
**OUR CAPITAL SPACES – APPROVAL OF FRAMEWORK FOR
OPEN SPACES AND RECREATION IN WELLINGTON: 2013-23**

1. Purpose of report

The paper seeks the Committee’s agreement to the “Our Capital Spaces” framework as amended (Appendix 2) and to a work programme to implement the actions and priorities through the annual and long-term plans.

2. Executive summary

Wellington has a great open spaces network with a wide range of recreation opportunities. These form the foundation for Our Living City and are some of the important reasons why people choose to live and work in Wellington. We need to continue investing in open spaces and recreation opportunities to:

- ensure Wellington attracts and retains more talent and businesses,
- contribute to our economic growth, and
- preserve our environment for future generations.

Our Capital Spaces sets the framework for funding and implementation for Council open spaces and recreation. The framework will drive related policies and area management plans.

There was a clear message from the public during consultation

The clear message from the public during consultation on the “Our Capital Spaces” framework was that the framework’s words need to translate into actions. The consultation highlighted some priority actions. Some of those actions the Council can get on with now. Other actions will take some planning and require decisions around money, timing or both.

Priority actions have been identified to be considered in the Annual Plan and LTP

Officers outline the priority actions in this paper’s “Implementation” section. Officers have developed broad estimates, where possible, for the different actions, to ensure we are as upfront and transparent as possible about the scale of resource requirements for implementing Our Capital Spaces. This applies to actions whether they have been planned for or whether they are new.

During the annual (AP) and next long term planning (LTP) process, officers will provide Councillors with detailed advice and options to implement and resource the priority actions for Our Capital Spaces. This will include business cases and success measures for each action.

As part of the business case, officers will look at different funding models, including:

- user charging for activities over and above casual use and sportsfield use that may impact on open spaces and on other users of open spaces
- investor / resourcing partnerships with other organisations
- ring-fenced funding from bequests and trust funds (such as Plimmer bequest funding)
- revenue from development contributions, land sale, or setting aside strategic funding.

Officers will also look at opportunities to identify wider economic returns to support the case for Council investment in Our Capital Spaces.

Actions to implement the larger priorities in Our Capital Spaces are summarised in Table 1 below.

Table 1 - Summarised Implementation and Action Plan

Action	Approximate scale of resource requirement
Mountain Bike and Track Capital of the world	
Proactively work with the mountain bike community to develop trails and facilities as key visitor attractions, in partnership with the mountain biking community.	<p>\$30,000 new opex funding in year 1 for a master plan</p> <p>Develop funding model for Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park</p> <p>Work with the mountain bike community so that they have “one voice” supporting their preferred strategy / priorities, and resources</p> <p>Work with Positively Wellington Tourism to align mountain biking strategies and to pool marketing resources for maximum effectiveness</p>
Complete the Harbour Escarpment Walk track and Skyline track	<p>\$500,000 of new funding for Harbour Escarpment Walk track in years 3-6</p> <p>Skyline track is dependent on negotiation of access across private land and may require land acquisition</p>
Upgrade and maintain tracks (reinstate funding)	Increase tracks renewal / upgrade funding by \$150,000 pa for 10 years
Smart and Connected	
<p>Audit and provide more accessible on-site signage and information for the open space network, including smart phone applications and websites, interactive mapping of walking and cycle ways and park spaces.</p> <p>We will collaborate through Our Volunteer Capital and Our Living City programmes to</p>	\$150,000 of new funding spread in years 2-6

provide a network of online services for people to both use our services and partner with us to contribute to making them better.	
Multi-Use Spaces (Sports, Recreation and Parks)	
Develop Newlands Park, Wakefield Park and Alex Moore Park into multi-purpose community spaces	Proposals to be developed for future Charles Plimmer Bequest funding
Complete the Suburban Reserves Management Plan, including identifying important community and neighbourhood spaces	Planning within existing budget. This work may identify further open spaces requiring investment
Enhancing the Halo and Biodiversity	
Expand pest management and native planting	Partnership funding proposed for additional planting. Community group and volunteer management will require extra resourcing and funding
Work with partners to deliver the Halo project to expand the buffer zone for safe habitats of birds flying in and out of Zealandia	\$500,000 of new funding over 10 years (partnerships and external funding possible) linked to Our Living City Programme
Investigate protecting and/or acquiring strategic open space outside the current network. Particularly investigate protecting Watts Peninsula, Palmer Head, Belmont Gully, the Outer Green Belt between Johnsonville and Tawa and the Harbour Escarpment	Additional funding may be required on a case by case basis
The Blue Belt Concept	
Our Living City Blue Belt Programme: Protect coastal, marine and water catchment areas and ecology, ensuring relevant WCC plans recognise importance / value of the harbour, and explore a Wellington Harbour Strategy	Funding through the 2014/15 (Annual Plan) business case for Our Living City

3. Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Strategy and Policy Committee:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Note that Our Capital Spaces (2013) draft incorporates, refreshes and refocuses the Capital Spaces (1998) and Recreation Strategy (2003).*
3. *Agree to the amended wording to Our Capital Spaces attached as Appendix 2.*

4. *Agree to recommend to the Council that it adopt the “Our Capital Spaces” as amended in Appendix 2, as a framework to guide decision-making to develop Wellington’s open space, sports and recreation assets, including the priorities in Appendix 1.*
5. *Note that these priorities will be considered in the Annual and Long Term Plan processes.*
6. *Agree that Our Capital Spaces will be the framework for driving changes to more detailed policies and area management plans relating to open spaces and recreation.*
7. *Agree to delegate to the Chief Executive, the Natural Environment Portfolio Leader and the Sports and Events Portfolio Leader the authority to amend Our Capital Spaces, based on amendments agreed by the Committee and Council and any associated minor consequential edits.*

4. Background

On 9 May 2013, the Committee approved public consultation on Our Capital Spaces: A Draft Open Spaces and Recreation Framework for Wellington: 2013-23.

At that time, officers highlighted the need to prioritise and focus outcomes (across our open spaces) that achieved:

- more people knowing about and accessing our great open space assets
- increased participation in sports and recreation
- maximum use of our spaces and value for money, through an increased or diversified range of activities available for a wider audience
- future spaces fitting with the needs of busy modern lives
- nature being protected and contributing to our city, economy and quality of life
- partnerships where Council shares responsibility, design and decision making with the local community.

The Council received 191 submissions from the public. A summary of submissions is attached as Appendix 3.

5. Discussion

What people told us during consultation

The consultation between 28 May and 9 July 2013 provided a broad range of oral and written submissions.

Summary of Feedback

Overall, the submissions confirmed that Our Capital Spaces is on the right track, but that the words need to be turned into actions. Several submitters also

pointed out the need to add or expand action areas that can be broadly summarised as follows:

- Partnerships that are two sided and require resourcing from both sides (including providing partners with sufficient expertise, equipment, funding and other support). The volunteer community cannot do it without Council support
- Investing to make Wellington a premier Mountain Biking Destination. This was reflected by a significant presence from mountain bikers in overall submissions
- The need to recognise the role of open spaces in active transport (including running, walking, cycling and other activities) through more and varied local tracks and connecting shorter tracks into longer routes
- Generally making it easier to access and participate in sport and recreation for all ages, cultures and income groups, regardless of ability
- Supporting and restoring ecology in and around streams, the harbour, coast and other marine areas
- Supporting the development of ocean sports and recreation programmes
- Smaller spaces being more effective in the cbd so not focusing totally on larger multi use open spaces
- CBD spaces that are well-designed and located with adequate seating, shelter and other amenities
- Guidelines and/or criteria around priorities for protection/acquisition, particularly as the city's population grows
- Managing any conflicts between different recreation activities (e.g. walking and cycling)
- Ensuring that recreation activities (e.g. track building) do not adversely impact biodiversity.

