

Submitter Details

First Name: **Gillian**
 Last Name: **Greer**
 Organisation: **owner**
 On behalf of: **GALS Investments**
 Street: **7 Ngaio St, Eastbourne, Lower Hutt 5013**
 Suburb:
 City: **wellington**
 Country:
 Daytime Phone: **049769770**
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 eMail: **gillgreer@me.com**

Correspondence to:

- Submitter
- Agent
- Both

Submission

Do you support the proposed change that the Council may restrict any activity being undertaken in a public place to prevent material damage to the place or a nuisance or harm to any person. (clause 4.1)

- Yes
- No

Any additional comments?

I am writing in regard to proposed changes at Evans Bay marina. Contrary to WCC statements we have not received information although GALS Investments has owned 514 Evans Bay Parade for some 18 years. Although we are currently not living in the house, our family have done so, and it is currently occupied by tenants, and it is our intention to move there ourselves in the near future. It is ironic to me that the WCC talks about citizens enjoying community space, boat ramps etc elsewhere on its website, and about problems with parking, and yet is considering allowing occupancy of another 30 vehicles at the marina, without provision of camping facilities or requiring payment from campers for staff, rubbish collection etc so that these costs are met by the ratepayers, including those whose properties' value, parking space, peace and privacy, enjoyment of local community space and road safety will be considerably affected by this proposal.

Do you support the Council requiring people to apply for permission for busking/ street entertainment? (clause 7)

- Yes
- No

Any additional comments?

Do you support clarifying the bylaw to reflect that informal or casual play in any public place does not require prior notice to Council? (clause 11)

- Yes

No

Any additional comments?

Do you support the proposed extension of the Evan's Bay freedom camping site? (clause 12 and map of Evans Bay in schedule 1)

Yes

No

Any additional comments?

See above. Our properties are already affected by freedom campers using our properties as toilets, because the 'self sufficiency' WCC requires is not observed. We pay to maintain a cable car and this is used by campers seeking a short cut-which does not exist, resulting in increased wear and tear on this facility. The freedom camping facility has increased the number of people 'exploring' our properties without permission. The marina is no longer a place where children can play, ride bikes, etc. We are increasingly troubled by noise, and rubbish which is an eyesore and a health risk. It is a real concern that the proposal will increase traffic in an area that is already pressured, particularly at rush hour, creating further pressure and congestion in an area where the Council has insisted for years that any subdivision, development of rental space etc must be shown to have sufficient off street parking. It is also a busy area for children walking and biking to and from school and increased traffic has safety implications for them. Although to object on grounds thatches will impact on the views of residents may seem a small issue, this expansion will not only impact on views and thus on values, and also reduce enjoyment through increased noise, rubbish, and traffic, affecting the value of properties where considerable work has been done over the years to improve properties and their value. The dump sign which has been beside our letter boxes for months is a further concern-where is it intended to be? What further effect will this have?. Some vehicles are cars which are occupied by homeless people -this is not an adequate solution for them, and the WCC and national government need to engage on this issue to find a proper solution, which meets citizens' human rights and health needs. Evans Bay marina cannot provide that solution..

Do you think the balance of providing for an additional 10 large vehicle sites, and 20 standard sites is appropriate?

Yes

No

Any additional comments?

see above

Are you aware that it is an offence to go eeling in public places and reserves in Wellington? (clause 22.3t)

Yes

No

Any additional comments?

Do you support the clarification that it's an offence to disturb or damage naturally occurring things such as trees (as well as retaining the offence for their removal)? (clause 22.3t)

Yes

No

Any additional comments?

Do you support a specific bylaw (in addition to current, general, littering laws) providing that it's an offence to litter cigarette butts? (clause 22.3r)

- Yes
- No

Any additional comments

Are there any comments you wish to make on any part of the bylaw?

- Yes
- No

Any additional comments

Do you want to make an oral submission to Councillors to speak on any of these issues?

