
ORDINARY MEETING

OF

CITY STRATEGY COMMITTEE

PART 2 OF 2 AGENDA

Time: 9:30 am
Date: Thursday, 9 February 2017
Venue: Committee Room 1
Ground Floor, Council Offices
101 Wakefield Street
Wellington

Business	Page No.
3. Policy	3
3.1 Oral hearings for Draft Play Spaces Policy	3

3. Policy

ORAL HEARINGS FOR DRAFT PLAY SPACES POLICY

Purpose

1. To provide a copy of all submissions and a list of people making an oral submission in support of their written submission on the Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy.

Summary

2. On the 10th August 2016 the Community, Sport and Recreation Committee agreed to consult on the Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy.
3. Consultation ran from the 15th October through to the 18th November 2016.
4. The draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy received 118 submissions. 23 submitters have confirmed a time to make an oral submission.
5. A schedule of the submitters who will be speaking is attached.

Recommendation

That the City Strategy Committee:

1. Receive all of the submissions and hear the oral submissions.

Attachments

Attachment 1. Oral Hearings Schedule and Submissions - Draft Wellington
Play Spaces Policy

Page 5

Author	Rebecca Ramsay, Reserves Planner
Authoriser	Michael Oates, Open Space and Recreation Planning Manager Paul Andrews, Manager Parks, Sport and Recreation Jane Hill, Acting Chief Operating Officer

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Engagement and Consultation

Part of the overall engagement and consultation process.

Treaty of Waitangi considerations

Not applicable

Financial implications

None

Policy and legislative implications

None

Risks / legal

None

Climate Change impact and considerations

Not applicable

Communications Plan

None required

Health and Safety Impact considered

No issues.

Thursday, 09 February 2017

Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy | Submitters to be heard

Time	Minutes	Sub No	Name	Organisation	Page Number
9:30	10	110	Lynn Cadenhead	Environmental Reference Group	1
9:40	5	100	Lynn Cadenhead		3
9:45	5	2	Rebecca Speirs		19
9:50	5	64	Joe Bleakley		30
9:55	10	Buffer			
10:05	10	72	Jude Ball	Public Health Association	35
10:15	10	78	Paul Blaschke	Department of Health, Otago University	43
10:25	5	90	Bernard O'Shaughnessy		49
10:30	15	Morning tea			
10:45	5	99	Athol and Pauline Swann		53
10:50	5	61	Penny Salmund		55
10:55	10	112	Laura Somerset	Wellington City Youth Council	62
11:05	10	67	Chris Montgomerie on behalf of Eliza Bartlett	Kelburn Playcentre	63
11:15	10	98	Raewyn Hales	CCS Disability Action Group	68
11:25	10	63	Sandy Nimmo	Rimutaka Inline Hockey Club Inc and other clubs	73
11:35	10	Buffer			
11:45	10	116	Graeme Sawyer	Johnsonville Residents' Association	78
11:55	5	117	Graeme Sawyer		88
12:00	10	105	Rhona Carson	Newtown Residents' Association	90
12:10	10	66	Sara Clarke	Creswick Valley Residents' Association	94
12:20	10	107	Julia Stace, Denis Asher and Frances Forsyth	Tanera Gully Restoration Project	100
12:30	35	Lunch			
13:05	10	74	Kevin Francis	Codex Skateboard Magazine	106
13:15	10	118	Kath Haines	Wellington Multiple Birth Club	112
13:25	10	106	Ellen Blake	Living Streets Aotearoa	114
13:35	10	113	Carol Comber	Mount Cook Mobilised	117
13:45	10	33	Graeme Knott	Warren Mahoney Architects	119
13:55	5	76	Mark Spiers		175
		Finish			

Updated 31 January 2017 - Please note that this schedule may be subject to change

ERG Submission to WCC draft Play Spaces Policy – 18 November 2016

The Environmental Reference Group (ERG), established in 2001, is an advisory group set up under a Terms of Reference (TOR) to inform the work and activities of Wellington City Council (WCC) on issues relating to the natural environment.

The purpose of the ERG is to:

- provide feedback and advise the Council on its natural environment policy, planning and asset management matters (including the development of the Council's Long Term Plan) in the developmental stages of all relevant projects;
- be an information conduit to and from the Council; and
- identify and comment on the broad spectrum of community expectations and concerns associated with the management of the natural environment.

The Environmental Reference Group of the Wellington City Council is keen to offer our expert advice to the draft Play Spaces Policy. We would have appreciated opportunity to provide early verbal feedback on the policy. We are willing to meet with officers conducting the review to discuss and support this process in the future.

We would like to make an oral submission on this consultation, please contact us by reply of email or details below.

WCC Environmental Reference Group offers the following opinions by way of consultation on the above policy:

1. Improve alignment of Play Spaces Policy with efforts to improve biodiversity.

ERG offered comment on the development of "Our Natural Capital" Policy (Biodiversity) that, in our opinion an unnecessary distinction appears to have arisen between Amenity Planting and Ecological planting. It is particularly important, in our view, that this distinction is eliminated and that the Play Space policy implements the Our Natural Capital policy.

Play Spaces are important sites for Amenity plantings, but we are concerned that little or no effort is being made to plant heritage eco-sourced specimen trees as in amenity areas. It seems to ERG members that careful selection and better care of such specimens could fulfill requirements of both Amenity and Ecological purposes. But experience shows us that, without clear and specific wording in your policy documents, this opportunity is missed!

So, ERG submit to WCC that they dispense with that distinction altogether, and ensure that Play Spaces are planted only with species that are eco-sourced (i.e., validated "local varieties from trusted and certified sources).

In particular, we would like to see the ubiquitous choice of Pohutakawa (NOT endemic to the area) is replaced with Rata, a species that has become threatened in ecological reserves due to possum browsing, and which may actually fare better in more intensive suburban neighborhoods. The propensity of Pohutakawa to readily Hybridize with Rata is another strong reason to make this change.

2. Better protection of green-space and play spaces from “conversion”

In general, we note with concern that WCC appears to readily interpret the RMA in a way that “requires” them to meet the “parking requirements” of new playgrounds or sportsground facilities by paving greenspace on the park itself, in order to provide car-parking.

We see this as a perverse and counter-intuitive interpretation, particularly where such Green-spaces are increasingly in demand. Our fear is, there will be a cumulative effect of decimating precious urban parks and greenspaces, just as the rapidly intensifying urban population needs them more.

To this effect, we urge WCC to place stricter controls over conversion of scarce public greenspaces, or at least require a nearby like for like replacement of park space appropriated for purposes other than greenspace or outdoor recreational activity.

3/ Create more Greenspace where Suburban Intensification demands it.

While green-field subdivisions require developers to create new parks and gift them to the city, we are concerned that residential intensification comes with no such requirement for “shotgun” redevelopments to mitigate the effect of the intensification (and loss of private greenspace) that they create. Play space needs to be provided for in areas of urban intensification.

In Conclusion

ERG Members recommend that the “Our Natural Capital” policy be implemented in the Play Space policy. We would also have appreciated the opportunity for input in the development of the Play Spaces policy prior to the completion of the draft and its release for general consultation, as that is where we believe we can be most useful to WCC. We hope to be able to work more closely in the future.

Sophie Mormede and Mark Fenwick

Co-chairs of the WCC Environmental Reference Group, on behalf of ERG

Wellington Play Spaces Policy Submission by Lynn Cadenhead

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Wellington 6035
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027 3371 830
16th November 2016

I would like to make an oral submission to the councillors

1. The network

Strategy Priority 1, Policy 1, page 27

If communities request a new playground, basketball court etc then there needs to be the ability for the council to consider the request and to approve the request if warranted.

2. Incidental Play

Incidental play needs better articulation around safety especially in relation to roads.

Public Art Page 9

"High quality public art ... is often playable."

I would like to see playable public art audited against the playground standards before being created as some public art is already very close to compliant with NZS 5828:2015 and could be made compliant and much safer for play with minor changes.

An example of playable art that is almost compliant



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3. NZS 5828:2015 Playground equipment and surfacing

Page 16 “The council has a health and safety responsibility around managing and maintaining formal playground equipment....”

Policy 3. Standards

I agree that NZS 5828:2015 Playground equipment and surfacing be adhered to.

If it hasn't already been done, an urgent audit is needed so that existing playground equipment that is non-compliance with NZS 5828:2015 is known. A budget is then needed so that this non-compliance can be fixed or equipment removed.

I do not feel that a 25 year renewal can be defined as “adequately funded”. Lack of funding to comply with NZS 5828:2015 Playground equipment and surfacing is also not acceptable.

For example this slide at Khandallah Park has a lack of soft-fall, non-compliant existing soft-fall and entrapment



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Khandallah Park slide



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A second example of non-compliance with standards is at Gilbert Young Play Area which has equipment with no soft-fall



There is also a non-compliant slide at Gilbert Young Play Area



4. Maintenance

Strategy Priority 2, Policy 1.

Well maintained needs to be defined and then funded.

For example at Khandallah Village playground the soft-fall under the equipment needs maintenance



5. Accessibility.

It is great that an accessibility audit has been done but a 25 year renewal rate is far too long to wait for a basic path to equipment and/or for more appropriate access on to a site. Access could possibly be funded separately to the funding for playground equipment. For example access should be improved to Homebush Park, see photos below especially the need to be able to get a pushchair or wheel chair around the vehicle barrier.

Homebush Park Entrance



Another example is at Kipling Street Play Area entrance where the equipment is almost out of sight and there is no path



Another entrance to Kipling Street Play Area



A closer view of the access to Kipling Park Play Area.



6. Skate facilities, basketball courts and bike skills areas.

Netball hoops should be provided where possible along with basketball nets.



Courts can and should be multi use spaces

10



Minor skating and bike skill opportunities can be provided on and alongside basketball courts and paths.

7. Biodiversity, shade trees, amenity planting, urban agriculture

I agree that shade is important and that shade trees are far better than shade sails for many reasons. Waiting on a 25 year cycle for shade tree to be planted is unacceptable. Deciduous trees are far better as winter sun is also important. Shade trees don't need to be in cages if appropriately sited and staked.

Amenity planting should be tied in with the biodiversity strategy, with urban agriculture initiatives and with health initiatives. A planting budget should be available under each of these strategies as well as in the reserves budget.

An example of fruit tree planting providing fruit, shade and natural play at Ranui Reserve, a neighbourhood reserve.

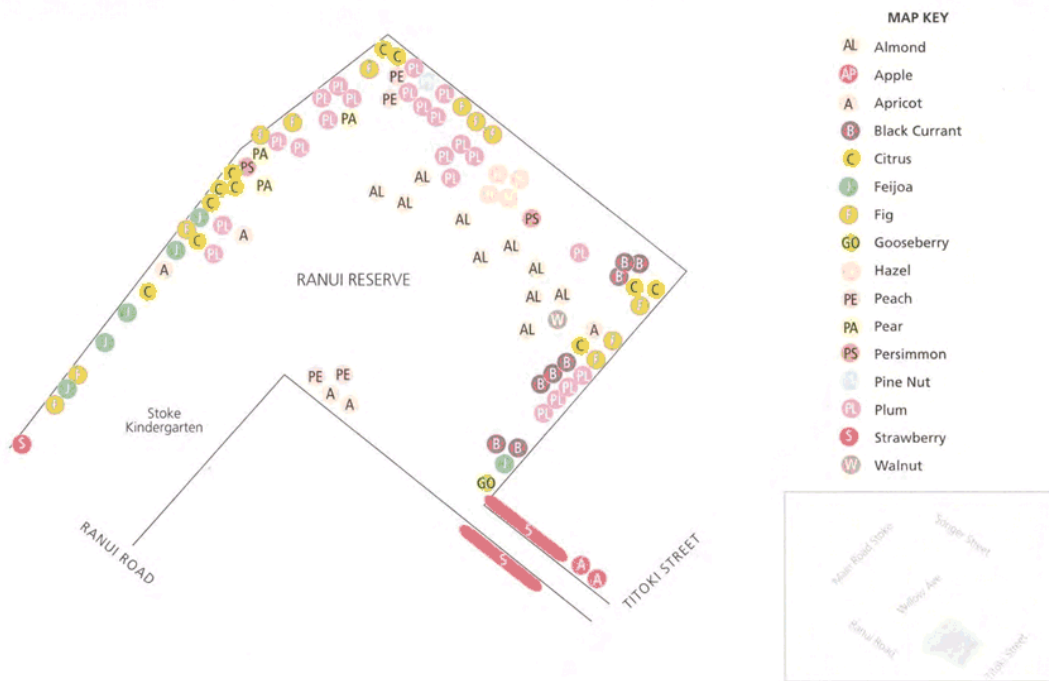


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11

Ranui Reserve Edible Walk

Enjoy one of Nelson's many open orchard areas. Please share and care for this valuable resource. Get to know your neighbourhood trees and plants. As some plants are clustered, general placement of trees is shown. For other interesting walks go to www.nelsoncitycouncil.co.nz or call 03 546 0200.



Another example is a playground with newly planted staked shade trees and native amenity/biodiversity planting. This reserve also has fruit and nut trees.



An example of planting for amenity, biodiversity, stormwater management and natural play at Tod Reserve



8. Nature Play

Policy 6, page 31.

I agree with the benefits of nature play. Nature play trails should meet NZS 5828:2015 playground standards for example for entrapment, sharp edges and fall heights. Nature play trails need a maintenance plan.

This fallen tree is compliant and certified to NZS 5828 2004.



Natural play opportunities

As noted in the draft policy, play and parks and reserves should not just be about playground equipment yet in many reserves the natural features and natural play opportunities are not made accessible or used to advantage.

For example Branscomb Street play area has a gully behind it that could at least be cleared of rubbish to provide a more desirable play space.

Branscomb Street Play Area



Another example of potential natural play is the stream at Gilbert Young Play Area where access is difficult and could be improved and biodiversity could be enhanced.

Gilbert Young Play Area stream access



By comparison, rocks are positioned to allow access to the stream at this reserve.



14

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9. Relationship and integration of equipment to the site

Equipment, courts and other developments need to be well intergraded with their site.

A well-integrated playground at a neighbourhood reserve.



A badly integrated Playground at Homebush Park



10. Conclusion

Multiple strategies and policies need to be considered and cross referenced within the play spaces policy; in particular policies relating to accessibility, biodiversity and open space access.

A 25 year renewal cycle may be acceptable for formal playground equipment, (i.e. when equipment such as swings is replaced) but only if existing equipment is appropriately maintained, upgraded and removed if it becomes unsafe or non-compliant within the 25 years. A 25 year cycle is far too slow to have shade trees planted, fencing and accessibility issues resolved. 25 years is also too slow to have drainage work and some other general playground improvements carried out. Draft in-house concept plans could be developed so that shade trees and paths are appropriately positioned.

I would like to make an oral submission to the councillors

Lynn Cadenhead
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027 3371 830

Introduction

Policy is based on 'five strategic priorities' that will try and broaden what the Council does and provides to get more people outside and playing – with a focus on children and youth. In addition to providing a well-planned and managed park of the usual formal playgrounds, court spaces and skate facilities we are looking at how to work better with schools in the community, how to promote informal play through the idea of 'the city as a play space' and how to promote play (and the value of play) more generally.

Privacy Statement

All submissions (including name and contact details) are published and made publicly available as part of our committee processes. Personal information will be used for the administration of the consultation process and decision-making on the Draft Wellington Play Space Policy. All information will be held by the Wellington City Council, 101 Wakefield Street, and submitters have the right to access and correct personal information)

Submitter Details

Name: Rebecca Speirs
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Email: rebeccajspeirs@gmail.com

Submitter or Ratepayer:
Ratepayer Resident Non-resident ratepayer Other

In which Community Board Area is your property in?
 Eastern Ward Lambton Ward Northern Ward Not indicated
 Central-Western Ward Southern Ward

Wishes to be heard:

Yes
 No NOT wish to speak in support of my submission and ask that the following submission be fully considered.

Correspondence to:

Submitter
Agent
 Both

mission

policy is formed around five strategic priorities (see section 4, page 26 of the draft policy)

Do you agree with these five priorities in the policy?

	Yes	No
Develop a network of play spaces across the city	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Develop high-quality, fit-for purpose play space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Develop community and school partnerships	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Develop city as a play space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Develop campaigning and advocacy for outdoor play	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Strategic priority 1 in the draft policy is about providing a network of play spaces across the city (see section 3 and 4 of the draft policy for maps).

Do you agree with planning for a mix of types of play space, spread as evenly as possible across the city as outlined in the draft policy?

Yes
 No
 Other

Additional comments?

A total number of 111 formal playgrounds are being proposed.

Do you support planning for a total of 111 formal playgrounds based on the goal of the majority of households in Wellington (74%) being within about 10 minutes walk of a neighbourhood or community play space?

Yes
 No
 Other

Additional comments?

Strategic priority 2 is about the network of Wellington play spaces being made up of high quality fit for purpose play space.

Do you agree the principles and standards listed in section 4, page 32 - 34, will result in Wellington's play spaces (formal playgrounds, skate facilities, half courts and nature play trails) being high quality and meeting the needs of the community?

Yes
 No
 Other

Additional comments?

The draft policy proposes three categories of formal play space (Destination, Community and Neighbourhood). The policy also outlines a guide describing:

- the intention of the spaces
- the catchment area and age range
- the types of play opportunities
- what you might see in these spaces (see section 4, page 33 - 34 of the draft policy).

Do you agree that the guide will result in a good mix of play space that meets the needs of the city, local communities, and the range of people who use these spaces?

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Additional comments?

Strategic priority 2, can the community play spaces 'Play equipment' principles be updated to include provision of the following structures suitable for use by all ages, to facilitate the development of movement patterns and enable simple fitness exercises to be performed. 1) A short series of obstacles that can be used to practice vaulting over designed in a manner that suits for a range of skill levels, e.g. with a diagonal-sloped top as per in the park at Levin. Works mobility, glutes, flexion, and ability to utilise power in the body. 2) A set of bars at mixed heights, e.g. around 1m, 1.5 m and 2m off the ground that can be used to practice swinging through, doing pull ups on, and jumping up to touch. Works upper body and plyometric-type jumping actions. 3) Beams of a different heights (low/knee/seat height) that can be used for balancing stepping over/stepping on onto/doing dips or press ups off/performing pistol squats on or onto. Enable use of whole body weight bearing movements, facility balance development and enables plyometric type movement patterns. 4) A frame with monkey bars suitable for use by all ages (monkey bars meaning a set of parallel bars that can be used for hanging on, swinging across in steps and climbing across the top. Works upper body strength and general mobility. The reason for this is 1) The ability to practice key movements such as vaulting, swinging, balancing, jumping and lifting your own bodyweight is fundamental to physical agility and mobility for people of all ages which is transferable into many other areas of life and fitness sports, and promotes general health. Levin park is a great example of how simple, low-tech (and therefore likely very inexpensive) structures can be incorporated in a community playground for use by all ages to facilitate movement fitness. There are more and more movement based gyms and classes around Wellington emerging providing classes to children and adults in movement-based areas, such as tumbling and parkour which reflects growing demand in this area. For example the Big Air gym in Happy Valley (<http://www.bigairgym.co.nz/>) the Parkour classes at Karori (<http://wellington.govt.nz/recreation/find-a-class/school-aged-children#parkour>) and the movement-based gym for all ages to be opening soon in Lyall Bay (<http://www.bonobo.co.nz/>) 2) The policy does not address adult play and with the growth predicted for Wellington and more higher-density housing coming, it becomes more and more important for there to be places for all ages to play and be active outside of formalised 'sport'. For example, there are new town houses in Island Bay without a gym recently built and more coming at Erskine College grounds. It's two bus rides to the nearest gym in Kilbernie or 30 minutes into town to get to Freyberg or the private gyms. Public transport is designed more for getting people in and out of the city rather than facilitating access to recreation. 3) Adult play is not simply catered for by sport and it is important for people other than the 18-24 youth age bracket to have access to local facilities to play and explore movement in an outdoor environment also. Sport also has barriers such as cost and times for some people of all ages including youth (e.g. particularly for those on shift work or with irregular hours who might find it hard to be part of a regular class or activity, or those on low incomes). With the increasing cost of housing in Wellington this becomes more of an issue too. There is good research that shows the fastest growing leisure occupations are informal rather than formal exercise areas with the 2013/2014 Active New Zealand Survey indicating 97.7% of adults undertake casual recreation rather than structured. The survey also indicates 44% of respondents are members of recreation centres or other indoor facilities with 19.3% of those being members of gyms or similar. The park at Levin is a great example of incorporating play equipment for all ages in a community play space. Below is an email from Levin council sent to me when I inquired about how the all-age play equipment and obstacles in the park there were about. It notes the fastest growing leisure occupations are informal rather than formal exercise areas with the 2014 Active New Zealand Survey indicating 97.7% of adults undertake casual recreation rather than structured. I have used the Levin myself on several occasions and taken photos of the all-age structures and obstacles such as those mentioned above and played on them myself. They are fun to use and a good workout. You see children and adults using them and there are signs suggesting movements to practice. As part of this submission I attach 3 slides showing what simple purpose obstacles are available in Levin park. Making at least some of these type of features available in the community play spaces too by amending the policy as per above would enable more people to get more active and move for mobility, fitness and fitness more often. If Levin can do it, surely Wellington can too?! In Wellington parks, it's common to see many people with nothing else to do but stand around playing with their phones - it would be great if there were facilities for these people to be active in parks too, particularly when so many people are time pressured and the trip to the park with their kids will be the only time they have to move freely and play. Plus a good example/inspiration for the kids. ----- Letter from Levin Council: Rebecca, The equipment you refer to at Levin Adventure Park (on the track) was fabricated and installed by Levin Adventure Club so unfortunately I have no installation costs for you. It is further complemented by a range of outdoor gym equipment adjacent to the senior children's play area that was sourced by the Levin Adventure Park Trust. The idea of using gym equipment and trim trails is extremely commonplace in the UK, America, Europe, and Australia and has been very successful with local authorities in NZ. Certainly in my direct experience both Nelson and Horowhenua have such facilities and similarly understand Auckland and Rotorua have them. There are also a number of private health spas that have their own grounds both here and abroad. There are a number of New Zealand companies manufacturing outdoor gym equipment e.g. Devine Fitness <http://outdoorfitnessequipment.co.nz> and whilst I am not aware of any New Zealand companies manufacturing trim trails there are a number in Australia e.g. <http://www.proludic.com.au/products/sport-fitness/fitness/wooden-trail> and <http://www.fitnessstrails.com/concept.htm> There is good research that shows the fastest growing leisure occupations are informal rather than formal exercise areas with the 2013/2014 Active New Zealand Survey indicating 97.7% of adults undertake casual recreation rather than structured. The survey also indicates 44% of respondents are members of recreation centres or other indoor facilities with 19.3% of those being members of gyms or similar. I have used a couple of other links about the concept below. <http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/fitness/Pages/free-fitness.aspx> http://research.omicsgroup.org/index.php/Fitness_trail As an authority HDC recognise the benefits of this type of exercise and would be supportive of this type of approach to encourage populations to get active. I hope this information assists. Thanks for Nelson Property and Parks Manager Tumu Rawa, Papa Rehia 126 Oxford Street, Levin Private Bag 4002, Levin 5540 366 0999 DDI: +64 6 366 0936 M: +64 27 801 6336 www.horowhenua.govt.nz Working together to take Horowhenua Good to Great

The formal playgrounds are listed by category in Appendix 2, page 44 with a map showing this distribution across the city in section 4, page 28 of the draft policy.

Do you agree with locations and categories as proposed?

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Additional comments?

draft policy outlines how the Council plans to provide play opportunities for youth (age group 13-24 years.)

Do you agree the draft policy suitably addresses providing play opportunities for youth?

Yes
No
Other

Additional comments?

In extent but it would be good to see the specific provision of structures that facilitate movement patterns and fitness too
Refer answer to Q5.

draft policy lists key issues and a number of proposals relating to skate facilities.

Do you think the draft policy addresses the key issues identified in the plan and provides clear direction for the provision of skate facilities in Wellington?

Yes
No
Other

Additional comments?

draft policy proposes a network of 23 outdoor basketball courts (mix of half and full courts) for formal outdoor play.

Do you think the draft policy provides a network of outdoor court space for informal play?

Yes
No
Other

Additional comments?

opportunities for incorporating the natural environment into play spaces.

Do you support a focus on incorporating opportunities to interact with the natural environment into play spaces? Refer to section 2, page 9 of the draft policy for background.

Yes
No
Other

Additional comments?

draft policy priority 3, section 4, page 38, guides community and school partnerships.

Can you suggest any other ways partnership opportunities could improve the play spaces across Wellington?

Yes
No
Other

Additional comments?

Refer with 3-D printing companies and have part of the space available to exhibit work on a rotational basis, e.g. the work changes with the seasons. Also clubs such as Scottish Athletics, Capital Sports Performance and gymnastics clubs to use in spaces that can be used for developing mobility skills.

draft policy priority 4 recognises the value of informal play and that the whole city can provide formal play space for all ages. Refer to section 4, page 38 of the draft policy for background.

Can you suggest other ways Council might provide for or promote informal play around Wellington?

Yes

Other

Additional comments?

Soft grass verges on Leonie Walkway in Lyall Bay and city centres locations such as Frank Kitts and Waitangi park and other spaces to provide obstacles for people of all ages to play on and practice general mobility/fitness type moves as part of their commute through the space.

Suggestions for promoting the value of play as an activity and helping more people to get outside and play are outlined in section 4, page 39 of the draft policy.

Do you have any other ideas or actions that could help get more people outdoors and active through play?

Yes
Other

Please provide any additional comments you would like to make.
This is an answer to Q5. Design in play structures for all ages.

Do you have any other ideas or suggestions you would like to share?

Comments

Shared Documents

Proposed obstacles for Wellington Parks
Wellington Play Spaces Policy - Q5 Response

Propose equipment that can be used for fitness exercises such as steps ups, sits ups, press ups or for making sequences out of movements such as lunging, vaulting, swinging, climbing etc

would be awesome to have these in Wellington parks to make fitness/movement lay outdoors more accessible for adults – and all can be used by children and youth too.

Only a few possible, prioritise the ones with as alternatives hard to find



Mixed height bars – good for pull ups (chin ups), hanging off and swinging through type movements



Warm up/cool down station (e.g. for step ups/support for stretches – could also be used for vaulting over)



Parallel bars, good for tricep dips and general upper body strength movements



Vaulting obstacles – the diagonal design means they cater for a range of abilities



Monkey bars – upper body strength and hanging, also climbing across the top



Step up box – could also be used for



Hopping beams – good for single and double leg hopping



Balance beams – good for leaping



Each obstacle has a info 24



vin Park Obstacles/Fitness trail – other
stacles on the course



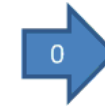
Bars to climb over, good for
obstacle sequences



Jump and reach post – good
for practicing explosive
movements



Push up bars – can also be
used to practice hopping over



Situp/core strength station –
can also use to jump up
onto/over the bar



There are also poles for
slacklining



And a volley ball court

Levin Park Obstacles/Fitness trail – the park also has this adult-sized climbing frame/obstacle structure, in the centre, great for building a sequence/circuit around



Wellington Play Spaces policy submission – Q5

Q5 'Do you agree that the guide will result in a good mix of play space that meets the needs of the city, local communities, and the range of people who use these spaces?' answered no and added the following comments:

Response submitted:

In strategic priority 2, can the community play spaces 'Play equipment' principles be updated to include provision of the following structures suitable for use by all ages, to facilitate the development of movement patterns and enable simple fitness exercises to be performed.

- 1) **A short series of obstacles that can used to practice vaulting over designed in a manner that caters for a range of skill levels**, e.g. with a diagonal-sloped top as per in the park at Levin. Works mobility, glutes, coordination, and ability to utilise power in the body.
- 2) **A set of bars at mixed heights**, e.g. around 1m, 1.5 m and 2m off the ground that can be used to practice swinging through, doing pull ups on, and jumping up to touch. Works upper body and enable plyometric- type jumping actions.
- 3) **Beams of a different heights (low/knee/seat height)** that can be used for balancing on/hopping over/stepping up onto/doing dips or press ups off/performing pistol squats on or onto. Enable use of whole body in weight bearing movements, facility balance development and enables plyometric type movement patterns.
- 4) **A frame with monkey bars suitable for use by all ages** (monkey bars meaning a set of parallel bars that can be used for hanging on, swinging across in steps and climbing across the top. Works upper body strength and general mobility.

The reason for this is that:

1) The ability to practice key movements such as vaulting, swinging, balancing, jumping and lifting your own bodyweight is fundamental to physical agility and mobility for people of all ages which is transferable into many other areas of life and specific sports, and promotes general health.

Levin park is a great example of how simple, low- tech (and therefore likely relatively inexpensive) structures can be incorporated in a community playground for use by all ages to facilitate movement and fitness.

There are more and more movement based gyms and classes around Wellington emerging providing classes to children and adults in movement-based areas, such as tumbling and parkour which reflects growing demand in this area. For example the Big Air gym in Happy Valley (<http://www.bigairgym.co.nz/>) the Parkour classes at Karori rec (<http://wellington.govt.nz/recreation/find-a-class/school-aged-children#parkour>) and the movement-based gym for all ages Bonobo opening soon in Lyall Bay (<http://www.bonobo.co.nz/>)

Wellington Play Spaces policy submission – Q5

2) The policy does not address adult play and with the growth planned for Wellington and more higher-density housing coming, it becomes more and more important for there to be places for all ages to play and be active outside of formalised 'sport'. For example, there are new town houses in Island Bay without garages recently built and more coming at Erskine College grounds. It's two bus rides to the nearest gym in Kilbernie or 30 mins into town to get to Freyberg or the private gyms. Public transport is designed more for getting people in and out of the city, rather than facilitating access to recreation.

3) Adult play is not simply catered for by sport and it is important for people older than the 18-24 youth age bracket to have access to local facilities to play and explore movement in an outdoor environment also. **Sport also has barriers such as cost and times for some people of all ages** including youth (e.g. particularly people on shift work or with irregular hours who might find it hard to be part of a regular class or activity, or those on low incomes).

With the increasing cost of housing in Wellington this become more of an issue too.

There is good research that shows the fastest growing leisure occupations are informal rather than formal exercise areas with the 2013/2014 Active New Zealand Survey indicating 97.7% of adults undertake casual recreation rather than structured. The survey also indicates 44% of respondents are members of recreation centres or other indoor facilities with 19.3% of those being members of gyms or similar.

The park at Levin is a great example of incorporating play equipment for all ages in a community play space.

Below is an email from Levin council sent to me when I inquired about how the all-age play equipment and obstacles in the park there came about. It notes the fastest growing leisure occupations are informal rather than formal exercise areas with the 2013/2014 Active New Zealand Survey indicating 97.7% of adults undertake casual recreation rather than structured.

I have visited the Levin myself on several occasions and taken photos of the all-age structures and obstacles such as those mentioned above and played on them myself. They are fun to use and a good workout. You see children and adults using them and there are signs suggesting movements to practice.

As part of this submission I attach 3 slides showing what simple multi-purpose obstacles are available in Levin park.

Making at least some of these type of features available in the community plays spaces too by amending the policy as per above would enable more people to get more active and move for mobility, agility and fitness more often.

If Levin can do it, surely Wellington can too?!

In Wellington parks, it's common to see many parents with nothing else to do but stand around playing with their phones - it would be great if there were facilities for these adult to be active in parks too, particularly when so many people are time pressured and the trip to the park with their kid might be the only time they have to move freely and play. Plus a good example/inspiration for the kids.

Wellington Play Spaces policy submission – Q5

Letter from Levin Council:

Rebecca,

The equipment you refer to at Levin Adventure Park (on the track) was fabricated and installed by Levin Rotary Club so unfortunately I have no installation costs for you. It is further complemented by a range of outdoor gym equipment adjacent to the senior children's play area that was sourced by the Levin Adventure Park Trust. The idea of outdoor gym equipment and trim trails is extremely commonplace in the UK, America, Europe, and Australia and has been gaining ground with local authorities in NZ. Certainly in my direct experience both Nelson and Horowhenua have such facilities and I similarly understand Auckland and Rotorua have them. There are also a number of private health spas that have them on their grounds both here and abroad.

There are a number of New Zealand companies manufacturing outdoor gym equipment e.g. Devine Fitness <http://outdoorfitnessequipment.co.nz> and whilst I am not aware of any New Zealand companies manufacturing trim trails there are a number in Australia e.g.

- <http://www.proludic.com.au/products/sport-fitness/fitness/wooden-trail> and
- <http://www.fitnesstrails.com/concept.htm>

There is good research that shows the fastest growing leisure occupations are informal rather than formal exercise areas with the 2013/2014 Active New Zealand Survey indicating 97.7% of adults undertake casual recreation rather than structured. The survey also indicates 44% of respondents are members of recreation centres or other indoor facilities with 19.3% of those being members of gyms or similar. I have enclosed a couple of other links about the concept below.

- <http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/fitness/Pages/free-fitness.aspx>
- http://research.omicsgroup.org/index.php/Fitness_trail

As an authority HDC recognise the benefits of this type of exercise and are quite supportive of this type of approach to encourage populations to get active.

I hope this information assists.

Thanks

Arthur Nelson

Property and Parks Manager • Tumu Rawa, Papa Rēhia

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Working together to take Horowhenua from Good to Great

Introduction

The policy is based on 'five strategic priorities' that will try and broaden what the Council does and provides to get more people outside and playing – with a focus on children and youth. In addition to providing a well-planned and managed network of the usual formal playgrounds, court spaces and skate facilities we are looking at how to work better with schools and the community, how to promote informal play through the idea of 'the city as a play space' and how to promote play (and the value of play) more generally.

Privacy Statement

(Note: all submissions (including name and contact details) are published and made publicly available as part of our Committee processes. Personal information will be used for the administration of the consultation process and decision-making on the Draft Wellington Play Space Policy. All information will be held by the Wellington City Council, 101 Wakefield Street, and submitters have the right to access and correct personal information)

Submitter Details

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Resident or Ratepayer:

Ratepayer Resident Non-resident ratepayer Other

Which Community Board Area is your property in?

Eastern Ward Lambton Ward Northern Ward Not indicated
 Onslow-Western Ward Southern Ward

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

The policy is formed around five strategic priorities (see section 4, page 26 of the draft policy)

1. Do you agree with these five priorities in the policy?

	Yes	No
Provide a network of play spaces across the city	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide high-quality, fit-for purpose play space	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community and school partnerships	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The city as a play space	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Programming and advocacy for outdoor play	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Play spaces are important for everyone in our community, for young and old, different ethnicities, etc. I feel the vision to 'foster growth and development of children' limits the depth of thinking on what these spaces can be and do for a community. Generally these spaces are the only 'common ground' we have in our suburbs with no other agenda than to relax, have fun and meet up with others, unlike sports grounds for example. Generally children need adults to bring them to the parks... if 'fostering the growth and development of people and their communities' was the driving force behind the development of these parks they may look very different... and many more people of all ages might come, some of them with children. There is a child in every one of us that needs nourishing, fostering and to feel we are a part of something till the day we depart. Seniors, for example, should feel these places are for them also, made welcome by the consideration of their wants and needs. On a different note... one of the saddest things about how our society has developed over the past century is how we now send our elders to old peoples homes and our children to daycare centres when once upon a time in the past, they were together, nourishing each other. Maybe our parks could be the places that bring us all together. Re the 2nd priority: I support high quality, and 'fit-for purpose' space, provided there was a broad view on the variety of 'purposes' Re the 5th priority: Advocacy... The design and nature of the parks themselves should be advocacy enough for people to get out into them. If they are well considered, designed, maintained with the aim of meeting the wants and needs of everyone in the community I'm sure the people will come.

A strategic priority in the draft policy is about providing a network of play spaces across the city (see section 3 and 4 of the draft policy for maps).

2. Do you agree with planning for a mix of types of play space, spread as evenly as possible across the city as outlined in the draft policy?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

There could be another category of park that is smaller than the Neighbourhood parks. Parks that are built on little bits of roading reserve around the streets of the communities, maybe with only one or two or no play equipment, could even use a couple of car parks... they could be like stepping stones to the neighbourhood parks. Not unlike the one in Berhampore on the corner of Jeypore and Chilka Sts. Everyone of these parks would be different. These little parks could, in part or in full, be looked after after by the local neighbourhoods. Versions of them already exist... my granddaughter and I love the walk up Clyde St and The Parade where neighbours have put swings and basic tree forts outside their homes... we walk from from swing to swing, each one different, often interacting with neighbours and their children. I've met more of my neighbours at these 'play areas' than I have in the local playground. They are close enough to houses for home-bound parents to be able to see their children playing. They would be close enough for caregivers with small babies to meet up over a cuppa... that they have brought with them etc Wellington could become famous for them

A total number of 111 formal playgrounds are being proposed.

3. Do you support planning for a total of 111 formal playgrounds based on the goal of the majority of households in Wellington (74%) being within about 10 minutes walk of a neighbourhood or community play space?

