

Mr J A Muir  
86 Tio Tio Rd  
Seatoun  
Wellington

Raywyn Picken  
The Manager Encroachments & Property Projects  
Wellington City Council  
PO Box 2199  
Wellington

14<sup>th</sup> May 2112

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Regarding Proposed Changes to Encroachment License**

Thank you for your letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> April 2102 where you state your intention to raise encroachment fees.

You start off using the words "Fairer road encroachments policy", I will reply assuming that you actually mean what you have stated.

Your assumption of basing the rentals on average land value for each suburb is flawed because the majority of properties with encroachments are not average properties. If encroachments were on average properties there would be no need to encroach. They are often properties on difficult sites, with difficult access that are harder to build on. The land values reflect this, and I challenge you to look at the land value of encroachment properties, and compare it to the average. My land value is \$370.37 per square metre (taken off your rates demand) as against the average Seatoun value of \$1024. Your "fairer" proposal is flawed.

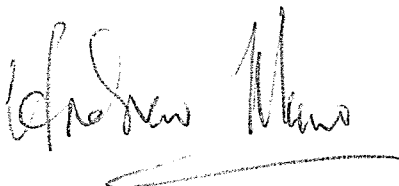
In my case because I had no reasonable way of putting in off street parking I was forced to take out an encroachment license before I could get a building permit for the house in 1973. I never willingly asked for an encroachment license. The Council saw an advantage in getting cars off the formed carriage way which would help relieve traffic congestion.

The legal road of Tio Tio Rd was surveyed as a 66 foot wide road, and then an 18 foot carriageway and 3 foot footpath constructed, which left a lot of land on each side unused. This unused road is of no public benefit as it can't be sold or leased to anyone except the adjacent owner. It does not have a market value, as it cannot be put on the market. With hind sight the Council should have made the legal road narrower, so that owners could park on their own land.

The Council created the wider legal road at no cost to itself, and is now seeking a return on an "investment" that had no outlay. This particular road was legalized by Crown Grant. Which means that the unlying ownership is the Crown, which means all rents and sales should go to the Crown. The Wellington City Council is the legal caretaker, but not the owner in many instances.

If the encroachment fee is raised to your "fairer policy", then it is my policy to cease encroaching and being a bother to you, by remove my deck and park on the carriageway legally at no cost. At my age I am tired of being stuffed around with by officials.

Yours faithfully  
Andrew Muir



Information from the return of the respondents and comments will be available to the public. Personal information will be used for the administration of the consultation process.

**WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL'S DRAFT LONG-TERM PLAN 2012-22: SOUTHERN WARD SUBMISSION FORM**

NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS		Feedback on other Council initiatives: (Please tick)	
First name	Last name	Y	N
Brian	Papp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Street address/Suburb/City 183 Karepea St, Brodbyn			
Phone 021-824-511			
Email epapp@poroia.net.nz			
I would like to make an oral submission: (Please tick) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N			
For general comments please write on a separate form - see details on reverse.			
Feedback on key proposals in the draft Long-Term Plan: (Please tick)		Feedback on other issues raised by the community: (Please tick)	
Y	N	Y	N
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 I/We oppose the Botanic Gardens, Otari-Wilton's Bush and the Happy Valley tip being transferred to council controlled companies.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 I/We oppose the yellow rubbish bag collection service and the council's works unit, CitiOps, being outsourced or privatised.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 I/We support a referendum being held on whether to privatise council's strategic assets in the future.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 I/We oppose the encroachment policy and the implementation of rental fee rate increases.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5 I/We support the development of a new community and cultural centre in Newtown (from 2016/17).			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6 I/We support the increase in council's grants funding to community groups.			
7 I/We support having a say on whether Wellington City Council should amalgamate with other councils in the region and how the city should be governed in the future.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8 I/We support any change such as amalgamation having to receive support through a referendum.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9 I/We support strengthening community events (Island Bay and Newtown Festivals) and keeping regulatory fees minimal.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10 I/We support the development of a new Seafood Festival.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11 I/We support our city's parking wardens being brought back in-house and run by council.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12 I/We oppose the closure or sale of community assets such as Vogelmoor Hall and Municipal Golf Course.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13 I/We support the creation of a one-stop-shop within council to help small businesses.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14 I/We support the creation and development of youth suicide prevention initiatives.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15 I/We support more resources to eradicate graffiti and tagging in Wellington south.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16 I/We support a review of parking and transport projects in Newtown.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17 I/We support the development of a volunteering strategy.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Note: All submissions (including name and contact details) are published and made available to elected members and the public. Personal information will be used for the administration of the consultation process.



## Comments to ERG on the draft LTP (Summary document)

### STRATEGIC APPROACH

#### General Comments

- It is bewildering for the reader to navigate between the different tiers of plan-speak (4 Outcomes, 3 Priorities and 5 Important Proposals), and then to cross-reference these strategic considerations with the 7 Strategic Areas (which ironically are operationally-focused) presented in Part 2 of the Long Term Plan (draft). A conspiracy theorist may even consider that it is intentionally complex to discourage public access. Recommendation 1: Dramatically simplify the structure of the Long Term Plan to make it more accessible and comprehensible. Recommendation 2: add a cross-reference to the Outcomes, Priorities and Proposals for each of the Strategic Areas (presumably in or below the cross-references to the 'Relevant Council Policies and Strategies' section).
- The four themes are well formulated, it's a shame this structure is lost in the LTP consultation. Aligning the consultation document with each of these themes would have been helpful. The coloured icons representing community outcomes useful (e.g. connected, dynamic city etc)
- The eco-city aims seem lost in the long term plan. In the long term plan eco-city is then used specifically to discuss issues about Zelandia, rather than encompass all the items highlighted in the goals. If the long term plan was structured around the four themes, it would become more apparent that a large number of items under eco-city have been either delayed or cancelled, or funds to them reduced.
- It is puzzling to see initiatives such as earthquake strengthening of Council buildings, and public access improvements to the Clyde Quay Marina identified as contributing to the Eco-city strand of 2040. An explanation of the relationship would be helpful so citizens can understand how these initiatives advance the Eco-city message and contribute to progress towards Eco-city measures of success.

### GROWING OUR ECONOMY AND JOBS

- It is good to see Wellington City Council attempt to actively tackle unemployment issues. Central Government is a main employer in Wellington, and is reducing its own expenditure and workforce. Wellington is particularly at risk from austerity measures by Central Government; a diversification of employers is to be encouraged.
- We would like to see economic development initiatives presented within a 'green growth' context (e.g. green jobs, sustainable events, sustainable transport, renewable energy etc).

Green growth is an internationally accepted framework for integrating economic development activity with positive environmental outcomes. This would also contribute toward the city's resilience.

- We suggest transferring the Energy Efficiency Program from the resilience chapter to a more relevant section. (although the sea level rise risk assessment could remain in the resilience section).
- Destination Wellington: this is a welcome initiative, as attraction of new businesses is an integral part of creating jobs in the area. Since 2007, Greater Wellington has coordinated a joint approach to economic development with all councils in the Wellington region. Is the new approach intended to complement or replace Wellington City Council's involvement with the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee and Grow Wellington? Implementation will be undertaken by "a special delivery agency". Does this mean that another Council-Controlled Organisation will be needed, or that Positively Wellington Tourism's mandate will be changed to include economic development activities with subsequent diminution of tourism expertise on its board? Most other proposals (the hobbit, fifa, tourism Australia, and long-haul to some extent) support the tourism industry the most. It could be useful to balance attracting business and tourism better, with stronger investment toward new businesses compared with tourism. In times of international financial austerity, tourism is likely to be a weaker candidate for growth. And since the Christchurch earthquakes, tourism to "earthquake-prone" areas has diminished.
- It is also noted that the WCC contribution to Te Papa is suggested to be cut-down (in another section). This would reduce Te-Papa's contribution in attracting tourism when this section is suggesting a growth in funding to attract tourism.
- Long-haul airline attraction is likely to be highly controversial. It is undeniable it would increase the growth of Wellington, both in tourism and other business. But this project has to be very carefully balanced if it is to not compromise the city. Airport noise impacts a large portion of the city, and will only increase with more and bigger planes. The last thing we want to do is alienate a large number of communities. The environmental impact of extending the runway is also potentially huge. Options extending inside the harbour should be favoured against doing so on the south coast, which would impact the natural environment far more, with far greater destructive consequences.



# ENHANCING RESILIENCE

## General Comments

- This proposal is in fact largely focused on earthquake resilience (although it references 'other natural disasters'). However, the title is non-specific, and may lead some to consider that the focus extends to economic resilience, social resilience etc. Recommendation: amend the title to 'Earthquake Preparedness' (or similar) to avoid misunderstanding and improve transparency.
- It is disappointing to see all wastewater and stormwater issues have been pushed back once again. Read more below in the section on delayed proposals.

## Page 7

- Is earthquake preparedness (priority 3) not an integral part of a well-managed city (priority 2) – which also has a substantial focus on asset management?

## Page 11

- **Prince of Wales Park Reservoir:** No comment

## Page 12

- **Tasman Street Reticulation Upgrade:**
- **Resilience of the Water Network:** Why are incentives for individual household water tanks not considered for resilience of the networks? Providing water for residents was one of the issues after the Christchurch earthquake, and household tanks would have helped. They also contribute to stormwater protection and reduction in drinking water needs. These could be built as incentives (or easy building consent), and requirement for new homes?

## Page 13

- **Earthquake Strengthening of Council Buildings:** Both Greater Wellington and Wellington City Council are planning to spend significantly for earthquake strengthening of their buildings in the Wellington CBD in the next two to three years. By the time the buildings are ready for re-occupation, Greater Wellington may no longer exist and Wellington City may be part of a larger council with different functions. We recommend waiting until more is known about the supercity proposal, and further discussions between Wellington City Council and Greater Wellington to identify the most necessary and cost-effective strengthening options.

## Page 14

- **Energy Efficiency Programme:** this programme appears completely out of context under an earthquake preparedness theme. We appreciate that infrastructure enhancement presents an opportunity to improve thermal insulation and is consistent with the Eco City theme.
- **Heritage Grants:** Strict criteria to identify priorities for allocating these grants will be required as \$329k per annum for the next three years will not deliver help to many owners of heritage buildings. We suggest Council reallocate some of the funding currently allocated for Council offices to these grants.
- **New Standards for Firefighting:**
- **Grants to Support Community Preparedness:**
- **Alternative Proposals Not Included in the Draft Plan:** Why is the Museum Stand upgrade not simply listed as a Deferred Project on page 15?
- **Question 1 - Do you think earthquake strengthening the city's assets and making the city more resilient is a high priority?:**
  - Strengthening the Town Hall is a high priority given the wide variety of ways it contributes to the life of the city and the revenue it generates (concerts, conferences, graduation ceremonies, lectures, celebrations of awards) However, decisions should wait until after the wider review of earthquake strengthening needs, which will identify priorities.
  - Strengthening some of the key roading infrastructure such as tunnels and key routes (e.g. Adelaide Rd, Churchill Drive and Ngaio Gorge) may keep parts of the city operational post earthquake
- **Question 2 - What role do you think the Council should play in assisting individual property owners to strengthen earthquake-prone buildings?:**
  - An advisory role, but not a funding role. If Council decided to provide financial assistance to owners of commercial properties in preference to resolving the difficulties experienced by long term residents with leaky buildings, doubt would be cast on Council's commitment to a "people-centred city".
- **Question 3 - What could the Council do to assist individuals and communities to better prepare for an earthquake or other natural disaster?:**
  - Work closely with the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management, to avoid unnecessary duplication, conflict or gaps. Be very clear about Council's priorities at each stage following a major disaster, particularly if the Cabinet bunker and the Ministry of Social Development's Bowen St campus are unavailable. The Christchurch experience suggests communities may need to be self reliant for much longer periods. For example, Council may need to plan for rows of portaloos along the Terrace and in the Parliamentary Precinct.

- **Deferred Projects:**

Wastewater and stormwater issues: It is disappointing to see all wastewater and issues have been pushed back once again, which is not consistent with the aims of an 'eco-city'. These issues will only become more problematic as population increases and severe weather events happen more often. Delaying action in these areas is compounding the problem. Surely "improved biodiversity and health of native species" includes the marine environment which makes Wellington so special?

- The Moa Point bypass treatment project (\$7.3m) is surprising given the age of the plant and the low frequency of discharges. Are there other ways to address the resource consent compliance issue (e.g. challenge the validity of the condition). Are discharges really having a significant adverse environmental impact? What level of treatment is required? – surely current arrangements are similar to those elsewhere in the developed world? This seems like an awful lot of money to address a possibly insignificant environmental impact. condition? Additionally, any savings realised from this item could be better spent on more demanding wastewater/stormwater projects which could achieve a better environmental outcome.

- Playground upgrades: The deferral of the playground proposals in Makara and Newlands is disappointing. There is not much in the plan that caters for children, especially free activities that are available all day every day. Playgrounds are a very people-centred activity.

# Transport

## General Comments

- It is very heartening to see cycling included in the plan, and that it would be great to see all the cycle network projects they have listed completed. We would urge that the safer cycling networks not just be limited to making cycle lanes along existing roads, but that some consideration be given by the appropriate council departments to actually using streets differently, e.g. for the Island Bay route, perhaps some streets such as Tasman Street could become one way, or be closed off at one end, to allow really safe relaxing transport by cyclists. We would urge the council to consult with cycling user groups such as Cycle Aware Wellington to get feedback.
- If these are to be pilot models for other cycling routes then getting them right will be important.
- In terms of public transport, Wellington has not done badly compared to some other NZ cities, but affordability is a huge issue. We are fairly sure options are already under consideration, but measures such as flexible tickets that you can use in an unlimited way for say a two hour time frame or can use for at least one transfer should be seriously evaluated. Such models are common in other countries (e.g. single ticket usable on all transports for up to an hour from the start of the journey).
- Cycling and effective affordable public transport are crucial to the Council's goals of a Connected city, an Eco city and a People-centred city. These modes of transport reduce pollution, offer health and economic benefits to users (if public transport is priced right) and reduce congestion for other road users.

## Performance measures

- Although the cycling plan is heartening, the current performance measurements for pedestrian and cyclist safety are currently limited to casualties (page 130 of the LTP). It is very difficult to know how we're doing as the numbers are so small (is 3 rather than 4 really 25% better, or just a fluke that year?). We recommend the introduction of such performance on the number of non fatal accidents reported, which involved pedestrians and cyclists, as two performance measures.

## **MAINTAINING WELLINGTON AS AN EXCLUSIVE PLACE WHERE TALENT WANTS TO LIVE**

### **General Comments**

- See discussion above, we recommend some of these projects be reduced, deferred, or cancelled in favour of other projects. This applies particularly to the central city framework and parks.
- There is currently no budget for new walkways and the current walkway budget has been slashed. Yet performance indicators include an increase in walkway use. Walkways should be seen as a wonderful way for people to commute. They could also be a way to the beauties of Wellington for visitors, and particularly cruise ships. Few additional strategic walkways could achieve these goals easily.

## BALANCING OUR BUDGET

### Making savings now

- **Te Papa funding:** Reduction to Te Papa funding will reduce its spending in attracting tourists to town. In effect this denies the aims of “Growing our economy and jobs”. We recommend funding to Te Papa be maintained, and part of it be taken from that pool of funding. Reducing Te Papa funding will also negatively impact on the already limited taxonomic capability of Wellington and New Zealand as a whole, and is therefore counter-productive to the “eco-city” aims.
- **Grants reduction:** Environmental grants are proposed to be cut in half. In the last eight years, environmental community groups in Wellington have exploded, from 12 to 67 individual groups. These provide a tremendous asset to Wellington, at a very limited cost. We urge the council to not only retain these environmental groups but boost them, particularly in the light of how little in the Long Term Plan is assigned to the “eco-city” pillar of Wellington’s vision.

### Working smarter

- A collaborative approach between councils on issues such as waste management and water services is welcome. However, the great danger to Wellington City Council is the risk of diluting its performance for the sake of unification. Let us not have a levelling to the lowest common denominator. We urge the council to push other councils to improve their performance rather than lower ours.
- Eco-city proposal: see separate submission.

### Fees and charges

- The group supports the concept of “user pays”. It has been showed to be the most effective way to reduce impacts such as power or water consumption. The main caveat is in terms of landfill charges: let us not increase charges so much that illegal dumping increases. It is worth monitoring this issue specifically.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Performance indicators are not considered fully in the short version of the draft Long Term Plan. We commend the council for having some environmental performance indicators. However, there are some big gaps in environmental monitoring that we would like the council to cover.

### Use of open space

- The use of open spaces is monitored for fee-paying spaces (Zealandia and the Zoo, page 75 of LTP), and for the botanic gardens and paths (page 59 of LTP). We recommend Otari Wilton Bush and the Taputeranga Marine Reserve be added to the performance indicators. These are tremendous assets to Wellington, yet they receive very little contribution from the council. Gathering such indicators would provide evidence that they should be not only cherished but also funded more.

### Environmental impact of wastewater and stormwater on the environment

- Performance indicators exist for stormwater and wastewater (page 69 and 71 respectively). These are centred on customer satisfaction with very few environmental performance indicators (beach bathing quality in summer). Yet the community and the council is the biggest polluter to our harbour and South Coast. It seems ironical we setup a Marine Reserve yet keep discharging to it.
- We recommend new performance indicators be added, with greater transparency to the community.
  - Number of stormwater overflows reduces
  - Severity of stormwater overflows reduces
  - Total volume of stormwater overflows reduces (is it measured?)
  - Quality of river water improves (less run-offs, less sediment loss etc)
  - Number of wastewater overflows reduces (untreated and partially treated separately)
  - Total volume of wastewater overflows reduces (untreated and partially treated separately)
- We recommend general environment enforcement be reported (they might already be, but we couldn't find them in the LTP). These will help the community realise that issues are being investigated and offenders are dealt with. It sends the strong message that the council is committed to improving the environment we all live in.

- Number of individual events reported to the environment hotline
  - Number of those events actually investigated
  - Number of those events which resulted in finding and resolving the problem (or prosecution etc)
- We are also disappointed that the performance indicator for unaccounted drinking water from the network doesn't improve with time (page 69 of LTP).



18 May 2012

**TO: Council**

**FROM Environmental Reference Group**

## **SUBMISSION ON DRAFT LONG TERM PLAN PART TWO: BALANCING THE BUDGET**

### **The challenge facing Council**

1. Council's Environmental Reference Group (ERG) has prepared this advice to assist Council finalise its work programme, budget and the Long Term Plan. We understand that Council previously agreed on a target of 3.8% for rate increases in 2012/2013 and that the cost of the current proposals in the Draft Long Term Plan (Draft LTP) would require an average rates increase of 4.1%.
2. Our view is that the target of 3.8 per cent and the associated limit (also 3.8%) are not consistent with an inclusive, people-centred city. Many residents are already finding Wellington an expensive place to live. Rates increases of this level will absorb even more of their remaining discretionary spending.
3. One of the challenges the ERG faced in preparing coherent advice on financial aspects of the Draft LTP was the way that relevant information is scattered throughout different sections of the full Draft LTP and the Draft LTP Summary. This made it difficult to identify all proposals, their costs and the potential trade-offs.
4. In the first instance, we focused on the "Balancing our Budget" and "Other Proposals" sections of the Draft LTP Summary. In "Our Advice Part One", we address the examples from this section. We were also surprised that other strategies had not been considered, for example, sales of encroachments or buildings that will be surplus to requirements after the local government changes. Not all ERG members, however, support the principle of asset sales.
5. When we realised we needed a more comprehensive approach to balancing the budget, we looked at the new and deferred proposals in the Draft LTP Summary. Our views are in Our Advice Part Two.
6. We then developed:
  - Advice Part Three: Proposals dropped from the Draft LTP – we've recommended reinstating two
  - Advice Part Four: Growing Our Economy and Jobs
  - Advice Part Five: Asset Renewals
7. ERG has focused on the short-term financials. We did not see a lot of point in considering the more distant years given central Government's intention to amalgamate councils and reduce their powers before the 2013 local body elections.

8. Finding savings has not been easy. It was much easier to identify increases, reinstatements and bring forwards. Nevertheless this submission identifies some options for Council to consider.

**Advice Part One: “Balancing The Budget” and “Other Proposals”**

9. The order of these recommendations and comments reflects their order in the Balancing the Budget and Other Proposals sections of the Draft LTP.
10. The ERG recommends that Council:
  - a. reinstates Te Papa’s original funding of \$2.25 million particularly if there is any risk that the reduction may damage Te Papa’s core scientific capabilities, e.g. taxonomy
  - b. reduces the Our Wellington Page to one page per week (saving \$50,000) so that more funding can be allocated to social media
  - c. reinstates the original \$80,000 for environmental grants (an increase of \$40,000 per annum) because these grants are of immense value to the city
  - d. takes the next steps towards consistent and joint approach by eight local authorities to more efficient waste management
  - e. reviews waste collection services (cost not found) and includes ways of reducing the use of fossil fuels in waste collection services in the terms of reference for the review to advance the Wellington 2040 Eco-City theme
  - f. does not review refuse bins in 2012/13, saving \$800,000 opex and \$200,000 capex
  - g. introduces tiered parking charges to provide an incentive for residents and businesses to use alternative transport options in preference to parking in locations with high fees – parking should be more expensive than the bus to encourage people to take the bus
  - h. does not establish the Eco-City CCO – but budgets up to \$700,000 per annum to fund Zealandia for up to three years subject to successful negotiation of the alternative model suggested in our submission on the Eco-City CCO
  - i. accepts Porirua City and Upper Hutt city as shareholders of Capacity Infrastructure Services with WCC and HCC
  - j. does not establish the Regional Amenities Funding to provide top-up funding for a range of different purposes as this may set an unfortunate precedent for other sectors (saves nearly \$600,000 in 2012/13, rising to nearly \$1.5 million by 2015/16
  - k. enters into a formal agreement with Greater Wellington to manage Council land adjacent to Belmont Regional Park
  - l. allocates funding under the Plimmer Bequest for Watts Peninsula, Grasslees Reserves, Alex Moore Park and the Children’s Garden.

**Advice Part Two: Other planned expenditure and savings (includes a review of deferred projects page 15)**

11. Looking at these projects enabled the ERG to think about Wellington 2040 as well as current needs and financial constraints. As a result, the ERG recommends that Council:
  - a) increases funding for the energy efficiency programme – Council is currently allowing only \$100,000 per annum for three years for further assessments of sea level rise and establishing a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, and only \$50,000 per annum to support Warm-Up New Zealand
  - b) defers the “nice but not necessary” public space enhancements and improved connections in the Parliamentary Precinct, the Victoria Precinct, Memorial Park and the development of a new inner City Park – associated savings of up to \$9 million by 2016/17 provide a substantial cushion for funding other proposals or reducing rates
  - c) continues with the planned upgrade of Opera House Lane
  - d) brings forward the three waters projects which Council was intending to defer to 2015/16 and beyond because any breakdowns in these systems can impact seriously on residents, visitors and perceptions of the city
  - e) continues earthquake-strengthening of the Town Hall because this facility contributes to the life of the city in many different ways
  - f) spreads funding for earthquake-strengthening of the Council offices over a longer period (or defers it to a later date) to reinforce Council’s view that no-one needs to leave town – the risk hasn’t changed, only the perception of risk. A more gradual approach would also allow post-amalgamation accommodation aspirations and needs to be identified before additional funding is spent on the current building.
  - g) brings forward some funding for mitigating risks to roads, including weather-related slips and the resilience of escape routes like Churchill Drive and Ngaio Gorge
  - h) proceeds with the cycling proposals and brings forward some funding from 2016/17 for walking improvements
  - i) allocates some funding to purchase reserve land purchases to take advantage of any opportunities to improve ecological connectivity.

**Advice Part Three: Alternative proposals not included in the Draft Plan (pages 26, 19 and 14)**

12. The ERG proposes two reinstatements
  - a) public space improvements in Miramar –well-designed urban spaces near the heartland of Wellington’s creative industries are likely to be more influential in attracting talent to live and work in Wellington than additional CBD open space initiatives (Draft LTP does not show cost)
  - b) capital funding for modifications of the entrance, main path through the collections, and the curator’s house at Otari-Wilton’s Bush – despite years of investment in planning, consultation and submission-writing about this

nationally significant site, Council has shown little commitment to implementing the statutory Management Plan. Faith in Council has been damaged by their cancellation of previously allocated capital funding and their decision not to include any capital funding for Otari in the term of this LTP. The next review of the Management Plan is due in 2017.

13. ERG supports:
  - a) deferral of capital funding for a deep water pool at the Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre
  - b) deferral of the refresh of the Central Library building until options for delivering a modern library service in the future have been identified (but if necessary allow for earthquake strengthening)
  - c) deferral of funding for upgrades of the Treehouse and the Annex at the Botanic Gardens pending decisions about Eco-City and a formal offer of sponsorship for developing the Children's Garden outside the Treehouse

#### **Advice Part Four: Growing Our Economy and Jobs**

##### **Destination Wellington**

14. The ERG recommends that Council reconsider establishing Destination Wellington. Our reasons follow:
15. The ERG is puzzled by Council's proposal to create a new specialist delivery agency 'Destination Wellington' with a budget of \$1 million in 2012/13 and \$1.9 million a year from 2013/14. [Its purpose is to "attract increased levels of investment, talent and new business to the Central Business District and wider Wellington City Area].
16. The degree of overlap with the roles of "Grow Wellington" and Positively Tourism Wellington creates an impression of unnecessary duplication. With amalgamation looming, setting up another organisation in this space seems particularly wasteful. [Grow Wellington was established in 2007. It is overseen by a committee consisting of all regional mayors and the Chair of Greater Wellington. Activities are guided by the Wellington Regional Strategy.]
17. We also anticipate potential confusion for residents, stakeholders and in-market partners if there are two or more organisations with similar names and responsibilities.
18. The Destination Wellington proposal also came as a surprise given that the current Economic Development Strategy states that: "

"Wellington's economic success is intertwined with the performance of the wider region and the national economy. Many of the institutions and resources required for the city's success and the success of the wider region are shared. An economic strategy for Wellington City must be integrated with the region's economic strategy and central government's economic growth agenda. As a consequence, it will need to be delivered in partnership with key partners locally, regionally and nationally."

19. Overall, the ERG was disappointed that the Eco-City and People-Centred themes in Wellington 2040 have not had greater influence on Council's approach to growing Wellington's economy and jobs. Many of the new proposals in the Draft LTP support the tourism and events sectors where growth and jobs are dependent on the health of other economies, and the use of fossil fuels associated with domestic and international air travel.
20. The ERG suggests that some of the funding proposed for Destination Wellington could put to better use exploring different ways of thinking about economic growth and jobs in Wellington, for example:
  - a) How best to apply the recommendations in the December 2011 report of the Green Growth Advisory Group in the CBD and the wider Wellington region?
  - b) How best to encourage and support initiatives that will reduce the City's reliance on imports and increase its day-to-day self-sufficiency?
  - c) How best to encourage and support Wellington's retirees and redundant public servants to remain in Wellington despite its weather, topography and the relatively high cost of living?
21. If Destination Wellington goes ahead, we would like Council to:
  - a) issue a definition of the term "new jobs" so everyone understands what achieving 10,000 new jobs by 2015 means (e.g. how long does a job have to last to be counted?)
  - b) commits to measuring success with measures that supplement GDP (e.g. the Genuine Progress Indicators used by Grow Wellington).

**Advice Part 5: Asset renewals:**

22. Council identified the level of investment in renewing assets as a key question and the ERG appreciated the introductory information in the Draft LTP.
23. We commend Council for its decision not to reduce the budget for replacing Wellington's water, wastewater or stormwater pipes because the risks were too high. Council is already spending 7% of the budget for the three waters on unplanned repairs. This is why in an earlier section of this submission we have suggested bringing forward more funding for operating and upgrading these essential services. We anticipate malfunctions will become more problematic as population increases and the frequency and severity of adverse weather events increases.
24. In the time available, the ERG has not been able to investigate the implications of the different options for other assets with links to ERG's mandate. We would be concerned, however, if asset renewals were deferred so that Council can spend more on events like celebrating the Hobbit World Premier (\$1 million later this year).

**Finally**

25. The ERG would welcome more opportunity to engage with Council, staff and other reference and advisory groups on the issues raised by this submission.

**TO: WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL**

**FROM: ENVIRONMENTAL REFERENCE GROUP (ERG)**

## **ADVICE ON ECO-CITY PROPOSAL**

1. Council's Environmental Reference Group (ERG) welcomes this opportunity to provide some initial comments to Council on the Eco-City Proposal.
2. In preparing these comments, we were very conscious that central government intends to introduce new governance arrangements for local government, possibly within the next year or so. This may have implications for the structure and functions of councils and council-controlled organisations (CCOs) in and beyond Wellington City. We would advise minimal structural change until questions about the wider context are resolved.
3. Council's Working Party Report on Zealandia focused on shared governance arrangements as the solution to Zealandia's financial situation. The Eco-City public consultation documents identified two additional reasons for introducing shared governance arrangements: thinking more holistically about the city's relationship with the natural world, and encouraging greater collaboration. These three imperatives have different degrees of urgency.
4. Our submission addresses all three imperatives:
  - resolving Council's concerns about Zealandia's governance and management (urgent)
  - contributing to the development of Council's wider vision of Wellington as a "place that leads the world in thinking about the city's ecology" (a new activity – part of Wellington 2040)
  - improving collaboration between the managers of Wellington's eco-destinations and conservation programmes (enhancing an existing way of operating).
5. A key question for Council is whether creating a new CCO at this time is the best way of advancing all three imperatives. Our submission proposes that Council advances them separately. We consider the appropriate time for considering bringing them together under an "Eco-city" CCO is at the planning/implementation stage of any future amalgamation or legislative changes. By then Council and stakeholders may also know if Zealandia will be able to achieve its goal of financial independence.

### **The urgent imperative: resolving Council's concerns about Zealandia**

6. The most urgent of the imperatives is to resolve Council's concerns about Zealandia. In the short term, we see benefits in a temporary, time-bound, negotiated, non-structural agreement. The purpose of the agreement would be to give Council more control without undermining the progress Zealandia is making towards its objectives and targets without disrupting its visitor services or conservation programmes. A joint approach to reviewing the publicised cost-savings, as well as identifying potential cost savings and revenue generation opportunities, may also be beneficial to both parties.

7. This win-win agreement could include:
  - continuation of the governance of Zealandia by the Karori Sanctuary Trust (Council is probably aware that the terms of several trustees expire in May or June 2012)
  - tagged annual operating grants from Council to Zealandia for 2012/13 and indicative grants for one or two out-years conditional on satisfactory progress towards key performance indicators (qualitative and quantitative).
8. More details about tagged funding are in Appendix One.
9. In parallel to this process, we would encourage Council to complete detailed planning for a 'Plan B' that could be implemented at short notice if Zealandia cannot operate within the budget agreed for 2011/2012. Plan B could be the Parks and Garden's model or the "Two Zs" CCO model. If the latter, the documentation should allow for other eco-destinations to be brought under the CCO at a later date. We don't see the full Eco-City model as an option for Plan B because it requires more complex decision-making and establishment processes.
10. The Plan B documentation could also explore and explain what "organisations will retain their independent identities" means in practice. Identities are about more than names.
11. A table in Appendix Two presents some of the factors that may influence Council's choice of a preferred option for Plan B. The choice will require Council to determine what it really wants from Zealandia in the future.

**Imperative 2: Contributing to the development of Council's wider vision of Wellington as a "place that leads the world in thinking about the city's ecology" (a new imperative)**

12. Council has argued that the Eco-City CCO "will help Wellington become a world leader in fostering the coexistence of human society and the natural world; conserving the city's natural and conservation facilities and attractions, maintaining biodiversity and expanding environmental awareness". (page 5)
13. ERG agrees that Eco-City could help. Our questions relate to the nature and extent of the help or contribution that a new CCO with six trustees and a small management team will be able to make. Our expectation is that initially, the CCO would focus on challenges associated with its primary responsibilities, including establishing the CCO's culture and systems, and managing four facilities with different business objectives and identities.
14. A further question is who would the CCO be helping? Who will be responsible for leading and resourcing the development of this vision?
15. ERG would welcome further opportunities to work with Council members and staff on ways to achieve the wider agenda and vision, e.g., through a Think Tank.

**Imperative 3: Enhancing collaboration between managers of Wellington's conservation programmes and eco-destinations**

16. ERG welcomes Council's recognition of the benefits of increased collaboration, but was surprised that Council didn't use examples from Council's Biodiversity Action Plan to make this point. A lot of collaborative activity is already happening but is at risk from other pressures on staff and budgets.

17. If the new CCO management team and its staff are to spend more time collaborating with other organisations, additional incentives or direction will be required.
18. Discussions during the preparation of this submission revealed strong support for a collaborative approach to a gap in current marketing programmes: encouraging locals to visit and learn more about Wellington's diverse eco-destinations. Within a half day or day trip from Wellington, locals can visit eco-destinations such as Matiu-Somes Island, Pauatahanui wetlands, Kapiti Island, Pukaha-Mt Bruce, Percy's Scenic Reserve, Baring Head, Nga Manu, the South Coast, and the current Marine Education Centre. The envisaged emphasis is "slow visits" with time for discovery, awareness-raising and education. We can provide more detailed diagrams showing destinations and their key conservation messages if required.
19. We think Council may be able to make this happen without creating a new CCO.

### **SOME OTHER POINTS**

#### **Cost as a barrier to access**

20. The fee structures at both the Zoo and Zealandia make it difficult for many low and middle income families to visit these attractions. (Zoo: \$59 for family pass with two adults. Zealandia: \$71.50 for family pass with two adults. (Figures from the Dom Post 28 March 2012).
21. Ratepayers already subsidise visitors. Recent figures from reports to Council's CCO Performance Review Committee show that the average WCC subsidy per visitor at the Zoo is \$14.58, at Zealandia it is \$0.43 and across the organisations within the Museums Trust it is \$14.33 (excluding Carter's Observatory). We do not know if all these subsidies are calculated in the same way.
22. ERG encourages Council to review entry fees and visitor subsidies within and beyond the eco-destinations before establishing any CCO. This would enable Council to set interim instructions and targets for any incoming CCO.