Officers have made changes to the text in the draft Our Capital Spaces document to reflect the points above. This is shown by tracked changes in Appendix 2. A more detailed "Summary of Submissions" is also provided in Appendix 3.

5.1 Implementation

Meeting public expectations and getting on with it

Public expectations are high around translating the intent of Our Capital Spaces into actions. If the Council agrees to adopt Our Capital Spaces, the framework's actions and priorities will need to be delivered and adequately resourced to maintain credibility with the community.

In order to deliver the actions under Our Capital Spaces, this Committee and the Council will need to agree to prioritise and resource the priority actions outlined in Appendix 1. These priorities were particularly highlighted during consultation.

During annual and long term planning, officers will provide Councillors with advice and options to implement and resource the large Our Capital Spaces priority actions outlined in Appendix 1. This will include business cases and success measures for each of those actions.

During consultation on Our Capital Spaces, several submissions were received about the need to protect and recognise the values of the harbour, sea and water catchments. Officers will present a business case for addressing this need in this coming annual plan, as part of the wider “Our Living City” programme.

Priority actions contribute to a broad range of Council objectives

Those actions go to the heart of the Wellington Brand as a liveable city with open spaces and recreation that provide a great quality of life - i.e. why people choose to live, work and invest in Wellington. There will be trade-offs during the annual and long-term planning rounds. Officers believe that prioritising the projects in Appendix 1 will best contribute to the Wellington Brand.

Indicative costs provide transparency around decision making

Whilst officers do not yet have the exact cost figures for different actions, it is important to signal now the scale of resource requirements for implementing Our Capital Spaces.

The Committee and Council will need to consider the different actions now when agreeing the framework. Our Capital Spaces will set expectations and send a message that it is a key priority for the Council. One of the key benefits is that the investment will deliver a range of outcomes.

Because Our Capital Spaces needs to be action-focussed, officers wanted to provide reasonable detail about the more substantive actions, including how they will be implemented and funded.

Priority actions summarised

Through public consultation, some clear priority actions have emerged. The following is a summary of Appendix 1 which outlines the key actions, costs and timing for implementation.

- **Mountain Bike and Track Capital of the world** - Council officers will proactively work with the mountain bike community to develop a business case and implementation plan to create a world class mountain bike track network and support infrastructure. We will do this in partnership to establish Wellington as a premier mountain biking destination. Other actions that contribute include completing the track network for walkers, cyclists and others.
- **Smart and Connected** - Officers will implement signage to make our parks and spaces more accessible and provide good information. We will collaborate through Our Volunteer Capital and Our Living City to provide a network of online services, for people to both use our services and partner with us to contribute to making them better.
- **Multi-Use Spaces (Sports, Recreation and Parks)** – Officers will engage with the community when developing multi-use parks and spaces. Officers will also work with sports clubs to develop sports hubs.

- **Enhancing the Halo and Biodiversity** – Invest and prioritise safe environments for plants, birds and other wildlife to thrive.
- **The Blue Belt Concept** – Officers identified the Blue Belt project as a key priority through the Our Living City work programme. This priority was confirmed by public feedback during consultation on Our Capital Spaces. The business case is being prepared to prioritise investment.

There are business-as-usual actions that also contribute

As well as the priority actions outlined above and in more detail in Appendix 1, there will be other programmes and projects (as outlined in Appendix 2 “Our Capital Spaces”) that will be carried out as normal business within existing baselines and / or continue long term commitments.

It should also be noted that the Council will need to retain flexibility (of funding and resources) to reprioritise funds if severe storms or other adverse events occur (for example needing to replant areas impacted by storms).

The Council’s Parks, Sport and Recreation group is also proposing to reorganise its resources to form a team that will focus on community partnerships and programme development.

5.2 Financial and Long-term planning considerations

Transparency around costs associated with approving Our Capital Spaces

The Council and Committee as decision-makers will have the opportunity to decide on the investment priorities of Our Capital Spaces in the annual and long-term planning process. This will include new funding as well as taking decisions on reprioritising existing funding. Officers have provided indicative costs to be clear where new money may be required or where current budgets are insufficient.

Trade-offs are inevitable

Given limited funding, there will be tradeoffs between investing in different priorities. Investment should be targeted at the priorities highlighted in Appendix 1, and to deliver on Our Capital Spaces generally.

Exploring other funding options

Traditionally, most funding for the maintenance and development of the open space network and recreation has come from rates funding. However, other opportunities for funding include generating revenue from:

- Charging fees for certain activities on our spaces that are over and above everyday public use (for example closing areas of open space off for filming or weddings). This would be through developing a Concessions Policy. Several other territorial authorities, including Greater Wellington and Hutt City, already have Concessions Policies in place
- Investor / resourcing partnerships with businesses, clubs, universities, individuals, and other public sector organisations

- Ring-fenced funding from bequests and trust funds. The Council already uses funding from several trust funds for the development and enhancement of open spaces. The major provider is the Charles Plimmer Bequest
- Revenue from development contributions, land sale, or setting aside strategic funding in the long-term plan to protect areas of land from future development.

5.3 Consultation and Engagement

Officers have undertaken focus group sessions, research, public workshops and publicly consulted on the draft Our Capital Spaces Framework between 28 May and 9 July 2013. One hundred and ninety one written submissions were received on the draft. The Council's Strategy and Policy Committee heard oral submissions on 1 August 2013.

Submitters will be informed of how the consultation informed the final changes to Our Capital Spaces.

5.4 Climate change impacts and considerations

Our Capital Spaces is part of Our Living City which incorporates the Council's Climate Change Work Programme. This framework seeks to preserve and enhance our natural environment, which contributes to the Council's climate change objectives.

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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1) Strategic fit / Strategic outcome

Wellington 2040 Strategy: Smart Capital is the Council's overall strategy for ensuring our city's success in the future. It outlines four goals – people-centred city, connected city, eco city and dynamic central city. Our Capital Spaces ensures that Wellington 2040's goals are translated into actions via sector management plans and other policies for addressing local priorities across open spaces and recreation.

2) LTP/Annual Plan reference and long term financial impact

Our Capital Spaces suggests some new actions and the expansion of some existing actions. The likely financial and annual / long term planning impacts of these are outlined in Appendix 1.

3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations

Officers will closely consult with mana whenua when implementing Our Capital Spaces to ensure that any Treaty of Waitangi implications that arise from implementing the framework are adequately addressed.

4) Decision-making

Under the Council's Significance policy, this framework has been assessed as being of moderate (and not high) significance. During the annual planning and next long term planning processes, officers will provide Councillors with detailed advice and options to implement and resource the priority actions for Our Capital Spaces.

5) Consultation

a) General consultation

When developing the Our Capital Spaces Framework, officers ran focus group sessions, consulted with the Council's advisory groups, other local authorities and other organisations that have an interest in our open spaces and recreation areas, including Porirua City Council, Hutt City Council, Greater Wellington Regional Council, Trails Alliance, Forest and Bird, Department of Conservation, Sport Wellington and Adventure Wellington.