- Yes
 No
 Other

Any additional comments?

With the addition of smaller 'parks' not unlike the one in Berhampore on the corner of Jeypore and Chilka Sts... stepping stones to the neighbourhood parks. These parks could be looked after by the local neighbourhood.

Strategic priority 2 is about the network of Wellington play spaces being made up of high quality and fit for purpose play space.

4. Do you agree the principles and standards listed in [section 4, page 32 - 34](#), will result in Wellington's play spaces (formal playgrounds, skate facilities, half courts and nature play trails) being high quality and meeting the needs of the community?

- Yes
 No
 Other

Any additional comments?

Would prefer that the emphasis was not so heavily on the children... often it is the caregivers that need the facility more than the children. A place where they can meet other caregivers. A park designed to serve their needs first would be a good park... the children's needs are relatively easy to meet. If the caregivers like the park, they will take their children there more often. Maintenance: It seems that parks are designed in such a way as to require as little maintenance as poss. This is understandable, especially with our centralised management system... but it produces parks that all feel the same. Maybe a policy which encourages local communities to get involved in their park by giving them the opportunity to take over little areas may lead to more diverse planting that might require more maintenance done by the locals for example. Communities have defaulted any responsibility for their parks to the WCC. Maybe its time to encourage them to take ownership of their parks.

The draft policy proposes three categories of formal play space (Destination, Community and Neighbourhood). The policy also outlines a guide describing:

- the intention of the spaces
 - target catchment area and age range
 - types of play opportunities
 - what you might see in these spaces
- (see [section 4, page 33 - 34](#) of the draft policy).

5. Do you agree that the guide will result in a good mix of play space that meets the needs of the city, local communities, and the range of people who use these spaces?

- Yes
 No
 Other

Any additional comments?

I agree the guide will meet some of the needs of many children... with a broader definition of play, it could meet more of the needs of more children. e.g. include activities other than physical ones. I would like to see a broader guide... one that focuses on the interests and needs of a broader range of citizens... the selection of photos in the draft show where the focus is... where are the senior citizens for example

All the formal playgrounds are listed by category in [Appendix 2, page 44](#) with a map showing this distribution across the city in [section 4, page 28](#) of the draft policy.

32

6. Do you agree with locations and categories as proposed?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

The draft policy outlines how the Council plans to provide play opportunities for youth (age group 13 -24 years.)

7. Do you agree the draft policy suitably addresses providing play opportunities for youth?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

The draft policy lists key issues and a number of proposals relating to skate facilities.

8. Do you think the draft policy addresses the key issues identified in the plan and provides clear direction for the provision of skate facilities in Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

The draft policy proposes a network of 23 outdoor basketball courts (mix of half and full courts) for informal outdoor play.

9. Do you think the draft policy provides a network of outdoor court space for informal play?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments

Opportunities for incorporating the natural environment into play spaces.

10. Do you support a focus on incorporating opportunities to interact with the natural environment into play spaces? Refer to section 2, page 9 of the draft policy for background.

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Strategic priority 3, section 4, page 38, guides community and school partnerships.

11. Can you suggest any other ways partnership opportunities could improve the play spaces

33

across Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Encourage local communities to take responsibility for some aspects of their park. Encourage neighbourhoods to propose and 'design' little parks on unused WCC/Roading reserve in their streets.

Strategic priority 4 recognises the value of informal play and that the whole city can provide informal play space for all ages. Refer to [section 4, page 38](#) of the draft policy for background.

12. Can you suggest other ways Council might provide for or promote informal play around Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Invite neighbourhoods to suggest the use of unused WCC/roading reserve land in their area to be converted into informal play areas... encourage the neighbourhoods to take ownership of them, be part of the 'design' of them... look after the maintenance of them. Begin by creating a few examples so people can see what is possible.

Our suggestions for promoting the value of play as an activity and helping more people to get outside and play are outlined in [section 4, page 39](#) of the draft policy.

13. Do you have any other ideas or actions that could help get more people outdoors and active through play?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Please provide any additional comments you would like to make.

More people might use the parks if they felt they were not developed just for children... do many people who don't have children go to community parks? Re child/parent play... more interesting equipment that encourages child/parent interaction. As I pushed my granddaughter on a swing in Shortland Park last weekend, I watched others doing the same... many were on cellphones as they pushed their children... it got me thinking about equipment that might help caregivers loose themselves a little and engage more with their children

14. Do you have any other ideas or suggestions you would like to share?

Comments

I'm genuinely excited about this new Play Spaces policy... I believe parks are more important than ever, specifically in their potential to build stronger, connected, more resilient communities. In summary, the most important issues for me are... .. the development of numerous very small 'street side' parks, like the one on the corner of Jeypore St. They would be the 'stepping stones' to the neighbourhood parks ... parks where the whole community's wants and needs are considered equally alongside those of children and youth

Attached Documents

File
No records to display.

Submitter Details

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Resident or Ratepayer:

- Ratepayer Resident Non-resident ratepayer Other

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Wishes to be heard:

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See supporting document attached.

A strategic priority in the draft policy is about providing a network of play spaces across the city (see section 3 and 4 of the draft policy for maps).

2. Do you agree with planning for a mix of types of play space, spread as evenly as possible across the city as outlined in the draft policy?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

We support a mix of types of play space, but argue that these should be spread equitably rather than evenly, with priority given to a) medium density housing areas, b) neighborhoods with more children, and c) low income neighborhoods. See supporting document attached.

A total number of 111 formal playgrounds are being proposed.

3. Do you support planning for a total of 111 formal playgrounds based on the goal of the majority of households in Wellington (74%) being within about 10 minutes walk of a neighbourhood or community play space?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

We support an increase in the number of playgrounds, as opposed to a decrease, but argue the Council should set a more ambitious target: all households with a 5 minute walk of a play space. Certainly all households in priority areas (a) medium density housing areas, b) neighborhoods with more children, and c) low income neighborhoods) should be no more than 5 minutes walk from a play space.

Strategic priority 2 is about the network of Wellington play spaces being made up of high quality and fit for purpose play space.

4. Do you agree the principles and standards listed in section 4, page 32 - 34, will result in Wellington's play spaces (formal playgrounds, skate facilities, half courts and nature play trails) being high quality and meeting the needs of the community?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

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- target catchment area and age range
- types of play opportunities
- what you might see in these spaces

(see section 4, page 33 - 34 of the draft policy).

5. Do you agree that the guide will result in a good mix of play space that meets the needs of the city, local communities, and the range of people who use these spaces?

- Yes
- No
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Any additional comments?

All the formal playgrounds are listed by category in [Appendix 2, page 44](#) with a map showing this distribution across the city in [section 4, page 28](#) of the draft policy.

6. Do you agree with locations and categories as proposed?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Play spaces should be spread equitably rather than evenly, with priority given to a) medium density housing areas, b) neighborhoods with more children, and c) low income neighborhoods. See supporting document attached

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Any additional comments?

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Any additional comments

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10. Do you support a focus on incorporating opportunities to interact with the natural environment into play spaces? Refer to section 2, page 9 of the draft policy for background.

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Strategic priority 3, section 4, page 38, guides community and school partnerships.

11. Can you suggest any other ways partnership opportunities could improve the play spaces across Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?
See supporting document attached.

Strategic priority 4 recognises the value of informal play and that the whole city can provide informal play space for all ages. Refer to section 4, page 38 of the draft policy for background.

12. Can you suggest other ways Council might provide for or promote informal play around Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

38

Our suggestions for promoting the value of play as an activity and helping more people to get outside and play are outlined in [section 4, page 39](#) of the draft policy.

13. Do you have any other ideas or actions that could help get more people outdoors and active through play?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Please provide any additional comments you would like to make.
Please see supporting document attached.

14. Do you have any other ideas or suggestions you would like to share?

Comments

Attached Documents

File
PHA Submission - WCC Play Spaces policy
Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy



18 November 2016

PHA Wellington Branch Submission: Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy 2016

1. Thank you for the opportunity to have input into the development of the 2016 Wellington Play Spaces Policy. The Wellington Branch of the Public Health Association **supports equitable provision of healthy play spaces** throughout the city.
2. **The Place Spaces policy has important implications for child, youth, parent/caregiver, and general community health** and we congratulate the council on its recognition of this factor in its draft policy (*Play Spaces Policy*, p.9). We remind you that Wellington City Council has a statutory obligation under The Health Act 1956 (s23) “to improve, promote and protect public health within its district”. Child obesity, falling rates of physical activity, injuries, dental caries, tobacco-related harm, sun safety, and rising rates of anxiety and other mental health issues in young people are significant public health concerns that the Play Spaces policy can help to address.
3. **Play spaces are more likely to promote health if they:**
 - encourage physical activity (physical wellbeing / te taha tinana);
 - promote social interaction and cohesion (social wellbeing / te taha whānau);
 - are psychologically refreshing (mental wellbeing / te taha hinengaro); and
 - increase people’s contact with nature and spaces of cultural significance (cultural/spiritual wellbeing / te taha wairua) (Regional Public Health, 2010).

We are particularly pleased the Council is aiming to *reduce and eliminate social and physical barriers. This will promote inclusive environments and accessibility for children and their caregivers, consider people with disabilities as well as parents with children in prams and older people with an age-related decrease in mobility or sensory abilities* (p.34) which is in line with Sustainable Development Goal 11. We are also pleased the Council recognises the significance of nature play and its multifaceted benefits for *human development, physical and mental health, fostering communication, and stimulating imagination and creativity* (p.9-10).

4. Play spaces are also significant for **spiritual / cultural well-being**, therefore it is fitting that Strategic Priority 2 includes *expressing iwi/cultural, environmental or other community stories and values*. We strongly support this strategic priority and note that playgrounds offer the opportunity to retell stories of significance to Mana Whenua, in particular. We recommend taking every opportunity to conserve/develop indigenous cultural landscapes and foster creative inspiration, in particular through ongoing consultation and collaboration with Mana Whenua.
5. **We generally support the Council’s draft policy** as it provides for an increase in the number of playgrounds, and recognises both the need for healthy urban spaces, and the characteristics of

40

play spaces which promote health. We are also pleased the Council is recognising New Zealand's international obligations, e.g. the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

6. **Evidence shows that those living closer to parks and playgrounds are more likely to use them,** and more often (UK Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology, 2016). Proximity to parks and playgrounds is also associated with higher rates of physical activity (Cohen et al, 2006) and lower rates of child obesity (Potwarka et al, 2008):

"Children with a playground within 1 km were almost five times more likely to be classified as being of a healthy weight (rather than at risk or overweight) compared to those children without playgrounds in nearby parks" (Potwarka et al, 2008).

7. **Playground provision needs to be sufficient, and recognise increasing need due to densification.** The Council advocates having around 75% of the population within 600 metres or 10 minutes' walk of a playground (p.27). However, this means 25% of the population has further to travel and this is a matter that needs to be addressed, since distance is likely to be a barrier to playground access for this group. The Council recognises that opportunities for free play are limited by modern lifestyles (p.10). In addition, as sections become smaller and the WCC's medium density housing zones are implemented, **the proportion of children and youth reliant on public space for physical activity and enjoyment is increasing.** We recommend the Council recognises this and, in support of its promotion of urban densification, commits to seeing that all households are within 5 minutes' walk of a play space, giving priority to those neighbourhoods in which it is seeking to encourage greater urban density. We note that the Council owns significant road reserve and other land that could be utilised for mini parks, and that the Council has powers to require private developers to include play spaces as a condition of consent for new subdivisions or multi-dwelling developments. Therefore increasing play space provision to meet growing needs is realistic and achievable.
8. **Play space provision needs to be equitable.** The Council is planning an even spread of play spaces around the city. While we would agree play spaces need to be accessible in all areas, some areas have higher needs than others. For example areas of urban densification referred to above should be prioritised. Other high priority areas for play spaces are those neighbourhoods with more young children, and low-income neighbourhoods where families are likely to be more reliant on local facilities. Children growing up in poverty are at higher risk of obesity, and may have fewer opportunities for the healthy play that all children need for their social, emotional and physical development (Milteer, 2012). Ensuring all children in low income areas are within five minutes' walk of a playground will help to address these disparities.
9. **Healthy play spaces need to be developed with communities.** We support strategic priority three about community and school partnerships, and applaud the community-centred approach the Council have taken to date in some areas, for example Strathmore Park and its local community. We also suggest the design and 'look' of parks and playgrounds should reflect the culture and diversity of the surrounding community. The approach taken to the design of the Te Ara Hou playground at the corner of Daniel and Constable Street in Newtown is an example of this approach and we would encourage the council to adopt a similar inclusive approach to the design of play spaces.

10. **Play spaces need to protect and promote health.** In accordance with its Smokefree Parks and Playgrounds Policy the council should continue to make all play grounds smoke free with clear signage promoting this. We suggest that, where possible, water fountains are located at playgrounds to provide a healthy drink option and minimise litter. We are pleased to see the Council's concerns regarding shade and sun safety.
11. **Play spaces need to be safe, pleasant and attractive.** Play spaces may be under-utilised if they are not safe and pleasant places to be. We would ask the council to follow Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CEPTED) principles, and give careful attention to both providing shade from the sun and shelter from the wind in its design of play spaces – using planting where practical and built construction where necessary. Finally we would ask that the council review the impact of planting and trees on its older existing parks and play spaces. In a number it appears that the growth of vegetation has created spaces that are wind tunnels and more shady than desirable. A classic example is Khandallah swimming pool. A comparison between the situation today and that shown in photographs taken after the pool was first open show a stark contrast. Initially the pool was in full sun for most of the day and was a warm and pleasant place. Today the pool is overshadowed for most of the day and is cold and windy. Some judicious tree removal would make an enormous positive difference.
12. **The Public Health Association (PHA)** is a national NGO which provides a forum for information, debate, and action directed towards improving, promoting, and protecting the health of the whole population. Members of the PHA work in the public, private, and not for profit sectors and collectively hold a high level of expertise on a breadth of issues that affect health and wellbeing. The Wellington Branch of the PHA has around 70 members. We would like Council to take these points into consideration and continue to support our young and older generations to live an active and healthy lifestyle in a positively growing and vibrant city we all know and are proud to be part of, our home - Wellington.

Jude Ball
Chair, Wellington Branch, Public Health Association.
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References

- Cohen, D. A., Ashwood, J. S., Scott, M. et al (2006). Public parks and physical activity among adolescent girls. *Pediatrics*, 118(5), e1381-e1389.
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 eMail: **paul.blaschke@otago.ac.nz**

Resident or Ratepayer:

- Ratepayer Resident Non-resident ratepayer Other

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 Both

Submission

The policy is formed around five strategic priorities (see section 4, page 26 of the draft policy)

1. Do you agree with these five priorities in the policy?

	Yes	No
Provide a network of play spaces across the city	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide high-quality, fit-for purpose play space	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community and school partnerships	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The city as a play space	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Programming and advocacy for outdoor play	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Accessibility is a key principle for a good play spaces policy. There is evidence from NZ and overseas that not all people and not all children are equally enabled to access play space, whether through disability, or cultural or economic barriers. Also evidence that access to outdoor play space may disproportionately benefit disadvantaged children. I think that the principle of accessibility should be clearly emphasised in the strategic priorities, possibly through amending priority 2 to read

Provide high-quality, fit-for-purpose play space that is accessible to all. The principle of accessibility also reminds us that play is not just for children. Outdoor play and recreation is important for all people and benefits their health and wellbeing - there is strong and increasing evidence for this. Adults may use play spaces when accompanying children, or (especially younger adults) on their own. Play spaces should be visually appealing, sheltered and offer appropriate facilities for adults (seats, lawns, attractive trees, etc etc) as well as children. A principle of accessibility can emphasise this need.

A strategic priority in the draft policy is about providing a network of play spaces across the city (see section 3 and 4 of the draft policy for maps).

2. Do you agree with planning for a mix of types of play space, spread as evenly as possible across the city as outlined in the draft policy?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

I don't altogether agree with 'spread as evenly as possible across the city'. Play spaces should be spread throughout the city and be accessible in every part of every suburb. However, the distribution of play spaces should take account of the distribution of population, areas where children are concentrated, and areas of particular accessibility and deprivation needs. Maps 1 and 2 clearly show differences in population density that are not well matched by the distribution of play spaces, under both the existing and possibly the future population distribution. While the position of proposed new playgrounds do recognise future population trends to some extent, they could take better account of density and needs distribution. Arguably, southern and eastern Wellington suburbs are poorer served by play spaces than the rest of the city (even taking into account the presence of the town belt and other open and green spaces). The location of all 3 'destination' playgrounds in the central city, relevant to the description of destination play spaces, suggests that these 3 areas could be seen as drawcards for the CBD rather than in their own right (Wellington Botanic Garden is not very easily accessible from main public transport routes and arterial roads). These may be good reasons to suggest that over time, one of the community play spaces in the southern or eastern suburbs and one in the northern suburbs (especially around Churton Park/Stebbins Valley) be upgraded or developed as a destination-standard play space.

A total number of 111 formal playgrounds are being proposed.

3. Do you support planning for a total of 111 formal playgrounds based on the goal of the majority of households in Wellington (74%) being within about 10 minutes walk of a neighbourhood or community play space?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Agree with total number of playgrounds, and commend the change of policy from one that saw a decrease in the number. However being within 10 minutes walk may not be sufficient to ensure good accessibility to all. If 25% of the population has further to travel, this may significantly affect accessibility of people especially children who are less likely to visit a playground. Surveys of urban park use in the UK indicate that the majority of users want to come by foot and will only do so on a

regular basis if the park is within 3-5 minutes' walk of their home or workplace. The Council recognises that opportunities for free play are limited by modern lifestyles (p.10). In addition, as sections become smaller and the WCC's medium density housing zones are implemented, the proportion of children and youth reliant on public space for physical activity and enjoyment is increasing. I recommend that, in support of Council's promotion of urban densification, it commits to a policy that all households are within 5 minutes' walk of a play or green space, giving priority to those neighbourhoods in which it is seeking to encourage greater urban density. As well as playgrounds, Council owns significant reserves including road reserve and other land that could be utilised for 'pocket parks', and Council has powers to require private developers to include play spaces as a condition of consent for new subdivisions or sometimes for other types of residential development. Therefore increasing play space provision to meet growing needs is realistic and achievable.

Strategic priority 2 is about the network of Wellington play spaces being made up of high quality and fit for purpose play space.

4. Do you agree the principles and standards listed in [section 4, page 32 - 34](#), will result in Wellington's play spaces (formal playgrounds, skate facilities, half courts and nature play trails) being high quality and meeting the needs of the community?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

See comments on strategic priorities above. There should be more emphasis on 'accessible and inclusive' principles. The diagram under Policy 1 is helpful but should provide for special accessibility needs for the disabled etc (as described in the narrative that follows)

The draft policy proposes three categories of formal play space (Destination, Community and Neighbourhood). The policy also outlines a guide describing:

- the intention of the spaces
 - target catchment area and age range
 - types of play opportunities
 - what you might see in these spaces
- (see [section 4, page 33 - 34](#) of the draft policy).

5. Do you agree that the guide will result in a good mix of play space that meets the needs of the city, local communities, and the range of people who use these spaces?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

All the formal playgrounds are listed by category in [Appendix 2, page 44](#) with a map showing this distribution across the city in [section 4, page 28](#) of the draft policy.

6. Do you agree with locations and categories as proposed?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

See comments on strategic priorities above re higher density in some suburbs and upgrading to destination parks in northern and eastern or southern suburbs. The accessibility of all types of play spaces in all locations needs to be maximised by good provision of car and foot access, car and bike parks, lighting, and signs. All this infrastructure needs to be maintained to a good standard. On p 11 we learn that 45% of playspace users drive to the playground, more than walk (41%) but significantly less than the 58% of survey respondents who said their neighbourhood playground (ie the one closest to where they lived) was the one they visited most often. This is somewhat discouraging in view of the health and wellbeing benefits of active transport. While people may need to drive to work, schools, shops and other facilities for a variety of reasons, it is hard to see why this proportion of users feel the need to drive to their neighbourhood park/playspace. I recommend that the policy should aim to increase the number of trips by foot/bike/scooter to play spaces. Maintaining safe easy access to all spaces is important to this goal.

The draft policy outlines how the Council plans to provide play opportunities for youth (age group 13 -24 years.)

7. Do you agree the draft policy suitably addresses providing play opportunities for youth?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Reasonably well but see comments above re play spaces for youth and young adults. I note for example that flying foxes are well used by all age groups.

The draft policy lists key issues and a number of proposals relating to skate facilities.

8. Do you think the draft policy addresses the key issues identified in the plan and provides clear direction for the provision of skate facilities in Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

No comment but agree that skate facilities are an important element in the provision of play spaces.

The draft policy proposes a network of 23 outdoor basketball courts (mix of half and full courts) for informal outdoor play.

9. Do you think the draft policy provides a network of outdoor court space for informal play?

46

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments

No comment but agree that skate facilities are an important element in the provision of play spaces.

Opportunities for incorporating the natural environment into play spaces.

10. Do you support a focus on incorporating opportunities to interact with the natural environment into play spaces? Refer to section 2, page 9 of the draft policy for background.

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

I agree with the importance of natural spaces and opportunities for informal, unstructured play. This is well supported by NZ and international research. The redeveloped Karori Park is a good example of a park that has a great range of spaces and activities from formal sports and playgrounds to unstructured and natural areas, all within a relatively small area where play can be easily and informally supervised.

Strategic priority 3, section 4, page 38, guides community and school partnerships.

11. Can you suggest any other ways partnership opportunities could improve the play spaces across Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

No comment

Strategic priority 4 recognises the value of informal play and that the whole city can provide informal play space for all ages. Refer to section 4, page 38 of the draft policy for background.

12. Can you suggest other ways Council might provide for or promote informal play around Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Partnership arrangements with a range of community groups are important and can also provide informal play spaces, e.g. on pocket parks and roadside reserves and in community gardens

Our suggestions for promoting the value of play as an activity and helping more people to get outside and play are outlined in [section 4, page 39](#) of the draft policy.

13. Do you have any other ideas or actions that could help get more people outdoors and active through play?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Please provide any additional comments you would like to make.
No comment

14. Do you have any other ideas or suggestions you would like to share?

Comments

I commend the council on the development of this policy and I think in general its policies and provisions are very positive. The Place Spaces policy has important implications for child, youth, and general community health and I congratulate the council on its recognition of this factor in its draft policy. I endorse the submission of the Public Health Association Wellington Branch submission. I have research and planning references available to share with officers if required. I have a particular research and planning interest in the health and wellbeing benefits of urban green spaces.

Attached Documents

File
Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy

Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
 Me Heke Ki Pōneke

We are keen to hear your thoughts on the Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy
 You can have your say:

- By making a submission on this form or in writing and send it to us by post -
 Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy, Freepost, Wellington City Council, P.O. Box 2199, Wellington.
- By making a submission online at Wellington.govt.nz/haveyoursay
- By sending an email to: playspaces@wcc.govt.nz

Please contact the Wellington City Council on 499 4444 for more information.

Tell us what you think by 5pm Friday 18 November 2016

Privacy statement

All submissions (including name and all contact details) are provided to elected members and made available to the public at our office and on our website. Personal information will also be used for the administration of the consultation process. All information collected will be held by Wellington City Council, 101 Wakefield Street, Wellington, with submitters having the right to access and correct personal information.

Section one – your details

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Dr
Your name* BERNARD O'SHAUGHNESSY
You are making your submission: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> as an individual <input type="checkbox"/> on behalf of an organisation – organisation's name:
Your email address (We'll use it to keep you informed about of the outcome of this consultation) Bernardfree13@gmail.com
Your postal address (We'll use it to keep you informed about of the outcome of this consultation) 139a Daniell st NEWTON
Your suburb* NEWTON
I would like to make an oral submission to the councillors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please provide a phone number so that a submission time can be arranged: Email me first - 022-1263940

*Mandatory fields

Section two – questions about Draft Wellington Play Space Policy

The policy is formed around **five strategic priorities** (see section 4, page 26 of the draft policy).

1. Do you agree with these five strategic priorities?

1. Provide a network of play spaces across the city	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
2. Provide high-quality, fit-for-purpose play space	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
3. Community and school partnerships	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
4. The city as a play space	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
5. Programming and advocacy for outdoor play	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Any additional comments?

A strategic priority in the draft policy is about **providing a network of play spaces across the city** (see section 3 and 4 of the draft policy for maps).

2. Do you agree with planning for a mix of types of play space, spread as evenly as possible across the city as outlined in the draft policy?

Yes No Other

Any additional comments?

A total number of 111 formal playgrounds are being proposed.

3. Do you support planning for a total of 111 formal playgrounds based on the goal of the majority of households in Wellington (74%) being within about 10 minutes-walk of a neighbourhood or community play space?

Yes No Other

Any additional comments?

YES, but ensure the Berhampstead + Seatoun Play parks that Council were to close - NOT CLOSE

Strategic priority 2 is about the network of Wellington play spaces being made up of **high quality and fit for purpose play space**. *EVERY*

4. Do you agree the **principles and standards** listed in section 4, page 32 - 34 will result in Wellington's play spaces (formal playgrounds, skate facilities, half courts and nature play trails) being high quality and meeting the needs of the community?

Yes No Other

Any additional comments?

The draft policy proposes **three categories of formal play space** Destination, Community and Neighbourhood. The policy also outlines a guide describing:

- the intention of the spaces	- types of play opportunities
- the target catchment area and age range	- what you might see in these spaces

(see section 4, page 33 - 34 of the draft policy).

5. Do you agree that the guide will result in a good mix of play space that meets the needs of the city, local communities, and the range of people who use these spaces?

Yes No Other

Any additional comments?

All of the **formal playgrounds are listed by category** in Appendix 2, page 44 with a map showing the distribution across the city in section 4, page 28 of the draft policy.

6. Do you agree with the locations and categories as proposed?

Yes No Other

Any additional comments?

<p>The draft policy outlines how the Council plans to provide play opportunities for youth (age group 13-24 years).</p> <p>7. Do you agree the draft policy suitably addresses providing play opportunities for youth?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>Any additional comments?</p>
<p>The draft policy lists key issues and a number of proposals relating to skate facilities.</p> <p>8. Do you think the draft policy addresses the key issues identified in the plan and provides clear direction for the provision of skate facilities in Wellington?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>Any additional comments?</p> <p><i>Ban skate Boards on footpaths + roads.</i></p>
<p>The draft policy proposes a network of 23 outdoor basketball courts (mix of half and full courts) for informal outdoor play.</p> <p>9. Do you think the draft policy provides a good network of outdoor court space for informal play?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>Any additional comments?</p>
<p>Opportunities for incorporating the natural environment into play spaces.</p> <p>10. Do you support a focus on incorporating opportunities to interact with the natural environment into play spaces? Refer to section 2, page 9 of the draft policy for background.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>Any additional comments?</p>
<p>Strategic priority 3, section 4, page 38, guides community and school partnerships.</p> <p>11. Can you suggest any other ways partnership opportunities could improve the play spaces across Wellington?</p> <p><i>All areas to be smoke + booze free!</i></p>
<p>Strategic priority 4 recognises the value of informal play and that the whole city can provide informal play space for all ages. Refer to section 4, page 38 of the draft policy for background.</p> <p>12. Can you suggest other ways Council might provide for or promote informal play around Wellington?</p> <p><i>Restrict the mountain bikes off walk tracks</i></p>
<p>Our suggestions for promoting the value of play as an activity and helping more people to get outside and play are outlined in section 4, page 39 of the draft policy.</p> <p>13. Do you have any other ideas or actions that could help get more people outdoors and active through play?</p> <p><i>Free buses in Zone: CBD.</i></p>
<p>14. Do you have any other ideas or suggestions you would like to share?</p> <p><i>Yes - Heaps - build seawalls asap! (\$1b over 30 years)</i></p>

Section three – who we are reaching

You don't have to complete this section but this information helps us to know who we are reaching. (Note: the information you provide is open to public view.)

I am male female Other/Not stated

My age is 0-14 years 15-24 years 25-34 years 35-44 years 45-54 years 55+ years

Which of the following best describes your household?

Household with no children or none living at home Household with youngest child under 5 65+

Household with youngest child 5 to 13 Household with youngest child 14 or over

Other (please specify)

What is the name of the playground you visit most often?
 Please provide name of play area or suburb below *Frank Kitts + Carrara Park*

Which ethnic group do you belong to? (You can tick more than one box)

New Zealand European Cook Island Chinese Other (such as Dutch, Japanese, Tokelauan, Somali). Please state:

Māori Tongan Indian *Typpo!*

Samoan Niuean

1st fold here - fasten here once folded

Other issues/matters or general comments

I think it is very important to address the "Dummies" issue. That more toilets MUST be put in our parks. Immediately put in a toilet @ Carrara Park Newtown, + I know lots more families would use all the parks if we put in a few toilets.

2nd fold here

Free Post Authority Number 2199

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
 Me Heke Ki Pōneke



FREEPOST 2199
 Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy
 Wellington City Council
 PO Box 2199
 Wellington 6140

We are keen to hear your thoughts on the Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy
 You can have your say:

- By making a submission on this form or in writing and send it to us by post -
 Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy, Freepost, Wellington City Council, P.O. Box 2199, Wellington.
- By making a submission online at Wellington.govt.nz/haveyoursay
- By sending an email to: playspaces@wcc.govt.nz

Please contact the Wellington City Council on 499 4444 for more information.

Tell us what you think by 5pm Friday 18 November 2016

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Section one – your details

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Dr
Your name*
You are making your submission: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> as an individual <input type="checkbox"/> on behalf of an organisation – organisation's name:
Your email address (We'll use it to keep you informed about the outcome of this consultation) athol.swain@paradise.net.nz
Your postal address (We'll use it to keep you informed about the outcome of this consultation) 47 Mairangi Road Wadestown Wellington 6012
Your suburb* Wadestown
I would like to make an oral submission to the councillors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please provide a phone number so that a submission time can be arranged: (04) 4728417

*Mandatory fields

Submission to: Wellington City Council
From: Pauline and Athol Swann 47 Mairangi Road, Wellington 6012
Subject: Wellington Play Space Policy email:athol.swann@paradise.net.nz
Date: 12th November 2016

We have read the Strategic Priority Summary of the Draft Play Spaces Policy October 2016 and agree that with the increasing intensification of buildings in the suburbs and many new apartment buildings in the Central Business District we need to ensure that not only are more new green spaces provided but existing ones are upgraded and maintained.

The Play Space document states that wherever possible there will be provision for kick about space and nature play. We would agree and given its close location to the CBD Workers and apartment residents in the area, Civic Square and Jack Ilott Green are large appropriate locations for keep fit classes and kick around areas. The slope down from Civic Square to the JIG should be utilised to provide natural climbing areas, a slide, hop scotch path for children and comfortable seating for grandparents, parents and library users and workers in their lunch hour.

We have also noted the comments on Page 11 of Wellington Play Spaces Policy October 2016 Draft "What do people want from play spaces in Wellington" and the top five most engaged activities (from a list provided) included things like free play, trees and sliding on banks). In regard to this we are totally opposed to the flattening of the current playground at Frank Kitts Park and moving it closer to the street and the southern end of the TSB Arena and Shed 6.

The current area for the Lighthouse slide and other equipment provide views out to the harbour and plenty of sunshine whereas the area proposed is in the shade at certain times of the day and trucks, vans, cars are to be seen delivering or collecting goods from exhibitions etc held at these venues. Only minor improvements are needed with the provision of more play equipment where the swings are now.

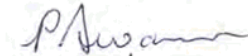
Over many years we have spoken with families and comments were "awesome" and they love to picnic under the trees and the children love the undulating grass surrounding the play area where they can roll and tumble down the slopes. Also very popular is the "bouncy" and small hired electric cars during the holidays.

On the Upper Lawn and open space in the amphitheatre families can be seen kicking footballs, playing cricket and watching boats on the lagoon and kayaks on the harbour.

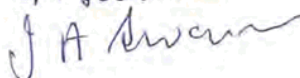
We therefore feel that the \$5.5m to redevelop this Park would be better spent on more play spaces in the CBD and suburbs not to forget the playground at the Basin Reserve.

The City is a prime recreation hub for shopping, leisure, entertainment (ie the amphitheatre in Frank Kitts Park is so popular day and night) and the open spaces are place for people to move around and meet, socialise, watch, shop, sit, walk and generally participate in city life. With a steady trend towards inner city residential living, often in apartments with little or no private outdoor space, these parks also serve as "local neighbourhoods".

Pauline Swann



Athol Swann



Submitter Details

First Name: Penny
Last Name: Salmond
Street: 12B Middleton Road
Suburb: Johnsonville
City: Wellington
Country: New Zealand
PostCode: 6037
Daytime Phone: 044780370
Mobile: 0212112577
eMail: pennysalmond@vodafone.co.nz

Resident or Ratepayer:

Ratepayer Resident Non-resident ratepayer Other

Which Community Board Area is your property in?

Eastern Ward Lambton Ward Northern Ward Not indicated
 Onslow-Western Ward Southern Ward

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

The policy is formed around five strategic priorities (see section 4, page 26 of the draft policy)

1. Do you agree with these five priorities in the policy?

	Yes	No
Provide a network of play spaces across the city	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide high-quality, fit-for purpose play space	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community and school partnerships	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The city as a play space	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Programming and advocacy for outdoor play	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Prioritize putting the provision of an increased number of playgrounds in the MDRA zoned suburbs so that the increased number of children in these areas who live with very little or no private yard or garden have easy access to first class and appropriate public play space. While I have no argument with the 'city as a play space', the city is already well provided with activities and well equipped public play areas. Many children who live in MDRA developments and apartments do not get taken to the city or leave their locality and it is well known that the majority of children utilise the closest playground most frequently.

A strategic priority in the draft policy is about providing a network of play spaces across the city (see section 3 and 4 of the draft policy for maps).

2. Do you agree with planning for a mix of types of play space, spread as evenly as possible across the city as outlined in the draft policy?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Priority must be given to the suburbs that have increased population due to MDRA and the allocation of play space needs to be based on those areas with a greater number of children and young people. It makes no sense for WCC to spread play spaces out evenly across the city when the demand for play spaces (both in number of children and the relative deprivation of those children) is NOT even. Properties in suburbs that have larger private sections, low population and relatively fewer children do not need the same 'service level' for play spaces as suburbs where there are much higher population densities, many more children and limited private outdoor play spaces. The suggested policy appears unfair to the children of Wellington in most need.

A total number of 111 formal playgrounds are being proposed.

3. Do you support planning for a total of 111 formal playgrounds based on the goal of the majority of households in Wellington (74%) being within about 10 minutes walk of a neighbourhood or community play space?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Some existing play grounds are under used and others are highly utilised and under equipped with play facilities. Using the number of households in Wellington as the tool for deciding on playground allocation has no bearing on the 'demand' for play space and would be a misuse of WCC funds. I propose a much higher 'service level' of formal playgrounds - in number, and how well they are provisioned with activities - for where there is a higher proportion of children in the population.

Strategic priority 2 is about the network of Wellington play spaces being made up of high quality and fit for purpose play space.

4. Do you agree the principles and standards listed in section 4, page 32 - 34, will result in Wellington's play spaces (formal playgrounds, skate facilities, half courts and nature play trails) being high quality and meeting the needs of the community?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

56

One of the half-courts mentioned in the policy document is scheduled for demolition within a few months and no replacement has been planned or budgeted for. Nor is there any reference to replacing that half-court mentioned in the policy document. WCC must prioritize and fund the maintenance and any necessary replacements as a minimum standard, and consult with local communities to determine both the provision of like-for-like replacement facilities and about the most appropriate location. Johnsonville young people have recently been publicly lobbying for somewhere to hangout.

The draft policy proposes three categories of formal play space (Destination, Community and Neighbourhood). The policy also outlines a guide describing:

- the intention of the spaces
 - target catchment area and age range
 - types of play opportunities
 - what you might see in these spaces
- (see section 4, page 33 - 34 of the draft policy).

5. Do you agree that the guide will result in a good mix of play space that meets the needs of the city, local communities, and the range of people who use these spaces?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Most playground users visit their CLOSEST playground most often. Where residential intensification occurs, private play space plummets and a high demand is made on public playgrounds. Therefore the existing playgrounds must not be allowed to deteriorate. The term Community Playground is very broad and there is a wide range of existing playgrounds in which many Community Playgrounds are better equipped than others. Many playgrounds within MDRA zones are poorly equipped for the population they now serve and have become totally inadequate for the rising numbers of children who will need them. These playgrounds need significant improvement now with more space and upgraded equipment.

All the formal playgrounds are listed by category in [Appendix 2, page 44](#) with a map showing this distribution across the city in [section 4, page 28](#) of the draft policy.

6. Do you agree with locations and categories as proposed?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

I submit that the policy needs to be amended to support an upgrade of all WCC Playgrounds within 400m walking distance of the boundary of any MDRA zone capable of accommodating more than 400 additional homes, at least to the level of a Community Playground.