#### **What's in a name – the meaning of Eco-City**

23. Wellington 2040 described the Eco-City concept as follows:

*Developing Wellington as an eco-city involves a proactive response to environmental challenges. It recognises the importance of Wellington taking an environmental leadership role as the capital city of clean and green New Zealand. Wellington's many natural assets give the city a head-start and opportunities as part of a green economy.*

24. ERG has concerns about assigning the name 'Eco-City' to a CCO whose primary responsibility is to manage four of the natural assets. We think "Wellington's Eco-destinations" or Eco-destinations Wellington are more appropriate titles.

#### **Where will the funding come from?**

25. The issue which led to the Eco-City proposal was Zealandia's request for three-year's opex. Zealandia is now seeking \$700,000 per annum for three years. An inevitable question is where will the funding come from.
26. A quick search identified the following projects as potential candidates for deletion from the Draft Long Term Plan:



- \$500,000 of capital funding in 2012/13 and \$1.0m in 2013/14 on public space enhancements and improved connections in the Parliamentary precinct to align with the National Library reopening this year and ahead of the 150 year commemoration of the capital city
- \$2.122m of capital funding in 2013/14 for improvements to the Memorial Park
- \$639,000 of capital funding on the Victoria Precinct in 2014/15 and \$2.09m in 2015/16 for public space enhancements and connections from Dixon St. to Ghuznee St to take advantage of an opportunity to leverage off private developments in the area
- \$3.3m in 2015/16 to provide an additional park in the central city to ensure that there are sufficient green spaces where people can congregate and relax.

## FINALLY

27. The Environmental Reference Group encourages Council to think again about its original decision that it is "...not prepared to continue to provide funding for Zealandia without closer management control".
28. The Working Party appears to have seen creating a CCO as the only mechanism for achieving closer management control. The Environmental Reference Group thinks other solutions may lead to better outcomes.
29. The Working Party report and the subsequent ECO-City consultation documents have generated a vigorous exchange of views and lots of questions that remain unanswered. We would encourage Council to address some of these questions when it announces its final decision.
30. Resolving Zealandia's immediate funding issues is urgent. If Council establishes the Eco-City CCO in time to resolve these issues, the trustees and newly appointed senior staff may face an unusual degree of scrutiny of their performance, especially their ability to generate the level of savings anticipated by the Working Party.
31. Ratepayers may have to contribute to Zealandia's operational and capital costs in perpetuity if Zealandia becomes a CCO. The operational costs may increase if there are permanent declines in the support from volunteers or the income from membership fees as a result of what some may perceive as a Council-takeover.
32. We believe that the alternative approach proposed by the Environmental Reference Group may offer a more enduring solution with better results in the long term.
33. We would welcome further discussions with Councilors and staff, regardless of the decision Council makes.

### Appendix 1 Tagged Funding

34. In an earlier section of this submission ERG proposed that Council negotiate a temporary, time-bound, non-structural agreement with the Karori Sanctuary Trust to give Council more control without undermining Zealandia's programmes or the progress it is making towards its objectives and targets.
35. A key element of the proposed agreement is tagged annual operating grants. This appendix suggests one way of tagging the funding.
36. Council could tag its funding and support towards some or all of the following:
  - funding the fence, including loan repayment, payment of interest, maintenance, and a replacement fund
  - weed and animal pest control
  - destination marketing
  - back-office costs (IT services, HR, financial services, facilities maintenance)
  - visitor subsidies for low-income families living within the WCC boundaries.
37. This would leave Karori Sanctuary Trust responsible for funding on-site activities where the Trust is likely to be able to maintain or increase revenue from entry fees, sales, private sector sponsorship and pro bono contributions. Associated expenditure may include:
  - conservation programmes, including translocations and the continued well-being of all species/populations
  - biosecurity including maintenance of the fence and the arrival of /response to bird diseases
  - visitor management and services
  - visitor centre operations
  - events management
  - volunteer recruitment, training, and coordination
  - recruitment, training, and rostering of guides and hosts.
38. An additional benefit of tagged funding may be increased transparency about the relative investment and expenditure on conservation and visitor/tourism activities.

**Appendix Two: Comparison of ‘The Two Zs’ and the Parks and Gardens model**

39. An earlier section of this submission suggested that Council develop a Plan B: an option that could be implemented quickly if Zealandia ran into financial difficulties under the proposed “Win-Win” arrangement. We ruled out the full Eco-City option as a quick solution, leaving two other options available for Plan B. The following table presents some of the factors that may influence Council’s choice of a preferred option for Plan B.

Wellington Environmental Visitor Attractions option (Zealandia and the Zoo)	Parks and Gardens
Both attractions are behind fences. The fences, however, have different purposes. At the zoo they keep the animals in. At Zealandia they keep pests out. Fences enable both facilities to charge for admission and track visitor numbers.	Otari-Wilton’s Bush and the Botanic Gardens are part of Wellington’s “commons”, like the Town Belt, the South Coast, and many other reserves and open spaces. They have multiple entrances and people can enter at any time at no direct cost.
Zealandia is increasingly driven by cost pressures, the need to increase visitor numbers and the spend per visitor.	The financial cushion of operating within a large rate-payer funded department would enable Zealandia to place more focus on the original vision and objectives of the Sanctuary.
Both are experienced managers of attractions where visitors pay.	Senior managers of Parks and Gardens would have to develop capabilities in managing a paying visitor attraction.
Tension between elements of perceived identities of the two organisations - indigenous vs introduced	The strong indigenous focus of Otari-Wilton’s Bush trumps the perception that the Botanic Garden is about introduced plants.
The CCO model has assisted the Zoo to sustain a multi-years capital development plan.	Any capital commitments by Council can be cancelled at short notice (as happened recently to Otari-Wilton’s Bush).
The Zoo’s experience in managing relationships with media and sponsors may be of assistance to Zealandia.	Potential sponsors may see supporting Zealandia as a business unit within a Council as delivering fewer benefits to the sponsor than supporting an independent community-based trust.
Some of Zealandia’s marketing activity is targeted at generating international visitors which delivers benefits to Wellington inc. The Zoo is primarily focused on segments of the local market.	Very limited investment or capabilities in marketing.
Both organisations recognise and invest in services and facilities to support school visits.	Limited investment in educational facilities and services at either attraction.
Physically more distant	Physically closer
Strong focus on conservation successes.	A public sector environment may lead to increased willingness to learn from interventions that didn’t work e.g. delays in populations becoming established.

RECEIVED  
 17 MAY 2012

# Making the most of Wellington's natural attractions – Eco-City proposal

We are keen to get your thoughts on establishing a new Council Controlled Organisation called Eco-City. You can have your say:

- By making a submission on this form or in writing and send it to us by:  
 Post – Freepost 2199, Eco-City Proposal, Wellington City Council, PO Box 2199, Wellington 6140 or Fax – 04 801 3075
- By making a submission online at [Wellington.govt.nz](http://Wellington.govt.nz)
- By sending an email to: [ecocity@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:ecocity@wcc.govt.nz)

Please contact the Wellington City Council on 499 4444 for more information.

## Section one – personal details

ENTER YOUR NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr	<input type="checkbox"/> Mrs
<input type="checkbox"/> Ms	<input type="checkbox"/> Miss
<input type="checkbox"/> Dr	
*First name/last name	IAN FRATER
*Street address	3/1 HARLAND ST, BROOKLYN 6021
Phone/Mobile	389-1604
Email	ian.frater@xtra.co.nz

\* Mandatory fields

I AM MAKING A SUBMISSION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> As an individual	<input type="checkbox"/> On behalf of an organisation
Name of organisation	
I would like to make an oral submission to the City Councillors.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
If yes, provide a phone number above so that a submission time can be arranged.	<input type="checkbox"/> No

## SUBMISSIONS CLOSE 5PM ON 18TH MAY 2012

**Privacy statement**  
 All submissions (including name and contact details) are published and made available to elected members of the Council and the public. Personal information supplied will be used for the administration and reporting back to elected members of the Council and the public as part of the consultation process. All information collected will be held by Wellington City Council, 101 Wakefield Street, Wellington. Submitters have the right to access and correct personal information.

## Section two – questions

The working party considered a number of options before coming to the one recommended in this document. While this is the Council's preference, the final decision will be based, not only on this work, but also on the views of Wellingtonians.

Here is your chance to let the Council know which option you prefer.

Please rank the following options in your order of preference (eg 1 for your most preferred option and 5 for your least preferred option)

1. PLEASE RANK THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS	RANKING (1, 2, 3 etc)
Eco city model (the Council's preferred option)	1
Wellington Environmental Visitor Attractions model	3
Parks and Gardens model	2
Stand alone Council Controlled Organisation model	4
None of the models listed/ An alternative model	

2. WHY DID YOU SELECT YOUR MOST PREFERRED OPTION?

I support the Council controlling "Zealandia", so I am happy to support their own considered and preferred option.

3. ARE THERE ALTERNATIVE MODELS THAT WE SHOULD CONSIDER? WHAT WOULD THESE INVOLVE? ARE THERE OTHER WAYS WE SHOULD CONSIDER FUNDING ZEALANDIA OR WELLINGTON'S OTHER NATURAL ATTRACTIONS?

No. "Zealandia" has failed and is trading while insolvent. The Council must take over control if the wildlife sanctuary is to survive.

4. DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER COMMENTS ON THIS ISSUE?

see attached sheet.

Free Post Authority Number 2199

**Absolutely**  
**POSITIVELY**  
HE HEKE KI PŪNĀKE  
WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL **Wellington**  
PO Box 2199, Wellington, New Zealand



Freepost 2199  
Eco-City Proposal  
Wellington City Council  
PO Box 2199  
Wellington 6140

The original vision for Karori Wildlife Sanctuary was to create an area where New Zealand flora and fauna could be re-established. It was called a 500-year project.

Unfortunately, the governing trust has lost its way and has been taken over by people who see it as a business opportunity - able to pay salaries to a CEO, a Director of Marketing, and a Retail Manager, who contribute nothing towards the original aim. There are also shop assistants to sell plastic pukeko and waitresses to sell flat whites in the city of a thousand cafes.

Meanwhile, the trust newsletter still begs for unpaid volunteers to weed the paths, and do the other manual labour jobs necessary to look after the actual sanctuary.

Therefore I support the Council taking over the running of the wildlife reserve as a way of curbing the commercial objectives of "Zealandia" which are based on unreal expectations and will never make a profit.

On a very related note, if the Council is going to spend a lot of ratepayer money on an enterprise that conserves and breeds birds, frogs and lizards, then it is absolutely insane to also spend ratepayers money on an organisation dedicated to releasing cats into the environment to kill those very same birds, frogs and lizards.

So I do not support the Council giving any money to the RSPCA. I am happy to see the marvellous old fever hospital restored, but very unhappy about its proposed use as a repository for neglected cats and dogs.

**Nicole Tydda**

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**From:** Craig Starnes [craig.starnes001@msd.govt.nz]  
**Sent:** Friday, 18 May 2012 11:40 a.m.  
**To:** BUS: Long Term Plan  
**Cc:** David Halliday; donna.craig@paradise.net.nz  
**Subject:** Track network in Long Term Plan

Hi

I attended the Natural Environment Forum on 3 May 2012 and my submission is in relation to that meeting. I also wish to speak at the submission hearing to support my comments below.

The forum confirmed that the existing track network needs to be extended/improved.

An extract of the Open Space Access Plan was handed out and my comments are solely in relation to the Top 10 Proposed Initiatives in point 6. (I note that Schedule A requires updating again, eg Polhill mostly open, but this is not part of LTP).

1. The Skyline Track - can be removed as it is now in place - I accept that ongoing work is likely to improve alignment and access points and perhaps extending it, but its 12km length has been secured.
2. The Urban Coastal Connection - agree it should remain but Owhiro Bay to Lyall Bay sealed footpath section is complete (it may go further as unsealed?) so the start point can be amended.
3. The Rural Coastal Connection - strongly agree it should remain. See point 11 below for a new connection. Connections from South Makara and Sth Karori Roads should be added. Also access via from Cable Bay to Makara Village via the Transmission/Turbine roads.
4. The Northern Network - agree to principle but dont have knowledge as to how much of this has been completed. Linkages on Grade 3 tracks with Colonial Knob (Porirua City) should be added.
5. Kaiwharawhara Stream - mostly complete, just the section along the stream from Otari Wilton to Trelissick Park to be formalised - not sure if its possible to get under the railway line.
6. Karori Stream Access - agree as per point 3 above.
7. The East West Connection - agree to principle but dont have knowledge as to how much of this has been completed.
8. The Harbour Escarpment Walk - agree to principle but dont have knowledge as to how much of this has been completed.
9. Upgrade primary track system - agree to principle but dont have knowledge as to how much of this has been completed. Provided the underlying track is of the appropriate alignment, gradient, and has been designed to shed water, then gravel should be applied to this track system to provide resilience and improved usability through-out the year.
10. Rationalise secondary linkages and local networks - agree to principle but dont have knowledge as to how much of this has been completed. Perhaps remove as its business as usual.
11. Te Kopahau - add this area in. It is a very large tract of land that needs 'master-planning'. For example, a grade 3 track from the carpark at the end of Owhiro Bay to Tip Track/Barking Emu (via Spooky Gully) would complete the Grade 3 track that is almost complete from Aro St. Also a grade 3 track down Waipapa Stream to the coast with a spur grade 3 track up to the now historic reserve of the sub lookout. Too distant from city for effective volunteer track building.
12. Watts Peninsula - add this in. Master planning a variety of track grades to satisfy most users. Should form part of the route for point 2 above, eg grade 2 route from Worser to Shelly Bays.

19/05/2012

13. Polhill Reserve - add this in due to user pressure, popularity and proximity to CBD. Assist volunteers in rolling out the existing proposed master plan.

Happy to discuss further.

Cheers Craig

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# 2012-22 DRAFT LONG-TERM PLAN: SUBMISSION FORM

The following is a questionnaire on specific proposals contained in the 2012-22 draft long-term plan. We would appreciate you taking the time to fill it out. This is one of many ways to give us your feedback. You can also send us an email at [longtermplan@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:longtermplan@wcc.govt.nz), or just complete the contact details on this form and the general comments box on page 7.

## ENTER YOUR NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS

Mr /  Mrs /  Ms /  Miss /  Dr (Please circle which applies)

First name MCPHEE, ANDREW

Last name MCPHEE

Street address 237 RINTON STREET

Suburb BERHAMPORE

City WELLINGTON

Phone 021444616

Email mcphееandrew@yahoo.com

I would like to speak at a submission hearing  yes  no

I am making this submission as an  individual  organisation

Name of organisation

Note: all submissions (including name and contact details) are published and made available to elected members and the public. Personal information will be used for the administration of the consultation process. All information will be held by the Wellington City Council, 101 Wakefield Street, and submitters have the right to access and correct personal information.

## PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS

Page reference in summary for information on priorities: 6

### DO YOU AGREE WITH OUR THREE PRIORITIES FOR THIS DRAFT PLAN? (Please circle one answer)

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Make Wellington an inclusive place where talent wants to live		<input checked="" type="radio"/>				
Make the city more resilient to natural disasters like earthquakes		<input checked="" type="radio"/>				
A well managed city – make sure our services are efficient, effective and good value for money	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				

### ARE THERE OTHER PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS THAT ARE MORE IMPORTANT (AND WHY)? WHAT ARE THEY?

## KEY TO NEXT FOUR SECTIONS

RESPONSE	EXPLANATION
Leave in plan (high priority)	Leave in plan as proposed
Leave in plan (low priority)	Leave in plan but consider either reducing the programme, spreading the work over a longer period to reduce cost, or deferring the work until later
Take out of plan (not a priority)	Take programme/project out of plan
Don't know	Don't know, or do not have a preference

## GROWING OUR ECONOMY AND JOBS

We want our city and people to be prosperous now and into the future. We're proposing some new work to deliver on these objectives. Most of our economic development initiatives are largely funded from commercial rates or those charged the Downtown Levy. We're proposing the following initiatives:

### INITIATIVE (Please tick your answer)

	Page reference in summary for more information	Leave in plan (high priority)	Leave in plan (low priority)	Take out of plan (not a priority)	Don't know
<p><i>What:</i> create <b>Destination Wellington</b> – a programme of business investment and attraction activities run through a specialist agency</p> <p><i>Why:</i> to create jobs and support economic growth</p> <p><i>When:</i> ten year programme</p> <p><i>Cost:</i> \$18.1 million.</p>	8	✓			
<p><i>What:</i> bid to host <b>2015 FIFA under 20s World Championship</b> games</p> <p><i>Why:</i> attract visitors and promote the city</p> <p><i>When:</i> four year programme starting in 2012</p> <p><i>Cost:</i> \$2.5 million</p>	10		✓		
<p><i>What:</i> host <b>The Hobbit World premiere</b></p> <p><i>Why:</i> attracts international media coverage and promotes the local film and creative industry</p> <p><i>When:</i> in November 2012</p> <p><i>Cost:</i> \$1.1 million</p>	9		✓		
<p><i>What:</i> provide a <b>replacement venue for Town Hall</b> while it's earthquake strengthened</p> <p><i>Why:</i> continuity of service</p> <p><i>When:</i> in 2012/13</p> <p><i>Cost:</i> \$4 million</p>	9			✓	

### ANY COMMENTS?

Hobbit could be paid for by multi Millionaire Director?  
He also stands to profit from film which has used public resources to film.

Many other options to town hall whilst its being strengthened.

## BUILDING RESILIENCE TO EARTHQUAKES AND NATURAL DISASTERS

The recent earthquakes have changed people's thinking about the likelihood of natural disasters and how to prepare for them. We are all now focussed on how we can be better prepared for earthquakes and natural disasters. We're proposing the following initiatives:

INITIATIVE (Please tick your answer)	Page reference in summary for more information	Leave in plan (high priority)	Leave in plan (low priority)	Take out of plan (not a priority)	Don't know
<p><i>What:</i> <b>earthquake strengthen</b> the water storage network  <i>Why:</i> ensure security of supply of water  <i>When:</i> ten year programme  <i>Cost:</i> \$4.5 million</p>	12	✓			
<p><i>What:</i> <b>earthquake strengthen Council buildings</b> – starting with the Town Hall and Council offices on Wakefield Street  <i>Why:</i> To make sure Council buildings are safe for use  <i>When:</i> ten year programme  <i>Cost:</i> \$47.8 million + \$5 million to temporarily house staff and elected members while the work is completed</p>	13		✓		
<p><i>What:</i> <b>Earthquake assessments</b>  <i>Why:</i> to better manage/coordinate earthquake strengthening work  <i>When:</i> ten year programme  <i>Cost:</i> additional \$6.3 million.</p>	13		✓		
<p><i>What:</i> Help others <b>strengthen</b> their <b>buildings</b> against earthquakes  <i>Why:</i> to ensure the city is as prepared as possible  <i>When:</i> five year programme  <i>Cost:</i> \$1.5 million</p>	13			✓	
<p><i>What:</i> continue funding <b>heritage grants</b>  <i>Why:</i> to support heritage in the city  <i>When:</i> three year programme  <i>Cost:</i> \$329,000 per year</p>	14		✓		
<p><i>What:</i> <b>Energy efficiency programme</b> +building a climate adaptation strategy  <i>Why:</i> funding support for warmer and more efficient homes and to have a better understanding of impact of climate risks.  <i>When:</i> three year programme  <i>Cost:</i> \$200,000 per year</p>	14	✓			
<p><i>What:</i> <b>construct a Water reservoir</b> – Prince of Wales Park  <i>Why:</i> for Wellington Hospital's emergency needs + the city's growing inner city population.  <i>When:</i> two year programme starting in 2015/16  <i>Cost:</i> \$9.75 million</p>	11	✓			
<p><i>What:</i> <b>Tasman Street</b> reticulation upgrade  <i>Why:</i> to provide a link from the proposed Prince of Wales Park reservoir to the central city.  <i>When:</i> in 2015/16  <i>Cost:</i> \$562,672</p>	12	✓			

**ANY COMMENTS?**

put money into vital infrastructure but do not install residential water meters.

**TRANSPORT**

The transport network is made up of the private vehicle network, the public transport network and networks for cycling and walking. There are options around relative priority and investment of each network. Our approach is to continue investing in a mixed modal network that delivers transport options for all residents and visitors to the city. We're proposing the following initiatives:

<b>INITIATIVE (Please tick your answer)</b>					
	Page reference in summary for more information	Leave in plan (high priority)	Leave in plan (low priority)	Take out of plan (not a priority)	Don't know
<p><b>What: Tunnels and bridges</b> improvements  <b>Why:</b> many are old and need strengthening to meet new building standards  <b>When:</b> ten year programme  <b>Cost:</b> \$12.7 million</p>	16		✓		
<p><b>What: New retaining walls</b> on the road corridors  <b>Why:</b> The city experiences between 500 and 700 slips each year, and many of these create risks to properties above or below roads or beside the sea.  <b>When:</b> ten year programme  <b>Cost:</b> \$21.6 million</p>	17	✓			
<p><b>What: Minor roading safety</b> projects  <b>Why:</b> to improve road safety  <b>When:</b> ten year programme  <b>Cost:</b> \$8.5 million</p>	18		✓		
<p><b>What: Johnsonville roading</b> improvements  <b>Why:</b> to meet the needs of increased population growth and development in the town centre  <b>When:</b> in 2016/17  <b>Cost:</b> \$7.1 million</p>	17		✓		
<p><b>What: Cycle network safety</b> improvements  <b>Why:</b> to improve safety for cyclists  <b>When:</b> ten year programme  <b>Cost:</b> \$300,000 per year</p>	18	✓			
<p><b>What: Cycle network extension</b>  <b>Why:</b> to make it easier to cycle in and to the city  <b>When:</b> seven year programme from 2012/13  <b>Cost:</b> \$1 million per year</p>	18	✓			

**ANY COMMENTS?**

improve cycle routes retaining walls  
 NO MORE ISLANDS + SPEED HUMPS though  
 review lights in Newtown, NO MORE resource consents for Australian supermarkets  
 3 in Newtown more than enough  
 too big impact on traffic

# MAINTAINING WELLINGTON AS AN INCLUSIVE PLACE WHERE PEOPLE CHOOSE TO LIVE

Wellington has a very high quality of life that we want to see maintained and enhanced. The options to achieve this directly relate to the level of investment we make in the things that make this city an enjoyable place to live, work and visit. We're proposing the following initiatives:

## INITIATIVE (Please tick your answer)

	Page reference in summary for more information	Leave in plan (high priority)	Leave in plan (low priority)	Take out of plan (not a priority)	Don't know
<p><i>What:</i> <b>Parliamentary precinct</b> public space improvements  <i>Why:</i> leverage off the reopening of the National Library and new constitutional suite to showcase Wellington's capital city status  <i>When:</i> over the next two years – to coincide with the anniversary of the capital status  <i>Cost:</i> \$1.5 million to complete the project</p>	21	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><i>What:</i> make improvements to <b>Opera House Lane and Eva Street</b>.  <i>Why:</i> improve pedestrian connections and regenerate activities in the surrounding areas  <i>When:</i> 2012-14 – work is timed to coincide with developments on adjacent sites  <i>Cost:</i> \$1.1 million to complete the project</p>	21	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><i>What:</i> contribute to the Government's commitment to construct a permanent <b>Memorial Park</b>  <i>Why:</i> to have a memorial park in the capital that appropriately reflects the contribution of those that have served  <i>When:</i> 2012/13  <i>Cost:</i> \$2 million contribution</p>	21	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><i>What:</i> public space enhancements to <b>Victoria Precinct</b>  <i>Why:</i> to stimulate the regeneration of a critical block in the central city  <i>When:</i> 2014-16  <i>Cost:</i> \$2.6 million to complete the project</p>	21	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><i>What:</i> construct a new <b>Inner city park</b>  <i>Why:</i> as the inner city population increases, we're keen to ensure that there are sufficient green spaces where people can congregate and relax.  <i>When:</i> 2015/16  <i>Cost:</i> \$3.3 million</p>	21	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><i>What:</i> public space access improvements to <b>Clyde Quay Marina</b>  <i>Why:</i> to improve public access  <i>When:</i> 2012/13  <i>Cost:</i> \$208,000</p>	22	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><i>What:</i> increase <b>Cultural grants</b> funding  <i>Why:</i> the increase will enable us to respond to pressures on the grants funding pool  <i>When:</i> ongoing  <i>Cost:</i> additional \$150,000 per year</p>	23	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><i>What:</i> inflation adjustment for <b>Grants funding</b>  <i>Why:</i> to ensure recipients can still carry out work they are contracted to deliver  <i>When:</i> ongoing  <i>Cost:</i> \$69,695 in 2012/13, rising to \$214,142 in 2014/15</p>	23	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><i>What:</i> construct more <b>artificial sportsfields</b>  <i>Why:</i> to ensure sport and recreation is not unduly affected by bad weather  <i>When:</i> Alex Moore Park in 2013/14, Grenada North/Tawa in 2014/15, Western Suburbs (site to be confirmed) in 2016/17  <i>Cost:</i> \$5.2 million in total</p>	24	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<p><b>What: Keith Spry</b> swimming pool upgrade  <b>Why:</b> the current facility is old and does not meet the needs of the growing local population  <b>When:</b> in 2012/13  <b>Cost:</b> \$2.6 million</p>	23		✓		
<p><b>What: New library in Johnsonville</b>  <b>Why:</b> to meet the needs of the growing population in the northern suburbs  <b>When:</b> a three year programme starting in 2015/16  <b>Cost:</b> \$18.5 million</p>	23			✓	
<p><b>What: Aro Valley Community Centre</b> upgrade  <b>Why:</b> the current facility is old and does not meet the needs of the local population  <b>When:</b> planning work will start in 2016/17 with construction in 2018/19.  <b>Cost:</b> \$1.3 million</p>	22	✓			
<p><b>What: Newtown Community and Cultural Centre</b> upgrade  <b>Why:</b> the current facility is old and does not meet the needs of the local population  <b>When:</b> planning work will start in 2016/17 and construction over the following two years.  <b>Cost:</b> \$3.6 million</p>	22	✓			
<p><b>What: Strathmore Community Base</b> upgrade  <b>Why:</b> the current facility is old and does not meet the needs of the local population  <b>When:</b> planning work will start in 2017/18 and works are programmed over the following two years.  <b>Cost:</b> \$1.4 million</p>	22	✓			

**ANY COMMENTS?**

Promote healthy living through new parks and upgrades. Libraries should be changing E books future?

**BALANCING OUR BUDGET**

**Rates limits for the next ten years (page reference in summary 42)**

We are asking for your views on our draft financial strategy which is outlined in the draft plan. It is intended to guide our decisions now and in the future to deliver a financially sustainable city in the long term. In the strategy we're proposing to set:

- rates limit – the upper level of rates increases we do not intend to breach
- rates targets – the level of rates increases we are aiming for

The rates increase limit is based on the cost increases expected for the local government sector (Local Government Cost Index). Initially our rates increase target is close to this limit but by 2015 it reduces to the level of expected household inflation (CPI).

Rates limits:	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Rates increase limit	3.8%	3.5%	3.2%	3.3%	3.4%	3.3%	3.4%	3.7%	3.9%	3.9%
Rates increase target	3.8%	2.9%	2.4%	2.4%	2.5%	2.5%	2.6%	2.6%	2.7%	2.6%

**DO YOU AGREE WITH THE PROPOSED RATES INCREASE LIMIT? (Please circle one answer)**

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Rates limit too high	<input type="radio"/> Rates limit about right	<input type="radio"/> Rates limit too low	<input type="radio"/> Don't know
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**DO YOU AGREE WITH THE PROPOSED RATES INCREASE TARGET? (Please circle one answer)** Rates limit too high Rates limit about right Rates limit too low Don't know**Making savings and deferring work to balance the budget**

Like households and businesses, we need to continually review our expenditure and services to ensure they are value for money and that the overall rates burden is appropriate.

**OUR WORK TOWARDS THE DRAFT RATES TARGETS HAVE REQUIRED US TO:**

Make savings (eg reducing our funding support for Te Papa)	Page reference in summary: 28
Not fund some projects within the ten years of this plan (eg new deep water swimming pool at the WRAC)	Page reference in summary: 10, 14, 19, 26
Defer previously planned work that we may have consulted with the community on	Page reference in summary: 15
Work smarter (eg. partnering with Porirua to manage both cities' waste)	Page reference in summary: 30
Increase some fees and charges to ensure those the directly benefit from a service pay an appropriate contribution towards the cost of providing the service.	Page reference in summary: 32

Do you agree with our approach to reducing our budget? What factors should we take into consideration in making these decisions? Are there services we provide that you think could be reduced? Are there services we provide that you think are not our responsibility and therefore should exit?

**YOUR COMMENTS ON BALANCING THE BUDGET**

No parking fee increases, important not to have 24 hr paid parking in city as it will hurt cafe/restaurants and after business hour businesses. People will head to the Hutt or Porirua and not come into town.

**Reducing our ten year renewal budget (page reference in summary 34) at night.**

We have undertaken a review that estimates that we can spend \$26 million less on renewals than we have budgeted for over the ten years of this draft plan (approximately \$1 billion over 10 years). This renewal reduction we believe will have a minor impact on some services.

**WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING THREE OPTIONS DO YOU PREFER? (Please circle one answer)**

Option 1	do not make the \$26 million renewal savings
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Option 2	make the renewal reductions which means we need to borrow less over the ten years of this plan, and as a result we will pay less interest, and consequently your rates reduce.
Option 3	we make the renewal reductions and use the money to invest in new or upgraded assets.

**GENERAL COMMENTS****ANY COMMENTS YOU WOULD LIKE US TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION BEFORE WE MAKE DECISIONS?**

Again, several people I have spoken to strongly oppose parking fees after 6pm. Parkwise needs to be run by council again people in Wellington can't shop and relax due to the worry of being ticketed precisely 6min after meter expires by a private firm.

Lauren Schaer  
17a Waikare Street  
Karori  
Wellington  
Ph: 021 172 8414

18 May 2012

## **Eco-City Submission**

I am making my submission as an individual.  
I would like to make an oral submission. Ph: 021 172 8414.

I do not support any of the working party options listed.  
I am against the Eco-City proposal for a number of reasons, some of which are described below.

### **“Eco-City” sounds like a nice idea, but there is a problem**

An Eco-City sound like a lovely idea; it stirs up good green images in the mind. It sounds like something the late Sir Paul Callaghan would support. However, it has been stated that he did not support this proposal, and that neither do the other Trustees of Zealandia – 3 of whom were themselves appointed by Council.

At the Zealandia forums it became evident that the sanctuary Trustees were not consulted by Council. They opposed the options put forward by the Working Party, and their appeal to have the status quo option put out for consultation was turned down. There is supposed to be a partnership between Council and Karori Sanctuary Trust. But here Council has decided to act without consultation and ignored the advice supplied. This is fundamentally wrong in my view.

### **Long term targets and the odd four**

In the Draft Long Term Plan summary, the description of a successful Eco-City defines these two targets:

- “increasing biodiversity and improved health of native species”
- “a national reputation for being an Eco-City”

It is with much confusion and concern that I read, in Council’s Eco-City Proposal, that its preferred plan for an Eco-City consists of a Zealandia takeover and a new bureaucratic structure to govern four of Wellington’s assets.

These four organisations are not the only nature-centric organisations in Wellington and two of them focus on non-native species – in direct opposition to the stated target “increasing biodiversity and improved health of native species”. None of this makes sense and seems like a missed opportunity to me. I note that Forest & Bird were not consulted and that Te Papa is not suggested as a partner – Council officials’ response to this at Zealandia forums was “we don’t have control of those”. As if control is a requirement for partnership!

### **“Zealandia as an extremely valuable asset”**

In the Eco-City Proposal, Council claims it “regards Zealandia as an extremely valuable asset for the city”. Financially, this is not true. It spends far, far more on Wellington Zoo and members of the Museums Trust such as Carter Observatory and Wellington City & Sea. Worse, it now looks to cut costs further.



With regards to cutting costs, I argue that Zealandia is not a wise choice to trim from. Zealandia already runs an extremely lean organisation, as any volunteer knows and as was outlined at the Zealandia forums. Furthermore its opportunity for growth in visitor numbers, educational numbers, national and international recognition and community involvement are outstanding – to cripple them now is to cripple Wellington’s vision of an Eco-City.

### **Priorities**

In lean times we need to focus our limited resources on what really matters. I see that the zoo is popular with a certain demographic and that the veterinary services supplied by the Nest are useful. However, I don’t believe showcasing non-native species is a high priority or that the rate payer should be paying so highly for them.

Truly “green”, truly “ecologically friendly” cities must focus their resources on native species in native ecosystems and the education of its citizens on local ecological matters. There would be an outrage if there were a large museum housing Norwegian archaeological finds that was funded twice as generously as the Wellington City and Sea museum – because international matters, no matter how interesting, should not drain more ratepayer money than local matters.

### **Risk**

My biggest concern is that there will be a loss of transparency and a real reduction in local ecologically-focussed funding. Council would award its “eco” funds to a CCO board whose members would be required to fight among themselves in order to meet the competing requests from the four different organisations they represent - not all of which have local ecologically beneficial aims. This is a massive risk to the organisations involved and therefore one I strongly oppose.

### **Working together**

Working together is something these organisations already do, along with other organisations such as Forest & Bird. To formalise and promote these relations a committee would suffice. This committee would be inclusive and ecologically focussed and something I feel would be beneficial to local ecosystems and citizens.

### **Synergies**

On the subject of synergies for revenue generation it must be noted that the two organisations that charge admission have very different visitor bases and growth potential. Wellington Zoo is aimed more at locals and children, Zealandia’s visitor base encompasses locals but includes a strong international base which continues to grow.

Furthermore, the Zoo has natural competition with Zealandia. As with zoos the world over, it links its captive species with conservation stories in order to justify its existence. It must continue to go down this road no matter what governing board controls it and, if option 4 goes ahead, this competition will also play out in the Eco-City board room.

