4 NOVEMBER 2015



ORDINARY MEETING

OF

ALLOWING CAMPING AT HAPPY VALLEY PARK SUBCOMMITTEE

AGENDA

Time: 1:00 pm

Date: Wednesday, 4 November 2015

Venue: Committee Room 1

Ground Floor, Council Offices

101 Wakefield Street

Wellington

MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Eagle Councillor Free Councillor Lee Councillor Pannett (Chair) Councillor Woolf

Have your say!

You can make a short presentation to the Councillors at this meeting. Please let us know by noon the working day before the meeting. You can do this either by phoning 803-8334, emailing public.participation@wcc.govt.nz or writing to Democratic Services, Wellington City Council, PO Box 2199, Wellington, giving your name, phone number and the issue you would like to talk about.

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AREA OF FOCUS

The Subcommittee has responsibility to hear submissions on the proposal to amend the suburban reserves management plan 2015, to allow camping as a managed activity of part of Happy Valley and report back to the Environment Committee.

Quorum: 3 members.

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4 NOVEMBER 2015

TABLE OF CONTENTS 4 NOVEMBER 2015

Business			Page No.	
1.	Meeting C	Conduct	5	
	1.1 Apol	ogies	5	
	1. 2 Conf	lict of Interest Declarations	5	
	1. 3 Conf	irmation of Minutes	Error! Bookmark not defined.	
	1. 4 Publ	ic Participation	Error! Bookmark not defined.	
	1.5 Items	s not on the Agenda	Error! Bookmark not defined.	
2.	General B	usiness	7	
		ving Camping at Happy Val nissions	ley Park Oral 7	

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4 NOVEMBER 2015

1 Meeting Conduct

1.1 Apologies

The Chairperson invites notice from members of apologies, including apologies for lateness and early departure from the meeting, where leave of absence has not previously been granted.

1. 2 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

4 NOVEMBER 2015

2. General Business

ALLOWING CAMPING AT HAPPY VALLEY PARK ORAL SUBMISSIONS

Purpose

 To provide a copy of the submissions and a list of submitters making oral submissions in support of their written submissions on "the proposed amendment to the Suburban Reserves Management Plan that will allow camping as a managed activity on part of Happy Valley Park".

Summary

- 2. On 6 August 2015 the Environment Committee agreed to consult with public on the proposed campground at Happy Valley Park.
- On 17 September the Environment Committee agreed to establish a subcommittee to review submissions and hear oral submission on the proposed campground at Happy Valley Park. Consultation ran from Monday 14 September to Monday 12 October 2015.
- 4. In total one hundred and twenty eight sumbissions were received with eight submitters indicating that they wished to be heard. A schedule of submitters and a copy of all submissions received have been attached.

Recommendations

That the Allowing Camping at Happy Valley Park Subcommittee:

1. Receive the oral submissions.

Attachments

Attachment 1.	Proposed Happy Valley Camping Subcommittee oral hearing schedule	Page 8
Attachment 2.	Proposed Happy Valley Camping Subcommittee oral hearing submissions recieved	Page 9

Author	Amber Bill, Open Space and Spec Parks Manager
Authoriser Anthony Wilson, Chief Asset Officer	

Item 2.1 Page 7

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Summary of Submissions to be heard

Submitter Number	Submitter Name & Organisation	Start Time	End Time	Page
69	Catharina Giddy - Owhiro Bay School	4/11/2015 1:20:00 p.m.	4/11/2015 1:30:00 p.m.	9
76	Steve Hanrahan - Tourism Industry Association	4/11/2015 1:10:00 p.m.	4/11/2015 1:20:00 p.m.	13
87	Maria van der Meel	4/11/2015 1:00:00 p.m.	4/11/2015 1:10:00 p.m.	15
97	Tracy Street - Owhiro Bay Residents Association	4/11/2015 1:45:00 p.m.	4/11/2015 1:55:00 p.m.	17
101	James Imlach - New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc.	4/11/2015 2:00:00 p.m.	4/11/2015 2:10:00 p.m.	19
111	Peter Carter	4/11/2015 1:40:00 p.m.	4/11/2015 1:45:00 p.m.	20
122	Peter Noble	4/11/2015 1:30:00 p.m.	4/11/2015 1:35:00 p.m.	22

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4 NOVEMBER 2015



Monday 5 October 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

On behalf of Owhiro Bay School I wish to oppose the amendment to the Suburban Reserves Management Plan which would allow camping as a managed activity on Happy Valley Park.