The draft policy outlines how the Council plans to provide play opportunities for youth (age group 13 -24 years.)

7. Do you agree the draft policy suitably addresses providing play opportunities for youth?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

In some suburbs there are insufficient facilities for young people. It is disappointing that WCC has not adequately engaged with communities in respect of the needs of youth and it is time there was a significant investment commitment in the policy to provide for these young people. (As mentioned under Questions 4 and 8.)

The draft policy lists key issues and a number of proposals relating to skate facilities.

8. Do you think the draft policy addresses the key issues identified in the plan and provides clear direction for the provision of skate facilities in Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

The draft policy ignores at least one MDRA suburb's long-standing request for a skate facility and WCC officers have failed to even discuss the matter with that community. WCC has communicated with a small set of skaters from more distant suburbs and suggested that to be 'consultation'. For WCC to now issue the list of 'existing' skate facilities as 'Fait accompli' ignores our community's ongoing requests and the pressing demand and need for more facilities in area's with large numbers of older children and youths.

The draft policy proposes a network of 23 outdoor basketball courts (mix of half and full courts) for informal outdoor play.

9. Do you think the draft policy provides a network of outdoor court space for informal play?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments

WCC's plan to build a Library on Johnsonville's only Youth Facility (a half-court) without any plan or budgetary provision to replace it is unacceptable. Particularly as community members have been asking for plans and budgetary provision for that replacement for years. I submit that this matter needs to be positively resolved before the Play Spaces policy is accepted by council.

Opportunities for incorporating the natural environment into play spaces.

10. Do you support a focus on incorporating opportunities to interact with the natural environment into play spaces? Refer to section 2, page 9 of the draft policy for background.

58

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

More indigenous, eco-sourced native plants in and near play spaces would be appreciated.

Strategic priority 3, [section 4, page 38](#), guides community and school partnerships.

11. Can you suggest any other ways partnership opportunities could improve the play spaces across Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Engage more with our residents associations, clubs and societies. For example, most of our previous generation playgrounds were built and paid for by Lions They and others are keen to offer ideas and assistance to improve play options. Neighbourly and other social media allow direct access and could be utilised more.

Strategic priority 4 recognises the value of informal play and that the whole city can provide informal play space for all ages. Refer to [section 4, page 38](#) of the draft policy for background.

12. Can you suggest other ways Council might provide for or promote informal play around Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Improve the amount of public open space overall as it is the lack of space that inhibits less formal play. Even large parks in our suburbs are often completely filled with formal sports fields, games and practices, as well as parking lots. Improving the attractiveness of park and play areas with tree planting and shelter belts to provide wind cover would create more appealing informal and adventure play areas.

Our suggestions for promoting the value of play as an activity and helping more people to get outside and play are outlined in [section 4, page 39](#) of the draft policy.

13. Do you have any other ideas or actions that could help get more people outdoors and active through play?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Please provide any additional comments you would like to make.
More public open spaces. It is difficult to encourage outdoor active play when local public areas continue to be eroded or 're-purposed' by WCC.

14. Do you have any other ideas or suggestions you would like to share?

Comments

I understand that WCC Play Spaces Policy contains misstatements (or the inappropriate re-designation of Johnsonville Memorial Children's Park - which has been reduced in size and equipment by the pool expansion - as a 'Community Playground' rather than a 'local playground'). Also new playground provision policy rules based on 'walking distance', have been altered to EITHER a Local Playground OR Community Playground. If this is the case Johnsonville will be deprived of the 'proper' Community Playground they deserve and which has been waited on for for 14 years. I also ask that, regardless of any policy changes in the proposed new Play Spaces Policy, that WCC commit to the development of an additional, new 'Community Playground', - one that focuses on challenging play opportunities for older children and youth,- on the western side of the top field of Alex Moore Park. And that this Community Playground be completed before 2020.

Attached Documents

File
Submission to WCC Play Spaces Policy
Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy

Dear WCC

Please accept this personal submission on the draft WCC Play Spaces Policy.

My submission takes the form of a plea to both WCC Councillors and bureaucrats that they please wake up take a realistic look at what is happening in Johnsonville and other MDRA areas.

Johnsonville has expanded due to MDRA infill housing developments, within which, family outdoor play and socialisation space has been eroded almost entirely. As well, our main children's' playground has been robbed of some of its green-space area and its equipment removed to allow for the expansion of the pool. Our locally claimed gathering area for young people is being hijacked by the council for the development of the new library. Our local schools' outdoor play spaces are also being swallowed up by additional classrooms required to accommodate of the influx of children due to MDRA.

Children of all ages need outdoor space to play and congregate. And consequently, I urge WCC to **increase** the number of easily accessible playgrounds for young children in Johnsonville, and to **develop a wheels park** for the children and adolescents who have been seeking one for years. Please also **listen to the recent pleas** of the teenagers of Johnsonville who have recently lobbied for somewhere to hang out.

With respect I implore WCC to look closer at the reality of the impact of MDRA on the suburbs effected and to provide **extra** accessible, safe, and well equipped play areas for the burgeoning number of children in need.

Yours faithfully

PS

Wellington City Youth Council

Submission on the Wellington Play Spaces Policy

Wellington City Youth Council is pleased to submit on the Play Spaces Policy, particularly as it concerns young people in our city. The overall updates to the policy show considerable input from the general public, and the Youth Council wishes to commend the use of feedback from young people in updating the policy. While there are a few sections that can be made stronger in order to meet the needs of young people as effectively as possible, we support the general spirit of the policy and feel that it will make a positive contribution to Wellington.

Since Wellingtonians feel that there is an adequate number of place spaces in the city currently, the Youth Council supports the policy in its focus on maintaining its formal playgrounds rather than building an excessive number more. We feel that it is important to maintain place spaces so that they are as safe as possible, so the emphasis on regularly updating playgrounds is an important one.

It is pleasing to see that children and carers with disabilities have been thoughtfully considered in the update of this policy, but we would like to see greater emphasis on making place spaces as inclusive as possible. When place spaces are updated, we feel that a heavy focus of the update should be on their accessibility and whether the play equipment can be used by children of different abilities. This is especially applicable in the case of collaborations with school playgrounds. While the Council currently only collaborates with schools in the case of there being no other place space in the vicinity, we would strongly support collaborations with schools to allow them to make their playgrounds more inclusive.

We see the improvement of recreational sport and nature facilities to be positive contributions to the policy. We support the policy's direction in providing place spaces that are catered to a younger demographic, but also identify a lack of free activities for older youth in the city. Improving upon and adding new spaces for activities such as skating and biking would make the city more inclusive, and also encourage recreational sport, which is a priority for the Youth Council.

Engaging young people in the outdoors and encouraging them to utilise the natural environment is something we find to be very important in this policy. In instances where it is possible to integrate play places with the surrounding environment, it would be extremely beneficial to do so. Community gardens, plants that offer sensory stimulus, and general additions to place spaces that will encourage young people to take an interest in the outdoors, would be welcome in the city.

One of the most commendable elements of this Policy is the consideration of the city as a play space. For young people of our demographic particularly, one of the most enticing aspects of Wellington is the use of playful design in spaces like laneways and the waterfront. Creative urban design that makes everyday spaces come alive is a way to foster community spirit, and encourage young people to socialise and play in unconventional locations.

In conclusion, we support the updated place spaces policy and feel that it can bring a positive direction to modern play in Wellington. The needs of young people today have been considered extensively, and the additions made to the Policy will result in efficient use of Council resources towards more inclusive play in the city.

Submitter Details

First Name: **Eliza**
 Last Name: **Bartlett**
 Organisation: **Kelburn Playcentre**
 Street:
 Suburb: **Kelburn**
 City: **Wellington**
 Country: **New Zealand**
 PostCode: **6012**
 Daytime Phone: **+6448033993**
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Resident or Ratepayer:

- Ratepayer
 Resident
 Non-resident ratepayer
 Other

Which Community Board Area is your property in?

- Eastern Ward
 Lambton Ward
 Northern Ward
 Not indicated
 Onslow-Western Ward
 Southern Ward

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

The policy is formed around five strategic priorities (see section 4, page 26 of the draft policy)

1. Do you agree with these five priorities in the policy?

	Yes	No
Provide a network of play spaces across the city	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide high-quality, fit-for purpose play space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community and school partnerships	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The city as a play space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Programming and advocacy for outdoor play	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

A strategic priority in the draft policy is about providing a network of play spaces across the city (see section 3 and 4 of the draft policy for maps).

2. Do you agree with planning for a mix of types of play space, spread as evenly as possible across the city as outlined in the draft policy?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

A total number of 111 formal playgrounds are being proposed.

3. Do you support planning for a total of 111 formal playgrounds based on the goal of the majority of households in Wellington (74%) being within about 10 minutes walk of a neighbourhood or community play space?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Strategic priority 2 is about the network of Wellington play spaces being made up of high quality and fit for purpose play space.

4. Do you agree the principles and standards listed in section 4, page 32 - 34, will result in Wellington's play spaces (formal playgrounds, skate facilities, half courts and nature play trails) being high quality and meeting the needs of the community?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Don't feel qualified to comment

The draft policy proposes three categories of formal play space (Destination, Community and Neighbourhood). The policy also outlines a guide describing:

- the intention of the spaces
 - target catchment area and age range
 - types of play opportunities
 - what you might see in these spaces
- (see section 4, page 33 - 34 of the draft policy).

5. Do you agree that the guide will result in a good mix of play space that meets the needs of the city, local communities, and the range of people who use these spaces?

- Yes
- No

Other

Any additional comments?

All the formal playgrounds are listed by category in [Appendix 2, page 44](#) with a map showing this distribution across the city in [section 4, page 28](#) of the draft policy.

6. Do you agree with locations and categories as proposed?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Don't feel qualified to comment

The draft policy outlines how the Council plans to provide play opportunities for youth (age group 13 -24 years.)

7. Do you agree the draft policy suitably addresses providing play opportunities for youth?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Is there enough opportunity for risk and bonding for youth?

The draft policy lists key issues and a number of proposals relating to skate facilities.

8. Do you think the draft policy addresses the key issues identified in the plan and provides clear direction for the provision of skate facilities in Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

No comment on this

The draft policy proposes a network of 23 outdoor basketball courts (mix of half and full courts) for informal outdoor play.

9. Do you think the draft policy provides a network of outdoor court space for informal play?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments

Courts are great for scooting and biking too. Could some do double-duty, e.g. with painted tracks?

Opportunities for incorporating the natural environment into play spaces.

10. Do you support a focus on incorporating opportunities to interact with the natural environment into play spaces? Refer to section 2, page 9 of the draft policy for background.

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

We totally support this. From our observation natural environments, such as trees, rocks, slopes, plants, water - provide the richest learning and play experiences for our children. Here is scope for all the categories of play you have so wonderfully named, i.e. social / imaginative, physical challenge, cognitive, etc. The natural environment - and the use of natural materials - also look beautiful and provide a refreshing space for caregivers (who often need a rest or break from being inside with the noise and demands of children). The idea of a 'no plastic' playground also garnered some support amongst our members.

Strategic priority 3, section 4, page 38, guides community and school partnerships.

11. Can you suggest any other ways partnership opportunities could improve the play spaces across Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Te Aro School is currently consulting on redeveloping its upper playground. It is often used by youth for its courts. A win-win collaboration would be great.

Strategic priority 4 recognises the value of informal play and that the whole city can provide informal play space for all ages. Refer to section 4, page 38 of the draft policy for background.

12. Can you suggest other ways Council might provide for or promote informal play around Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

66

we think the inclusion of play as a human need and right, for people of all ages! Child-friendly cities are people-friendly cities, i.e. good for everyone! (We probably could come up with more ideas if we were pushed...!)

Our suggestions for promoting the value of play as an activity and helping more people to get outside and play are outlined in [section 4, page 39](#) of the draft policy.

13. Do you have any other ideas or actions that could help get more people outdoors and active through play?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Please provide any additional comments you would like to make.

We would love to see the development of a 'wind park' or 'rain park', i.e. places that are specifically designed to be fun, pleasant and safe (while allowing age-appropriate risk) in bad weather. E.g. shade structures could also keep rain off. Wind sculptures or wind-powered play equipment could make a virtue of the wind. Heavily-treed areas might allow relatively dry play even when it's raining. It can be hard to find suitable 'run-around' space during bad weather, and having more of that would promote physical and mental health for families. Similarly we'd like to see better shade for summer months, but would support use of deciduous trees to do this where possible. A water park would also be great, with more and freer water play than available at Waitangi, though this is a start. We realise there are health and safety challenges. One of our members also proposed the development of a dedicated app for local playgrounds: 'Let's find a new one to discover.' From an accessibility viewpoint, visiting playgrounds with my not-very-able-bodied mother has been a challenge. I don't think we should expect all playground to be accessible for disabled people, but it's great to have a few with nearby carparking and flat or gently sloping access. It's wonderful for older people to be able to watch and participate in children's play! (Shoreland park is good for this. BTW I would nearly put this in the category of destination playground, and it certainly could be if it had a safe access way to the beach.)

14. Do you have any other ideas or suggestions you would like to share?

Comments

More toilets; more water fountains. (We see these came up on your survey.) Does the play area under the cable car need a spruce up? Some members say yes; others like the old-fashioned play equipment! Overall we want to say thank you for the wonderful parks and play spaces we have. We feel pretty well served already! And we really appreciate the research and the whole tenor of this draft policy; it embraces lots of the wonder of play and of being a child and just a human, which is part of what makes Wellington such a fantastic city to live in. The City to Sea bridge is a great example - a place where adults and children alike feel as if they can stop and enjoy and act in a way they might not elsewhere. Also the artificial turf in Civic Square - fun! (The pop-up beach was awesome too.) Many thanks, Eliza Bartlett Co-president, Kelburn Playcentre

Attached Documents

File
Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy

Helga Sheppard

From: Raewyn Hailes <Raewyn.Hailes@ccsdisabilityaction.org.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 16 November 2016 10:35 a.m.
To: BUS: Playspaces
Subject: Wellington Play Spaces Policy Nov 16
Attachments: Wellington Play Spaces Policy Nov 16.doc

Good morning,

Submission from CCS Disability Action Wellington branch.

Regards
Raewyn
Raewyn Hailes
Access and Community Development Manager
CCS Disability Action
P O Box 35156, Naenae, Lower Hutt, 5041

DDI: 04 5678913 **Mob:** 027 6003828
EML: raewyn.hailes@ccsdisabilityaction.org.nz
www.ccsdisabilityaction.org.nz

Te hunga hauā mauri mō ngā tāngata katoa .

Disclaimer: This email may contain legally privileged information and is intended only for the addressee. It is not necessarily the official view of CCS Disability Action. If you are not the intended recipient please notify the sender immediately. You must not use, disclose, copy or distribute this email or the information in it.

Please consider your environmental responsibility before printing this email.

Disclaimer: This email may contain legally privileged information and is intended only for the addressee. It is not necessarily the official view of CCS Disability Action. If you are not the intended recipient please notify the sender immediately. You must not use, disclose, copy or distribute this email or information in it. Please consider your environmental responsibility before printing this e-mail.

Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy

We are keen to hear your thoughts on the Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy

You can have your say:

- By making a submission on this form or in writing and send it to us by post – Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy, Freepost, Wellington City Council, P.O. Box 2199, Wellington.
- By making a submission online at Wellington.govt.nz/haveyoursay
- By sending an email to: playspaces@wcc.govt.nz

Please contact the Wellington City Council on 499 4444 for more information.

Tell us what you think by 5pm Friday 18 November 2016

Privacy statement

All submissions (including name and all contact details) are provided to elected members and made available to the public at our office and on our website. Personal information will also be used for the administration of the consultation process. All information collected will be held by Wellington City Council, 101 Wakefield Street, Wellington, with submitters having the right to access and correct personal information.

Section one — your details

Mr

Mrs

Ms

Miss

Dr

Your name* Raewyn Hailes

You are making your submission:

as an individual

on behalf of an organisation — organisation's name: CCS Disability Action

Your email address: raewyn.hailes@ccsdisabilityaction.org.nz

(We'll use it to keep you informed about of the outcome of this consultation)

Your postal address P O Box 35156 Lower Hutt 5041

(We'll use it to keep you informed about of the outcome of this consultation)

Your suburb*Naenae

I would like to make an oral submission to the councillors Yes No

If yes, please provide a phone number so that a submission time can be arranged:

*Mandatory fields 04 56578913

About us

CCS Disability Action is a community organisation that has been advocating for disabled people to be included in the community since 1935. As of June 30 2015, we were providing support to 3,405 children, young people and adults through our 16 branches, which operate from Northland to Invercargill. Our support focuses on breaking down barriers to participation. We receive a mixture of government and private funding.

CCS Disability Action has a national network of access coordinators, who work with local government and transport operators to create a more inclusive society. We also run the Mobility Parking scheme. As of June 30 2015, this scheme supported more than 122,000 people to more easily access their local towns and facilities.

Page 2

Section two — questions about Draft Wellington Play Space Policy

The policy is formed around five strategic priorities (see section 4, page 26 of the draft policy).

1.

Do you agree with these five strategic priorities?

1. Provide a network of play spaces across the city

Yes

No

2. Provide high-quality, fit-for-purpose play space

Yes

No

Any additional comments?

All play spaces in the city network should be enjoyed by people of all abilities. It is recommended that all playgrounds should be accessible.

Playground surface

To make a playground truly accessible, do not use loose fill surfacing such as sand, wood fibre or rubber shreds. It is very difficult to use a wheelchair on loose fill. Loose fill may also be a hazard with children putting it into their mouth, nose or eyes.

Synthetic surfacing such as pour-in-place, rubber tiles, and turf designed for playgrounds are good alternatives to loose fill. Although these options are all more expensive upfront, they do not require the constant maintenance of loose fill. The other benefit is you don't need to add new fill on a regular basis. To meet safety standards, loose fill needs to remain at a certain depth, which requires regular purchases of new fill.

Ground level activities

Consider including a variety of ground level activities. There should be a balance of 'easier' more accessible play elements along with those that are more challenging. If there are not enough play elements that provide challenge, some children will go elsewhere to play, making the playground less inclusive or they will create their own challenge, making the playground more dangerous.

Quiet areas

Quiet spaces, ideally with shade, allow children to retreat from the noise and action of the playground.

Features to increase accessibility for those who use wheelchairs or walkers:

- ramps rather than stairs
- rubber flooring rather than wood chips or gravel
- lowered play items that can be reached at sitting level
- elevated sandboxes with leg and knee space underneath
- roll-on swing sets

Features to increase accessibility for those who have limited hearing or are Deaf:

- sign language games (such as finger-spelling displays)
- clear visibility with few solid walls or dividers

Features to increase accessibility for those who have limited vision or are blind:

- sound play elements
- distinct colours with high contrast
- shades chosen to accommodate colour-blindness
- Braille displays
- no tripping hazards

Other features to consider:

- fences around the playground to prevent children wandering away or to help avoid dangerous areas
- swing sets with seats that incorporate seat belts and lateral supports: great for those with poor balance
- play items that children with and without disabilities can use together

3. Community and school partnerships

Yes

No

4. The city as a play space

Yes

No

5. Programming and advocacy for outdoor play

Yes

No

Any additional comments?

A strategic priority in the draft policy is about **providing a network of play spaces across the city** (see section 3 and 4 of the draft policy for maps).

2.

Do you agree with planning for a mix of types of play space, spread as evenly as possible across the city as outlined in the draft policy?

Yes

No

Other

Any additional comments?

The playground renewal programme within proposed budgets significantly limits upgrades and improvements. Consultation with current playground users is documented but there is no reference to people who would use playgrounds in their local community if they were barrier free. Article 4.3 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities requires the government to consult representative organisations of disabled people with any decision-making processes that involves issues that affect people with disabilities (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) The voice of children and young people with disability should be heard.

A total number of 111 formal playgrounds are being proposed.

3.

Do you support planning for a total of 111 formal playgrounds based on the goal of the majority of households in Wellington (74%) being within about 10 minutes-walk of a neighbourhood or community play space?

Yes

No

Other

Any additional comments?

See comment Q2

Strategic priority 2 is about the network of Wellington play spaces being made up of **high quality and fit for purpose play space**.

4.

Do you agree the **principles and standards** listed in section 4, page 32 - 34 will result in Wellingtons play spaces (formal playgrounds, skate facilities, half courts and nature play trails) being high quality and meeting the needs of the community?

Yes

No – not always.

Other

Any additional comments?

The draft policy proposes **three categories of formal play space** Destination, Community and Neighbourhood. The policy also outlines a guide describing:

- the intention of the spaces
- types of play opportunities
- the target catchment area and age range
- what you might see in these spaces

(see section 4, page 33 - 34 of the draft policy).

5. Do you agree that the guide will result in a good mix of play space that meets the needs of the city, local communities, and the range of people who use these spaces?

Yes

No

Other

Any additional comments?

Recommended that fully accessible toilets are included in all park plans. That Architects, Planners and Community discuss what are the needs in the local community and really understand the issues of disability and the complexities of different impairments.

That a range of seating, including differing heights and some with arm rests be provided to meet the need of carers, many of whom represent the older population with impairments.

All of the **formal playgrounds** are listed by category in Appendix 2, page 44 with a map showing the distribution across the city in section 4, page 28 of the draft policy.

6.

Do you agree with the locations and categories as proposed?

Yes

No

Other

Any additional comments?

Page 3

The draft policy outlines how the Council plans to provide **play opportunities for youth** (age group 13-24 years).

7.

Do you agree the draft policy suitably addresses providing play opportunities for youth?

Yes

No

Other

Any additional comments?

The focus for Youth is on physical activities, which might not be inclusive to Youth with disability. Planning and Community Consultation should ensure that this demographic is not excluded.

8.

Do you think the draft policy addresses the key issues identified in the plan and provides clear direction for the provision of skate facilities in Wellington?

Yes

No

Other

Any additional comments?

The draft policy proposes a **network of 23 outdoor basketball courts** (mix of half and full courts) for informal outdoor play.

9.

Do you think the draft policy provides a good network of outdoor court space for informal play?

Yes

No

Other

Any additional comments?

Opportunities for **incorporating the natural environment** into play spaces.

10. Do you support a focus on incorporating opportunities to interact with the natural environment into play spaces?

Refer to section 2, page 9 of the draft policy for background.

Yes

No

Other

Any additional comments?

Recommended that any Council publication clearly advises the level of accessibility.

Strategic priority 3, section 4, page 38, guides **community and school partnerships**.

11. Can you suggest any other ways partnership opportunities could improve the play spaces across Wellington?

Strategic priority 4 recognises the value of informal play and that the whole city can provide **informal play space for all ages**.

Refer to section 4, page 38 of the draft policy for background.

12. Can you suggest other ways Council might provide for or promote informal play around Wellington?

Our suggestions for promoting the **value of play as an activity** and helping more people to get outside and play are outlined in section 4, page 39 of the draft policy.

That Council incorporates the accessible journey into all planning to ensure the destination and be enjoyed by people with disability.

13. Do you have any other ideas or actions that could help get more people outdoors and active through play?

14. Do you have any other ideas or suggestions you would like to share?

Page 4

Free Post Authority Number 2199

2nd fold here

1st fold here – fasten here once folded

FREEPOST 2199

Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy
Wellington City Council
PO Box 2199
Wellington 6140

300
19
30

Other issues/matters or general comments

Section three — who we are reaching

You don't have to complete this section but this information helps us to know who we are reaching. (Note: the information you provide is open to public view.)

I am
male

female
Other/Not stated

My age is
0-14 years
15-24 years
25-34 years
35-44 years
45-54 years
55+ years

About us

CCS Disability Action is a community organisation that has been advocating for disabled people to be included in the community since 1935. As of June 30 2015, we were providing support to 3,405 children, young people and adults through our 16 branches, which operate from Northland to Invercargill. Our support focuses on breaking down barriers to participation. We receive a mixture of government and private funding.

CCS Disability Action has a national network of access coordinators, who work with local government and transport operators to create a more inclusive society. We also run the Mobility Parking scheme. As of June 30 2015, this scheme supported more than 122,000 people to more easily access their local towns and facilities.

Which of the following best describes your household?

Household with no children or none living at home
Household with youngest child under 5
Household with youngest child 5 to 13
Household with youngest child 14 or over
Other (please specify)

What is the name of the playground you visit most often?

Please provide name of play area or suburb below

Which ethnic group do you belong to? (You can tick more than one box)

New Zealand European
Cook Island
Chinese
Other (such as Dutch, Japanese,
Māori
Tongan
ndian
Tokelauan, Somali). Please state:
Samoan
Niuean

Submitter Details

First Name: **Sandy**
 Last Name: **Nimmo**
 Organisation: **Rimutaka Inline Hockey Club Inc and other clubs**
 On behalf of: **The sport of Inline Hockey and also on behalf of all roller sports and the Tawa community**
 Street: **12B Garnet Grove**
 Suburb: **Birchville**
 City: **Upper Hutt**
 Country: **New Zealand**
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 Daytime Phone: **(04) 526 4765**
 Mobile: **027 663 4344**
 eMail: **sanimmo@xtra.co.nz**

Resident or Ratepayer:
 Ratepayer Resident Non-resident ratepayer Other

Which Community Board Area is your property in?
 Eastern Ward Lambton Ward Northern Ward Not indicated
 Onslow-Western Ward Southern Ward

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

The policy is formed around five strategic priorities (see section 4, page 26 of the draft policy)

1. Do you agree with these five priorities in the policy?

	Yes	No
Provide a network of play spaces across the city	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide high-quality, fit-for purpose play space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community and school partnerships	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The city as a play space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Programming and advocacy for outdoor play	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

In perusing the documents, I didn't notice too many mentions of Health and Safety. These points are important and include a clean and healthy environment along with a very high standard of participant safety.

A strategic priority in the draft policy is about providing a network of play spaces

across the city (see section 3 and 4 of the draft policy for maps).

2. Do you agree with planning for a mix of types of play space, spread as evenly as possible across the city as outlined in the draft policy?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

In areas where special and even unique recreation and sport play spaces are available, extra attention should be paid to marketing, communications and promotion in order to make residents in other areas of the city that certain unique spaces are available.

A total number of 111 formal playgrounds are being proposed.

3. Do you support planning for a total of 111 formal playgrounds based on the goal of the majority of households in Wellington (74%) being within about 10 minutes walk of a neighbourhood or community play space?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

What about the other 26%? In areas like Tawa, where the population is less dense, it's probably not possible to have playgrounds within a 10 minute walk from most residents.

Strategic priority 2 is about the network of Wellington play spaces being made up of high quality and fit for purpose play space.

4. Do you agree the principles and standards listed in section 4, page 32 - 34, will result in Wellington's play spaces (formal playgrounds, skate facilities, half courts and nature play trails) being high quality and meeting the needs of the community?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

And in so doing, let's not forget about the healthy and safe environment that should include clean play spaces and comprehensive safety considerations for all participants.

The draft policy proposes three categories of formal play space Destination, Community and Neighbourhood). The policy also outlines a guide describing:

- the intention of the spaces
- target catchment area and age range
- types of play opportunities

- what you might see in these spaces
(see section 4, page 33 - 34 of the draft policy).

5. Do you agree that the guide will result in a good mix of play space that meets the needs of the city, local communities, and the range of people who use these spaces?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

More and more effective marketing and promotion of unique spaces will be needed.

All the formal playgrounds are listed by category in [Appendix 2, page 44](#) with a map showing this distribution across the city in [section 4, page 28](#) of the draft policy.

6. Do you agree with locations and categories as proposed?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

The draft policy outlines how the Council plans to provide play opportunities for youth (age group 13 -24 years.)

7. Do you agree the draft policy suitably addresses providing play opportunities for youth?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

And for younger children? They need variety of play opportunities equally as much as 'youth'. Perhaps the current thinking is all about providing some sort of playground fixtures that kids can play on with Mummy supervising.

The draft policy lists key issues and a number of proposals relating to skate facilities.

8. Do you think the draft policy addresses the key issues identified in the plan and provides clear direction for the provision of skate facilities in Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

The draft policy proposes a network of 23 outdoor basketball courts (mix of half and full courts) for informal outdoor play.

9. Do you think the draft policy provides a network of outdoor court space for informal play?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Are those courts to be set up in such a way that they could be multi purpose?

Opportunities for incorporating the natural environment into play spaces.

10. Do you support a focus on incorporating opportunities to interact with the natural environment into play spaces? Refer to section 2, page 9 of the draft policy for background.

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Strategic priority 3, section 4, page 38, guides community and school partnerships.

11. Can you suggest any other ways partnership opportunities could improve the play spaces across Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Try working with specialist sport and/or recreation groups as well as with schools. Surely the good people of Wellington don't expect Council staff to be experts in everything. Working with specialist groups and actually listening to and heeding their advice and input could lead to many win-win situations for all parties and participants.

Strategic priority 4 recognises the value of informal play and that the whole city can provide informal play space for all ages. Refer to section 4, page 38 of the draft policy for background.

12. Can you suggest other ways Council might provide for or promote informal play around Wellington?

76

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

More and better promotion would probably help a lot but some leadership from WCC could help (1) identify, support and train community leaders and (2) provide some specific days and times when casual but organized 'play' could happen. While casual community based use is all well and good, effective community building can be achieved through sport and recreation.

Our suggestions for promoting the value of play as an activity and helping more people to get outside and play are outlined in [section 4, page 39](#) of the draft policy.

13. Do you have any other ideas or actions that could help get more people outdoors and active through play?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Please provide any additional comments you would like to make.
See previous comments. Provide a variety of forms of motivation.

14. Do you have any other ideas or suggestions you would like to share?

Comments

Yes but I might need to write a small book to do so.

Attached Documents

File
Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy

Group Submission to the Wellington City Council draft Play Spaces Policy Consultation

Submitter details:

Submitter: Graeme Sawyer
Postal: 10 Birch Street, Johnsonville, Wellington.
Email: Graeme.Sawyer007@gmail.com
Phone: 027 444 1748

Date: 18 November 2016

We would like to make an oral submission.

Johnsonville Community Association represents the people of Johnsonville. We offer the following opinions and suggestions by way of submission to the draft WCC Play Spaces Policy

1/ We Cannot agree with the five strategic priorities,

Because together they do not address the important need to provide better play spaces and facilities closer to where they are most needed. Poorer people in distant suburbs where residential intensification creates relative deprivation, are in no position to drive into the CBD to visit a “decent” playground. WCC must provide better play options closer to where they live.

2/ WE DO NOT agree with planning for a mix of types of play space, spread as evenly as possible across the city as outlined in the draft policy.

Doing so fails to place adequate resources in high-growth, high-needs MDRA zones where kids will be deprived of adequate back yards.

It is a poor and unwise use of WCC money to build resources for play where there are few kids to use them, and where those kids have substantial private yards, and other play equipment.

It makes sense to concentrate play spaces where kids are concentrated – this will result in more play-hours per WCC Dollar spent of play spaces. MDRA zones in already “high density” and high-proportion of children: suburbs present the best use of WCC money, so MORE resources should be concentrated there.

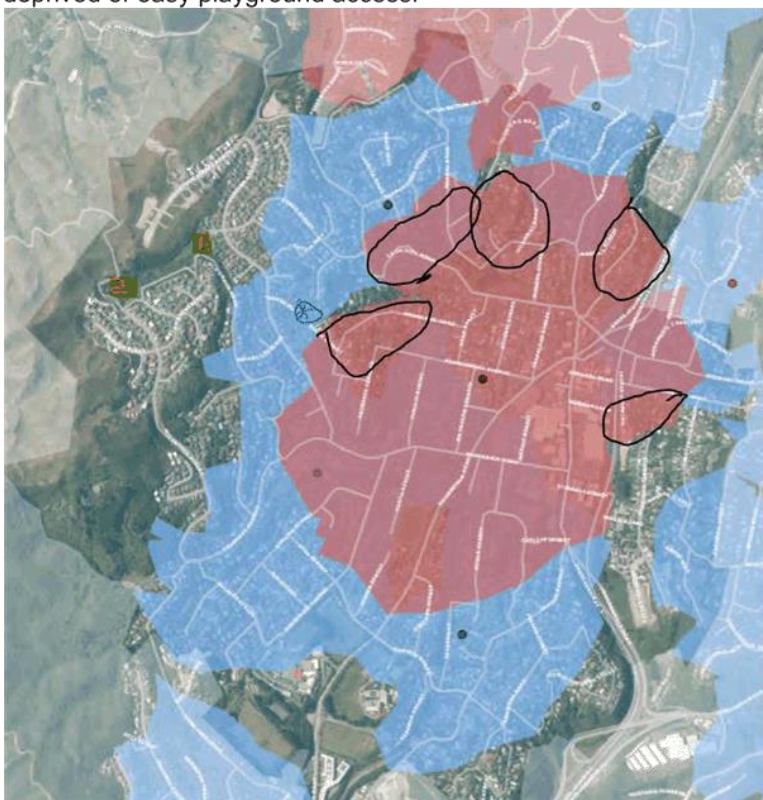
3/ We DO NOT support planning for a total of 111 formal playgrounds based on the goal of the majority of households in Wellington (74%) being within about 10 minutes-walk of a neighbourhood or community play space.

This ‘distance based’ formula is simplistic, and fails to effectively invest resources for Play facilities where they are most needed. Many of those playgrounds are in low needs suburbs, with few children, most of whom have access to large back yards. That WCC money is better spent on more and better resourced playgrounds where there are more children with higher needs, and where the number of those children is growing quickly.

While it is always unwise to change funding changes on “temporary” demographic “blips”, there is NO DOUBT that MDRA will cause PERMANENT increases in the number and needs of children in MDRA zones – so these areas MUST receive improved play facilities.

JOHNSONVILLE SPECIFIC ISSUES, Firstly, the incorrect attribution of Johnsonville Memorial Children’s Park as a “Community Playground” consigns large areas of Johnsonville to being “within 800m” am a park when they plainly are not (see black circle areas on the map).

Secondly, after the 2002 Playgrounds review, WCC deliberately decommissioned Tralee Park Playground, thereby deliberately placing a large & growing area (including Johnsonville’s biggest “greenfields” housing areas around McLintock Street – far from the “Target” 600m distance to a park. This is a grave mistake, and we ask that it be reversed immediately. We acknowledge there may be better placed alternative sites than Tralee, so we hereby suggest two, each closer to the center of this area recently deprived of easy playground access:



The site (1) on and existing park reserve is sheltered, sunny and perfectly situated – we suggest a fenced playground as the site is located within the dog-park, and fencing would allow both uses to co-exist.

The second (2) option is on a flat area in a gully, and better located to compliment other park locations, and may act as a “destination: for families walking the old coach road or skyline walkway.

The location of so-called “Destination Playgrounds” is poor, in that they are all in the CBD, which a) has a far lower proportion of, and number of children, and b) is not an attractive destination for many (simply *because* it is the middle of a city). Instead, placing “destination Playgrounds” near large concentrations of children is preferable.

4/ We DO NOT agree the principles and standards listed in section 4, page 32 - 34 will result in Wellingtons play spaces (formal playgrounds, skate facilities, half courts and nature play trails) meeting the needs of the community.

These Principals must be changed to meet the needs of communities earmarked for residential intensification, as those communities WILL have the highest growth of children and those children will have considerably higher need than in “traditional” lower density suburban areas. This requires fundamental change to the policy.

Having at least some “destination playgrounds” away from the CBD, and closer to where a “critical mass” of kids live would be a great start!

JOHNSONVILLE SPECIFIC ISSUES: Johnsonville Memorial Children’s Park warrants serious upgrade, as the impending Library-based complex will open it up to huge use. Effectively, WCC will be using the park to attract commercial custom to its café in the library, and it is right that WCC should invest more into JMCP to offset that additional use.

Regardless of these improvements. JMCP is too constrained buy its small size to ever become a community Playground, so **it is best that a new Community playground is constructed, and the best site for that is the western side of the top field of Alex Moore park**. JCA has been requesting this for several years, and the opportunity to do so will soon close as the new AMPSCI car park is due to be built there soon.

Firstly, alternate safe carparking on Bannister Ave. road reserve is possible, and detailed plans for that have been costed by WCC traffic engineer Mr Stephen Hart.: AMPSCI support this parking alternative, providing any changes do not delay the project, or incur costs to AMPSCI. WCC need only develop and pay for an amendment to the existing consent (plus agree to meet any additional costs for ‘on-road” carpark construction) , and the site can be saved from conversion from Park space to carpark.

With nearby Kipling St. Play area providing good play opportunities for very small children, this raises the chance for the proposed new “Community playground” on Alex Moore Park, to be aimed at older children, youths, and even Adults too. NONE of these groups are catered for in playgrounds within a considerable distance from Johnsonville at the moment.

Co-location of these facilities is strongly encouraged by the existing Playgrounds policy, and is perfectly modelled at Nairville Park.

5/ We DO NOT agree that the guide will result in a good mix of play space that meets the needs of the city, local communities, and the range of people who use these spaces

The Fact is that most people visit their CLOSEST playground most often – WCCs own documentation reaffirms that. Where residential intensification is encouraged by District Plan Changes, private play space, by definition, plummets, while the demand on PUBLIC play space increases greatly (with population).