Zealandia and the zoo can work together, they already do. A CCO is not, in my view, an efficient way to formalise the relationship. I do not see that there are any real cost savings or revenue increases to be made from combining these two different attractions.

### **Local perception**

There has been a shift in some local opinion on Zealandia due to the new branding and, more importantly, pricing. Zealandia and the Zoo and other local attractions could benefit enormously from a locals card (discount) system – something that was, some time ago, mooted at in Council but has since been dropped. Again, an Eco-City is not required for this but it would, in my view, be the single most positive change that could be made.

**Long term target: “increasing biodiversity and improved health of native species”**

This is what Zealandia aims for as part of its 500-year plan. I ask the Councillors to imagine for a moment where the organisations in question will be in even 20 years time. What will Wellington’s attitude to ecological matters have grown towards? Will they still need convincing about the value of conservation? Will they still prefer entertainment-nature or will they value the natural world around them on its own natural terms? What message do you want to send to the community about priorities and direction? I feel by offering option 4 Council has sent a detrimental message - but it is not too late to change this.

**Long term target: “a national reputation for being an Eco-City”**

This is exactly what Zealandia excels at. It can do even better with more resources, but not with less. If Wellington is to improve its eco-reputation it needs to focus on its strongest eco-ambassadors.

Schools from all over New Zealand visit Zealandia. Many tourists stay another day in Wellington just to see Zealandia. Nature spreads out in a halo effect from Zealandia. Many members of Wellington’s community volunteer at Zealandia. Post-graduates ready themselves for nationwide ecological work at Zealandia and research students use Zealandia as a living laboratory.

While Otari-Wilton also acts as a valuable part of a nationally recognised ecologically-minded city the other two organisations are recreation-focussed and do not fit well within an Eco-City organisation.

**Based on all of the above:**

- I reject all Council proposed options.
- I support the Karori Sanctuary Trust position – to provide \$700,000pa funding to the Trust which will allow Zealandia to continue to be an independent community organisation and work in partnership with Council and other partners to achieve the Trust’s vision and the city vision.  
This will allow time and security for the Trust to continue to grow and to secure support from the private sector – a much more promising model than Council ownership.

**I leave you with this quote from Don Merton:**

“They are our national monuments. They are our Tower of London, our Arc de Triomphe, our pyramids. We don’t have this ancient architecture that we can be proud of and swoon over in wonder, but what we do have is something that is far, far older than that. No one else has kiwi, no one else has kākāpō. They have been around for millions of years, if not thousands of millions of years. And once they are gone, they are gone forever. And it’s up to us to make sure they never die out.  
All we can do is perpetuate them during our lifetime and try to hand them on in as good a condition as possible to the next generation and hope like heck that they feel the same way about them as we do.”

Kind regards,

Lauren Schaer

**To:** Wendy Ward  
**Subject:** FW: encroachment fee proposal

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**From:** Noeline Holt  
**Sent:** Thursday, 17 May 2012 2:27 p.m.  
**To:** 'encroachment.review@wcc.govt.nz'  
**Subject:** encroachment fee proposal

To Whom It May Concern

The Council's proposal to differentiate encroachment licence fees according to area is usurious and inequitable. While some people may live in areas that have high land values they may not have equivalent incomes. When they moved to those areas they were not necessarily high value areas but over time became desirable. However the financial status of the residents, in particular long term residents, would have mostly unchanged or decreased.

Please note that the Council is already benefitting in areas with high land values through higher rates. Charging such usurious amounts for encroachments would add such a rate burden it would empty out many suburbs. Lower income people renting in these areas would have to pay additional rent to offset any costs to the landlord for the encroachment.

Most land that encroachments are built over, and I use Roseneath as an example, are sheer banks and have no value to the Council. Car decks in particular provide retention of the land underneath, a cost saving to the Council. In Maida Vale Road no land under a carpark has slumped, while in other areas land has had to be shored up to protect the roads (a current example is the beginning of Grafton Road ) and in the past few years, several areas along Maida Vale Rd.

Perhaps licences could be rated according to the value of the land that is used for the encroachment?

**However the Council has not looked at the health and safety aspect of these encroachments. In Maida Vale Road, if people gave up their encroachment licences the road would be impassable, I suspect that this is the case for many roads in Wellington. Ambulances or Fire Services would not be able access the street.** There would be the added burden of insurance cost rises if a house is unable to be accessed by the Fire Service. The Council could be made liable for a person dying as a result of an ambulance's inability to access the patient.

**At their own cost residents have created safe passage** for ambulances and fire trucks. This should be recognised by the council, the alternative being widening the roads at spectacular cost to the Council.

The other issue is security. It can mean the difference to safe access onto a property or a person's safety compromised if their car has to be parked some distance away from the dwelling. **I have been assaulted in this circumstance** when I gave up my car park for an out of town visitor.

The planned approach is unrealistic on all points of the proposal. The grandparent clause of the licence change coming in when someone sells would diminish property values and push people out of the inner suburbs and drive people in the outer suburbs away from the city altogether.

The administrative cost would be excessive, any benefit to the Council negated. The social and economical cost to the residents would be unsustainable.

This proposal is irresponsible, inequitable, of no benefit to the Council nor to the residents, and completely impractical. I would be pleased to speak to this submission.

Yours faithfully

17/05/2012

Noeline Holt  
35 Maida Vale Road  
021868608

**Louise Thomas**

10.55am  
Eco-City

**From:** katebrignall@doctors.org.uk  
**Sent:** Friday, 18 May 2012 3:15 p.m.  
**To:** BUS: EcoCity  
**Subject:** Eco-City Proposal for Wellington's Natural Attractions

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Purple

The following details have been submitted from the Eco-City Proposal for Wellington's Natural Attractions form on the [www.Wellington.govt.nz](http://www.Wellington.govt.nz) website:

**First Name:** Katherine  
**Last Name:** Brignall  
**Street Address:** 31 Upoko Road  
**Suburb:** Hataitai  
**City:** Wellington  
**Phone:** 022 194 3767  
**Email:** katebrignall@doctors.org.uk

I would like to make an oral submission: Yes

I am making this submission: as an individual

None of the models listed / An alternative model: 1

Why did you select your most preferred option: I do not adhere to the council's view that the proposed options as listed above are the best for Zealandia, Wellington or New Zealand as a whole. I believe the proposals listed will reduce Zealandia's effectiveness and lead to a less successful model.

There is much at stake here. Zealandia is a place with a particular ethos. It generates huge passion because of what it is striving to achieve – a 500 year vision to restore the threatened flora and fauna of New Zealand. That vision needs to be sustained, cultivated and spread.

Community is the core of what Zealandia does – it allows passionate volunteers to develop a sense of ownership, responsibility and in so doing demonstrate tremendous commitment to this remarkable cause by being key stakeholders in it. Volunteers are vital to Zealandia's work.

I believe that changing Zealandia's current structure will dilute its vision, diminish that sense of ownership and goodwill and damage that which it has been so successful in building since it began.

I am unclear as to the rationale for the change. Financially, although Zealandia has not done quite so well as the original figures predicted, it has in fact done considerably better than its other counterparts mentioned above and its visitor figures continue to increase. Back office functions are already due to become shared services and beyond this there is little saving that can feasibly be made. Indeed the Karori sanctuary trust have requested \$700,000 a year but to run Zealandia as a council controlled organization I gather is predicted as saving only \$100,000. Moreover the cost of instigating subsequent changes needs to be considered.

There is a high risk in proceeding with these models of destroying the very essence of what

Zealandia is.

Are there alternative models that we should consider: The Karori Sanctuary Trust model, not put forward as one of the working party proposals, would be to provide \$700,000pa funding to Zealandia for the following three years, allowing Zealandia to continue to be an independent community organization but still working in partnership with the Council and other Wellington attractions.

I believe that the Wellington council must think again and commit to supporting Zealandia as an independent organisation. This would be to commit to New Zealand's heritage.

Other Comments: My own experience of Zealandia...

My husband and I are British Citizens, living and working in Wellington for a year.

It was an amazing experience to visit Zealandia during my first week in the country. I was struck by the remarkable vision that allowed an area of suburban real estate to be transformed into a wildlife sanctuary, protecting and promoting the endemic wildlife of New Zealand.

The story of New Zealand's ecological history is striking, particularly to a European like me, where most endemic wildlife has long been lost. Equally it is so rare in the world in which we live to have the opportunity to be able to rescue it in this way.

On my first visit to Zealandia in February 2012, both my husband and I became members. Since then I have chosen to volunteer and have been working with the conservation team since March. This has been an absolutely unique experience for me: entering into a world where our natural heritage is given paramount importance. As someone who has grave concerns for the protection of our planet, Zealandia is a ray of hope whose priorities refreshingly rise above political agenda.

To read the press coverage and the council's Zealandia working group assessment that Zealandia cannot be sustained in its current business model and should become an alliance under an umbrella incorporating one or several other Wellington attractions was rather surprising.

The Visitor centre with its exhibition is a tremendously inspiring and engaging piece of work. The perception that it is 'unsuccessful' seems quite at odds with the increase in visitor numbers since it's opening. In addition, other Wellington visitor attractions, such as the zoo and the museum trust entertain considerably more funding and yet are not perceived as so called 'failures'.

My experience of Zealandia is that it operates with a lean structure of staff, all of who work very hard and are committed to this remarkable cause. The staff deserves the confidence of knowing that they are being directed by leaders who are absolutely focussed on this vision.

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**Friends of Owhiro Stream**  
Submission for the  
**Wellington City**  
**Long Term Plan 2012**

First name(s)	<b>Mr</b>
Last name	<b>Martin</b>
Street address	<b>Payne</b>
Phone	<b>160 Washington Ave, Brooklyn Wellington 6021</b>
Email	<b>(04) 389 8995</b>
	<b><u><a href="mailto:martin.p@clear.net.nz">martin.p@clear.net.nz</a></u></b>

I am writing this submission on behalf of an organisation  
**Friends of Owhiro Stream**

Type of organisation: **Community/Environmental restoration**

Do you wish to speak to a panel of Councillors in support of your submission? **yes**





# **Friends of Owhiro Stream**

## **Submission for the Wellington City Long Term Plan 2012**

### **Where have all our cities stream's gone?**

Piped, polluted and neglected.

Our streams, which provide essential habitat to a rich diversity of plants and animals, have been sacrificed to urban development. Pollution from industry and transport systems, sediment from construction and channelling of stormwater flows, continue to erode the viability of the few stream systems that remain within our city. If we want these habitats to support the growing list of endangered species we need to act now, rather than to regret our lack of action after another decade.

### **Significance of Owhiro Stream to Wellington City**

Owhiro stream is unique within Wellington City, being the only substantially unpiped stream flowing within the urban area to the South Coast. It also provides the main freshwater input to the Taputeranga Marine Reserve.

Clearance of bush cover on steep sided valleys and urban development are degrading the stream environment. In addition, urban stormwater management is relegating the stream to the status of little more than a drainage ditch.

### **Owhiro Stream restoration project**

Since 2003, Friends of Owhiro Stream (FOOS), have planted over 16 thousand plants to enhance and restore habitat for native fish, animals and plants. As these areas of planting have become established, the local community has begun to respond to the environmental and recreational values being created. The Wellington City and Greater Wellington Regional Councils also recognise the importance of this work<sup>1,2</sup> and support this project through funding, supply of plants, weed and pest control and advice.

### **Restoration vision**

Friends of Owhiro Stream strongly advocate for the value and importance of this unique ecosystem that is part of our city. Our vision (Appendix 1) is that the Owhiro Stream can again flow free and clean, as a living link between the land and the sea, sustaining the native animals and plants in its catchment and providing a sense of place for people to enjoy and care for.

### **Long Term Plan (LTP)**

Working towards this vision requires a determined reconsideration of the way we live in and develop our part of the city of Wellington. We know that community groups in other parts of the City (e.g. Kaiwharawhara, Karori, Waimapehi, Porirua catchments) have similar views about these needs for their stream and natural environment.

The Long Term Plan (LTP) represents an important opportunity to put resources into recognising and mitigating the effect of urban development on the wider environment and more specifically stream systems and their catchments. Volunteer effort is important component of this work but targeted resources from the Wellington City Council are essential to ensure that co-ordinated and informed action is taken.



# Friends of Owhiro Stream

## Submission for the Wellington City Long Term Plan 2012

We make the following recommendations for the Wellington City Long Term Plan:

### 1. Biodiversity action

We strongly support the long-term goals outlined in the WCC Biodiversity Action Plan for environmental restoration and protection. We are disappointed that there is so little specific environmental restoration or protection work anticipated in the LTP. In addition, continuing support for volunteers groups is essential if they are to be encouraged to provide their time, creativity and local knowledge freely.

#### **Recommendation:**

*1a) Funding is continued for implementing the WCC Biodiversity Action Plan.*

*1b) WCC continue to provide support and staff assistance to voluntary groups involved in environmental restoration. Specifically this would include assistance with: Planning, Health and safety, Liaising with local, regional and governmental organisations that have an impact on the local environment and Communication with their communities.*

### 2. Stormwater

The LTP states that *“The stormwater network keeps people and property safe from flooding.”* Page 72 LTP.

This objective is narrowly defined, considering only the safety of people and giving little consideration for the effects of stormwater on the environment. Our observation is that the current stormwater system design is compromising stream environments. Urban infill and the predicted effects of climate change are likely to amplify the torrent effect created by urban development, causing severe scouring and disturbance of fish habitat. As the rainwater is rapidly flushed away there is also less water available to recharge the groundwater that sustains stream flows in drier periods. The extremes of high flood flows and low summer flows degrade the viability of the stream to support populations of fish and invertebrates.

In our work on the Owhiro Stream, we appreciate the need for infrastructure projects but are often frustrated by institutional barriers to environmental friendly design principles. The reactive nature of some of these projects, creates bandaid solutions, increasing costs in the long term and further degradation to the natural environment. More integrated planning and operational cooperation is required between the different divisions of the WCC and developing partnerships with the wider community could both bring down costs and improve environmental outcomes. We hope that our work with the WCC in some way demonstrates the potential for co-operative action.



# Friends of Owhiro Stream

## Submission for the Wellington City Long Term Plan 2012

### **Recommendation:**

- 2a) That operational “environmental objectives” be established for all divisions of the Wellington City Council immediately. Particularly for activities involving town planning, roading, water supply, stormwater and wastewater. Similarly any Council Controlled Organisations (CCO) need to be fully accountable to their community in terms of any plans or actions that may impact on the natural environment.*
- 2b) Provide targeted resources for the WCC planning division to strengthen building/urban design codes to mandate stormwater retention measures in new developments and encourage retrofitting measures in existing buildings/structures.*
- 2c) Adopt a goal of no increase in stormwater flows from consented activities. Review site coverage rules and provisions for all RMA and Building Act consents involving construction, including both “greenfields” and infill housing, to be consistent with this goal.*
- 2d) Provide for the upgrade and maintenance of the stormwater network in order to minimise the effects of stormwater and sediment run-off on the environment.*

### **3. Proposed Vogelhorn Community Hall sale**

Friends of Owhiro Stream have an established native plant shadehouse on the Vogelhorn Community Hall site at 13 Vennell Street. With this facility we are able to grow 1500 plants a year for the Owhiro Stream Restoration Project. The suburban location of the shadehouse encourages participation from people who are less attracted to volunteering for work in the more rigorous stream environment.

Considerable consternation has been created within the community with the news that the WCC intends to dispose of the hall and the land around it. The level of this concern is well demonstrated by a large attendance at a recent community meeting. It is our understanding that the hall use is consistent with that of other halls in the city and that realistic occupancy rates need to be set in recognition of the largely working population in this area. Given the LTP plan is for a more connected and people centred city, we think that sale of this community asset would be a retrograde action. It is valuable to our restoration activity that we have ongoing activities located within the community we are engaging with.

### **Recommendation:**

- 3a) We ask the WCC to reconsider the intended sale of the Vogelhorn Hall and allow for full and open community participation in any decisions relating to the future of the hall.*



**Friends of Owhiro Stream**  
Submission for the  
**Wellington City**  
**Long Term Plan 2012**

**Conclusion**

Prominent among the objectives of Wellington's District Plan is the need to "safeguard the natural environment – land, air and water – from pollution and contamination" and to "protect and enhance the natural or 'green' areas of the city".

These objectives are often seen to be balanced against the cities requirement to develop and provide for a growing population. In our view, providing for people does not need to be in opposition to the natural environment. With informed planning and innovative design the natural and urban environments can be integrated, benefitting the health and wellbeing of both. The monetary cost of this approach may be greater in the short term but the long term sustainability of Wellington City depends on its ability to adapt to the financial *and* environmental conditions it is facing.

We hope that you are able to give consideration to the issues we have raised and find a way to integrate these into the future planning for Wellington.

**Yours environmentally,**

**Martin Payne**  
**For Friends of Owhiro Stream restoration project**

**160 Washington Ave, Brooklyn, Wellington 6021**  
**Phone (04) 389 8995 Fax (04) 389 8992**  
**Email [martin.p@clear.net.nz](mailto:martin.p@clear.net.nz)**



# **Friends of Owhiro Stream**

## **Submission for the Wellington City Long Term Plan 2012**

### **References**

- <sup>1</sup> Environment strategy, July 2006 Wellington City Council
- <sup>2</sup> Biodiversity Action Plan, Sept 2007 Wellington City Council

### **Appendix 1**

#### **Friends of Owhiro Stream's Vision**

Our vision is that the Owhiro Stream flows free and clean, as a living link between the land and the sea, sustaining the native animals and plants in its catchment and providing a sense of place for people to enjoy and care for.

Our goal is to work with the community to:

- Protect and restore the stream and its environment.
- Enhance habitat for native animals and plants on land and in the water.
- Improve the quality of the water in the stream.
- Encourage people's enjoyment and care of the stream.
- Work with people and organisations that have an impact on the stream and its catchment.
- Look for new ways in which the natural and urban environments in the Owhiro catchment can sustainably co-exist.
- Monitor progress towards self-sustaining ecosystems in the stream environment.

1126

Sub number: 1126

Long Term Plan  
Wellington City Council  
PO Box 2199  
Wellington

14 May 2012

**To the Wellington City Councilors**

Please find enclosed our submission on the long term plan.

Our details are:

Contact Person: Dean Stanley  
Organisation Name: Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club  
Address: 103 Oriental Parade, Wellington 6011  
Phone: 939 7045  
Email: [ceo@rpnyc.org.nz](mailto:ceo@rpnyc.org.nz)  
Organisation Type: Community Group

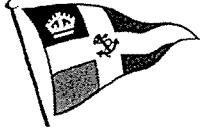
We would like to make an oral presentation

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the plan and we look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours Sincerely



Dean Stanley  
Chief Executive



# ROYAL PORT NICHOLSON YACHT CLUB

*Established 1849*

## ROYAL PORT NICHOLSON YACHT CLUB (RPNYC) SUBMISSION TO WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL (WCC)

### IN THE MATTER OF CLYDE QUAY BOAT HARBOUR RESTORATION PROJECT MASTER PLAN

This Submission by RPNYC respectfully asks the Mayor and Councillors **to endorse and approve** the Clyde Quay Boat Harbour Restoration Project Master Plan (*Master Plan*) and include provision for its implementation in the 2012-2022 Long Term Council Community Plan (*2012-2022 LTP*)

#### **UPON THE GROUNDS:**

1. The Master Plan has been developed as a result of a unanimous positive resolution and directive issued by Councillors during the Strategy and Policy Committee meeting 3/3/2011.
2. The Master Plan has been jointly developed by RPNYC and WCC.
3. The Master Plan is entirely consistent with the Wellington 2040 Framework and Central City Plan and is a proper and necessary element of the 2012-2022 LTP.
4. The Master Plan is necessary and desirable for Wellington City.

#### **BACKGROUND**

5. The relevant background factors are:
  - 5.1. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by WCC and RPNYC in 2006 (*MoU*) inter alia included restoration of the Clyde Quay Boat Harbour (*CQBH*);
  - 5.2. WCC approval for the project resolved by a Strategy and Policy Committee meeting in April 2010;
  - 5.3. WCC and RPNYC collaboratively developed a design brief and indicative order of costs for the project;
  - 5.4. Successful public consultation process completed from November 2010 to January 2011;
  - 5.5. Heritage support from NZ Historic Places Trust for the way in which the project respects and celebrates heritage items;
  - 5.6. WCC and RPNYC were authorised by Council in March 2011 to develop preliminary designs, project phasings and indicative costings, and include these in a New Initiative report for consultation on the 2012-2022 LTP;
  - 5.7. An Active Communities contract was signed with Sport New Zealand in July 2011 for the development of Wellington Ocean Water Sports Programmes through collaboration between WCC and RPNYC. This project is actively proceeding;
  - 5.8. The Clyde Quay Boat Harbour Restoration Project was included as a Catalyst Project in the Wellington 2040 plan, adopted by WCC in October 2011;
  - 5.9. Successful integrated development of the Master Plan by WCC and RPNYC has concluded November 2011 (incorporating design input from the WCC Urban Design Team, financial input from the WCC Finance team, Heritage input from the WCC Heritage team, and Marina advice from the WCC Coastal Management team).

## **BENEFITS**

6. The Benefits include:

- 6.1. **Public Good** – Comprehensive public amenity and public access gains including:
  - 6.1.1. the establishment of a harbourside walkway from Oriental Bay to Chaffers Dock;
  - 6.1.2. dynamic and constructive use of the overall amenity for civic purposes, harbour activities and events, and locally a greater public amenity within the Clyde Quay precinct through the creation of public space to sit, rest, play and socialise;
  - 6.1.3. increased opportunities for the community to actively participate in a broad range of ocean water sports;
  - 6.1.4. preservation, restoration and advancement of a major Wellington city icon.
- 6.2. **Public Benefit** – The project directly leads to public benefits arising out of the WCC and RPNYC partnership functions covered in the MoU including:
  - 6.2.1. more use of RPNYC and CQBH for civic purposes, harbour activities and Wellington events;
  - 6.2.2. efficiency and economic gains through the potential efficient and economic management of the CQBH by RPNYC;
  - 6.2.3. RPNYC increasingly operating as an inclusive, contributing and functional conduit for public access to Wellington harbour.
- 6.3. **Marina Upgrade** – essential maintenance, after 106 years without adequate attention, will be achieved during the project and the capacity of the marina will be increased by thirty three percent.
- 6.4. **Waterfront Integration** – the project will lead to the integration of a “blue ribbon” iconic property into the overall Wellington waterfront, enhancing the amenities, appearance, functionality and marketability of Wellington harbour, Wellington waterfront and Wellington city.

## **CONTRIBUTION BY RPNYC**

7. The contribution by RPNYC is major and fundamental to the project and includes:
  - 7.1. integration and participation of RPNYC and CQBH as amenities for the greater public good;
  - 7.2. maintenance, renovation and care of RPNYC’s own Clubhouse, including both exterior and interior reconfigurations so that the club integrates seamlessly into the plaza created in the centre of the Clyde Quay Boat Harbour;
  - 7.3. unselfish major contribution of RPNYC to the conceptual outcome by acceding to space and loss of RPNYC autonomy through the development of the Wellington Ocean Water Sports Centre for the benefit of a broad range of sports, schools, visitors to Wellington and the general public;
  - 7.4. prospective administration by RPNYC as logical competent administrator of Clyde Quay Boat Harbour and its environs, giving economic and functional efficiencies for WCC.

## **SUPPORTIVE DOCUMENTS**

8. The following supportive documents are attached.
  - 8.1. Clyde Quay Boat Harbour Restoration Project Master Plan
  - 8.2. RPNYC Submission to the Strategy & Policy Committee of March 2011





## ROYAL PORT NICHOLSON YACHT CLUB

*Established 1845*

### ROYAL PORT NICHOLSON YACHT CLUB (RPNYC)

#### IN THE MATTER OF CLYDE QUAY BOAT HARBOUR (CQBH) MASTER PLAN

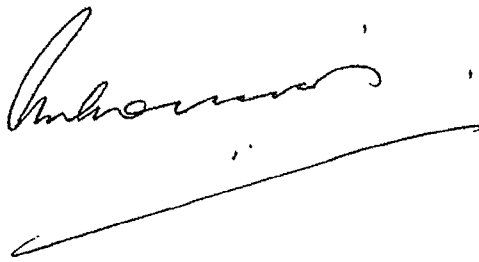
#### SUBMISSION TO WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL (WCC) RE DRAFT LONG TERM PLAN 2012/2022

1. **Submission.** The RPNYC respectfully:
  - a. Endorses the Unanimous Resolution of WCC recommending the inclusion of public amenity and access aspects of the CQBH Master Plan in the Draft Long Term Plan 2012/2022.
  - b. Endorses the subsequent inclusion of the CQBH Master Plan as a high priority project that will help maintain Wellington as a place where people want to live in the CAPEX Programme for the Draft Long Term Plan 2012/2022.
  - c. Makes three specific additional recommendations to WCC, namely:
    - i. That the Marine Upgrade – Clyde Quay (council code CX342) funding be moved from Schedule C to Schedule A of the CAPEX Programme.
    - ii. That the \$208,000 of funding in 2012/2013 be used to complete the feasibility, detailed design, consenting and costing phase of the project.
    - iii. That the Financial Sustainability Working Party collaborate with the RPNYC in an endeavour to secure grant funding as a means of reducing the WCC contribution to the project.
2. **General.** RPNYC advises in support:
  - a. A copy of RPNYC's submission to the WCC Strategy and Policy Committee meeting in February 2012 is appended for your reference.
  - b. RPNYC regards the CQBH Project as a key strategic aspect of Wellington city development, and a necessary ingredient of the "Towards 2040 : Smart Capital" vision and of the "WCC Economic Development, Major Events and Visitor" strategies.
  - c. The "approved" \$208,000 for 2012/13 would be more advantageously used to complete feasibility and detailed design and costings for the project as this will more effectively contribute to the overall goal of connecting Wellingtonians to Wellington Harbour.
  - d. RPNYC reminds WCC that certain aspects of the overall project are eligible for grants from the Department of Internal Affairs and from Community Funding agencies. RPNYC and WCC should collaborate to pursue this aspect together.
  - e. RPNYC endorses the Master Plan, and in our "Club" context reminds WCC that alongside the function of organising sailing programmes and events, the CQBH Restoration Project will see the Club increasingly taking on a significant public amenity role. This will be achieved through the following elements:
    - A Royal Yacht Club providing a comprehensive year round sailing programme.
    - A centre for the delivery of significant ocean sports events for Wellington.
    - A Harbour Sails attraction for public to take sailing excursions on the Wellington harbour.

- A fine dining restaurant and other amenities.
  - A venue for meetings, seminars and other social engagements.
  - The establishment of the Wellington Ocean Sports Centre as a mechanism for getting more Wellingtonians to be active recreational participants on our harbour (this project is already underway and is a partnership between WCC, Sport New Zealand and RPNYC)
- f. RPNYC points out that a further component of the CQBH Restoration Project is the upgrading of marina facilities within the boat harbour and that this is being addressed through a separate business case designed to have no fiscal impact on rate payers in line with WCC's recreation policy for Marinas. The harbour is now over 100 years old and in that time has had very little upgrading. The business case will see the functionality of the boat harbour greatly improved for the recreational sport of yachting along with other ocean sports. The capacity of the boat harbour will be increased by 33%. This will be achieved through the following elements:
- Removal of mooring blocks from harbour floor.
  - Selective dredging to increase depth in key areas.
  - Installation of rock anchor fore and aft mooring systems.
  - Installation of surge protection system.
  - Installation of walk on marina berths along the eastern and western breakwaters

As part of the marina upgrade business case WCC and RPNYC will explore the economies of scale that could be achieved through the centralization of management of the Clyde Quay and Chaffers Marinas under the auspices of the club.

- g. The entire project reflects a substantive implementation of the Clyde Quay Boat Harbour master plan aspects of 2006 Memorandum of Understanding concluded between RPNYC and WCC and provides a foundation for the successful implementation of the Major Events aspects of the same Memorandum of Understanding.




---

**Andrew Morrison**  
Commodore

Authorised by: Andrew Morrison, Commodore on behalf of Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club

Address: 103 Oriental Parade, Wellington

Date: 17 April 2012

### 8.3. Memorandum of Understanding

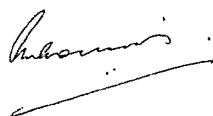
9. RPNYC proposed (and still believe) that the implementation should be effected in 4 Stages from 2012 to 2017 including a preliminary stage and 3 construction phases (which are detailed further in the Master Plan) namely:
- 2012-2012 Preliminaries stage: Feasibility, Detailed Design, Consenting, Costing
  - 2013-2014 Construction phase 1: Clyde Quay Central and Clyde Quay South East
  - 2014-2015 Construction phase 2: Clyde Quay Marina Upgrade
  - 2015-2017 Construction phase 3: Clyde Quay West and Clyde Quay North East
10. It is proposed that the indicative costings and phasing as outlined in the SPC paper, be provisioned for in the LTP and that these amounts be reviewed annually through the annual plan review process over the same period along with provisions for the Marina Upgrade and Wellington Ocean Water Sports Centre components of the Master Plan as this work evolves.
11. It is significant that:
- the primary costs for phase 1 are really just long deferred maintenance and justify immediacy;
  - phase 2 – Marina – is best addressed by advancing the Business Plan which will render that upgrade self-funding (and by endorsing RPNYC administrative function), this Business Case work can start immediately;
  - the phase 3 elements are not immediate but will be addressed through further dialogue and planning between WCC and RPNYC (note: there is no need for the suggested "contribution");
  - the RPNYC endorsement means that the Council will in fact incur modest costs, yet accomplish a substantive gain.

### **CORE SUMMARY**

The timely and necessary restoration of CQBH as outlined in the Master Plan has irresistible justification because it will:

- (a) complete the linking of the Waterfront from Point Jerningham to the Railway station in a manner which facilitates greater public participation in, on and around Wellington's iconic harbour;
- (b) provide recreational, practical and visual amenities for Wellingtonians – the new public plazas, the harbour edge walkway, the Wellington Ocean Water Sports Centre, the celebration of nationally significant heritage items, and the establishment of a base for the delivery of unique Wellington water sports events;
- (c) give effect to the practical implementation of the MoU, manifest a successful partnership venture for the greater good of Wellington City, and manifest a generous and practical contribution by RPNYC to WCC's overall city "Purpose".

Date: 16 February 2012



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**Andrew Morrison**  
**Commodore**

11:25am  
Eco-City

# Submission: Eco-City Proposal for Wellington's Natural Attractions

---

First Name: Linton  
Last Name: Miller  
Street Address: 39 Heke St  
Suburb: Ngaio  
City: Wellington  
Phone: (04) 479-4506  
Email: linton.miller@gmail.com

Yes, I would like to make an oral submission.

I am making this submission as an individual.

## 1 Rank the following options in your order of preference

Eco-City model	4
Wellington Environmental Visitor Attractions model	5
Parks and Gardens model	2
Stand-alone Council Controlled Organization model	1
None of the models listed/An alternative model	3

## 2 Why did you select your most preferred option?

I chose the Stand-alone Council Controlled Organisation model as most preferred by considering the problems currently facing Zealandia and how each model would address those problems.

However, simply changing the management model is not enough. To properly support what in Council's words is "an extremely valuable asset for the city", Council must

- Change the yardstick by which they measure Zealandia's performance from how much money it costs to the outcomes it provides.
- Change the focus of their financial commitment from cost cutting to ensuring sufficient funding for the project to move forward and achieve its full potential.
- Choose a management structure that will focus on Zealandia's core goals and vision, not one that will further pursue tourism to the detriment of that vision.

I have been a Zealandia member and volunteer since 2003, when I returned from overseas to live in New Zealand. I was immediately captivated by the idea of being able to experience New Zealand wildlife that up until then had been remote and inaccessible. My current volunteer activities include: kaka and hihi nestbox monitor; trained kaka bander; kaka, hihi and bellbird surveys; kiwi and bellbird telemetry tracking; and takahe feeding. On average, I spend at least 10 hours a week on these activities. Previously I have also done website technical support, kaka feeding, and kiwi call counting. I contribute pro bono work in IT support and programming, and have made financial donations. I

received an Outstanding Volunteer Award in 2011. With all the time I've spent at Zealandia, I've developed close working relationships with a wide range of staff and volunteers, and consequently gained insight into the problems and challenges facing the sanctuary.

I want to see Zealandia on a firm financial footing that allows it to focus on being a community-supported world-leading conservation project. With the continual uncertainty of funding and operating on a shoestring budget, Zealandia has lost its way in that mission. The pressure to try and find money is driving the sanctuary to entertain changes incompatible with the vision of the project purely for the potential of being able to charge for them. Worse, short-term focus and drive for the tourist dollar has resulted in the largest problem Zealandia faces: loss of wider community support.

Standing right alongside Zealandia management as one of the largest contributors to that loss of support has been the Wellington City Council. As the core financial contributor to the project, and as the representative of all Wellington ratepayers, what the council says has a large effect on public opinion. By negatively framing all discussion about Zealandia in terms of their continued requests for money and not publicly recognizing the value the sanctuary has delivered, the council has undermined their own ratepayers (along with all other stakeholders) investment.

Even Zealandia's detractors acknowledge that it has been stunningly successful in delivering conservation outcomes. Hundreds of thousands of people have been able to experience New Zealand wildlife otherwise inaccessible and to all intents and purposes lost on remote offshore islands. The educational message of the plight of our native wildlife has been spread, and Zealandia stands as a model to inspire and demonstrate what is possible. It has also been a significant tourism success and a major contributor to Wellington's claim of being a smart eco-city, making the city a place people want to visit, delivering economic benefits to the region.

Yet despite these successes, the abiding message about Zealandia is that it is a "bottomless money pit". Such a view is based on the sole point that Zealandia has been unable to be self-sustaining to date. Given that no conservation project in New Zealand has ever been so, or even been audacious enough to try, that is perhaps not altogether surprising, and it is a failing of Zealandia management that this is the yardstick by which the entire project is being measured.