The proximity of the proposed camping area to Owhiro Bay School raises the following concerns/ issues in relation to student health and safety;

- Increased traffic due to cars/vans going up and down the road and potentially more parents dropping their children to and from school.
- Potential exposure to less than desirable behaviour for those students walking past the site on their way to and from school
- Increased potential for vandalism to school property and grounds especially when the busy period covers the 6 weeks that school is closed.
- Environmental impacts especially on stream which runs alongside the school

Furthermore based on the current camping site experiences of the Owhiro Bay community I have serious concerns regarding:

- Camp site management capability
- Fluid numbers with the potential for growth resulting in expansion onto the sports field
- · Possible negative impact over time on school roll numbers

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Given all of the above I do not believe that Happy Valley Park is the most suitable venue available to the Council and urge that you reconsider previous options as outlined by Amber Bill at our Board of Trustees meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Tineke Giddy

on behalf of Owhiro Bay School

Attachment 2 Proposed Happy Valley Camping Subcommittee oral hearing submissions recieved

ALLOWING CAMPING AT HAPPY VALLEY PARK SUBCOMMITTEE

Absolutely Positively **Wellington** City Council Me Heke Ki Pöneke

4 NOVEMBER 2015

Have your say on allowing camping at Happy Valley Park

Absolutely Positively Wellington City Council Me Heke Ki Pöneke

your name and co	ntact details
Mr Mrs	Ms Miss Dr
First name*	Last name
(1/ ·	Cill Coll
Catharina	Everyl Johang Glady
treet address*	1/// 1/2 /
100 Hays	ay Valley Kead
Phone/mobile //	Email
04	1189 office c owhiro. School. nz
Mandatory fields	
As an individual	On behalf of an organisation, Name of organisation Owhire Bay School
would like to make an	oral submission Yes No
Ve are keen to get you	r views on allowing camping at Happy Valley Park.
You can have your say:	 complete this form, detach and post back to us
submit online at we	lligaton govt nz (no postage required)
	to happyvalleycamping@wcc.govt.nz • request an opportunity to make an oral submission.
Submissions are due by	5pm, Monday 12 October 2015
Disclaimer-	
All submissions (including na	me and contact details) are published and made available to elected members of the Council and the public. Personal information
supplied will be used for the	and contact declary are posterior back to elected members of the Council and the public as part of the consultation process. All information
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4 NOVEMBER 2015

. Ar	ere any other changes you think should be included? (please tick)	
	□No,	
Yo	omments	
. D	have other comments? (Please attach additional pages if you need to)	

Please return this submission form by 5pm 12 October 2015.

2nd fold here

Free Post Authority Number 2199

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Freepost Wellington City Council
Happy Valley Camping, Parks, Sport & Recreation (REPL01)
Wellington City Council
PO Box 2199
Wellington 6140

ALLOWING CAMPING AT HAPPY VALLEY PARK SUBCOMMITTEE

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4 NOVEMBER 2015

Submitter Details

First Name: Steve Last Name: Hanrahan

Organisation: Tourism Industry Association

Street: PO Box 1697

Suburb:

City: Wellington

Country:

PostCode: 6140

Daytime Phone: 04 4941849

Mobile: 0279122624

eMail: steve.hanrahan@tianz.org.nz

Wishes to be heard:

Yes

I do NOT wish to speak in support of my submission and ask that the following submission be fully considered.

Correspondence to:

- Submitter
- Agent
- @ Both

Submission

Do you support the amendment to the Suburban Reserves Management Plan, which will allow camping on part of Happy Valley Park?

- Oppose
- Neither support/ nor oppose
- Support

Why do you say this?