Officers publically consulted on the draft Our Capital Spaces Framework between 28 May and 9 July 2013. Submitters will be informed of how the consultation informed the final changes to Our Capital Spaces.

b) Consultation with Maori

Mana whenua have deep spiritual and cultural ties to many of our open spaces. Officers have therefore engaged with Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust and Ngati Toa in developing Our Capital Spaces framework. A Maori-specific focus group was also consulted while in the research phase of developing this framework.

6) Legal implications

The Council has legal obligations on open spaces, including under the Resource Management Act 1991 and Reserves Act 1977. Officers will ensure that actions resulting from the Our Capital Spaces Framework are carried out consistently with relevant legislation.

7) Consistency with existing policy

The framework will drive changes to policies and reserve management plans on our open spaces and recreation areas. These changes will align plans and policies with wider Council strategies.

Appendix 1 - Prioritised Work Programme

Mountain Bike and Track Capital of the world (under Outcomes 1 and 3)

Project	What can we do now?	What can we plan now and do later?	Key partners and approach	Options for funding
<p>Take a proactive approach to the development of mountain biking as one of the key visitor attractions</p> <p><i>Priority/Action 3.4</i></p>		<p>Facilitate a forum to develop a strategy for mountain bike tourism</p> <p>Work with the mountain bike community so that they have “one voice” supporting their preferred strategy / priorities, and resources</p> <p>Work with Positively Wellington Tourism to align mountain biking strategies and to pool marketing resources for maximum effectiveness</p> <p>Timing: Year 1</p>	<p>Mountain bike community</p> <p>Destination Wellington</p> <p>Regional T/A's</p>	
<p>Coordinate and manage mountain-biking track and facility development on a regional basis</p> <p><i>Priority/Action 3.4</i></p>		<p>Co-ordinate and manage mountain track and facility development</p> <p>Timing: Years 1-6</p>	<p>Mountain bike community</p> <p>Regional T/A's</p>	<p>\$30,000 new opex funding in year 1 for master plan development</p>
<p>Maintain, operate and develop Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park</p> <p><i>Priority/Action 3.4</i></p>		<p>Support development of Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park</p> <p>Timing: Ongoing</p>	<p>Makara Peak Supporters</p>	<p>Develop sustainable funding model for Makara Peak in year 1.</p>

<p>Complete the track network with a priority on connecting communities and open spaces</p> <p><i>Priority/Action 1.9</i></p>	<p>The suburban reserves management plan will identify local track links with a focus on accessibility for all ages and abilities</p> <p>Timing: Year 1</p>	<p>Complete the Skyline Track and the Harbour Escarpment Walk and links to adjacent suburban communities</p> <p>Timing: Years 1 - 3</p>	<p>Local communities</p> <p>Land owners</p>	<p>Indicative new capex funding</p> <p>Harbour Escarpment Walk \$500k in years 3-6</p> <p>Skyline Track is dependent on negotiation of access across private land, and may require land acquisition</p> <p>Increase tracks renewal / upgrade funding by \$150,000 pa for 10 years</p>
<p>Active transport and the role of the open space network</p> <p><i>Priority/Action 1.9.4</i></p>		<p>Identify opportunities for active transport routes through the open spaces network as part of the Transport Strategy review</p> <p>Timing dependent on Transport Strategy Review</p>	<p>Walking and cycling advocacy groups</p>	<p>Not known until Transport Strategy Review completed</p>

Smart and Connected (under Outcome 1)

Project and relevant priority / action in “Our Capital Spaces” Section 4	What can we do now?	What can we plan now and do later?	Key partners and approach	Scale of funding and funding options
<p>Provide accessible street and on-site signage for the open space network</p> <p><i>Priority/Action 1.1.2</i></p>	<p>Audit signage at all major open space destinations</p> <p>Timing: Year 1 (planning)</p>	<p>Review parks signage during development of the suburban reserves management plan</p> <p>Timing: Years 3-8 (implementation)</p>	<p>DoC, Greater Wellington, Local communities?</p>	<p>New capex funding of \$100,000 over 5 years</p>

Develop easily accessed information on the open space network <i>Priority/Action 1.1.1</i>		Review and develop smart phone applications and websites, including interactive mapping of walking and cycle ways and park spaces. Make this information, where possible, user friendly for all, including those with disabilities Timing: Years 1 - 3	DoC, Greater Wellington, Meetup Groups, Tracks.org.nz	New opex funding of \$50,000 over 5 years
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Multi-Use Spaces (Sports, Recreation and Parks) (under Outcome 1)

Project	What can we do now?	What can we plan now and do later?	Key partners and approach	Options for funding
Develop and enhance well-located park spaces as local destinations that provide a range of activities and experiences <i>Priority/Action 1.7</i>	Develop Alex Moore Park (Years 1-3), Newlands Park (Years 3-6) and Wakefield Park (Years 3-6) into multi purpose community spaces Timing: See above	The suburban reserves management plan will identify priority open spaces for development Timing: Ongoing	Local communities Sport and recreation clubs	Combination of capex funding and next round of Charles Plimmer Bequest funding 2015 - 2018.
Provide recreation and sports facilities that meet the needs of communities <i>Priority/Action 1.2</i>		Work with sporting groups to develop sporting hubs at Wakefield Park, Hataitai Park and Alex Moore Park Timing: Ongoing	Sport and recreation clubs	Nil at this stage. Within existing budgets

Enhancing the Halo and Biodiversity (under Outcome 2)

Project	What can we do now?	What can we plan now and do later?	Key partners and approach	Options for funding
Protect and restore indigenous biodiversity, and demonstrate kaitiakitanga (guardianship) <i>Priority/Action 2.1</i>	Expand the Council's pest management and native planting programme and plant two million indigenous plants in the city by 2020 Timing: ongoing	Review the Biodiversity Action Plan Prepare a restoration planting strategy Timing: Years 1 - 3	Community restoration groups Local communities Schools	No additional costs for planting. However, community groups and volunteer management will require additional support and funding
Develop a halo (or ecological buffer zone) around biodiversity hotspots <i>Priority/Action 2.3</i>	Enhance and provide safe habitats for birds flying in and out of Zealandia through Project Halo Timing: ongoing		Zealandia local communities Project Halo trust	\$500k over 10 years (new funding) Partnerships and partial external funding possible
Promote and facilitate the protection of open space <i>Priority/Action 2.4</i>		Investigate and facilitate the protection and/or acquisition of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watts Peninsula • Palmer Head • Belmont Gully • The Outer Green Belt between Johnsonville and Tawa • Harbour Escarpment Timing: Ongoing on case by case basis	Crown Developers Private land owners	Additional funding may be required on a case by case basis

The Blue Belt Concept

Project	What can we do now?	What can we plan now and do later?	Key partners and approach	Options for funding
<p>Develop an integrated approach to the management of coastal open space.</p> <p><i>Priority/Action 2.5.1</i></p>	<p>Support Capacity in development of Integrated Catchment Management Plans</p> <p>Continue to support coastal community care groups</p> <p>Support the development of ocean sports and recreation programmes in partnership with relevant providers</p> <p>Timing: Ongoing</p>	<p>Work with partners to identify potential areas for Marine Protection</p> <p>Ensure relevant WCC plans recognise importance/value of the harbour</p>	<p>Partnership/ proactive leadership</p> <p>Capacity, Wellington Waterfront Ltd,</p> <p>Department of Conservation</p> <p>Greater Wellington</p> <p>Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust</p> <p>NZTA, CentrePort</p> <p>Kiwi Rail</p> <p>Marine Education Centre</p> <p>Victoria University Coastal Ecology Lab</p> <p>Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club</p>	<p>ICMP- existing funding (Capacity)</p> <p>Care groups- existing funding</p>
<p>Work with partners on developing and implementing a “Blue Belt” programme which recognises and celebrates the harbour and its many</p>	<p>Develop an integrated approach to valuing Wellington Harbour, including:</p> <p>Improve and</p>	<p>Explore a Wellington Harbour Strategy</p>	<p>Partnership/ proactive leadership</p> <p>The Dive Guys</p> <p>Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust</p>	<p>Our Living City Annual Plan business case 14/15</p>