- Yes
 - No
-

Attached Documents

File
Public Places Bylaw Review 2017

Submitter Details

First Name: **Warren**
 Last Name: **Rankin**
 Organisation: **Evans BAY MARINA TENANTS GROUP**
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Correspondence to:

- Submitter
 Agent
 Both

Submission

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 No

Any additional comments?

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Any additional comments?

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- Yes
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Any additional comments?

With the conditions that WCC ensure only certified fully self contained vans park there at all times day and night-THIS MEANS PROACTIVE SINCERE MANAGEMENT More new facilities are provided -toilets, showers kitchen for the visitors

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- Yes
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Attached Documents

File
Public Places Bylaw Review 2017

Trailer park Evans Bay Marina

From a resident – Sarah Boddy 514 A Evans Bay Parade, Evans Bay, Wellington

Consultation

I was not consulted when this originally began. Furthermore I found out through a third party that the extension was planned. So I want to reiterate – not one letter from WCC directly. I understand you have sent a letter to the Haitaitai residents association. I am not a member and quite frankly I don't think people in Waipapa Road for example are going to be impacted by a trailer part in Evans Bay. It's actually over the hill.

However if you put it over the road from their house you might have had a different reaction.

So no communication from WCC about this. Complete lack of transparency.

So let's look at the **current situation**

Increased rubbish – see photo

Campervans not sticking to the allocated places – see photo

Security – every day I have a number of people from the trailer park coming up the stairs looking for a walk way. In some cases people have made it so far as it back gardens.

Increased theft in area.

Signage – it's not working. WCC 'dump station' sign has been sitting by my letter box growing snails for months now. See photo. Really makes a superb way to collect the mail while waiting for the letter from WCC

People are clearly overstaying. They do their days and then park their wagon on the road side. See photo. That particular vehicle has been there some months. It totally obscures vision when exiting the marina. They nip out and then they nip back in. Days are not being policed by you.

Apparently the campers are meant to be self-contained. This is factually inaccurate. See the online listing for the trailer park advocating for the clean toilets located on the marina. They are already using the toilet facilities. Your rule is not working.

https://www.rankers.co.nz/experiences/6919-Evans_Bay_Marina_Carpark_Wellington_Overnight_Campervan_Parking

Furthermore – are you policing the potties? I have now witnessed people emptying their potty/bowl into the sea.

Dogs – are they allowed? Because they sure come.

So you have these rules and they are not being adhered to and now you want to extend? Campers will then take up further space along the marina. You aren't capable of policing your current rules so I don't expect you will be able to stop further encroachments.

How does this impact residents?

This is no longer a community space. What is the area deemed in your plan?

People cannot learn to drive, learn to ride or skateboard. The area is essentially overtaken.

The community has lost an open space to enjoy. Can my kids play there? Do they get preference if they are biking? Learning to ride or to skate? No. This is no longer a community space. That makes me really sad. The council has sold a community out.

People cannot meet as cyclists or running groups.

We have to look at people brushing their teeth, scrubbing their knickers and dancing on roofs.

Would you honestly like this yourself?

How does this impact my house valuation?

What is worst is I am paying for this. For the sensors that don't work, for the security man that has recently appeared, for the extra rubbish bins that are overflowing, for the people who have to clean them ETC....

And what do the camper van people pay? Nada. Nothing. Zippo. Mmmmm – where in the world do you camp for free? At the expense of the local rate payer?

Options

I know Mike Woods has suggested other areas that do not impact paying residents? Have you properly considered them? Time to really consider them. Find a spot that doesn't impact residents.

Assessment

In terms of actually properly considering the impact of this I want to know one very simple thing.

Have you actually assessed the parking situation along Evans Bay parade?

When I built my house as part of WCC process I had to do a car parking analysis to prove or disprove that my potential house/car would not put undue pressure of the parking along Evans Bay parade. I did it. There was no issue.

This was 14 years ago. Today – with the overflow from your trailer park and other factors this is not the case. I must now park in the marina. Have you done your due diligence here?