The amendment is a pragmatic and positive response to addressing the issues caused by excess demand for camping in Wellington. Annual international visitors exceeded 3m for the first time during 2015, and this annual number is forecast to grow. Many visitors are choosing to self-drive and within this are a growing number who also choose to camp. The TIA view is that camping should occur in Holiday Parks, DOC Campsites, or designated camping sites. Non-self contained vehicles staying in designated camping sites should only stay in those with a toilet. The provision of a camping site at Happy Valley Park will provide a positive and safe visitor experience for those coming to Wellington. It will build on the reputation of Wellington as a preferred destination, and address community concerns about overcrowding at the current designated sites.

If you support camping as an activity in this area, do you have an opinion on how the camp site is managed, eg self-service with daily visits,

on-site camp manager?

- Self-service with daily visits
- On-site camp manager
- Other management

Why do you say this?

While the camping ground meets a functional need i.e. a place to park and sleep, we should also

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4 NOVEMBER 2015

prom	der the visitor experience. This experience is enhanced by having staff on-site. They can do otly with queries and issues as they arise, and contribute strongly to visitors having a rable experience when they visit Wellington.
Are th	nere any other changes you think should be included?
G V	
€ Yes	
Your	comments
	upport the option of a private-sector response to running the facility. The tourism industry h
	y strong holiday parks sector, with a lot of experience in running camping sites and holiday. Drawing on this capability makes sense and provides expertise and investment that is
	ble within the sector.
_	
Do yo	ou have other comments?
Comr	nents
-	
Attach	ned Documents
File	

ALLOWING CAMPING AT HAPPY VALLEY PARK SUBCOMMITTEE

Absolutely Positively Wellington City Council Me Heke Ki Pöneke

Submitter Details

4 NOVEMBER 2015

First Name: Maria

Last Name: van der Meel
Street: 2/20 Trent Street
Suburb: Island Bay
City: Wellington
Country: New Zealand
PostCode: 6023

Daytime Phone: 04) 3834993

Mobile: 027-3226311

eMail: thecityisours1@hotmail.com

Wishes to be heard:

· Yes

I do NOT wish to speak in support of my submission and ask that the following submission be fully considered.

Correspondence to:

- Submitter
- Agent
- @ Both

Submission

Do you support the amendment to the Suburban Reserves Management Plan, which will allow camping on part of Happy Valley Park?

- Oppose
- Neither support/ nor oppose
- Support

Why do you say this?

Safety concerns with increased traffic movements close to a school and kindergarten. As suggested by the statement of proposal approximately 100 vehicles per day look for camping sites around Wellington, this needs to be verified by reports from an independent source like the AA with definite numbers to support this claim as it may be a conservative guess. A perceived disadvantage to cricket and foot ball clubs who currently use the car park and changing sheds all year around; including limitations to unloading all the gear needed to play the game. These grounds are well used despite what the officers say in the statement of proposal. Therefore the above mentioned sports codes who are permanent users of the grounds must each be consulted so elected members can get an idea of how much they actually rely on these facilities including the car-park. The Statement of Proposal suggestion only junior and college cricket and football teams use the lower grade sportsfields is incorrect. Both Island Bay and Brooklyn Football Clubs rely heavily on the availability of these grounds for their Senior and Social teams to play; because of the location of the fields they predominantly arrive by car mainly in the weekends. No plan B?

If you support camping as an activity in this area, do you have an opinion on how the camp site is managed, eg self-service with daily visits, on-site camp manager?

- Self-service with daily visits
- On-site camp manager
- Other management

4 NOVEMBER 2015

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Why do you say this?

Are there any other changes you think should be included?

Yes
No
Your comments

Do you have other comments?

Comments

Attached Documents

File
Allowing Camping at Happy Valley Park

ALLOWING CAMPING AT HAPPY VALLEY PARK SUBCOMMITTEE

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4 NOVEMBER 2015

Submitter Details

First Name: Tracy Last Name: Street

Organisation: Owhiro Bay Residents Association
On behalf of: Owhiro bay community

Street: 176 Owhiro Bay Parade

Suburb: Owhiro Bay City: Wellington

Country:

PostCode: 6023

Daytime Phone: 027 470 1110 Mobile: 027 470 1110

eMail: owhirobayresidentsassoc@gmail.com

@ Yes

I do NOT wish to speak in support of my submission and ask that the following submission be fully considered.