<p>values, as part of the wider “Our Living City” programme</p> <p><i>Priority/Action 2.5.2</i></p>	<p>restore ecology and water quality</p> <p>Celebrate the harbour and its many values</p> <p>Promote understanding and awareness</p> <p>Make connections between the land and sea</p> <p>Investigate the potential for marine protected areas</p> <p>Timing: Ongoing</p>		<p>Wellington Waterfront</p> <p>Hutt City Council</p> <p>Greater Wellington</p> <p>Department of Conservation</p> <p>Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club</p> <p>Centre Port</p>	
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Revised Wording of Our Capital Spaces

* All added words are underlined

* Deleted words are ~~struck through~~

~~HAVE YOUR SAY ON~~

OUR CAPITAL SPACES

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

~~ARE WE ON THE RIGHT TRACK? HAVE YOUR SAY ON OUR CAPITAL SPACES~~

Section 1 – summary

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 1 limiting investment (including maintenance) in parks that do not appeal to a wide range of people or do not have important roles for protecting nature. This might mean handing some of those parks to community groups to maintain. This has worked well in some places already (for example, the Jay Street Community Garden, see case study 1 on page 22).
- ~~2 when parks are scheduled to be upgraded and where there is low use or value, we will work with communities to consider how to get the best from the space. This could include allowing nature to come back on its own or giving it a helping hand by planting.~~
- 2 changing our focus from developing some of the longer and more remote tracks, identified in the Council’s Open Spaces Access Plan, to tracks that incorporate and join shorter tracks between ~~around~~ the suburbs.

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

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

Section 2 – introduction

What are 'Our Capital Spaces'?

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

Why are Our Capital Spaces important?

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

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

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

Why is a plan needed?

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

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

- 1 a diverse range and an abundance of quality recreation and leisure activities that are easily accessed and affordable
- 2 increased participation in recreation and leisure activities to enhance overall health and wellbeing

APPENDIX 2

- 3 year-round recreation activities and events to contribute to the economic prosperity and identity of Wellington
- 4 a wide range of recreational opportunities in our open spaces that do not compromise environmental values
- 5 good public health by encouraging health and fitness.

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

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

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

This plan provides details on how the Council will make decisions on our open spaces from 2013–23 ~~over the next 10 years and then beyond.~~

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

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

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

Where does the plan fit?

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

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

Section 3 – Our Capital Spaces (~~the plan~~)

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

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

OUTCOME 1: GETTING EVERYONE ACTIVE AND HEALTHY

Focus: Awareness

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

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

- high quality, consistent signs signage and appropriate entrances to make it easy for people to find and use our increase the visibility of different tracks, parks and other spaces. and help people find their way around them. Signs will also explain ~~Signage will also be used to inform people about the historical, cultural and environmental significance of different spaces~~
- developing smart and easily accessed information to tell people about

what's on offer. This includes smart-phone applications, interactive mapping of walking tracks and cycle ways, and working with online 'meet-up' groups, such as Adventure Wellington, that plan regular events in our open spaces.

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

Focus: Supporting sport and recreation and increasing participation

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

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

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

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

Focus: Community and neighbourhood spaces

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

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

Through the development of local reserve management plans, we have identified some priorities for areas for multiple use development, and will focus

on Hataitai Park, Alex Moore Park in Johnsonville (see case study 4 on page 23), Newlands Park and Wakefield Park in Berhampore. We seek to expand this model of providing multi-use recreational facilities across the city. For example, ~~as the city continues to grow in the north, we also propose focusing on Grenada North Park.~~

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

We will identify important community and neighbourhood spaces through ~~develop the Suburban Reserves Management Plan, we would like to expand this model of providing multiple recreational facilities across the city.~~ We will continue to encourage and support local communities to get involved and look after local neighbourhood spaces where appropriate, for example, by establishing community gardens or setting up community planting groups.

WE WILL ASSIST ~~ENSURE THAT~~ PEOPLE FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS AND INCOMES TO ~~CAN ENJOY~~ OPEN SPACES AND RECREATION

Focus: Providing accessible walking and cycling tracks

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

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

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

Focus: Equity and universal access

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

~~communities and advocacy groups. by incorporating their views in the plan and engaging with them on implementation.~~

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

Focus: Restoring local habitats and encouraging native birds into communities

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

The plan is to restore more ecological areas throughout the city and encourage ~~native birds and native wildlife~~ into every community. We will do this by continuing to expand the Council's pest management (plant and animal pests) and native planting programme. For example, as part of Our Living City an impressive target of planting two million native trees by 2020 has been set.

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

Focus: Identifying important landscapes

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

The priority areas identified ~~for protection and/or acquisition would include:~~

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

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

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

We want to:

- 1 develop the educational role of our key nature-based attractions with innovative projects – for instance, the proposed children's garden in Wellington Botanic Garden
- 2 build on the reputation of Wellington City and region as a world class mountain biking and walking destination

- 3 secure regional and national tournaments, and events that use our parks, outdoor spaces and other recreation areas.

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

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

OUTCOME 4: DOING IT TOGETHER

Focus: Local partnerships

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

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

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

Our focus is to encourage more partnerships like these by:

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

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

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

providers in delivering sport and recreation opportunities to communities.

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

Focus: Regional partnerships

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

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

Focus: Strong relationships with Māori

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

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

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

IMPLEMENTED

Case studies

Case study 1: Newlands/Paparangi community collaboration

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

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

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

Case study 2: Friends of Tawa Bush

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

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

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

Case study 3: Berhampore Golf Course

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

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

Case study 4: Alex Moore Park sporting hub

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Case study 6: Oruaiti Reserve – partnership with mana whenua

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

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

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

The completion of the redevelopment in late 2011 brought the whole community together to celebrate the new relationship and the opening of a unique reserve. The final award-winning

design has exceeded expectations, raised the profile and use of the reserve, enhanced the new partnership, and is a model for the wider reserves network.