Failure to improve play options for kids in these areas is bad city planning, and allowing this to happen is irresponsible city governance.

WCC consultation documentation states that people travel to visit other playgrounds “for a change” occasionally, but there is no evidence that this is the primary reason for people travelling to visit more distant playgrounds at all! . In reality, it’s more likely that – like we in Johnsonville - travel to visit distant playgrounds because their more “local” facilities *are very lighty equipped and relatively uninteresting* for children to play in. And we usually DO NOT head south to visit WCC “Destination” playgrounds, as CBD parking and traffic are NOT generally considered conducive to children & play!

The cost of improving play spaces for intensified suburbs should be met by WCC, and playgrounds should be upgraded automatically as population increases demand it. (just as the need for better public transport or other infrastructure & council services must).

Your Policy SHOULD NOT simply allow the range of play options to stagnate as population increases, as this represents a deterioration of the livability of a suburb as it intensifies. WCC must set its benchmarks for play spaces higher, and ensure that expenditure per child on accessible (ie, Local) play options is even across the city. .

6/ We Do NOT you agree with the locations and categories as proposed.

I believe that the impending demands of MDRA zones for additional PUBLIC play facilities are so significant, that ALL public playgrounds within 400m of any MDRA zone which could potentially add 400 housing units, should be upgraded AT LEAST to the level of a “Community Playground” within 5 years.

This is a simplest, and affordable “rule of thumb” change to the Policy, which requires no “additional” playgrounds, only a one-off increase in the play equipment on what is (at present) just three playgrounds, so total cost is only perhaps \$ 400,000 for existing MDRA zones.

7/ We Do NOT agree the draft policy suitably addresses providing play opportunities for youth

There is a severe deficiency of play opportunities for youth in existing MDRA zones, and I am particularly disappointed that WCC does not engage sufficiently with our community in addressing that. MDRA zones in particular will need more and better “Youth Facilities” (as defined by the current Playgrounds policy)

As playgrounds have been upgraded, they have been made safer, but they have also been “dumbed down” to a large extent, in that play equipment is less challenging and

activities are now pitched almost exclusively at young children. As a result, both older children and young adults (and other playful adults) have less play options, and this is a very undesirable trend - I would like to see that trend reversed, (ie, more "more challenging" play options) and significant additional investment in Youth Facilities.

8/ I DISAGREE with the direction outlined in the policy for the provision of skate facilities in Wellington.

This policy ignores at least one MDRA suburb's long-standing requests for a skate facility, and we have not seen any objective or needs based analysis of the merits of this request. WCC officers appear to have spoken with a small set of skaters from other more distant suburbs, and passing that off as "consultation" with the "Skating community". This is a nonsense! JCA could have put WCC staff in touch with the 2014 national skate champion (a Johnsonville resident), but neither he nor JCA were ever asked for a contribution to any "consultation". For WCC to now issue a "finite" list of "existing" skate facilities as a "Fait accompli" and effectively treat that as a "complete" for the next two decades ignores those community wishes, and fails to cater for growing needs for skate facilities from areas like Johnsonville. Our primary concern is for some adequate facility for younger skaters, and at present they have no purpose built facilities in the suburb at all.

9/ We DO NOT think the draft policy provides a good network of outdoor court space for informal play.

WCC's plans to build a Library on one MDRA zones' only Youth Facility (a half-court), without any plan or budgetary provision to replace it, is disgraceful, particularly as the community has been asking for plans and budgetary provision for that replacement for years now.

This underlines how WCC is badly failing to protect our minimum levels of play facilities: replacing such a court should be among the first things considered when considering the library site – not the last (or in this case, not even that!).

We insist that WCC stop the reduction of courts first, and look to extend city facilities in other MDRA zones as they are created, because that is where they will be most needed, and better used.

We would like to see some Tennis Court facilities made available to the wider community at low or no cost. The Johnsonville Tennis Club leases a substantial portion of central Johnsonville public space, but the cost of membership is not affordable or practical to most casual tennis players. The Grenada Village Community Tennis Court provides an excellent model. We do not wish to disrupt the Tennis clubs access to the facility they have a long-term lease for, but we encourage WECC to negotiate some access to at least one of the three tennis courts with the Johnsonville tennis Club.

Perhaps in exchange for reduction or elimination of their rental to WCC, one court could be fenced off, with Public access (via a key) from Dr. Taylor Terrace, and that court could be made available to the public when the club does not require it (typically over 95% of the time). WCC could provide video severance equipment to protect against the Clubs prime concern: vandalism

In this way, for modest (say, \$15, 000) one- off cost and \$2000 per year (reduction in rental to offset costs to the tennis lub) , the community could gain significant recreational opportunity, and existing WCC land could be far better utilized than it is today.



10/ We Do support a focus on incorporating opportunities to interact with the natural environment into play spaces.

More should be done to align play spaces with WCCs biodiversity strategies: More tree planting, please, and more effort to use eco-sourced heritage native trees in playgrounds.

Where playgrounds call for “deciduous trees for shading” with care and forethought, eco-sourced natives can be substituted. For example, on the southern side of play areas, there may be no benefit of planting deciduous trees at all. And where deciduous

trees are called for, *partially* deciduous endemic native species like Lacebark and Kowhai may be successfully substituted. In general, Amenity more care natives like Kowhai and lacebark

More Longer-term thinking in planting, please: Selecting trees according to a narrow set of criteria – usual based on what’s easy for council staff to plant and establish – has created a thoroughly undesirable “Pohutakawa Monoculture” in our scarce central Johnsonville greenspaces, giving us so much less variety and eco-appropriateness than we could have had!!.

Where there is a need for rapid growth to achieve “amenity” values, and eco-sourced natives are deemed “too slow” in growing to target size, please have larger eco-sourced specimens pre-grown and ready for transplantation at a larger size!

If it is deemed that “eco” “alternatives may not survive, we suggest BOTH are planted, (ie, ECO and well as “Amenity” trees) and community groups like ours enlisted to help the “Eco” tree survive if we can: This with the objective that, in (say) thirty years, the non-eco “Amenity” trees may be removed and effectively replaced by the then established native trees. .

11/ Partnership opportunities could improve the play spaces across Wellington,

To do this, WCC could and should engage more with our residents associations, clubs and societies; For example, many northern suburbs; previous generation playgrounds were built and paid for by Lions - they and others are keen to offer both ideas and assistance improve play options.

Neighborly and other social media allow direct access, and should be used more to engage the support, advice & assistance of community groups. I am concerned that this policy relies highly on the use of school playgrounds, and WCC should NOT “farm out” responsibility for playground provision to third parties: Ministry of Education & school boards / principals cannot and should not be relied upon for providing access to play facilities, when their cooperation in terms of providing “after hours” access to play spaces is so fragile and impermanent.

12/ We Do support a focus on incorporating opportunities to interact with the natural environment into play spaces.

Yes. Branscombe Street Playground, for example, (which has a chronically small playground) has a significant stand of native regrowth (*Grisalinea*, predominantly) which is unusable and undesirable for children’s use due to uncontrolled noxious weeds and decades of appalling accumulation of rubbish. Not only should this be “Cleaned up” immediately, it lends itself to be upgraded to incorporate opportunities to interact with the natural environment into play spaces.

13/ We can you suggest other ways Council might provide for or promote informal play around Wellington:

Protect, increase and improve the amount of public open space overall, as it the lack of this public space that inhibits more informal play from taking place. Even large parks in our suburbs (Like Alex Moore Park) are often completely filled by formal sports games and practices at times when “free play” is most likely to occur – such as on Saturdays.

Also, improve (with ECO-Sources Amenity tree planting, etc) the attractiveness and cover from wind that might be conducive to informal play. Too many of our parks have shoddy and inadequate (or non-existent) landscaping, and mass-plantings of fast-growing “nursery” species like Kanuka could easily be established to both provide shelter for people, and for heritage canopy species.

Community groups like ours would love to help with this, but WCC does not initiate such efforts, and they should do so, even by merely establishing web-pages outlining where community groups can start, and who at WCC they may talk to about these projects....

13/ We do have any other ideas or actions that could help get more people outdoors and active through play?

More public open spaces – or at least a stop to the ongoing loss of public open spaces that has accelerated over the last three years. It is difficult to encourage outdoors active play when WCC are actively eliminating or “re-purposing” the very public spaces which are conducive – even essential - to such play. WCC have “removed” (or announced plans to remove the following spaces adjacent to the Johnsonville MDRA zone (see map below) over the last 3 years (exactly at the time when these spaces are in most need, and without replacement).

- Alex Moore Park Carpark – 3000m² of playing field lost, no replacement
- Proposed AMPSCI Clubroom Carpark - – 2000m² of playing field lost, no replacement
- 2-4 Wanaka Street – 1800m² of Greenspace and half-court at lost, no replacement
- Children’s Playground on site now with Keith Spry Pool extension – 400m⁴ of prime play area lost, no replacement.



Notwithstanding the other community benefit that the reallocation of this public open space may result in, IT IS UNACCEPTABLE that ANY of this prime, central suburban greenspace and/or play space, within metres of MDRA zones, can be allowed to be lost to our community WITHOUT REPLACEMENT. That is nearly 2 acres of land – whose “market value would be around \$ 7 Million at today’s land prices (!!!) – Lost to the children and adults recreators of Johnsonville.

If ANY such land is “re-purposed”, the cost of replacing that land MUST, please, be built in to the development cost of the site.

14. We do have other ideas or suggestions I would like to share?

In the interests of fairness to all Wellingtonians, I would like to see WCCs compile, make public and regularly update a far more comprehensive matrix of all of WCCs playgrounds, including the number, range and value of play equipment, their area, availability and amount of useable "of Kick about space" and other factors. This information will be valuable in underpinning so future investment in play spaces can be more evidence-based and needs-based.

Some suburbs have historically better amenities, and to an extent residents exercise choice when they pick where to live. But where WCC "changes the rules" by re-zoning land for its own interests (or for those of the wider city), WCC is obligated to improve amenities accordingly. Johnsonville MDRA zones are an excellent example. In such areas, Public Open Spaces, Play Spaces, and in particular, playgrounds and "youth facilities" are all particularly important public amenities that WCC SHOULD PRIORITISE TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE as the demands for them is increased by MDRA re-zoning.

New Funding source for more & Better Play Spaces: If funding this is a problem, I propose a new Development Contribution to be targeted at applicants for resource consents for additional dwellings in multi-unit developments in and near MDRA zones. Specifically, I request that a Catchment Specific Infrastructure contribution of at least \$1500 per EHU (Housing Unit) be introduced for ALL MDRA zone developments, with the proceeds to be spent exclusively in the area from where they are raised, on improving Play Opportunities and increasing the amount of public play space (ie, by land acquisition) in accordance with the wishes of local residents.

In general, WCC needs to engage earlier, more thoroughly, and more "genuinely" on the provision of play facilities to ensure they are responsive to the needs and ideas of locals. . In the most recent playground upgrade in the northern suburbs, WCC "Consultation" was to carry out a letter drop to 400 houses – only a tiny fraction of the number for whom that would be the closest playground. That's inadequate – especially when upgrades may be the last investment for two decades, local users MUST have more say in their closest playground.

Yours Sincerely...

Johnsonville Community Association (Inc).

"More kid + Less back yards = need for WCC providing more and better public play facilities for kids"

PS – We thank WCC Parks and WCC Transport and Staff for their help in our development of this submission

Individual Submission to the Wellington City Council draft Play Spaces Policy Consultation

Submitter details:

Submitter: Graeme Sawyer
Postal 10 Birch Street, Johnsonville, Wellington.
Email Graeme.Sawyer007@gmail.com
Phone 027 444 1748

Date: 18 November 2016

I would like to make an oral submission.

I hereby offer my personal submission to the draft WCC Play Spaces Policy.

I disagree with the proposed Policy, in that it fails to increase provision for a higher “service level” of public play facilities in traditional family suburbs that are re-zoned for residential intensification.

The reduction in private play spaces that residential intensification – especially MDRA zoning – causes, is actively encouraged by the WCC, yet the council is failing in its responsibility to mitigate the effect of that intensification on young people’s play opportunities. This must change.

By accepting MDRA re-zoning for the benefit of Wellingtons future growth, the WCC also has an inherent obligation to compensate these suburbs, and to offset the effects of this intensification on kids, by preserving and enhancing public greenspaces, and by significantly increasing public play resources near MDRA zones. This is necessary to mitigate the reduction of private outdoor play opportunities in these areas.

It makes sense to invest more in play facilities – such as skate parks, half-courts, youth facilities and especially traditional playgrounds – where the concentration of kids is high, and where their access to private outdoor play opportunities (ie, back yards) is being reduced – and sometimes eliminated. The entire Play Spaces Policy should be changed to reflect that.

Most kids visit their nearest playgrounds the most often, and I want the Policy – and WCCs investment in more playgrounds – to be based primarily on the demonstrated need of local communities, and weighted heavily in favour of kids with less yard space, fewer playing fields, and less other play opportunities close to where they live.

Specifically, I want the policy to be amended to support the upgrade to the level of a Community Playground of all WCC Playgrounds within 400m walking distance of the boundary of any MDRA zone capable of accommodating more than 400 additional homes.

If funding this is a problem, I support a new Development Contribution to be targeted at applicants for resource consents for additional dwellings in multi-unit developments in and near MDRA zones. Specifically, I request that a Catchment Specific Infrastructure contribution of at least \$1500 per EHU be introduced for ALL MDRA zone developments, with the proceeds to be spent exclusively in the area from where they are raised, on improving Play Opportunities in accordance with the wishes of local residents.

I support two new playgrounds in Johnsonville 0- one on or near to make up for the loss of the Tralee park playground 10 years ago, which left a large and fast-growing area of northwest Johnsonville well below the targeted "service level" for formal playgrounds.

I also strongly support the development of a new Community playground for older children on the sites currently consented to AMPSCI to build a carpark on, on Alex Moore park.

I demand that WCC replace the half-court soon to be lost to the new Johnsonville Library construction.

I wish WCC to complete a detailed needs-analysis for a new Skate park in Johnsonville.

I support efforts to make one of the three Tennis Courts on Dr. Taylor Tce available to all Johnsonville residents when not in use by the Tennis Club, and at a low charges, or free.

Kind Regards

Graeme Sawyer.



Submission on the Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy

This submission is from the Newtown Residents' Association.

We wish to speak to our submission.

Introduction

The Newtown Residents' Association is the Incorporated Society representing Newtown and the surrounding suburbs. We are an active local group of residents and businesspeople, concerned with maintaining and improving our area's liveability, connectedness and sustainability and working to make our community a thriving, diverse, great place to live.

Submission

Overall we support the draft Policy. We agree with the philosophy underlying all five strategic priorities. We also commend the Council for including information that informs playground designs such as the play space theory and the age appropriate activity guideline in Appendix 1, and the survey carried out by Council as part of the preparation of this document.

Strategic Priority 1- Provide a network of play spaces across the city.

Although we agree with this high-level statement we have questions and comments about some of the detail in the accompanying policies.

- The network is designed so that 74% of residents will be within 600m of a neighbourhood playground or 800m of a community playground. This leaves 26% without this proximity; **we would hope that the future goal would be closer to 100% with ready access to a play space.**
- The proposal is for a maximum of 111 playgrounds and no new ones after that. We submit that this is a premature conclusion. The document says that "... any change in the number of children in each suburb is unlikely to require new formal playgrounds when considered in the context of city-wide projections for child population across the whole city over the next 20 years". We disagree with this statement. City-wide projections show general trends but 'finer grain' analysis is needed. The plan does not include any analysis of the current and projected makeup of communities in different parts of the city. **More analysis should inform decisions on the number and type of play spaces required in our suburb.**

- A relatively even spread of playgrounds across the city is proposed. There should be more recognition that **neighbourhoods are not all equal**. In our area private backyard play spaces are increasingly rare. The page 14 section on Medium Density Housing does not take into account special housing areas of which there are a number in Newtown/Berhampore/Mt Cook. These special housing areas will mean increased density and smaller or no private open space. Even though total population may not necessarily increase, the numbers of households will. Smaller households with smaller private open space mean a greater need for public play spaces with play for all ages. Adelaide Road is one of the special housing areas that lacks a play space. While Pukeahu Park borders this area that park has a particular character and function, and we submit that a dedicated neighbourhood play space should be incorporated into the development of Adelaide Road.
- In the **list of actions** a community play space is to be created near or at Wakefield Park. We agree and support this proposal, but we are disappointed that there are no other planned actions which will benefit the Southern suburbs. In Newtown we have one community playground (which needs some upgrading – see the next section) and a scattering of neighbourhood playgrounds. There are areas with play equipment, but very limited 'kick around' space, particularly for children in the parts of our suburb which are quite a distance from Carrara Park or Newtown Park. The southern suburbs of Newtown, Berhampore and Mount Cook have lots of green space, but the majority is either sports fields, which are booked for games and practice, or it is sloping, natural and wild Town Belt. As noted above we request more analysis of the number and type of play spaces needed in our suburbs, now and in the future.
- We commend the Council's intention to continue with the **Bikes in Schools programme partnerships**, for both play and skills training, although the proviso "subject to securing ongoing funding" makes it seem rather uncertain. We trust that every effort will be made to fund this programme.

Strategic Priority 2: Provide high-quality, fit for purpose play space.

We support this priority, and particularly commend the play space principles in Policy 1.

Policy 2 outlines the different play space categories. As noted above, in Newtown we have one community playground and a scattering of neighbourhood playgrounds.

Community Play Space – Carrara Park.

- This park is very important to our Association. Our members were very involved in lobbying for its establishment and it is the most significant play space in our area. Carrara Park was created to host casual outdoor play and recreation for a densely built up part of the city. More recently it has also become the site of the Newtown Community Garden, and our Association holds the Licence to Occupy that makes this possible.

- We are very pleased that Carrara Park has been designated a Community Play Space as this may open the door for it to have some badly needed extra amenities. There are no toilets or drinking water in the park or nearby, and this limits its usefulness and the time that families and others can stay there. **We request that the provision of toilets and drinking fountains in Carrara Park be added to the activities resulting from this policy.**
- **The trees in the park need attention.** The shade they cast has increased enormously over the years – they are now big trees and they don't lose their leaves in winter until many other trees are already showing new growth. Also some additional trees have been planted, and as they grow they are in danger of encroaching on the space available for ball sports and other run-around games. The shade has a number of problematic effects. It can be excessive for the enjoyment of sunny days, it inhibits plant growth in many of the garden beds, and it affects safety as neighbours who used to be able to look into the park have their view obscured. In addition many neighbours have lost a lot of the sun on their properties.

The management of play spaces, and community involvement.

- We support the principle that each playground has a different look and feel. We believe that it is important for local people to be engaged in development and 'renewal' of neighbourhood play areas so that they reflect their community and avoid a 'cookie cutter' approach. Different approaches would need to be used to engage with and get input from the different communities and ethnicities that make up Newtown and the surrounding suburbs.
- We submit that the proposed approach to seeking input from local communities for neighbourhood parks is inadequate. Posting plans on site and inviting comments will attract a very small proportion of the community. We would like the Council to be much more proactive and creative in their engagement so that our play spaces in Newtown reflect the diversity of the people who live in our suburb.
- Carrara Park was originally designed by the parents, children and grandparents of Newtown, Berhampore and Mount Cook through a series of public participatory design workshops, and then the Park was implemented by WCC staff. Although currently upgrading is needed this is a process that we would like to see replicated when play spaces are developed in future.
- Te Ara Hou on the corner of Constable and Owen Streets is another example of a playground which was designed and developed by engaging proactively and creatively with the local community. The result is a well-used playground with a distinctive character that expresses our suburb.

Strategic Priority 3: Community and school partnerships

We support school partnerships but as outlined in the policy document, schools sometimes withdraw public access for various reasons. We cannot depend on schools to provide public play spaces.

Strategic Priority 4: The city as a play space

We are enthusiastic about this priority. We support the stance that streets and public spaces are also potential play spaces for all ages and note that repurposing street space either temporarily (street festivals and events) or permanently can create much needed play space. We regard Newtown Festival, Cuba Dupa, and informal neighbourhood events such as the Epuni St Compost Festival as contributing to this priority.

Strategic Priority 5: Programming and advocacy for outdoor play

We are very supportive of this priority, and agree with all the proposed initiatives.

The Council 'Push Play' initiative has been very much appreciated, and we note that it has been referenced in this policy document. We have heard that it will no longer be operating, and hope that similar initiatives will take its place, as they will be needed if this priority is to be realised.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission. We would like to speak to it to emphasise the main points.

Rhona Carson

President, Newtown Residents' Association.

Submitter Details

First Name: **Sara**
 Last Name: **Clarke**
 On behalf of: **Creswick Valley Residents Association**
 Street: **2 Putnam Street**
 Suburb: **Northland**
 City: **Wellington**
 Country:
 PostCode: **6012**
 eMail: **creswickvalleyra@gmail.com**

Resident or Ratepayer:

Ratepayer Resident Non-resident ratepayer Other

Which Community Board Area is your property in?

Eastern Ward Lambton Ward Northern Ward Not indicated
 Onslow-Western Ward Southern Ward

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

The policy is formed around five strategic priorities (see section 4, page 26 of the draft policy)

1. Do you agree with these five priorities in the policy?

	Yes	No
Provide a network of play spaces across the city	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide high-quality, fit-for purpose play space	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community and school partnerships	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The city as a play space	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Programming and advocacy for outdoor play	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

A strategic priority in the draft policy is about providing a network of play spaces across the city (see section 3 and 4 of the draft policy for maps).

2. Do you agree with planning for a mix of types of play space, spread as evenly as possible across the city as outlined in the draft policy?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

A total number of 111 formal playgrounds are being proposed.

3. Do you support planning for a total of 111 formal playgrounds based on the goal of the majority of households in Wellington (74%) being within about 10 minutes walk of a neighbourhood or community play space?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Strategic priority 2 is about the network of Wellington play spaces being made up of high quality and fit for purpose play space.

4. Do you agree the principles and standards listed in section 4, page 32 - 34, will result in Wellington's play spaces (formal playgrounds, skate facilities, half courts and nature play trails) being high quality and meeting the needs of the community?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

The draft policy proposes three categories of formal play space Destination, Community and Neighbourhood). The policy also outlines a guide describing:

- the intention of the spaces
 - target catchment area and age range
 - types of play opportunities
 - what you might see in these spaces
- (see section 4, page 33 - 34 of the draft policy).

5. Do you agree that the guide will result in a good mix of play space that meets the needs of the city, local communities, and the range of people who use these spaces?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

As stated in our submission, the skate parks are not categorised in this manner, but we think that they should be categorised and facilities provided in accordance with the policy. The Ian Galloway Park skate ramp, which now has an adjacent BMX track policy, has become a destination play space for older children, youth (and some younger children). This should be recognised and appropriate facilities provided. See Submission.

All the formal playgrounds are listed by category in [Appendix 2, page 44](#) with a map showing this distribution across the city in [section 4, page 28](#) of the draft policy.

6. Do you agree with locations and categories as proposed?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

See Submission. The Ian Galloway Park skate ramp and BMX track should be acknowledged as a formal playground and categorised as a Destination category.

The draft policy outlines how the Council plans to provide play opportunities for youth (age group 13 -24 years.)

7. Do you agree the draft policy suitably addresses providing play opportunities for youth?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

See Submission. The Ian Galloway Park skate ramp and BMX track should be acknowledged as a formal playground and categorised as a Destination category. Northland Park could be made more attractive for youth with the installation of a permanent football goal.

The draft policy lists key issues and a number of proposals relating to skate facilities.

8. Do you think the draft policy addresses the key issues identified in the plan and provides clear direction for the provision of skate facilities in Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

See Submission. The Ian Galloway Park skate ramp and BMX track should be acknowledged as a formal playground and categorised as a Destination category.

The draft policy proposes a network of 23 outdoor basketball courts (mix of half and full courts) for informal outdoor play.

9. Do you think the draft policy provides a network of outdoor court space for informal play?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments

No particular comment. There are no outdoor basketball courts in the Northland/Wilton or City-End Karori areas, however these facilities are present in the schools, and these are used by the community.

Opportunities for incorporating the natural environment into play spaces.

10. Do you support a focus on incorporating opportunities to interact with the natural environment into play spaces? Refer to section 2, page 9 of the draft policy for background.

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Strategic priority 3, section 4, page 38, guides community and school partnerships.

11. Can you suggest any other ways partnership opportunities could improve the play spaces across Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Strategic priority 4 recognises the value of informal play and that the whole city can provide informal play space for all ages. Refer to section 4, page 38 of the draft policy for background.

12. Can you suggest other ways Council might provide for or promote informal play around Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Our suggestions for promoting the value of play as an activity and helping more people to get outside and play are outlined in [section 4, page 39](#) of the draft policy.

13. Do you have any other ideas or actions that could help get more people outdoors and active through play?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Please provide any additional comments you would like to make.

14. Do you have any other ideas or suggestions you would like to share?

Comments

Attached Documents

File
CVRA Submission on Play Spaces Policy
Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy

Submission to WCC Draft Play Spaces Policy

From: Creswick Valley Residents Association, 17 November 2016

Strategic Priority 1 - Community play space network: We agree with the analysis of the network of play spaces and support the proposal to provide a new play space at the city end of Karori. The Northland/Wilton area is well serviced for play spaces for (toddlers -10 years).

Strategic Priority 2 - high quality, fit-for-purpose play space

Ian Galloway Skate Park: This is not included in your playground map or discussion, other than a mention of it in the skate park section. Now that this area has had the BMX track and adjoining dog exercise area added, we consider that this should be categorised as a **destination** playground for older children and young adults. Use of these facilities over the last year since the creation of the BMX track has skyrocketed. It is close to Karori and accessible by bus from town and Karori, so its use will likely increase as, as noted in the policy document, there is a marked lack of play facilities of any kind in the city-end of Karori. However it is currently completely lacking in amenities – there is no toilet, shade or shelter, and the parking is insufficient to accommodate increased use (which has been exacerbated by the popularity of the dog exercise area). We do note that the original plans for this area included a toilet, and the water and sewerage connections are in place.

This is a destination where people are clearly going to stay for at least an hour (definition of community play space) and many will stay for more than 2 hours (definition of destination play space). Our members who live near the facility advise that they regularly see park users using the trees and bushes at the rear of the site for toileting, which is unacceptable. We consider that this should be a priority for this summer.

Northland Park: This is the nearest and only flat grassed area in Northland (as the school has no playing fields). This is an example of a neighbourhood play space where kids can socialise with their peers, and play run-about wider-ranging sports/games without small children about. In this location, there are tennis courts, which provide hardstanding for scooters and playing basketball, but we would like to request that a permanent football goal (no nets required) be installed at the northern end of the park, for use all year round. We think this would be well utilised.

Key points of submission:

- Categorise Ian Galloway Park Skate Ramp and BMX track as Destination play area
- Provide appropriate amenities (toilet and drinking water)
- Provide additional parking, in recognition of the additional demands being placed on the area by use of the dog exercise area.
- Install permanent football goal frame (no nets) at Northland Park.

Strategic Priority 3-5 – We broadly support these, but have no particular submissions to make.

Sara Clarke
Secretary, CVRA
creswickvalleyra@gmail.com

Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
 Me Heke Ki Pōneke

We are keen to hear your thoughts on the Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy
 You can have your say:

- By making a submission on this form or in writing and send it to us by post –
 Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy, Freepost, Wellington City Council, P.O. Box 2199, Wellington.
- By making a submission online at Wellington.govt.nz/haveyoursay
- By sending an email to: playspaces@wcc.govt.nz

Please contact the Wellington City Council on 499 4444 for more information.

Tell us what you think by 5pm Friday 18 November 2016

Privacy statement

All submissions (including name and all contact details) are provided to elected members and made available to the public at our office and on our website. Personal information will also be used for the administration of the consultation process. All information collected will be held by Wellington City Council, 101 Wakefield Street, Wellington, with submitters having the right to access and correct personal information.

Section one – your details

<input type="checkbox"/> Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Dr	
Your name* <i>Julia Stace</i>	
You are making your submission:	
<input type="checkbox"/> as an individual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> on behalf of an organisation – organisation's name: <i>Tanea Gully Restoration Project</i>	
Your email address <i>(We'll use it to keep you informed about of the outcome of this consultation)</i> <i>jbstace@outlook.com</i>	
Your postal address <i>(We'll use it to keep you informed about of the outcome of this consultation)</i> <i>129 Aro St</i> <i>Aro Valley 6021</i>	
Your suburb* <i>Aro Valley</i>	
I would like to make an oral submission to the councillors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
If yes, please provide a phone number so that a submission time can be arranged: <i>385 4606</i>	

*Mandatory fields

Section two – questions about Draft Wellington Play Space Policy

Item 3.1 Attachment 1

The policy is formed around **five strategic priorities** (see section 4, page 26 of the draft policy).

1. Do you agree with these five strategic priorities?

1. Provide a network of play spaces across the city	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
2. Provide high-quality, fit-for-purpose play space	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
3. Community and school partnerships	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
4. The city as a play space	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
5. Programming and advocacy for outdoor play	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Any additional comments?

A strategic priority in the draft policy is about **providing a network of play spaces across the city** (see section 3 and 4 of the draft policy for maps).

2. Do you agree with planning for a mix of types of play space, spread as evenly as possible across the city as outlined in the draft policy?

Yes No Other

Any additional comments?

A total number of 111 formal playgrounds are being proposed.

3. Do you support planning for a total of 111 formal playgrounds based on the goal of the majority of households in Wellington (74%) being within about 10 minutes-walk of a neighbourhood or community play space?

Yes No Other

Any additional comments?

Strategic priority 2 is about the network of Wellington play spaces being made up of **high quality and fit for purpose play space**.

4. Do you agree the **principles and standards** listed in section 4, page 32 - 34 will result in Wellingtons play spaces (formal playgrounds, skate facilities, half courts and nature play trails) being high quality and meeting the needs of the community?

Yes No Other

Any additional comments?

The draft policy proposes **three categories of formal play space** Destination, Community and Neighbourhood. The policy also outlines a guide describing:

- the intention of the spaces	- types of play opportunities
- the target catchment area and age range	- what you might see in these spaces

(see section 4, page 33 - 34 of the draft policy).

5. Do you agree that the guide will result in a good mix of play space that meets the needs of the city, local communities, and the range of people who use these spaces?

Yes No Other

Any additional comments?

All of the **formal playgrounds are listed by category** in Appendix 2, page 44 with a map showing the distribution across the city in section 4, page 28 of the draft policy.

6. Do you agree with the locations and categories as proposed?

Yes No Other

Any additional comments?

<p>The draft policy outlines how the Council plans to provide play opportunities for youth (age group 13-24 years).</p> <p>7. Do you agree the draft policy suitably addresses providing play opportunities for youth? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other Any additional comments?</p>
<p>The draft policy lists key issues and a number of proposals relating to skate facilities.</p> <p>8. Do you think the draft policy addresses the key issues identified in the plan and provides clear direction for the provision of skate facilities in Wellington? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other Any additional comments?</p>
<p>The draft policy proposes a network of 23 outdoor basketball courts (mix of half and full courts) for informal outdoor play.</p> <p>9. Do you think the draft policy provides a good network of outdoor court space for informal play? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other Any additional comments? <i>Aro Park basketball court used daily by groups of various numbers, needing exercise</i></p>
<p>Opportunities for incorporating the natural environment into play spaces.</p> <p>10. Do you support a focus on incorporating opportunities to interact with the natural environment into play spaces? Refer to section 2, page 9 of the draft policy for background. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Other Any additional comments?</p>
<p>Strategic priority 3, section 4, page 38, guides community and school partnerships.</p> <p>11. Can you suggest any other ways partnership opportunities could improve the play spaces across Wellington?</p>
<p>Strategic priority 4 recognises the value of informal play and that the whole city can provide informal play space for all ages. Refer to section 4, page 38 of the draft policy for background.</p> <p>12. Can you suggest other ways Council might provide for or promote informal play around Wellington? <i>Recognise this potential in Tanera Gully in Aro Valley</i></p>
<p>Our suggestions for promoting the value of play as an activity and helping more people to get outside and play are outlined in section 4, page 39 of the draft policy.</p> <p>13. Do you have any other ideas or actions that could help get more people outdoors and active through play? <i>See comments section</i></p>
<p>14. Do you have any other ideas or suggestions you would like to share? <i>See comments section</i></p>

Section three – who we are reaching

You don't have to complete this section but this information helps us to know who we are reaching. (Note: the information you provide is open to public view.)

I am male female Other/Not stated

My age is 0-14 years 15-24 years 25-34 years 35-44 years 45-54 years 55+ years

Which of the following best describes your household?

Household with no children or none living at home Household with youngest child under 5

Household with youngest child 5 to 13 Household with youngest child 14 or over

Other (please specify)

What is the name of the playground you visit most often?
Please provide name of play area or suburb below *George Denton Park*

Which ethnic group do you belong to? (You can tick more than one box)

New Zealand European Cook Island Chinese Other (such as Dutch, Japanese, Tokelauan, Somali). Please state:

Māori Tongan Indian

Samoan Niuean

1st fold here - fasten here once folded

Please see 2 pages attached
Re Proposal from Tanea Gully
Restoration Project, to be
considered a children's
Wilderness Area

Free Post Authority Number 2199

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke



FREEPOST 2199
Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy
Wellington City Council
PO Box 2199
Wellington 6140

Tanera Gully Restoration Project Proposal

Since 2015 the Tanera Gully Restoration Group has been planting canopy trees such as rata and podocarps in the neglected gully at the end of Epuni St. We would like the area to be formally recognised as a children's wilderness area in your Wellington Play Spaces Policy.

This urban wilderness area is bordered above by Tanera Park with its playing fields, and properties in Laura Ave and Mortimer Tce. It is about 200m from the Aro Street shopping centre. To the east is Central Park, a more formal park and to the west is Polhill Reserve, a forest restoration and mountain biking area.

Twenty five years ago Te Aro and Brooklyn Schools planted native trees in Tanera Gully and ten years ago WCC planted more. It is now a bushy mixture of pine forest, native regeneration and weeds. Three mature, original titoki still grow here. Our aim is to restore the forest to something like its pre 1840 glory to benefit of native biodiversity and the local children.

The gully is a natural catchment with three water courses. The areas where these streams enter the city storm water system are managed by Wellington Water. To access the streams a 4 wheel drive track runs up the valley floor. The streams are likely to support populations of migratory native fish whose numbers could be enhanced by sensitive storm water infrastructure management and riparian planting.

We are in the early stages of this long term restoration project. As well as restoring the original forest we intend to make the gully a natural playground for children of all ages where they can:

- Have a nature experience
- Play, explore, build forts and run wild
- Experience free play in a forest environment which is critical for child development
- Access Tanera Park playing fields for more structured play

There are a number of schools and preschools within easy walking distance of Tanera Gully:

There are a number of schools and preschools within easy walking distance of Tanera Gully:

- Te Aro School,
- Mt Cook School,
- Brooklyn School,
- Moriah School and Kindergarten
- St Bernard's School
- Mt Cook Preschool
- Aro Valley Preschool
- Brooklyn Kids Childcare Centre
- Brooklyn Kindergarten

Tanera Gully could provide a wilderness experience on a regular basis for these local children as well as nature study, walks, a picnic venue and tree planting.

We know that children have played here informally for many years as we have found soccer balls, golf balls and rope swings since we starting working here. It has also long been an informal access way between Brooklyn and the Aro Valley. To make it safe for young and old we would prefer this area to be free of mountain bikes which are well provided for elsewhere in the city.

Please consider Tanera Gully for formal recognition as a children's wilderness area in your Open Spaces Policy. Our aims would be enhanced by the provision of a composting toilet and a drinking fountain. Otherwise we wish to remain structure free.

Denis Asher & Julia Stace
On behalf of Tanera Gully Restoration Project

Submitter Details

First Name: Kevin
Last Name: Francis
Organisation: CODEX Skateboardmagazine
Street: 39E Paremata Crescent
Suburb: Paremata
City: Porirua
Country: NZ
PostCode: 5024
Mobile: 027 484 4413
eMail: skateboardcodex@gmail.com

Resident or Ratepayer:

Ratepayer Resident Non-resident ratepayer Other

Which Community Board Area is your property in?

Eastern Ward Lambton Ward Northern Ward Not indicated
 Onslow-Western Ward Southern Ward

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

The policy is formed around five strategic priorities (see section 4, page 26 of the draft policy)

1. Do you agree with these five priorities in the policy?

	Yes	No
Provide a network of play spaces across the city	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide high-quality, fit-for purpose play space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community and school partnerships	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The city as a play space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Programming and advocacy for outdoor play	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

A strategic priority in the draft policy is about providing a network of play spaces across the city (see section 3 and 4 of the draft policy for maps).