So consequently since I can't park roadside I have to park in marina. Will I be ticketed by you for being there for more than 3 days? Will I be ticketed because you think I don't have a potty in my car?

And that brings me to another point - yes there are cars in your trailer park. People are sleeping in cars in your trailer park.

So we have the homeless living there.

I spoke to a person at the council after receiving the letter about your proposal through a third party who admitted two very important things.

1. When asked who was losing out here? He admitted it was us – the residents who look at the park.
2. Secondly he told me that there are homeless people living there. That's a clear indicator that there is a bigger problem with your park.

So from my perspective you are putting all this money in without any real thought into how this will impact residents.

Again – tip this on its head. You might have a house with view. You might have worked very hard to get it. Now when you have your morning glance out the window to the sea in Seatoun or wherever you see someone spitting out their toothpaste.

Welcome to Wellington

Apparently there is considerable pride and certainly a fair amount of cash that has gone into making the drive from the airport into Wgtn city a pretty one. Sculpture park for one. Now incoming visitors get a gorgeous sight. Wellington free trailer park complete with over stayers, homeless, dirty washing and rubbish. Reminds me of the back streets of Venice.

I would rather people coming into Wellington saw a piece of beautiful land used for and by the locals. Not a trailer park on their first ride into Wellington's apparently acclaimed water front.

So you can see I don't support the extension and actually do not and never have supported the trailer park.

Find a place that does not affect residents please. Put the situation in your front yard and ponder that.



Two wagons from park on road side. The front one has been there some time and the height of it seriously impacts a drivers ability to see when pulling out of marina.



WCC dump station sign. Clearly the setup is not working as is.



Self-contained?



Rubbish



Welcome to Wellington



Black car with trailer? Potty?



Parking in a car park? Over the line? Not abiding by WCC regulations.

Further to my submissions this Am on the 30 OCT 2017

Signage is clearly an issue for WCC. I don't see how this trailer park can operate well with so few signs.

Last night there was a sign.....No camping allowed.



Today....no signs at entrance. Three have been removed including the one that doesn't allow campers on the left side.



How do you expect travellers to manage with so few signs? Already they are breaking WCC rules and now you have taken signage away.

If this had been properly handled from outset this wouldn't be occurring now. It's very micky mouse.

I am really very baffled.

Thank you

Sarah

SUBMISSION ON THE PUBLIC PLACES BYLAW REVIEW 2017

To: Chief Executive Officer
Wellington City Council
PO Box 2199
Wellington 6140

Submission on: The Public Places Bylaw Review 2017

Name of Submitter: Mr Paul & Aldona Yardley
526 Evans Bay Parade
Kilbirnie
Wellington 6021

1. **We are making our submission as individual and long-time residents in Evans Bay Parade.**
2. **The specific provisions of the Public Places Bylaw Review 2017 that our submission relates to are:**

Provisions related to the Evans Bay Freedom Camping site.
3. **Question 4: Do you support the proposed extension of the Evan's Bay freedom camping site? (Clause 12 and map of Evans Bay in Schedule 1):**

NO – we oppose the proposed extension to the Evans Bay Marina freedom camping site, and the existing Evans Bay Marina freedom camping site, for the reasons outlined in our submission below. We seek the proposed extension to be declined and the existing site to be revoked.
4. **Question 4a: Do you think balance of providing for an additional 10 large vehicles sites, and 20 standard sites is appropriate?**

NO – we oppose the proposed extension to the Evans Bay Marina freedom camping site, and the existing Evans Bay Marina freedom camping site, for the reasons outlined in our submission below.
5. **We wish to be heard in support of this submission.**

We would be prepared to present a joint case with others that have made similar submissions at a hearing.



.....
pp. Paul & Aldona Yardley
Residents of 526 Evans Bay Parade
5 December 2017

SUBMISSION ON PUBLIC PLACES BYLAW REVIEW 2017 PROPOSED

Introduction

Our names are Paul & Aldona Yardley and we reside at 526 Evans Bay Parade. Our house is directly west of the Evans Bay Marina and we look directly across at the site of the existing freedom camping area, and the extension proposed in the Public Places Bylaw Review 2017.