Section 4 – outcomes and priorities sought

N = New initiative programme (~~22-33~~ in total)

E = Existing programme (~~32-41~~ in total)

Ex = Expand existing programme (~~37~~ in total)

Outcome 1 – Getting everyone active and healthy

PRIORITIES	ACTIONS	TIMING
1.1 Grow awareness of play, sport and recreation opportunities	1.1.1 Develop smart and easily accessed information, including smart phone applications, interactive mapping of walking and cycle ways (My Parx) and implement regionally (Ex)	<u>Years 1-3</u>
	1.1.2 Implement integrated and consistent signs for parks, sport and recreation facilities (Ex). In particular: 1 road signs for major facilities 2 walking and cycling access from the CBD to the Town Belt and Suburbs	<u>Year 1 Planning</u> <u>Years 3- 10 implementation</u>
1.2 Provide recreation and sports facilities that meet the needs of communities	1.2.1 Provide playing and training facilities for outdoor sport as part of a coordinated regional network, informed by a study of regional sports provision. Particular priorities for investment and/or support are: 1 continuing to invest in the upgrade and renewal of playing surfaces at community and sports parks (E) 2 completing the programme to install artificial sportsfields throughout the network (E)	<u>Ongoing</u>
	1.2.2 Other priorities for recreation and sports facilities include: 1 working with the key sporting groups to develop Hataitai Park, Wakefield Park and Alex Moore Park as recreational and sporting hubs (Ex) 2 working with the Wellington Hockey Association on the redevelopment of the National Hockey Stadium (N) 3 completing the Great Harbour Way walking and cycling route (E) 4 identifying any sports areas or facilities that are under-used and can be used for other purposes (E) 5 developing the Spicer Forest Recreation Park in conjunction with Porirua City Council (N) 6 reviewing the potential of Watts Peninsula as a recreation and heritage park in conjunction with the Crown (N)	<u>Ongoing</u> <u>To be confirmed</u> <u>Existing project</u> <u>Years 3-6</u> <u>Managed as part of the Miramar</u>

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	<p>7 developing a long-term master plan for Te Kopahou Reserve and links to the rural south-west peninsula (Ex)</p> <p>8 developing ocean sports and recreation programmes and promoting opportunities (E)</p>	<p><u>Framework project</u></p> <p><u>Years 3-6</u></p> <p><u>ongoing</u></p>
<p><u>1.3</u> Provide a wide range of quality recreation and sporting opportunities that are easily accessed and affordable</p>	<p><u>1.3.1</u> Continue to ensure that the Council's user fees are affordable and encourage participation in sport and recreation through targeted programmes (E)</p> <p><u>1.3.2</u> Map and identify key walking and cycle links between different types of green and blue networks¹, in particular between inner city suburbs and the CBD (N)</p> <p><u>1.3.3</u> Ensure a consistent regional approach to fees and affordability (N)</p>	<p><u>n/a</u></p> <p><u>years 3-6</u></p> <p><u>N/A</u></p>
<p><u>1.4</u> Increase regular participation in recreation and sport</p>	<p><u>1.4.1</u> Work with Sport Wellington to monitor participation in physical activity and barriers to participation across the wider region (E)</p> <p><u>1.4.2</u> Draw on wider research, such as work done by Sport New Zealand, to identify the needs and barriers for young adults, people aged over 65, cultural minorities and those on low incomes (E)</p> <p><u>1.4.3</u> Encourage more people to walk and cycle to work and identify how the open-space network can promote off-road commuting (Ex)</p> <p><u>1.4.4</u> Work with health, <u>social service</u> and fitness providers across the region to encourage recreation as part of green prescription programmes (E)</p> <p>Youth</p> <p><u>1.4.5</u> Partner with Sport Wellington, primary and college sport to build links between clubs and schools to increase youth participation (Ex)</p> <p>Clubs</p> <p><u>1.4.6</u> Partner with Sport Wellington to organise and promote sport and recreation development opportunities for clubs (including greater partnerships with businesses and the community and marketing the activities on offer) (Ex)</p> <p><u>1.4.7</u> Regularly monitor the health of sports clubs to ensure that more clubs are sustainable over the long-</p>	<p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>Years 1-3</u></p> <p><u>Years 1-3</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>Years 1-3</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing</u></p>

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

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	<p>term. This includes assessing individual clubs to identify if any changes need to be made to how they are managed or operated to avoid difficulties (E)</p> <p><u>1.4.8</u> Identify opportunities for clubs to amalgamate and share facilities or services (E)</p>	<u>ongoing</u>
<p><u>1.5</u> Open spaces and outdoor recreation opportunities are close to where people live and work</p>	<p><u>1.5.1</u> Review the provision of open spaces in suburban areas based on guidelines of 600 metres or 10 minutes walk to one or more neighbourhood park, play space, or other outdoor recreation opportunity such as track links²-2 (N)</p> <p><u>1.5.2</u> Design the open-space network in 'greenfield' subdivisions to provide a significant majority of residential dwellings with access to neighbourhood parks or other outdoor recreation opportunities within 600 metres or 10 minutes walk (E)</p> <p><u>1.5.3</u> Adopt and implement national standards for park categories and corresponding levels of service³-3 (N)</p>	<p><u>Ongoing as part of network planning</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing as part of network planning</u></p> <p><u>Existing project</u></p>
<p><u>1.6</u> Our landscaped open spaces are designed and maintained in partnership with the community to enable personal safety, opportunities for socialising and an active and healthy lifestyle</p>	<p><u>1.6.1</u> Incorporate Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) and universal accessibility principles into new spaces and modifications of existing spaces (E)</p> <p><u>1.6.2</u> Encourage greater, flexible and more creative play for all ages (including young adults and the elderly) when developing neighbourhood park spaces (Ex)</p> <p><u>1.6.3</u> Ensure users with mobility challenges (eg with wheelchairs, pushchairs, or people with sight-impairments) can access an adequate range of spaces and opportunities (Ex)</p>	<p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>ongoing</u></p>

² Review already completed for some of the northern suburbs.

³ New Zealand Recreation Association's Parks Categories and Levels of Service.

WE WANT TO ENCOURAGE GREATER, FLEXIBLE AND MORE CREATIVE PLAY FOR ALL AGES AND ABILITIES

<p>1.7 Develop and enhance well-located park spaces as local destinations that provide a range of activities and experiences</p>	<p>1.7.1 In consultation with communities, develop, review and implement suburban reserve network plans⁴ to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 identify priority parks for investment (N) 2 ensure that frequently used spaces provide high quality amenities and activities for local communities (eg shelter, toilets and eating areas) (Ex) 3 ensure that those frequently used spaces are as <u>easily accessible as reasonably practicable for all people regardless of ability (Ex)</u> 4 identify spaces for alternative uses (eg for kick-about spaces, community gardens etc) (N) 5 ensure a wide range of recreational opportunities on our beaches, <u>foreshore</u> and waterfront (Ex) 6 <u>ensure diverse play, sport and recreation opportunities for all ages, cultures, income groups and abilities (Ex)</u> <p>1.7.2 Develop Newlands Park (N), Wakefield Park (Ex) and Alex Moore Park (E) into multi-purpose community spaces</p> <p>1.7.3 Explore the potential for developing a sport and community hub in Grenada North as the area is further developed and the number of people living here increases (N)</p> <p><u>1.7.4 Further develop the BMX track at Ian Galloway Park as a citywide destination (N)</u></p> <p>1.7.5 Suburban reserve network plans may identify further initiatives in addition to the above (N)</p>	<p><u>Year 1</u></p> <p><u>AMP Year 1-3, NP and WP Year 3-6</u></p> <p><u>To be confirmed</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>To be confirmed</u></p>
<p>1.8 We improve opportunities for people to access and enjoy open spaces in the central city</p>	<p>1.8.1 Implement the open-space components of the Central City Framework <u>and the Waterfront Framework</u> (E) in particular:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Memorial Park 2 a new park in the inner city 3 Victoria streetscape improvements 4 green roofs guidance and living walls 	<p><u>Ongoing</u></p>

⁴ Work will be carried out during the development of the Suburban Reserves Management Plan, which includes parks and reserves between Khandallah and Miramar.