Success or failure should not be judged in terms of dollar amounts, but in terms of outcomes. In the same way that the water network is not judged a failure because it requires Council funding but rather is considered successful because it delivers fresh drinking water to homes throughout the region, so the sanctuary is not a failure because it costs ratepayers money but a success because for that money it delivers a world-leading community conservation project.

A council process which seeks to make decisions about the sanctuary based on cost without acknowledging value is fundamentally flawed.

Zealandia needs a financial model of guaranteed baseline support that allows it to actively pursue being self-sufficient without compromising the core conservation goals of the project.

Choosing the best governance model should not be rushed or entered into lightly. The working party was given only 2 months to consider all options, gather evidence, form plans, and report, followed by a submission period of only another 2 months, which was an obscenely short period of time to formulate a decision that has effects for the lifetime of this 500-year project. It guarantees a

substandard outcome in which stakeholders are left feeling ignored. Given those same stakeholders are vital to the continued success of the project, that's a dangerous game to play.

As direct evidence of the substandard results of a rushed process, we have the Statement of Proposal on which everyone is meant to base their decisions. The report puts forward a case that council ownership will reduce costs, but does so with no evidence to back up its claims. Quoting Councillor Ritchie, a member of the working group, from the Capital Times 4 Apr 2012: "There's no financial advantage to it [Zealandia] becoming a CCO. The financial advantages were mostly subjective. There's no objective evidence that this would do that [make savings]."

Cost savings are quantified by dollar amounts that seem to be pulled from thin air; they're certainly not based on any study, consultation or inquiry of the affected organizations. The report identifies many risks yet does not assign dollar values to those risks. Throughout, benefits and risks are simply labelled with the value judgement of "low/medium/high" with no evidence or amplifying detail. There is no analysis of the economic benefits of Zealandia to the wider region, which could in fact show that Zealandia is actually giving a positive financial return on investment rather than being a "financial black hole".

Indeed, the entire process seems a prime example of the very criticism the council levels against Zealandia management: wishful thinking. Were Zealandia to present this to council as a proposal for funding, they would be laughed out the door. It is thus ridiculous and insulting to both Zealandia and ratepayers that Council puts this forward as the information on which to make such a significant decision. Councillors must resist the temptation to believe in these mythical figures and instead make their decision based on evidence, most of which must come from this submission process for lack of time to gather it from any other source.

The best governance model for Zealandia should be the one that focuses most on its core goals and vision, and returns the most value for investment.

Zealandia and the Zoo and are both organizations that charge tourists to visit to observe animals. However, that's where the similarity ends. Even with the argument that a zoo serves a conservation role by educating visitors to the current plight of animals, the fact remains that a zoo is a prime example of that very plight: taking wild animals away from their natural habitat and keeping them in restricted enclosures for the amusement of human beings. A tourism model which is fundamentally based on the exploitation of animals has no place in any conservation project. While the Zoo may have experience in the business of tourism, it is no more relevant to Zealandia than any other tourism operator. No management alliance of the Zoo and Zealandia can possibly serve to better achieve Zealandia's goals, and should not under any circumstances be considered. As such I cannot support either the Eco-City or the Visitor Attractions models.

The Parks and Gardens model does have some merit. In contrast to the Zoo, Otari-Wilton's Bush has an obvious philosophical alignment with Zealandia; indeed Otari could be seen as providing an example of what Zealandia might hope its valley flora would come to be in a hundred or more years. But the Botanic Gardens do not line up with Zealandia either as an organisation that generates revenue from tourism, or as an organisation with a focus on native flora. They do, however, have a large horticultural knowledge, some of which could be useful in some of the tasks Zealandia undertakes. For the Parks and Gardens model to succeed, a change in operating model for Zealandia

is needed so that it works in a similar manner as Otari and Botanic Gardens: free or gold-coin entry, charges for value-added attractions, and any shortfall in funding met by Council.

Although Zealandia's preferred "status quo" option would allow focussed management, I do not believe it would address the loss of community support for the project, and is unlikely to improve the dysfunctional relationship with Council that has formed. Thus, while I would not be unhappy with the choice, I do not choose it as my preference.

That leaves the Stand-alone CCO option. The Working Group identifies this option as failing "to reduce the cost to Council and ratepayers", however, as already observed, this is the wrong criteria to be evaluating the best governance structure because it does not account for value. The Stand-alone CCO option will provide the best option for management focussed on Zealandia's core goals and vision, because it will be an organization without the competing demands of other projects on management's time. That, in turn, will maximise Zealandia's value to ratepayers. It is therefore my preferred option.

### **3 Are there any alternative models that we should consider?**

No.

### **4 Do you have any other comments on this issue?**

No.

1 May 2012

To the Mayor, Councillors and Senior Managers  
Wellington City Council  
Po Box 21 99  
Wellington

Dear Mayor, Councillors and Senior Managers

## **New Zealand's Capital City**

Currently, Council is calling for public comment on its long term plans. The attached document is my submission.

Like you, I care about the future of Wellington, especially at a time when a range of complex and unwelcome problems are challenging us to find long term solutions.

On 20 February this year, the Dominion Post published an article I submitted entitled *A Better Way to be Wellington*. It emerged from this longer document I prepared at the time. It is timely especially given the publicity the Waterfront is currently receiving, to send this in.

It has two sections:

First it proposes an overarching philosophy to guide future Waterfront planning. This is offered in the hope that we can draw together the two sides of the waterfront development debate and forge a coherent approach to the city's future.

In contrast, the second section proposes a number of very specific, mostly very small scale ideas the city could put in place with comparative ease, and, in the main, at little cost.

I do hope time will allow you to read these through, and please contact me with any questions or comments you may have.

With grateful thanks  
Yours sincerely

Grant Stevenson  
**THE WHITEBOARD**  
[grant@thewhiteboard.co.nz](mailto:grant@thewhiteboard.co.nz)  
027 231 4643





*School children sit on the paving on Wellington's waterfront outside the Olympic Museum. Images of some of the nation's sporting heroes appear in the background.*

## New Zealand's Capital City

Wellington City Council recently adopted **Smart Capital** as a vision to take the city towards the year 2040, the 200th anniversary of the Treaty of Waitangi.

They want Wellington to be a centre of innovation, and play its part in the future knowledge-based New Zealand economy. New technologies in the ICT and wider creativity sector would flourish and fill research labs and office spaces, boosting local and regional employment. Wellington, the Smart Capital will once more be moving forward.

If that's the 'smart' bit of Smart Capital, what will the 'capital' bit look like? How will it contribute to brand, jobs and wealth creation in the city? This paper responds to that question.

Grant Stevenson  
May 2012

## **Wellington's phenomenal capital developments over the past 25 years**

- A new home for the City Gallery, and its recent significant upgrading / extension
- A new city administration building, Library and the complete development of Civic Square
- A profound refurbishment/ restoration of the Town Hall and a new grand piano
- Two refurbishments of the interior finishes in the Michael Fowler Centre
- Building of a new home for the Royal New Zealand Ballet
- Construction of the Adam Art Gallery at Victoria University
- Re-housed Schools of Dance and Drama in a new building
- Re-housing of the Academy of Fine Arts at the waterfront
- Restoration of the St James Theatre
- Te Papa opened, our National Museum
- New galleries within Te Papa for the visual arts
- The creation of Circa Theatre on its new site
- A new, world class Airport Terminal – and subsequent extension
- The creation of the Arts Centre, two linked buildings in Abel Smith Street
- The creation of the Museum of City and Sea
- Cable Car Museum built – and then extended. A new Cable Car station, Lambton Quay
- The new National Portrait Gallery established in Shed 11
- Capital E and the formation of the National Theatre for Children
- The housing of the NZSO and VVO in the city administration building
- The upgraded / relocated Film Archive
- The Westpac Stadium
- Upgrading of the Embassy and Paramount Theatres, now used for the Film Festival
- Upgrading of the Opera House
- Upgrading of the TSB Arena, now attracting major productions and exhibitions
- A refurbished Government House
- The New Supreme Court building, upgraded Old Supreme Court,
- New Buildings for IRD, Defence, SIS, Statistics and MfE
- The Waterfront landscape developments, including Waitangi Park and the new Wharewaka
- The Reading complex and a proliferation of suburban art film cinemas
- The newly installed Planetarium at the Observatory
- An internationally renowned conservation / tourism development at ZEALANDIA
- Unprecedented construction in the CBD of new inner city apartments
- A new public transport hub facility next to the Railway Station
- A new large-scale indoor sports facility at Kilbirnie

## Wellington is developing a new vision

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Wellington City Council's 2040 vision for the Smart Capital is underway. It comes at a time when the nation's focus, for good reasons, is on Auckland and Christchurch. It also comes at a time when we know we can't afford significant capital expenditure on the most obvious manifestation of growth; new buildings.

However, if spending money on new buildings was the answer, we should be doing just fine about now. (Consider the list opposite). In the past two decades or so this city's capital expenditure programme for culture, sport, recreation and other facilities is nothing short of phenomenal.

If new building development gives a city a vision, our problems should be over. Trouble is, ingredients, however cool they are, are not automatically a recipe for success. The built elements of a city are the static bricks, but a vision is the dynamic mortar, a unifying idea that binds them together - and binds us to them.

### We did have a unifying idea...

Looking back twenty years, Absolutely Positively Wellington (APW) worked, didn't it?

The APW campaign was terrific. It claimed successes and disowned failures. It was black and white. You were either in as a supporter or out as a knocker. It described an attitude, not a place.

But it didn't succeed in isolation. Slogans alone don't cut it, buildings alone don't cut it - that list of capital projects and the slogan worked together. APW was a binding force, unifying the variety of building developments and the attitude of the people under one central idea.

On the down side, APW was unashamedly about us, just us, a city forging a future on its own. It was self-focusing with any benefits selfishly enjoyed. It worked - In 2000 APW emerged as *Top Town* - we took on the country, beat them, and were proud of it. That did absolutely positively zilch to extend generosity to the rest of the New Zealand as their Capital City.

The *Top Town* label, bestowed by a popular magazine, couldn't last, even APW is waning. We need a vision with staying power. We'll always be the Capital City, but have we really ever behaved like one?

### Wellington's waterfront gives the city its edge

For decades since the waterfront was given back to the people, buildings have been planned there to boost Wellington. But after the failure of the Queens Wharf retail complex, and doubts about Te Papa's external appearance, Wellington lost faith in architecture as a process to bring an exciting maritime edge to the new, modern city of glass.

The proposed Hilton one was project that helped bring things to a head. It was a commercial building planned for an 'altar' site. Our altar sites are best kept for the things we value. (Auckland's Hilton is on the waterfront) They are instinctively preserved by fierce public opinion. At the height of the Hilton debate here, the waterfront tension became developers versus the people.

Victory for the public emerged in the form of what we stopped, not what we created. That standoff continues with the recent defeat of the proposed building on the waterfront campervan park. Yet the Waterfront Framework itself is flexible enough to create a wide range of options for the capital city.

If the Hilton debate had been about a stunning icon building to re-house the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra instead of a hotel, we would understand why it stood on the altar. No debate would have taken place, it would be ours, it would be about us.

As long as there is an absence of an overall plan for the waterfront, specific initiatives will be, one after the other, arenas of conflict. Currently, neither side of the waterfront debate has an overarching plan for this critically important space.

Whatever Wellington's vision for the future is, waterfront altar sites must be centre-stage.

So:

- APW worked as a dynamic slogan, but it was backed up by a significant capital expenditure programme that, at present, we cannot afford to repeat – but we can plan in the meantime.
- A city of new buildings does not constitute a vision in itself. If it did we would be fine. A vision binds the city's strengths into a coherent whole, articulating a unifying idea.
- APW was a selfish message for the benefit of locals. As *Top Town*, we gloated over other cities instead of representing them as their Capital City.
- We have a waterfront environment that resulted more from stopping things rather than doing something really wonderful – but its still there, we can still get it right.

And now:

- We now have a City Council that has enshrined our capital status into its core vision statement. Fantastic.
- We know energy levels increase in compact, creative city environments, and the two Wellington economies, work and play, are merging into a lifestyle with intensity. Events, arts and culture are well recognised as economic contributors in that tight knit environment.
- We have great stories to tell, and an amazing waterfront. A meaningful vision for the capital's future should reveal the potential relationship between these two.

## **Bringing the Capital City and the waterfront together**

Jervois Quay is a blessing.

How many times have we read that Jervois Quay acts as a barrier preventing access from the city to the waterfront? Nonsense. On any weekend in the summer the huge crowds that walk the waterfront testify to that. Events too, never fail to draw the crowds, helped by event-friendly management, the waterfront is very popular.

Jervois Quay's blessing is that it gives the city a hard edge. It clearly separates the commercial centre from a potentially world-leading cultural, recreational and visitor-oriented environment. All of this on a harbour that rivals any other, anywhere. Our city's long edge has the waterfront in parallel with its commercial centre rather than at right angles to it. It's the gift the Capital City has yet to fully embrace.

**Imagine** a Capital City that gradually develops a home on the waterfront for all of the leading arts, culture, sporting and national story-telling institutions in one walkable, visitor-oriented precinct.

Around these core experiences, we cluster activities in support, performance spaces, an open air market, appropriately scaled retail development and event spaces – activities that will work as extensions to the core attractions – our arts, culture, food and wine, sport and heroes stories. We bind it all with structures to help protect us from the weather.

The setting is a maritime environment where people play, work, relax, visit, learn and celebrate our heritage, achievements and aspirations as a nation. It contrasts strongly with the commercial CBD, each protected from the other by the hard edge of Jervois Quay.

This would develop, over a period of some 30 years, as an exciting destination for visitors and a pilgrimage for kiwis to experience the best of who we are and what we offer as a nation. Many of the cultural organisations we have now are spread across the city. Those with a visitor focus are spending money ensuring visitors realise that they are a destination. They all fight for their slice of visitor awareness.

Separate the coals in a fire and individually they go out. Keep them together and they rage on, fuelling each other. Can organisations with a history of fighting hard to survive, join a collective effort to build a visitor-oriented city destination **substantially on one site**?

How can we bring all of these elements together on the waterfront creating a truly creative Wellington Capital City, one that reflects the values that bring and keep people here?

Can we use our creative people and technology to then interpret and present the experience to visitors and locals? It will be a significant shift for our arts, sports and cultural organisations to reframe their headquarters to give it a visitor dimension. What would their (shared?) foyers be like under this new way of thinking?

**Most important of all, in these difficult times, buildings we are currently considering anyway (as opposed to new ones), should cluster on the Waterfront to benefit from the synergy that will bring.**

## **The Performing Arts**

Some things just can't move.

To relocate the St James or Katherine Mansfield's birthplace cottage is a nonsense. This creative Capital City will always be bigger than the waterfront, and rightly so.

But some things can move ...If you wanted to conceal the two orchestras in this city from the public eye, hide them on the second floor of the Council administration building. Both orchestras could be re-housed on the waterfront in ways that promote public access and understanding. Wellington has the imaginative and creative strengths to do this well.

What could the public face of the orchestras be? The Town Hall is one of the top ten fine music venues in the world, we don't need another auditorium. But a stunning shared rehearsal venue for the two orchestras that opens to an outside seating area would be terrific. The National Film Archive could have outdoor screenings, using the same space, in the summer evenings.

The schools of Dance and Drama have spent years achieving their home. Surely to relocate them would be seen as unnecessary. But to have the energy of those students and faculty members in the heart of the city, to have a performance space outside for the public to experience their progress, would be amazing.

Consider the impact of their student end-of-year performances (perhaps in concert with the orchestra) in their own space on the waterfront. The new location would elevate the status of the institution, parents nationwide would attend, strengthening the aspirations of every hopeful young talented person across the country, desperately seeking to go there.

Other cities, Palmerston North, Dunedin, pulsate with student vitality, here in Wellington's CBD, student culture is not nearly so prevalent. While we can't move the Universities, some of their faculties are already in the CBD. Imagine the Film School sharing a building with the Film Archive, and the Cordon Bleu School relocating to the waterfront as part of a culinary experience.

That is truly a Capital City response to the nation's arts and culture national organisations, not a theme-park contrivance for the tourist.

There are numerous other performing arts organisations that enjoy a national status, the National Youth Choir, the Royal New Zealand Ballet, the Youth Orchestra, the New Zealand String Quartet, Chamber Music New Zealand, the New Zealand Arts Assembly. They are invisible when not performing. How many could move, use outdoor performance spaces, or be represented in some way in this new precinct. How can the public enjoy them with pride?

Some arts organisations are adequately housed now. But Wellington does not have delusions of adequacy. We want more. If the enormity of the cost seems to make this impossible, how on earth did we achieve that list of buildings spread throughout the city in the last 25 years? This too is a 30 year programme.

Already we have on the waterfront Te Papa, the National Portrait Gallery, the Olympic Games Museum, the Museum of City and Sea, the Academy of Fine Arts and the Wharewaka But they have no direct relationship with each other, they are not linked by a unifying idea.

Already, plans exist for a new Music School and a new Sound Studio for Orchestral recording for the film industry. Neither are currently planned for the waterfront. Why not?

Wellington needs to get its acts together.

## **The Visual Arts**

The Capital City's visual arts scene is in a state of neglect. Many of our treasures are in storage - at least they are now well protected from the rats.

A National Art Gallery goes to the heart of a country's cultural identity. We have a City Gallery, but that does not have a collection. Private art collections that might be donated or bequeathed to the nation won't find a National Gallery in the Capital City.

We had one here, it's now subsumed by Te Papa, its identity lost. Museums and art galleries traditionally have separate management cultures, but they can co-exist in the one building, as they did in Buckle Street.

We can't afford a National Art Gallery right now, but the city is contemplating a Convention Centre.

A real opportunity emerges here.... A few background points to set the context:

- Te Papa is a high-spec building, housing and exhibiting valuable artifacts and artworks, but at best only 20% of the space is devoted to displaying treasures, the rest is in carparking, administration, generous lobbies, hospitality spaces with kitchens, storage, retail and interactive pay-to-play games.
- The City Council is considering building a Convention Centre on the site immediately next to the MFC, using that auditorium to avoid building a new one. The site is too tight, and the black box style of Convention Centres will present blank walls to street frontages.
- The site between Te Papa and Waitangi Park is large enough to take a Convention Centre and, if built with an active perimeter of cafes and other activities, it will avoid the blank wall problem.
- The City Visitor Centre is hidden from view in the ground floor of the city administration building.

We should:

- Locate the Convention Centre on the site next to Te Papa, giving it an 'active' perimeter
- Move the Te Papa hospitality areas to the new building to meet the function needs of both museum and conferences, freeing up valuable high-spec space for a National Art Gallery.
- Create a new National Art Gallery within the envelope of the existing high-spec Te Papa building, but give it a separate management culture.
- Relocate the Visitor Information Centre to this new development, integrating Te Papa, conferences, tour departures and functions all on the one Capital City waterfront site.
- Design the foyer of the new building as a Gallery of New Zealand of stories, told, at last, in the Capital City.

Convention Centres, museums and galleries generally are inherently 'inward looking' spaces, they don't want large windows embracing the view. The waterfront is an 'outward looking' environment, challenging architects to design for arts, culture and conferencing. We need a building that restores faith in architecture, a faith lost through previous waterfront projects.

## **A sporting nation?**

Sport is our greatest outward expression of passion.

Yet sport has not entered the tourism or visitor cultures here in forms other than competitive events. Sport off the field, our record of achievements, is largely invisible in Wellington.

We don't memorialise our sporting heroes, the Hall of Fame is not a Hall at all. Our Olympic Museum is tiny (but at least it's now on the waterfront, yay!) and our national game has its shrine museum in a regional centre, not the Capital City.

You won't see Don Clark's boots on display in Wellington, nor the America's Cup boats. After the big moments in sport are over, we just don't care. In Wellington, the red socks are in the wash. We even abandoned the name Hillary Commission on the eve of the 50 year celebration of the ascent of Everest.

Yet books on sport are best sellers – and sports coverage on television continues to grow with the proliferation of channels and programmes available. Sporting heroes are heroes, especially to children.

How can the Capital City represent the nation's sporting achievements to all Kiwis and visitors? We could audio-visualise New Zealand's top 100 moments in international sport across all codes. Perhaps do the same for the Hall of Fame members' sporting careers.

Is it an exhibition? a museum? Or is it something much more dynamic and interactive, something that recaptures the drama when those great moments in the stadium were created.

Sport produces exciting moving images, and sponsors love sport. The Capital City is not using any of this resource to tell our sport stories. We just can't be bothered.

Arts and sport seem odd neighbours. A great day out on the waterfront exploring who we are as a country is probably the only context where they work so well together.

## **The Culinary Arts**

Maritime cities gain reputations for specialist seafood restaurants. Wellington is not yet among them. Many cities have busy, successful, exciting large-scale fresh food markets. We don't.

Food and wine help define a country's identity. Increasingly New Zealand wine makers and chefs are gaining international recognition. Wellington is the restaurant capital of New Zealand. What would a presentation of New Zealand food and wine excellence look like in the capital?

Perhaps it would be a cluster of related activities – demonstrations, a cooking school, rotating involvement of restaurant chefs, or working in combination with a new Convention Centre and Cordon Bleu School. We don't want another shopping mall food-court. This is a vitally important part of the redevelopment of the waterfront, not an afterthought to just feed people.

Any vision which seeks to present the Creative Capital must design the food and wine presentation rather than leave it to a bunch of fast food concessionaires – Sadly, that is exactly how we do food at events on the Capital City's waterfront now.

French cuisine, old-world famous, is based in large part on decay. The cheeses are ripe, the wines are aged, the game is hung. New Zealand's cuisine is from the new-world – fresh, vital, exciting, now.

That's our cue - how do we present that?

## Our Top Ten New Zealand stories of all time

A Gallery of New Zealand Stories would never be short of material. While this concept may not justify its own building, the foyer of a new Capital City Convention Centre would be an ideal storytelling space.

The names Rutherford, Pickering, Wilkins, Mansfield, Batten, Hillary, Sheppard, and Gillies will vary in the level of recognition they receive from locals and visitors to this country.

They are all extraordinary stories. First to fly... first for women to vote.. first to split the atom. How can we tell the top ten New Zealand stories here in Wellington?

The Mansfield story is partly told, but if we were as passionate about our literary heroine as other countries, we would buy the cottage next to hers in Thorndon and do much more. It's too understated, even for us.

If Hillary is one of the great Kiwi stories of all time, and he is, Wellington could create a visitor attraction on the ascent of Everest. He is first of all a New Zealander, and secondly an Aucklander. Imagine an interactive experience where visitors literally climb up to a summit (30m?) and experience the stunning view that Hillary first saw on arrival, filmed on site and projected here in 360 degrees on screens. No other country can tell this story with more validity than we can.

The exhibition on Rutherford that came to Te Papa was designed to transfer information, not trigger emotion. Look at the impact of the achievements of that man in global terms. To tell that story without emotion is ridiculous. We need to give stories like this to the creative industries in the city to give them dramatic effect.

It amazes me how the whole world knows about the movie stars set in concrete in a Hollywood pavement. And these people are just actors, famous only for being someone else.

What is the Capital City doing to tell the stories of our greatest New Zealanders?

### To summarise:

- Drawing together Wellington's, cultural strengths, capital status and waterfront development will herald the arrival of Wellington as a Capital City that truly represents all of New Zealand.
- It will give the city a left brain precinct to contrast with the right brain commercial centre.
- It will invite everyone, residents and visitors alike, to share the aspirations, the strengths and unique character of the nation. It will do it, and this is the key, on one walkable site.
- It will be achieved through story-telling by national institutions and organisations that deserve recognition. Together they will build one terrific destination.
- It will take the city forward under one unifying idea, our Capital City status will never date.
- It will do all of this gradually, its not a quick fix, but the big picture should be reframed from now on, especially to inform decisions around major developments.
- It recognises people choose to live in this city because of its unique character and we need to articulate that in ways that people can see, hear, touch, visit and enjoy their Capital City more.
- Above all it calls for city planners to group buildings together they are planning anyway to build this cultural precinct.



## **The best possible platform for launching Smart Capital: Wellington 2015**

Wellington needs to start talking about 2015, as this list shows, ( and these are just the main ones) its an extraordinary year for the country, and thereby, the Capital City.

180th of Declaration of Independence of NZ (1835)

175th of Treaty of Waitangi (1840)

150th of capital moving to Wellington (1865)

100th of Gallipoli campaign (1915))

70th of end of WW2, VE day and VJ day (1945)

50th of Rolling Stones' NZ tour (1965)

50th of Air New Zealand (previously TEAL) (1965)

50th of NZ commitment of combat troops to Vietnam (1965)

50th of signing of NAFTA (NZ Australia Free Trade Agreement) – forerunner of CER (1965)

50<sup>th</sup> of the National Library of New Zealand which brought together the Alexander Turnbull Library and the National Library Service

Historically, the co-incidence of so many important dates is unprecedented, and given the rich diversity of the contexts, a 2015 year of celebration will draw many New Zealanders together in large numbers in profoundly personal ways. Wellington has a role to play, and a share to enjoy.

The ANZAC partnership will feature in the celebrations. Wellington was actually selected to be our Capital City (150 years ago in 2015) by the Premiers of Australian States. Memorial Park was recently alluded to by the Prime Minister in his speech to the Australian House of representatives.

The forging of our identity as a nation is closely tied to the Gallipoli Campaign, a shared experience with Australia. Since then, the two close allies in combat have become fierce competitors, sharing the goodwill of the major sporting codes.

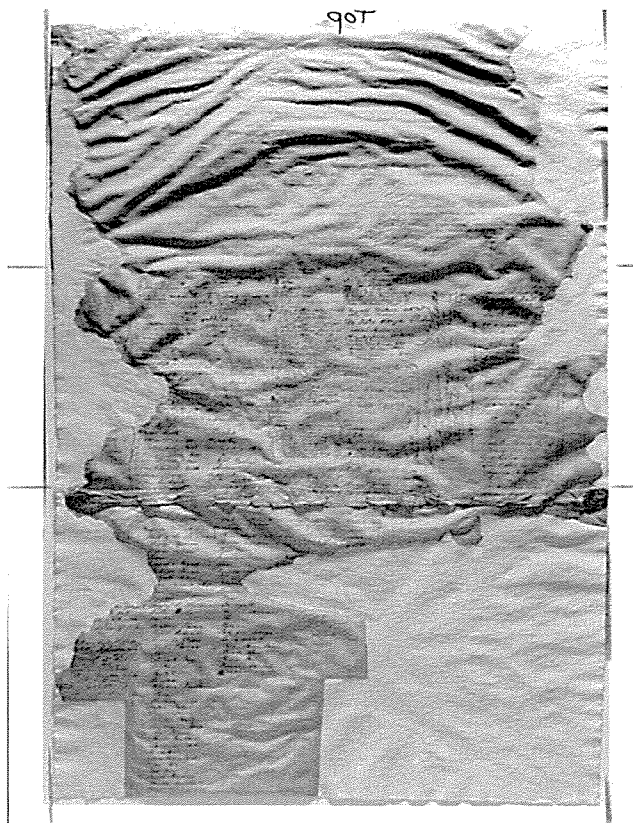
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*NOTE: A 20 page document setting out how we might celebrate the year 2015 is now with the Events team at WCC. Given that, I have not included the details here, allowing a proposal for a specific initiative to be presented through officers' normal channels to the Council)*

## ***The role unique to Wellington***

*I grew up with this image of the Treaty of Waitangi. It was always a very odd shaped piece of paper. It seemed to me parts of it were missing.*

*They were missing, we left our founding document to languish in storage, the rats got to it. It was reduced through neglect, and many of our nation's stories are consigned to the same fate. That will change when Wellington, the Capital City, take its story-telling role more seriously.*



THE MAIN PIECE OF THE TREATY OF WAITANGI, SHOWING DAMAGE CAUSED BY WATER AND RODENTS.  
ALEXANDER TURNBULL LIBRARY, WELLINGTON

*What does the Capital City status mean to Kiwis who don't live here? Not much. Strangely, the concept of significance is not self explanatory, it has to be demonstrated. Every Australian child visits Canberra as part of their education, but we spurn the grand gestures, monuments and boulevards that characterise state capitals.*

*It's just not the way we do things here. So if we did it our way, what would the New Zealand Capital City be like?*

*We have a choice. We can continue to leave our nation's stories to decay, or actively build a vision as the Capital City of New Zealand. Our Capital status is, and always will be, our city's defining point of difference.*

*To combine that with our arts and cultural strengths makes perfect sense. To do it substantially on one site would be a significant tourism driver. Visitation is ultimately the way culture can earn its way.*

## Summary: Wellington as a custodian of values

We encouraged our four children to read. One evening I put 43 books through the after hours library slot. There was no way they had read them all in a week, but they were free. At the time, I was convinced we should put a charge on borrowing. In that way, people would borrow fewer books and have an investment in reading them.

Now I understand the vehemence of those determined to protect a free library service. As the economy tightens, the arguments for libraries to be free should strengthen, not weaken. We must protect certain values especially during difficult times.

Wellington as the Capital City, must be a custodian of values.

Auckland will always be the economic engine of the country, while we can and must excel in niche ways, we will never compete on matters of scale. A strong Auckland is a stronger New Zealand, and as the international economic outlook tightens, we need a strong city of sales, but while Auckland can be about more, we can be about better.

Of course the pursuit of commercial success is critically important to our region too. Smart Wellington, and its economic development agencies will continue to strive on that.

A focus on the Capital status, telling our stories, may still seem a soft answer for hard times, but just as the value of the events and arts sectors is now acknowledged as an integral part of economic policy, our capital status should be also. The thrust of this paper is to bring them together.

We have a history, an identity and a society as well as an economy. We have a responsibility to cherish, develop and present a set of values that talk more about who we are. We need to build a life as well as make a living. Some elements of that role will earn money directly, some will not, but all underpin the reasons people love this city, and love New Zealand.

Currently our response to our own capital status is mediocre at best, but thankfully that is the result of neglect rather than deliberate policy. Now we have a Council committing it to policy. That is terrific.

New Zealand needs a much stronger Capital City. The key questions, if we invest in that role, are: Will Kiwis respond? Will visitors respond? Will it work?

I believe it will. Last year, tens of thousands of Kiwis flocked to our waterfront to see the navy celebrate its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Attendances at ANZAC services are rising. We are finally falling in love with ritual and commemoration. We all want to know more about, and celebrate, who we really are. The challenge is to contemporise a strength that is largely seen as historical. We have the imagineers here to do that.

Wellington has always worked through its concentration. We live on the sides of a crucible, slide into the city centre and cook together. We are more than capable of having the required conversations and conceiving creative answers to our challenging opportunities Capital City status offers.

A Capital City can take a lead in building a more positive New Zealand. Our symbols of national identity are a sorry lot. Our national bird is endangered and can't fly, our flag is outdated, our national day is characterised by controversy, and our national colour is black. *100% pure joy...*

**The City Council is leading with its new vision of a Smart Capital. Wellington can now set aside its mantra of APW, and assume the mantle of 'APNZ' across the full spectrum of arts, sport, culture, history and identity.**

We can represent much of that on one walkable site on the edge of a world-class waterfront.

Not a bad approach for the coolest little (Smart) (Green) (Innovative) (Positive) Capital in the world.

## ***Small ideas count, especially in tough times***

### ***The Fountain in the Cuba Mall***

*The Fountain in Cuba Mall is a personal favourite of many people in the Capital City. It survived controversial conversations when first proposed, and after 40 years or so it hasn't aged a day.*

*It represents so many things we love about living in Wellington, its quirky, pointless, colourful, spontaneous creative and fun. Just like living here, you can get drenched if you're not careful.*



*Strangely, despite its acknowledged popularity, the city has neglected to recognise it with even the simplest of plaques explaining the so-called Bucket Fountain.*

*Originally it had another name. We should name the Fountain, name the artist (who was actually an architect) and explain when and why it came into being. Anonymity won't help our creative people, and it won't help Wellington either.*

*What follows is a selection of small ideas for the Capital City, many of which tie in with the larger concept for Wellington already explained in this document.*

*Small ideas can be powerful. They can make a city more accessible, more affordable, encouraging everyone to feel more comfortable and more engaged with the city. Small things connect us through enjoyable shared experiences.*

# Small ideas for the Capital City

## City Parking

Everyone hates parking enforcement but public annoyance at parking staff is irrational. They are enforcing our right to equally shared access to the same parking spaces. Its about fairness. Turnover of parking spaces is vital to the economic health of the retailers, demonstrated by their outrage when parks are surrendered for more pedestrian space.

Here are three simple ideas to improve parking capacity, city revenue and the lowly position parking staff occupy in the public mind.

### Bumper to Bumpee

Parking meters allowed cars to occupy an area defined by the white lines between spaces. Cars had plenty of space to park, and the distance between spaces was generous. Two things have changed: First there is a much wider range of shorter vehicles now and more importantly, the Pay and Display system does not assign a defined parking space, but simply rights to park in that area – just as the residential parking sticker does in those areas.

We should delete the white lines between spaces and replace them with the full white line parallel with the kerb, as in the residential parking areas. Cars will park closer, (residential parking areas prove it), and the city's parking capacity and parking revenue will increase accordingly.

### When is a ticket, not a ticket?

Parking staff check the dates of the resident's parking permits, car registrations and warrants of fitness. If any have expired, the owner is fined.

Parking staff should also carry a pad of warning tickets and, if they find any expiry date is imminent, they should issue a warning ticket to remind the owner to renew in time. It's a ticket to save you from a ticket.

Current warrants and registrations mean safer roads, these warnings could genuinely reduce the number of unsafe cars on the road, reminding the public that the parking infringement service is not just about revenue gathering.

### Pay up and feel good

The City Council should link the revenue they receive from all parking fines to the City Grants programme. We would feel better about our fines if we knew the money directly funded the Library or Summer City.

We should print on the ticket a list of community activities the fine payer could choose from, and direct their money accordingly. The funds raised may not match the funds required exactly, no matter. We could publish those statistics at the end of the year, reminding us Councils are not just about taking money from us, the revenue helps fund the things we need.

## Small public parks

Why are our smaller public parks in Wellington all the same?

