage participation in sport and recreation through targeted programmes.

### **Focus: Community and neighbourhood spaces**

We will focus on the development of well-located parks and other open spaces with a range of activities catering for the whole community. For example, a family would be able to visit a park where one child can cycle, another child can play sport, and they can all have a picnic in the same visit at the same location. Karori Park is an example of a well-located park that caters for a wide range of activities.

Open spaces other than parks can provide a wide range of activities for the whole community. For instance, Oriental Parade, Lyall Bay, Waitangi Park and the waterfront. These areas are well used for many purposes and make great use of the inner harbour, coastline and beaches.

Through the development of local reserve management plans, we have identified some priorities for development, and will focus on Hataitai Park, Alex Moore Park in Johnsonville (see case study 4 on page 23), Newlands Park and Wakefield Park in Berhampore. We seek to expand this model of multi-use recreational facilities across the city.

We will continue to ensure that well-used spaces are adequately provided in the central city. Such spaces do not need to be large but should be well-designed and located with adequate seating, shelter and other amenities. Examples include Midland Park and Glover Park. We will also ensure that as population grows in different parts of the city, access to good quality open spaces does not reduce. This work will be carried out through the Central City Framework.

We will identify important community and neighbourhood spaces through the Suburban Reserves Management Plan. We will continue to encourage and support local communities to get involved and look after local neighbourhood spaces where appropriate, for example, by establishing community gardens or setting up community planting groups.

# WE WILL ASSIST PEOPLE FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS AND INCOMES TO ENJOY OPEN SPACES AND RECREATION

### **Focus: Providing accessible walking and cycling tracks**

The Council plans to develop short, easily accessible walking and cycling tracks close to where people live. Our priorities (determined from our research) will be to develop the following tracks:

- 1 the Skyline track on the Outer Green Belt between Johnsonville and Porirua with short track links to Churton Park and Tawa
- 2 the Harbour Escarpment Track between Woodridge and Ngauranga, providing a range of short tracks for residents of Newlands, Woodridge and Paparangi.

We will explore partnerships for completing coastal tracks between Owhiro Bay and Makara, Otari and Makara, and for Karori Stream.

### **Focus: Equity and universal access**

We will assist people from all backgrounds and incomes to enjoy open spaces and recreation. We will reduce barriers that prevent people from participating in activities and using facilities, as part of engaging with local communities and advocacy groups.

## OUTCOME 2: PROTECTING OUR BIRDS, NATURE, STREAMS AND LANDSCAPES

### **Focus: Restoring local habitats and encouraging native birds into communities**

We will plan, manage and develop open spaces as an integrated ecological and recreational network.

The plan is to restore more ecological areas throughout the city and encourage native wildlife into every community. We will do this by continuing to expand the Council's pest management (plant and animal pests) and native planting programme. For example, as part of Our Living City an impressive target of

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planting two million native trees by 2020 has been set.

We will also focus on creating a safe habitat around Zealandia for the native birds flying in and out of the sanctuary.

### **Focus: Identifying important landscapes**

We will identify and protect and/or acquire important natural and cultural landscapes, including primary forest remnants, that contribute to achieving the recreation and biodiversity outcomes sought in Our Capital Spaces, whilst meeting the growth needs of the city.

The priority areas identified include:

- 1 Watts Peninsula (working with the Crown)
- 2 Belmont Gully (northern growth development contribution)
- 3 the Outer Green Belt between Johnsonville and Tawa (through acquisition and/or easements)
- 4 former Town Belt land held by the Crown
- 5 Harbour (Hutt Road) Escarpment.

### OUTCOME 3: CONTRIBUTING TO WELLINGTON'S OUTSTANDING QUALITY OF LIFE

The open spaces and natural areas of Wellington City are hugely important in defining who we are and how we live. They help make us like nowhere else on earth, and are an important consideration in people deciding to move here and stay here. Our open spaces provide us with places to be active, socialise, relax, play, look at, and enjoy.

We want to:

- 1 develop the educational role of our key nature-based attractions with innovative projects – for instance, the proposed children's garden in Wellington Botanic Garden
- 2 build on the reputation of Wellington City and region as a world class mountain biking and walking destination
- 3 secure regional and national tournaments, and events that use our parks, outdoor spaces and other recreation areas.

We want to make sure that these attractions continue to be well promoted by Wellington City Council, our Council Controlled Organisations, and our external partners.