As we understand it, there are three relevant pieces of legislation that apply to the Evans Bay Marina area and the use of that area for freedom camping:

- Firstly, we understand that the Evans Bay Marina area land is owned by the Crown and is vested in the Council for it to manage and administer the area as a Recreation Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977;
- Secondly, we understand that the Evans Bay Marina site is zone Open Space A (Recreational facilities) in the Wellington City District Plan which is subject to the Resource Management Act 1991;
- Thirdly, we understand the Council is able to prepare bylaws under the Local Government Act 2002 to "*set controls on public places and on activities in them that may cause a nuisance*" (emphasis added - quote from introduction to Bylaw).

Key Submission Points

We oppose the proposed extension to the Evans Bay Marina freedom camping area, and the existing Evans Bay Marina freedom camping area, for the following reasons:

1. Freedom camping creates nuisance aspects and effects that are inappropriate in an urban residential setting;
2. The Public Spaces Bylaw is not properly enforced and therefore is not effective as a bylaw to set controls on activities that may cause a nuisance;
3. The reasons for introducing the amendment to the Public Spaces Bylaw to provide for the extension of the Evans Bay Marina freedom camping area are flawed - the need for more freedom camping parking has been caused by Council actively reducing the number of parks in other areas and allowing development on the Wharfs that has removed more sites creating a '*perceived problem*' - the Evans Bay Marina site is now seen as the 'ideal' location to provide more freedom camping parks to meet a lack of parks that has been caused by Council's actions;
4. The Open Space Zone in the District Plan has specific objectives and policies (with the primary focus on the need for recreation activities to be able to access open space areas) that are not consistent with freedom camping as an activity, and the proposed (and existing

activity) is likely to require a discretionary activity resource consent under the rules of the District Plan;

5. The proposed freedom camping activity is specifically prohibited in the Suburban Reserves Management Plan 2015 and is contrary to the outcomes sought in the objectives and policies in that management plan.

We will elaborate on each of these points at the hearing.

Overall, we consider the Evans Bay Marina site is not appropriate for freedom camping as this activity has adverse effects on the amenity and wellbeing of the residents of Evans Bay Parade and users of the Evans Bay Marina recreational facility.

Relief Sought

We seek the Council to reject the proposed amendment to the Public Spaces Bylaw that provides for an extension to the existing freedom camping area at the Evans Bay Marina, and we seek Council to revoke the existing freedom camping area at the Evans Bay Marina that is inappropriate and should never have been established in the first place.

Evans Bay Marina Submission – Mike Woods – 516 Evans Bay Parade

My family have lived in Evans Bay Parade for over twenty years and this is what we see. We initially supported the Camper site as a temporary measure for major events. This now has become the WCC’s only recommendation for a **permanent** camp site. Flat land is precious in Wellington and is created due to earthquake, reclamation, earth dumping or was a former tip. The marina is reclaimed land with spoil from the airport expansion during the 1950s.



I have contacted the WCC regarding the Open Spaces A designation of the marina over the years and have always been assured there were no plans to limit the space, access or to make changes. We know now this is far from the truth. This area is an eye catching destination with the needle and the bay. It is the public gateway to the city via Coburn Drive or a very busy Evans Bay Parade - these are the first impressions for our visitors.

The residents have been the last to know that the Evans Bay Marina has become a permanent campsite. We viewed the use of the marina as a "**temporary**" situation for major events and embraced this accommodation. However, the WCC has since made this a **permanent** campsite and no resident was consulted. This is our backyard where our children used to play, but is now it is too dangerous.

This is a vista we should appreciate.



Or this?



Photo taken on the morning of "Round the Bays" event with signage.