Paths, lawn, litter bins, seating and trees - that's it, all different in style, all identical in usage. We walk through, sit down, that's all. They are designed to deliver maximum satisfaction to the creators and minimum utility to the user. Designers believe public space must be all things to all people at all times but we need some specific-use installations to complement the all-purpose, bland solutions we settle for now.

I was born here, my Grandmother's maiden name was Plimmer, I think I'm about as 'Wellington' as you can get, and yet I have never seen a picnic table in the inner city.

Cafes provide tables and chairs, but you need money to use them. A family visiting the city should be able to find a table for their sandwiches and thermos of tea. It's a small thing, but many families can only afford small things. Affordability is a key word in the Council's current mantra.

Wellington is a city of conversations. Picnic tables facilitate that. People meet people. Imagine whole office teams lunching together in a city park of 50 picnic tables. School classes visiting the city's museums need outdoor seating designed as a sheltered place for the class to eat their lunch while the teacher talks to them. We encourage school visits, then offer them nothing like this.

Maintenance issues increase with seats and tables, but city buildings are cleaned and maintained daily inside at great expense, we need to take that fight outside. New Zealand has provided picnic tables in virtually every lay-by on our State Highways. Why is it so impossible in the city?

While we are on seating, the waterfront area is made of bitumen and concrete for tyres and shoes. The traditional material for people sitting, lying down and relaxing at the water's edge in New Zealand is wood - decks, jettys, pontoons, duckwalks - all wood. It's time for a change. Butts and bitumen don't mix.

### **Stages without seating, seating without stages**

Our city boasts performing arts as a strength, but where is the outdoor stage in Wellington's central city? The Botanical Gardens has two stages with no audience seating. The waterfront has three areas of audience seating with no stages.

Stages in the City Gardens cater for picnic events, that's fine. But a stage in the city should be in the centre of a busy pedestrian precinct and facilitate deliberate interruptions to passers-by; that's exactly what buskers do. If we combined the idea of 100 picnic tables in the city with a stage in a city park, summer lunchtimes would never be the same.

A stage in Glover Park by Ghuznee Street and a redesigned seating layout to encourage its use would enliven this part of town as a logical extension of Cuba culture, especially on Friday evenings and at weekends. Build it and they will come, in fact the bohemian Cuba culture is already there, so just build it.

### **Opera in the (Pigeon) Park**

The Opera House balcony could be a wonderful stage playing to the area opposite in Pigeon Park. That space could accommodate a tiered seating structure for a hundred or more people.

On a Friday evening, Opera performers could sing some arias from upcoming productions through a simple sound system mounted on the building. The seating facility could be used at other times by school class visits as an ideal lunch spot. The existing toilets would be tucked away under the new seating structure.

### **The City should say 'I do'**

Events bring greater visitation to the Botanical Gardens but we continue to focus the landscaping in the gardens for passive use only. While it's nice to look at the gardens, imagine if we actually used them more.

People love to get married and photographed in the Gardens.

Surely there is one space in the Gardens where we could build a delightful outdoor secular church for the marriage ceremony, with permanent slab bench 'pews', a simple platform altar, all contained in a sheltered space adorned with flowers. A landscape designer could deliver a stunning rendition of this, and more residents would increase their emotional stake in the Gardens, taking their children there to see where they got married.

A simple booking system, offering a hundred waterproof cushions, could operate through the Council office.

## **Weather or not we should use our parks**

We know the weather restricts use of outdoor spaces here, so it is surprising that we don't fight back with shelter structures that make public space more user friendly in bad weather.

Wellingtonians live either inside or outside, yet with architects' help we could occupy an important space in between, with exciting solutions to the Wellington weather challenge. Verandahs help, but they are a linear concept, moving along a street going somewhere. Shelter over a public space is about being somewhere.

The weather often prevents the use of outdoor play equipment for small children. There needs to be a play area in the city undercover, a roof with no walls, in a spot out of the wind, ideal for stir-crazy families when they are stuck in a small apartment inside on a wet day.

We have in this city the most concentrated pool of creative talent in the country. What would children's play areas look like if the city collaborated with Weta Workshop in the design? We would create something unique. We simply don't collaborate enough with our creative sector.

## **The sad story of Courtenay Place**

Courtenay Place was, a few years ago, heralded as the place to feel the pulse of the city heart beating with excitement. Cinemas and performance venue crowds spilled into cafes restaurant and bars creating a city buzz way bigger than our actual size.

Now, sadly, it staggers under the influence of the teenage binge drinking culture, dumbing down the Wellington culture brand.

The authorities' response is punitive measures - lower alcohol levels of drivers, higher drinking age, crushing cars, – we attack what is there, and ignore what is missing.

Cities spend serious money on play equipment in prime sites for small children, but small children are the most supervised age group of all by parents.

We don't provide similar facilities for teenagers. Teenagers are the most difficult group to supervise.

Question: What does a teenage playground look like?

Answer: at the moment, sadly, Courtenay Place.

Better question: What could a teenage playground look like here if it were designed by Wellington's creative community?

Answer – lets find out. If its great, really great, teens will use it – just look at the popularity of the recent ice skating facility.

## **The office vacancy problem**

Wellington is worried about the levels of office vacancy in the central city. We need to identify businesses that could relocate. We should:

- Convene a meeting of all real estate agencies in the city to gain their support
- Through them, promote a nationwide competition offering free office space for two years to one business
- Assess all entries and award the winning business their two year prize
- Systematically work on all of the businesses which tried to win the competition, we know they could move here, or they wouldn't have entered the competition, so we have a target list.

## A large outdoor auditorium

New Plymouth and the Mission Estate in Hawke's Bay host some of the greatest names in popular entertainment. They have the outdoor venues for it. The Capital City doesn't. The stadium was not designed for this purpose.

Right now the area in front of the National War Memorial is being planned, and the memorial itself is a dramatic stage setting, playing to the open space in front of it. A slight change to the proposed landscaping plan could develop a theatre crucible as an outdoor performance space, with grass terraces, not fixed seating.

For most of the time, Memorial Park would continue as a reverent space of contemplation. But on occasion it could pump with the vitality of a popular performer without showing any disrespect. Performance goes would be enjoying the very freedom that soldiers gave their lives for - I don't think they would mind at all.

Events to commemorate ANZAC Day and other important occasions would have a setting for larger crowds with far more gravitas. The Carillon bells are majestic.

We are going to develop this as a space anyway, let's give it another dimension. Lit well at night, it could be the most dramatic outdoor performance and event venue in the country.

*In New Zealand, if you learnt to read, thank a teacher. But you learnt to read English, so thank a soldier.*

## The I-ratepayer card

Wellington has very few fully commercial tourist attractions. As a city we are not used to paying a commercial price for a visitor experience.

Most of our attractions like museums and art galleries are free entry and while that may seem an advantage in terms of visit attraction, the international travel agencies do not earn commission from free attractions, so we miss out on the that international marketing resource.

We clobbered Zealandia for trying to break us out of this stupid, self-defeating situation.

Here in the Capital, tourists can view our founding documents (like the Treaty) in the Constitution Room of Archives New Zealand. They enjoy our treasures free of charge, and save their money to jump off a bridge in Taupo wearing a rubber band.

We are giving away the store, it seems our nation's stories are priceless after all.

With strong local resistance to charging for visitor attractions, the City Council should consider the introduction of a ratepayers card – the '***I-ratepayer card***' and attach a loyalty programme to it.

Ratepayers and the Council exchange many transactions, rates, rents, licences, parking fines, overdue books, admission to the Zoo and pools and more.

Through the use of an '***I-ratepayer card***,' admission to pay-and-play experiences could be discounted for locals while visitors to the Capital could pay a full fare. Other local authorities run similar schemes already, let's have a card for the Capital.



## Even smaller ideas...

### Put them back

We should put the original Eastbourne Ferry ticket office back on its former site on the Waterfront. It currently sits in the grounds of the Khandallah Bowling Club, its a delightfully small structure in great condition. Inside, we could show the historic images of that wonderful roller-coaster waterslide at Days Bay that was the highlight of a ferry trip all those years ago.

Early colonists arriving in the Capital by boat were greeted by the Queen at Queens Wharf. We should move Queen Victoria from Cambridge Terrace back to her former position in Post Office Square. Queen's Wharf needs to live up to its name again.

### The damp 'squib' at Te Papa

The giant squid is an extraordinary find, and has been well preserved in its vat for the public to see. Yes it is big, but when you actually get close to it, the story goes flat, literally. The scale of this astonishing giant squid would be understood so much better if we suspended a life size inflatable replica of the creature in the space just about the tank. Simple, dramatic.

### Cable car noise

The Cable Car in Lambton Quay is difficult for visitors to find. It also makes a distinctive noise, one of the great sounds of Wellington. We should record that sound and play it every 10 minutes through speakers installed where Cable Car lane joins the Quay.

### The Spirit of Dunkirk

We all know the story of the plucky fleet of small boats snatching the British soldiers from the French beach, averting a slaughter.

Our version could be the reverse, an invasion of tiny craft taking people to Somes Island as, on arbour day, and with the careful project management of DOC and the support of the Port Nick Yacht Club, we descend in large numbers on the island to plant 1000 trees on one day. After five years, the island starts to lose its exposed clay appearance.

### Circle the wagons

Let's admit it, 80% of the time we are watching the Christmas Parade it's a strain, especially for children.

There are delays, long gaps and the enthusiasm of the parade participants wanes when it takes too long to move past us. Sadly the trouble the organisers go to in making the floats and dressing the volunteers in costume is still fleetingly appreciated only, as the floats pass by.

Future parades should finish at Waitangi Park and form a circle on the outside perimeter, trapping us in a Christmas Village where we can explore the floats and meet the characters on them while Christmas music plays from the stage (that we should have built there).

We should put a carousel in the centre of Waitangi Park Christmas village, and families will enjoy it for the whole day. At night, the film industry here has the equipment to make it snow at Waitangi Park...and the city has the choirs to give us a truly family-oriented Christmas carol evening.

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A city facing really challenging times may wish to ignore small ideas, fearing the criticism that they are fiddling (with trivia) while Rome burns. My response to that is let's just do them anyway. They are not expensive, they deliver a better city at street level to everyone, and some of them are fun.

Lets just do it.

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*"Until one is committed, there is hesitancy, the chance to draw back. Concerning all acts of initiative (and creation), there is one elementary truth the ignorance of which kills countless ideas and splendid plans: **the moment one definitely commits oneself, then Providence moves too.***

*All sorts of things occur to help one that would never otherwise have occurred. A whole stream of events issues from the decision, raising, in one's favour, all manner of unforeseen incidents, meetings and material assistance, which no man could have dreamed would have come his way.*

*Whatever you can do, whatever you dream you can do, begin it. Boldness has genius, power and magic in it. Begin it now."*

Goethe

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## **Submission to the Wellington City Council on the Long Term Plan 2012-2022**



**Submitted by:** Paul Young, on behalf of Generation Zero

**Address:** 8a Moncrieff St, Mount Victoria, Wellington

**Phone:** 027 4188841

**Email:** paul@generationzero.org.nz

**We wish to speak to our submission at the hearing.**

### **Content:**

1. About Generation Zero
2. Our focus on transport
3. Support for specific proposals in the LTP
4. Additional comments and suggestions
5. Concluding remarks

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## **1. About Generation Zero**

Generation Zero is a national organisation that launched in June 2011 and has experienced rapid growth to date, with over 1000 members mostly between the ages of 18 and 30. Our vision is for a thriving, zero carbon (fossil fuel independent and carbon neutral) Aotearoa before 2050. We aim to achieve this by pushing for the development and implementation of a comprehensive government plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel dependence, complemented by continued engagement with local bodies to achieve the same ends. We believe that New Zealand has the ability to rise to our climate and energy challenges and create a better, more prosperous country in the process. We are supported by a number of organisations including 350 Aotearoa, Medical Students for Global Awareness, Engineers Without Borders New Zealand, and Global Poverty Project New Zealand. We are not aligned with any political parties and are 100% independent in our views.

## **2. Our focus on transport**

In 2012, Generation Zero is focusing particularly on the transport sector. This accounts for more than 40% of New Zealand's carbon dioxide emissions, over 90% of which is from road transport.<sup>1</sup> Current land transport emissions are more than 60% above 1990

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<sup>1</sup> Ministry for the Environment, 2011. *New Zealand's Greenhouse Gas Inventory 1990-2009*.

levels (with road freight having grown especially fast), although they have been roughly stable since around 2005.<sup>2</sup> The Ministry for Economic Development projects that transport emissions will continue growing out to 2030 under current policies (or lack thereof), even with higher fuel prices, a high carbon price and increased vehicle fuel efficiency. Under our current Government, there is nothing resembling a plan to start reducing emissions in the transport sector - rather, we believe current plans are actively leading New Zealand in the wrong direction.

We therefore see that transport is on the frontlines of New Zealand's response to climate change. Measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions will become increasingly cost-effective and deliver increasing economic benefits as the rise in fuel prices continues, which organisations such as the International Energy Agency and the International Monetary Fund warn is guaranteed to happen. National and local governing bodies have the power and the responsibility to change our transport networks to reduce emissions and oil dependence. With the lack of direction on this matter from central government, we are calling on local and regional councils to step up and show bold leadership.

Generation Zero is launching a campaign called '**50/50 - a fair share for smart transport**'. This campaign seeks to highlight the disparities in transport funding at a national level, where current plans will see five times as much government spending on highways and roads as on public and active transport modes over the next decade, and a ratio of roughly 30:1 in terms of new capital expenditure.<sup>3</sup> The campaign also seeks to highlight the smart transport opportunities and wider benefits that could be gained from a more equitable funding allocation. We are pushing for steps towards a 50/50 funding split via submissions to regional and city councils in Otago, Wellington, Waikato and Auckland, as well as to the National Government. As a generation which has yet to see the full effects of previous generations actions with regard to finite resources, we are calling not only for a fair share for smart transport, but for the right of future generations to enjoy a clean and sustainably managed New Zealand.

### **3. Support for specific proposals in the LTP**

#### **Cycle safety and cycle networks**

Generation Zero strongly supports investment in cycle safety and cycle networks. In particular, the investigation of a safe walking/cycling path for commuters between Island Bay and the City should be fast-tracked to be delivered as soon as possible. On-road routes for this journey are dangerous for cyclists and we believe development of a safe cycling path away from car traffic could stimulate a significant increase in cycle commuters, delivering benefits for cyclists and car users alike while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

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<sup>2</sup> Ministry for Economic Development, 2011. *New Zealand's Energy Outlook*.

<sup>3</sup> New Zealand Government, 2011. *Government Policy Statement on Land Transport Funding 2012-2022*.

**Warm Up New Zealand: Heat Smart and Home Energy Saver Programmes** We support all ongoing investments in improving energy efficiency in Wellington. These investments are shown to deliver “strong net national benefit”<sup>4</sup> and are also an important component of a long-term low carbon strategy for New Zealand by providing greater energy services for less energy demand.

**Climate Adaptation Strategy** We support ongoing funding of the Climate Adaptation Strategy. It is vital that Wellington prepares to successfully manage the unavoidable impacts of climate change this century.

#### **4. Additional comments and suggestions**

**Transport priorities** In response to the question on p15 of the draft LTP, Generation Zero believes that new cycling routes and walkways, and projects that improve the safety of cyclists should be priority areas for new funding. It is critical that investment keeps pace with and continues to encourage the good trends we have witnessed in Wellington in recent years.<sup>5</sup>

**Transport targets** We would like to see the targets for shifting to more sustainable transport options (presented on p130 of the draft LTP) made more ambitious overall – particularly for cycling in light of the aforementioned recent trends.

**Lobbying central government** The Wellington Regional Land Transport Strategy 2010-40 includes strategic targets of increased mode share for public transport and pedestrians and cyclists. Actions ascribed to these targets include:<sup>6</sup>

- Advocate for adequate public transport funding from government
- Advocate for higher priority of pedestrian and cyclist road safety funding

Generation Zero endorses the vision expressed in the RLTS and encourages the WCC to publicly adopt a proactive and assertive stance in its dealings with central government on the matter of transport funding for public and active transport. We do not believe the current spending outline for the next decade in the Government Policy Statement on Land Transport Funding does offer adequate funding for public and active transport and will be seeking to change this through our 50/50 campaign.

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## **Innovation and experimentation**

We would like to encourage the WCC to explore innovative and creative ideas for ways to increase the shift to sustainable transport. A good local example is the new cycle safety measures – “raised lane markings and flexible bollards which clearly mark the edges of the cycle lane” – currently being trialled for the first time in New Zealand by Auckland Transport.<sup>7</sup> As a progressive city, Wellington should be on the forefront of these kinds of initiatives.

In addition to investment in infrastructure, services and affordability of public and active transport, which are vital and fundamental, we consider that there is a role for creative ideas to increase the appeal of sustainable transport options by making them more fun and “cool”. These could include permanent or temporary initiatives and events to celebrate and encourage public and active transport, the use of art and design to increase aesthetic appeal, and much more<sup>8</sup>. These initiatives need not be expensive and we consider it worth taking risks when the pay-offs could be large. While the WCC has little input and control over the public transport network in particular, here is something that it can do to attempt to increase patronage in line with expressed goals and targets. Additionally, such creative initiatives would also add to Wellington’s vibrancy and enhance its unique image as “the coolest little capital in the world”. Generation Zero would be very happy to discuss this idea further and work with the WCC on such initiatives.

## **5. Concluding remarks**

Thank you for taking our views regarding Wellington’s future on board. We look forward to the chance to present at the oral hearings, and further engagement with the WCC into the future.

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# generation zero

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**Nicole Tydda**

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**From:** sadunn@paradise.net.nz  
**Sent:** Thursday, 17 May 2012 10:33 p.m.  
**To:** BUS: Long Term Plan  
**Subject:** Draft Long Term Plan-20120517103321

First Name: Steve

Last Name: Dunn

Street Address: 1 Nikau Street

Suburb: Newtown

City: Wellington 6021

Phone: 027 658 1462

Email: sadunn@paradise.net.nz

I would like to make an oral submission: Yes

I am making this submission: organisation

Organisation Name: Newtown Residents' Association

Type of organisation: Community

Make Wellington a place where talent wants to live: Don't Know

Make the city more resilient to natural disasters: Strongly Agree

A well-managed city: Strongly Agree

Create Destination Wellington: Don't know

Bid to host 2015 FIFA under 20s World Championship: Don't know

Host The Hobbit world premiere: Don't know

Provide a temporary venue for the Town Hall: Don't know

Comments on growing our economy: The short time to respond to the Draft LTP by community groups that meet monthly does not allow a full response to these questions.

Earthquake-strengthen the water storage network: Leave in plan (high)

Earthquake-strengthen Council buildings: Leave in plan (high)

Earthquake assessments: Leave in plan (low)

Help others strengthen their buildings: Leave in plan (high)

Continue funding heritage grants: Leave in plan (high)

Energy-efficiency programme: Leave in plan (low)

Construct a water reservoir: Leave in plan (low)

Tasman Street reticulation upgrade: Leave in plan (low)

Comments about building resilience: - Provide a subsidy to homeowners to collect rainwater for emergency use. More bang for your buck than large infrastructure projects and the water is at the point of use in emergency.  
- Assistance for earthquake strengthening also often means retention of heritage buildings.

Tunnels and bridges improvements: Leave in plan (low)

New retaining walls on the road corridors: Leave in plan (low)

Minor roading safety projects: Leave in plan (high)

Johnsonville roading improvements: Don't know

Cycle network safety improvements: Leave in plan (high)

Cycle network extension: Leave in plan (high)

Comments on transport: - The Safer Roads Programme brought lower speed and improved intersections for half of the suburb but then the other half was left because cuts to the programme - please finish what was started  
- A full review of traffic and people movement through Newtown is needed. Parking zones are decided in a piecemeal fashion. Resources and staff are needed to follow this through in a comprehensive way.  
- Our members often ride to work and there is a significant increase in cyclists using main streets but it is hazardous for travel on Wellington roads - improvements are urgently needed.  
- Adelaide Road improvement deferral - this project should not be completed to a high standard and incorporated into the traffic studies that are in progress.

Parliamentary precinct public space improvements: Don't know

Improvements to Opera House Lane and Eva Street: Leave in plan (high)

Contribute to a permanent Memorial Park: Leave in plan (high)

Public space enhancements to Victoria Precinct: Don't know

Construct a new inner-city park: Leave in plan (high)

Public space access improvements to Clyde Quay Marina: Take out of plan

Increase cultural grants funding : Leave in plan (high)

Inflation adjustment for grants funding: Leave in plan (high)

Construct more artificial sportsfields : Don't know

Keith Spry swimming pool upgrade: Don't know

New library in Johnsonville: Don't know

Aro Valley Community Centre upgrade: Leave in plan (high)

Newtown Community and Cultural Centre upgrade: Leave in plan (high)

Strathmore Community Base upgrade: Leave in plan (high)

Comments on maintaining Wellington: - We support improve to community facilities that support local interaction and healthy communities.  
- Memorial Park is strongly supported by many of our members and the Mount Cook community- with increased housing density a central city park is needed to service local area residents and workers as well as supplement the wider recreation on the waterfront and Town Belt

Proposed rates increase limit: DontKnow

Proposed rates increase target: DontKnow

Comments on balancing the budget: - We have not had sufficient time to debate the issues from the time of releasing the draft plan. There is need to diligently manage finances without unduely impacting on ratepayers. The regular change of rates differential from the commercial to residential already imposes increasing pressure on ratepayers who have limited or fixed income.

General comments: Eco city proposal - there is insufficient information to allow informed comment or preference. Market them collectively but find an alternative model that respects and finances the individual groups.  
- Chest Hospital - support for strengthening the building and facilitating use by the SPCA - this retains heritage and supports an important service.  
- Housing improvements - support is for the completion of this programme. Our suburb houses significant numbers of this people in need of affordable, warm

and safe housing. WCC are commended for initiating this programme.

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**Nicole Tydda**

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**From:** Paula Warren [pwarren58@yahoo.co.nz]  
**Sent:** Friday, 18 May 2012 4:13 p.m.  
**To:** BUS: Long Term Plan  
**Cc:** Paula Warren  
**Subject:** submission on LTCCP  
**Attachments:** parking.doc; wcc ltccp sub mine.doc

Please find attached my submission and an attachment to that submission (an older submission on parking).

Paula Warren

2/1 Wesley Road  
Kelburn  
Wellington 6012  
[Pwarren58@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:Pwarren58@yahoo.co.nz)  
4713118

### **Submission on draft LTCCP**

I would like to present my submission to the hearing committee.

#### **Rates levels and savings**

I receive excellent value from my rates – water, rubbish, recycling, sewage, libraries, arts events, parks, restoration project plants.... There are also services I don't use but am happy to contribute to as part of a well designed city – notably sports fields.

There are a very few activities that I do not believe are necessary, and if savings need to be made, they are where I would like the council to start. Top of my list is unnecessary and inefficient vegetation management along roads and tracks. Once again last week the council sprayed the edge of Clifton Terrace, damaging the plants that the Council carefully grew and delivered to me, and I carefully planted and tended. Whether the *Euphorbia* will recover is in the balance. The native spinach I had propagated from south coast material will live, but half of the lovely mat is gone – 6 months growth. And of course no-one had complied with the MOU and contacted me before the work was done, despite another meeting with the Manager of Parks last year to discuss the last piece of serious damage in Clifton Terrace and a promise that they had registered the agreement and would follow it in future.

I'm a pedestrian activist, and what is being done isn't in pedestrian's interest. What is needed is to plant and prune the edges of our walkways, tracks and paths so that they will be a permanent delight that won't intrude over the path. Spraying just opens up space for more rank grass, and the 6 monthly spraying programme you have on the Tokyo walkway provides no protection for walkers from that grass. What I've been trying to do in Clifton Terrace is re-shape the edge of the bank, plant the bit behind the retaining wall in species like *Euphorbia* that will not create problems, and crowd out the grass. The result will be low maintenance and make the area attractive.

The same applies in your reserves, where edge spraying of tracks just opens up the edge to weeds, while a short period of more labour-intensive pruning would create a long term, aesthetically pleasing, biodiversity rich solution. Use your volunteers to achieve that, instead of wasting us in replanting ruined plantings.

The second area that I am not satisfied about is road maintenance. San Sebastian Street carries almost no traffic, and has no footpaths. So why did you spend a lot of money building fancy kerbs along the edge? St Hill Street has a footpath that is of no use and generally isn't used by pedestrians, and should be a shared street. I raised that issue with the Mayor, who said it should be looked at as part of a longer term urban design process. But a few weeks later you spent a lot of money resurfacing the unused footpath. While there are footpaths that are constantly used that desperately need attention.



I've said it before in these sorts of submissions, and will say it again. We need precinct plans that decide what we want each bit of the city to be like, and a more efficient meshing of the work of the different bits of the council and the work of the community.

***Proposed change to Plan:***

***Add two new items under Governance key projects and proposals:***

***“We will undertake a review to identify improvements in the coordination of work across council units and coordination of work with the community and volunteers, to ensure that we can grow community involvement and make the best use of scarce resources. The work will include consideration of the potential role of long term plans for specific parts of the city, and the potential to reduce longer term maintenance costs of public spaces through design focused on that objective and increasing the effectiveness and extent of community stewardship of areas.”***

**Hazardous trees**

On page 57 the plan states “We believe the current programme sufficiently meets the city’s needs for the next year”. This is simply not true. There are a number of trees that should be removed from areas around Clifton Terrace, and I am advised that there is no capacity for that to be done. They may not be likely to fall over tomorrow, but it is clear that they need to be removed, and doing so now would allow replacement with long term vegetation to proceed. I am not objecting to the cut in expenditure necessarily, but let’s be up front about the fact that this will delay activities that are highly desirable, and that may increase costs in the long term.

***Proposed change to Plan:***

***Delete that sentence and replace with “We believe the current programme will meet the most urgent needs for the next year, although it will delay desirable proactive tree removal and that will affect the long term management of the affected sites.” This will provide savings...”***

**Waste Collection**

The new recycling bin arrangement for our apartment block is working well.

As part of the review of rubbish services, I would like to see council consider education of residents about the costs they are imposing on the rest of the community by using a private rubbish collection system. A number of households in Wesley Road and Clifton Terrace do this. It means we have bins on the narrow footpaths two days a week, and in fact usually three days because the private green bins generally don’t get removed the day they are emptied. And trucks two days instead of one. So the impact of rubbish is doubled. In addition to the increased overall inefficiency of the rubbish system. The householders with green bins still use your recycling service.

In addition, the large bins seem to encourage excessive rubbish generation. I have seen bins outside large properties with dead cut flowers and other green waste hanging out of them – either the owner has no compost bin or can’t be bothered using it.

**Water and stormwater**

It is great to see the move towards using stormwater soakage gardens, and this should be greatly expanded. San Sebastian collects a lot of water that then goes to the harbour when it could easily go into my restoration project and keep my plants happier.

As part of the resilience programme, I would also like to see the Council find ways to encourage householders to install rainwater collection tanks. These will reduce stormwater, reduce water use for things like gardens, and provide an emergency water supply. In new subdivisions/buildings they should be compulsory.

***Proposed change to Plan:***

***Add a new item under water or stormwater: “Reducing stormwater and improving resilience – We are planning to undertake a study to identify ways to further reduce the amount of stormwater reaching the stormwater system, and encourage or (in the case of some new developments) require the installation of rainwater collection systems.”***

**Eco-city proposal**

I am a Friend of Otari/Wilton’s Bush and a Friend of Karori, and have received a lot of information on the proposal for long term management of these areas and the zoo.

I have not been able to decide which option proposed by WCC I favour, but would ask that whatever is selected achieves the following:

Otari Plant Museum continues to be managed as the national native plant museum.

I have been surprised at how few people realise its status and the importance of that. A plant museum is not a garden, conservation area, recreation park, or tourism playground. It is a scientific study and interpretation facility, just like the natural history part of Te Papa. So its natural affinities are to Te Papa and other museums, and the science sector. Plants should be selected for their contribution to the museum, organised according to the theme selected (e.g. by family/genus, by growth form, by provenance, by habitat), labelled, and interpreted. My impression from my visits is that plant diversity has reduced over the last couple of decades, and there are significant groups of plants (e.g. aquatic plants) that aren’t in the collection.

Zealandia continues to deliver on two important objectives – to give Wellingtonians easy access to rare species, and act as a source of birds and other species for other projects and to naturally spread through the city.

**City promotions and business support**

In my oral submission on the WRS I raised two issues of particular relevance to Wellington City.

The following would be cheap and easy ways to encourage people visiting or living in Wellington to visit more places and spend more money.

1. Use PT hubs (major bus stops, railway stations) as places to advertise attractions around those hubs. Mostly people will take PT to a place for a particular purpose, and may otherwise never go to that place. For example I

might go to Kilbirnie to visit the sewing machine shop once a year, and never have any other reason to go. When I arrive at the hub, however, I should be confronted with a map showing me all the other things that are in that place that might interest me in that visit or encourage me to visit again. For example I had not realised that there was a kimono/fabric shop as well, until I went there with a textile art class. There should also be a place to allow businesses and others to advertise events – sales, demonstrations, art exhibitions, theatre events, etc. So I might see that there will be a mosque opening the following weekend, and decide to go to that.

2. Provide a tourist PT pass (day and week passes), usable on any service other than express and morning peak (7-9) services (bus, train and cable car). Sell through hotels, Te Papa and other places that tourists are likely to visit. Accompany it with a pamphlet telling them exciting things to do (Number 14 for a view of typical Wellington suburbs, the harbour, etc; a trip to take in a series of art galleries; a trip to take in a series of natural areas; film locations; etc.)
3. Make it easy for people to find their way around and find key destinations. The mayor and officers have accepted (but not yet implemented) my proposal for stencilled routes to major tourism destinations around the CBD, but the same arrangement would work in other parts of the city. Volunteers (e.g. Living Streets) could be recruited to maintain the stencils.
4. Actively cross advertise between similar destinations. For example I regularly visit Pataka. I had not realised there was a commercial art gallery a couple of blocks away until I was talking to someone at an art course. Why is that not advertised in Pataka? And Pataka advertised at the gallery (the artist I was talking to exhibits at the gallery but had never been to Pataka). If someone turns up to a destination (e.g. art gallery, museum, textile craft retailer) you can be fairly sure they are going to be equally interested in similar places, if they know they exist and where they are.
5. Target the supergold card holder by providing suggested outings to them. Put those on the website, and then promote them through relevant events/organisations. For example art trails by bus advertised through art galleries, Friends of Te Papa, etc. Particularly, target the supergold card holder in rich suburbs in other cities (e.g. Whitby, Waikanae).
6. Make our town centres more visible and attractive. I have discussed with some councillors ideas to make Tinakori shops more visible to people using the Botanic Gardens, including creating a tourist loop trip (stencilled, advertised to cruise ship passengers) from the Cable Car through the gardens, to Tinakori and then to the Parliament precinct.

***Proposed change to Plan:***

***Add a new key project: We will implement low cost measures to encourage visitors and residents of Greater Wellington to increase the number of places they visit.***

**Public art, walking routes, restoration projects**

I would like to see an examination of how the location of art, beautification projects, and walking routes can be better meshed, so we have more attractive walking routes.

***Proposed change to Plan:***

***Add a new proposed project “In conjunction with implementation of the walking plan and the review of public art policy, to develop a strategy for providing more attractive walking routes for commuters and for visitors to key tourism destinations.”***

**Transport**

Where transport planning is going in Wellington will be disastrous for the city. In particular:

- Transmission Gully Motorway would transfer 25% of Kapiti line users from rail to car, and a large proportion of those will end up in Wellington City. That will jeopardise the quality of rail services to users of the Kapiti Line (particularly in the off-peak), and generate new traffic problems in Wellington City.
- The NZTA proposals for RONS in Wellington City will further destroy urban form, and generate no benefits (that’s why the projects have such low BCRs).
- No funding is being provided for implementing the spine review and Wellington bus review – essential for the functioning of the PT system and the Golden Mile.

WCC needs to be taking a more active, advocacy position in relation to the proposals of NZTA and GWRC, to ensure that the future of the city is what its residents consistently say they want – a city that is walkable and attractive.

It was disappointing, for example, that WCC seemed not to have noticed the likely effects of TGM, and took a relatively passive role in the TGM process. Nor has WCC been heard protesting about the delay in funding of the walkway/cycleway from Petone to Ngauranga – the worst part of the Great Harbour Way.

In the meantime, I have heard that the walking plan implementation is not going to be sufficiently funded in the LTCCP to allow key projects identified by your officers to proceed. That is one of the areas that should be getting more, not less, funding.

**Parking**

I attach a paper I have provided in the past on this subject.

**Submission on proposed traffic and parking bylaw changes**

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I would like to be heard in support of this submission.

***Comments on the proposed changes***

The proposed changes appear to be sensible adjustments to the document to maintain the current approach to parking provision.

My problem is that I don't believe the current approach makes sense. That is less of an issue about the bylaws themselves, as about how parking is provided for.

I welcome the inclusion of things other than cars in terms of controlling the placement of private objects on public land (e.g. jumbo bins).

I welcome the creation of a mechanism for allowing trades vehicles to use residents zones, but continue to believe that a proper bookable space for tradespeople, residents and their visitors would be a better use of the public space currently devoted to residents parking spaces. I have provided more detail on that proposal below.

***Issues relating to parking provision on public land***

There are three key issues that should underlie any parking decisions:

- Whether the use of the space is the best use, given that public land is a scarce resource.
- What effect the proposed use will have on the transport corridor, including any implications for transport demand management (TDM).
- Where there is more demand than supply for parking on public space, is the distribution of the opportunity both fair and contributing towards council objectives.

I have seen no evidence in any recent traffic resolutions to indicate that the council is making an analysis of these issues when making decisions on the allocation of transport corridor and other public land to parking. And the results of those decisions are often contrary to TDM, open space and other values.

The design of Lower Cuba Street is a good example of the council getting it wrong. What was to be a new style of shared road space ended up looking like a normal road, and one of the reasons is because of the amount of parking provided for and the (I assume) need to design the road to make parking easy.