2. Do you agree with planning for a mix of types of play space, spread as evenly as possible across the city as

106

outlined in the draft policy?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

While I do agree with areas being spread across the city I don't agree that every area should be mixed. Something such as Skateboarding needs it's own designated areas. It does not work attaching basketball, rock-climbing or any other activity in a skate park. It would not work if you put a basketball hoop in the middle of a tennis court, or had a kids play ground in the middle of a rugby field. The minute you do that a tennis or rugby player can no longer use the area how it's meant to be used.

A total number of 111 formal playgrounds are being proposed.

3. Do you support planning for a total of 111 formal playgrounds based on the goal of the majority of households in Wellington (74%) being within about 10 minutes walk of a neighbourhood or community play space?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Yes there needs to be a lot more play areas spread around the city. Especially the inner city. No I don't agree with replicating the same play area over and over. Each area should be unique and offer different challengers. They should be able to be interrupted creatively by different kinds of users.

Strategic priority 2 is about the network of Wellington play spaces being made up of high quality and fit for purpose play space.

4. Do you agree the principles and standards listed in section 4, page 32 - 34, will result in Wellington's play spaces (formal playgrounds, skate facilities, half courts and nature play trails) being high quality and meeting the needs of the community?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Wellington is not even close to providing world class facilities in any of these areas. The areas that work are not big enough and are to heavily over populated as a result. The swamp land around the skatepark on the water front is a good example.

The draft policy proposes three categories of formal play space Destination, Community and Neighbourhood). The policy also outlines a guide describing:

- the intention of the spaces
- target catchment area and age range
- types of play opportunities

- what you might see in these spaces
(see section 4, page 33 - 34 of the draft policy).

5. Do you agree that the guide will result in a good mix of play space that meets the needs of the city, local communities, and the range of people who use these spaces?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Chances are NO. Poor designing and understanding of the user groups and activities mixed with consulting with the wrong representatives for user groups will more than likely lead to poorly created areas. Mixing activities together is a TERRIBLE IDEA. It doesn't work. Having them side by side is a different story.

All the formal playgrounds are listed by category in [Appendix 2, page 44](#) with a map showing this distribution across the city in [section 4, page 28](#) of the draft policy.

6. Do you agree with locations and categories as proposed?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

In regards to skateboarding NO. It is missing out on a great opportunity to join other city's around the world, understanding that city's should be a place for ALL to enjoy and interpret, having a fun vibe that flows through the city. The war memorial is a perfect example of how boring an void of creativity an area can be. I appreciate and respect the memorial but there is just so much wasted space. It is the most densely populated part of town in regards to their being multiple schools, colleges, universities and student accommodation. It was and still is a good opportunity to provide more to the area.

The draft policy outlines how the Council plans to provide play opportunities for youth (age group 13 -24 years.)

7. Do you agree the draft policy suitably addresses providing play opportunities for youth?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

It is out of touch with what is happening in other parts of the world. It just wants to maintain and add onto the current mould of playgrounds and skateparks.

The draft policy lists key issues and a number of proposals relating to skate facilities.

108

8. Do you think the draft policy addresses the key issues identified in the plan and provides clear direction for the provision of skate facilities in Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Absolutely not. In regards to skate facilities all the current 'skateparks' are out-dated. This is mainly to do with the fact that they were so poorly designed in the first place. ALL OF THEM.

Skateboarding has grown massively over the last 10 years and are heavily over populated by other users such as parents with pre preschoolers on scooters. This is fine but it makes the skate parks unusable for what it was originally intended for. Wellington has ALWAYS had a good skate scene and has produced a lot of talented people. This was because the city in itself has always been so great to skate, not because of a well built skatepark. Skateboarding is now going to be in the Olympics, it is accepted around the world as a healthy sport with many positives. It's means being physically fit, teachers you to work hard and not give up. Breaks down and encourages interaction between social barriers, race, sex, religion, rich/poor and age. People skate and enjoy the lifestyle it provides anywhere from 2yrs old upto 60+. Not just 12-16 year olds. None of the current facilities are at the current world standard, they are poorly designed and even more poorly constructed. Wellington City Council has spent nothing on skateboarding in ten years and plan on doing nothing for another ten. But they have continued to take away and discourage it any way they can. They took away the only indoor facility we had (Kilbernie Rec Center) despite building a \$50million+ sports arena just down the road with no consideration to the sport. They have continually re-developed areas around the city that skateboarders have used for decades and made them un-skateable, and ignored any approach by the community to talk about the issue. Skateboarding in Wellington so much better 20yrs ago despite it being a very small scene. It does not address the current areas skaters use around the city, the lack of any indoor facility or the poorly designed and built skateparks. It does not address the issue of skateboarders needing areas around the city that are skate friendly or te amount of active users within a skatepark. It does not provide ANY clear direction for facilities in Wellington. All it really states is it will do the absolute minimum to the current facilities while taking away a ramp in Nairnville Park because it's too old. No replacement. It does not address areas skateboarders have used outside of the skatepark for the past 10-20yrs that are in need of repair. Because skateboarding is classed under 'playgrounds' we will lose out every time when it comes to having to share the same budget as childrens playgrounds. The underlying issue is skateboarding makes no sense being classed under playgrounds. It's classed as a motor vehicle by the council. Motor vehicles and children's playgrounds? It would be better and fairer to find a budget for skateboarding out under transport, sport, or landscaping. And leave all the money to childrens playgrounds. The best solution would be to invest a decent amount of money in skateboarding for the next ten years heading to the Olympics. The Christchurch City Council spent 3.4million dollars expanding the current skatepark they have. It is embarrassing that Wellington being the capital of NZ has some of the poorest facilities in NZ. Auckland has not just continually provided new facilities it's also embarrassing the areas within the CBD that skaters use and provided areas for them, such as Aotea Square and the Library. Even Lower Hutt City Council has provided an amazing new area RIGHT NEXT TO THERE OFFICES. It's as simple as providing a skateable bench or little bump. Building 2 perfect benches for under \$10,000, providing them in a area where skateboarders already co-exist with the public. If you split up \$1million, you could literally build 100 different skate areas around Wellington. From Tawa to Island Bay and Miramar. With another \$500,000+ fixing the citys skatepark and putting ramps back into Kilbernie Rec center. This would put Wellington on the global map and join other cities like Copenhagen, Melbourne and Portland in acknowledging and supporting how skateboarders always have and always will be using the city. In return this would bring International Professionals and teams to Wellington and provide not just tourism but oppourtunity for or Local skaters to meet and create connections with the right people.

The draft policy proposes a network of 23 outdoor basketball courts (mix of half and

109

tull courts) for informal outdoor play.

9. Do you think the draft policy provides a network of outdoor court space for informal play?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments

Opportunities for incorporating the natural environment into play spaces.

10. Do you support a focus on incorporating opportunities to interact with the natural environment into play spaces? Refer to section 2, page 9 of the draft policy for background.

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Strategic priority 3, section 4, page 38, guides community and school partnerships.

11. Can you suggest any other ways partnership opportunities could improve the play spaces across Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Strategic priority 4 recognises the value of informal play and that the whole city can provide informal play space for all ages. Refer to section 4, page 38 of the draft policy for background.

12. Can you suggest other ways Council might provide for or promote informal play around Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?
Refer to above

Our suggestions for promoting the value of play as an activity and helping more people to get outside and play are outlined in [section 4, page 39](#) of the draft policy.

13. Do you have any other ideas or actions that could help get more people outdoors and active through play?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Please provide any additional comments you would like to make.

Yes stop putting up no skateboarding signs all around the city and stop clamping benches/ledges.
Let people interpret the surroundings freely as long as there not hurting or scaring anyone.

14. Do you have any other ideas or suggestions you would like to share?

Comments

Yes I do but it's to time consuming to type out as I'm very busy at the moment.

Attached Documents

File
Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy

16 Rhodes St
Newtown

Dear WCC

Re: Urgent Review of Fencing of Playgrounds and Parks

Apologies for the lateness of this submission - the earthquakes have made things difficult in our house.

I am writing on behalf of the Wellington Multiple Birth Club (although the issue is by no means confined to parents of multiples) as part of your review of your Playgrounds Policy.

Of particular concern to us is the lack of adequate fencing to ensure the safe oversight of more than one child. Most parks are typically situated either next to a busy road or near open water hazards.

We note that a standard in your policy for personal safety includes:

"playgrounds should be separated from any hazards (such as traffic) by low fencing or other suitable barriers."

This standard appears to be grossly neglected. In cases where there is fencing it either has large gaps or is not of sufficient height/structure to prevent young children running into hazards such as water (e.g. Khandallah or Cummings Parks) or main roads (most of the other parks e.g. Nairnville, Karori, Waitangi, Lyall Bay Beach etc etc).

Whilst we appreciate that funding is likely to be an issue.....surely this is not an issue that requires deaths or serious incidents before it is given adequate attention?

We note that the Council has upgraded some of the facilities and equipment which is great, however we note that all 3 upgrades still retain large un-gated openings that lead onto roads. This makes safe management and oversight of more than one child incredibly challenging for a single parent or caregiver and creating unnecessary risks to their safety (not to mention the mental and physical well being of the parent or caregiver!).

Wadestown, Newtown and Haitaitai Community House Waipapa Play Areas are a great example of a safe play environments for parents/caregivers managing more than one child under 5 years. We applaud the Council's efforts in relation to these parks and recommend that this type of fencing be promoted as a minimum standard for the centralised and community parks (with at least one park in each of the community

planning areas identified within your policy document) to address the glaring safety concerns that your current fencing levels provide. Accessibility for a large section of the community is therefore seriously hampered!

Should any WCC staff wish to evidence the risks and challenges posed by the current lack of fencing first hand, we have a number of parents of multiples who will happily loan you their active children for the day (on the conditions that you return them unscathed and ensure that they stay fully contained within the playground at all times, good luck with that!)

I am happy to speak on this submission if required.

Kind regards

Kath Haines

On behalf of Wellington Multiple Birth Club



Submission from Living Streets Aotearoa on
Wellington Play Spaces Policy

Contact person: **Ellen Blake**
Email: **wellington@livingstreets.org.nz**
Phone: **021 106 7139**
Date: **18 November 2016**

Submission

Living Streets Aotearoa thanks the committee for this opportunity to submit on an important policy area that encourages greater physical activity, more social opportunities, and better use of public spaces.

The revised Play Spaces policy has 5 strategic priorities:

1. a network of play spaces across the city

Living Streets believe play spaces must provide for all – there is a particular lack of spaces for girls to be active in; there are a number of play spaces that cater to boys like bike/skate/ courts/ kick-about areas. Complementary spaces need to be provided for girls that are tailored to their needs – e.g, especially swings, and, ball-free and vehicle-free space, jungle gyms, climbing trees, somewhere to skip, dance and play in mazes.

An even spread of play spaces is a good first principle, but needs to be tailored to where children live and visit, and how much play space is already available. Kilbirnie needs more play spaces, particularly safe, vehicle-free space (it is cut off from its coastline by the barrier of Cobham Drive), as does Miramar, Newtown and Island Bay. Forming relationships with local schools for more play space is a good first start but more spaces should be included in developments in the District Plan.

There is clearly a need for more play space in the CBD where many people visit and the population is increasing. We should encourage families into the area by making it more attractive for children. Cuba Mall's small play area is slowly being squeezed out by commercial activity designed for adults (e.g, bars). Similarly

Glover Park used to be a much nicer children's play area, but is now catering more to adults. Victoria St redevelopment did not provide for more play space.

2. high-quality, fit-for-purpose play space

Living Streets supports fit-for-purpose space which can be high quality at affordable cost, not necessarily meaning the gold standard. Living Streets does not see a need for car-parking space, especially as it has been identified that people have indicated they mostly want nearby neighbourhood play spaces. People should be encouraged and facilitated to walk to play space. Car parks are an expensive use of public space.

Seating is one aspect that should be provided at all play spaces, as it has been shown to be a key factor in allowing children to play for longer, if adult caregivers have somewhere to sit.

3. community and school partnerships

Living Streets support school spaces being included in wider community play space as appropriate, but this must be well managed to complement school activity. Walk-to-school routes should be provided to all schools, and can easily incorporate play activity along the way. A programme that provides safe walking routes to school should be prioritised.

4. citywide incidental play space

Living Streets see this as a key opportunity to promote more play, and use of public space, and incidental informal play spaces should be included in all developments. This should be included in the District Plan.

5. programming and advocacy for outdoor play

It is not clear what is meant by the three categories of playgrounds. Is there a maintenance, funding or infrastructure level that differentiates these types. How does this relate to less formal play space such as our parks and Town Belt. Will the three playground categories be prioritised ahead of providing informal and incidental play space? Will boys' play continue to be prioritised ahead of girls' play – e.g., all public-space upgrades to include skate opportunity? If dogs are not allowed in play spaces, who will monitor and enforce this? How do inner-city beaches relate to play space?

The single most effective way to get children outside more, and using public space, particularly their neighbourhood space, will be to get them to walk to school on a daily basis. Walk-to-School programmes should be included in this policy.

We would like to be heard in support of our submission.

About Living Streets

Living Streets Aotearoa is New Zealand's national walking and pedestrian organisation, providing a positive voice for people on foot and working to promote walking friendly planning and development around the country. Our vision is "More people choosing to walk more often and enjoying public places".

The objectives of Living Streets Aotearoa are:

- to promote walking as a healthy, environmentally-friendly and universal means of transport and recreation
- to promote the social and economic benefits of pedestrian-friendly communities
- to work for improved access and conditions for walkers, pedestrians and runners including walking surfaces, traffic flows, speed and safety
- to advocate for greater representation of pedestrian concerns in national, regional and urban land use and transport planning.

For more information, please see: www.livingstreets.org.nz



Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy

17 November 2016

This submission has been prepared on behalf of Mt Cook Mobilised, a group which represents residents of Mt Cook, and is affiliated to the Newtown Residents' Association.

Mt Cook Mobilised (MCM) thanks Wellington City Council for the opportunity to comment on the *Wellington Play Spaces Policy, October 2016 - Draft*. Mt Cook is situated close to central Wellington, and is experiencing population densification in line with Council's urban growth policy. There has been a noticeable increase in the number of children living in Mt Cook over recent years. Mt Cook is also home to a substantial University student population.

Mt Cook Mobilised agrees with the direction of the Play Spaces Policy. Incorporating nature, shade, and toilets are ideas that we value. We appreciate the in-depth analysis that is provided in the draft policy.

The following comments primarily pertain the play spaces as they exist in Mt Cook, and places in Mt Cook with good potential to be developed for recreation.

Mt Cook residents value the green spaces around Mt Cook, particularly the Town Belt. In terms of formal play areas for younger children to climb and swing, in 2010 Mt Cook Mobilised made a case to Council to install some play equipment. The Mt Cook Play Area on Hutchison Road was created. This play space has a flat area near Wallace Street with equipment suitable for children up to 12 years old. This play space is also used by students from Te Whaea, the NZ Dance School and Toi Whakaari, the NZ Drama School, which is situated adjacent. On its western side, the play area has a slope with well-established trees, with a net for kicking 'goals' through. Mt Cook Mobilised would like to see the slope enhanced as a play space for children over 12 years - a flying fox, slacklining, or a BMX riding track for children have been suggested by residents. Another suggestion is to install a gas BBQ that families, or students, can use to further enhance their time at the Play Area.

Aside from the Mt Cook Play Area, the next closest play equipment is at Central Park on the eastern edge of Mt Cook, southern Hanson Street in Newtown, Newtown Library, Pirie Street Park in Mt Victoria, Frank Kitts Park or Waitangi Park. Families with toddlers are likely to drive to play equipment outside Mt Cook.

Mt Cook Mobilised applauds the City Council's initiative to work with schools to both upgrade the school play areas and encourage the public to use the school equipment. To this end, we would like to see the Wellington High School Tennis Courts being considered for upgrade as a play space for teens and young adults. In 2015, Mt Cook Mobilised met with the Principal of Wellington High School to ask about the fate of the WHS Tennis Courts on Tasman Street, near Rugby Street. Our finding was that Wellington High would be interested in collaborating with the community and the Council to make better use of the tennis courts. As things stand, Wellington High funding is being directed towards strengthening their buildings, with no possibility of undertaking a solo project to upgrade the tennis courts. (The courts are in disrepair, the asphalt on the courts has many holes from water damage and the wire fences are quite rusty. The fences are lifting and no longer serve to keep balls on the courts). Any undertaking to make better use of the Wellington High tennis court space would

be a sizeable project, and would be an asset to this growing part of the city, and to Wellington High School. (N.B. The courts are away from the main WHS campus, making a dual school/public facility more workable.) Massey University is a neighbour of Wellington High School, and it would be reasonable to include Massey in discussions. Mt Cook Mobilised also met with Deputy Mayor Eagle and a Recreation Advisor. We learnt that Wellington has plenty of tennis courts, but our conclusion was that the space could easily be put to another recreational use. Please Note: In this instance a Skate Park would not fit with the school's needs.

Close to the WHS Tennis Courts is the Basin Reserve. Mt Cook Mobilised endorses the concept of the Village Green for the Basin Reserve, and we see great benefit in including a children's play area, both for the benefit of young children attending events at the Basin, and for local families (particularly those living in apartments) and families who are keen to spend time at the Basin Reserve. We feel that the Basin is underappreciated by Wellingtonians, most feel no need to visit unless it is to watch a cricket match, this is a pity, and hopefully something that will change over time. We appreciate that design work is in train for the Basin Reserve, and of course there will be a delicate balance between the Village Green and the possibilities for the heritage Museum Stand.

In terms of incidental play space, in Mt Cook we are very fortunate to have Papawai Reserve. Its plantings including a community orchard with a bug hotel, are places where children can discover nature and entertain themselves by playing inventing games in the mature foliage. This area has been designed and realised by the Papawai Restoration Group. Every spring Mt Cook Mobilised holds a Spring Fling to celebrate this place, and the children delight in the novelty races put on for them.

The mountain biking trails above Mt Cook are another feature of the Town Belt in Mt Cook. We appreciate that Pukeahu National War Memorial Park is a space for picnicking and contemplation, rather than play equipment.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Play Spaces Policy, and potential for enhanced play spaces in Mt Cook. We endorse the direction of the policy. Mt Cook is a small suburb, with the Adelaide Road densification spine will see many more people live in this area in the coming years. They and their families, along with the sizeable student population already resident in Mt Cook, will benefit from any upgraded play areas that are developed in the coming years.

Mt Cook Mobilised would like to speak to Councillors in support of this submission.

Carol Comber
Mt Cook Mobilised Coordinator

Helga Sheppard

From: BUS: Playspaces
Subject: FW: Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy - have your say
Attachments: DRAFT play spaces policy for public consultation 10 Aug 2016 - COMMENTS.PDF;
Air Photo Blake Park Skate ramps.jpg; Ramp Construction Plans.pdf

From: Graeme Knott [<mailto:graeme.knott@wam.co.nz>]
Sent: Friday, 21 October 2016 2:04 p.m.
To: Bec Ramsay; BUS: Playspaces
Cc: Georgina Freeman; liveatabeach@gmail.com
Subject: RE: Draft Wellington Play Spaces Policy - have your say

Hi Bec,

Please find attached some feedback on the proposal. I've made notes on pages 12, 29, 35 and 38.

In regards to the Ian Galloway park vert ramp, I emailed the information and drawings back in March of this year, as per attached.

We are still really keen to see this happen as part of the Wellington Play Spaces Policy.

Let me know if you need any further information. Thanks.

Regards,

Graeme.

Graeme Knott
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DRAFT Wellington Play Spaces Policy
August 2016

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
 Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Contents

Introduction	3
Purpose and scope of the policy	3
Definition of play	3
Alignment with Council direction.....	4
Background and research.....	4
Information gathering	4
The future of Wellington.....	5
Play spaces	7
The importance of play	8
Nature play	8
What do people want from play spaces in Wellington?	9
Accessibility	10
Shade and fencing at formal play spaces (playgrounds)	10
Play opportunities for adults.....	10
Play opportunities for “youth”	11
Skate facilities, basketball courts and bike skills areas.....	11
How are we planning for play as the city grows and changes?	13
The central city	13
Medium-density residential housing	13
Greenfield development areas	14
Community and school partnerships	16
What do we have now?.....	17
Dedicated play space.....	17
The playgrounds network.....	17
How we manage playgrounds.....	20
Skate facilities, basketball courts and bike skills areas.....	20
How we manage skate facilities, basketball courts and bike skills areas	20
Other dedicated play space	22
Community involvement and school partnerships	23
Incidental play space.....	24
Play Space Policy & Action Plan.....	25
Vision	25

Play space principles	30
Strategic Priority 1: Provide a network of play spaces across the city	25
Policy 1 - The play space network.....	25
Policy 2 - Dedicated play space (playgrounds).....	25
Policy 3 – Skate and scooter facilities	29
Policy 4 - Outdoor informal court space	29
Policy 5 - Bike skills areas.....	29
Policy 6 – Nature play trails.....	29
Strategic Priority 2: Provide high-quality, fit-for-purpose play space	30
Policy 1 – Play space principles	30
Policy 2 – A guide to dedicated play space categories.....	32
Policy 3 – Standards for dedicated play space (playgrounds)	33
Policy 4 – Dedicated play space renewals and development	33
Policy 5 – Skate and scooter facilities management.....	33
Policy 6 – Outdoor informal court space management	33
Policy 7 - Bike skills areas management.....	33
Policy 8 - Nature play trails management.....	33
Strategic Priority 3: Community and school partnerships.....	33
Partnerships Policy	33
Strategic Priority 4: The city as a play space	34
Strategic Priority 5: Programming and advocacy for outdoor play	34
Appendices	36
Appendix 1 - Play spaces theory and age appropriate activity guide	36
Age appropriate activity guide	36
Appendix 2 - Play spaces by category.....	38

Introduction

Purpose and scope of the policy

This policy provides strategic direction and guidelines for the provision and management of play spaces in Wellington City.

Planning for play will allow the Council to maximise any investment, add to it over time and ensure it is sustained.

The policy:

- defines what the Council means by play and a vision for play
- includes background information and research into best practice provision, quality, management and maintenance of play spaces and what that means in Wellington
- describes the value of and need for play and play space
- describes a set of play space principles
- outlines the planned network of play space opportunities
- outlines the types of play space, with a guide to the purpose and components of each
- guides design and management for high-quality renewals and upgrades
- guides community and school partnerships
- describes programming and advocacy for outdoor play.

Definition of play

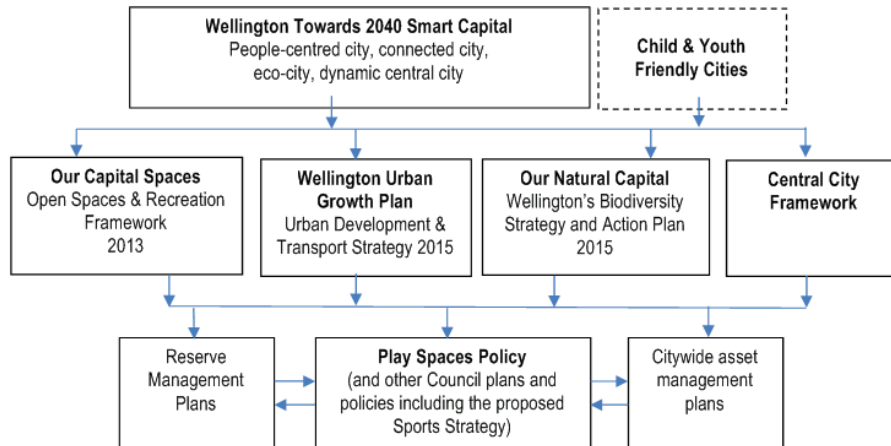
Play is what children and young people do when they follow their own ideas and interests, in their own way, and for their own reasons¹.

The International Play Association (IPA) lists the key characteristics of play as fun, uncertainty, challenge, flexibility and non-productivity. These characteristics of play are relevant at all ages.

“Intent” is the key difference in the play of children (which adults have a role in fostering and providing for) and the play of older children and adults (who make a conscious decision to go somewhere and be somewhere, can get to that place and then engage in their version of “play”).

¹ Play England – Why Play is Important. <http://www.playengland.org.uk/about-us/why-play-is-important/>

Alignment with Council direction



This policy has been produced to give effect to and align with Council plans, policies and initiatives as outlined in the diagram above.

Background and research

Information gathering

Wellingtonians care about play space as part of the open space network. We know this through preparation of Our Capital Spaces, Our Natural Capital, the Suburban Reserves Management Plan, the Mount Victoria Masterplan, informal feedback when we are renewing playgrounds and Long-term Plan benchmarking (Residents' Monitoring Survey).

A review of literature around best practice for play space policy preparation and how children interact with their environment was used in preparing the Play Space Policy. A scan of play space policy around the region was also carried out to ensure there is a regionally consistent approach.

The following added further insight to the views of Wellingtonians to help inform this draft:

- a survey using the Council's research panel²
- a survey of all of the primary schools in Wellington
- an informal survey of passers-by at an event in Civic Square
- a series of workshops with youth
- a workshop with skate community advocates
- discussion with Council staff involved on a day-to-day basis with the provision, development, management and maintenance of play space.

² A group of approximately 2000 Wellington residents who have indicated they are willing to be surveyed by Council. Only those who visited or used playgrounds or skate/scooter areas in the last 12 months were asked to respond resulting in 418 responses.

The future of Wellington

The Wellington City population in 2013 was 197,500, living in about 71,000 households.

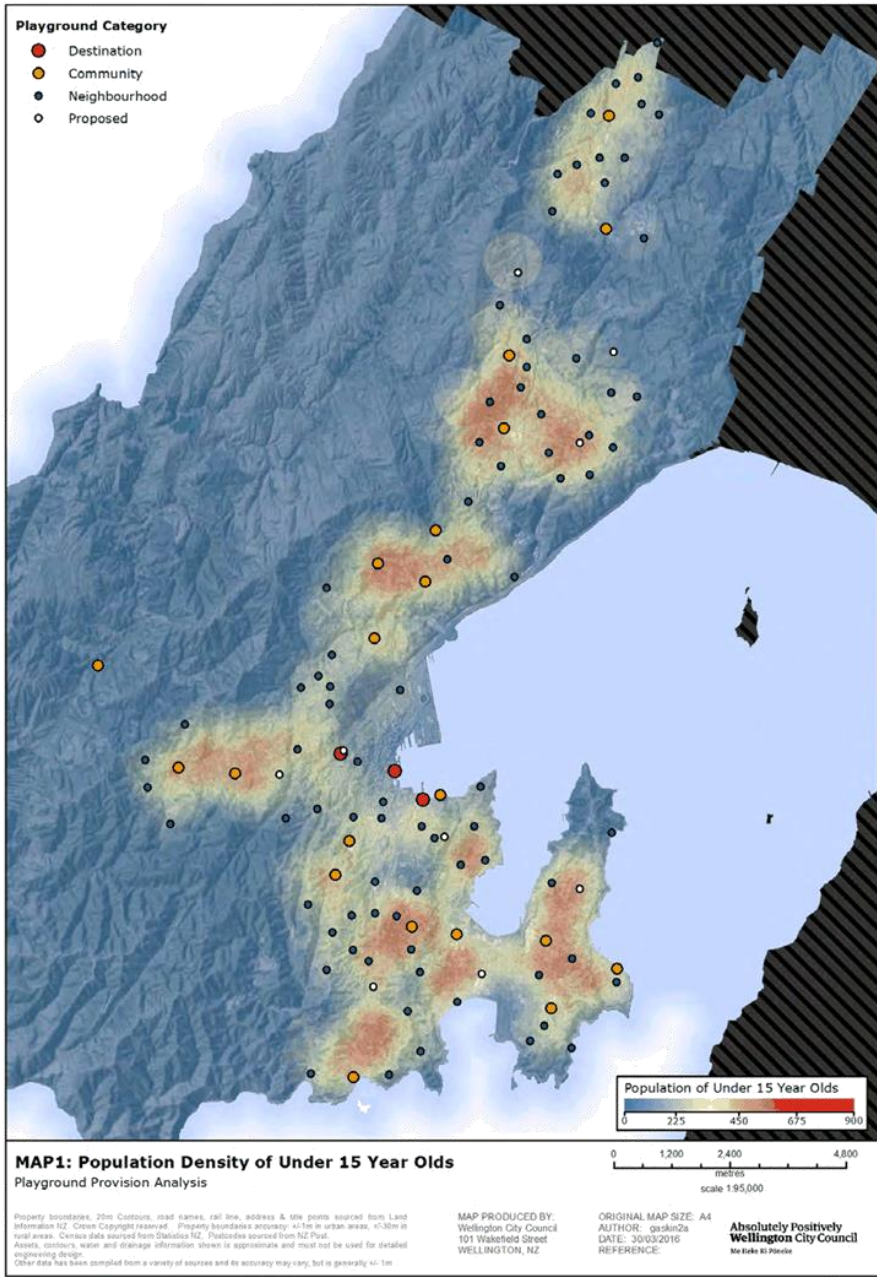
- In almost all of Wellington's suburbs, family-with-children households (including sole parent families) make up less than 50 percent of all households. This reduces to 20 percent or less for the central city, Te Aro, and city-edge communities.
- Between 2013 and 2033, Wellington's population is projected to increase by approximately 28,500 (14 percent) to 226,000. The total household count will increase by about 13,500 (18 percent).
- Family households with children will increase by about 2000 over the next 20 years.

We need to consider what play space requirements there will be as the city changes and grows:

- In 2013 there were 34,300 children (aged 0–14 years) in Wellington. By 2033 this is expected to rise by only 1650 children across the whole city (a 4.8 percent increase).
- Children made up 17 percent of the total population in 2013 and are projected to make up 16 percent of the total population in 2033.

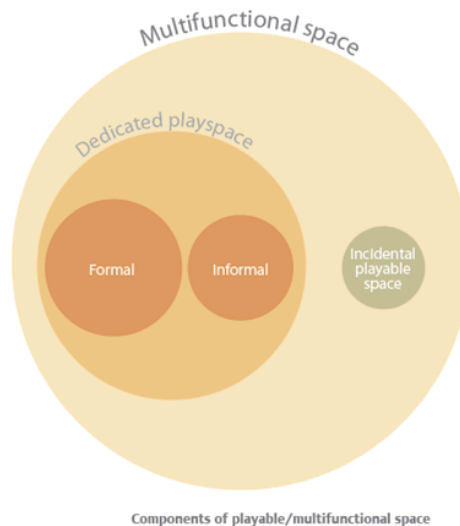
This suggests that, to best meet the play needs of most children in the long term, it will be better to maintain and manage a network of play spaces spread relatively evenly around the whole city rather than plan for more playgrounds in established areas. Our priority will be to make sure that as the child population shifts around the city there will always be a quality play space nearby.

Map 1 is a broad-scale picture of the numbers of 0 to 14-year-olds as a portion of the total population and relative to other areas. The overlay of Council playgrounds shows the relatively even spread of playgrounds throughout the city, with good provision in areas where there are currently the highest numbers of children.



Play space

The diagram below³ shows the ideas in Our Capital Spaces⁴ around the value of multifunctional space and how “play spaces” fit within this plan. It illustrates the importance of providing for a range of play spaces – from formal, dedicated play areas through to incidental playable space within other multifunctional space (such as large parks or urban environments, for example). Provision of play is broader than formal playgrounds. This policy looks to broaden the scope of how the Council provides for play.



Incidental playable space can be anywhere. This might be a small slope in a park that could be rolled down, a tree that can be climbed or that drops leaves, sticks or flowers that can be collected, sorted or thrown in the stream. It could also be a non-natural environment – a low wall that could be walked along or a high wall to jump off. Backyards, house frontages and road verges can also function as local networks of incidental play space. High-quality public art and civic space is often playable. Walk anywhere with a 3-year-old and you will find incidental playable space. Wayfinding and place-making improve opportunities for adult and youth socialisation through incidental play, particularly in the urban environment.

Dedicated playspace is a space where play is identified as one of the main functions of the space. **The Council plays a key role in provision of dedicated public play space.** Schools and private property (in particular backyards) also offer important opportunities as places where children spend time each day. In Wellington, 93 percent of primary schools surveyed allow public access to their playgrounds outside of school hours. Shopping centres often have dedicated play space. City housing facilities have play space for their residents at sites where there are children and families.

The Council provides a network of dedicated, free outdoor play facilities across the city and has clear strategic direction to continue to do so, as shown in the relationship of this policy to other Council direction.

³ Shaping Neighbourhoods: Play and Informal Recreation, published by the Greater London Authority, Sept 2012.

⁴ Our Capital Spaces: An Open Spaces and Recreation Framework for Wellington 2013-2023.

The importance of play

Playgrounds are currently valued and well used by Wellingtonians. Regionally, nationally and internationally, research has shown the importance of play for the development, health and wellbeing of children. It is also evident that there are wider benefits associated with play that have a very broad reach, including social and environmental.

Providing a place for children to play gives them different settings and environments to explore, exposure to different challenges, a social setting to play with other children and adults, and a place to discover what they can and cannot do.

Play theory defines types of play that can then be applied to different age groups. All play space design should be grounded in this theory as commonly accepted best practice⁵. Play spaces provide for the physical, cognitive, social and imaginative development of children, with design and environmental setting key factors in maximising the potential benefit to the child.

For children, play is a human right. On 1 February 2013, the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child adopted a General Comment that clarifies for governments worldwide the meaning and importance of Article 31 of the Convention on the Right of the Child.

Nature play

There is a growing body of evidence to support the benefit of outdoor play and play in natural environments. A group based in the United Kingdom called the Wild Network is working to raise the profile of free play in the outdoors as not only a legitimate activity for children to engage in but a critical one that is becoming less and less of a part of children's daily lives. They are looking at ways to "market nature" to children and their parents. They sum up the benefits to children of a "re-wilded free-range" childhood as:

- improving their ability to judge and understand risk
- increasing physical health through exercise
- enhancing and maintaining mental health and positive wellbeing through exposure to the natural world
- stimulating imagination and creativity through outdoor play and learning
- improving communication skills and the ability to build and maintain relationships.

The 2015 Wellington Residents' Monitoring Survey found that 92 percent of respondents agree that a connection with nature improves residents' quality of life. Outdoor play is an opportunity for children to make that connection.

"Nature play" covers a wide range of activities, from imaginative free play in a highly natural environment to play on natural elements in a formal playground setting (such as a garden to walk through under a slide). Current thinking about the importance of nature play⁶ suggests that children are not engaging in outdoor free play as much as they have in the past. Children are not able to roam as widely as they did, and now lead more structured and supervised lives with less emphasis on spending time "mucking about".

The role of the playground as a place where children can have a broad play experience that includes free play in addition to physical and social development is more important as opportunities for outdoor free play are limited by modern lifestyles.

It is important for play spaces to offer opportunities for interaction with nature and promote the value of this for children. In Wellington, there is no shortage of places to engage in nature play at the "wild" end of the spectrum, but often there is a need for children and their families to get comfortable in a more structured or smaller scale natural environment first.

⁵ Refer to appendix 1 for Play Theory and age appropriate activity guides

⁶ Also supported by the content of *Natural Neighbourhoods for City Children (2015)*. A report on research findings by C. Freeman, Y van Heezik, A Stein and K Hand. Published by the Department of Geology, University of Otago, Dunedin 2015.

The panel survey indicated that people would choose a more natural “free play” type play space over a traditional “swings and slides” play space about 50 percent of the time. People also chose items such as “climbing/sliding on banks”, and “free play (piling up bark chips, digging, mucking about)” as things their children enjoy at playgrounds.

What do people want from play spaces in Wellington?

The panel survey recipients told us:

- children aged 5–10 years are the main users of playgrounds, with the 0–5 year age group second and 11–12 third.
- most people taking children to playgrounds are parents, with the remaining respondents primarily either grandparents or a relative
- the top five most enjoyed activities (from a list provided that included things like free play, trees and sliding on banks) are traditional playground equipment – swings, slides, flying fox, forts and structures, and climbing nets/frames
- 74 percent of people believe the number of playgrounds in Wellington is about right
- 56 percent of people believe that, in general, the playgrounds are excellent or above average quality⁷, with 40 percent believing they are average
- the top five ideas for improvement (from a list provided) were more shade or shelter, different styles/designs of equipment, more toilets, a wider range of equipment and opportunities for free play/imaginative play
- when asked how the community might be involved in improving playgrounds, the top response in the general survey was through providing feedback to the Council on playground plans, followed by participation in working bees to help maintain the playground environment
- 41 percent of survey respondents go outside of Wellington City (eg to Porirua or Upper Hutt) to play every few months – just to go somewhere different or for another reason such as to visit family
- 58 percent of survey respondents said their neighbourhood playground (ie the one closest to where they lived) was the one they visited most often
- when asked which was most important to them, 21 percent of people said having a small basic playground near to where they lived, while 12 percent said having a large playground further away with more to offer – most people, however, believe both are equally important (66 percent)
- almost everyone (96 percent) visited playgrounds for 2 hours or less, with an almost even split between the “less than an hour” group and the “1–2 hours” group
- 45 percent of people drive to the playground, while 41 percent walk and 10 percent bike/skateboard/scooter
- 23 percent of respondents used skate/scooter areas, with Waitangi Park the most popular location – 90 percent of visitors are there for 1–2 hours or less.

