

Town Belt Management Plan Hearings Subcommittee

The following are a few points to highlight
Values: (P7 5.2.5 and P20/21)

Refer to Town Belt - important for emotional and spiritual health and well being of the citizens of Wellington - "component of their feelings about their city"

Culture and history (P11/12 5.2.13 P32 7.4.1) See 7.5.1 - "Explore options for historical recognition" (leaving aside World Heritage Status) Our historic Town Belt deserves recognition on our NZ historic Places list. It is the equivalent of Adelaide Parklands which was placed on the Australian National Heritage List 2008. (Boston 1966 Common US National Historic Landmark 1987 Central Park Register Historic Places
 Yes there are numerous town belts and green belts - but not all of historic importance.

Leased land Drafting instructions P38 14.4 and P14 5.3.2.

To leave the size as no more than 40 hectares is of real concern (Present 6ha.) Surely 10 hectares enough flexibility. Insufficient reasonably flat land will be available for informal use.

Why refer to area of golf course. Surely a private course should be elsewhere
 P38/39 + P33/34 Reference to "longer tenures based on investments of the lessee and their need for security of tenure"
 A dangerous principle. Land is for the enjoyment of all - not locked up for those with money.

Also concerned P28 implication that footprints of clubs can expand and developments increase in areas classified as Sport and Recreation Park areas.

Commercial activities. Pis 5.37 + P43/44

Concern implication that commercial activities are acceptable if necessary for the public enjoyment of the reserve...
 This leaves it wide open for restaurants, gondolas etc
 P28/29 6.4.1 Fundraising could occur elsewhere in the city not shops/cafes/TAB etc on the Town Belt..

→ To P.2

Possible land to be added Ps. Sector 2 Very pleased
Clifton Ice and Te Aro School lifted to a highest priority
 P23/24 Ref 8.2.2/8.2.2.3... As both areas offered
 for sale by Landcorp in 1994 major consultation should
 not be difficult.

Botanic Gardens P22 + P43 Drafting instruction 8.3
 Still feel it could be listed as a special area within the Town Belt Bill
 - at least a recommendation if any part is not required
 it would become part of the Legal Town Belt
Canal Reserve. Question that it is part of the 'Town Belt proper'
 Always listed separately in schedules to Acts dealing with the Town Belt

Term 'relatively flexible powers' P13/14 5.3.1 + Drafting 3.4.
 must always have regard to and seeking to apply the statutory
 principles in the proposed bill i.e. original concept 1840; 1873 deed
 and 2011 principles.

P 37 + P15 5.3.5. The Deed. Hope the Deed will be strengthened
 by being linked to the other two statutory principles
 P38 Pleased to see removal of term 'charitable trust'

Interpretation of 'public recreation ground' - yes this could
 be useful but do not lose sight of the three statutory principles
 'a public recreation ground' highlighted in 1873 Deed - but
 the original concept in 1840 was reserved for the enjoyment
 of the public and not to be built on - and the
 principles of 2011 included enhancement - of beauty -
 of biodiversity as well as 'traditional' recreation.

We must not forget in wording legislation or updating
 The Management Plan that we are dealing
 with a precious gift - a taonga - which must always
 be held in trust by the Mayor, Councillors and Citizens of
 Wellington for future Wellingtonians -

It is not just another
 reserve another green belt.

Joan Quinn 17/4/2013