## THE OPEN SPACES AND NATURAL AREAS OF WELLINGTON CITY ARE HUGELY IMPORTANT IN DEFINING WHO WE ARE

## OUTCOME 4: DOING IT TOGETHER

### **Focus: Local partnerships**

The Council can't implement this plan alone. Working with organisations such as Wellington Zoo, Zealandia, the Basin Reserve Trust, Westpac Stadium, universities, Department of Conservation, Ministry of Education and other local authorities is critical for our success.

Community groups are asking to be more involved and fully consulted when planning and managing our open spaces. Since 1998, the number of community groups involved in restoration and track building has grown from four to 71. As well, many sporting and recreational groups manage facilities and sporting activities.

Examples of great community partnerships include: the Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park, the Berhampore Golf Course, community gardens and orchards in public open spaces, and the restoration of Trelissick Park.

Our focus is to encourage more partnerships like these by:

- 1 establishing community gardens and restoration projects in every community that wants one
- 2 expanding the shared management model of sporting facilities, particularly where this involves several clubs or sporting codes using one area
- 3 working with schools to better use their outdoor areas outside school hours.

We already have some great examples of this with the development of community playgrounds at Amesbury and Westpark schools, the artificial sportsfields at Wellington College and St Patrick's College Wellington and swimming pool partnerships such as Berhampore school.

There are some private providers of sport and recreation facilities, such as private bowling and golf clubs, and West Wind Recreation Area in Makara owned by Meridian Energy. Where possible, the Council will partner with these providers in delivering sport and recreation opportunities to communities.

The Council will fully involve and consult community groups and other local residents on any significant proposals affecting our open spaces and recreation opportunities.

### **Focus: Regional partnerships**

We recognise that we are part of a regional open space and recreation network that crosses territorial boundaries and is used by the public for different activities. For instance, regional parks and Department of Conservation reserves offer a range of different experiences (often whole day and multi day) to urban open space. We want to ensure consistent standards and complementary experiences for users across the region. We propose several regional initiatives including:

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- 1 continuing to work across the region to ensure equitable access, fees, and levels of service
- 2 developing Spicer Forest Recreation Park with Porirua City Council to provide an extensive outdoor recreation destination for activities such as walking, biking, dog walking and horse riding
3. working with the Crown to establish a heritage park on Watts Peninsula to protect and showcase the important Māori and military history of the site, allow recreational use of the area and develop its role as a key part of the city's ecological network
4. a regional approach to future growth in outdoor sport by developing a long-term plan for future sportsfield development between Kapiti, the Hutt Valley, Porirua and Wellington
5. a regional approach to the care and health of Wellington Harbour Te Whanganui a Tara.

### **Focus: Strong relationships with Māori**

We will encourage Treaty partners and the wider Māori community to help determine how this plan can be implemented, including:

- 1 working in partnership with mana whenua to manage the Town Belt, and co-managing reserve land vested in mana whenua (for example, Oruaiti Reserve)
- 2 supporting Māori community-based groups to practise kaitiakitanga (guardianship), and to use our open spaces for the development of indigenous knowledge and traditional activities, such as raranga (weaving), for the benefit of all.

## WE WILL ENCOURAGE TREATY PARTNERS AND THE WIDER MAORI COMMUNITY TO HELP DETERMINE HOW THIS PLAN CAN BE IMPLEMENTED

### Case studies

#### **Case study 1: Newlands/Paparangi community collaboration**

In the Newlands area, a number of groups, including the Newlands Paparangi Progressive Association, are working closely together and with the Council to achieve a shared objective – the enhancement of their local reserves for biodiversity and recreation, for the enjoyment of all. Seton Nossiter Park Working Group, Woodridge Planters and Ngā Hau e Whā o Paparāangi all have strong, supportive working relationships with each other. These groups also work with the Jay Street Community Garden, which houses a native plant nursery run by the community.

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Plants from this project are planted back into the local reserves. They also support local schools and retirement homes to get involved with the restoration of their local reserves.

Together these groups share resources while maintaining their individual identities, and they include the wider community on many levels. They are a great example of community collaboration.

### **Case study 2: Friends of Tawa Bush**

The Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves Inc. is a community-based environmental care group. This group was formed to promote and enhance the conservation and long-term preservation of bush reserves situated in the Tawa Basin. To achieve this, this group liaises with Wellington City Council. Formed in 2002, the group has over 50 family and individual members.

