

**I give notice that
an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on:**

Date:	Tuesday, 4 April 2023
Time:	10.15am
Location:	Council Chamber 107 te Heuheu Street Taupō

AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP

Chairperson Mayor David Trewavas
Deputy Chairperson Cr Kevin Taylor

Members

- Cr Duncan Campbell
- Cr Karam Fletcher
- Cr Sandra Greenslade
- Cr Kylie Leonard
- Cr Danny Loughlin
- Cr Anna Park
- Cr Christine Rankin
- Cr Rachel Shepherd
- Cr Kirsty Trueman
- Cr Yvonne Westerman
- Cr John Williamson

Quorum 7

Julie Gardyne
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Order Of Business

- 1 Karakia
- 2 Whakapāha | Apologies
- 3 Ngā Whakapānga Tukituki | Conflicts of Interest
- 4 Whakamanatanga O Ngā Meneti | Confirmation of Minutes
Nil
- 5 Ngā Kaupapa Here Me Ngā Whakataunga | Policy and Decision Making
 - 5.1 Hearings and Deliberations on the draft Recreation and Sport Strategy Principles3
- 6 Ngā Kōrero Tūmataiti | Confidential Business
Nil

5.1 HEARINGS AND DELIBERATIONS ON THE DRAFT RECREATION AND SPORT STRATEGY PRINCIPLES

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Authorised by: Nick Carroll, Policy Manager

TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

This report allows Council to receive, hear and deliberate on submissions made on the draft Recreation and Sport Strategy Principles.

WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the development of the Long-term Plan 2021-31, Council identified the need for direction on where and when to invest in community facilities that provide sport or recreation opportunities. The development of this strategy was initiated as a result.

The purpose of this strategy is to:

- clearly outline what Council's role is in the recreation and sport space.
- provide principles that will guide Council planning including the Long-term Plan, asset management plans and renewals.
- show how Council will support local organisations and clubs

We previously received feedback from a variety of people, organisations, and council teams which helped shape the principles that were consulted on. These principles have been overwhelmingly supported by submitters. Attached is a summary of all the written points raised through submissions with recommendations on changes to the principles from officers. As part of deliberations Council will need to identify if these are the appropriate changes.

Officers have also drafted a webpage version of the strategy which has incorporated community feedback. This is attached to the report with tracked changes showing where the recommended changes have been made in response to community feedback.

NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council:

1. Receives, hears, and deliberates on the submissions on the Draft Recreation and Sport Strategy Principles.
2. Directs officers to make amendments to the Strategy in accordance with the recommendations in the attached Summary of Submissions
3. Directs officers to report back with a final draft strategy for adoption.

TE WHAKAMAHUKI | BACKGROUND

During the development of the Long-term Plan 2021-31 Council identified the need for direction on where and when to invest in community facilities that provide sport or recreation opportunities. The development of this strategy was initiated as a result.

As development of the strategy progressed, it became clear that decisions about where and when investment should take place needed to take place within the context of the Long-term Plan rather than being dictated by the Strategy. The Long-term Plan process is where Council weighs up all the different community priorities and the ability to fund those. Trade-offs inevitably need to be made through that process, so having a strategy suggesting that construction will take place at a particular time could create false expectations.

The result has been a draft strategy that has focused on setting in place principles that will guide how Council makes those investment decisions. These principles help the community understand which outcomes Council will prioritise and they provide direction to Council officers on how to approach the

development of asset management plans and business cases for new and improvement projects. Investment options and proposals will be considered as part of the next Long-term Plan being developed later in 2023.

During the development of the strategy, we engaged with:

- Sport Waikato
- Sports and recreation clubs
- Undertook a community survey to understand perceptions and values
- Council asset managers

Through that engagement we established that:

- Asset managers want more guidance on where they should focus
- Asset managers and Sport Waikato support a network approach to facility provision to help reduce duplication
- Clubs want support accessing funding
- Clubs want support with administrative challenges
- Hubbing is a divisive topic, not all clubs are interested in sharing space
- The community love parks and want them to have great amenities such as shade cloths, seating, and improved accessibility
- Shared pathways and broader transport network connections are important to the community

Council considered the direction of the strategy at a workshop on 31 January 2023 and following that officers sought feedback from the community on the guiding principles between 22 February and 22 March 2023. We received 97 submissions on the Draft Recreation and Sport Strategy Principles, with 10 submitters stating they wish to speak to Council at hearings. We engaged the community through a survey, email correspondence, and drop-in sessions hosted in Taupō, Tūrangi, and Mangakino. Across all the drop-in sessions there were a total of seven participants. Not all of those who attended the drop-in sessions provided formal submissions, but their feedback is noted in this report. A complete copy of all submissions in full is also attached.