Correspondence to:

- Submitter
- Agent
- @ Both

Submission

Do you support the amendment to the Suburban Reserves Management Plan, which will allow camping on part of Happy Valley Park?

- Oppose
- Neither support/ nor oppose
- Support

Why do you say this?

In our recent survey on this matter 77% of responses do not support this campground proposal. This was also evident at the Oct 8 public meeting on the matter.

If you support camping as an activity in this area, do you have an opinion on how the camp site is managed, eg self-service with daily visits,

on-site camp manager?

- Self-service with daily visits
- On-site camp manager
- Other management

Why do you say this?

If the campground does go ahead the locals feel that constant management is one of the key ways to mitigate the risks raised by the community.

Are there any other changes you think should be included?

• Yes

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Your comments

4 NOVEMBER 2015

€ No

The community has concerns about: Traffic Levels & Management (69%), Rubbish(87%), Impact on the Owhiro Stream (87%), Noise (56%) & safety for children at the school/kindy (66%)

Do you have other comments?

Comments

The WCC consultation process is asking the community to provide support for a proposal which has little firm information. It would be good if after the results of this consultation, that if the thinking is to proceed further then a proposal with detail on management, fees, other site learnings etc could be worked through with the community. Also this proposal does not provide a solution for the impact of the Te Kopahou Reserve changes - where will the overflow from Dec go? Finally our organisation is disappointed that more options have not been progressed to address this important and ongoing issue for Wellington eg Princess Bay, Lyall Bay, Moa Point.

Attached Documents

File

Allowing Camping at Happy Valley Park

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Wellington City Council

4 NOVEMBER 2015



09 October 2015

Happy Valley Camping, Parks, Sport & Recreation Wellington City Council P.O Box 2199 WELLINGTON 6140

Emailed to: policy.submissions@wcc.govt.nz

SUBMISSION ON THE WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL PROPOSED CAMPSITE AT HAPPY VALLEY PARK AND AMENDMENTS TO THE SUBURBAN RESERVES MANAGEMENT PLAN 2015

INTRODUCTION

- The New Zealand Motor Caravan Association appreciates the opportunity to submit
 on this proposal. We represent the interests of over 60,000 New Zealanders who
 share a passion for exploring our country at leisure in their purpose-built
 motorhomes and caravans. Our purpose is to foster and advance the motor caravan
 movement by providing relevant services and information, promoting fellowship,
 vehicle safety, road courtesy and protection of the environment.
- Local feedback suggests NZMCA members will stay at this campsite when
 visiting/passing through Wellington. We SUPPORT the proposed layout and
 amendments to the reserve management plan, in particular the new policy ensuring
 the site is sensitively designed to enhance the landscape values of the local area.
- We commend the Council for continuing with this proactive approach towards camping, and its willingness to cater for the diverse needs of campervan visitors to Wellington. Please let us know how the NZMCA can help you promote responsible and safe camping on site.
- 4. At this stage, we would appreciate the opportunity to speak at the hearing.

Yours faithfully New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc.

James Imlach

Resource Management Planner E james@nzmca.org.nz P 09 298 5466 ext. 705 M 027 298 5648

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4 Graham Road Takanini 2112 PO Box 72147 Papakura 2244 E enquiries@nzmca.org.nz P 09 298 5466 F 09 298 5646 www.nzmca.org.nz

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Have your say on allowing camping at Happy Valley Park

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Section one - details for the submission form
Enter your name and contact details
Mr Mrs Ms Miss Dr First name* Last name PECFIVED Street address* GL Happy Valley Rd. Phone/mobile Email D2 1 26 5 8915 * Mandatory fields i am making a submission Mas an individual On behalf of an organisation, Name of organisation Resident I would like to make an oral submission Yes No
We are keen to get your views on allowing camping at Happy Valley Park.
You can have your say: • submit online at wellington.govt.nz, • email a submission to happyvalleycamping@wcc.govt.nz • complete this form, detach and post back to us (no postage required) • request an opportunity to make an oral submission. Submissions are due by 5pm, Monday 12 October 2015 Disclaimer: All submissions (including name and contact details) are published and made available to elected members of the Council and the public. Personal information supplied will be used for the administration and reporting back to elected members of the Council and the public as part of the consultation process. All information collected will be held by Wellington City Council, 101 Wakefield Street, Wellington. Submitters have the right to access and correct personal information.
Questions 1. Do you support the amendment to the Suburban Reserves Management Plan, which will allow camping on part of Happy Valley Park? (Please circle) [Oppose Neither support/nor oppose Support Why do you say this? It would not be consistent with residential values of the area 2 Better options would be available (see 4)
2. If you support camping as an activity in this area, do you have an opinion on how the camp site is managed, eg self-service with daily visits, on-site camp manager? Self-service with daily visits On-site camp manager Other management Why do you say this? * A commercial motor comp with on site manager. * The coast should be managed by council for freedom company limited stany monitored electronically. extra facilities * Plenty of room for expansion around coasts * Camper enjoy recretional valuer of South Coast.