In the past it has worked on projects such as repairing boundary fences, signs, track development and maintenance, pest plant control, possum control and tree planting. Currently the group carries out weeding, planting, track development and maintenance in six reserves in the Tawa area.

Since the formation of the group, and especially the possum-control programme, there has been a notable improvement in the condition of the forests and an increase in the range and numbers of native birds.

### **Case study 3: Berhampore Golf Course**

The Mornington Golf Club, based at Berhampore Golf Course, has moved to the former Berhampore Bowling Club building on Duppa Street. The club has converted two bowling greens to provide a full coaching/training area for golf. In addition, it is home to the Special Olympics bocce team – a cross between petanque and bowls. Since their move, club membership has doubled.

The club has a Memorandum of Understanding to work in partnership with the Council and assist with some tasks associated with the maintenance and running of the golf course.

### **Case study 4: Alex Moore Park sporting hub**

The Council has been working with five sports clubs (Olympic Harriers, Johnsonville Cricket, Johnsonville Softball, North Wellington Junior Football and North Wellington Senior Football) based at Alex Moore Park since about 2009. Collectively these clubs have over 2000 members.

As with many sporting organisations in New Zealand, these clubs have experienced rising utility and maintenance costs, poor use of facilities, increased administration and fewer volunteers.

The clubs have formed an entity called Alex Moore Park Sport and Community Inc. and have a vision to fund a new purpose-built shared facility at Alex Moore Park – sometimes referred to as a 'sportsville' model.

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We're planning to construct an artificial sportsfield, a perimeter walking and cycling track, biodiversity and amenity landscaping, and additional car parks during 2013/14, to complement this facility.

### **Case study 5: The Wellington Mountain Bike Club – Brooklyn Trail Builders**

Brooklyn Trail Builders was established in 2010 and works closely with the Council to enhance recreational activities and assist in the habitat restoration work within Polhill Reserve and Te Kopahou reserves. This includes:

- 1 building multi-use tracks and mountain bike priority tracks
- 2 maintaining built tracks
- 3 assisting with enhancing the habitat within the area including weed removal, rubbish removal and tree planting.

The club has already completed the 3.8km Transient Track between Brooklyn and Aro Street, and will shortly start work on two more tracks in the area.

### **Case study 6: Oruaiti Reserve – partnership with mana whenua**

On 4 August 2009, the Port Nicholson Block (Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika) Claims Settlement Act was enacted vesting Point Dorset Recreation Reserve in Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust. Wellington City Council was appointed to co-manage the land under the Reserves Act.

Over the following three years, both parties then worked closely together to develop the management plan and later the development plan for the reserve.

The 10 hectare reserve on the western side of Wellington Harbour entrance has great significance to iwi as the site of Oruaiti Pa. This defensive pa was later used by the NZ Defence Force as a military base and coastal defence site. The challenges were to develop a plan for public use that protected the ecological and cultural values of the site and allowed for more visitors.

The completion of the redevelopment in late 2011 brought the whole community together to celebrate the new relationship and the opening of a unique reserve. The final award-winning design has exceeded expectations, raised the profile and use of the reserve, enhanced the new partnership, and is a model for the wider reserves network.

## Section 4 – outcomes

N = New initiative programme (33 in total)

E = Existing programme (41 in total)

Ex = Expand existing programme (37 in total)

### Outcome 1 – Getting everyone active and healthy

PRIORITIES	ACTIONS	TIMING
1.1 Grow awareness of play, sport and recreation opportunities	1.1.1 Develop smart and easily accessed information, including smart phone applications, interactive mapping of walking and cycle ways (My Parx) and implement regionally (Ex)	Years 1-3
	1.1.2 Implement integrated and consistent signs for parks, sport and recreation facilities (Ex). In particular: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 road signs for major facilities</li> <li>2 walking and cycling access from the CBD to the Town Belt and Suburbs</li> </ol>	Year 1 Planning Years 3- 10 implementation
1.2 Provide recreation and sports facilities that meet the needs of communities	1.2.1 Provide playing and training facilities for outdoor sport as part of a coordinated regional network, informed by a study of regional sports provision. Particular priorities for investment and/or support are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 continuing to invest in the upgrade and renewal of playing surfaces at community and sports parks (E)</li> <li>2 completing the programme to install artificial sportsfields throughout the network (E)</li> </ol>	Ongoing
	1.2.2 Other priorities for recreation and sports facilities include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 working with the key sporting groups to develop Hataitai Park, Wakefield Park and Alex Moore Park as recreational and sporting hubs (Ex)</li> <li>2 working with the Wellington Hockey Association on the redevelopment of the National Hockey Stadium (N)</li> <li>3 completing the Great Harbour Way walking and cycling route (E)</li> <li>4 identifying any sports areas or facilities that are under-used and can be used for other purposes (E)</li> <li>5 developing the Spicer Forest Recreation Park in conjunction with Porirua City Council (N)</li> <li>6 reviewing the potential of Watts Peninsula as a recreation and heritage park in conjunction with the Crown (N)</li> </ol>	Ongoing  To be confirmed  Existing project  Years 3-6  Managed as part of the Miramar Framework project