I personally want the campers to be sited elsewhere away from residential areas. This fits the directive from Counsellor Foster to balance the needs of campers and residents. Unfortunately, the WCC bureaucracy have only recommended one venue – Evans Bay Marina. Where is the integrated policy which links to the many bays, parks, Ruahine Street development, cycleway and other sites that could be made available. Neil Happap has provided a solution for this matter, as did I, when I spoke to Councillors in early November. The WCC bureaucracy appear to lack the will to seek other solutions.

I would like the campers to be provided with quality facilities that they pay a minimal charge. Currently the WCC is spending money, but there is no direct financial return to the ratepayers. What is the business case for spending WCC money on sensors, security and rangers? If they spend money in the inner city, let them be located there. From MBIE the average spend is \$50 for freedom campers per day.



Photo taken 2 December 2017 when the Evans Bay Marina was full!

In "pre-consultation" process for this current process, proves of the lack of WCC zest for public consultation with the residents and ratepayers who are directly impacted by their decision making. The WCC consulted the local college, the boat shed tenants on the marina neither groups reside in the area. The residents received no information and I was only forwarded a copy of the 17 September 2017 apology letter to residents from the WCC for this oversight.

During the current “consultation” process security cameras have been installed, indicating a “done deal”. WCC staff have tried to appease residents without listening to their needs. Signs put up, but residents not consulted as WCC rush to meet their deadlines.

I attended the Yacht Club consultation and was told the “that the use of the marina was a **temporary** situation while a long term solution was found”. This sounded too good to be true. And I believe is too good an answer. Ideal sites have “no camping” signs installed.

In my presentation to WCC on Oct 5 2017, I discussed the fact that this was a Wellington wide issue, the poor consultation process, suggested alternative camp site ideas and quoted Counsellor Andy Foster's request to WCC staff (2016) for a balanced approach as to the needs of residents and campers. This memo from Counsellor Foster to WCC staff has obviously not been addressed. WCC Powerpoint presentation below:

[WCC Presentation3 4 Oct 2017.pptm \(4,686K\)](#)

The is only one recommended proposal for freedom camping is Evans Bay. Why is that?

I realise once the "Happy Valley" proposal fell through the WCC staff had to quickly locate alternative sites. In Evans Bay, it was an easy call as no one was complaining or were they. Local residents had called WCC staff, emailed the Mayor and local councillors. I only became involved when Waterloo Quay and Balena Bay campsites closed moving most of the camper traffic to Evans Bay.

Residents accepted the special camping situations that occurs e.g. World Cup, Lions Tour, WoW...we embraced these events and we have been very accommodating to campers, but not on the basis of Evans Bay becoming a **permanent** campsite. This is at the expense of our views, property values and our use of the marina. This photo indicates what my neighbours looks out onto – where is their vista?



The marina is an area also used by other recreational users. It is a meeting place because of the parking available and proximity to local parks and school facilities. An example: Round the Bays - no one could park in the marina as it was full of campervans, so the traffic congestion in the Kilbirnie-Rongotai area and was horrendous. Same goes for the Wheatbix Challenge, national regattas, major events at the local college e.g. school dances, productions, major rugby games at Kilbirnie and Evans Bay Parks.... this area is used for the

additional parking. Also with popularity of Evans Bay, residents have used some of the car parks, however these vehicles have been moved to the street and impact on the cycleway.

WCC options:

The WCC could change the designation of council land, partner with iwi re land and business opportunities, consider the Mapuia water towers or Mt Crawford prison parking areas. Hataitai Park either up by the Veledrome or lower car parking area, develop land in conjunction with the Ruahine Street upgrade. ASB Stadium and beaches. The land off the motorway, by the Ferry terminal and close to the city. Just a few ideas – maybe the WCC could work with residents on these initiatives.

Health and Safety of users of the Marina - Evans Bay Marina - Open Space A.