The most frequently recorded general comments (after “no comment”) were:

- need more variety for the playgrounds with different kinds of design/equipment
- need more shade/shelter
- there is lots of choice
- they are well maintained.

⁷ The 2015 WCC Residents Monitoring Survey found 84% of people using playgrounds were either ‘very’ or ‘quite’ satisfied with the playground or skatepark they most recently visited.

Some of the more values-based quotes include:

For children living in a city environment, it is extremely important to have space and equipment for children to experiment, risk take and explore a range of different settings... free play, climbing, swinging, inventing games etc

Kids like the old school playgrounds not the plastic kit sets with super safe options. Life is about accepting a bit of risk and diversity. Kids like informal simple options like rope swings.

Neighbourhood playgrounds help kids socialise with their peers, and provide a meeting place for parents.

When playgrounds are renewed, requests for more than just the renewal of the equipment are always received. Most commonly this is for paths to and through the play space and for more seating.

Accessibility

The Wellington City Council Accessibility Advisory Group (AAG) stressed the importance of accessibility to play space around Wellington for both children and those caring for them.

In recent times, higher numbers of older grandparents are caring for children and need to be able to safely access play spaces and interact with the children in those spaces.

The Council has recently carried out an accessibility audit based on physical constraints to access to playgrounds. A series of recommendations were made to address identified shortcomings. These are currently proposed to be addressed at the time of renewal of each site.

Shade and fencing at formal play spaces (playgrounds)

Providing shade at playgrounds has been raised by survey respondents and others. Issues include:

- the risk to children of being exposed to the sun
- the benefits to children of being exposed to the sun
- the climate in Wellington
- the appropriateness of play equipment and surface material and how that performs in different weather (eg surfaces that get too hot)
- the amount of time children usually spend at the various play spaces
- the pros and cons of planting and maintaining trees
- the pros and cons of installing and maintaining shade structures.

It is not practical or desirable to shade entire play spaces. The ability to seek shade is important at each site. Shade structures are very expensive – approximately 12 times as expensive as planting one tree (planted at 2 metres in height) that would in time provide adequate shade. An important consideration is providing shade over the equipment and not just for caregivers.

More money could be spent on larger trees for more immediate effect. Trees will not only provide shade but also add a natural play element to the space, and have ecological and amenity value. They can also provide seasonal shade allowing sun in the winter months when playground users are often seeking the sun rather than trying to avoid it.

Fencing is another issue, generally at play spaces designed for younger children and when they are in close proximity to roads. Currently fencing is included in new play spaces where there is a safety risk.

Play opportunities for adults

Adult "play" can be interchangeable with the pursuit of leisure and even sport. The play of children is just that – play for the sake of play. There is no intent. They will learn (emotionally, physically, cognitively and socially) and form connections with their surroundings (natural or otherwise) through play.

Adults can and do play but it is not the same as the play of children and the Play Space Policy will focus on providing play opportunities for children and young people. Adults can choose for themselves when, where and how to play and make these conscious choices from a whole range of opportunities.

The International Play Association states that “Play is a right which all adults have a responsibility to uphold”. Children need to be given the time and space to play. This policy focusses on the Council’s role of providing some of that space and advocating the value and benefit of play for children and young people.

Play opportunities for “youth”

The current formal playground network is targeted at 0 to 15-year-old age range. Youth age range includes 13 to 24-year-olds. Often skate facilities and basketball half courts are considered “youth facilities”.

We know that youth are generally more concerned about finding places to meet and socialise over provision of specific equipment or facilities for “play”. Incidental play is appealing to this age group so the key is to design play spaces with places to congregate and equipment that can also be used in a more informal way by people who are physically bigger.

“We want to play on stuff in ways that it wasn’t made to play on” was a sentiment heard a number of times when talking to youth, which captures the challenge in designing spaces for them.

Mixed use spaces are well used by youth. For example, Waitangi Park and the waterfront were mentioned by every group as great places due to the range of activities all close by and the central, busy location. The large size of the area also means groups can meet without feeling like they are in someone else’s space or interfering with kids and families who they perceive might not want them there.

Grasslees Reserve in Tawa and Central Park play area were also mentioned as having specific equipment that was suitable for their age group to play on due to the size and fun and competitive nature of it.

This age group also use sportsfields and other flat areas for kick-about. Places to sit and meet and innovative technology (such as Wi-Fi access) were also drawcards.

We know that youth, along with other age groups, use skate facilities and half courts. Some youth, particularly females, do not use these facilities at all. This age group also has similar needs to adults, with one person stating I don’t go to playgrounds because I work. This highlights the very different needs of not only youth as compared to under-13 year olds but also the wide range within the youth age bracket.

Skate facilities, basketball courts and bike skills areas

These three facility types were considered as primarily catering for “youth”. It is apparent that bike skills areas are associated with biking ability rather than age group and would generally cater for younger children learning to ride or improving basic skills.

Outdoor basketball courts and half courts provide not only informal basketball space for youth age people but also due to the flat, hard surface of the space they also cater for other activities, including skating and scooters.


Scooter users are generally under 15 years of age or they are a small group of more highly skilled young people at skate facilities or commuters in older age groups. Some younger children on scooters will switch to skateboards as they get older.

The workshops with skate advocates and youth group discussions confirmed there are four main types of skateboarding: street/city skating, vert skating, plaza style skating and people using their board as a means of transport. There is also downhill skating, performance or trick skating, people just mucking about and pro skating.

Each type of skating can be provided at different facilities, with skate parks being the best place for overlap between the different styles. For example, a skate park can provide for round wall style vert skating, street and plaza style skating.

Waitangi Park is by far the most popular skate facility in Wellington, as it has all the factors that make for a good skate space – a range of activities in the skate area but also the activities and facilities around it and a central, high-profile, busy location. Due to the popularity of the space there are also periods of crowding and conflict between users with a wide range of abilities.

The key issues raised by skaters at the workshop are:

- planning for “minor” improvements of the existing network through an upgrades programme
- catering for a range of abilities at each space
- the ongoing maintenance of the existing facilities
- the opportunities for development of a network of skateable “spots” around central Wellington (either stand-alone projects or as part of other urban renewal work)
- the need for and feasibility of an indoor skate facility (pay-to-skate)
- the need for and funding of significant skate projects such as an extension to the Island Bay/Berhampore skate park or a  vert ramp at Ian Galloway Park
- promotion of skating as an activity that benefits participants and the city.

Summary of Comments on Microsoft Word - DRAFT play spaces policy 18-7-16.docx

Page: 12

Number: 1 Author: knottg Subject: Sticky Note Date: 19/09/2016 3:16:52 p.m. +12'00'
Can Island Bay and Ian Galloway Park be separated into individual bullet points?

A vert ramp is a completely different category in skating. Island Bay is largely concrete construction and Ian Galloway is Timber only.

How are we planning for play as the city grows and changes?

There are three key areas for growth and change; the central city, suburban housing density change and city growth outside the existing residential areas.

The central city

Residential occupation in the central city is growing and some of this growth will include families. Part of the drawcard for living in the central city is the proximity to large areas of open space for engaging in recreation activities and play. The central city is contained within a 2.1 square kilometre area. It is surrounded on all sides by either the waterfront or Wellington Town Belt, which are easy to access and offer a range of informal play space and opportunities for interaction with the natural environment. The waterfront has a series of large, well-equipped, formal playgrounds (Frank Kitts Park, Waitangi Park and Freyberg Beach).

The Central City Framework notes:

"Unlike most central cities, Wellington is small enough that it's easy to walk from one end to the other. This compactness, and the relationship between the city and the natural features that surround it, contribute to Wellington's unique character – making it an urban village with a wild edge."

"This framework aims to introduce more green spaces – places to reflect, relax, kick a ball, play with the kids. These spaces include small parks, green roofs and green links. These will be introduced when we upgrade streets, when areas are revitalised, and when developers and building owners recognise that tenants value such spaces."

The proposed network of smaller spaces offers opportunity for informal and incidental play space to complement the existing formal playgrounds and wider natural environment. Great examples include the recent laneways projects where people play on the dots on Bond Street and kick balls at the end of Leeds Street. Cobblestone Park includes play equipment, a basketball hoop and half court and opportunities to play amongst the vegetation. Pukeahu National War Memorial Park is a large, flat open space where people of all ages can run around and explore.

There will be opportunities to create more play space through ongoing central city greening initiatives and streetscape upgrades. Future parks and public open spaces in the city will be developed with opportunities for play in mind.

Another key area for provision of play in the city is at or near Council community housing where children and young people are tenants, often in some of the highest density accommodation in the city (ie apartment blocks). Each site that accommodates children has its own play space specifically for tenants. Given the limited private outdoor space some of these children have direct access to, it is important that the families know about the range of places they can go to play outside and that they are able to easily get there.

Medium-density residential housing

Across Wellington, there are two existing medium-density residential housing areas (MDRA) and five additional suburbs being investigated for the introduction of MDRA zones. The intention of these is to enable a broader range of housing choice around a selection of suburban centres with good connection to public transport and community services/amenities.

The proposed MDRA are expected to cater for people to "age in place" and provide alternative housing choice for small/childless households. However, there is no guarantee about who exactly will ultimately reside in these homes – some couples may elect to live there with a small child, given the proximity to service and transport amenities. It is also possible that if the medium-density areas attract ageing baby boomers, then the larger family homes that this group currently occupy in the local area will be bought by families and accommodate more children in the future. This project will not specifically create a large growth in the number of children residing in these areas, but there may be some small increase as larger family homes are effectively "freed up". Any change in the number of children in each suburb is unlikely to require new formal playgrounds when considered in the context of the citywide projections for child population across the whole city over the next 20 years.

Each of the existing and potential MDRA areas under investigation have been mapped to identify the existing formal playgrounds in the respective neighbourhoods (refer to Map 2). Each is slightly different. Tawa is well serviced for formal play, with seven playgrounds within the area and a number around the edge. Newlands has a skate facility and funding in place for construction of a new community playground in 2018/19. Johnsonville has three playgrounds within the MDRA. The new library development area and further development at Alex Moore Park may result in the need to review half court provision. Khandallah has one small play space in the village centre, however, Khandallah Park and Nairnville Park will service a large portion of any potential new MDRA. The potential need for play space on the eastern edge of this area has been identified in the Suburban Reserves Management Plan (SRMP). The Karori area is lacking at the city end and Island Bay at the northern end. Both of these have been identified as an issue in the SRMP. There is a new playground planned (and funded) for Island Bay/Berhampore (at Wakefield Park) in 2016/17.

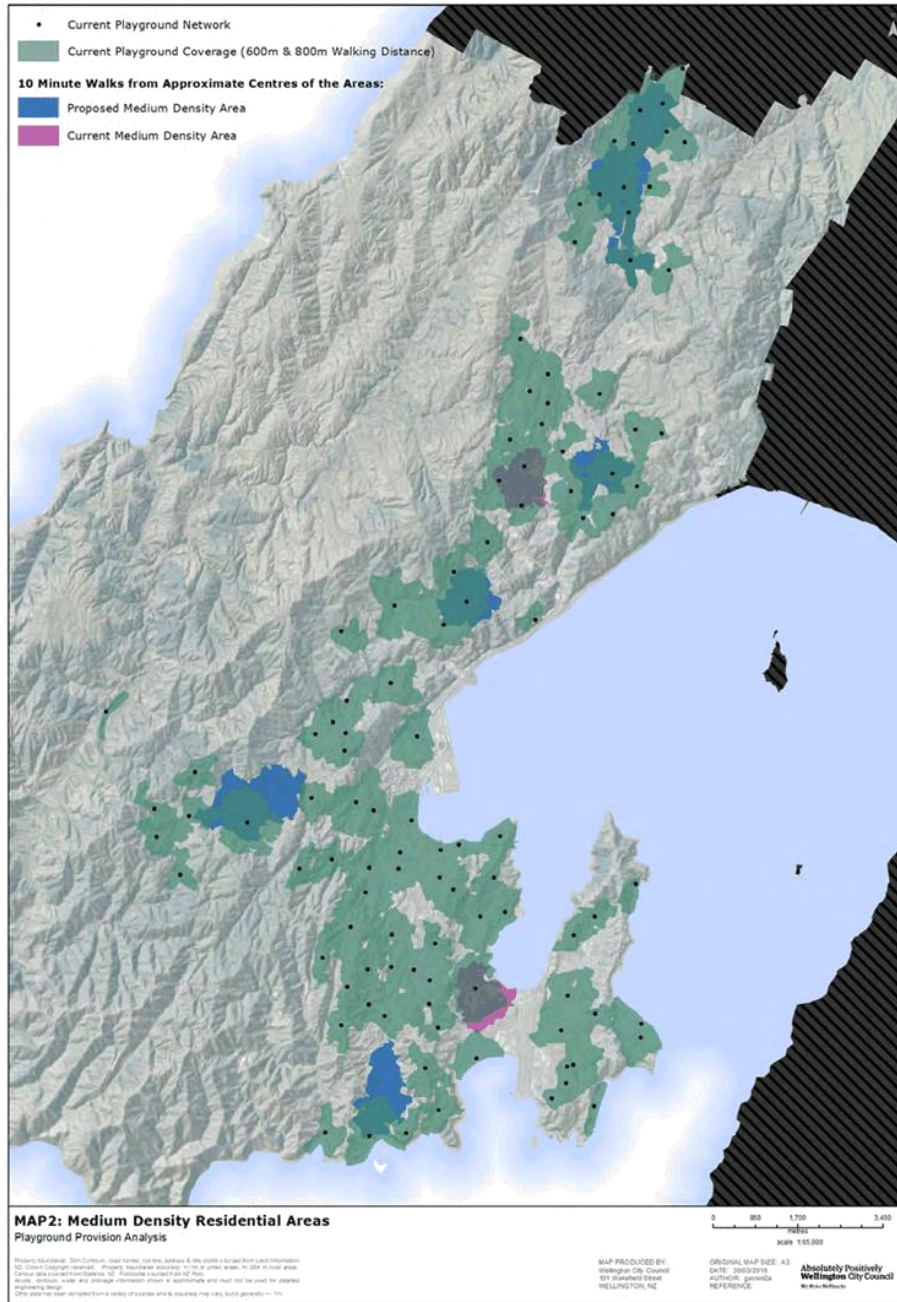
In addition to formal play space, each suburb has access to neighbourhood parks, large natural parks and other open spaces where children, young people and adults can play and enjoy recreation activities. The artificial turf in Johnsonville for example provides for year-round outdoor play space.

In summary, there is no additional formal play space required (other than that already planned) to meet the needs of the community as a result of existing and future MDRA. The change to the make-up of these communities is not expected to result in significant numbers of extra children. While some new homes in the MDRA zones may have smaller backyards, all of the areas are, or will be, appropriately served by formal and informal public play space with access to natural environments.

Greenfield development areas

There are two main areas for growth in the northern suburbs: at Churton Park (Stebbing's Valley) and between Woodridge and Grenada North (Woodridge, Lincolnshire Farms and Hunters Hill). As development is planned and constructed, the reserves network will extend into those areas, including the provision of formal play space.

A new community playground is planned for Lincolnshire as identified in the District Plan Structure Plan. The playground will be funded by development contributions. A new neighbourhood playground is planned for Stebbings Valley as part of a Reserves Agreement between the land owner and the Council. Development beyond these areas or changes in anticipated development style (from rural to residential for example) may result in the need for further play space.



Community and school partnerships

A survey sent to all of the primary schools across Wellington in early 2016 found:

- 93 percent of schools allow public access to their playgrounds outside school hours
- during school hours, the majority of respondents (75 percent) said their children never or only on special occasions use public playgrounds – the reasons why students visited public playgrounds were varied, with most answering “they are just somewhere different” or “they are close to our school”
- 63 percent of respondents have upgraded their playground in the last 3 years or were planning to do so – of those, 50 percent considered having different equipment to other playgrounds in the area and 25 percent didn’t consider other playgrounds at all
- the most important consideration for schools in planning a new playground was age appropriateness of equipment, followed closely by the equipment’s level of challenge and student or community input.

There were also some really helpful comments that provided more detail. Like the Council, a key issue for schools is funding playgrounds – both the initial build and also the maintenance and inspections.

The survey of schools and the panel survey both indicate that many people can and do use playgrounds in schools. The Ministry of Education fund schools but do not directly influence the provision of outdoor play (type, quantity or quality). Individual schools make this decision in consultation with their community and subject to prioritisation of the general funding.

Sport New Zealand is developing a framework to enable them to take a “lead agency” role at a central government level to advocate for the importance of play.

The Council has a health and safety responsibility around managing and maintaining formal playground equipment, which will limit involvement in this aspect of playground management. The survey panel told us that providing feedback on playground plans was their preferred way to be involved but some were willing to participate in working bees to help maintain the playground environment. A comment at a more informal survey in Civic Square included support for community involvement as “*teaching respect for the park if kids have more say*” and “*so they feel the park is part of their community*”.

The general public want to be involved in providing for play in public space. There are existing community groups already actively engaged in the care and custodianship of different reserves, including ones with playgrounds in them. For example, the Friends of Central Park help beautify and maintain the playground environment at Central Park.

The Council currently provides Push Play trailers and free sports equipment from the Push Play library for use in parks. This is intended to facilitate easy and free opportunities for outdoor play.

What do we have now?

Dedicated play space

The playgrounds network

In 2016 the play spaces network includes 107 public formal playgrounds. The majority of play areas fit the category of local or local basic (82 percent). Map 3 shows the spread and category of the current formal playground network.

A nature play trail is proposed at Mount Victoria. The idea is to integrate play trails into the open spaces and tracks to encourage play and broaden children's interest in landscapes and Mount Victoria/Matairangi. Natural landscape play elements might include balancing, climbing, living huts, and tunnels.

66 percent of all residents are located within a 600-metre or 10-minute walk of a neighbourhood playground or 800 metres of a community playground (refer to Map 4). In addition to this there is a network of school playgrounds that the general community use outside of school hours. City housing residents also have playgrounds for their use.

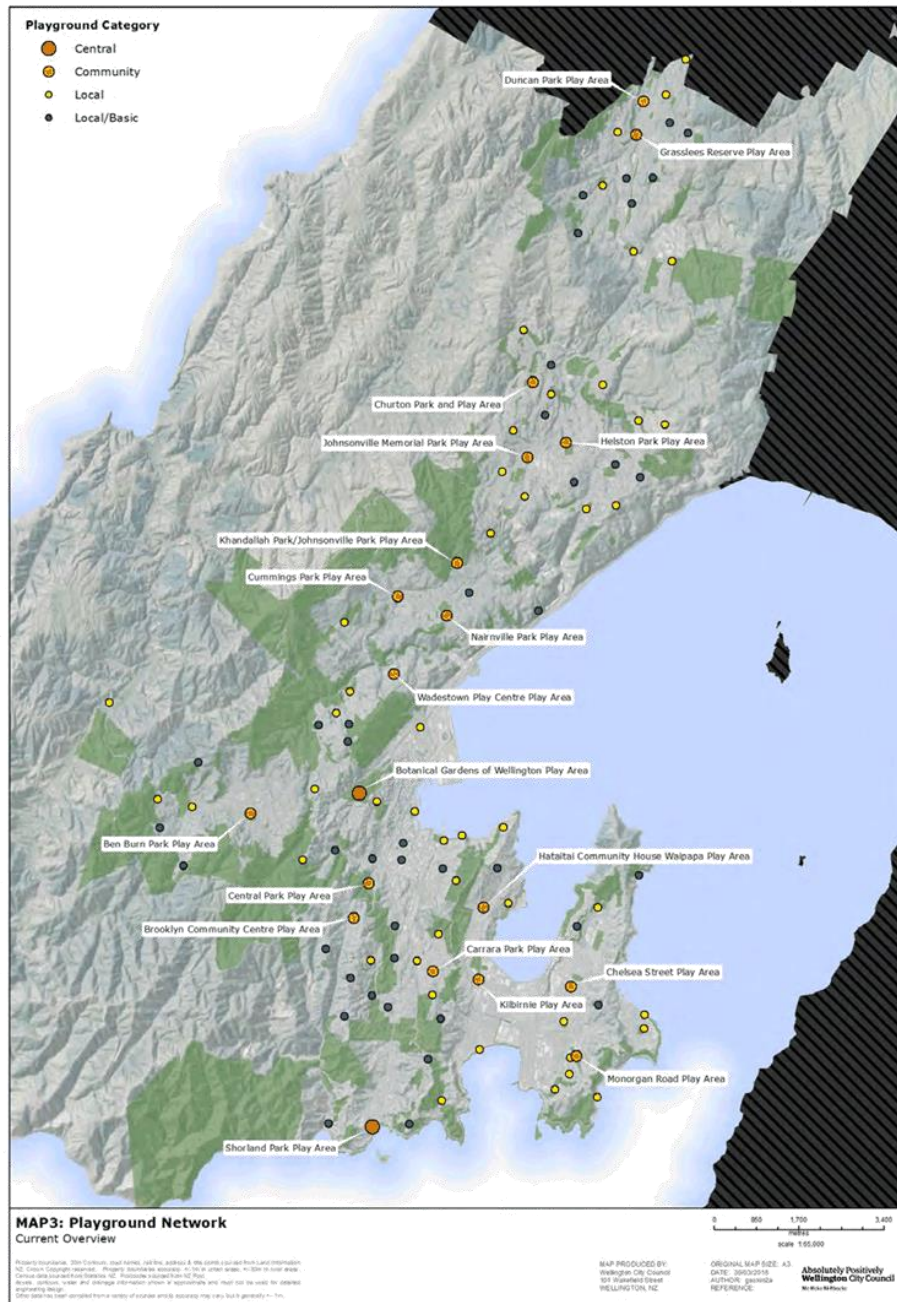
Wellington City compares well regionally with the number of playgrounds per head of population (at approximately 1/1800 residents or 3.2/1000 children⁸) and the walking distance "ideals" that represent an equitable distribution across the city.

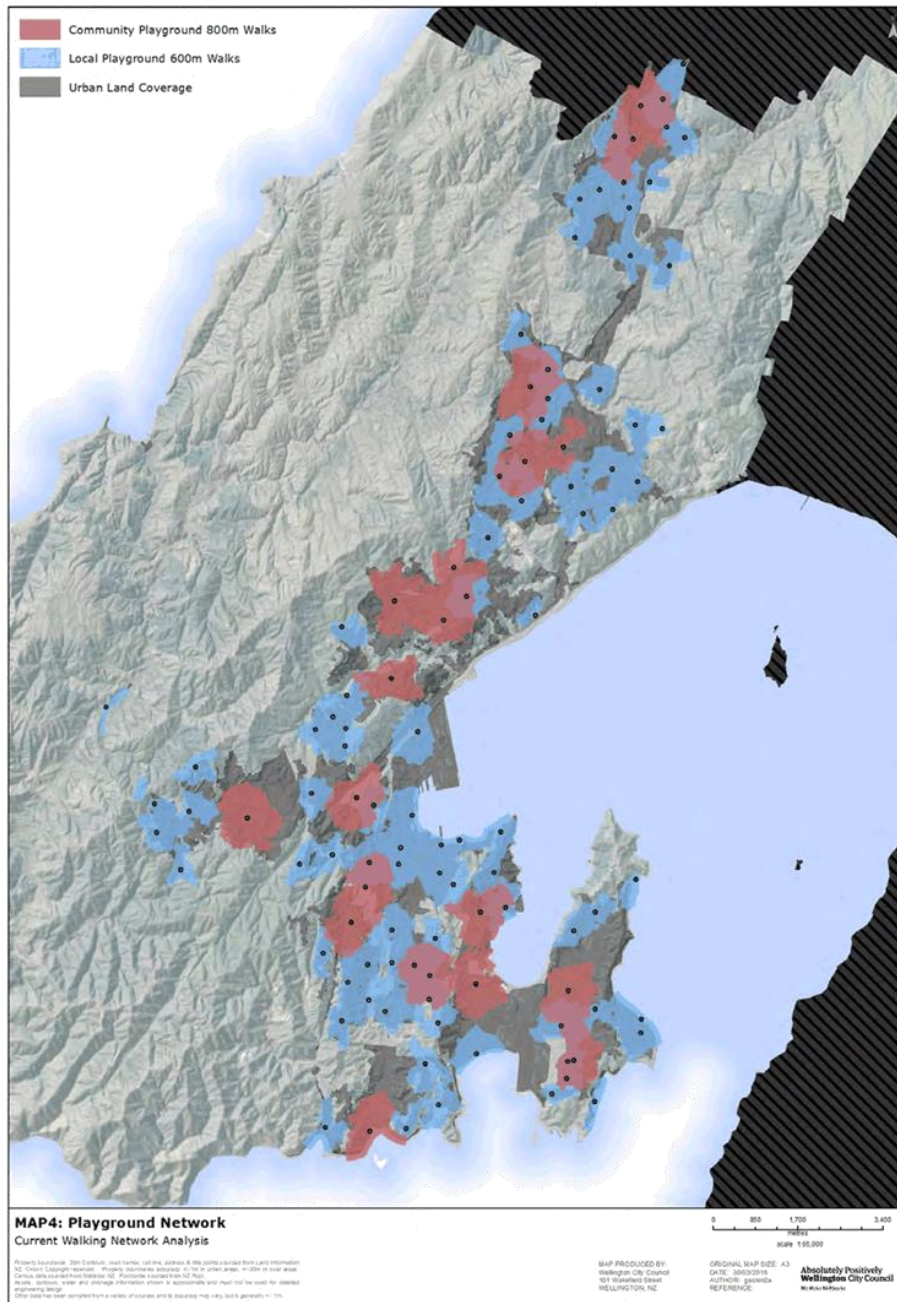
There is limited public support for retirement of formal playspace, even where there would be a citywide benefit in helping provide a more even distribution of playgrounds around the city. The community believes that the current network of 107 is "about right".

Formal playground space is the "favourite place to play"⁹. This is followed by pools, other water places (beaches, rivers, lakes, ocean), the non-playground area of parks and around our house/flat or outside at a friend's house.

⁸ Based on 2013 census data and national recreation benchmarking (Yardstick) and including city housing playgrounds

⁹ Research panel results





How we manage playgrounds

The existing budget for the “renewal” of playgrounds allows for approximately four renewals per year. This equates to a replacement of play equipment and safety surfaces at each playground every 25 years. Regular inspections and maintenance is carried out, which helps inform renewals prioritisation.

The category of playground currently determines what play equipment could be expected and the age of child the playground will primarily cater for. This can at times limit opportunities to achieve the best outcome for each particular space and community in terms of the renewal allowing the creation of a more multi-functional play space. The opportunity to consider drainage work or earthworks or other general park improvements to create a better space at the same time as the play equipment renewal would have a better long-term result in terms of the quality of the space and its range of use.

Community expectation has changed to anticipate more than just replacement of old and/or failing equipment (which is what the budget provides). Consistently, there are requests for associated improvements to the park such as paths, tree and amenity planting, shade and fencing.

A key issue is the implication of including amenity planting as part of the playground renewal. This is an important part of the concept of play spaces and familiarising children with nature play opportunities. This is something the community support, and research shows it will deepen the value of the space as a place to play. This work is not currently funded through the LTP. A tree, for example, could provide shade, be a place to play and beautify the area but there is currently no funding to provide the tree, a tree cage and to plant and maintain it for the first 5 years. Amenity planting often needs high maintenance, particularly if it is designed to be played in and amongst.

There is an identified need to address the accessibility of many of the Council’s playgrounds. As a result of the accessibility audit, opportunities to improve access are considered at the time of the playground renewal. This includes, for example, widening gate clearance to 1.2 metres, removing vehicle barriers that restrict pedestrian access, improving seating opportunities for carers, and improving paths and play equipment accessibility.

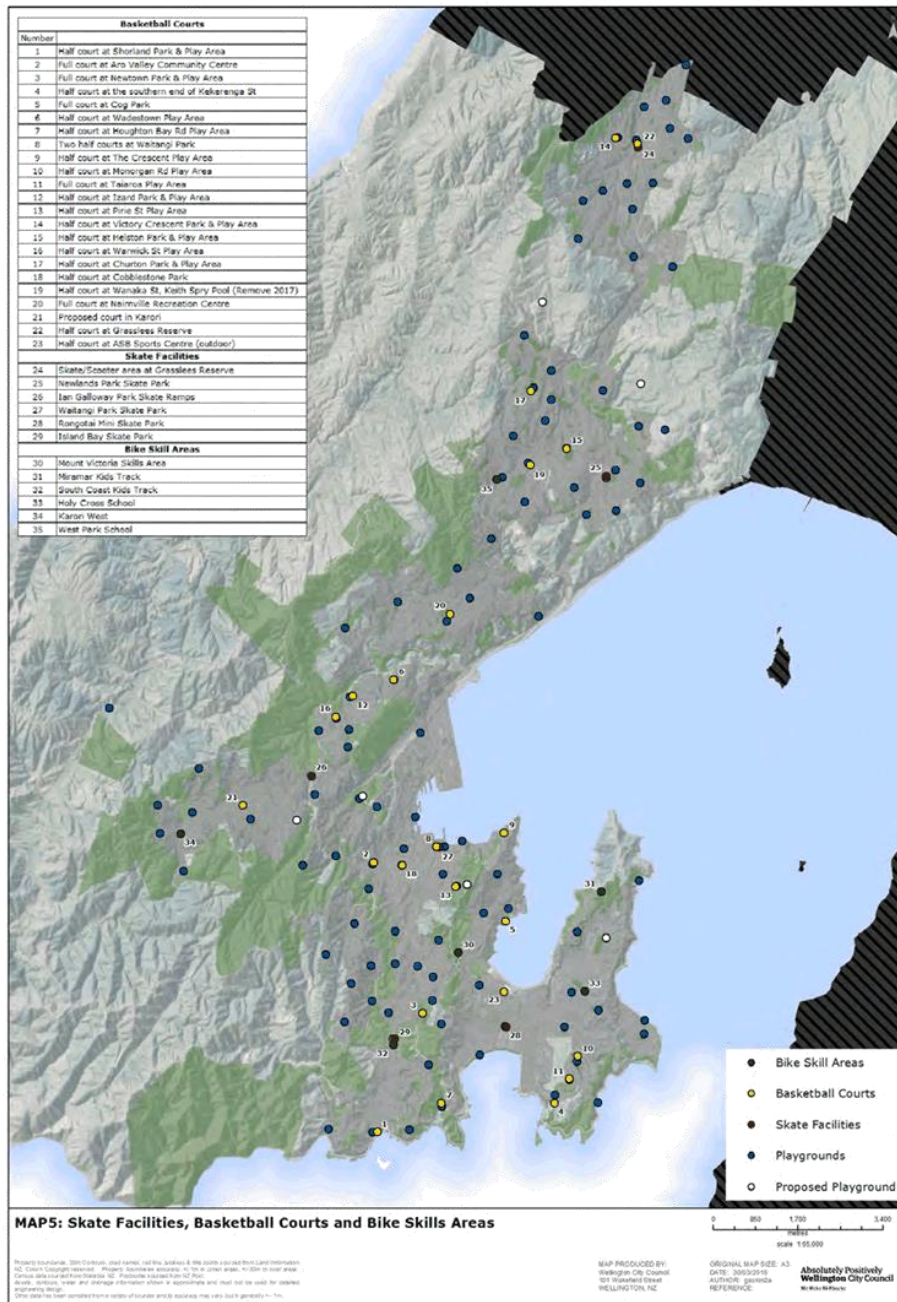
We know that people want different equipment in each playground so that they can go to a different area in the city and the playground will look and feel different.

Skate facilities, basketball courts and bike skills areas

There are seven skate facilities, six bike skills areas (including three in schools developed in partnership with the Council and the Bike On Charitable Trust) and 22 outdoor basketball courts (17 half and five full sized) available for public use. Map 5 shows these areas with a good spread across the city. There is no outdoor court provision in Karori.

How we manage skate facilities, basketball courts and bike skills areas

Maintenance is carried out on a reactive basis. Unlike playgrounds, however, these facilities don’t have a predicted “lifespan” in the same way as play equipment does. Changes are made in response to changing use over time (led by popularity and/or evolution of different sports) or repair of general wear and tear.



Other dedicated play space

There is a range of other dedicated play spaces around the city that are not part of the Council public playgrounds network, including:

- school playgrounds
- city housing playgrounds
- private facilities (shopping centres, retail stores, commercial play experience)
- private backyards.

Public accessibility to these varies but they all form part of the complete picture of play available to children and young people living in Wellington. Map 6 shows the range of “other” play spaces alongside the publically accessible Council network. Schools and backyards are particularly important as places where children spend large parts of their time each day.

The Children’s Garden is a new development at the Wellington Botanic Garden. It will demonstrate our dependence on plants and ecosystems and the services they provide. It will provide a unique opportunity to get children involved and encourage environmental and botanical awareness in future generations. It will provide an opportunity for interaction with nature that will help children feel more comfortable in their natural environment and will have a focus on learning through play.

There are regional opportunities for play, both free and at a cost, such as the regional parks and destination playgrounds. The recent Wellington Zoo developments provide a focus on play and nature connection and Zealandia also provides opportunity for play. Te Papa is a popular indoor play space.



Community involvement and school partnerships

Included in the 107 formal play spaces are three school playground partnerships. Each partnership was developed specifically for the situation and is therefore different. They provide for playgrounds on school and/or Council-owned land that are managed and maintained by the Council with renewal through joint funding. Makara School is open to the general public outside of school hours, while Amesbury Drive School and the Kipling Street play area are open to the public at all times, as the location of those allows use without disruption to the rest of the school.

The Council provides funding for bike skills areas in schools through the Bikes in Schools programme, which was piloted in 2015/2016. To date, West Park School, Karori West Normal School, and Holy Cross School have developed a fleet of new bikes and bike helmets, purpose-built riding tracks and bike storage facilities. The schools came up with ideas to make the track design and use safe, fun and unique to each school. They are open for community use outside school hours. The Council has allocated funding until June 2018 for 3 to 4 more schools to develop bike skills areas per year, in partnership with the Bike On Charitable Trust.

Community involvement in the development of plans varies depending on the scale of the playground development. A neighbourhood playground renewal, for example, will have plans posted on site and users can comment. The new playground development at Frank Kitts Park included in-depth and wide-reaching public engagement and consultation.

While survey results suggest the community wants to be more involved in maintenance and management of playgrounds, to date this has not occurred in any formal way and will be limited somewhat by strict health and safety requirements around play equipment and fall surfaces.

Incidental play space

Wellington City has endless opportunities for free play in the natural environment, with over 4207 hectares of open space, including Wellington Town Belt, the Outer Green Belt, coastal reserves, 250 neighbourhood park spaces, 43 sport and recreation parks, Wellington Botanic Garden, Otari-Wilton's Bush and 330 kilometres of tracks. This abundance of natural environments all close to the central city and residential areas is part of what makes Wellington unique.

"Just take your children outside, give them time, and let them play." – Karl Nolan, Botanic Garden Collection Curator.

Suburban areas and the central city also provide incidental play space. The Council has a responsibility in ensuring opportunities for play spaces are improved where possible in the public realm. The Bond Street activation project is a good example of "playful" design that encourages a range of people to use a street space in a whole new way, while the artificial turf in Civic Square has seen informal play become a major use of this space for all ages.

Play Spaces Policy & Action Plan

Vision

Wellington City's Play Spaces are a network of sometimes wild, always fun, diverse, safe and accessible places that foster growth and development of children and contribute towards building a healthy, active, connected city.

Strategic Priority 1: Provide a network of play spaces across the city

Policy 1 – The play space network

The Council will provide:

- 111 dedicated formal play spaces (playgrounds) – destination, community, neighbourhood, school partnerships (at 2015 there are 107)
- the Mount Victoria/Matairangi nature play trail
- the Children's Garden
- six formal skate/scooter facilities
- 22 outdoor basketball courts (16 half court, six full)
- six bike skills parks (both in parks and at schools)
- playgrounds at City Housing sites where children are living
- incidental play space across the city, both in parks and other public spaces.

Policy 2 – Dedicated play space (playgrounds)

The Council will provide a network of dedicated play space based on best practice provision analysis, nationwide comparison¹⁰, census data that suggests there will not be a significant increase in the number of children in Wellington in the next 20 years, and the knowledge that Wellingtonians believe the number of playgrounds in Wellington is "about right". Areas of higher density living, both existing and planned, have also been considered. Map 7 shows the proposed network of playgrounds by category.

The focus on an evenly spread network of a variety of high-quality¹¹, well-maintained spaces means that after accounting for the actions described below, there will be no more new formal playgrounds. This allows for approximately 70 percent of all Wellingtonians to be located within 600 metres of a neighbourhood playground, or 800 metres of a community or destination playground¹². Map 8 shows this distribution and walking catchment.