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4 NOVEMBER 2015

3. Are there any other changes you think should be included? (please tick)
Eves INO. People using the sports ground for soccer and
Your comments foot ball should have to park in this area
as they currently obstruct Happy Valley Road which is
as they currently obstruct Happy Valley Road which is a basig main road. O Safety issue @ road of regiona importance - access
4. Do you have other comments? (Please attach additional pages if you need to) (3) This park is an important recreational facility for amateur sperk and is well used - parking should be developed at northern end. Muscling road is underused
A The tank town reserve on Murchison road is underweed
and could be developed as a commercial comping ground which could also cater for comper with Dogs.
could also cater for comper with Dogs.

1st fold here - fasten here once folded

Please return this submission form by 5pm 12 October 2015.

2nd fold here

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Freepost Wellington City Council Happy Valley Camping, Parks, Sport & Recreation (REPL01) Wellington City Council PO Box 2199 Wellington 6140



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4 NOVEMBER 2015

Fiona Lewis

From: Sharon Bennett on behalf of BUS: Policy Submission

Sent: Monday, 12 October 2015 12:05 p.m.

To: Happy Valley Camping

Subject: FW: Submission on Happy Valley Camp site proposal

Attachments: Submission on changes to Happy Valley Park to become a camping ground.docx

From: pm noble@yahoo.co.nz [mailto:pm noble@yahoo.co.nz]

Sent: Monday, 12 October 2015 10:36 a.m.

To: BUS: Policy Submission

Subject: Submission on Happy Valley Camp site proposal

Please find attached my submission on the proposed changes to the Happy Valley Park car park.

Peter Noble 84 Happy Valley Road Owhiro Bay Wellington 6023 022 0269 559.

Sent from Windows Mail

ALLOWING CAMPING AT HAPPY VALLEY PARK SUBCOMMITTEE

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Submission on changes to Happy Valley Park to become a camping ground.

I wish to oppose the change in plan to make the current Happy Valley car park site into a low cost camp ground on the follow grounds.

Burden on community

4 NOVEMBER 2015

The Owhrio Bay community of 400 odd households has already embraced freedom camping in the Te Kopahou Reserve. This area will have 12 berths, and this represents about 12% of the total freedom/low cost vans that require nightly stays in Wellington (The consultation document states about 100 vans require berths each night).

The proposal to have an additional 33 berths for vans, mobile homes, and tents would take the Owhiro Bay's community's contribution to about 50% of the total berths required for the whole of Wellington city. This is a disproportionate and complete unfair burden on a small semi-rural community. It is not fair that this small community has to take on this burden for the whole of Wellington when we are already contributing with the Te Kopahou Reserve.

The size of the impact on the valley of Owhiro Bay is significant. There are about 120 houses on Happy Valley road from the current car park to the sea. The addition of 33 effective residences to this community is huge and unacceptable, roughly a 30% increase in population for the valley area.

Noise

The public meeting raised the issue of noise pollution and the impact that it will have on the community. Unlike the other sites in Wellington which area either by the sea or in the case of the Te Kopahou Reserve, by the sea and at the end of the road, the car park site in in the bottom of a valley in close proximity to residential housing. The valley, being semi-rural in nature is generally quiet, but the addition of 33 more effective residences in a natural bowl of the valley will cause noise pollution. There is already evidence from the other camp sites of noise issues but in the case of the happy valley park car park site , the only place for the noise to travel is to the local housing disrupting the local community - both in the valley and on the hills.