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

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

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

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

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	<p>areas for birds (E)</p> <p>3 <u>educating and encouraging</u> landowners, residents and schools to enhance the wildlife and natural values of their properties (Ex)</p> <p><u>2.3.2 Expand the halo concept to other key ecological sites – for instance Otari-Wilton’s Bush (N)</u></p>	<p><u>Year 7-10</u></p>
<p>Celebrate Wellington’s sense of place through protection of key landscapes, our bush-clad hills and coastline</p>	<p>Recognise the importance and examine opportunities for protected public viewing points to major regional attractions, including views of the ocean and the Wellington skyline (Ex)</p>	
<p>Protect and maintain physical connections between different types of spaces (eg hills to reserves, parks to coast and to central city) and opportunities they provide</p> <p><u>2.4 Promote and facilitate the protection of open space</u></p>	<p><u>2.4.1 Develop guidelines for assessing acquisition proposals to protect and enhance open-space values (N)</u></p> <p><u>2.4.2 As a priority protect the following areas of open space:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Watts Peninsula and Palmer Head (Ex) <u>in conjunction with the Crown</u> 2 Belmont Gully <u>acquisition</u> (through development contributions) (E) 3 the Outer Green Belt between Johnsonville and Tawa through acquisition and/or easements (E) 4 former Town Belt land, held by the Crown (N) 5 Harbour (Hutt Road) Escarpment (N) <p><u>2.4.3 Provide for appropriate protection of physical landscape connections where necessary, including District Plan protection of hill-tops and skyline (E)</u></p>	<p><u>Years 1-3</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing on a case by case basis</u></p>
<p><u>2.5 Facilitate the restoration and protection of wetlands, streams, their catchments, and Wellington and Porirua harbours</u></p>	<p><u>2.5.1 Develop an integrated approach to the management of coastal open space. Continue to develop and implement integrated catchment management plans such as the Porirua Harbour and Catchment Strategy, Kaiwharawhara Catchment, and Owhiro Catchment (E)</u></p> <p><u>2.5.2 Work with partners on developing and implementing a “Blue Belt” programme which recognises and celebrates the harbour and its many values as part of the wider “Our Living City” programme (N)</u></p> <p><u>2.5.3 Include monitoring of biodiversity health in the existing water quality monitoring programme for streams and the waterways they flow into (Ex)</u></p> <p><u>2.5.4 Restore fish passages to priority streams (N)</u></p>	<p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>On case by case basis</u></p> <p><u>Year 3-6</u></p>

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	<p><u>2.5.5 Review the South Coast Management Plan (N) and in particular:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>the effects of coastal processes and future sea-level rise</u> • <u>increased recreational use and its effects on biodiversity and coastal resilience</u> • <u>coastal infrastructure, particularly sea walls, roads and car parks</u> 	
<p><u>2.6 Ensure that recreation activity does not compromise the biodiversity or other values of our open capital-spaces</u></p>	<p><u>2.6.1 Ensure that Manage track use and development and ensure it does not impact on biodiversity values (Ex)</u></p> <p><u>2.6.2 Promote and require responsible pet ownership to protect wildlife in our open spaces (Ex)</u></p> <p>Map and identify key walking and cycle links between different types of green networks, in particular between inner city suburbs and the CBD (N)</p> <p><u>2.6.3 Manage use of our open spaces by large groups or high-impact activities through developing a Concessions Policy (N)</u></p>	<p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>ongoing</u></p> <p><u>Years 1-3</u></p>

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

PRIORITIES	ACTIONS	TIMING
<p><u>3.1 Our natural attractions showcase our environment and conservation values</u></p>	<p><u>3.1.1 Otari-Wilton’s Bush, Wellington Botanic Garden, Outer Green Belt, Wellington Town Belt, Skyline Walkway, Zealandia and Wellington Zoo continue to showcase Wellington as an eco-city (Ex)</u></p>	<p><u>Additional funding may be required on a case by case basis</u></p>
<p><u>3.2 Raise awareness of opportunities to visit, connect and contribute to Wellington’s natural attractions</u></p>	<p><u>3.2.1 Develop and implement education programmes, improve signs and information on biodiversity (Ex)</u></p> <p><u>3.2.2 Promote community involvement in ecological restoration programmes (Ex)</u></p> <p><u>3.2.3 Continue to support enviro-schools programmes (E)</u></p>	<p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing</u></p>
<p><u>3.3 The open-space network provides a range of venues for community, national and international events</u></p>	<p><u>3.3.1 Work to secure regional and national tournaments and events that use our parks, outdoor spaces and recreation facilities, particularly where this generates sizeable economic growth (E)</u></p> <p><u>3.3.2 Identify and maintain key facilities to host national and international artistic, cultural and sporting events (E)</u></p> <p><u>3.3.3 Make more open spaces suitable to host events,</u></p>	<p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing</u></p>

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	including having suitable infrastructure and flexibility of use (Ex)	
<p><u>3.4</u> The Wellington region is recognised as one of New Zealand's premier mountain-biking destinations</p>	<p><u>3.4.1 Proactively develop mountain biking as one of the key attractions for visitors in the Wellington Region (N).</u></p>	<u>Year 1-3</u>
	<p><u>3.4.2 Coordinate and manage mountain-biking track and facility development on a regional basis including the development of Spicer Recreationional Park and the heritage park on Watts Peninsula (N)</u></p>	<u>Year 1-6</u>
	<p><u>3.4.3 Maintain, operate and develop Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park in partnership with Makara Peak Supporters (E)</u></p>	<u>ongoing</u>
	<p>Review the opportunities to increase mountain-biking activities and use through the development of Spicer Recreationional Park and Watts Peninsula (N)</p>	
<p><u>3.5</u> Celebrate Wellington's sense of place through protection, management and <u>interpretation</u> of key landscapes, our bush-clad hills and coastline</p>	<p><u>3.5.1 Continue to plant and manage exotic plants for their aesthetic, cultural, heritage and education values where they do not <u>threaten</u> indigenous biodiversity (E)</u></p>	<u>Ongoing</u>
	<p><u>3.5.2 Develop tools to recognise our natural capital (ecosystems, water catchments and erosion control) and its contribution to liveability, <u>health/wellbeing</u>, <u>sense of place</u>, recreation, biodiversity and economy (Ex)</u></p>	<u>ongoing</u>
	<p><u>3.5.3 Actively profile and promote Wellington's unique natural environment (Ex)</u></p>	
<p><u>3.6</u> <u>Protect and celebrate historic and cultural values</u></p>	<p><u>3.6.1 Ensure that valuable archaeological sites and historic features are protected from current and future developments (including through the planning process) and are not overly compromised by sport, recreation and environmental activities (E)</u></p>	<u>ongoing</u>
	<p><u>3.6.2 Make our cultural and historic heritage evident in the protection, design and use of open spaces (E)</u></p>	
	<p><u>3.6.3 Ensure that signage, brochures, websites, apps and other information provide good descriptions of historical and cultural features around our open spaces (N)</u></p>	
<p><u>3.7</u> <u>Use our open spaces to increase resilience during emergencies</u></p>	<p><u>3.7.1 As part of civil defence planning, scope and understand the functions that different spaces can provide in the event of earthquakes, tsunamis, rough storms, liquefaction, and other emergencies (E)</u></p>	<u>Years 1-3</u>

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Outcome 4 – Doing it together