I have requested from the WCC, a copy of their Site Specific Safety Plan (SSSP) as per the Health and Safety at Work Act regarding safety of users. This includes all users of this Open Space A on the district plan. After waiting a month the reply was the following:

Email from WCC

Hi Mike

Sorry again for the delay in responding to you regarding your request for Site Specific Safety Plan for the marina. I have now had a response from the our project manager for the marina. Their response is outlined below.

“We do have generic 27 hazard/risk identified for Council which is a generic document. Contractors working at the marina engaged by Council will produce specific safety plans and we will notify them of the specific hazards.”

This indicates that WCC has a contractor hazard register, but no Health and Safety or Hazard Management plan for users of this site. The fact is the WCC has no plan available for:

- Evacuation processes re campervans.
- Gas bottles use.
- Access for the public and campers.
- Parking, space between vehicles and Commercial users.

The users are not just the campers themselves, but the residents and general public, as this area is the beginning of the WCC sculptured walkway as advertised by WCC, a park and ride area for cyclists, walkers and runners. And it is above all a public open space serving the needs of boaties and locals. Did I fail to mention the lovely little beach the WCC has been re-establishing, but few can access.



Open Spaces A - Recreation

We have lost access through the marina for recreation because it is not an “open space” when the campervans are present, which is most of the time. This space is not available - it is not an Open Space A anymore. The camp site expansion has already occurred under the WCC officials, which has impacted on residents’ ability to park in the marina. Locals are parking on Evans Bay Parade impacting on the WCC cycle way and cyclists. The overflow of campervans park on the roadside blocking sight access for vehicles exiting the marina.



This area was for recreation to learn to ride a bike, skateboard, learn to drive, walk the dog etc. It is one of the few flat areas in the eastern suburbs. It is also reclaimed land which when the November 2016 earthquake struck caused some consternation for campers, trying to move to higher ground. What are the evacuation procedures? I believe Ports of Wellington have refused permission for campers on their land area due to subsidence and land quality issues.

The Campervan users who are in the smaller vans, yet certificated campervans have to dress outside their van. The equivalent to a baby's potty is sufficient to be certify a van. This area is being used to cook outside of their vans and the proximity of other campervans and gas bottles can be quite congested and are a risk. The toilet facilities are for the marina users, but are now shared by the campervan users. Some campers have dogs and this makes it even less savoury for other users.

The piled up rubbish near the bins blocks access to walkways, Pier Three and discourages users to go to the little beach. There is insufficient waste disposal bins or bins large enough to cope. The grass area below the needle is a picnic site, but not anymore as users feel like they are invading someone’s space.

The WCC solution to put up screens which will further block residents’ views and be even more unsightly when the real vista is so beautiful when the space is opened up for all users.

Why isn't the WCC finding a permanent solution that is a balance between the needs of residents and camper van users. This is just a "kick the can down the road" situation and not a permanent solution at all. In my submission to WCC 5 Oct 2017 I offered alternative solutions which did not impact on residents.

We want to be hospitable and take care of our visitors, provide a safe and appropriate venue and facilities on a cost return basis, but not at our considerable expense.

There doesn't appear to be any synergies between parks and reserves, cycleway initiatives and the Mt Victoria tunnel and Ruahine street projects to incorporate campers into their plans.

When the WCC is making decisions consider the people who live and reside in the Evans Bay community. We pay rates, we take care of the area, we are proud to be residents in this thriving area, yet we have been forgotten until the last moment.

I do want to present my submission to a WCC hearing on this matter.