***Efficient use of land***

The transport corridors in New Zealand cities represent a major part of the land area, and a huge proportion of public land. I have not seen figures for Wellington, but one measure in Auckland found that 50% of the downtown area was in road corridor or

private parking areas that had no building above the parking space. That is a huge investment of valuable land that has a range of effects on a city:

- It lowers agglomeration rates, which are a major determinant of economic success for a city.
- It makes the city less walkable, by both increasing distances between destinations, and impeding pedestrian movements. A walkable city has been a consistent high objective for Wellington City residents (e.g. in the 2040 submissions).
- Where road space occupies a large part of the city, it has a dominating effect on urban form and amenity. The way that space is designed, allocated and managed must contribute to urban form and amenity objectives as well as transport objectives.
- It reduces the ability to devote land to other uses, such as public parks, public toilets, outdoor eating areas, performance spaces, etc.

The first priority for transport corridor land should be the movement of people and goods. Traffic congestion can be a useful short term TDM tool, but in the long term the aim of TDM, footpath widening, development of more efficient public transport, and other transport processes is to achieve efficient movement of people and goods across the city.

The second priority should be to allow an efficient connection between the transport corridor and adjacent landuses. That includes both provision for driveways and entrances, and for loading/pick-up zones. It may also include appropriate signage to allow corridor users to know where an adjacent landuse is located.

The next priority is for services for people using the corridor to make their journey more pleasant. That includes things like seats for walkers who need to rest, water fountains, public toilets, bus stop information, lookout/rest stops, shelter, etc. It may in future include things such as bike repair stations with air pumps and stands to hold the bike while it is fixed, places where electric vehicles can be given a quick recharge, etc.

Many other current uses of the road corridor are not essential for its transport function. These include most car parking, restaurant tables, gardens and trees, etc.

The following approach should be taken to these activities:

- These should be actively encouraged where they are entirely compatible with the corridor function and provide useful public benefits. For example kerb extensions to make pedestrian crossings easier should have amenity plantings or other public uses where that does not impede pedestrian use or make it harder to provide a safe route for cyclists.
- These should be allowed where they are entirely compatible with the corridor function, provide a private benefit, do not exclude an alternative public use, and the private benefit is charged for.
- No activity should be allowed where it would impede the core corridor function. For example residents' car parking that impedes free movement of buses (e.g. in Rintoul Street or on the Number 14 route) is completely unacceptable.
- Where corridor land is not currently needed for the corridor, but may be needed in future, the land should stay within the corridor but could be subject

to short term transfer to other public uses (e.g. converted to park) or leased as road encroachment.

- Where corridor land is not currently needed for the corridor, and unlikely to be needed in future, it should be converted to another public land category (e.g. reserve). Disposal should only be after alternative public uses have been considered and rejected as options for the land, or if disposal supports a council priority (e.g. as part of an urban renewal project). Short term leases would retain future options where there is no immediate public use or the land would be a liability (e.g. for weed control).

Overall, the aim must be to make the way the land in the transport corridor is used a positive contribution to urban design, economic development and other objectives of the council.

### ***Effects on the transport corridor***

I support the council's desire to limit the growth of commuter and events traffic, and encourage the use of public transport, walking, and cycling. One of the key traffic demand management measures available to the city is the way parking is provided or restricted.

There are several reasons why parking policies affect traffic, road safety and modal choices:

- Households that have cars, particularly cars close to their houses, are more likely to use them for trips that could be done in other ways.
- Parking provision is often an impediment to efficient public transport operations.
- Parked cars are a hazard for cyclists (because of the risk of doors being opened), and take up road space that could be used to provide wide lanes that would accommodate cyclists and vehicles together.
- Car parking is being provided at the expense of footpath space (or shared road space) for pedestrians.
- Car parks take up space that could be used to make streets more attractive and pleasant. It is now well established that changes in the way roads appear is the best way to change driver behaviour, and that increasing street amenities and the numbers of people on foot slows speeds and improves safety for all users. More attractive streets will also, of course, have other social benefits, as will the use of spaces for other public uses (see discussion above about efficient use of land).

Given this, the following approach should be applied in thinking about parking provision in the road corridor:

- The way roading space is allocated should recognise the following transport hierarchy, which takes account of the relative health and safety, economic efficiency, community benefit, environmental effect and accessibility of the modes/uses:
  - active modes
  - mass public transport, freight vehicles, emergency services
  - business vehicles, taxis, disability transport
  - private vehicle use where mass public transport does not provide a viable option
  - other private vehicle use

- Parking of vehicles should primarily occur on private land. Roadside space should only be allocated to parking that is an essential part of connecting the corridor to adjacent land uses – i.e. loading zones and pick-up zones. Any other parking should only be provided where the land is not needed for corridor purposes and parking is the best use of that land.

In terms of when parking spaces are provided within public roadside space, the following principles should apply:

- No parking spaces will be provided where this will prevent the provision of adequate space for pedestrian movements. That might relate to the provision of footpaths, or the design of shared road space so that pedestrians are well catered for.
- No parking spaces will be provided where this would impede the efficient movement of mass public transport vehicles.
- On major routes (i.e. those routes that carry fairly constant traffic flows that make passing difficult), the left lane will be wide enough to allow a car to overtake a cyclist without leaving the lane. Any car parking will be outside that space.
- No parking spaces will be provided where they would pose a hazard to active mode users. That would include where the risk of car doors opening would endanger cyclists, where the cars would make road crossings difficult for pedestrians, where alternative uses would have benefits in terms of road user behaviour, etc.

***Equitable use of parking space on public land (within and outside the road corridor)***

There is clearly more demand for parking in Wellington than can be provided on public land. And there is no reason why much of the parking should be provided on public land.

A key question is whether it is reasonable and in the interests of good urban design for the council to provide for desired parking.

For example if households wish to have a car, and can't store it on their own land, they can rent space on other private land – in a parking building, on a neighbour's land, etc. Or they can move to a house that has parking available. Or they can get rid of the car and use other options (car share, rental cars, borrowing a friend's car, using other modes). Having long term storage for a private car is not some sort of right that the council should be ensuring can be met. This contrasts strongly with other council provided services, such as sewage and water, where there is a view that all residents should have access to satisfactory provision.

In contrast, mobility parking spaces are a facility that most people would agree the council should ensure is provided, although in many cases they will be on private land (e.g. in supermarket car parks). This recognises the fact that people with mobility problems need to be able to access shops, services, recreational opportunities, etc by car, and need parking very close to their destination. We would expect the council to have a clear policy about what is sufficient provision, and seek to ensure that this is met across the city, using a range of tools including parking provision, district plan rules, enforcement, etc.



In my view, many of the past council decisions are contrary to equitable provision, because they use a scarce resource for the sort of parking which the council should not be expected to provide for, leaving insufficient space for the sorts of parking that should logically be in the transport corridor.

I therefore propose that the council adopt the following priorities for providing parking space in the road corridor and on other public land:

- The first priority will be the adequate provision of loading zones/pick up and drop off points to allow a no-tolerance enforcement of parking on footpaths and double parking to be implemented without significantly adversely affecting businesses and residents.
- An equal priority would be for adequate spaces for car share schemes, bike hire businesses and other initiatives that are part of an active TDM strategy.
- The second priority in residential areas will be a reasonable level of provision of spaces for short term visitor use (up to 2 hours), and provision of bookable spaces for use by tradespeople, out-of-town visitors, etc (see below). The use of these will be monitored to ensure that they are not used for longer term parking. This will ensure that the ability of people to undertake social and business activities in residential areas is not compromised.
- The second priority in the CBD, town centres and next to commercial/industrial zoned land will be short term parking (1.5-2 hours) for users of those businesses where the business cannot reasonable provide the parking, and particularly where people may be using multiple businesses. Tour bus and similar parking would also be a priority (where the bus was waiting for passengers to carry out a short term event, not for overnight parking or all day parking unrelated to what passengers are doing).
- Residents' parking will be phased out except where there is an agreement that this is an appropriate long term solution because desirable urban form makes the parking of vehicles on private land within a reasonable walking distance (about 10 minutes walk) of residences infeasible. In looking at this, account will be taken of the current availability of parking spaces on private land (e.g. in parking buildings), the effect that changing public land use rules might have on provision (i.e. by encouraging a new private provision), whether there are specific district plan rules which restrict the ability of residents to develop parking (e.g. historic building limitations), etc. In deciding the speed of phasing out, account will be taken of whether the other priorities can be met without changing residents zones, a reasonable rate of change given the effect that past provision may have had on people's choices about where to live, etc. Where residents spaces are provided, priority will be given to residents that can show they have a reasonable expectation and legitimate need, and where those residents participate in car pools, walking school buses, business travel plans, or similar arrangements to reduce their car ownership/use.
- Commuter car parking spaces will be phased out. Removal of commuter spaces will be carried out within a TDM context, with both private parking provision and modal shift encouraged.

Above I have proposed that there be provision of bookable spaces in residential areas. Those using the spaces would have to pay and provide a justification for the use of the space. The spaces would be for uses such as tradespeople working on residential properties, residents that have a health problem that makes their normal arrangements

infeasible, parking for out-of-town visitors, parking for caregivers who do not live in the residence but visit frequently, placing of rubbish skips, etc. This will ensure that short term needs are met, without encouraging car ownership and expectations of long term parking provision. It will also reduce the problem of trades vehicles and others parking on footpaths.

### ***Enforcement and charges***

In terms of charges and incentives, the following principles should apply:

- Residents' parking, commuter parking and other longer term parking should be priced so that there is an incentive for car owners to use private parking spaces - i.e. at a higher rate than in parking buildings in that part of the city. The charge should also reflect the value of the land.
- There should be no charges for short term parking (loading zones, visitor parks), but high fines for breaching the rules for these spaces.
- There should be no charge for tradespeople using booked parking spaces for less than two days. Longer building projects should be paying for the space, although not necessarily at the full commercial rate.
- There should be greater enforcement of illegal parking (footpaths, double parking, etc), and high penalties, to encourage people to design their activities to fit within the rules.

### ***Precinct plans***

There should be a progressive development of precinct plans that look at roading space from both a transport and urban design perspective, identify an appropriate long term arrangement, and a transition process to achieve that arrangement. This should draw on modern urban form approaches, including the shared road concept.

I am currently seeking a discussion on this with council, after yet another incident of inappropriate vegetation cutting.

2366

17 May 2012

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## Long Term Plan 2012 - 2022

Submission of

Thomas Edwin Law,  
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Wellington

I would like to speak at a Submission Hearing

I am making this submission as a resident and ratepayer

### INFRASTRUCTURE

I believe that Council should not cut back on expenditure relating to the maintenance of infrastructure. While that might save money in the short term, the costs of repairs escalates as the infrastructure item deteriorates and requires greater maintenance.

### ECO-CITY PROPOSAL

I want to support the Eco-City Concept. I believe that the concept needs to be broad ranging to include all aspects of Council's operations and influence.. it needs to include all activities such as rubbish collection and disposal, a good transport roading system, a good public transport system and many many other aspects.

To restrict the Eco-City concept to just activities around the Zoo, Karori Wildlife Sanctuary, Otari – Wiltons Bush and the Botanic gardens falls short of Wellington being an Eco-City.

I do not support the proposals or options that have been given in the publication "Eco-City Proposal Summary of Information.

I believe that the proposals that combine all four together under as a CCO is specifically to disguise or camouflage the debt of the Karori Wildlife Sanctuary. There are no

benefits to the operation of the other three organisations that are operating well and provide excellent services to the people of Wellington. The other organisations (particularly the Zoo) have in the past pulled through difficult times when Council and others have had to increase their support. I believe that it is appropriate to address the difficulties of the Karori Wildlife Sanctuary but to do that independently of the other three.

It is stated that should the four organisations join together under one CEO, they would each retain their individual identity. I assume that would be reflected in their name not in their management. I am concerned that by joining together the very different ethos of each organisation would be lost. They will in time lose their culture and identity. They operate differently and interact with the public differently. Two charge an entry fee, two do not. All use volunteers in different capacities and all face the possibility of losing that volunteer support if they are joined together.

I believe that the governance structures should remain as they are, including Karori Wildlife Sanctuary being governed by its own Trust. I do not see any advantages in the Karori Wildlife Sanctuary becoming a CCO other than that gives the Council the opportunity to fund the operations of the Sanctuary without any public scrutiny.

I do not support the Eco-City proposal as presented.

## **EARTHQUAKE**

This is an area that has primarily arisen as a result of the Christchurch Earthquakes. Before that, the issue of earthquake was not high on the agenda. For the 40 plus years that I have been in Wellington, we have been reminded time and time again that Wellington is overdue for "the big one".

It seems to me that we are reacting to a situation that has not changed here in Wellington. The addressing of earthquake prone public buildings in my opinion is being rushed. One of the risks of living in Wellington is the risk of flow on effects from a major earthquake. But when will that be? The odds are no different now than they were three years back.

It seems to be that our response to the Christchurch earthquake is one of panic response, not a planned approach. Some aspects of the response are arbitrary as well e.g. the date. This may have been as a result of the insurance industry but none the less is arbitrary.

I believe a lower profile approach and staged approach would be more appropriate.

As for helping others to earthquake strengthen their buildings. The costs to be effective will be enormous. I do not see that \$300000 per year will do anything to assist the people of Wellington.

## **CCO's**

I am pleased to hear reports on 18 May that Council is reviewing the performance of CCO's. It is clear that some have not performed well, have not been receptive to Community views and have as a result incurred costs that have had to be met by the ratepayer directly or indirectly.

In many cases, it seems to me that money (ratepayers money) could be saved by bringing those activities back inside Council

## **CONSULTATION/ENGAGEMENT**

Councillors/Council will be aware that this is an area in which I have in the past expressed concern both as an individual and through organisations that I am a member.

I believe that good and effective interaction with the community is beneficial to all. The community hold a wealth of expertise and interest which is available to Council, if Council is prepared to engage openly and honestly.

I would like to see increased funding committed to this area. It concerns me that council is using ratepayer money in court against ratepayers. There have been two recent cases to the Courts where Council has lost their stance. It seem to me that effective engagement where council engages openly with the two groups would have prevented both issues coming to Court. Money would be saved.

## **ONE STOP SHOP**

The activities of Council have become so complex over the years that if a member of the public wishes to engage with Council, they find that they are pushed from one department/activity person to another.

I believe that it is timely for Council to set up a system whereby a person making an enquiry about a project is allocated a case manager (I think that is an understandable term) to whom they relate and who can guide the individual through the maze of Council bureaucracy.

This would fit n with the objective of "Growing our economy and jobs".

## **REPLACEMENT VENUE FOR TOWN HALL**

I have not seen the analysis for the benefits of this proposal. That is not available to us as residents of Wellington. I asked for a copy but was told that it was commercially sensitive.

As a result, I am of the view that We do not need an alternative. While the city may lose \$14million, over the period, perhaps that is a cost that the City just has to bear. Is earthquake strengthening that essential. In these economically difficult times, perhaps a different approach needs to be taken.

Hobbit Premiere and FIFA Under 20 World Champs

I am not commenting on these as Commercial ratepayers will be paying other than questioning what the benefit might commercial operators in the suburbs receive.

### **COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

I support the proposal to upgrade Community facilities and particularly Newtown. Newtown Community Centre in Colombo St is in an old building and while it met various codes in the past, it doesn't comply with the modern codes and as a community facility I see upgrading as being needed. I note and agree with the proposed timeframe.

Deepwater Pool

I do not support the proposals for a deep water pool in addition to other pool facilities. I believe that as a project, it should not be included in the LTP at this time.

### **TE PAPA FUNDING**

I am aware that Te Papa does attract visitors to Wellington as part of a package of attractions. I am not convinced that Te Papa attracts \$2.25 million into the Wellington economy just because of people going to Te Papa. Is there any analysis that \$2.25 million is contributed to the economy by Te Papa. It's a nice place to go and many of their visitors are Wellingtonians or from the Greater Wellington area. I would suggest that those folk contribute to the economy of Wellington City irrespective of whether Te Papa is there or not.

Should Wellington CC funding be reduced. Can't say as I was not able to get any analysis data from Council. Again, I was told it is commercially sensitive.

### **GRANT REDUCTIONS.**

I support the reductions proposed. In the current economic climes, such reductions are necessary. In good times, when the economy is thriving, these could be reinstated. We need to cut our cloth to the economic circumstances

## **CHEST HOSPITAL**

I would like to see this proceed. Council have already spent a considerable amount of strengthening the building in the past. While it is unoccupied the buildings are deteriorating. I understand that the SPCA has resolved its financial problems and is able to move. This is contrary to what Council Officers advised Councillors.

## **PARKING CHARGES**

I do not support the increase of parking charges. Such increases will deter people from coming to the CBD for shopping or other activity. The Wellington CBD businesses (particularly retail are in direct competition with North City, Porirua and Queensgate. Lower Hutt. Both of these complexes have similar shops and the difference is that parking is free.

Already, CBD shops are disadvantaged by limited street parking places. If a person has to spend 10 minutes finding a park, the 20 minute trip to Queensgate or North City becomes an attractive option

## **COUNCIL CHARGES**

These seem to be increasing across the board. While I expect increases in the vicinity of inflation, one needs to be careful that the increase does not discourage other objectives of Council.

For example Council has often referred to Wellington being the Event Capital. An issue there is that the cost of organising an event has escalated over the years. Many of these relate to compliance costs and the like. Compliance costs that have been applied by Council

## **WASTE**

I am opposed to the privatisation the operation of waste collection in Wellington City. I am also opposed to the establishment of a CCO to do the task.

Comment is made that the "Council's yellow bag business is in slow decline .....The decline is due to kerbside recycling being more popular" Sorry isn't that the aim of kerbside recycling. To cut down the amount of refuse that is dumped at the city's land fills.

Private operators have made inroads into the collection of general waste. The number of waste company wheelie bins has increased. I would support Council extending its waste management to give residents who currently have recycling bins to have a wheelie bin for normal waste.

Christchurch City successfully operates a three wheelie bin system – Recycling bin (paper, tins etc); a green waste bin (grass clippings and vegetable matter); and a general waste bin. The system seems to work very well. I do not believe that it is too late for Council to implement such a system to Wellington areas where the recycling wheelie is used.

I have no problems with council contracting out the collection of waste as it currently does. If cost savings can be made by working more closely with adjacent local authorities, then such arrangements must be implemented.

### **OTHER PROJECTS**

There are some projects for which Council has already given approval that I believe need to be put on hold. Not cancelled but delayed for a year two.

In that time one hopes that the economic climate might improve. In the meantime, savings do need to be made.

I see such projects as including

- the construction of more artificial sports fields Those listed need to be delayed further,
- support for TANZ proposals around the Basin Reserve,
- expenditure by CCO's – Council contributes a huge amount of taxpayer funding to their activities for little if any return
- New walkways
- New Bus lanes
- Education Campaigns targeting road users – isn't this a Central Government (Police) responsibility?
- New Roads in Potential areas of Growth - a developers problem. They supply or they don't get development approvals
- Upgrading of parks and lanes – Opera House lane, etc

I would like to speak at a Submission Hearing



Tom Law



1.25pm  
Eco-City  
Philip Lyth  
116 Newlands Road  
Wellington 6037

027 68 68 645

[philip@puriridigital.co.nz](mailto:philip@puriridigital.co.nz)

18 May 2012

### **Submission - EcoCity**

1. This is the submission of Philip Lyth. I wish to have the opportunity to make an oral submission.
2. I have been a volunteer guide at Zealandia / Karori Sanctuary since 2000 - the role of the guides is to talk with visitors about the sanctuary vision and about the species that are to be found.
3. I think it is common ground that the valley is a wonderful place, offering people the chance to experience native species, some otherwise extinct on the mainland, just 3 km by road from Lambton Quay. The question is how is the sanctuary to survive financially.

### **Preferred solution**

4. My preferred solution is the actual status quo: that is, the current trust, with no funding from Council. It may be necessary for appoint trustees with skills more suit to running a community trust and able to engage with the wider Wellington community.
5. To do this would need the future trustees to live within the trust's means. More below.

### **Eco-City: options #1 - #4**

6. The Council has made very generous offers in options #1 - #4, when it is under no obligation to fund the trust. I cannot object if one of these options is adopted.
7. I note that the trustees have attempted to object to and criticise the detail of the options. Frankly, they have not a leg to stand on. They are the ones who, over the past 26 months, have put the trust in the position it now finds itself - that the Council now has the right to invoke the CCO option contained in the 2009 trust deed and to which the trustees agreed.
8. "He who pays the piper calls the tune," and it is ratepayers and residents who have the right to hold the Council accountable for the offers.

## **The trustees' request for funding with current governance**

9. The trustees are (now) asking for \$700k/pa with no changes to governance. I strongly oppose this. It would be the height of financial irresponsibility to agree to this. The trustees have established no reason at all why ratepayers should be required to pay.
10. One can turn the trustees' argument around: there are two financial essentials for expenditure: first, the relatively small amount to maintain the fence, and second, expenditure that directly results in revenue. After that, everything is a matter of priorities.
11. The trustees want to spend in 2012/13 more than \$900,000 in excess of revenue and provide no justification beyond 'we're not prepared to cut any more.' That may well be a reason to appoint different trustees.
12. I note the trustees are making a number of claims. Some of the more egregious are:
  - casting the Council's offer as a 'takeover' - e.g. "we are fighting the proposed takeover of ZEALANDIA tooth and nail"
  
  - "that for every dollar (including the \$10m loan) Council has contributed to Zealandia, at least another \$3 (\$7 if Council loan excluded) have been raised from other sources" - I am outraged that this claim, which at face value is about cash, is made. What the trustees have done is to place an arbitrary value on estimated volunteer time and treated this as cash. In fact, central and local government money represents over 60% of all money received by the trust
  
  - that volunteers contribute 3,000 hours each month. At best this is a heroic assertion and if correct would represent the equivalent of 12 people working 8 hours days for the sanctuary every day of the year. Try as I can, using my understanding of the various volunteer groups, I cannot arrive at a figure anywhere near this.

## **Trustees**

13. There are seven places on the trust board. Of these either six (trustees' letter of October 2011) or five (CCOPS monitoring report for Dec 2011 quarter) expire this month or in June. Additionally, the Council and the Guardians under the trust deed have the right to replace all their respective appointees.
14. The current trustees see no alternative to continue their spending plans and to tap ratepayers' pockets. Further, their backgrounds are all either from government or corporate sector. None have experience in running a community organisation, and engaging with and communicating with their communities.
15. Both are reasons to appoint new trustees under the existing structure. Council should, I submit, consult the seven-person group called Guardians of the Sanctuary (who appoint four of the trustees), and consider whether to take this option.

## **The future**

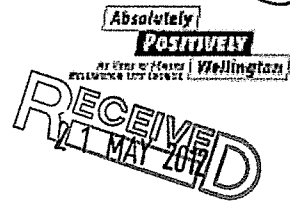
16. I would have expected the trustees in the past two years to have actively promoted memberships, donations, and grants, and ensuring a positive view of the sanctuary by Wellingtonians. Had as much effort gone into doing this as has gone into drumming up Eco-City submissions, there would not be a problem.
17. Instead, Colmar Brunton research finds that 73% of Wellingtonians do not even know that the sanctuary offers membership as a highly affordable annual pass. And the trustees have allowed a majority perception of the sanctuary as a very expensive place.
18. There is hope: the latest financials available are as at Dec 31 and then the sanctuary had \$1.35m cash on hand. The Mar 31 financials will be on the Council website shortly and I would expect the cash balance at that time to be about the same.
19. So if new trustees are installed, there is a breathing space to be able to actively seek support and memberships and donations, to match revenue and income, and to foster a much higher awareness across Wellington than there is at present. Necessary initiatives, identified in several of the documents on hand, should be implemented.

## **“Closure”**

20. The trustees repeatedly talk about ‘handing the sanctuary back’ to Council and that Council would incur costs of \$600k/pa, as some sort of justification for Council funding. Such a decision is not for the current trustees to make. And should it come to pass that the sanctuary does close, I would be sorry, but not heartbroken. Not everything succeeds, and certainly the sanctuary is not too big to fail. The Council, as landowner, would be exercising prudent financial management were it to sell some or all of the land for residential housing. Certainly the north facing slopes accessible from the Brooklyn ridge should find a ready market.

Attachment p1-5

1:30pm  
Eco-City



## Making the most of Wellington's natural attractions – Eco-City proposal

We are keen to get your thoughts on establishing a new Council Controlled Organisation called Eco-City. You can have your say:

- By making a submission on this form or in writing and send it to us by:  
Post – Freepost 2100, Eco-City Proposal, Wellington City Council, PO Box 2100, Wellington 6140 or Fax – 04 001 3075
- By making a submission online at [Wellington.govt.nz](http://Wellington.govt.nz)
- By sending an email to: [ecocity@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:ecocity@wcc.govt.nz)

Please contact the Wellington City Council on 499 4444 for more information.

### Section one – personal details

ENTER YOUR NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr	<input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Dr
*First name/last name	PAM FULLER
*Street address	514 RAROHA RD, KELBURN
Phone/Mobile	04 475-8240
Email	pfuller@gmail.com

\* Mandatory fields

I AM MAKING A SUBMISSION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> As an individual	<input type="checkbox"/> On behalf of an organisation
Name of organisation	
I would like to make an oral submission to the City Councillors. If yes, provide a phone number above so that a submission time can be arranged.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

SUBMISSIONS CLOSE ON 18TH MAY 2012
<b>Privacy statement</b> All submissions (including name and contact details) are published and made available to elected members of the Council and the public. Personal information supplied will be used for the administration and reporting back to elected members of the Council and the public as part of the consultation process. All information collected will be held by Wellington City Council, 101 Wakefield Street, Wellington. Submitters have the right to access and correct personal information.

### Section two – questions

The working party considered a number of options before coming to the one recommended in this document. While this is the Council's preference, the final decision will be based, not only on this work, but also on the views of Wellingtonians. Here is your chance to let the Council know which option you prefer.

Please rank the following options in your order of preference (eg 1 for your most preferred option and 5 for your least preferred option)

1. PLEASE RANK THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS	RANKING (1, 2, 3 etc)
Eco city model (the Council's preferred option)	
Wellington Environmental Visitor Attractions model	
Parks and Gardens model	
Stand alone Council Controlled Organisation model	
None of the models listed/ An alternative model	1

2. WHY DID YOU SELECT YOUR MOST PREFERRED OPTION?

OPTION 1

see attached

3. ARE THERE ALTERNATIVE MODELS THAT WE SHOULD CONSIDER? WHAT WOULD THESE INVOLVE? ARE THERE OTHER WAYS WE SHOULD CONSIDER FUNDING ZEALANDIA OR WELLINGTON'S OTHER NATURAL ATTRACTIONS?

u

4. DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER COMMENTS ON THIS ISSUE?

u

ECO-CITY Proposal Submission May 2012

Name; Pam Fuller

Address 5/4 Raroa Road, Kelburn

Phone 04 475 8240

Email [pjfuller@gmail.com](mailto:pjfuller@gmail.com)

I would like to make an oral submission. (YES)

I am a foundation member of Zealandia / the Karori Sanctuary Experience. I have worked both as a volunteer and part-time staff member at various times since 1993 when the feasibility study was undertaken to the present and make this submission as a member, volunteer and rate-payer.

I should like to begin by thanking the Council for the opportunity to make a submission and to acknowledge the significant financial contribution WCC has made to the project over the years as a key funder.

### **WHO AND WHAT IS ZEALANDIA?**

Zealandia is first and foremost a conservation, research and education project with the primary aim of restoring the eco-system of the old Karori Reservoir valley as a means of telling the New Zealand conservation story.

Secondly it is a business concerned with generating the funds needed to enable the restoration to happen and thirdly it is a grass-roots, community organisation with a large membership and volunteer force working in partnership with the staff and trust in all aspects of its work, from walking the fence, monitoring animal species, planting, fundraising and office support.

### **The FOUR "P's" the PROJECT, PEOPLE, ECO-CITY PROPOSALS & PARTNERSHIP**

#### **THE PROJECT**

A key aim of the Karori Sanctuary – to restore the valley as close to possible to the ecology that existed the day before humans arrived, could be described as a bold one and three of its objectives might even be considered audacious given they had never been attempted before!

Comment – In the WCC Eco-City Statement of Proposal it is stated that the Trust model is a failure (p11), a statement that cannot be substantiated given the Trust's successes (some of which are itemised below).

A more accurate statement would be that the Trust has to date, failed to meet its visitor targets – targets which were developed in a more benign economical climate in collaboration with Positively Wellington Tourism and WCC and peer reviewed.

#### **Objectives – the three 'audacious' objectives were:**

1. To design and build a predator-proof fence to keep out 15 mammalian predators. The success of this aim (excluding mice) has set a new standard in predator-proof fence design and been emulated by many other people and organisations in New Zealand and overseas,

2. To plan and carry out a multi-species eradication - also the first of its kind. The success of this exercise has set a new benchmark for species eradication nationally and internationally.

3. To be self-funding - perhaps the most audacious of the project aims!

Experience shows that conservation is historically the poor cousin along with museums, art galleries orchestras and the like when it comes to fundraising and sponsorship.

In addition the Trust's task has been hampered in the past two years by negative press, misinformation and a changed economic climate affecting in particular, the tourism market.

The new Visitor Centre was built in 2010 with the expectation that as a destination in its own right (Exhibition, cafe and shop), it would help grow the visitor numbers to 157,000, the number needed for the Trust to break even.

Despite the national trends, the Trust has grown the tourist numbers in this time but, in hindsight, not only was 157,000 a wildly optimistic figure but the time frame greatly overestimated.

Coupled with the difficulties encountered above only in this has the Trust failed to achieve its aim.

## THE PEOPLE

People are the lifeblood of the sanctuary and these successes would not have been achieved without the support and commitment of staff, members, volunteers, service groups, pro bono and other private, professional and commercial supporters.

The input of volunteers has been so great that it would be true to say that the sanctuary was built on their backs, from caring for the lifeboat population of weka from Kapiti, carting possum carcasses during the eradication, assisting in the office with banking and mail-outs. In the valley volunteers have undertaken, among other things, bird feeding, track maintenance and species work to the extent that the Trust now has a number of self-managing volunteer teams such as those who run the monitoring programme for kaka and hihi.

Volunteers have also assisted with research activities such as kiwi counting in the summer months and the recent kiwi audit and monitoring programme.

On the visitor front a team of 120 guides, hosts and skippers spend time during the week and on weekends welcoming, guiding and assisting visitors with their nature experience through tours and talks both formal and impromptu.

In the course of 2011/12 tourist season all day-time and cruise ship tours were guided by volunteers ensuring that 100% of the income raised was available to the Sanctuary.

The flow-on affect of this involvement means that volunteers, members and supporters have a strong sense of ownership of the sanctuary and a commitment, not only to ensure it's survival but that all visitors get to enjoy and appreciate it as much as them – a passion that money can't buy and which could well be compromised should WCC persist with it's proposal to impose a CCO structure on the Trust.

Additional are the people who have visited and had their lives touched by what they have seen, heard or learnt, from the schoolchildren with their parents and teachers to those who've never been in the bush before, people who come for an afternoon stroll, those who don't know who or what we are and are amazed by what they see and conservationists who have come from near and far to see what we've done and be inspired to emulate the Trust's work in their own backyard.

In the words of the Maori proverb,  
 Hūtia ti rito o te harakeke  
 Kei hea te kōmako e kō?  
 Kī mai ki a au?  
 He aha te mea nui o te ao?  
 Māku e ki atu; He tāngata, He tāngata, He tāngata.

If you were to pluck out the centre of the flax bush, where would the bellbird sing?  
 If you were to ask me "What is the most important thing in the world?"  
 I would reply, "That it is people, people, people."

## THE PROPOSALS

### I reject Options One - Four on the basis that

- All require the Trust to become a Council Controlled Organisation with the imposition of a WCC one-size-fits-all bureaucratic entity which takes no account of the special character of the Trust.
- That as a ratepayer the cost is greater than the amount Zealandia is requesting and there is no evidence the proposed savings can be realised.
- The high risk that such a move would compromise the support KST currently enjoys from volunteers, members, service groups, pro bono and other supporters.
- The differences between Zealandia and proposed partners in options Two, Three and Four are greater than the similarities.

**Option Number Two – I specifically reject Option Two or WEVA MODEL** i.e the proposal that that Zoo and Zealandia be brought together under one CCO on the grounds that

- They are so different and that the points of difference outweigh the similarities.
- The only points of similarity between the two organisations is that both are local paying attractions and concerned with fauna (The Zoo totally, Zealandia in part.)
- The Zoo is concerned for the most part with exotic fauna housed in cages and enclosures.
- Its market is local.
- In contrast Zealandia is concerned with the whole of the NZ Eco-system and its flora and fauna from the native fish in the streams, the animals and trees and plants growing in the valley to the karearea (NZ falcon) and kaka flying in the sky above. There are few enclosures, most species roam wild.
- Zealandia core business is restoration and research.
- Its market is local, domestic and international.

### **Option Number Three**

**I specifically reject Option Three** – the proposal that Zealandia be brought under the Parks and Gardens department on the grounds that

- The prime focus of this Department is on the provision, care and maintenance of the WCC Parks, Reserves and other open spaces and all of which are accessible free of charge.
- Of the two entities listed we share a common interest in native and endemic flora with Otari but, like the Zoo, I see no connection with the Botanic Gardens given their focus is on exotic flora.
- Neither are paying or concerned with native or endemic fauna.
- Overall and despite the fact that I admire the work of this department I cannot see Zealandia fitting into this structure – it would be the only CCO and paying entity.
- It would be like a fish out of water and from what I have heard I understand that neither Otari nor the Botanic Gardens support this proposal.

### **Option Number Four**

**I reject Option Number Four – the Eco-city proposal** in particular as it appears to be simply an amalgamation of Option 2 & 3, with the same disadvantages, is limited in its range and requires not only that the Trust become a CCO (see above) but that a further CCO be created above it.