PRIORITIES	ACTIONS	TIMING
4.1 Facilitate and support community involvement in the management of open spaces	<p>4.1.1 Target consultation to encourage more people <u>(including individuals, organisations, ethnic groups and communities)</u> to participate in the management and design of open spaces, eg suburban parks and reserves plans (E)</p> <p>4.1.2 Partner <u>and resource</u> community and environmental groups (Ex) to manage <u>projects that will achieve the priorities outlined in this plan. In particular (Ex):</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 <u>ecological restoration projects</u> 2 <u>track development</u> 3 <u>facilities such as the Berhampore Golf Course and Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park</u> <p>4.1.3 Develop and implement further volunteering initiatives to help promote involvement and management of our open spaces (Ex)</p> <p>4.1.4 Collaborate with and support the growing online meet-up groups that get people active in our open spaces (Ex)</p> <p>4.1.5 Support outdoor events and other community initiatives by providing advice, training, grants, and subsidies for venues and equipment (E)</p>	<p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>Years 1-3</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing</u></p>
4.2 Collaborate with <u>partner agencies to effectively protect and manage biodiversity</u>	<p>4.2.1 <u>Demonstrate and facilitate regional environmental guardianship (E)</u></p> <p>4.2.2 <u>Increase consistency in the ways we and partner agencies manage and support community groups (Ex)</u></p> <p>4.2.3 <u>Work with adjacent local authorities to protect large-scale linkages/corridors on a regional scale and ensure cross-boundary management of important catchments and ecosystems (Ex)</u></p>	<p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>ongoing</u></p>
4.3 Partner with landowners to improve access to and use of open space	<p>4.3.1 Partner with schools to identify opportunities to use their open spaces and facilities for sporting and recreational activities (Ex)</p> <p>4.3.2 Work with landowners on the Outer Green Belt to negotiate access along the Skyline Walkway (E)</p> <p>4.3.3 Support the development of a heritage park on Watts Peninsula in conjunction with the Crown (N)</p>	<p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>Years 1-3</u></p> <p><u>Dependent on Crown</u></p>
4.4 Work in partnership with mana whenua	4.4.1 Co-manage reserve land vested in mana whenua (E)	<u>Ongoing</u>

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	<p><u>4.4.2</u> Work in partnership with mana whenua to manage the Town Belt (E)</p> <p><u>4.4.3</u> Support Māori community-based groups to practise kaitiakitanga (guardianship), and to use our open spaces for the development of Indigenous knowledge and traditional activities, such as raranga (weaving), for the benefit of all (E)</p>	<p><u>Ongoing</u></p> <p><u>Ongoing</u></p>
<p><u>4.5</u> Work together as a region</p>	<p><u>4.5.1</u> Ensure a coordinated approach for the provision, development, management and protection of open spaces and programmes / projects across the Wellington Region, consistent with the Wellington Regional Open Space Strategy (E)</p>	<p><u>Ongoing</u></p>

~~2 Review already completed for some of the northern suburbs.~~

~~3 New Zealand Recreation Association's Parks Categories and Levels of Service.~~

~~4 Work will be carried out during the development of the Suburban Reserves Management Plan, which includes parks and reserves between Khandallah and Miramar.~~

Summary of Submissions

One hundred and ninety one submissions were received on the draft Our Capital Spaces. Of the 191 submissions, 159 directly responded to the questionnaire (in Table 2 below) and 32 provided their entire response outside the questionnaire format.

One hundred and seventy six submissions were sent by email and 15 were sent on hard copy. One hundred and forty five submissions were sent by individuals and 46 were sent by organisations.

Twenty seven submitters presented their submissions to Councillors orally on 1 August 2013.

Overview

Table 2 summarises the responses to each question (from submitters who directly answered the questions):

	Yes	Unsure	No
Q1. Do you think Our Capital Spaces sets the right priorities and actions?	48%	30%	22%
Q2. Do you agree that we need to do more to raise awareness about local play, sport and recreation opportunities?	81%	9%	10%
Q3. Do you support how we plan to partner with and support sports clubs as the nature of participation in sport and recreation changes?	66%	26%	8%
Q4. Do you support the concept of investing in parks, recreational and community spaces where a range of activities are possible? Do you support this even if it means limiting investment in parks that do not appeal to a wide range of people or do not have important roles for protecting nature?	61%	20%	19%
Q5. Will the suggestions in Our Capital Spaces make it easy for you to get active?	51%	32%	17%
Q6. Do you support the focus on short local tracks that are accessible to local communities?	74%	16%	9%
Q7. Do you think we need to continue protecting and/or acquiring new land to expand the network of open spaces as the city grows?	90%	4%	6%
Q8. Do you agree with our focus on restoring more ecological areas and encouraging native birds and other important species into every community?	97%	1%	2%
Q9. Do you agree with how we plan to develop, celebrate and promote our natural attractions?	80%	11%	9%
Q10. Do you support more community involvement in, and management of, our parks, playgrounds, reserves and other open spaces?	91%	8%	1%

The relatively low “Yes” response rate to question 1 was mainly due to:

- (a) submitters wanting certain issues covered (mainly extending Our Capital Spaces to cover the harbour, ocean sports, streams and their catchments). More details (including the extra issues submitters want covered) are provided below, and
- (b) submitters wanting more funding for areas (such as mountain bike tracks).

The relatively low “Yes” response rate to question 4 was mainly due to:

- (a) many submitters valuing single use parks for mountain - biking, and
- (b) some concerns that Council would decide to put less investment in certain spaces without sufficiently consulting local communities and / or considering the potential future (not just current) values of spaces.

The relatively low “Yes” response rate to question 5 was mainly due to many respondents feeling that they are already active and not needing any new framework or initiatives to increase their activity.

Many submitters pointed out (for Question 10) that while they support greater community involvement in open spaces and recreation opportunities, they want Council to adequately resource community, volunteer and civic groups. This includes Council providing adequate funding, guidance, tools (e.g. spades, saws, protective clothing), and expertise to such groups.

The tables below show the most common comments from submissions and officer recommendations with proposed changes to “Our Capital Spaces”:

General scope

Main issues raised	Response
Capital Spaces should discuss restoring ecology in and around streams, the harbour, waterfront, coast and other marine areas	Scope of document widened to emphasise these areas of open space. Recognised the harbour as a key area of open space that needs an integrated approach (for protection and sport).
The document does not mention the need to protect and interpret the heritage values of the open space network	Added a new priority 3.6 to Outcome 3: <i>“Protect and celebrate historic and cultural values”</i>
Need to emphasise that passive recreation and leisure are important uses of open space	Made change in section 2 to recognise this: <i>“open space and recreation areas are vital to our lifestyle, health and wellbeing, culture environment and economy”</i>
Need to have wide ranging strategy to make open spaces accessible to all round accessibility, connectivity and usability	Incorporated this within the document and referenced to Accessibility Action Plan. For example, action 1.9.3: <i>Review local track networks as part of the development of the Suburban Reserves Management Plan with a focus on tracks accessible to all ages and abilities (N)</i>