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	<p>7 developing a long-term master plan for Te Kopahou Reserve and links to the rural south-west peninsula (Ex)</p> <p>8 developing ocean sports and recreation programmes and promoting opportunities (E)</p>	<p>Years 3-6</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
1.3 Provide a wide range of quality recreation and sporting opportunities that are easily accessed and affordable	<p>1.3.1 Continue to ensure that the Council's user fees are affordable and encourage participation in sport and recreation through targeted programmes (E)</p> <p>1.3.2 Map and identify key walking and cycle links between different types of green and blue networks<sup>1</sup>, in particular between inner city suburbs and the CBD (N)</p> <p>1.3.3 Ensure a consistent regional approach to fees and affordability (N)</p>	<p>n/a</p> <p>Years 3-6</p> <p>N/A</p>
1.4 Increase regular participation in recreation and sport	<p>1.4.1 Work with Sport Wellington to monitor participation in physical activity and barriers to participation across the wider region (E)</p> <p>1.4.2 Draw on wider research, such as work done by Sport New Zealand, to identify the needs and barriers for young adults, people aged over 65, cultural minorities and those on low incomes (E)</p> <p>1.4.3 Encourage more people to walk and cycle to work and identify how the open-space network can promote off-road commuting (Ex)</p> <p>1.4.4 Work with health, social service and fitness providers across the region to encourage recreation as part of green prescription programmes (E)</p> <p><b>Youth</b></p> <p>1.4.5 Partner with Sport Wellington, primary and college sport to build links between clubs and schools to increase youth participation (Ex)</p> <p><b>Clubs</b></p> <p>1.4.6 Partner with Sport Wellington to organise and promote sport and recreation development opportunities for clubs (including greater partnerships with businesses and the community and marketing the activities on offer) (Ex)</p> <p>1.4.7 Regularly monitor the health of sports clubs to ensure that more clubs are sustainable over the long-term. This includes assessing individual clubs to identify if any changes need to be made to how they are managed or operated to avoid difficulties (E)</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Years 1-3</p> <p>Years 1-3</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Years 1-3</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

<sup>1</sup> Green networks in this context mean land-based ecosystems, blue networks include ecosystems in streams, the harbour, sea and other waterways.

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	1.4.8 Identify opportunities for clubs to amalgamate and share facilities or services (E)	ongoing
1.5 Open spaces and outdoor recreation opportunities are close to where people live and work	<p>1.5.1 Review the provision of open spaces in suburban areas based on guidelines of 600 metres or 10 minutes walk to one or more neighbourhood park, play space, or other outdoor recreation opportunity such as track links<sup>2</sup> (N)</p> <p>1.5.2 Design the open-space network in 'greenfield' subdivisions to provide a significant majority of residential dwellings with access to neighbourhood parks or other outdoor recreation opportunities within 600 metres or 10 minutes walk (E)</p> <p>1.5.3 Adopt and implement national standards for park categories and corresponding levels of service<sup>3</sup> (N)</p>	<p>Ongoing as part of network planning</p> <p>Ongoing as part of network planning</p> <p>Existing project</p>
1.6 Our landscaped open spaces are designed and maintained in partnership with the community to enable personal safety, opportunities for socialising and an active and healthy lifestyle	<p>1.6.1 Incorporate Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) and universal accessibility principles into new spaces and modifications of existing spaces (E)</p> <p>1.6.2 Encourage greater, flexible and more creative play for all ages (including young adults and the elderly) when developing neighbourhood park spaces (Ex)</p> <p>1.6.3 Ensure users with mobility challenges (eg with wheelchairs, pushchairs, or people with sight-impairments) can access an adequate range of spaces and opportunities (Ex)</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>ongoing</p>

<sup>2</sup> Review already completed for some of the northern suburbs.