At the same time I support the idea of bringing together groups with a shared interest to liaise, share information and discuss issues in common but, in my opinion, it doesn't go far enough given the other conservation and nature destinations in the Wellington area such as Marine Education, the Marine Reserve, Makara Peak, the city Walkways Matiu/Somes (DOC) and and GW nature destinations such as Battle Hill, Rimutak Forst Park and East Harbour Parks to mention just a few.

- I would suggest instead that the WCC take the initiative in establishing a liaison group to undertake this work.
- That such an entity facilitate workshops and seminars on marketing, budgeting, fundraising as a means of achieving the synergies and savings outlined in the Eco-City Report.
- That through such a mechanism Wellington's natural attractions work together toward achieving the WCC Eco-city vision and at the same time improve the operations of each without the need for another layer of bureaucracy.

### **PARTNERSHIP & Option Number Five**

WCC along with DOC, VUW, GW, and the Tenth's Trust have from the beginning been considered strategic partners of the Trust.

In this capacity WCC has been a major funder, contributing \$7.6 m of operational grants over 19 years plus the \$10.4m loan for the Visitor Centre and associated works and have stated that they are committed to securing the future of the sanctuary.

NB Zealandia has raised \$3 for every dollar contributed by WCC including the loan.



Actions required to achieve the future of the sanctuary are

- Ongoing financial support from WCC for KST in the form of a \$700,000 operating grant each year for at least the next three years.

NB The provision of such a grant would provide the Trust not only with the ability to carry out its core work of restoration and visitor marketing but be in a better position to approach and negotiate with private enterprises for additional funding.

- That KST finds a way to meet the WCC requirement for increased accountability.
- That WCC and KST discuss and negotiate a way forward to achieve the above while maintaining KST's independence and unique character.

With this in mind

- **I wholeheartedly support option number five / an alternate model**, my reasons being that it provides for a fresh start to the discussion ('a back to the drawing board' approach) and the opportunity for WCC and the Trust to sit down and work out how best to meet the needs of each in a partnership relationship.

## GENERAL

### The WCC Argument for the Trust to become a CCO - Additional Comments

#### The Argument

In the course of the consultation period the focus of the discussion has changed.

In the beginning the issue was stated as being about money and accountability.

The solution perceived as the conversion of KST to a CCO.

A position I reject for the reasons given above.

Next we are told the issue is not about money but about the Eco-city and its vision to develop Wellington as a Nature destination.

As stated above, I fully support this idea and, as I have stated, believe it provides for much synergy but that it needs to be more wide-ranging in its approach; and can happen, I believe, with goodwill rather than another layer of bureaucracy or The Trust becoming a CCO.

Finally this week I have heard that, the issue is not about money but governance – what is the best type of governance for Zealandia?

If this is so I would respectfully suggest that, given the core business of the Trust is conservation and research and that on both these fronts, it has proved to be successful, that it be accepted that the Trust is the best body to oversee this project and that any business issues might best be addressed through discussion and negotiation with WCC.

**Synergy** – Covered in my comments under each proposal and especially Option Four re the potential for a the WCC to initiate a Bio-Diversity Council bringing together all interested organisations to liaise, discuss issues and share information and undertake combined marketing.

**Reduced costs** – Question - why can't that happen anyway?

Already the Trust is working with the WCC to move some of the back-office activities to the council. No doubt there are other possibilities that could be identified through discussion.

**Marketing** – Any ideas or suggestions for improved marketing of Wellington attractions are able to be actioned by Positively Wellington Tourism anytime. It doesn't need Zealandia to be a CCO for that to happen!

NB The Zoo, Carter Observatory and Zealandia already have a Wellington City Pass arrangement whereby visitors can go to two attractions at a reduced price.

Marketing would be improved for all nature-type destinations by reverting to the previous by-line of "Wellington as the NATURE & CULTURAL CAPITAL of NZ!"

**Depreciation** – there is a suggestion that we are being remiss in not allowing for depreciation. Depreciation makes sense for a government department or local body since they have large infrastructures and building portfolios which not only need regular replacement but also carry the

risk of unexpected events e.g. floods or pipe failures which might require their immediate replacement or repair.

This is not the case for a community organisation such as Zealandia, which has a limited number of capital assets.

Just as the Trust identified the need and cost of the fence and fundraised to build it, so it would plan for its replacement.

In the meantime the Trust budgets for and carries out regular maintenance as required with the allowance of funds for a natural event e.g. tree fall.

**Conclusion** – As a conservationist and ratepayer I applaud the work WCC does in co-ordinating and supporting the many local conservation initiatives and am happy to see some of my rates being used to provide financial support for Zealandia.

I support the proposition that WCC continue to fund Zealandia as an independent organisation with an annual operating grant of \$700,000 for at least the next three years and accept that there needs to be a discussion between the two organisations as to how best to resolve the issue of accountability.

The three arms of the Trust's work, restoration, business and community involvement require careful juggling to ensure the needs and expectations of each are held in balance. I believe the Trust has not only achieved this balance particularly in relation to its members and volunteers but has developed the skills necessary to maintain it and is therefore best placed to continue its governance.

I do not support options 1-4 and particularly the imposition of a CCO structure on KST as all involve more expense especially given, the proposed synergies and savings appear to be based purely on the proposition that 'bigger is better' and as such there is no guarantee that they can be realised.

Finally, In the event that a new and different governance model is required I see there being three 'bottom lines' which need to be part of the equation to ensure the integrity of Zealandia, one the Management Plan, two the Restoration Plan and three, a Guardians Group.

**Louise Thomas**

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1.4 Spm  
Eco City

**From:** allison\_mac@hotmail.com  
**Sent:** Friday, 18 May 2012 11:33 a.m.  
**To:** BUS: EcoCity  
**Subject:** Eco-City Proposal for Wellington's Natural Attractions

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Purple

The following details have been submitted from the Eco-City Proposal for Wellington's Natural Attractions form on the [www.Wellington.govt.nz](http://www.Wellington.govt.nz) website:

**First Name:** Allison  
**Last Name:** McPherson  
**Street Address:** 21 Hamilton Road  
**Suburb:** Hataitai  
**City:** Wellington  
**Phone:** 02102327883  
**Email:** allison\_mac@hotmail.com

I would like to make an oral submission: Yes

I am making this submission: as an individual

None of the models listed / An alternative model: 1

Why did you select your most preferred option: I chose an alternative model - the status quo - why would this not be included as an option? There is still a lot of WCC 'control' over Zealandia through the KST Board (WCC chosen representatives, including the Chairperson). Why is more control deemed necessary?

Wellington City Council should focus on providing infrastructure to the city such as water, community parks and roading and leave the running of successful community groups to those people who can do it best, at the least cost with the biggest benefit.

Are there alternative models that we should consider: The current governance and management structure at Zealandia should be considered as the best option.

In comparison to Wellington Zoo, Zealandia has the ability to becoming self-sustaining and growth in visitor numbers shows that.

There should be an offer from WCC to help organizations like Zealandia with back office functions e.g. IT and finance but the face to face and front line work should be controlled by the organizations, not WCC.

Working in partnership would give the best outcome, not with WCC in control.

Other Comments: The Karori Sanctuary Trust is a strong, community based group that people want to contribute to because it is independent of WCC.

Evidence has not been provided that any of the proposed WCC options could do better to advance the vision of Zealandia and of Wellington City.

WCC ownership will cost more to ratepayers than the status quo. People will feel less ownership and expect that their rates should be paying for Zealandia so even more WCC funding will be needed as donations of money and time will reduce.

Why change something that on a per visit basis costs much, much less than the Zoo or the Wellington Museums Trust offerings and has more potential?

If brought within a WCC COO, Zealandia will get caught up in a bigger organization which means it will be less nimble, less efficient and less able to respond to the needs of its audience; locally, nationally, internationally.

The Trust position is the most cost effective option to achieve the Trust's conservation and education goals and maintain the goodwill and support of its 450 volunteers, 11,000 members, donors and supporters.

On this basis:

- I reject all Council proposed options.
- I support the Trust position for WCC to provide \$700,000pa funding to the Trust which will allow Zealandia to continue to be an independent community organisation and work in partnership with Council and other partners to achieve the Trust's vision and the city vision.

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2364

## Federation of Wellington Progressive and Residents' Associations



C/- 134 Hanson St  
Newtown  
Wellington

17 May 2012

Freepost 2199  
Draft Long Term Plan 2012/22  
Wellington City Council  
PO Box 2199  
Wellington 6140

Councillors

### LONG TERM PLAN 2011/12

#### **“THREE P’S”:**

You will be aware that the Federation in looking at matters before Council focuses on the “Three ‘P’s’”. Policy, Processes and Procedures.

#### **ENCOURAGEMENT AND RESULT:**

We first of all we acknowledge the efforts made by Council to have people make submissions. And make their views known. However, we repeat what we said last year, many a person and organization that the executive members of the FWPRA spoke to said “Why bother? They are not interested in what we want, they have made their minds up?” “Things haven’t changed in previous years, so why bother”. Unfortunately Councillors, this is something that Council is going to have to continue to work on. Years of ignoring and treating the public with contempt will continue to take time to turn around.

The Federation has encouraged as many of these people and organizations as possible to make submissions, to make their views known so that their might be effective and heard.

#### **ENGAGEMENT:**

The Federation sees engagement or consultation processes as being of great importance for council to build confidence with the people of Wellington. Council has not been known to perform well in this area despite various tools being made available. A number of staff have received training in the processes of IAP2 and yet the application of those principles has not been seen.

The Federation is aware that Engagement does not come cheaply. There are costs involved. The Federation is of the view that good and effective engagement saves costs later on in the process. If engagement with a community is effective, the community and Council can move forward together and avoid the antagonistic forums that are both costly and often leave with no winners. The use of ratepayer funds to challenge a community organization in the courts, does not seem to

us to be appropriate use of rate moneys. Early and effective engagement can and should prevent such expenses. That means that all parties listen and hear the views of others.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM:**

Wellington will be facing reform in Local Government over the next year or so. Indeed we are aware that there is a paper prepared by Council on this subject that is open for consultation with members of the public now.

The Federation notes there is no provision been made ion the Draft LTP for and costs associated with this matter. The Federation sees costs that need to be included in the Long Term Plan in the areas of

1. Consultation/Engagement - If the reforms are going to be effective, it is essential that the community of Wellington (organizations, businesses and individuals) be involved in the process. Information must be available and openly shared, Wellingtonians must be involved in all parts of the process including being involved in the decision making process. No secret deals done in the back room, no secret reports being obtained and not made available to the public. Open transparency must be uppermost.
2. Development of the model that might be applied to the reform of Councils. The discussions with all parties come at a cost. Provision should be made in the LTP
3. Implementation : Restructuring of any organization be it small or large comes with costs attached. No provision in the LTP has been made to meet or cover or go towards covering those costs.

This is a very brief breakdown. Further analysis needs to be done to include these matters in the LTP. We doubt that Central Government will be handing out millions of dollars to meet these costs.

**SPEAKING:**

The Federation wishes to speak at a submission hearing.



T. E. Law

Secretary

Federation of Wellington Progressive & Residents' Associations

Ph 3898202

Mobile 021 791337



## Newtown Community & Cultural Centre 2009 Trust

14 May 2012

Sub number: 1133

Freepost Wellington City Council  
Draft LTCCP 2009-19  
Wellington City Council  
PO Box 2199  
Wellington

Councillors

### **DRAFT LTCCP 2012-2022**

This submission is made on behalf of the Newtown Community and Cultural Centre 2009 Trust

The Newtown Community and Cultural Centre 2009 Trust oversees the operation of three community Centre facilities in Newtown

1. Newtown Hall in Daniell St, (next to Te Ara Hou Flats complex);
2. The Newtown Community and Cultural Centre facilities on the corner of Colombo Street/Rintoul St in Newtown (also housing the Newtown Citizens Advice Bureau, Pacific Island Budgeting Trust, Somali Community of Wellington, Wellington South Time Bank);
3. Network Newtown, the facility on the ground floor next to Newtown library in Constable Street.

The NCCC Trust acknowledges the support of Council in both supporting the operation of the centre through funding staff, and in providing and maintaining the premises.

During this public consultation process of draft LTCCP, we ask that you consider the following from the NCCC Trust regarding the three premises.

### **Retention of Current Funding**

The Newtown Community & Cultural Centre is situated in a bustling suburb significant for its mix of migrant and refugee communities, mental health consumers, young artists and musicians, and low-income families that is unique to this area of Wellington. In this context, the key principals of NCCC is:

- to welcome, participate in and celebrate the diversity of those that make up our community;
- to support each other to grow and achieve our potentials; and,
- to foster a community where everyone feels safe, as well as a sense of belonging and involvement.

The community centre maintains this kaupapa by playing a role in facilitating community development in a number of ways, including:

- Providing accessible venue space over three separate facilities for community groups to hire, including a fully functioning and affordable theatre venue
- Providing affordable exercise classes for community members
- Providing a school holiday programme which priorities Newtown residents and community card holders

- Collaborating with, and liaising between, local social agencies to develop programmes and projects to address the needs of their clients
- Providing a youth programme for local youth which are not already catered for
- Participating in the management of Smart Newtown and overseeing its administration
- Fielding enquiries from the public on a daily basis, essentially acting as the ‘face of council’

In order for NCCC to fulfil its roles and obligations to the Newtown community, it has demanded a staff of at least eight, which includes two coordinators, two youth workers and a qualified and experienced financial officer. For NCCC to continue to maintain its kaupapa and to serve its community effectively, it requires the continued financial support of WCC at the current rate.

### **Building Upgrades**

NCCC oversees the operation of three separate council-owned facilities for community use, and though each have more or less been able to accommodate most user groups, there are aspects of each building which could be improved to better serve the wider community.

We understand that several million dollars has been set aside for work to be carried out on Community Halls in Newtown beginning 2016, however the details of this work have not yet been shared with the Trust. We wish to highlight the areas where upgrades are needed to the buildings and hope that these will be considered in the plans for the 2016 upgrade.

#### **1. Newtown Hall**

This is the newest of the three facilities and has been well used since it was opened in 2007. However, a major drawback for use of the facility is that it has a concrete floor, deterring those groups in need of a space to carry out physical activities such as dance, martial arts, and any other activity that requires a floor to have ‘give’.

Ideally, the floor should be wooden and sprung and the Committee would like to see the work be carried out as soon as funding is made available to do so.

In addition, the interior paint work is looking tired and worn, and given the non-washable paint on the interior walls, it is difficult to keep clean without causing further wear. To improve the durability of the building, a new coat of paint is needed, using a paint that can be easily washed down with water.

#### **2. Newtown Community and Cultural Centre Building – Rintoul/Colombo Street Corner**

As a Committee, we are aware that the Newtown Community and Cultural Centre is located in an older building that is coming to the point of needing considerable work.

This work will include:

- Upgrading of toilets

The bathrooms are old and tired. The toilets work, though the low water pressure can create issues with the cisterns. The sinks are not secured properly to the walls, and are at risk of coming away completely. We have a uni-sex disabled toilet which is well used, however it would be ideal to have two as single-sex bathrooms to cater for those ethnicities who are sensitive to shared bathrooms.

- Upgrading of the kitchen

A commercial kitchen available for use by community groups is lacking in Newtown, and it seems most appropriate for a community centre to be the facility that provides one. Our kitchen floor and bench top surfaces would not meet current public health regulations, and the



hazardous positioning of electrical plugs directly above gas hobs desperately needs to be changed.

- Heating/Insulation

We house a number of other community organisations in our centre which lease the office spaces we have available on an annual basis. The position of these offices in the centre means that they receive little natural light and warmth, and therefore adequate insulation is needed to retain the heat provided by the electric heaters in each office and to create a more comfortable and healthy working environment.

Over recent years, improvements have been made to the theatre inside the centre, creating a well-used and valuable space for community theatre groups who do not have the means to access some of the larger theatres around the city. However, it is important to note that while the theatre is adequate for amateur/grassroots productions, there is still work to be carried out to bring it closer to the standard of a professional theatre, and thus to be considered as an appropriate venue for a wider range of theatre companies. This work includes:

- Creating a hallway providing access across the width of the building in front of the theatre. This provides access from the Rintoul St Entrance (that is used by theatre users), the lighting and sound box, and the toilets and the rest of the premises. Currently the only internal access is through the theatre. This work could be carried out as part of the upgrading of the toilets.
- Theatre upgrade. The drapes are dated and require replacement. These are required to be of fire retardant material and cost accordingly (perhaps in excess of \$10000). Another safety issue is the provision of winches to lower and raise the bars that hold the spotlight. Currently, work on these lights is by way of climbing a ladder with its associated risk. Furthermore, much of the cabling between lighting equipment and lighting box runs exposed along the length of the theatre, taking away from the aesthetics of the room. It would be preferable to create an infrastructure of concealed electrical cables between walls and ceilings.


### 3. Network Newtown

We are aware that the Network Newtown building has been identified as a building that requires earthquake strengthening to deem it safe for use by the public, and the tenants that live in the flats above. How the earthquake strengthening work will impact on the users of the building, namely Smart Newtown and its users, the MCLASS ESOL class and the AA meeting group, is not clear at this stage. As such, it is essential that we be kept well informed of any progress, are given ample time to relocate should we need to, and are assisted in costs incurred through relocation, or with staff salary and operating costs in the event that Smart Newtown will need to close temporarily.

#### General

As stated above, the Trust Board and Staff of NCCC acknowledge the support of Council and Council Staff and looks forward to the continuation of that relationship.

The Newtown Community and Cultural Centre wishes to speak in support of this submission.



Anna Porter and Anna Costley  
Co-ordinators  
Newtown Community and Cultural Centre

## *Appendix 1*

### **Programmes run by Newtown Community & Cultural Centre**

#### Community Exercise Classes

- Body Strengthening
- Exercise with Attitude
- Tai Chi
- Tai Chi - beginners
- Yoga

#### Youth-Orientated Programmes

- School Holiday Programme and Alternative School Holiday Programme
- Youth Drop-In Centre
- Newtown Mentors Project

#### Community Development Involvement

- Wellington South Community Network Meetings
- Positive Funding Think Tank
- Newtown Ethical Lending Trust
- Wellington South Time Bank
- Well Health Member
- Newtown Festival Committee
- Newtown Musicians & Artists Collective
- Newtown News
- Smart Newtown Management Committee

## *Appendix 2*

### **Regular User Groups of NCCC, Network Newtown and Newtown Hall**

Wellington English Language Partners – Social English  
Exercise with Attitude –Free exercise classes for mental health consumers  
Womansong Choir  
Kids 4 Drama  
Narcotics Anonymous  
Move It Danceworks  
African Palm Drummers  
Wellington New Chinese Friendship Association  
Wellington Repertory  
Hungarian Society  
Russian Society  
Ukrainian Society  
Newtown Residents' Association  
Citizens Advice Bureau  
Assembly of God  
Samoan Open Brethren Church  
Chinese Bible Study  
The All Togethers Dancers  
Bellycats Belly Dancers  
Tai Chi – Private classes  
Yoga – Private classes  
Primary Purpose – AA group  
Kites Trust  
MCLASS – English classes  
Hula Hoop Dance  
Fast Forward Youth Theatre  
Flamenco Dance  
NZ Freestyle Martial Arts club  
Changemakers Refugee Forum Women's Groups  
Afghan community  
Ethiopian community  
Wellington Ba'hai community  
Te Ara Hou kids club  
Well Health – cooking/exercise lessons  
Plunket  
2 x counsellors

1131



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Smart Newtown  
9 - 11 Constable Street  
Newtown  
**Wellington**

PO Box 7021  
**Newtown**  
**Wellington**

14 May 2012

Freepost Wellington City Council  
Draft Annual Plan 2012-22  
Wellington City Council  
PO Box 2199  
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## **LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN 2012-2022**

This submission is made on behalf of Smart Newtown.

Smart Newtown is managed by a Committee involving

- Tom Law, President, Newtown Community & Cultural Centre 2009 Trust
- Anna Porter, Co-ordinator, Newtown Community & Cultural Centre 2009 Trust
- Sharon McIntyre, Team Leader, Newtown Library
- Staff of Smart Newtown
  - Abdi Hassan
  - Maree Lindley
  - Richard Halson

Smart Newtown started in 2000 as an initiative of Council to provide digital access to people who were unable gain access for many reasons. Smart Newtown was one of a number of initiatives of the time that supported Central Government's initiatives of "Closing the Gaps". Amongst those initiatives were

- Installing Computer Technologies in primary schools
- Upgrading Computer Technologies in Primary schools
- Community ICT Projects
  - Computers in Homes
  - Computer Hub in Newtown Park Flats
  - Smart Newtown

All of these projects were/are of a nature that supported each other, without over duplicating the resources. Each had its own target group.

Newtown was chosen because of its diverse needs, breadth of ethnic groups (over 40), corridor of educational institutions, geographic closeness of participating institutions, and accessibility to broadband internet connections.

Most of the programmes that were implemented through the schools were funded through the Education vote. Computers in Homes was funded from Central Government but administered/supported by 2020 Wellington Communications Trust.

Smart Newtown was established as a **pilot project** by the Wellington City Council, recognising that other projects were also being “rolled out” in Newtown. Although initially supported by administered/supported by 2020 Wellington Communications Trust, “Smart Newtown” became a Wellington City Council project that has been totally funded by the Wellington City Council since its inception. The management team has given of its time in a voluntary capacity since the project’s inception, and The Newtown Community and Cultural Centre oversees the operation and provides support and administration services. In 2011, the project was officially ‘handed over’ to NCCC to manage as its own project with the understanding that funding would continue to come from WCC for its operation and that NCCC would report back to WCC on a half-yearly basis.

Smart Newtown has been acknowledged in the international scene as a community project of merit providing services that benefit members of the Wellington community irrespective of their ethnicity, socio-economic status, educational status, or their computer skills. The feedback that has been received from users and their supporters has always been positive.

Smart Newtown is fully funded from Council and provides community access to computers. The building that the hub sits in, Network Newtown, underwent extensive alterations in 2010 which allowed for an increase in the number of PC stations, from 10 to 19, providing the standard programme packages and some specific programmes. The centre is open to the public to use for preparing employment documents (applications, CV’s and the like), and providing internet access for research, communication through media in users’ own languages and email.

Despite the near doubling of PC stations, there is often a waiting line for the next available computer. The number of internet sessions, with each ‘session’ lasting from anywhere up to an hour, averages about **130 per day**, and new enrolments for the courses are continually added to the waiting list that the staff work through. Further details and statistics relating to user numbers can be found in the most recent Quarterly Report (enclosed), and demonstrates the popularity and well-use of this free and important service to our local community.

Furthermore, with the acquisition of 10 laptops, the staff at Smart Newtown has been able to cater to community groups with mobility or transportation issues by carrying out classes off site from Smart Newtown and on the premises of other organisations, such as Kilmarnock Rest Home in Berhampore, and MCLASS English groups in the centre of Wellington. These classes are also often tailored to the specific needs of each group.

The availability of the laptops has also allowed for additional classes to be carried out in the community room behind Smart Newtown, allowing for uninterrupted use of the main hub for public internet access. Smart Newtown has also provided computers, internet access and/or course notes for use by Changemakers Refugee Forum in partnership with Wellington High School, Kilbirnie Genealogy Group, and the Chinese Senior Community, who run classes in Mandarin for the elderly students.

The Smart Newtown Management committee is very appreciative of the support that Council gives in this project. The aim of the project is to provide computer access to members of the public who might not otherwise be able to have this opportunity. To this end, the Project achieves its goal with computers being used for most days for the full periods that the centre is open.

The Committee of Smart Newtown has now reached a point where decisions need to be made regarding the replacement and upgrade of computers and other IT equipment, to the value of some \$20,000. As such, the Committee and staff need to be confident that Smart Newtown will continue to be funded by WCC into the near future to ensure what reserves we have will be spent most effectively. We would like to request that there is provision for funding Smart Newtown in the LTCCP 2012-2022 to ensure that we can continue to provide an effective and efficient service to the public of Wellington.

We are also aware that the Network Newtown building has recently been identified as a building that requires earthquake strengthening to deem it safe for use by the public, and the tenants that live in the flats above. At this stage we are not clear as to how the earthquake strengthening work will impact on the users of the building, particularly Smart Newtown and its users. As such, it is essential that we be kept well informed of any progress, to receive assistance with costs incurred through relocation should Smart Newtown need to find a new temporary premises, or with covering staff salary and various operating costs in the event that a new suitable premises cannot be found.

The Committee and users thank you for your support to date and look forward to the continued financial support of Smart Newtown over the coming years. We believe that we have provided an effective and efficient service to the public of Wellington through the Smart Newtown hub and that the Council gets real value for money.

The Smart Newtown Committee wishes to speak in support of this submission.



Tom Law  
For Smart Newtown Management Committee  
Phone 3898202 or 021 791337



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## Quarterly Report (January - March 2012)

### **January 2012**

#### **Usage Statistics**

##### Smart Newtown Computer Room

Computer Sessions:	3092
Days Open for month:	23
Average number of sessions/day:	134
Highest number of sessions/day:	185
New Internet Users Registered:	126

#### **Training Statistics**

Course Registrations:	Intro 19 + Office 8, 25 forms
Number on Course Waiting List	Intro 52 + Office 62 = 114

##### Training Sessions Held:

Introduction to Computing	0
Microsoft Office Fundamentals	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>

#### **Finances**

##### Onsite Petty Cash

Opening Balance:	\$52.00
Income (from NCCC):	\$ 0
Expenditure Out:	\$ 0
Closing Balance:	\$52.00

##### Onsite Printing Money

Opening Balance:	\$171.00
Total Income:	\$306.70
Banked:	\$230.00
Closing Onsite Balance:	\$247.70
Laminating	\$ 3.00
USB memory sticks	\$ 0

## January Notes

A busy month for internet registrations and internet sessions

### Internet

- Daily session numbers = 3092, with a monthly average of 134 sessions per day, January 2011 had an average of 128 sessions per day.
- Highest number of sessions in a day = 185 (Tuesday)
- Number days open = 23
- Number of days average number of sessions per hour reached 19 or higher = 5
  - Highest average number of sessions = 21 (Tuesday)
  - Lowest average number of sessions = 14 (Friday & Saturday)
- New Internet registrations = 126
  - Higher than both the previous month (118) and January 2011 (100)
  - The highest recorded for any month (since Jan 2008), previous high was 118 recorded in Dec 2011

### Training

- First course starts February 2012
- Course registrations = 27
  - Average per month to date for the year = 27 registrations per month
- Waiting list = 114

### Leisure Card

- Leisure Card photos taken and sent = 12

### Building Maintenance

- light bulb tube replaced

**Maree Lindley**  
**ICT Administrator/Trainer**





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## Quarterly Report (January - March 2012)

### **February 2012**

#### **Usage Statistics**

##### Smart Newtown Computer Room

Computer Sessions:	3053
Days Open for month:	24
Average number of sessions/day:	127
Highest number of sessions/day:	177
New Internet Users Registered:	106

#### **Training Statistics**

Course Registrations:	Intro 9 + Office 12, 21 forms
Number on Course Waiting List	Intro 35 + Office 36 = 71

##### Training Sessions Held:

Introduction to Computing	5
Microsoft Office Fundamentals	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>

#### **Finances**

##### Onsite Petty Cash

Opening Balance:	\$52.00
Income (from NCCC):	\$ 0
Expenditure Out:	\$ 4.50
Closing Balance:	\$ 47.50

##### Onsite Printing Money

Opening Balance:	\$247.70
Total Income:	\$314.50
Banked:	\$383.90
Closing Onsite Balance:	\$178.30
Laminating	\$ 5.50
USB memory sticks	\$ 21.00

## February Notes

There was a slight drop off in activity during February compared to January.

- In 2011 it was the other way around; February 2011 was busier than January 2011. The first block of courses for the year started the week of 13<sup>th</sup> February.

### Internet

- Daily session numbers 3053, with a monthly average of 127 sessions per day compared with 134 in the previous month and 142 in February 2011.
- Course 1 started 13 February and public internet is closed until 12.30 on Wednesday and Friday mornings
- Highest number of sessions in a day = 177 (Monday)
- Number days open = 24
- Number of days average number of sessions per hour reached 19 or higher = 5
  - Highest average number of sessions = 21 (Wednesday)
  - Lowest average number of sessions = 13 (Friday)
- New Internet registrations = 106
  - slightly lower than the previous month (126)
  - the same as February 2011 (106)

### Internet outages / Closed

- Waitangi Day, Monday 6 February

### Training

- First courses for 2012 started the week of February 16
  - Introduction to Computing x 2
  - Office Fundamentals x 3
- Contacted all students on the waiting list
- Course registrations = 21
  - Average per month to date for the year = 24 registrations per month
- Waiting list = 71

### Leisure Card

- Leisure Card photos taken and sent = 4

**Maree Lindley**  
ICT Administrator/Trainer



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## Quarterly Report (January - March 2012)

### **March 2012**

#### **Usage Statistics**

##### Smart Newtown Computer Room

Computer Sessions:	3199
Days Open for month:	27
Average number of sessions/day:	118
Highest number of sessions/day:	179
New Internet Users Registered:	108

#### **Training Statistics**

Course Registrations:	Intro 15 + Office 6, 19 forms
Number on Course Waiting List	Intro 43 + Office 41 = 84

##### Training Sessions Held:

Introduction to Computing	9
Microsoft Office Fundamentals	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>

#### **Finances**

##### Onsite Petty Cash

Opening Balance:	\$47.50
Income (from NCCC):	\$ 0
Expenditure Out:	\$ 0
Closing Balance:	\$47.50

##### Onsite Printing Money

Opening Balance:	\$178.30
Total Income:	\$366.80
Banked:	\$352.00
Closing Onsite Balance:	\$193.10
Laminating	\$ 6.00
USB memory sticks	\$ 0

## **March Notes**

As per previous years, March was a fairly stable month. We have signed up 340 new internet clients this year, with a total of 636 new internet clients in the last 6 months.

### **Internet**

- Daily session numbers = 3199, with a monthly average of 118 sessions per day compared with 134 (January 2012) and 127 (February 2012) in the previous months.
- Highest number of sessions in a day = 179 (Monday)
- Number days open = 27
- New Internet registrations = 108
  - Slightly more than the previous month = 106
  - Slightly less than March 2011 = 113

### **Training**

- Course registrations = 19
  - Average per month to date for the year = 24 registrations per month
- Waiting list = 84.

### **Leisure Card**

- Leisure Card photos taken and sent = 4

### **Hardware**

- Keyboards – purchased 20 Dell keyboards from [www.graysonline](http://www.graysonline) for \$6.67 each including freight and GST
- Replaced keyboards on SN16, SN18

### **Software**

- Upgraded to Snagit 11 (\$24.95), a screen capture package used for course notes etc.

### **Building Maintenance**

- Chairs cleaned 6 March – Peter Cogswell, Darlington Chair Services, ph 388 9873 cleaned all the chairs in the public area and staff office. Broken chairs were repaired and returned the next morning.

### **Visits**

- Early May, possibly 3<sup>rd</sup>, WCC Recreation Officers (Richard and Anna) plan to bring a group of WCC Housing Residents by as part of their “Activities in Newtown” promotion

### **General**

- Put up signs asking people to take their mobile calls outside.

