

Tabled Information Reference 190/13P(b)



ROYAL PORT NICHOLSON YACHT CLUB

Established 1883

Oral Submission to Wellington City Council

Re Our Capital Spaces

Thank you for the opportunity to present an oral submission on Our Capital Spaces.

There are three key areas that we would like Council to focus on in the final version of Our Capital Spaces

1. Increasing the importance of the harbour, the inner harbour and the waterfront as key sport and recreational spaces within the strategy.
2. Increasing the focus on the development of key sportville hubs, and in particular the Wellington Ocean Sports Centre, within the strategy
3. Increasing the focus on partnerships between sports and Council for the management of our open spaces within the strategy

1. Increasing the importance of the harbour, the inner harbour and the waterfront as key sport and recreational spaces within the strategy

- 1.1 We fully support the statement ... “The open spaces and natural areas of Wellington City are a key part of what makes Wellington unique.”
- 1.2 We believe, however, that the strategy needs to place much more emphasis on the Wellington Harbour, the inner harbour, and the waterfront as key sport and recreation spaces in the strategy.
- 1.3 The waterfront and the harbour are key spaces that visitors to our city and Wellingtonians rate time and again as being central to our uniqueness and the inner harbour is a natural arena for hosting world class ocean sport events that bring with it visitors, new business and promotion of the city.
- 1.4 We believe therefore the goal of the strategy should be changed to ... “We propose focusing on short, accessible walking and biking tracks, well-located parks that provide a range of activities, and our harbour as a key sport and recreation space”.
- 1.5 We have a very beautiful and extensive harbour which we should do more with to make it part of our network of open spaces. The harbour in itself does not necessarily need to be invested in. What does need to be invested in is the means for connecting Wellingtonians to Wellington Harbour. The Council is part way there with its initial investment in the Clyde Quay Boat Harbour restoration project. We believe this initiative and others like it need greater investment ahead of acquiring new land.
- 1.6 We agree with the three focus areas identified for developing, celebrating and promoting our natural attractions and we believe that “build on the reputation of Wellington Harbour as an ocean sports destination” should be added as a fourth focus.
- 1.7 We believe the statement in the strategy should be changed to ... “We want to show off all of Wellington’s natural attractions, including making Wellington a premier walking, cycling, ocean sports and events destination”.

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2. Increasing the focus on the development of key sportsville hubs, and in particular the Wellington Ocean Sports Centre, within the strategy

- 2.1 We fully support the statement ... "We plan to prioritise the development of well-located hubs that contain multiple recreational facilities in the same space".
- 2.2 We fully support the focus on linking clubs with other sports or activity-based clubs to share facilities and expertise and are already active in this regard, working across sports to establish the Wellington Ocean Sports programme in partnership with the Council and Sport New Zealand.
- 2.3 We believe the Wellington Ocean Sports programme should be promoted and developed as a highly visible example of how Council can work with multiple sports and Sport New Zealand to create a well-located sportsville hub that benefits the community as a whole.
- 2.4 We fully support the focus on investing in... "some priority areas for multiple-use development". We believe the Clyde Quay Precinct should be added as a priority area with the focus being on developing a multi use facility for ocean sports. We, therefore, recommend that the Wellington Ocean Sports programme be recongnised as a targeted programme in the strategy.
- 2.5 We welcome the inclusion of "developing ocean sports and recreation programmes and promoting opportunities" as one of the actions in the strategy but believe this should be strengthened to read "continue to develop ocean sports programmes and support their implementation through the development of the Wellington Ocean Sports Centre and establishment of an Ocean Sports Programme Manager".

3. Increasing the focus on partnerships between sports and Council for the management of our open spaces within the strategy

- 3.1 We fully support the focus on expanding the shared management model of sporting facilities, particularly where this involves several clubs or sporting codes using one area.
- 3.2 We fully support the statement ... "We need to manage our open spaces in partnership with the wider community".
- 3.3 We believe the Memorandum of Understanding between the Council and the Club should be promoted as an example of how the Council can work in partnership with the wider community to develop and manage facilities and to host events in the city.

The Club looks forward to continuing to work closely with Council on the implementation of Our Capital Spaces.

Kia kaha te wairoa o te Whanganui a Tara

Dean Stanley
Chief Executive Officer
On behalf of the RPNYC Board of Governors
1 August 2013