A relatively even spread of a mix of formal play opportunities across the city provides the best outcome for the most children, and young people now and into the future. This will be complemented by a play trail, skate/scooter facilities, outdoor half courts, bike skills areas, spaces provided by others (at schools, for example) and informal and incidental play opportunities that exist and will be improved throughout the city.

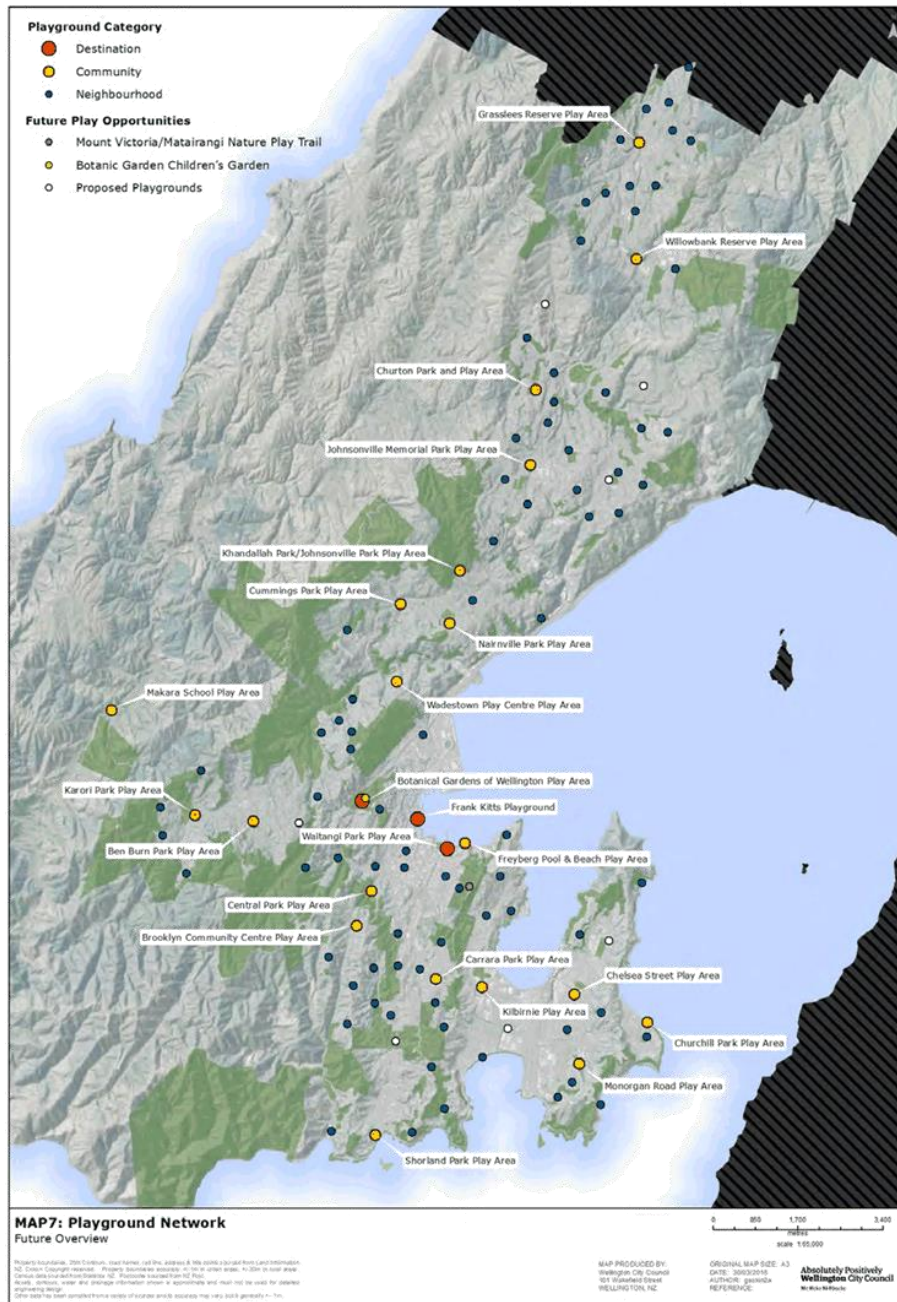
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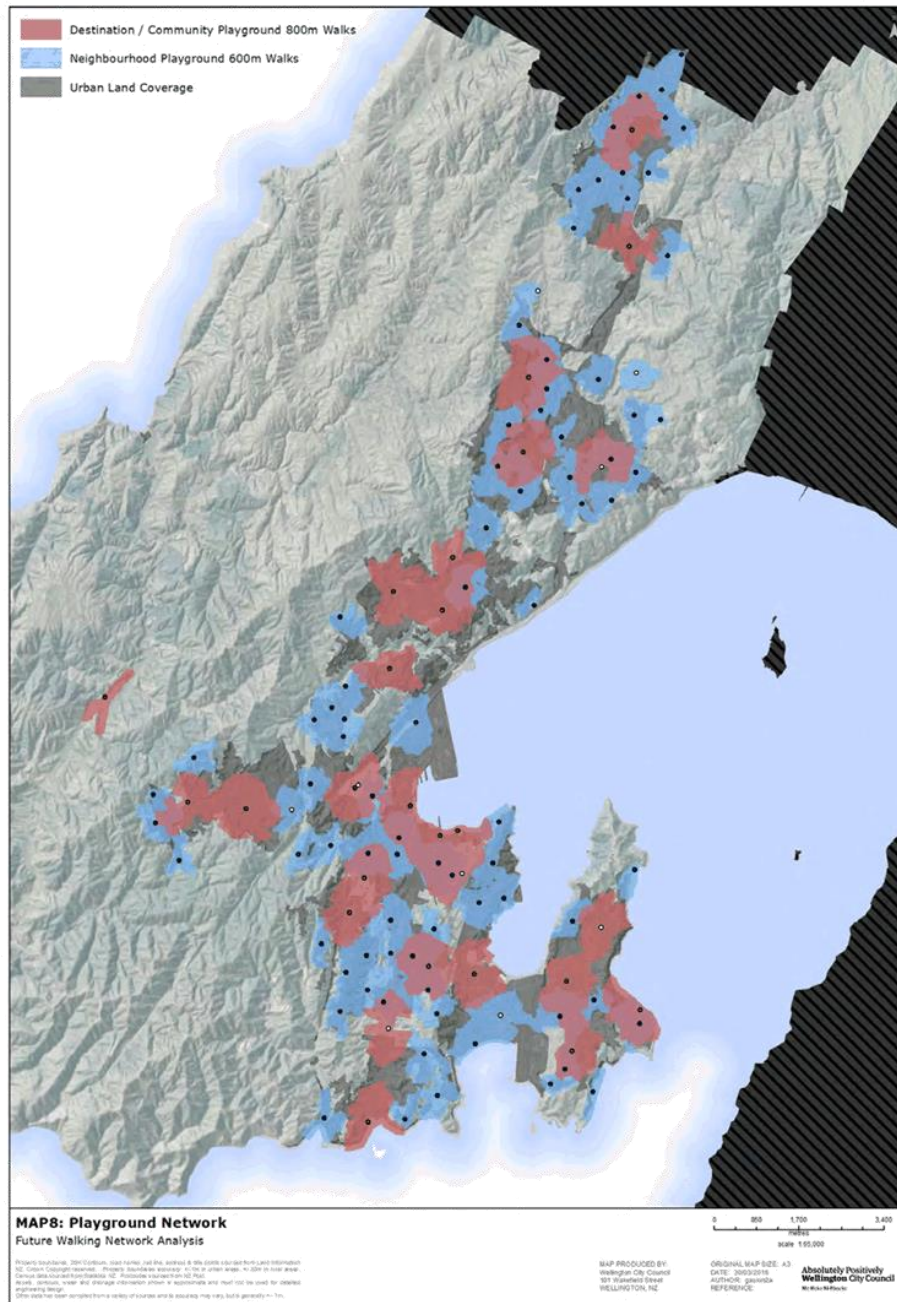
¹⁰ From a national benchmarking database (Yardstick) – the number of playgrounds per 1000 children.

¹¹ This does not equate to number of pieces of play equipment but the quality of the playspace as a whole.

¹² Up 4% from 66% with the inclusion of proposed new play spaces.

- 1) The following new playgrounds will be constructed to complete the network of dedicated playspace:
 - a community play space near or at Wakefield Park (Island Bay/Berhampore)
 - a community play space at Newlands Park
 - a neighbourhood play space at the city end of Karori
 - a neighbourhood play space at Kilbirnie.
- 2) The following new playgrounds will be constructed and funded by development contributions as part of future greenfield growth in the northern suburbs:
 - a community play space at Lincolnshire Farms and potential for a further neighbourhood play space between Lincolnshire Farms and Grenada North (at Hunters Hill)
 - a neighbourhood play space at Churton Park (Stebbings Valley).
- 3) The Miramar North and Kenmore Street neighbourhood play spaces will be retired at the time of development of a new community play space at Miramar Park and Newlands Park respectively.
- 4) Play equipment in the Nuku Street reserve and Burbank Crescent reserve will not be replaced when it reaches the end of its lifespan, as outlined in the Suburban Reserves Management Plan and Northern Reserves Management Plan respectively. In both cases, the land will remain reserve.
- 5) No other dedicated play space (playgrounds) will be closed unless there is a proposed partnership for a new playground (with a school, for example) or there is a proposal for a new playground nearby. The result is no reduction in the number of playgrounds in the network over time.
- 6) Opportunities for school partnerships will be investigated alongside proposals for new or replacement playgrounds.
- 7) Other than described above, no new playgrounds are proposed with a completed network of 111 in total. There may be a need to consider new play space in the longer term as greenfield development areas in the north of the city are planned and developed.






Policy 3 – Skate and scooter facilities

A network of six formal skate and/or scooter facilities will provide a spread across the city, ideally located within or near to community reserves where there are other recreation opportunities available (see Map 5). They are further spread apart as they serve a smaller user group than playgrounds and users can and do travel to a quality facility. The network will provide a good range of skate opportunities for different types of skating and different skill levels at each site.

Actions:

- 1) Skate facility provision in the eastern suburbs will be assessed to consider the need for, type and location of, a new skate facility or improvements to existing facilities.
- 2) The old skate ramp at Nairnville Park will be removed when it reaches the end of its serviceable life (within the next 3–5 years) as it is not well located. 

Policy 4 – Outdoor informal court space

The outdoor court network for informal play is also well spread around the city, providing a range of court spaces set in a variety of environments from suburban to inner city (see Map 5). As with skate/scooter facilities, there are fewer of them in total but they are well maintained and located within spaces that have other facilities for play and/or informal recreation.

Opportunities for an alternative location for the half court at Johnsonville will need to be explored when the existing one is removed as part of the proposed library development plans. There is no outdoor facility in Karori. The need and feasibility of a new one will also be considered. In both cases school partnerships will be considered.

Actions:

- 1) A new half court will be provided in Karori (potentially through community or school partnership).
- 2) Consider the need for an alternative outdoor court space when the Johnsonville Wanaka Street site is closed.
- 3) The fenced court space at Nairnville Park will be resurfaced and basketball hoops installed to broaden use of that space for informal play, particularly for youth.

Policy 5 – Bike skills areas

The bike skills areas provide for learn to ride spaces and are located as shown on Map 5. Any new projects will be led by community initiatives or the Bikes in Schools Programme. The Open Space Access Plan outlines new initiatives for easy mountain bike tracks.

Actions:

- 1) The Council will continue with the Bikes in Schools programme partnerships, subject to securing ongoing funding.
- 2) A new skills area is already proposed at Karori Park (close to the Mud Cycles shop) to support other track developments at Karori Park and Makara Peak.

Policy 6 – Nature play trails

The Mount Victoria/Matairangi nature play trail will be a different experience to the traditional playground and will foster and encourage nature connection through play for a range of age groups.

Actions:

- 1) Construction of the Mount Victoria/Matairangi nature play trail will begin in 2016/2017.

Page: 29

Number: 1	Author: knottg	Subject: Sticky Note	Date: 19/09/2016 3:21:04 p.m. +12'00'
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Can we get a new vert ramp at Ian Galloway added to this list?

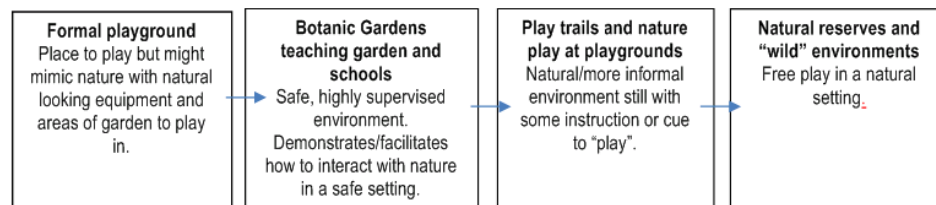
Strategic Priority 2: Provide high-quality, fit-for-purpose play space

Policy 1 - Play space principles

Wellington's outdoor play spaces are:

- expertly designed and firmly grounded by play theory to inform age appropriate equipment and space
- designed to reflect the site context expressing iwi/cultural, environmental or other community stories and values – contribute to “sense of place”
- accessible and inclusive
- multifunctional space whenever possible and may not incorporate a formal playground or play equipment
- high quality, well built and well maintained
- fun, varied and interesting with opportunity for age appropriate risk
- designed and built to encourage nature connection whenever possible
- found in a range of settings, from remote, natural parks to neighbourhood parks and suburban streets to the inner city streets and urban spaces
- evenly spread around the whole city
- well promoted and easy to find
- adequately funded.

The Council will promote nature connection in play spaces, recognising the continuum of opportunity and making the most of opportunity whenever possible to deepen the benefits of the play experience.



Policy 2 - A guide to dedicated play space categories

The Council will provide three categories of dedicated play space (playground) spread throughout the city, as illustrated on Map 7. Appendix 2 lists the playgrounds by category. The following table provides a guide to the considerations for each type that will inform development of the play space.

	Play equipment	Types of informal play opportunities	Types of visitor and caregiver amenities	Catchment areas
Destination play space A premium playground that attracts residents, visitors and tourists. Users may stay for 2 hours or more	Play opportunities for multiple age groups Regionally unique and a celebration of place	Kick-about area Spaces to gather and meet Informal court space (eg basketball half court) Natural landscape features May have art installations or hard landscape features that offer opportunities for play Located in spaces where there are opportunities for informal and incidental play and interaction with the natural environment	Picnic tables and seats Drinking water Lighting Rubbish bins Central city location Shelter/shade over some of the play equipment and other areas of the play space provided by structures and/or trees Car parking Toilets	The whole city and Wellington Region Centrally located and easy to get to with connections to public transport routes, and linked to pedestrian pathways and cycle ways where possible
Community play space Enough activities to keep children and/or youth aged people entertained for at least an hour	Play opportunities for a range of age groups Unique or with a point of difference to other community playgrounds around the city	Kick-about area May have informal court space (eg basketball half court) Spaces to gather and meet and to engage in different types of play (eg both active play and relaxation/quiet contemplative play) Natural landscape features Where possible, designed to encourage exploration of the natural environment such as steps to a stream or a path to the bush or the beach Amenity planting and planted areas that are designed and located to be played in or on Include opportunities for nature play	Picnic tables and seats May have a barbecue Drinking water at park or nearby Security lighting where appropriate Rubbish bins Shade/shelter over some of the play equipment and other areas of the play space provided by structures and/or trees Car parking Toilets at park or nearby (may have limited open hours) Paths to connect to the wider neighbourhood and provide access to the play equipment area	Service the immediate neighbourhood and local community within approximately 800-metre walking distance Ideally located in community parks or near neighbourhood centres.
Neighbourhood play space Handy place for a quick play	Play opportunities for at least one age group (ideally junior children as a minimum). Size of site may constrain the amount of equipment Nature play and kick-about space will be considered to broaden play experience alongside swings/ slides for example	Natural landscape features and opportunities for nature play Amenity planting and/or semi-natural areas that are designed and/or managed for play Spaces to play in groups, as individuals or for a common purpose. May have kick about area	May have shade provided by trees Seats Paths to play equipment where possible	Service local neighbourhood within approx. 600-metre walking distance Likely to be located in neighbourhood parks

Policy 3 – Standards for all dedicated play space (playgrounds)

The following standards will apply to all Wellington playgrounds to ensure they are high quality and fit for purpose:

- NZS 5828: 2015¹³, Playground Surfacing and Equipment is adhered to
- CPTED principles are incorporated in design and location decision making and upgrade project briefs
- dogs are not allowed
- smoking is not permitted within 10 metres of playgrounds or as determined by the Smokefree Environment Policy
- whenever practicable they are inclusive, enabling children and young people of different abilities and with different types of impairment¹⁴ to play with and alongside other children
- new playgrounds and upgrades aim to reduce and eliminate social and physical barriers to access for children and their caregivers, considering people with disabilities as well as parents with children in prams and older people with an age-related decrease in mobility or sensory abilities
- they are creatively and professionally designed and built with a point of difference that makes them unique
- they are well managed and maintained.

Policy 4 – Dedicated play space renewal and new development (playgrounds)

There are four issues to consider when planning for renewals: how often each space is renewed, growth in the network (eg an increase from 107 to 111 over the next 10–20 years), how much each renewal will cost, and order of renewal.

The Council will renew playgrounds based on an average lifespan of equipment of approximately 25 years. While this is longer than the regional comparison of 15 years, a focus on spending more at each renewal rather than shortening renewal times will enable each site to be developed as a high-quality play space. A 25-year renewal cycle for 111 playgrounds will deliver approximately 4–5 renewals per year.

Critical to getting the most from the newly improved play spaces is establishing the appropriate maintenance regime, in particular for amenity planting and nature play areas.

Actions:

- 1) The playgrounds network will be renewed based on a 25 year lifespan at approximately 4–5 per year. Renewals order will be determined by regular inspection as it is anticipated that some may last longer than 25 years and others will be shorter depending on design, use and environmental conditions.
- 2) Each renewal will include play equipment as well as other necessary improvements (for example, drainage, fencing, paths, earthworks, kick-about area, hard and soft landscaping and nature play areas) to broaden the play experience at each site and as described by the playground category guide.
- 3) The need for public toilets at or near Monorgan Road play space as part of the Strathmore facilities review in 2017/18 will be investigated, in light of this being in the community play space category.

¹³ At the time of writing the Draft Play Spaces Policy the current standard is NZS 5828:2004 however on 9/12/2016 NZS 5828: 2015 will supercede the 2004 version.

¹⁴ 'Impairments' include physical, sensory, neurological, psychiatric, intellectual & any other impairment & encompass people with permanent, intermittent, temporary and perceived impairments (excerpt from WCC Accessible Wellington Action Plan 2012–2015).

- 4) Order of renewal will be determined by the regular inspections regime as it is anticipated that some play space may last longer than 25 years and others less (in a coastal environment or high use space for example).

Policy 5 – Skate and scooter facilities management

The number and mix of type of skate facilities across the city is currently suitable to cater for the needs of the skate community. Diversifying the use and improving the quality of the network over time will maximise use of these facilities.

Actions:

- 1) A programme for “minor improvements” to each of the six facilities will be developed to diversify use (catering for different skill levels) and make them fit for purpose. Opportunities to separate skate and scooter use will be considered at each site.
- 2) Community and/or club partnerships to develop new facilities or for significant upgrades will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Decision making will be based on needs assessment and effects of the proposal on the site and on other users and on the wider park values.

Policy 6 – Outdoor informal court space management

The range and number of court facilities (including planned improvement to the network discussed above) is considered appropriate for the needs of Wellingtonians. The existing network of outdoor court space for informal use will be good quality and fit for purpose.

Policy 7 – Bike skills management

The Bikes in Schools programme includes ongoing management and maintenance by the schools. The Council's bike skills areas are managed and maintained as part of the public tracks network.

Policy 8 – Nature play trails management

The Mount Victoria/Matairangi nature play trail is a new initiative and one that has not been provided by the Council before as part of the network of play spaces throughout the city.

Action:

- 1) The success of the new play experience will be monitored. Any future nature play trails will be subject to consideration during future long-term plan or annual plan process.

Strategic Priority 3: Community and school partnerships

Schools play a key role in the provision of additional dedicated formal and informal play space but are not a substitute for fully publicly accessible playgrounds.

Schools do not have a mandate to provide their grounds or their play equipment to the general public (although most currently do and encourage after hours use). The potential for closure or limits to public access to schools is also a risk in relying on schools as providers of open space.

The Council has entered into three partnerships with schools to build new playgrounds that benefit the school and the wider community.

Partnerships Policy

The network of existing and planned playgrounds is now at a point where there is a good spread across the city. Any new partnerships with schools will be where there is an existing school and Council playground close by and there is an advantage in combining the playground either on the reserve or at the school. Partnerships will not be considered that result in additional playgrounds.

School partnerships will also be considered where there is opportunity for shared outdoor court space for informal play, particularly for youth. Any partnership will again be where there is an existing Council reserve nearby or adjacent.

There is the potential for other community groups to play an ongoing role in the care of play space and wider park environments, as some already do. Health and safety requirements for play equipment installation and maintenance will limit community involvement in the actual play space equipment.

The community can and will continue to contribute to development plans for new playgrounds and renewal plans.

Strategic Priority 4: The city as a play space

Opportunities to encourage incidental play throughout the city are considered in planning, design, construction, upgrade and management of all public space. This includes:

- park space
- road corridors
- inner city public places, such as Civic Square and laneways
- the waterfront.

All upgrades to public space should consider opportunities for incidental play space and celebrate the notion of the city as a play space. The nature of incidental play is that it occurs in places not specifically dedicated for play and is engaged in by all ages. Often a playful design theme or subtle cue is all that is needed to encourage play.

Suburban areas also have opportunities for incidental play space including along the road reserve network – particularly on routes where children walk to school. Generous road corridor width with a high proportion of road reserve space as compared to formed road surface can sometimes provide an opportunity for safe use of this space. Road corridors also offer opportunities for street planting that provides seasonal interest or sensory stimulus (touch/smell/sound).

Action:

- 1) Opportunities for development of a network of five skateable “spots” around central Wellington (either standalone projects and/or as part of other urban renewal work) will be explored through an assessment of potential spaces and through inclusion of skate opportunity in the design brief for all new public space upgrades.

Strategic Priority 5: Programming and advocacy for outdoor play

Delivery of programmes (by the Council and in partnership with other agencies) and advocacy that promotes the value and importance of outdoor play will help get more children and young people outdoors, active and healthy and using the range of play spaces the city has to offer. Programming and advocacy will help deliver on broadening the opportunities for play in Wellington making the city more child and youth friendly¹⁵.

Providing children and young people with the space and time to play outdoors is a key message.

Actions:

- 1) The Council will explore the following initiatives to promote the value of play and what Wellington has to offer as a play space:

¹⁵ Wellington City Council is a signatory to the Child & Youth Friendly Cities initiative.

- supporting community groups in development of initiatives (eg play streets, nature play groups, community sensory/edible gardens, wayfinding for new users)
 - temporary interventions (eg pop-up streets, engagement events, tactical urbanism, nature play networks)
 - promotion of skating and parkour as activity that benefits participants and the city
 - providing City Housing and apartment residents with information about their local play spaces, eg a local play spaces map in their tenancy pack
 - making playable space a consideration in the design of every new project (eg civic spaces, neighbourhood parks, streetscapes) to help make Wellington a child and youth friendly city
 - providing good quality easy to access, digital, print and on-site information about play spaces across the city
 - explore emerging play experience opportunities, such as digital playgrounds for example, where it provides high quality play experience and can sustain high levels of public engagement
 - supporting schools and parents of new entrants – could emphasise the value of free and outdoor play and where they can do it in their neighbourhood and wider Wellington
 - supporting schools through knowledge sharing around playground best practice design and management and to improve the play opportunities network across Wellington.
- 2) Work with Sport New Zealand to assist them in their role to advocate at central government level on the value of play and associated cross sector benefits – health, education, social for example.

Page: 35

Number: 1 Author: knottg Subject: Sticky Note Date: 13/09/2016 5:27:19 p.m. +12'00'
Could these be separate bullet points?

Item 3.1 Attachment 1

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Play spaces theory and age appropriate activity guide

Play types	Description
Cognitive play	Include activities that challenge the intellect; games of strategy exploration and observation, and games that use and develop language.
Creative play	Creative play includes sand play, play in dirt, play with loose and found objects, play with art materials, making music, cubby building and construction activities.
Social/dramatic play	Social play includes role-play, imaginative play, small and large group activities, "hanging around" and talking, and traditional games.
Physical active play	Active play includes running, hanging, climbing, experiencing height, agility/gymnastics activities, sliding, jumping, balancing, swinging, crawling, bouncing, spinning, rocking, ball games, skipping and perceptual motor activity ¹⁶ . Age appropriate opportunities for risk taking.

Age appropriate activity guide

Age group	Play space activity
Toddlers (approx. 0–3yrs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play centres around the carer • Crawling • Running and rolling down gentle slopes • Climbing on very low level changes • Gentle rocking • Manipulation of tactile materials such as sand • Interaction with natural elements and wildlife (eg birds)
Junior children (approx. 3–7yrs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play is more child directed mainly with adults in attendance • Climbing • Running • Agility skills • Skipping and ball play • Settings for dramatic play and/or imaginative use of loose materials, eg sand, water, vegetation • Collecting things • Small-scale areas for riding bicycles and skateboards and mastering other skills

¹⁶ Play Category information taken from 'Palmerston City Council Playground Strategy' September 2010, SLI consulting group – based on The Playgrounds and Recreation Association of Victoria (PRAV) "Play Area Development Policy for Local Government in Victoria" (June 2011).

Older children
(approx. 8–12yrs)

- Highly varied play, potentially unsupervised
- Desire for physical challenges
- Spaces for riding bicycles and skateboards and mastering other skills
- Social gathering spaces and places for games with made up rules
- More complicated manipulation of the natural environment

Youth
(approx. 13–24)

- Great desire to master new skills and games
 - Testing physical challenge
 - Competition
 - Thrill seeking
 - Parading and socialising
 - Mucking around
 - "Play" on equipment not designed for play or use of play equipment in ways it was not designed for¹⁷
-

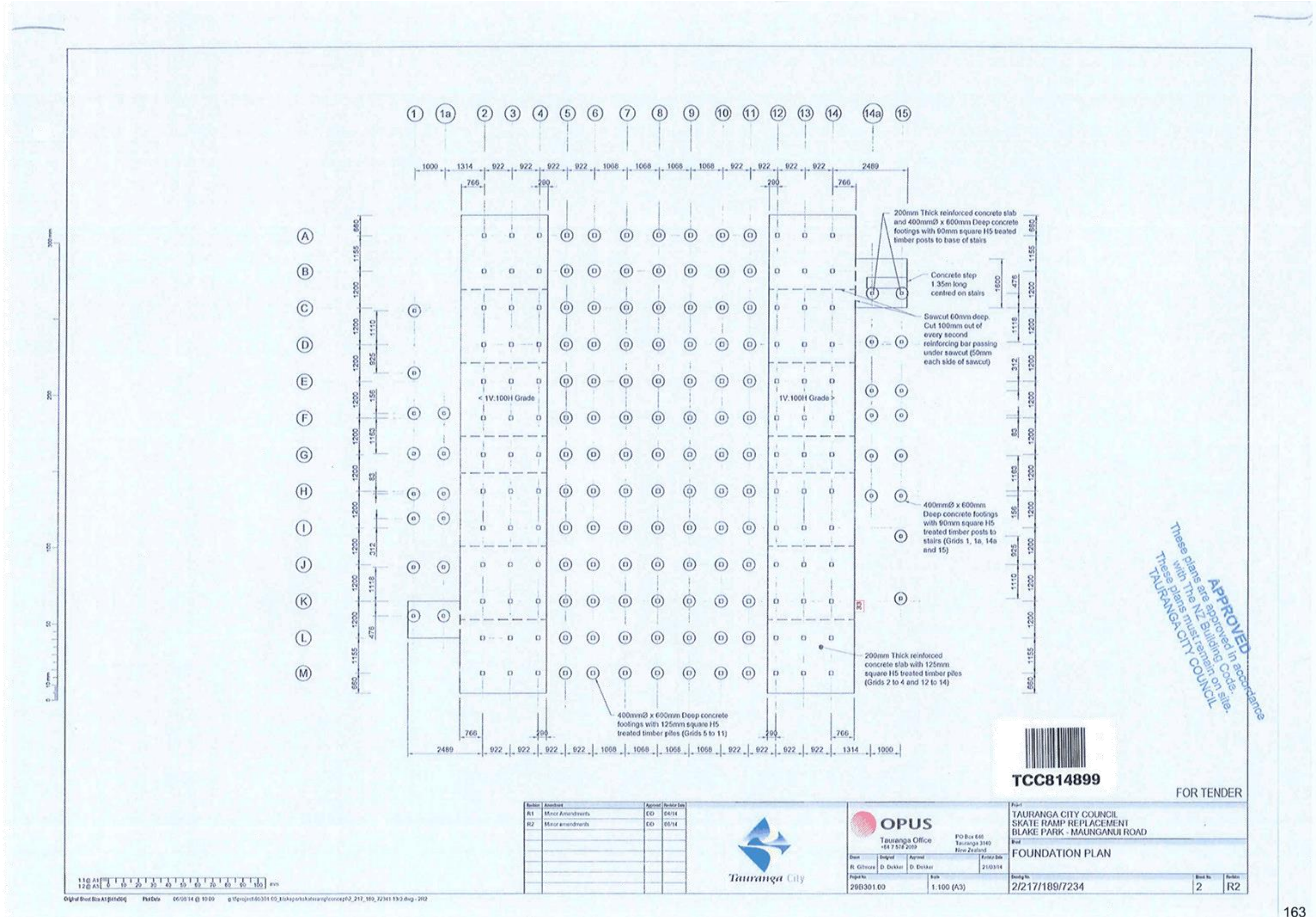
¹⁷ Adapted from 'The Royal Parks Play Strategy 2015-2020'.

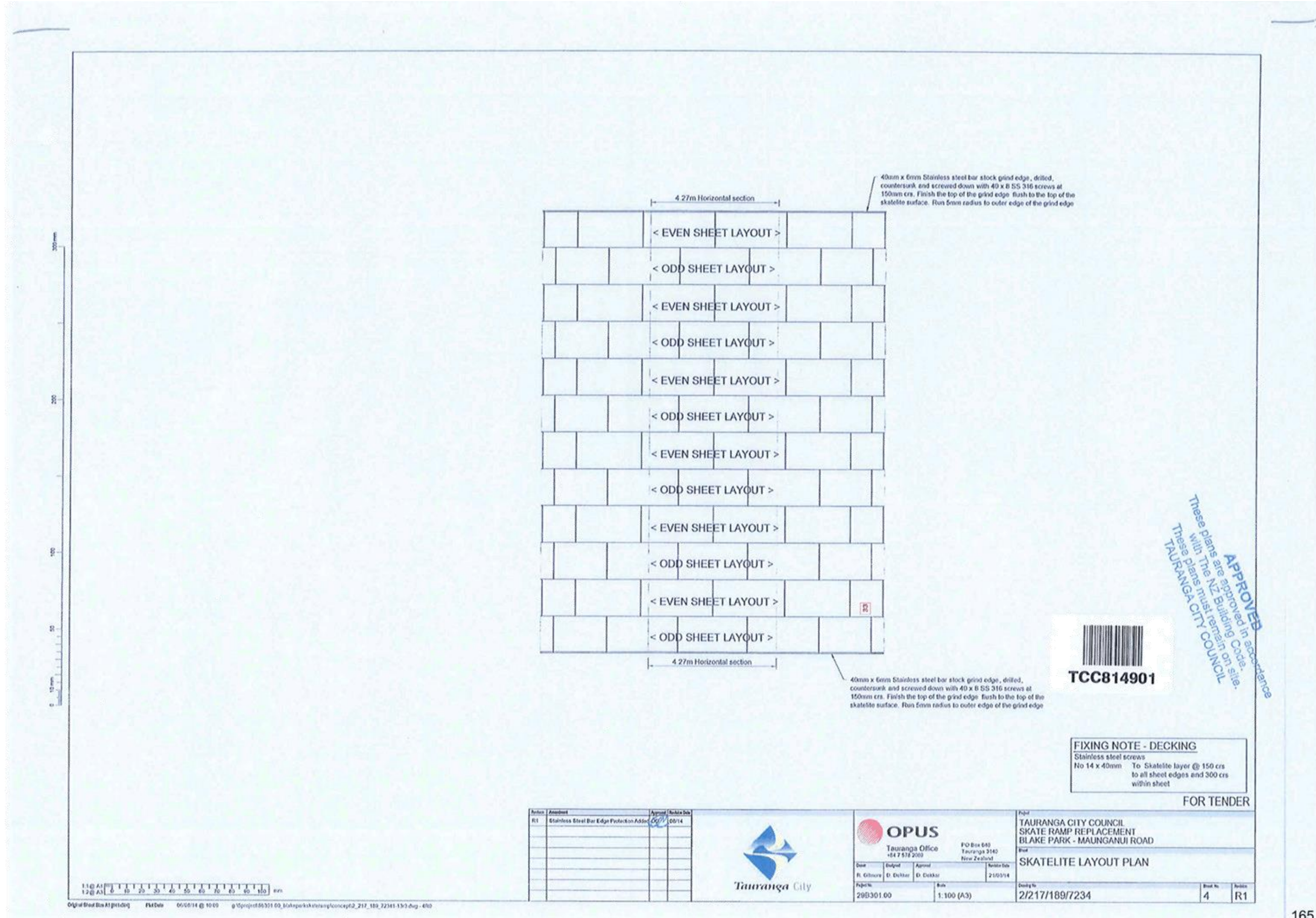
Appendix 2 - Play spaces by category

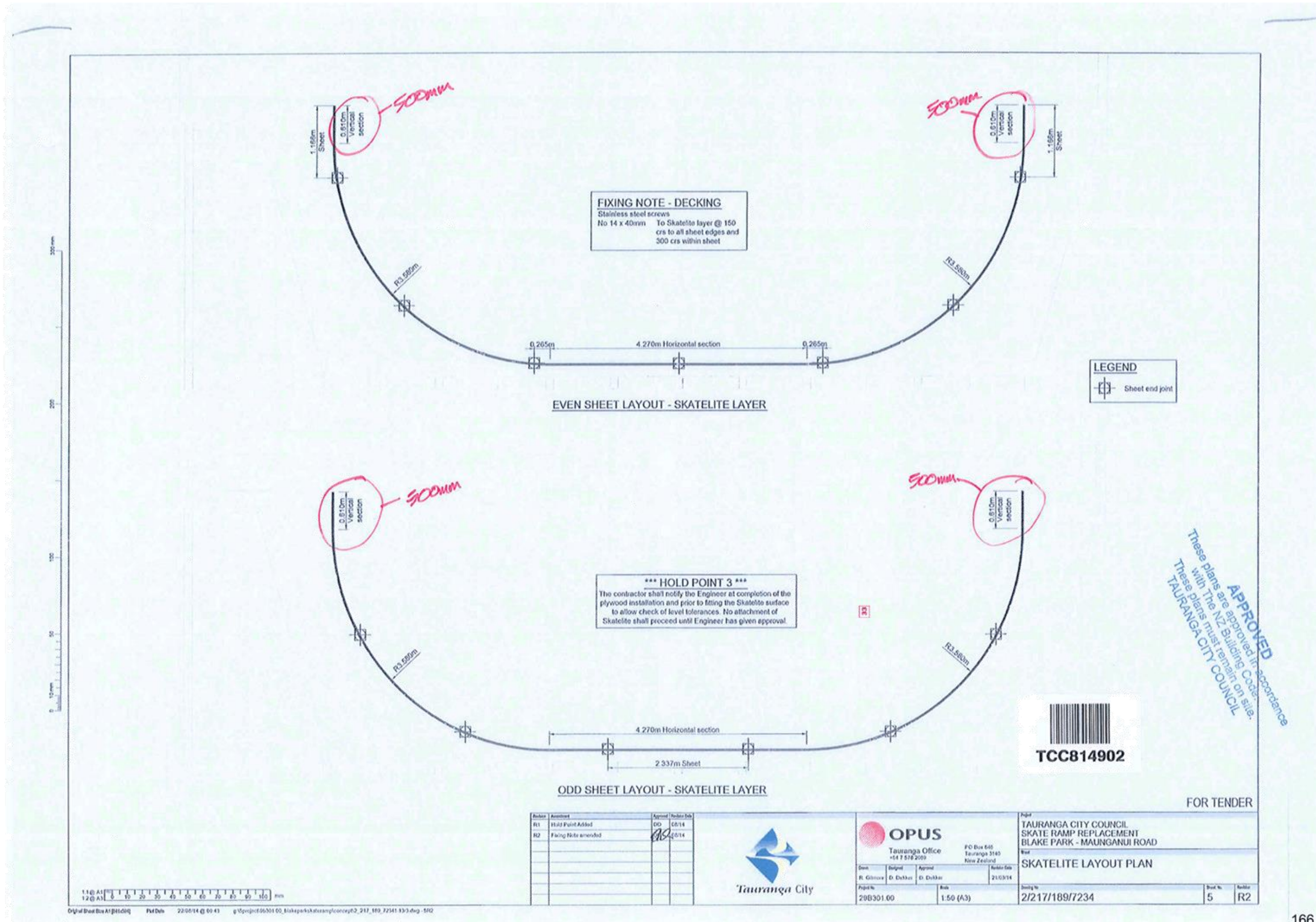
Destination play space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wellington Botanic Garden Frank Kitts Park Waitangi Park
Community play space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grasslees Reserve Willowbank Park Churton Park and Play Area Newlands Park (proposed) Johnsonville Memorial Park Khandallah Park/Johnsonville Park Play Area Cummings Park Nairville Park Wadestown Play Centre Play Area Makara School Play Area Karori Park Ben Burn Park Freyberg Pool & Beach Play Area Central Park Brooklyn Community Centre Play Area Carrara Park Wakefield Park (proposed) Shorland Park Kilbirnie Park Monorgan Road Play Area Churchill Park Chelsea Street Play Area Miramar Park (proposed)
Neighbourhood play space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All others