Outcome 1 – Getting everyone active and healthy

Main issues raised	Response
Electronic information is useful but many people still need signage and hard copies of brochures etc	Emphasised the need for clear accessible signage and a variety of information sources and modes.
There seems to be an emphasis on organised sport to the detriment of informal recreation and leisure	Emphasised the wider range of informal recreation opportunities in Section 3: <i>“We also need to provide a range of open spaces and recreation links for informal activities such as walking, running, cycling and kick-around areas, as well as passive recreation and leisure activities such as picnics”</i>
Generally making it easier to access and participate in sport and recreation for all ages, cultures and income groups, regardless of ability	Added a new bullet point in action 1.7.1 to <i>“Ensure diverse play, sport and recreation opportunities for all ages, cultures, income groups and abilities (Ex)”</i>
Well used open spaces are not just formal parks spaces but can be other areas on the coast or even reserves	Changed wording in Section 2 to emphasise this: <i>“Open spaces other than parks can provide a wide range of activities for the whole community, for instance, Oriental Parade, Lyall Bay, Waitangi Park and the waterfront. These areas are well used for many purposes and make great use of the inner harbour, coastline and beaches”.</i>
Note that smaller spaces are more effective in the cbd so do not focus totally on larger use multi use open space.	Added to Section 2: <i>“We will continue to ensure that well-used spaces are adequately provided in the central city. Such spaces do not need to be large but should be well-designed and located with adequate seating, shelter and other amenities. Examples include Midland Park and Glover Park.”</i>
Focus on longer tracks that provide links to communities rather than short tracks	The document did emphasise the need for a focus on longer tracks where they had multiple values such as this. Some slight wording change to emphasise this. There is still a need for short, accessible tracks that can be used by all. These will be identified during the

	preparation of the Suburban Reserves Management Plan.
Need more challenging play equipment and space for children and adults	This intent is covered in action 1.6.2: <i>Encourage greater, flexible and more creative play for all ages (including young adults and the elderly) when developing neighbourhood park spaces (Ex)</i>
Need details now of which smaller spaces will have limited investment in them.	Our Capital Spaces identifies the criteria to review suburban open spaces. This will occur during the preparation of the Suburban Reserves Management Plan and will be open for further consultation. In other parts of the city, any major changes will be consulted on, particularly if there are proposals to divest open space.
Need to recognise the role of open space in active transport	Added in action 1.9.4: <i>Identify opportunities for active transport routes through the open spaces network as part of the Transport Strategy review (N)</i>
Need to manage any conflicts between different recreation activities (e.g. walking and cycling) and provide some spaces for use by only walkers or bikers.	The Open Space Access Plan identifies most tracks as multi use unless areas are declared closed to mountain bikers. Expanded action 1.9.2: <i>Continue to develop the track network for shared use wherever appropriate, while managing any conflicts between different activities (such as cycling and walking) (E)</i>

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

Main issues raised	Response
<p>Participants in the ecology workshop identified several changes to the priorities to better link with the actions and outcomes</p>	<p>Amended Priority 2.1: <i>Protect and restore indigenous biodiversity, and demonstrate kaitiakitanga (guardianship), environmental guardianship and care</i></p> <p>Amended Priority 2.2: <i>Create ecological networks within the city to ensure movement of key indigenous species, as well as connectivity to the wider landscape. using reserves network, road reserves, future greenfield sites and space within the CBD</i></p> <p>Amended Priority 2.3: <i>Develop a halo (or ecological buffer zone) around Zealandia biodiversity hotspots</i></p> <p>Amended Priority 2.4: <i>Promote and facilitate the protection of open space</i></p> <p>Amended Priority 2.5: <i>Facilitate the restoration and protection of wetlands, streams, their catchments, and Wellington and Porirua harbours</i></p>
<p>Need to develop a long term plan to introduce secondary species in indigenous ecosystems</p>	<p>Added a new action 2.1.3: <i>Complete a restoration planting strategy for the city, ensuring that a diverse range of indigenous plant species are restored in the appropriate locations (E).</i></p>

<p>Don't limit the halo project to Zealandia in the longer term</p>	<p>Added a new action 2.3.2:</p> <p><i>Expand the halo concept to other key ecological sites – for instance Otari-Wilton's Bush</i></p>
<p>Need some guidelines and/or criteria around priorities for protection/acquisition, particularly as the city's population grows</p>	<p>Added a new action 2.4.1:</p> <p><i>Develop guidelines for assessing acquisition proposals to protect and enhance open space values (N)</i></p>
<p>The plan is lacking an integrated approach to protection of the blue belt and in particular catchment management</p>	<p>In action 2.5.1, made link to Our Living City Blue Belt Programme to:</p> <p><i>Develop an integrated approach to the management of coastal open space. Continue to develop and implement integrated catchment management plans such as the Porirua Harbour and Catchment Strategy, Kaiwharawhara Catchment, and Owhiro Catchment (E).</i></p>
<p>Recommend that the South Coast Management Plan be reviewed with a changed scope and emphasis on coastal processes /resilience and recreational use.</p>	<p>Added a new action 2.5.5:</p> <p><i>Review the South Coast Management Plan (N) as part of the Area Management Plan review, and in particular:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>the effects of coastal processes and future sea level rise</i> • <i>increased recreational use and its effects on biodiversity and coastal resilience</i> • <i>coastal infrastructure particularly sea walls, roads and car parks</i>
<p>Need to ensure that recreation activities (e.g. track building) do not adversely impact biodiversity</p>	<p>Expanded action 2.6.1</p> <p><i>“Manage track use and development and ensure it does not impact on biodiversity values (Ex)”</i></p>
<p>Need to manage commercial activities including fitness groups to minimise conflict with other users and their effects on open space</p>	<p>Addressed in current Long-Term Plan 2.6.3:</p> <p><i>Manage use of our open spaces by large groups or high-impact activities through developing a Concessions Policy (N)</i></p>

Outcome 3 Contributing to Wellington’s outstanding quality of life

Main issues raised	Response
Wellington can become a major mountain bike destination to rival Rotorua and Queenstown. Need a coordinated approach and commitment from the Council	<p>Added a new action 3.4.1:</p> <p><i>Proactively develop mountain biking as one of the key attractions for visitors in the Wellington Region (N).</i></p>
Need to have long term plans for development of the future mountain bike network, including the need for single use tracks/areas for both walkers and bikers	<p>Added a new action 3.4.2:</p> <p><i>Coordinate and manage mountain-biking track and facility development on a regional basis including the development of Spicer Recreation Park and the heritage park on Watts Peninsula (N)</i></p>
Need to protect important historic sites within the open space network	<p>Added new actions:</p> <p><i>3.6.1 Ensure that valuable archaeological sites and historic features are protected from current and future developments (including through the planning process) and are not overly-compromised by sport, recreation and environmental activities (E)</i></p> <p><i>3.6.2 Make our cultural and historic heritage evident in the protection, design and use of open spaces (E)</i></p> <p><i>3.6.3 Ensure that signage, brochures, websites, apps and other information provide good descriptions of historical and cultural features around our open spaces (Ex)</i></p>
Recognise the role of open spaces in resilience planning and civil emergencies	<p>Added a new action 3.7.1:</p> <p><i>As part of civil defence planning, scope and understand the functions that different spaces can provide in the event of earthquakes, tsunamis, rough storms, liquefaction, and other emergencies (N)</i></p>

Outcome 4 – Doing it together

Main issues raised	Response
Partnership is two sided and requires resourcing from both sides (including providing partners with sufficient expertise, equipment, funding and other support). The volunteer community cannot do it without Council support	<p>Changed action 4.1.2 to:</p> <p><i>Partner and resource community and environmental groups (Ex) to manage projects that will achieve the priorities outlined in this plan</i></p>
Take a regional approach to biodiversity and work with adjacent territorial authorities and land managers	<p>Added a new priority 4.2 to:</p> <p><i>Collaborate with partner agencies to effectively protect and manage biodiversity</i></p>
Need to work with and support urban Maori groups and organisations	<p>Added a new action 4.4.3 to:</p> <p><i>Support Māori community-based groups to practise kaitiakitanga (guardianship), and to use our open spaces for the development of Indigenous knowledge and traditional activities, such as raranga (weaving), for the benefit of all (E)</i></p>