Regards

Mike Woods

0277393623

Submission on Public Places Bylaw Review

To the Wellington City Council

Wellington City Youth Council

Note: We would like to appear in person to support our written submission

Brad Olsen
Chair
On behalf of the Wellington City Youth Council
% Wellington City Council, PO Box 2199, Wellington 6140

Introduction

1. The Wellington City Youth Council welcomes the opportunity to submit on the 2017 Public Places Bylaw Review.

Overview of Submission

2. The submission by the Wellington City Youth Council on the Bylaw Review will address the following topics:
 - a. Drafting
 - b. Fireworks provisions
 - c. Freedom camping
 - d. Cigarette litter
 - e. Use of Council space
 - f. Busking approvals

Drafting

3. There are a number of minor drafting errors that members of the Wellington City Youth Council have identified, that we would like to bring to Council's attention.
4. In Clause 14, 'Cemeteries' requires a heading to indicate a new clause, and clause 15 should be dealt with as a sub-clause of clause 14, as it deals with further issues relating to cemeteries.
5. Additionally, we question the usage of some language in the Bylaw, and its place in a modern city. Such language includes reference to 'catapults' in clause 22.3, and "rap parlours" in clause 2.
6. We commend Council for simplifying the clauses relating to nuisance, but feel Council could redraft this section of the Wellington Consolidated Bylaw in plain English. This would enable the Bylaw to be far more accessible to the general public.

Fireworks provisions

7. We also query that it is an offence to discharge a firework in a public place, and that this sub-clause does not have an exemption for those who have obtained prior written approval from Council.
8. This could mean that technically contractors, such as those who are in charge of the Matariki fireworks display could be in breach of the Bylaw, and cannot gain an exemption to this offence. Given this is provided as an exemption to

liability in other offence sub-clauses, this seems to be a drafting omission in the Bylaw.

9. We would like to draw Council's attention to the Auckland Council version of this Bylaw, which does provide a written exemption exception when discharging fireworks in a public place.

Freedom camping

10. The Wellington City Youth Council supports the general aim of the freedom camping change to increase the number of parks at the Evans Bay Freedom Camping site. We understand that the demand is increasing for freedom camping, especially around the November-March period.
11. It should be noted that the Evans Bay community is not completely behind the change so the Evens Bay Freedom Camping Lot should be highly controlled under the Freedom Camping Act.
12. The Wellington City Youth Council suggests that adding 15 spaces at the Evan's Bay Freedom Camping Lot and 15 at another could potentially be a more agreeable solution to increased demand. Youth Council understands that many of the other sites were not recommended but that there were sites that could be used seasonally.

Cigarette litter

13. The Wellington City Youth Council supports the general aim of the Council with regards to cigarette butt litter. That is, we recognise the health, environmental, and aesthetic impact that they have and wish for that impact to be minimised by reducing the prevalence of cigarette butt litter.
14. However, we do not believe that merely highlighting the offence in a statement in a bylaw will have any meaningful effect on the issue. Most smokers are not going to read the bylaw and so this statement mainly functions as a reminder to council officers of a rule that is already in place through general littering provisions.
15. The Youth Council would rather see efforts focused around the Smokefree Wellington Action Plan, including expanding support for smokers wanting to quit and rolling out wider smokefree areas around the city. The best way to have less cigarette butt litter is to have fewer cigarettes smoked. These actions, together with an increase in enforcement of current regulations are more likely to make a tangible difference.

16. It should be noted that a 'herd' level of enforcement need not be the first point of call. Enforcement of smokefree rules and regulations can start with a simple reminder and escalate from there. It is important to have buy-in from both smokers and non-smokers.
17. We recommend Council focus further efforts on Smokefree Wellington Action Plan to reduce smoking in the City.

Use of Council space

18. The Wellington City Youth Council supports the changes in the bylaw that clarify the informal or casual use of public places. This is a common-sense approach to ensuring protections remain for public places, yet allows for citizens – especially young people – to participate in recreation without bureaucratic burdens.
19. We also support the amendments regarding the protection of public places. The changes contained in clause 22.3 provides for the protection of such spaces from disturbance, damage, or removal. This will ensure public places are kept intact for the enjoyment of all.

Busking approvals

20. We also outline the importance of busking to retaining Wellington's vibrant culture. Moreover, it is an important means of income – and exposure – for a number of young people in the artistic space.
21. We submit that it is important to continually engage with the busking community to ensure the approval scheme for busking is fit for purpose.
22. We recommend Council looks to review this approach scheme annually with end-users.