<sup>3</sup> New Zealand Recreation Association's Parks Categories and Levels of Service.



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	<p>4 green roofs guidance and living walls</p> <p>5 greening and enhancing of Taranaki Street and Kent/Cambridge terraces as key pedestrian links to Memorial Park</p> <p>6 continuing the promenade along the waterfront to Shed 21 and Wellington Railway Station</p> <p>7 completing the public space in the Waitangi Precinct adjacent to the Overseas Passenger Terminal.</p>	
1.9 Complete the track network with a priority on connecting communities and open spaces, and providing short walking and cycling loops and transport connections	<p>1.9.1 Complete the Skyline Track and the Harbour Escarpment Walk and links to adjacent suburban communities (N)</p> <p>1.9.2 Continue to develop the track network for shared use wherever appropriate, while managing any conflicts between different activities (such as cycling and walking) (E)</p> <p>1.9.3 Review local track networks as part of the development of the Suburban Reserves Management Plan with a focus on tracks accessible to all ages and abilities (N)</p> <p>1.9.4 Identify opportunities for active transport routes through the open-space network as part of the Transport Strategy review (N)</p> <p>1.9.5 Explore partnerships for completing coastal tracks between Owhiro Bay and Makara, Otari and Makara, and for Karori Stream (N)</p>	<p>Years 1-3</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Year 1</p> <p>Linked to Transport Strategy review</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
1.10 Support community initiatives to increase local self-sufficiency with a greater amount and variety of food grown in our open spaces	<p>1.10.1 Provide Council grants and guidance for community gardening and promote education programmes (E)</p> <p>1.10.2 Partner with communities to convert areas of open spaces (such as under-used parks or walking areas) into community gardens and orchards (E)</p> <p>1.10.3 Identify spaces for temporary and permanent community gardens in the central city (Ex)</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

**WE WANT TO IMPROVE  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE TO  
ACCESS AND ENJOY OPEN SPACES  
IN THE CENTRAL CITY**

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### Outcome 2 – Protecting our birds, nature, streams, and landscapes

PRIORITIES	ACTIONS	TIMING
<p>2.1 Protect and restore indigenous biodiversity, and demonstrate kaitiakitanga (guardianship)</p>	<p>2.1.1 Review the Biodiversity Action Plan to continue to ensure the viability of naturally occurring local populations of species, and the resilience of the range of habitats and ecosystems that makes Wellington unique (N)</p> <p>2.1.2 Continue to focus on and expand the Council’s pest management and native planting programme and work with our partners to try to plant two million indigenous plants in the city by 2020 and ensure more trees grow to maturity (Ex)</p> <p>2.1.3 Complete a restoration planting strategy for the city, ensuring that a diverse range of indigenous plant species are restored in the appropriate locations (E)</p> <p>2.1.4 Manage native forests to maximise both their biodiversity outcomes and carbon sequestration (Ex)</p> <p>2.1.5 Develop best practice guidelines for restoration management (N)</p>	<p><u>Years 1-3</u></p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Years 1-3</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Years 1-3</p>
<p>2.2 Create ecological networks within the city to ensure movement of key indigenous species, as well as connectivity to the wider landscape</p>	<p>2.2.1 Create a comprehensive database of all central city green assets (including public gardens, road reserve, street trees, rain gardens) (N)</p> <p>2.2.2 Identify key indigenous plant and animal species to be supported through the ecological network (N)</p> <p>2.2.3 Identify existing open spaces (including road reserve) that form part of the ecological network, and protect and manage these. Identify gaps and seek to address these through habitat creation or enhancement (Ex)</p> <p>2.2.4 Identify coastal ecological connections (Ex)</p> <p>2.2.5 When using native plants in street amenity plantings, select native species that fit with good design practice, provide structural diversity, and promote the planting of threatened native species where possible (E)</p>	<p>Years 1-3</p> <p>Years 1-3</p> <p>Years 1-3</p> <p>Years 1-3</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<p>2.3 Develop a halo (or ecological buffer zone) around biodiversity hotspots</p>	<p>2.3.1 Enhance and provide safe habitats for birds flying in and out of Zealandia, Wellington’s 225ha sanctuary, by</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 intensifying predator management in key areas of potential habitat for birds such as robin, saddleback, whitehead and kaka (Ex)</li> <li>2 restoration planting to provide food and nesting areas for birds (E)</li> </ol>	<p>Ongoing</p>

