

SUBMISSION ON THE NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL PARK (PUKEAHU) ENABLING BILL

Wellington City Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on this Bill. The Council recognises the importance of the National War Memorial Park (Pukeahu). Its location in the nation's capital is a fitting site to commemorate the Centenary of the First World War and the centrepiece of Anzac Day commemorations in 2015 and future years.

- The Council is supportive of the Bill which will enable the completion of the National War Memorial Park (Pukeahu) by April 2015.
- The Council acknowledges the efforts of the Prime Minister and Cabinet colleagues for the enabling legislation and the bipartisan approach.
- The establishment of a National War Memorial Park is a great outcome for the country and for Wellington. The Council has supported a partnership approach to the establishment of such a park for a number of years. It is consistent with the *Capital City Initiative* that was launched by the Prime Minister in 2009 and is a feature in the *Central City Framework*.
- The Council looks forward to working co-operatively with the Ministry of Arts, Culture and Heritage and with the New Zealand Transport Agency to ensure the project is delivered on time, benefitting the importance of the project, and minimising disruption during construction and environmental impacts.
- The Council acknowledges the need to expedite the project and welcomes the establishment of the community forum to provide advice to the Minister and the requirement for a dedicated communications resource to ensure the community remains informed about the project during its development.
- The Council would welcome the creation of a partnership agreement with the Ministry and NZTA to ensure the smooth implementation of the project. This agreement could cover relationships in the design process, the steps to manage and minimise disruption to transport and the local road network during construction, and other practical matters such as clear lines of communication.

APPENDIX 1

- The Council will contribute \$5 million towards the creation of the park. This recognises that Wellingtonians will benefit from the creation of a new city park and gateway to the central city from the south. The Council will also play a role in the ongoing maintenance of the park acknowledging that a level of service agreement is to be created between the parties
 - The Council would encourage that the enabling legislation set up an appropriate ongoing planning framework for the park. It is envisaged that this would be a site specific zoning that would be inserted in the District Plan and provide rights and safeguards in keeping with the anticipated use of the land as a memorial park. The approach would provide greater certainty and remove the need to undertake the costly planning exercise post the park's completion. The Council could assist in the preparation of a site specific zoning and associated package of planning provisions for inclusion in the District Plan.
 - The Council's Consolidated Bylaw includes bylaws that control activities such as public places, liquor consumption, traffic and animal control. The Council recommends, for completeness, this be incorporated in to the list of relevant legislation where authorisations may be required that are not included in the Bill (clause 24) and that can be granted by way of Order in Council during the development process, if necessary.
 - The Council would welcome the opportunity to be heard in support of this Bill.
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