
DESIGN BRIEF FOR FRANK KITTS PARK

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to present the Frank Kitts Park design brief to the Waterfront Development Subcommittee. If the Subcommittee approve the design brief, a programme of public feedback will be undertaken.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Subcommittee:

- 1. Receive the information.*
- 2. Approve the design brief attached at Appendix One, subject to any modifications suggested by the Subcommittee.*
- 3. Delegate to the Chair of the Waterfront Development Subcommittee authority to approve any required amendments to the design brief before it is published for consultation.*
- 4. Ask Council officers to seek public feedback on the brief and report this back to the Subcommittee's next meeting on Monday 11 December.*

3. Discussion

The 2006/07 Waterfront Development Plan states that concept plans for the redesign of the park, including the southern end of the TSB Arena (formerly the Queens Wharf Events Centre), will be progressed in 2006/07, with construction likely to start in 2008/09.

The Wellington Chinese Garden Society (WCGS) first expressed an interest in developing a Chinese garden in Wellington in 1996. Wellington City, Wellington Waterfront Limited (WWL) and WCGS entered into a Memorandum of Understanding committing the parties to the development of a 3,000m² site on the waterfront for the garden and that the Xiamen Municipal Government (a sister city of Wellington) would assist with the project. The Framework specified that the Chinese garden should be developed within the Waitangi Park precinct.

The WCGS wrote to WWL in January 2006, requesting that alternative sites on the waterfront be considered. WCGS expressed concerns that the Transition Building project, also in this area of Waitangi Park, may delay the garden being built. Concerns were also raised about the practicalities of the garden next to the Transition Building and it being constructed above a carpark. After considering alternative locations across the waterfront, WWL and WCGS agreed that Frank Kitts Park presents an attractive possibility.

The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) has prepared a design brief for the proposed redesign of Frank Kitts Park. The design brief outlines the design objectives and assessment criteria drawn from the principles and objectives of the Waterfront Framework for all proposed development on the waterfront. Any minor amendments to this design brief prior to it being issued for consultation will be approved by the Subcommittee Chair.

The design brief will be put out for consultation for four weeks during September/October. Members of waterfront distribution lists will be invited to comment, it will be posted on Council's website and the consultation will be advertised so that members of the community can make submissions if they wish to and feedback will be reported back to the Subcommittee who will decide whether or not any changes to the brief are required.

4. Conclusion

If the design brief is approved by the Subcommittee it will be sent out for consultation in order to receive feedback from the public. A report on the submissions made will be provided to the 11 December Subcommittee meeting.

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Supporting Information

1) Strategic Fit / Strategic Outcome

The proposed redesign of Frank Kitts Park would contribute to the following Council outcomes:

More Liveable – Wellington will be a great place to be, offering a variety of places to live, work and play within a high quality environment.

Stronger sense of place – Wellington will have a strong local identity that celebrates and protects its sense of place, capital-city status, distinctive landform and landmarks, defining features, history, heritage buildings, places and spaces.

More Eventful – Wellington will maximise the economic value from promoting and hosting high-profile events.

More Prosperous – Wellington's urban form, and flexible approach to land use planning in the central city, will contribute to economic growth and prosperity.

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

C378 Wellington Waterfront Project.

A312 Wellington Waterfront Operations.

CX131 Wellington Waterfront Development.

In accord with the 2006/07 LTCCP.

3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations

Maori have had a long connection with the harbour and waterfront that continues today. There are several sites of significance for iwi around the waterfront including Waitangi Lagoon and Te Aro Pa.

4) Decision-Making

This is not a significant decision.

5) Consultation

a) General Consultation

Consultation will be undertaken on the design brief. All affected parties will be included, and any feedback will be reported to the Subcommittee.

b) Consultation with Maori

Representatives from Council's mana whenua Treaty partners – Wellington Tenth's Trust and Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira were involved in the development of the Wellington Waterfront Framework that underpins the Waterfront Development Plan.

6) Legal Implications

There are no implications from this report.

7) Consistency with existing policy

This report is consistent with existing WCC policy on waterfront development.

Appendix One