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	<p>3 educating and encouraging landowners, residents and schools to enhance the wildlife and natural values of their properties (Ex)</p> <p>2.3.2 Expand the halo concept to other key ecological sites – for instance Otari-Wilton’s Bush (N)</p>	<p>Year 7-10</p>
<p>2.4 Promote and facilitate the protection of open space</p>	<p>2.4.1 Develop guidelines for assessing acquisition proposals to protect and enhance open-space values (N)</p> <p>2.4.2 As a priority protect the following areas of open space:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Watts Peninsula and Palmer Head (Ex) in conjunction with the Crown</li> <li>2 Belmont Gully acquisition (through development contributions) (E)</li> <li>3 the Outer Green Belt between Johnsonville and Tawa through acquisition and/or easements (E)</li> <li>4 former Town Belt land, held by the Crown (N)</li> <li>5 Harbour (Hutt Road) Escarpment (N)</li> </ol> <p>2.4.3 Provide for appropriate protection of physical landscape connections where necessary, including District Plan protection of hill-tops and skyline (E)</p>	<p>Years 1-3</p> <p>Ongoing on a case by case basis</p>
<p>2.5 Facilitate the restoration and protection of wetlands, streams, their catchments, and Wellington and Porirua harbours</p>	<p>2.5.1 Develop an integrated approach to the management of coastal open space. Continue to develop and implement integrated catchment management plans such as the Porirua Harbour and Catchment Strategy, Kaiwharawhara Catchment, and Owhiro Catchment (E)</p> <p>2.5.2 Work with partners on developing and implementing a “Blue Belt” programme which recognises and celebrates the harbour and its many values as part of the wider “Our Living City” programme (N)</p> <p>2.5.3 Include monitoring of biodiversity health in the existing water quality monitoring programme for streams and the waterways they flow into (Ex)</p> <p>2.5.4 Restore fish passages to priority streams (N)</p> <p>2.5.5 Review the South Coast Management Plan (N) and in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the effects of coastal processes and future sea-level rise</li> <li>• increased recreational use and its effects on biodiversity and coastal resilience</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>On case by case basis</p> <p>Year 3-6</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>coastal infrastructure, particularly sea walls, roads and car parks</li> </ul>	
2.6 Ensure that recreation activity does not compromise the biodiversity or other values of our open spaces	<p>2.6.1 Manage track use and development and ensure it does not impact on biodiversity values (Ex)</p> <p>2.6.2 Promote and require responsible pet ownership to protect wildlife in our open spaces (Ex)</p> <p>2.6.3 Manage use of our open spaces by large groups or high-impact activities through developing a Concessions Policy (N)</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Years 1-3</p>

### Outcome 3 – Contributing to Wellington’s outstanding quality of life

PRIORITIES	ACTIONS	TIMING
3.1 Our natural attractions showcase our environment and conservation values	3.1.1 Otari-Wilton’s Bush, Wellington Botanic Garden, Outer Green Belt, Wellington Town Belt, Skyline Walkway, Zealandia and Wellington Zoo continue to showcase Wellington as an eco-city (Ex)	Additional funding may be required on a case by case basis
3.2 Raise awareness of opportunities to visit, connect and contribute to Wellington’s natural attractions	3.2.1 Develop and implement education programmes, improve signs and information on biodiversity (Ex)	Ongoing
	3.2.2 Promote community involvement in ecological restoration programmes (Ex)	Ongoing
	3.2.3 Continue to support enviro-schools programmes (E)	Ongoing
3.3 The open-space network provides a range of venues for community, national and international events	3.3.1 Work to secure regional and national tournaments and events that use our parks, outdoor spaces and recreation facilities, particularly where this generates sizeable economic growth (E)	Ongoing
	3.3.2 Identify and maintain key facilities to host national and international artistic, cultural and sporting events (E)	Ongoing
	3.3.3 Make more open spaces suitable to host events, including having suitable infrastructure and flexibility of use (Ex)	Ongoing
3.4 The Wellington region is recognised as one of New Zealand’s premier mountain-biking destinations	3.4.1 Proactively develop mountain biking as one of the key attractions for visitors in the Wellington Region (N).	Year 1-3
	3.4.2 Coordinate and manage mountain-biking track and facility development on a regional basis including the development of Spicer Recreation Park and the heritage park on Watts Peninsula (N)	Year 1-6

