

# Petition: Officers' Response

**Title:** Rename Civic Square "Hilary Plaza"

**Primary Petitioner:** Curtis Nixon of Berhampore, Wellington  
**Total Signatures:** 5 (via ePetition)

**Presented by:** Councillor Ian McKinnon on behalf of the primary petitioner  
**Contact officer:** Lucy Ross, Team Leader – Property Management  
**Director responsible:** Greg Orchard

## Officers' recommendation:

Officers recommend that the Committee:

1. *Receive the information.*

## Background:

The ePetition 'Rename Civic Square 'Hilary Plaza'' was initiated by Curtis Nixon on 19 March 2010 and closed on 19 June 2010.

The purpose of the petition is to request Wellington City Council to rename Civic Square "Hillary Plaza" in honour of the late Sir Hillary.

The petition was open to all members of the public with internet access to the Council's website. It received five signatures.

## Officers' response:

Sir Edmund Hillary is an internationally known figure and New Zealand's most famous mountaineer. The New Zealand Geographic Board is proposing to change the name of South Ridge on Aoraki /Mount Cook to Hillary Ridge which Sir Edmund climbed in 1948, as there are strong associations between the individual and this place.

The original Civic Square was officially named in January 1957. In the early 1990s the new library and the central administration building were added to the existing civic buildings and combined to form Civic Square as we know it today.

Wellington's Civic Square is recognised as the principal civic place in the city and it is officers view that the current name correctly reflects the area. Civic Square is an urban environment with no direct association to Sir Edmund Hillary or his activities

Officers recommend that this petition is not supported.