

MT COOK! MOBILISED

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Suburban Reserves Management Plan 2014 ***4 December 2014***

Mt Cook Mobilised is pleased to offer this short submission in response to the Draft Suburban Reserves Management Plan 2014.

We support the overall direction and objectives of the draft plan and consider that the three areas defined as reserves within the Mt Cook area (Torrens Crescent, Myrtle Crescent and Hospital Road), although small, are important to the suburb and are pleased that there appears no intent to reclassify the status of any of them.

We note that recent planting has enhanced the sites and urge the Council to consider further improvements, particularly to the Torrens Terrace site that is somewhat scruffy, overgrown and there has been rubbish dumped among the trees on the border. We urge the Council to regularly maintain the reserves to ensure they are people/child friendly and conform to highest CPTED standards.

We also submit our view that the Adelaide Road upgrade will be an opportunity to expand green space(s) on the border of the suburb and look forward to this being a key feature of its design.

We note that the Draft Suburban Reserves Management Plan includes an action point to support a community garden at the Hospital Road park. Capital Kids Co-operative and Newtown Kindergarten are neighbours of the Hospital Road Park, they may be interested in deriving educational opportunities from a community garden initiative. The Hospital Road park is partially bordered by a large wall that is often covered in graffiti. The site would be enhanced if a street art mural was painted on this wall. This park would be more attractive for people to spend time in if seating was provided.

We would also like to take this opportunity to comment on two green spaces in Mt Cook which are covered by the Town Belt Management Plan and where partnership between Council and the Mt Cook community has enhanced these spaces. Papawai Reserve, which is below lower Prince of Wales Park, has been planted and cultivated by the Papawai Reserve Group, a Mt Cook community group. We very much appreciate the assistance and support that WCC Parks and Gardens has provided to the group. The Mt Cook Play Area in Hutchison Road was developed by Council in consultation with members of the Mt Cook community. It is now a pleasant children's play space, and a place for families and students of the neighbouring Te Whaea complex to meet. This area was formerly little used.

We appreciate the Council's intention to manage the suburban reserves on behalf of and in partnership with the wider community and remain committed to being involved in any further developments in Mt Cook.

We would like to thank the Wellington City Council for the opportunity to comment.