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	3.4.3 Maintain, operate and develop Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park in partnership with Makara Peak Supporters (E)	ongoing
3.5 Celebrate Wellington's sense of place through protection, management and interpretation of key landscapes, our bush-clad hills and coastline	<p>3.5.1 Continue to plant and manage exotic plants for their aesthetic, cultural, heritage and education values where they do not threaten indigenous biodiversity (E)</p> <p>3.5.2 Develop tools to recognise our natural capital (ecosystems, water catchments and erosion control) and its contribution to liveability, health/wellbeing, sense of place, recreation, biodiversity and economy (Ex)</p> <p>3.5.3 Actively profile and promote Wellington's unique natural environment (Ex)</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
3.6 Protect and celebrate historic and cultural values	<p>3.6.1 Ensure that valuable archaeological sites and historic features are protected from current and future developments (including through the planning process) and are not overly compromised by sport, recreation and environmental activities (E)</p> <p>3.6.2 Make our cultural and historic heritage evident in the protection, design and use of open spaces (E)</p> <p>3.6.3 Ensure that signage, brochures, websites, apps and other information provide good descriptions of historical and cultural features around our open spaces (N)</p>	Ongoing
3.7 Use our open spaces to increase resilience during emergencies	3.7.1 As part of civil defence planning, scope and understand the functions that different spaces can provide in the event of earthquakes, tsunamis, rough storms, liquefaction, and other emergencies (E)	Years 1-3

### Outcome 4 – Doing it together

PRIORITIES	ACTIONS	<u>TIMING</u>
4.1 Facilitate and support community involvement in the management of open spaces	4.1.1 Target consultation to encourage more people (including individuals, organisations, ethnic groups and communities) to participate in the management and design of open spaces, eg suburban parks and reserves plans (E)	Ongoing
	<p>4.1.2 Partner and resource community and environmental groups to manage projects that will achieve the priorities outlined in this plan. In particular (Ex):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 ecological restoration projects</li> <li>2 track development</li> <li>3 facilities such as the Berhampore Golf Course and</li> </ol>	Years 1-3

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	Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park	
	4.1.3 Develop and implement further volunteering initiatives to help promote involvement and management of our open spaces (Ex)	Ongoing
	4.1.4 Collaborate with and support the growing online meet-up groups that get people active in our open spaces (Ex)	Ongoing
	4.1.5 Support outdoor events and other community initiatives by providing advice, training, grants, and subsidies for venues and equipment (E)	Ongoing
4.2 Collaborate with partner agencies to effectively protect and manage biodiversity	4.2.1 Demonstrate and facilitate regional environmental guardianship (E)	Ongoing
	4.2.2 Increase consistency in the ways we and partner agencies manage and support community groups (Ex)	Ongoing
	4.2.3 Work with adjacent local authorities to protect large-scale linkages/corridors on a regional scale and ensure cross-boundary management of important catchments and ecosystems (Ex)	Ongoing
4.3 Partner with landowners to improve access to and use of open space	4.3.1 Partner with schools to identify opportunities to use their open spaces and facilities for sporting and recreational activities (Ex)	Ongoing
	4.3.2 Work with landowners on the Outer Green Belt to negotiate access along the Skyline Walkway (E)	Years 1-3
	4.3.3 Support the development of a heritage park on Watts Peninsula in conjunction with the Crown (N)	Dependent on Crown
4.4 Work in partnership with mana whenua	4.4.1 Co-manage reserve land vested in mana whenua (E)	Ongoing
	4.4.2 Work in partnership with mana whenua to manage the Town Belt (E)	Ongoing
	4.4.3 Support Māori community-based groups to practise kaitiakitanga (guardianship), and to use our open spaces for the development of Indigenous knowledge and traditional activities, such as raranga (weaving), for the benefit of all (E)	Ongoing
4.5 Work together as a region	4.5.1 Ensure a coordinated approach for the provision, development, management and protection of open spaces and programmes / projects across the Wellington Region, consistent with the Wellington Regional Open Space Strategy (E)	Ongoing