**Maree Lindley**  
**ICT Administrator/Trainer**



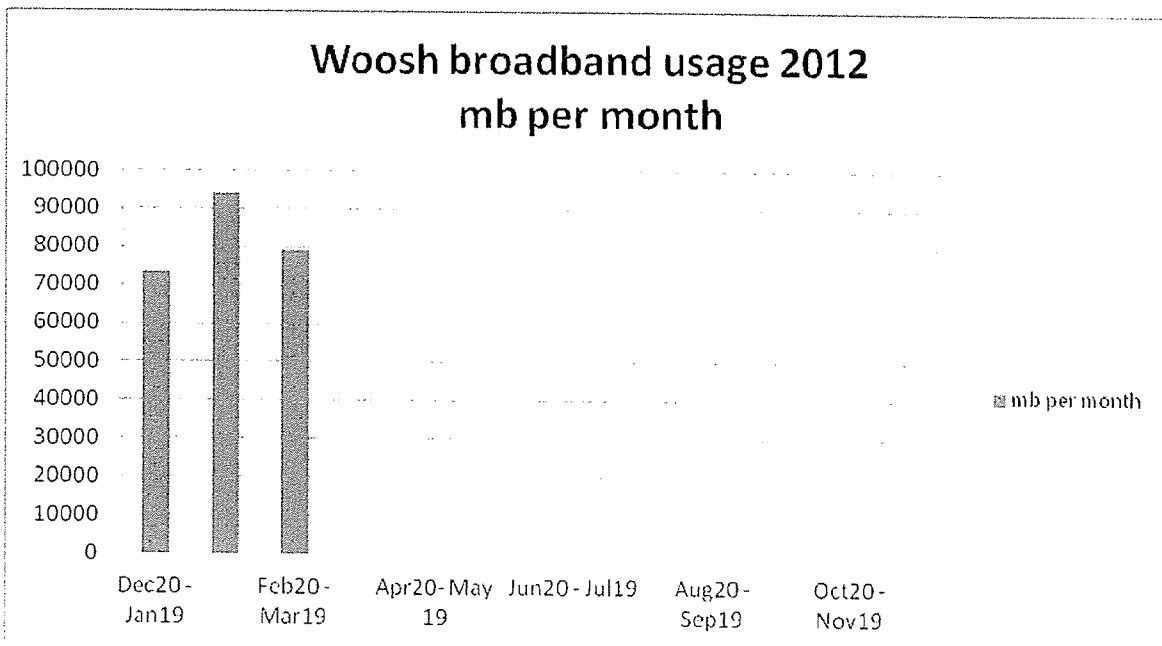
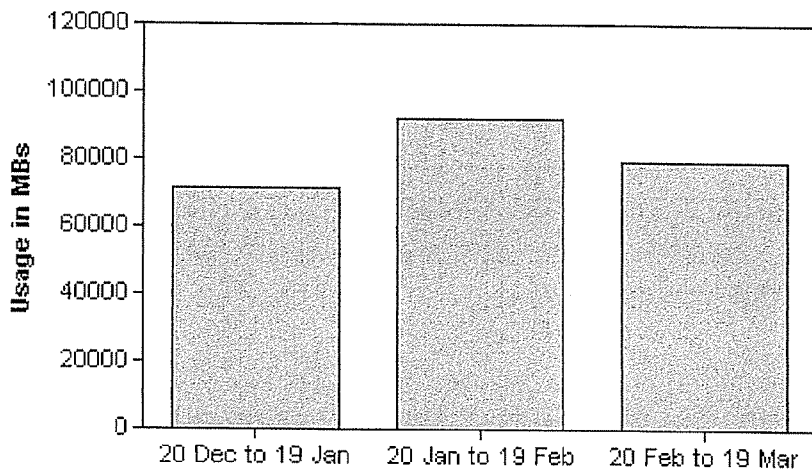
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## Quarterly Report (January - March 2012)

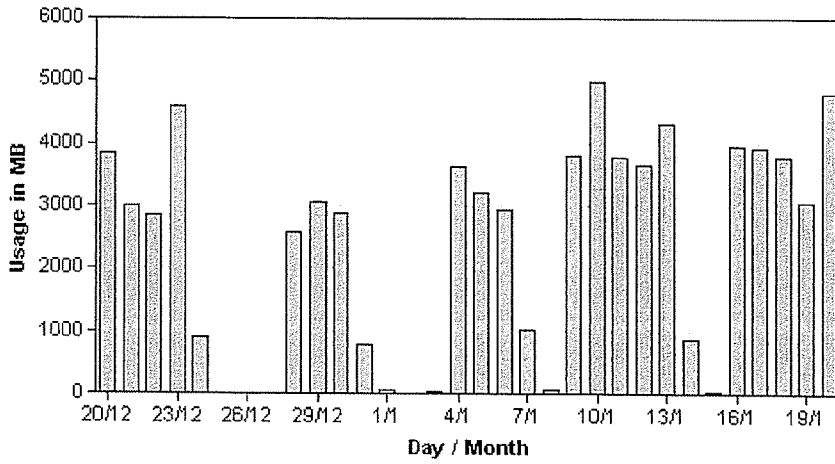
### Data Usage

First Quarter 2012 Data Usage (20<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> cycle)

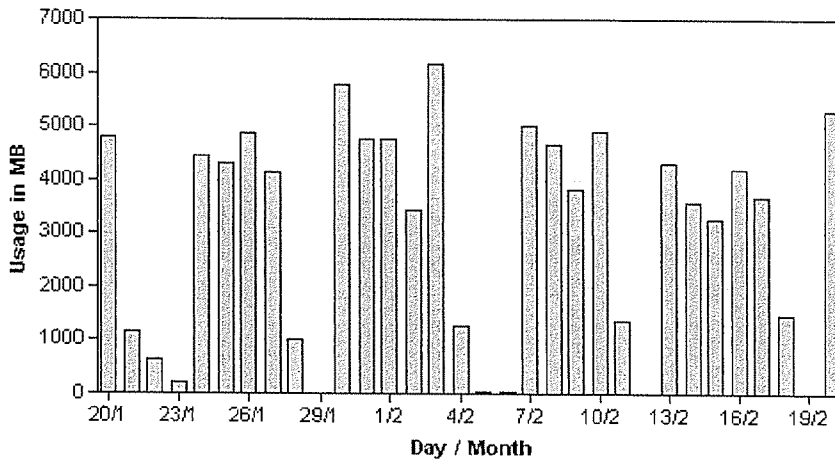
Total for the First Quarter = 246711 mb (approx 247 Gig)



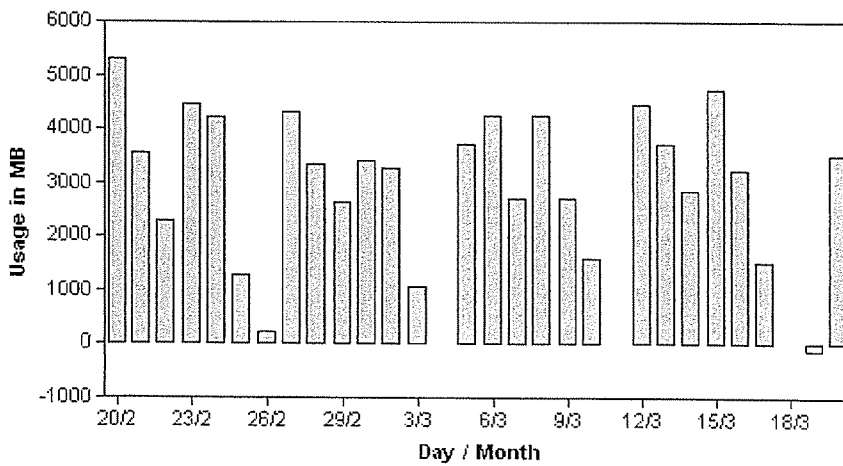
### Daily Usage 20<sup>th</sup> December 2012 – 19<sup>th</sup> January 2012



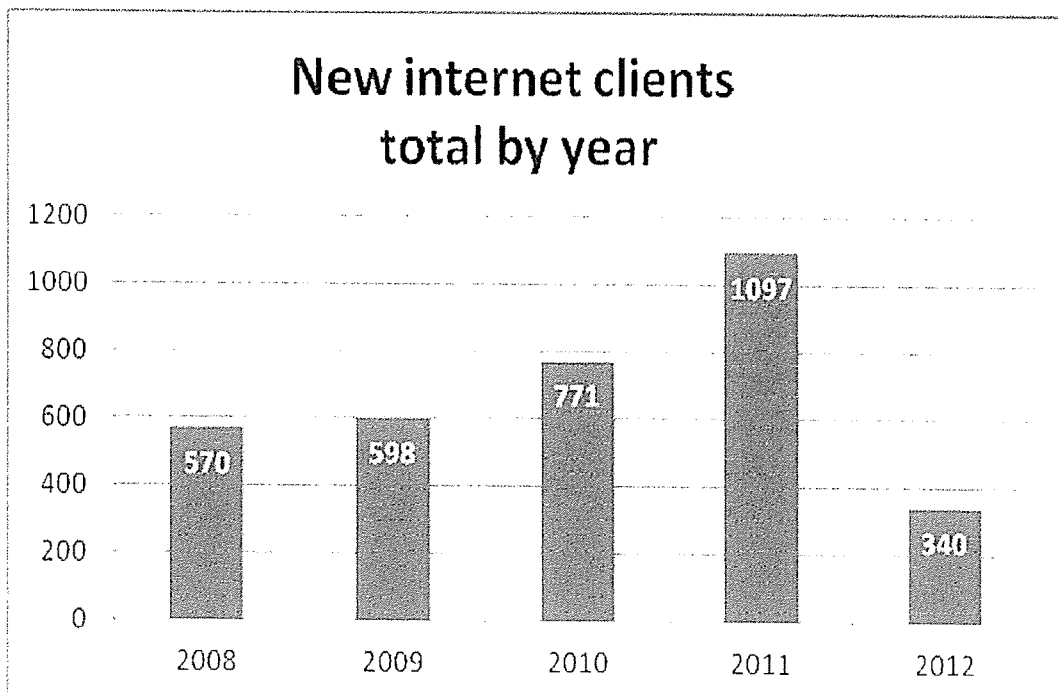
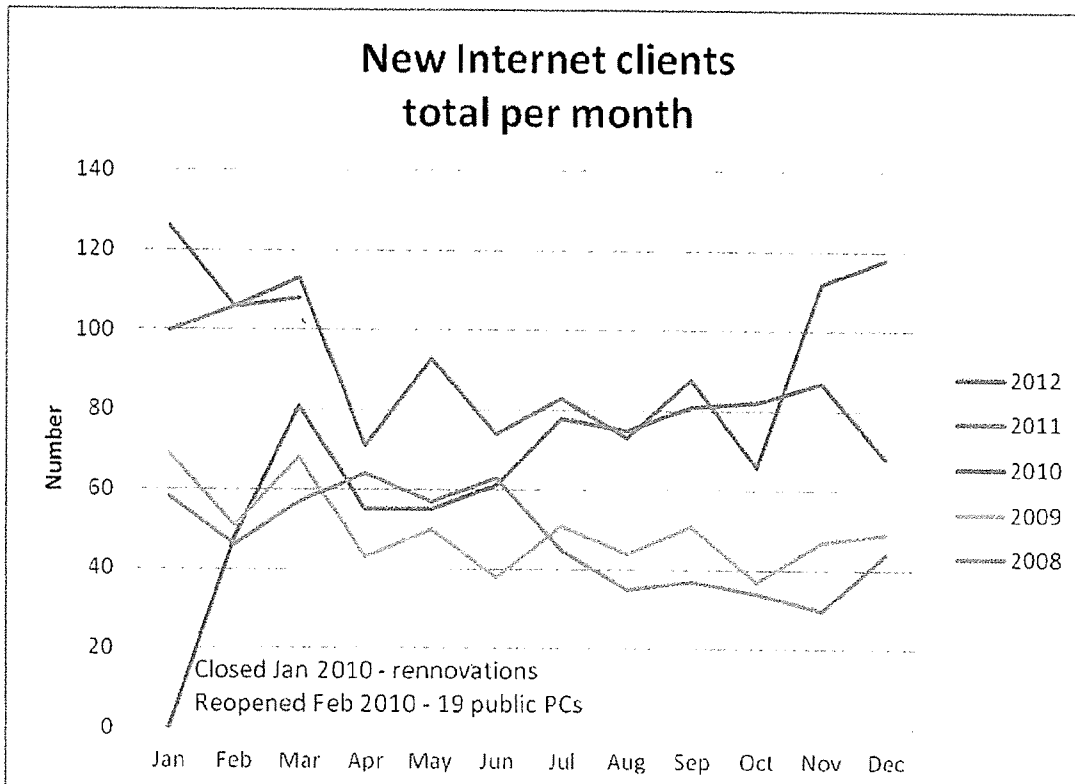
### Daily Usage 20<sup>th</sup> January – 19<sup>th</sup> February 2012



### Daily Usage 20<sup>th</sup> February – 19<sup>th</sup> March 2012



## New Internet Clients / Enrolments







## **Tawa Community Board**

### **Wellington City Council's 2012-22 Draft Long Term Plan**

The Tawa Community Board (TCB) wishes to make the following submission to the Wellington City Council's 2012-22 Draft Long-Term Plan.

We believe that Wellington City Council (WCC) needs to gain considerably more mutual co-operation from other Councils within the Wellington area. More co-operation and better efficiencies should reduce the exposure to rates increases and ensure commonality of services and bylaws.

Although the forecasted costs in the Plan are likely to be good estimates at today's prices, the actual rates charged to householders assume an increasing population over the next 10 years. Considering the current world financial 'concerns', it is unlikely that the population will continue to grow with ratepayers having the ability to pay increasing rates.

#### **PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS**

We consider that Priority 3 – **A well-managed city** – ensures our services are efficient etc, and should have the highest priority. This in turn will lead to making Wellington an inclusive place where talent wants to live. It has been known for many years that Wellington is in an Earthquake Zone. Society and business will make the choice of whether they want to take the risk here. Building owners will need to improve their standards of buildings, if they want tenants or employees!

#### **ARE THERE OTHER PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS THAT ARE MORE IMPORTANT (AND WHY)? WHAT ARE THEY?**

There are a number of projects currently in hand which need to be completed, where delays could negate their usefulness, or cause loss of other partially committed funding, e.g. the Tawa Walking/cycleway, where funding from the NZTA could be lost.

#### **GROWING OUR ECONOMY AND JOBS**

What: create **Destination Wellington** – a programme of business investment and attraction activities run through a specialist agency.

Why: to create jobs and support economic growth.

When: ten year programme.

Cost: \$18.1 million.

- This should become a Wellington Region wide Project.

What: bid to host **2015 FIFA under 20s World Championship** games.

Why: attract visitors and promote the city.

When: four year programme starting in 2012.

Cost: \$2.5 million.

- See below.

What: host **The Hobbit World premiere**.

Why: attracts international media coverage and promotes the local film and creative industry.

When: in November 2012.

Cost: \$1.1 million.

- In terms of attracting and financially supporting events, such as the FIFA Under 20 Men's World Championships 2015 and the Hobbit World Premier, the Council needs to be sure that the return from "raising Wellington's profile internationally" and "attracting visitors to the city" more than compensates the millions of dollars being outlaid on some of these events. A realistic assessment of benefits to the city needs to be calculated in preference to selling the concept based on optimistic expectations of visitors and increased profile.

What: provide a **replacement venue for Town Hall** whilst it is earthquake strengthened.

Why: continuity of service.

When: in 2012/13.

Cost: \$4 million.

- Usable **Conference Venues** are important to Central City businesses. The monies needed to refurbish alternative buildings should be targeted upon those who benefit, ie through the Downtown Levy and commercial ratepayers.

## **BUILDING RESILIENCE TO EARTHQUAKES AND NATURAL DISASTERS**

What: **earthquake strengthen the water storage** network.

Why: ensure security of supply of water.

When: ten year programme.

Cost: \$4.5 million.

- This should proceed, subject to WCC analysis of condition.

What: **earthquake strengthen Council buildings** – starting with the Town Hall and Council offices on Wakefield Street.

Why: To make sure Council buildings are safe for use.

When: ten year programme.

Cost: \$47.8 million + \$5 million to temporarily house staff and elected members while the work is completed.

- The TCB accepts that WCC has a duty to ensure that their own buildings are safe and meet the legislative requirements. It would be wrong for the WCC to require building owners to upgrade their building and not upgrade their own.

What: **Earthquake assessments**

Why: to better manage/coordinate earthquake strengthening work.

When: ten year programme.

Cost: additional \$6.3 million.

- We do not believe that Council should be spending rate payers' money to assist building owners in earthquake investigations.

What: **Help others strengthen their buildings against earthquakes**

Why: to ensure the city is as prepared as possible.

When: five year programme.

Cost: \$1.5 million.

- We have strong reservations that Council should be spending rate payers' money to assist building owners in earthquake investigations.

What: continue funding **heritage grants**

Why: to support heritage in the city.

When: three year programme.

Cost: \$329,000 per year.

- This is a nice idea when we have surplus funds. In times of fiscal restraint 'Trim the budget!'

What: **Energy efficiency** programme +building a climate adaptation strategy

Why: funding support for warmer and more efficient homes and to have a better understanding of impact of climate risks.

When: three year programme.

Cost: \$200,000 per year.

- We believe that this programme is covered by the Central Government's New Zealand Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy, providing

loans and grants, and that is appropriate. Is WCC supporting a duplication?

What: construct a Water reservoir – **Prince of Wales Park**

Why: for Wellington Hospital's emergency needs + the city's growing inner city population.

When: two year programme starting in 2015/16.

Cost: \$9.75 million.

- As this is a shared facility the WCC should only proceed when funding from C&CDHB is available. The population growth projected may not eventuate given the current world financial concerns.

What: **Tasman Street** reticulation upgrade

Why: to provide a link from the proposed Prince of Wales Park reservoir to the central city.

When: in 2015/16.

Cost: \$562,672.

- See comment re Prince of Wales Park.

### **Resilience of the Water Network.**

- This should proceed.

### **DEFERRED PROJECTS**

- We believe there are benefits to be had from not delaying **sports field upgrades and walking improvements.**
- We believe there are benefits in delaying the **Safer Speeds** Project. Lowering the posted speed limit to 40 km/h on all urban roads is highly contentious, and when previously discussed in Tawa, resulted in many submissions to WCC against the proposal.

### **TRANSPORT**

What: **Tunnels and bridges** improvements

Why: many are old and need strengthening to meet new building standards

When: ten year programme

Cost: \$12.7 million

- Agreed

What: **New retaining walls** on the road corridors

Why: The city experiences between 500 and 700 slips each year, and many of these create risks to properties above or below roads or beside the sea.

When: ten year programme

Cost: \$21.6 million

- Agreed

What: **Minor roading safety projects**

Why: to improve road safety

When: ten year programme

Cost: \$8.5 million

- Agreed

What: **Johnsonville roading** improvements

Why: to meet the needs of increased population growth and development in the town centre

When: in 2016/17

Cost: \$7.1 million

- This should be aligned with the development of the Johnsonville Mall.

What: **Cycle network safety** improvements

Why: to improve safety for cyclists

When: ten year programme

Cost: \$300,000 per year.

- Tawa shared walk/cycleway – WCC should ensure this is completed without any delay. A delay may put the supporting funding from the NZTA at risk.

What: **Cycle network extension**

Why: to make it easier to cycle in and to the city

When: seven year programme from 2012/13

Cost: \$1 million per year

- It should be remembered and emphasised, that cyclists impinge on not only vehicles but also pedestrians! Pedestrian safety should be the major consideration!
- It is nice to have cycling and walking routes but until a safe route between Tawa and Johnsonville is found this will only be a sub-standard, incomplete, route.

## **MAINTAINING WELLINGTON AS AN INCLUSIVE PLACE WHERE PEOPLE CHOOSE TO LIVE**

What: **Parliamentary precinct** public space improvements.

Why: leverage off the reopening of the National Library and new constitutional suite to showcase Wellington's capital city status.

When: over the next two years – to coincide with the anniversary of the capital status.

Cost: \$1.5 million to complete the project.

- This is a nice idea when we have surplus funds. In times of fiscal restraint 'Trim the budget'!

What: make improvements to **Opera House Lane** and **Eva Street**.

Why: improve pedestrian connections and regenerate activities in the surrounding areas

When: 2012-14 – work is timed to coincide with developments on adjacent sites

Cost: \$1.1 million to complete the project

- Unsafe areas need improvement for safety reasons – but with fiscal prudence.

What: public space enhancements to **Victoria Precinct**

Why: to stimulate the regeneration of a critical block in the central city

When: 2014-16

Cost: \$2.6 million to complete the project

- Fiscal prudence is needed.

What: construct a new **Inner city park**

Why: as the inner city population increases, we're keen to ensure that there are sufficient green spaces where people can congregate and relax.

When: 2015/16

Cost: \$3.3 million

- Green spaces are important to cities as they help to keep them and their populations healthy. However Wellington Central City has a number of sizable parks, and we do not see the need for another park in the current financial climate.

What: inflation adjustment for **Grants funding**

Why: to ensure recipients can still carry out work they are contracted to deliver

When: ongoing

Cost: \$69,695 in 2012/13, rising to \$214,142 in 2014/15

- Consideration can be given, but should not be automatically granted.

What: construct more **artificial sports fields**

Why: to ensure sport and recreation is not unduly affected by bad weather

When: Alex Moore Park in 2013/14, Grenada North/Tawa in 2014/15, Western Suburbs (site to be confirmed) in 2016/17

Cost: \$5.2 million in total

- An artificial turf is urgently required in the northern suburbs and Council should further investigate joint sponsorship/ funding with local schools eg Tawa College and bring this forward to 2012 / 2013 year.

## **BALANCING OUR BUDGET**

What: **Te Papa Funding**

- The board believes that a Regional funding model, based on population, should be introduced. Te Papa is important to the greater Wellington area, and consultation and co-operation should be developed to achieve a Win-Win situation.

What: **Our Wellington Page.**

- Agree WCC should reduce The Dominion Post advertising. We are surprised that this was not instigated much earlier as a saving in these times of fiscal restraint.

What: **City Safety Programme**

- Greater co-operation between the Police, Council, Volunteer groups, together with effective closed circuit cameras with feedback, coupled with reduced opening hours of central city establishments, would help to reduce the incidents of bad behaviour. We do not believe that Walkwise or Volunteers have sufficient training or authority to police the streets, and this needs to be considered.

### What: **Parking Charges**

- It is probable that an increase in parking fees will reduce the numbers of visitors to Wellington's retail centre and drive people to areas where free parking is available eg Hutt / Porirua.
- The parking meter systems need to be updated; - The ability to pay for parking with a credit card is frequently not operating, requiring people to pay cash! How many people now carry coins? The frustration and risk of a parking fine whilst going to the bank for cash is enough to drive people away from the City.

### What: **Fees and Charges**

- **Rubbish Bags -**
  - It is disappointing that WCC do not see the increasing price of rubbish bags as part of the cause of declining use of WCC rubbish collection and the increase in the number using private collectors.
  - We see the removal of rubbish as a core service.

## **OTHER PROPOSALS**

### What: **Regional Amenities Funding.**

- This is a step in the right direction.

## **PLIMMER BEQUEST FORWARD PROGRAMME**

### What: **Grasslees Reserve in Tawa**

- We fully support the redevelopment of this area. The development "of a new picnic and horticultural area" as suggested is greatly favoured. The TCB would like to promote an area within this space suitable for a community garden in association with Tawa College and the local food banks.

### What: **Housing**

- The provision of housing for low income earners should be a function of Central Government. It is unfortunate that WCC did not sell its housing stock to the Government at the same time as the Auckland City Council. While the income may equal the expenses, the return from investing the capital value of the assets would see a better rating outcome.



What: **Water Meters**

- Prompt fixing of leaks, particularly when reported by the public, is a priority. If area water meters are a tool to help identification of leaks, then they make sense. However if the intention to introduce compulsory metering greater consultation is necessary.

**YOUR RATES**

- We are concerned that the proposed rate of increase over the next 10 years could be beyond the where withal of residents, especially in circumstances where their incomes are determined by the Government.

**The Tawa Community Board would like the opportunity to talk to Council about our views.**

Tawa Community Board

Malcolm Sparrow (Chair) (232-5030)

Graeme Hansen

Margaret Lucas

Chris Reading

Alistair Sutton

Robert Tredger



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

17 May 2012

Freepost WCC  
Long Term Plan  
Wellington City Council  
PO Box 2199  
Wellington 6140  
longtermplan@wcc.govt.nz

Dear Mayor and Councillors

### 2012–22 DRAFT LONG-TERM PLAN: SUBMISSION OF RIDGWAY SCHOOL

This submission is made by the Board of Trustees of Ridgway School, a full primary school drawing students from the suburbs of Kingston, Vogeltown, Mornington, Berhampore and Brooklyn. The submission relates primarily to the possible sale or disposal of Vogelhorn Hall, Vennell St. The Board opposes the disposal of this hall, and requests that the Long-term Plan include a statement that the hall will be retained as a community facility even if there is no expectation of significant capital expenditure to improve it. The Board also supports community submissions objecting to the proposal to sell Vogelhorn Bowling Club.

The Board would like to make an oral submission, possibly with other community groups submitting on the possible sale of Vogelhorn community facilities. Please contact David Bagnall (021 170 3022/ 389 4185).

The Wellington City Council's Annual Plan for the 2011/12 year notes the council's decision to defer maintenance for Vogelhorn Hall and to "consider divestment opportunities" (pages 79–80). It is very disappointing that the divestment of Vogelhorn Hall has been proposed without public consultation. This school is a significant stakeholder in the hall, as it is located only a few hundred metres down the road, yet there seems to have been no direct communication from the council about this matter.

The draft Long-term Plan correctly assumes an air of financial prudence in setting priorities for the council's long-term expenditure. In doing so, the plan recognises that Wellingtonians like living in a creative, diverse, environmentally sustainable and inclusive city. It is emphasised that "we want these things about our city maintained, not see our city go backwards during these difficult times" (page 9).

The sale or divestment of Vogelhorn Hall would be a major backwards step for the local community. The people of Kingston, Vogeltown and Mornington have a strong sense of community, which is remarkable given the lack of a real centre around which to find focus. Much of this sense of connectedness is tied in with Ridgway School, but Vogelhorn Hall is the only real gathering point for the general community.

The annual plan suggests that there is a perception that the hall is underutilised. However, the hall is very frequently used in late afternoons, evenings and weekends by clubs, classes, and other users. These people come not only from the local community, but also from around Brooklyn, Berhampore, Owhiro Bay and Island Bay, and even further afield. The sense that the hall is underused may stem from a lack of activity there during daytime on weekdays. This reflects the fact that this area is largely populated by working families who leave the area to work during the day.

Until recently, Vogelmorn Hall served as a school hall for Ridgway. Students would regularly walk down the road for assemblies and other functions. The school has now been fortunate to obtain a multi-purpose space that serves this function by joining with a classroom to form a single large space when required. This is not ideal, but it is good that students can now celebrate together without leaving the school site. The multi-purpose space was built partly from capital provided by the Ministry of Education, but also as a result of major fundraising in the community. It would be most unfortunate if an indirect effect of this successful fundraising effort were the loss of the local community hall on account of reduced usage.

There is every possibility that the school may in future grow to an extent that its multi-purpose space is required for dedicated use as a classroom, in which case an off-site school hall could again be needed. The school has experienced significant growth in its junior classes in the last four years, and this is expected to continue. This area has changed in character over recent times, so that there appears now to be a proportional shift in the population so that young families have increased. While the area currently is not necessarily experiencing the overall population growth occurring in newer suburbs and the central city, there is every prospect that the number of children and youth in the area will continue to grow. This is a demographic that benefits hugely from having large activity spaces such as that offered by Vogelmorn Hall.

This demonstrates that community needs change and develop over the long-term. Wellington City will no doubt develop greater population density over coming decades, and it is likely that much of this growth in density will occur in suburbs that are close to the city centre, such as the Brooklyn and Kingston areas. For example, we are aware that the WCC Property Group has identified the large area of council land at the top of the hill above Mornington Road as a possible site for high-density council housing in the more distant future. Community facilities will be in higher demand to serve this increasing population density. Once sold, the hall and the large area of land on which it is sited would be irreplaceable, except at huge cost. The sale or divestment of Vogelmorn Hall is not in the long-term interests of the city.

The Community Facilities Policy sets out criteria that the WCC will apply when considering whether to dispose of a community facility (page 17). As noted above, it is highly arguable whether these criteria (such as low usage, low population growth, and demonstrated capacity elsewhere) are met in the case of Vogelmorn Hall at present, let alone in the future, to an extent that even slightly justifies the hall's divestment. The cost of maintaining the hall (at the lower level suggested for all community assets in the draft Long-term Plan) will not be high when compared with the disproportionate disadvantage that the local community would suffer if the hall were sold for the sole purpose of making a tiny impact on the council's long-term financial situation.

The Community Facilities Policy also undertakes that the Council will "consult with stakeholders and the community on the proposal and the options it is considering" before any decision is made to dispose of a facility. This has not occurred here. Neither the school nor the local community has been approached for comment on the possible disposal of Vogelmorn Hall. There also has not been any real attempt to promote usage of the hall. In the meantime, the effect of the decision to consider selling the hall is being felt through the reported cessation of new bookings for activities in the hall. This implies that a decision has been made despite the lack of consultation.

New Zealand case law clearly establishes that consultation involves ensuring that the consulted party will be adequately informed of the proposal and given a reasonable opportunity to respond, and then considering that response with an open mind (for example, the Court of Appeal in *WIAL & ors v Air NZ* [1993] 1 NZLR 671, at p 675). Clearly on this basis an oblique reference hidden deep in a draft annual plan does not constitute consultation (note that this reference was found through a search of the council's website during the preparation of this submission, and had not previously been drawn to the attention of this Board).

The need to consult the community does not arise only from the Community Facilities Policy. The WCC will be well aware of requirements in the Local Government Act 2002 for local authorities to consult affected communities about their decisions and give consideration to community views (see, for example, sections 78 and 82). Moreover, sections 140 and 141 set out particular requirements when dealing with endowment land. Vogelmorn Hall is a highly significant building in this community, and there is a perception that it was built largely from the efforts of local people, rather than at the instigation of the WCC. If the council continues to consider divestment of the property, we would be interested in investigating the origins of the hall further, to ensure these matters are taken into account as appropriate.

An opportunity now presents itself for the Wellington City Council to work with communities and stakeholders of Vogelmorn Hall to ensure this facility provides the greatest possible benefit. We accept that major investment by the WCC to develop the hall will not be possible in the foreseeable future, and would be comfortable for the council to maintain the hall at the lower level suggested for all community assets in the draft Long-term Plan (keeping weathertightness, safety and usability). However, there may be ways for the community to work with the council to promote greater usage of the hall. In particular, this Board would consider ideas such as the following:

- involvement in scoping improvements to the hall's capacity to be used for indoor sporting activities (for example, by improving and protecting lighting, and protecting the heaters), and possible involvement in fundraising as part of the wider community (along with other community groups and users of the hall), for this purpose (this would need to be considered alongside the school's other funding-raising priorities)
- acting as an agent for the council, in terms of providing a pick-up and drop-off point for keys to the hall (though administrative processes would still be conducted as directed by the council)—the current process is a *significant* barrier to the hall's usage for one-off events
- use of the hall by the school for indoor sports activities
- promotion of the hall as an indoor venue for kids to use under adult supervision (for example, with Push-Play equipment) during wet and cold times of the year.

We therefore respectfully request the following actions by the Wellington City Council:

1. include in the Long-term Plan a statement that Vogelmorn Hall will be retained as a community facility even if there is no expectation of significant capital expenditure to improve it
2. remove any reference to the divestment of Vogelmorn Hall from the next annual plan
3. halt any further steps towards, or consideration of, the sale or other disposal of Vogelmorn Hall
4. make provision for maintenance that preserves the hall's weathertightness, security, safety and usability
5. engage actively with the local community, including schools, community groups, and regular users of Vogelmorn Hall, to promote greater usage of the hall.

Yours sincerely



Richard Allen  
Chairperson

Ridgway School Board of Trustees:

Richard Allen (Chairperson & parent trustee), Helen Robertson (Deputy Chairperson & parent trustee)  
David Bagnall (parent trustee), Claire McCann (parent trustee), John Jarvis (parent trustee), Julie Scandrett (Acting Principal), Colette de Vere Green (staff trustee)

**Nicole Tydda**

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**From:** Warwick Taylor [warwick.weatherman@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, 18 May 2012 4:47 p.m.  
**To:** BUS: Long Term Plan  
**Cc:** stephen munro; Ariana; Darren Kemp  
**Subject:** Resubmission from Mana Newtown

Hi,

Below is an amended submission on the 2012 Long-Term Plan from Mana Newtown.

Will you please use this to replace the submission sent early this morning?

We wish to make an oral submission please. Please phone Ariana Paretutanganui-Tamati on (027) 4470431 or Steve Munro on 970-3015 to arrange a time. Thank you.

Regards,  
Warwick Taylor

### Submission of Mana Newtown on the Wellington City Council's 2012 Long-Term Plan

#### Priorities

Mana Newtown believes that the first two of the three proposed priorities for the City need to be changed. The first priority should read, "An inclusive place where a diverse sector of society and talent wants to live".

The second priority should read, "A resilient and just city". Not only should Wellington be resilient but it should also be socially just. We would like the Council to look toward ensuring that they set 'social proposals are included' like as with Porirua, end child poverty is one of their priorities. Further we would like the Council to include 'Child Impact Assessments' to ensure that any new developments are assessed and measured against the impact on children. (as with Waitakere City Council).

Mana Newtown questions what "A well-managed city" really means. Balancing the books should not be seen as the be all and end all of a well-managed city. Expenditure and income may be balanced but the needs of people may not be met. If necessary we believe that the Council should be prepared to borrow to meet the infrastructural development and maintenance costs as well as invest in social responsibility expenditure like the provision of more affordable and good quality housing stock and upgrade and provision of community facilities. We would not like to see that social expenditure is reduced in order to pay for infrastructure developments.

#### Housing

The City Council needs to spend more on housing. It needs to assess the housing needs of the people of Wellington, including the needs of those it may provide housing to. It also needs to build more housing units for single people to at least compensate for the loss of this type of housing brought

about by the current upgrade of Council units. In addition, more affordable housing stock needs be made available to accommodate the increasing number of people on decreasing incomes trying to pay market rents. We would also like the Council to ensure that in its planning and provision of services that wider social objectives are considered eg is there is playground facilities, accessible affordable health services, public transport near to community housing facilities.

#### Water

Access to clean water is a human right. Mana Newtown believes that water and water services should be under the direct control of publicly-elected bodies (ie., not corporatised or privatised), and that there should be no charges for the use of water. We oppose the proposed rates remission for those people with water meters as we see this as yet another means of encouraging the installation of water meters.

**Nicole Tydda**

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**From:** Warwick Taylor [warwick.weatherman@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, 18 May 2012 12:47 p.m.  
**To:** BUS: Long Term Plan  
**Subject:** Submission from Wellington Residents' Coalition

Hi,

Below is the submission of the Wellington Residents' Coalition. We would also like to make an oral submission please. Please phone me on 894-6364 (work) or 9344-626 (home). Thank you.

Regards,  
Warwick Taylor

Convenor  
Wellington Residents' Coalition

Submission of the Wellington Residents' Coalition on the Wellington City Council 2012 Long-Term Plan

#### Introduction

The Wellington Residents' Coalition seeks to defend the assets of, services to and rights of the people of Wellington. The Coalition believes that the priorities set out in the Plan need to be changed to allow for a more inclusive society.

#### Priorities and Inclusion

The first of the three priorities, priority on inclusiveness should read,

"An inclusive place where everyone's talents can thrive."

We are concerned that the priority as it reads, is aimed at attracting certain sorts of people to the City rather than accepting everyone.

To facilitate an inclusive society the Council should encourage a city in which there are jobs at a living wage. This would be preferable to having the highest average income in the country. An average can be skewed by relatively few people earning very high incomes.

#### Housing

The Plan does not seem to give high priority to housing, even though the Council and central government are performing an upgrade of Council housing costing over \$400 million. Decent housing for all of our citizens is essential for the good health of the City.

We believe that the present upgrade of Council housing will not be sufficient to provide decent housing for all. The plan must allow for more expenditure on housing to allow for:

- a. an assessment of homelessness and housing need in Wellington that would capture the issues from people experiencing hardship;
- b. earthquake strengthening to the new higher standards;

- c. escalating building costs;
- d, boosting the number of units for single people; and
- e. an increasing population, the level of market rents and the decreasing ability of people to pay them.

#### Users Charges

As a matter of principle the Wellington Residents' Coalition does not favour increasing revenue by increasing user charges. User charges, especially those for necessary services, tend to weigh more heavily on lower-income people. One such charge is the charge for domestic rubbish bags. We submit that for domestic rubbish bags, there should be one free rubbish bag per household.