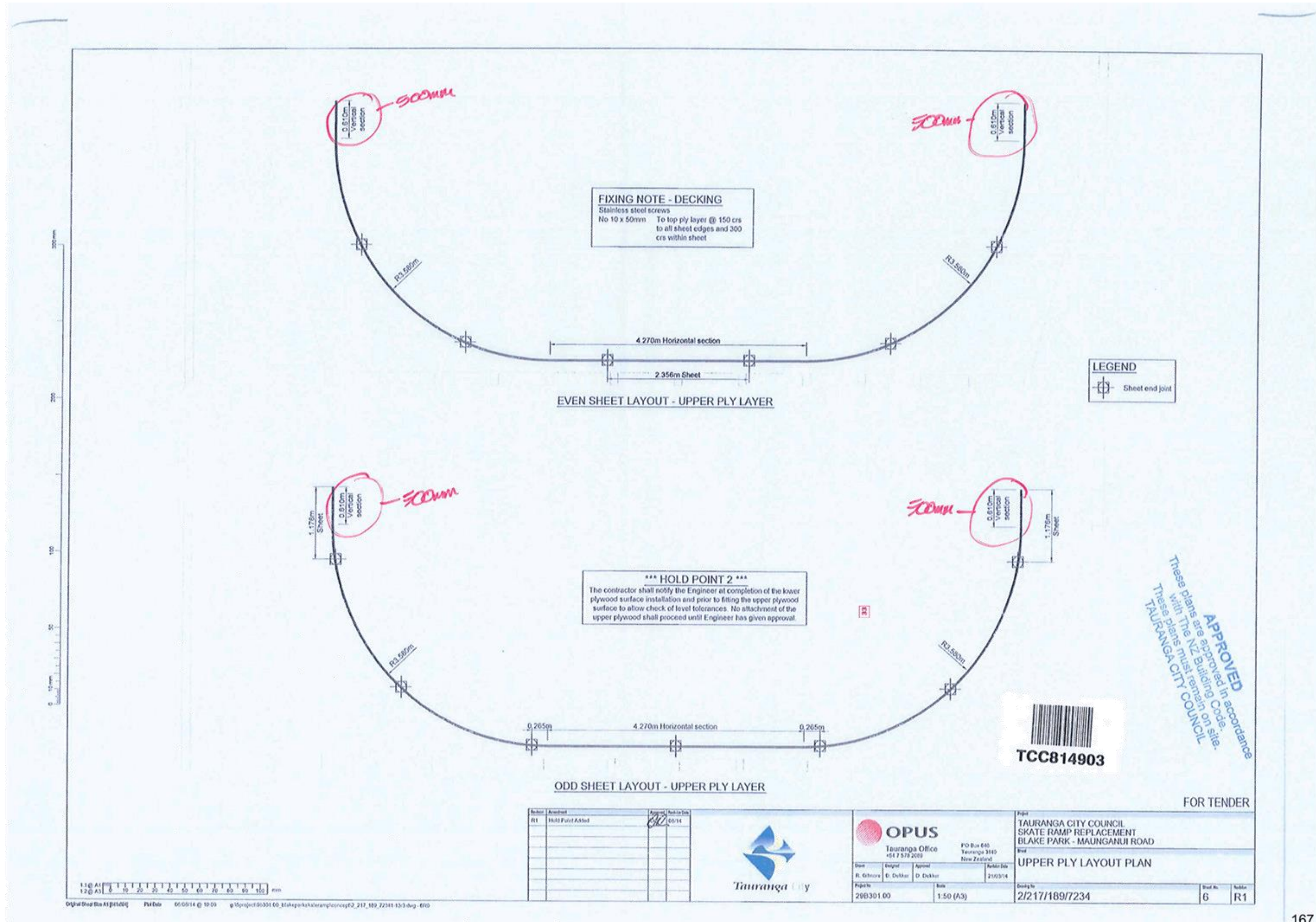
Item 3.1 Attachment 1

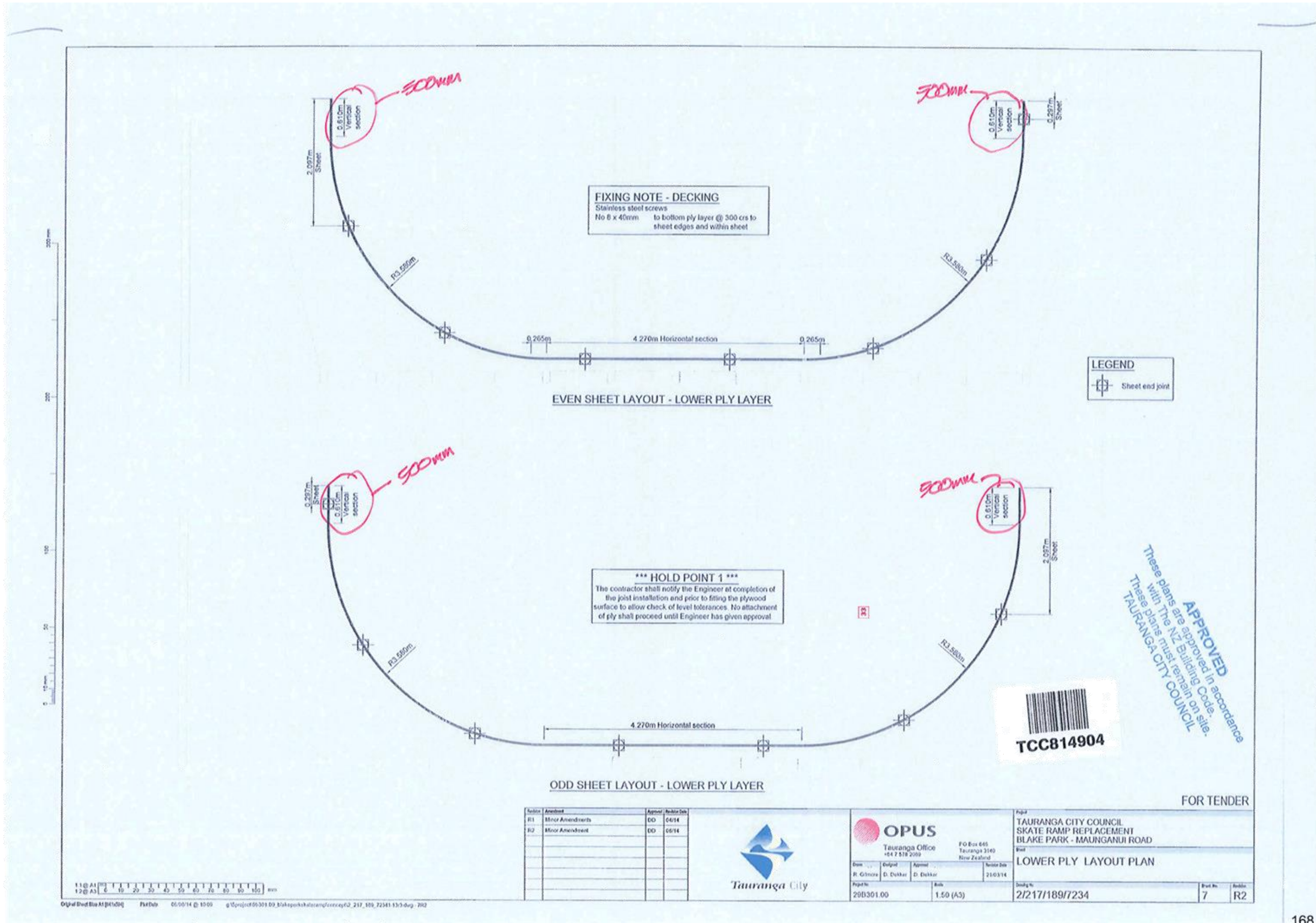


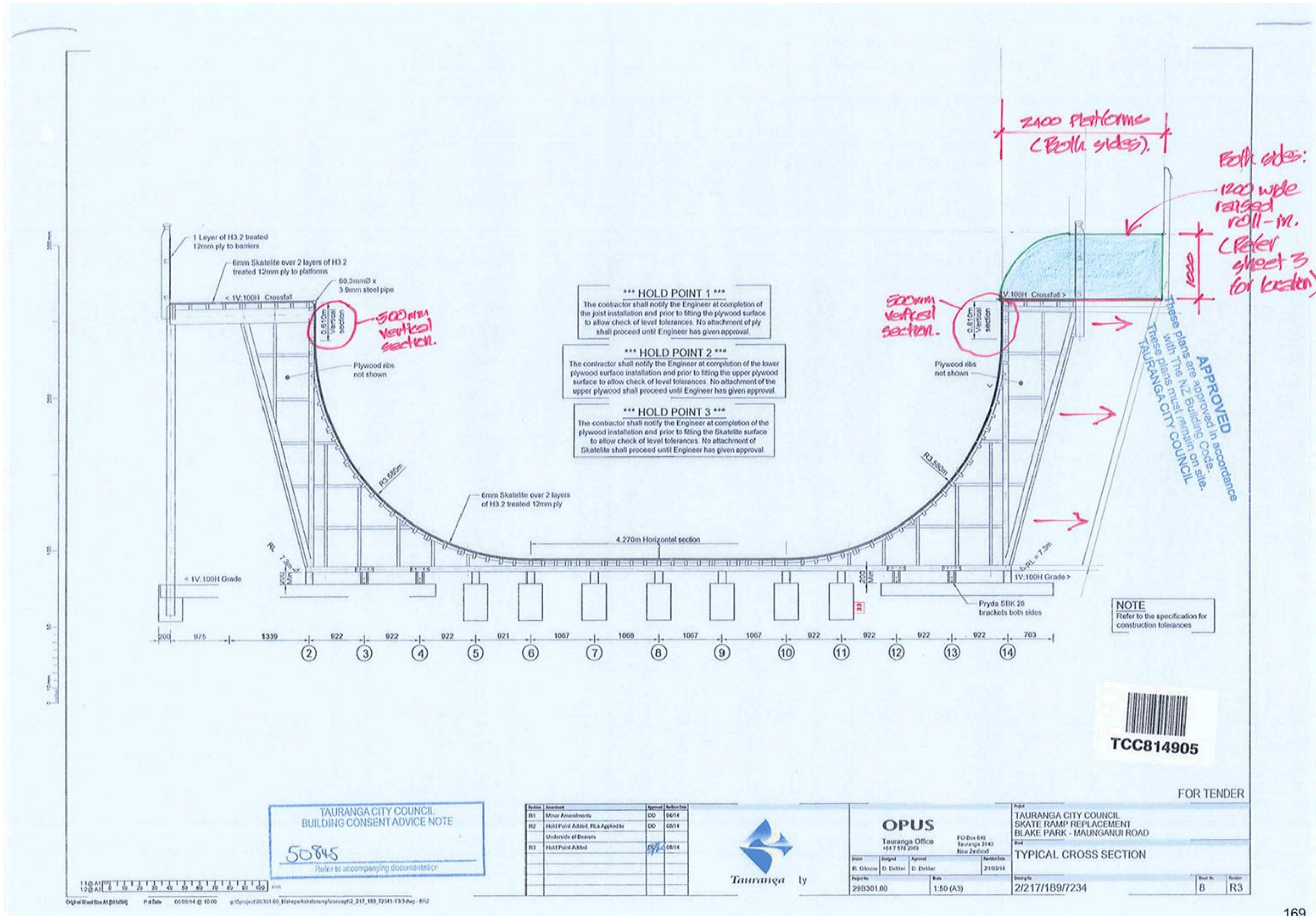


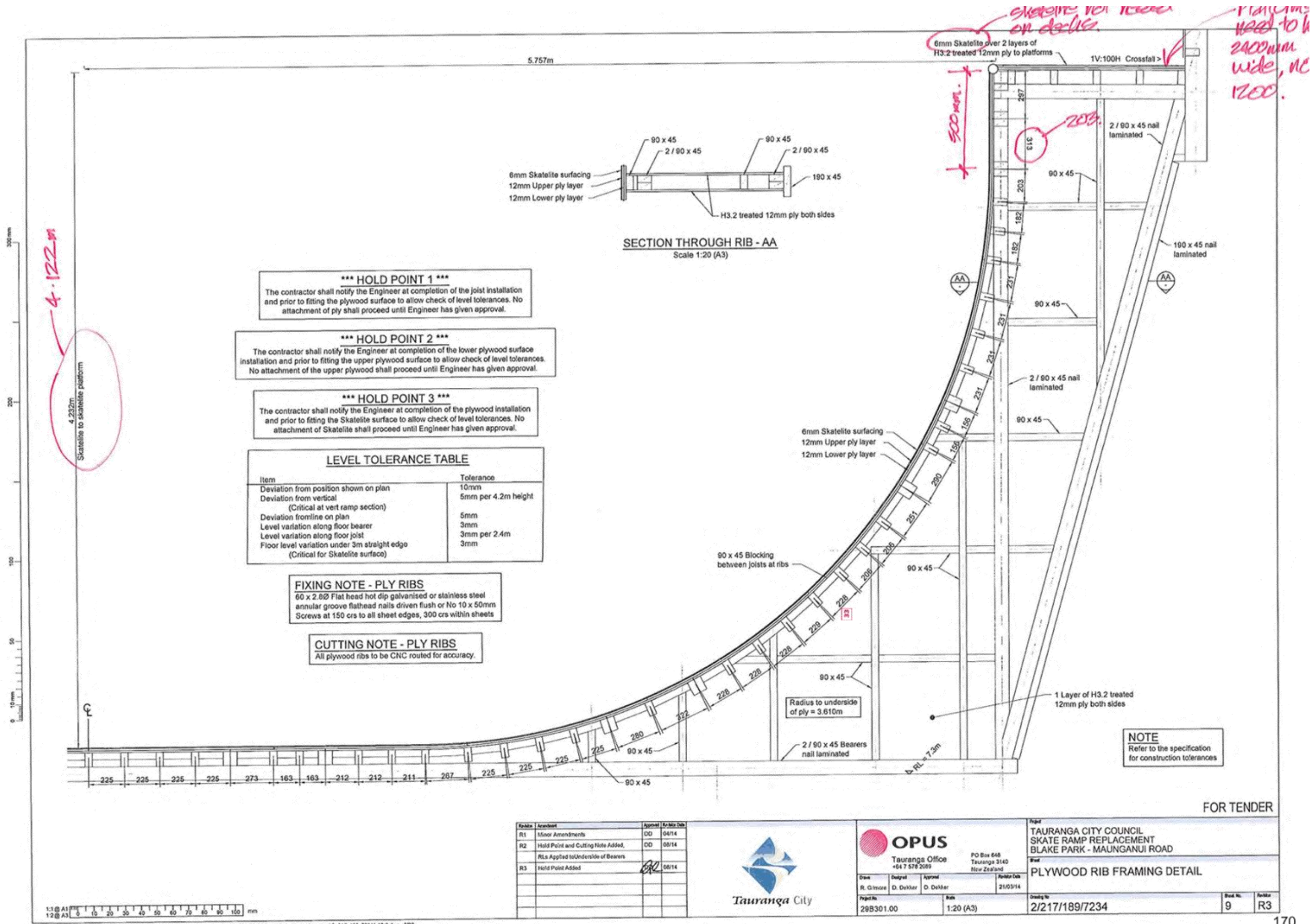


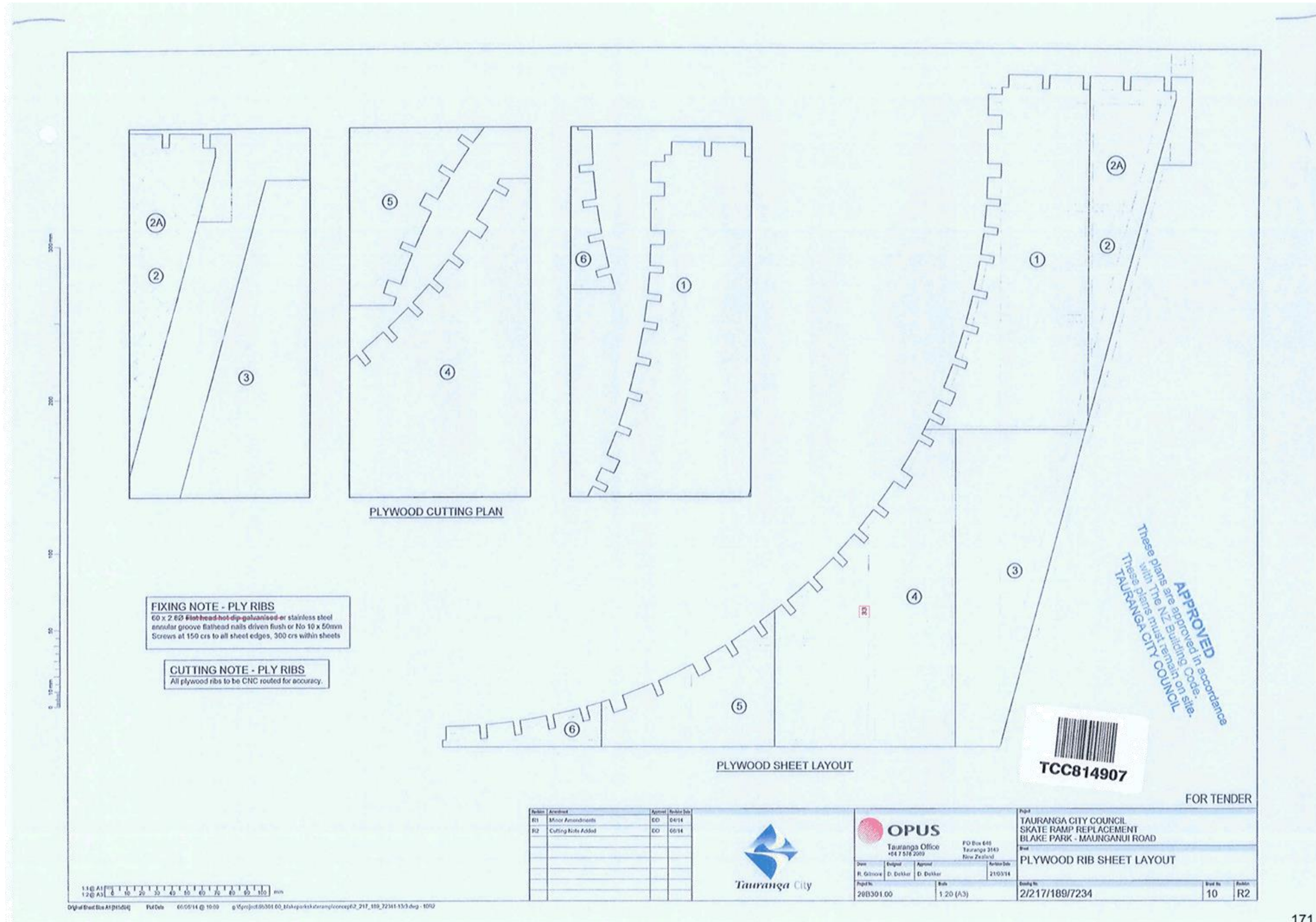


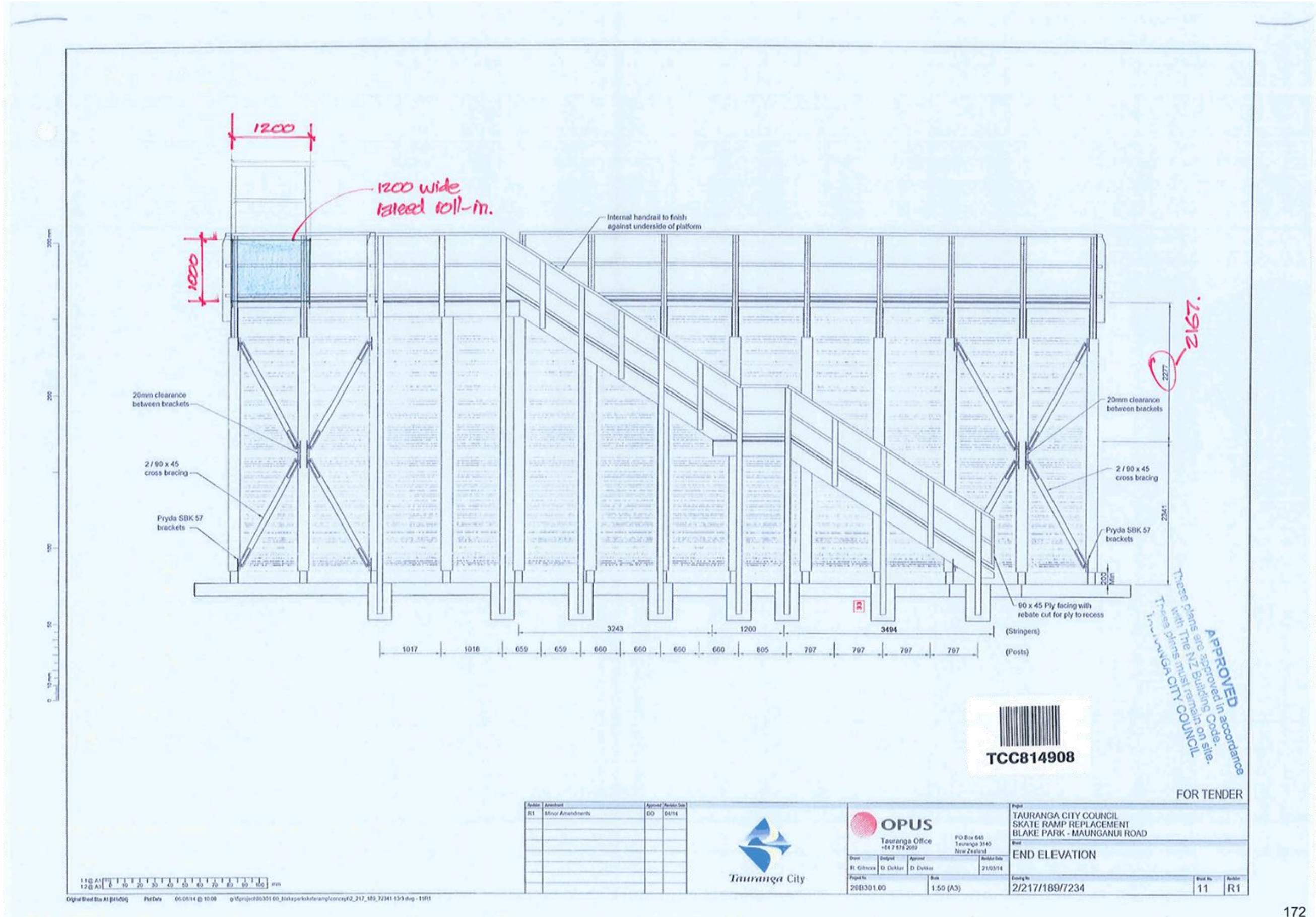












PLATFORM RETURN HANDRAIL CONNECTION
Scale 1:10 (A3)

PLATFORM RETURN HANDRAIL CONNECTION SECTION DD
Scale 1:10 (A3)

BRACE CONNECTION DETAIL
Scale 1:10 (A3)

STAIR / HANDRAIL CONNECTION
Scale 1:10 (A3)

COPING JOINT DETAIL - 300mm FROM RIB
Scale 1:5 (A3)

COPING CONNECTION DETAIL
Scale 1:5 (A3)

COPING CONNECTION DETAIL SECTION FF
Scale 1:5 (A3)

HANDRAIL DETAIL - PLATFORM
Scale 1:20 (A3)

HANDRAIL DETAIL - STAIRS & LANDING
Scale 1:20 (A3)

APPROVED
These plans are approved in accordance with the NZ Building Code.
These plans must remain on site.
TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL

TCC814909

FOR TENDER

Revis	Amend	Appr'd	Issue Date
R1	Minor Amendments	DD	04/14
R2	Amendments to Handrail Detail - Stairs & Landing	DD	04/14

		OPUS Tauranga Office +64 7 578 2000 PO Box 645 Tauranga 3140 New Zealand	Tauranga City Council SKATE RAMP REPLACEMENT BLAKE PARK - MAUNGANUI ROAD Typical Details SHEET 1 of 2
Drawn: R. Glines Design: D. Dukker Appr'd: D. Dukker Project No: 298301.00	Checker: D. Dukker Date: 21/03/14 Scale: 1:20	Drawing No: 2/217/189/7234 Sheet No: 12 Total Sheets: R2	

Original File: A1 (P1) (04) P1.dwg
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05/05/14 @ 10:09 g:\projects\050301_00_MakapuuSkateramp\concept2_217_189_7234\13-3.dwg - 1282

FOUNDATION DETAIL - CONCRETE SLAB
Scale 1:20 (A3)

FOUNDATION DETAIL - CONCRETE SLAB
Scale 1:20 (A3)

FOUNDATION DETAIL - CONCRETE FOOTING
Scale 1:20 (A3)

STRINGER CONNECTION TO SLAB DETAIL - NORTH END
Scale 1:20 (A3)

STRINGER CONNECTION TO SLAB DETAIL - SOUTH END
Scale 1:20 (A3)

STAIR DETAIL - UPPER FLIGHT
Scale 1:10 (A3)

STAIR DETAIL - UPPER FLIGHT SECTION EE
Scale 1:10 (A3)

STAIR DETAIL - LOWER FLIGHT
Scale 1:10 (A3)

STAIR DETAIL - LOWER FLIGHT SECTION GG
Scale 1:10 (A3)

NOTES - GENERAL

1. Read structural drawings with all other contract drawings and the specification. Notify and discrepancy and obtain instructions before proceeding.
2. Contractor to confirm location and level of underground services prior to foundation, piling or excavation works. Notify any conflicts with the designed works and obtain instructions before proceeding.
3. Check & verify existing dimensions and levels on site before commencing construction or off-site fabrication.
4. All grade 300 reinforcement shall comply with AS / NZS 4671
5. D12 250 Denotes 12mm diameter Grade 300E deformed bars at 250mm centres.
6. Unless otherwise indicated, provide sawcuts for shrinkage control in slabs on grade at 2.4m nominal centres each way. Arrange cutting pattern to suit structural framing lines. Submit proposal for review. Provide saw-cuts or other construction joints in walls or suspended slabs only where indicated.
7. Holding down bolts, weld plates and other fixing devices to be set accurately in position and rigidly fixed prior to concreting or grouting.
8. Confirm soil bearing complies with NZS 3604 prior to casting foundations.

NOTES - STEELWORK

1. All materials and workmanship shall be in accordance with NZS 3404 subject to relevant sections of the specification.
2. Read structural steelwork drawings in conjunction with all other contract drawings. Allow for all holes, cleats, fittings etc and indicate on shop fabrication drawings.
3. All bolts to be commercial steel bolts Class 4.6/S to specification unless noted otherwise.
4. All steelwork except foundation piles shall be surface protective treated after fabrication. Refer to specification.
5. All bolts, nuts and washers including holding down bolts shall be hot dip galvanized unless specifically noted otherwise.
6. All structural welding shall comply with AS / NZS 1554 Class SP. All welds to be 6mm minimum continuous fillet welds unless noted otherwise.
7. All hollow sections to be capped and seal welded all round to details.
8. Hollow steel sections, circular hollow sections 114 O.D. and less shall be grade 250 unless otherwise noted. Refer to specification.
9. Hot rolled open sections, flats, plates and fabricated sections shall be Grade 300 unless noted otherwise. Refer to Specification.

NOTES - TIMBER

1. All timber to be MSGB grade Radata Pine complying with NZS 3602 and graded to NZS 3631.
2. Moisture content of framing timber shall not exceed 25% at the time of installation and 18% at the time of enclosure.
3. Timber treatment shall comply with the requirements of the NZ Timber Preservation Council - MP 3640.
4. Unless shown otherwise general construction details shall comply with NZS 3604.
5. Provide washers for all bolted connections in locations and to sizes required by NZS 3603. Re-tighten bolts prior to enclosure of joints.
6. Plywood shall be D-D grade construction plywood conforming to NZS 3614.
7. For all aspects of timber frame construction including proprietary structural elements, plywood diaphragm wall bracing and fixings, refer to specification.
8. Timber to timber connections indicated on structural drawings have been subject to specific structural design. Connections otherwise shall be no less than NZS 3604 requirements.
9. Plywood to be H3.2 CCA treated. Brush apply preservative to all cut edges.

NOTES - FOUNDATIONS

1. A specific geotechnical report has not been prepared for this project.
2. Foundation sizes and details indicated are based on a dependable ultimate bearing capacity of 300 kPa. This is approximately equivalent to an allowable bearing pressure of 150 kPa. When subject to serviceability (working) loads, contractor to verify actual soil bearing capacity at regular intervals in formation. Excavation and report results to Engineer.
3. Underside of foundation, beams, pads or strips to be set 200mm (min) below the lower of either cleared ground level or adjustment proposed finished ground level unless shown otherwise.

NOTES - CONCRETE WORK

1. All materials and workmanship shall be in accordance with NZS 3109 subject to relevant sections of the specification.
2. Refer to Notes - General 5 and 6.
3. Reinforced concrete strength to be 25MPa.

APPROVED
These plans are approved in accordance with The NZ Building Code.
These plans must remain on site.
TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL
FOR TENDER

Revis	Amend	Appr	Revis
R1	Minor Amendments	EG	04/14
R2	Amendments to General Notes and General Connection to Slab Detail	DD	06/14

OPUS
Tauranga Office
PO Box 646
Tauranga 3140
New Zealand

TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL
SKATE RAMP REPLACEMENT
BLAKE PARK - MAUNGANUI ROAD

TYPICAL DETAILS
SHEET 2 of 2

Proj No: 208301.00
Date: 21/03/14
Sheet No: 13
Revis: R2

Barcode: TCC814910

Introduction

The policy is based on 'five strategic priorities' that will try and broaden what the Council does and provides to get more people outside and playing – with a focus on children and youth. In addition to providing a well-planned and managed network of the usual formal playgrounds, court spaces and skate facilities we are looking at how to work better with schools and the community, how to promote informal play through the idea of 'the city as a play space' and how to promote play (and the value of play) more generally.

Privacy Statement

(Note: all submissions (including name and contact details) are published and made publicly available as part of our Committee processes. Personal information will be used for the administration of the consultation process and decision-making on the Draft Wellington Play Space Policy. All information will be held by the Wellington City Council, 101 Wakefield Street, and submitters have the right to access and correct personal information)

Submitter Details

First Name: Mark
Last Name: Spiers
Organisation: JCA Member.
On behalf of: Individual.
Street: 94 Clifford Road
Suburb: Johnsonville
City: Wellington
Country:
PostCode: 6037
eMail: msjs@actrix.co.nz

Resident or Ratepayer:

Ratepayer Resident Non-resident ratepayer Other

Which Community Board Area is your property in?

Eastern Ward Lambton Ward Northern Ward Not indicated
 Onslow-Western Ward Southern Ward

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

The policy is formed around five strategic priorities (see section 4, page 26 of the draft policy)

1. Do you agree with these five priorities in the policy?

	Yes	No
Provide a network of play spaces across the city	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Provide high-quality, fit-for purpose play space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community and school partnerships	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The city as a play space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Programming and advocacy for outdoor play	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Northern Suburbs are sadly lacking in play areas for all age groups. More have been removed than replaced & the replacements have less than what was there before. Teenage areas have & are due to be removed, there are no plans to replace them. We urgently need suitable teenage playspace in a safe easily supervised area near to Johnsonville. Hidden behind the Guide Hall near to residents is, NOT suitable, as this will result in more vandalism. Police & community Patrols have enough trouble now with 4 Schools, playgrounds, and Johnsonville CBD.

A strategic priority in the draft policy is about providing a network of play spaces across the city (see section 3 and 4 of the draft policy for maps).

2. Do you agree with planning for a mix of types of play space, spread as evenly as possible across the city as outlined in the draft policy?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Johnsonville is the fastest growing suburb in Wellington together with other Northern areas & we do not have a decent Playground for all age groups. Helston Rd. is good for that area, BUT is too far away AND too small. We need an area like Avalon Park near to here with a wide range of gear & activities for all age groups. Changing the name from neighborhood to community, without any changes, physically is not acceptable. Helston Rd. is 10 mins. BY CAR not walking from most of Johnsonville, and for you PLANNERS is on the other side of State Highway ONE.

A total number of 111 formal playgrounds are being proposed.

3. Do you support planning for a total of 111 formal playgrounds based on the goal of the majority of households in Wellington (74%) being within about 10 minutes walk of a neighbourhood or community play space?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Needs to consider MDRA and density of people and in your, words they will not have cars and busses are hugely reduced here in the weekends.

Strategic priority 2 is about the network of Wellington play spaces being made up of high quality and fit for purpose play space.

4. Do you agree the principles and standards listed in [section 4, page 32 - 34](#), will result in Wellington's play spaces (formal playgrounds, skate facilities, half courts and nature play trails) being high quality and meeting the needs of the community?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

There is only 1 junior bike area at West Park school, poorly advertised. Where are the plans & budget, for more?

The draft policy proposes three categories of formal play space Destination, Community and Neighbourhood). The policy also outlines a guide describing:

- the intention of the spaces
 - target catchment area and age range
 - types of play opportunities
 - what you might see in these spaces
- (see [section 4, page 33 - 34 of the draft policy](#)).

5. Do you agree that the guide will result in a good mix of play space that meets the needs of the city, local communities, and the range of people who use these spaces?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Nairnville & Khandallah are both destinations. You have already reduced Khandallah. Why are you planning to now remove the skate park from Nairnville?

All the formal playgrounds are listed by category in [Appendix 2, page 44](#) with a map showing this distribution across the city in [section 4, page 28](#) of the draft policy.

6. Do you agree with locations and categories as proposed?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

They are overstated & do not represent population areas. Mostly map based and to suit developers, ie Westridge too small, at the far end of the current houses and only 10 minutes walk up a steep hill, for a fraction of the residents.

The draft policy outlines how the Council plans to provide play opportunities for youth (age group 13 -24 years.)

7. Do you agree the draft policy suitably addresses providing play opportunities for youth?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

The draft policy lists key issues and a number of proposals relating to skate facilities.

8. Do you think the draft policy addresses the key issues identified in the plan and provides clear direction for the provision of skate facilities in Wellington? └

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

You are removing Nairnville & the plans with no budget for Johnsonville are isolated & hidden. Probably will not happen in our 10 year plan.

The draft policy proposes a network of 23 outdoor basketball courts (mix of half and full courts) for informal outdoor play.

9. Do you think the draft policy provides a network of outdoor court space for informal play?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments

Opportunities for incorporating the natural environment into play spaces.

10. Do you support a focus on incorporating opportunities to interact with the natural environment into play spaces? [Refer to section 2, page 9 of the draft policy for background.](#)

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Strategic priority 3, [section 4, page 38](#), guides community and school partnerships.

11. Can you suggest any other ways partnership opportunities could improve the play spaces across Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

Better security for current areas, both school and council based.

Strategic priority 4 recognises the value of informal play and that the whole city can provide informal play space for all ages. [Refer to section 4, page 38](#) of the draft policy for background.

12. Can you suggest other ways Council might provide for or promote informal play around Wellington?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Any additional comments?

More support for our natural areas, Plants, tracks & weeding/trimming pest species.

Our suggestions for promoting the value of play as an activity and helping more people to get outside and play are outlined in [section 4, page 39](#) of the draft policy.

13. Do you have any other ideas or actions that could help get more people outdoors and active through play?

- Yes
- No
- Other

Please provide any additional comments you would like to make.

Refer to above comments, we have lived & played here for 17 to 20 years, and mostly walked. Now we drive to Upper Hutt, Lower Hutt & Khandallah.

14. Do you have any other ideas or suggestions you would like to share?

Comments

Yes come & talk to our community associations & local groups before the next stage.

Attached Documents

File
No records to display.