Visual disruption

Unlike the other freedom or low cost camp grounds in Wellington, this ground will not be situated amongst like type activities. The Evans Bay ground is situated on a mix use site, the Te Kopahou Reserve once reduced to 12 berths is at the end of the road and has lowish visual impact on those beyond close to the entrance and the harbour camp ground is right next to other car parks. This is not the case with the proposed Happy Valley camp site. For those across from the site and all those in close vicinity, either on the hills or in the valley it will be a big visual disruption. I doubt the council would be happy putting a car sales yard at the site, but the visual impact from the new proposed camp ground will be the same.

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4 NOVEMBER 2015

proposed site so they can use the facilities. We could well have a situation like what has occurred at the Te Kopahou Reserve where over 60-70 vehicles were using the area.

I would also expect that the presence of the camp ground would have a chilling effect on the usage of the park by the local children. I cycle home by the park and often see kids playing with kites or balls on the park. It is likely parents may feel uncomfortable about sending their kids down to the park to play knowing there is a large and unmanaged camp site next door.

Environmental impact

The camp site is situated in a wind effected part of the valley and this will impact on the management of rubbish created and left by the campers. At the other sites and from comments from those present at the public meeting we would expect rubbish issues and that would mean rubbish blowing into the stream, and down towards the school or up towards the horse reserve area. The injection of 33 berths and probably 50-80 people per night will have significant environmental impacts with rubbish and waste

The stream is already somewhat polluted with the leaching from the tip and isn't a good place for people to swim and take dips. There would be a concern about oil run off from vehicles and any leaks from them impacting on the wider local environment and the stream. Both the council, the Owhiro Stream restoration group and the local school have focused a lot of energy on bringing the stream back to life and it would be sad to see the impact of this camp ground causing that work to be undermined.

Lack of onsite management

I have already referred to the lack of any comprehensive onsite management as part of the proposal. The current proposal seems to suggest a programme of infrequent visits by either a Park ranger or security service. If the proposal goes ahead, this would be completely unacceptable. The provision of 24/7 onsite management would help to reduce the negative impacts of some of the areas that have been outlined in this submission.

From my perspective it would not make me support the proposal as there are just too many issues that on-site management can't address but it would mitigate the negative impact.

Decision making process issues

Consultation period and timing

The timing for the announcement and consultation for this decision are concerning and showed lack of good faith by the council. The initial announcement was made during the school holidays in June 2015. The consultation period was mainly over the school holidays in late September and early October 2015. Both of these time periods reduced the ability of one of the key impacted parties, the school and its community to be able to the part of the process. This is a time when our teachers and parents in the community are taking holidays and a large number are away or unavailable so can't be involved in a discussion.

ALLOWING CAMPING AT HAPPY VALLEY PARK SUBCOMMITTEE

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I work for the Department of Conservation and a large number of the staff are campers, a number and commented that they also would not expect freedom camping sites to be provided in the city and that campers could easily use places like Catchpool DOC camp site and then travel into Wellington when needed or use car parks and stay at the Youth Hostels.

Other options for Happy Valley car park

What is disappointing about the proposal and the management of the current car parking area is that the community is being offered and Hobson's choice. We have either;

- An unmaintained area with limited community utility the car park is in very poor state and not even great for car parking.
- Or an upgraded area as a camping ground that the community can no longer use and that imposes significant impact of the community.

Sadly the council has not come forward with any other options such as properly maintaining the area and beautifying the close vicinity to increase the utility value of the space making it a more accessible community and regional space. For limited investment it could easily be turned into a more family friendly picnic type area.

Summary

4 NOVEMBER 2015

In summary, as a small community we are already doing our bit to support camping and Wellington tourism with the camping site at the Te Kopahou Reserve. Asking us to take on nearly 50% of the campers in Wellington is an unfair burden. The knowledge that in the future this site could well increase as it is the "easy" option for the council is also alarming.

I strong oppose the move to change the Happy Valley Park car park into a camping site and suggest the council look to other parts of the Wellington region to take the fair share.

I would like to make an oral submission to the council on this proposal.

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