NGĀ KŌRERORERO | DISCUSSION

Drop in Session Comments

At the Taupō drop-in session only the Taupō Model Railway club attended with Councillors Campbell and Shepherd also in attendance. They have made a submission reiterating what they discussed at the meeting.

At the Tūrangi drop-in session the Tūrangi Rugby Club Chairman and another member of the community attended with Councillor Greenslade also present. At this meeting there was discussion of a range of topics. Key points raised were:

- The high quality of the Turtle Pools
- Concerns about the security of the new sports hub at Tūrangitukua Park
- Safety concerns due to motorbikes being ridden on reserves and the need for a space for people to ride their motorbikes.
- The importance of the river as a recreation space and discussion of how Council could work with the Department of Conservation to improve the space around the river
- The need for maintenance or relocation of the netball and tennis courts due to subsidence.

At the Mangakino drop-in session we had Anah Pedersen from the Mangakino Golf Club, Kristen Karauna and Johnson Peri from the Mangakino Hawks attend, they raised the following issues:

- Move campervan dump station away from Sports Hub, it is at the back of the kitchen, which the facility users find disgusting and culturally insensitive.
- Upgrades to the lights at the rugby fields
- Removal of the dangerous building at the end of the fields

- Better parking at sports hub
- Address health and safety at the lake, kids playing where cars are moving
- Stop erosion of lake front
- Shade & seating at lakefront
- Planting & pest control at lakefront area
- Well maintained reserves
- New basketball court
- Better access to the lake, footpaths, steps onto the lake need repairing
- Cycleways – links to other trails

Officers recommend that Council considers these comments alongside formal submissions.

Submission feedback - Community Reserves

Out of 93 Submitters:

78 were in support of the principles for reserves. The key points raised specifically in support were focused heavily on the access to parks and reserves, as well as the principles that support community involvement and environmental enhancement.

Overwhelmingly those who supported the principles wanted to see investment in shade for parks and reserves.

Three submitters did not think the principles for reserves were right. Two left comments, one commented that provision of playgrounds was pointless if they were not safe, and the lack of shade was the key factor as kids got burnt from both the sun and hot equipment. The other submission was a suggested change to the wording of principles to focus heavily on the shared pathway network and connections.

15 Submitters were neutral on the principles for reserves. Two left a comment, one which stated that parks and reserves are fine but could perhaps do with mowing more often. The other noted that there was a need for maintenance and improvement work to be done in the Omori and Kuratau areas.

Submission feedback - Sportsgrounds and Facilities

Out of 90 Submitters:

75 were in support of the principles for community Sportsgrounds and Facilities. There were no comments as to why submitters support these principles.

One submitter did not think the principles for sportsgrounds and facilities were right. They did not say why other than “this should have been addressed when TDC permission granted to the facilities”

15 Submitters were neutral on the principles for sportsgrounds and facilities. One left a comment stating that an “ice rink would be awesome”. Another submitter noted some potential upgrades for the Omori and Kuratau communities.

Submission feedback - Support for Organisations

Out of 86 Submitters:

68 were in support of the principles for supporting recreation and sport organisations. Supportive submitters noted that while they supported the principles, Council needed to step up the levels of funding available. A submitter also noted that a review of the Sports Advisory Council to ensure it is connected to current thinking and trends was important to make sure that support was well targeted.

Two submitters did not think the principles were right for supporting recreation and sport organisations. One submitter argued that individuals and organisations have been given too much freedom to encroach on reserves. The other submitter stated that they did not support the principles as the funding amount from Council was low and should be increased.

16 submitters were neutral on the principles for organisations. There was feedback received from the Great Lake Taupō Hockey Club that discussed their needs and what they would like to see around Hickling Park including a second Hockey Turf and the potential for a Sports hub.

Potential future focus areas

We asked submitters about potential future focus areas based on what we had heard previously through discussions and our survey. We also asked if there were other projects to consider. Many submitters noted specific parks, reserves, and facilities that could do with shade, upgrades, or other maintenance work. This feedback will be passed onto relevant teams to consider for long-term planning, asset management plans, and renewal programmes.

Potential future focus areas	Number of Submitters*	%*
Shade and seating at community parks	63	65%
More local covered hard-surface play areas	31	32%
Accessibility of waterfront, and major parks and reserves	23	24%
Rebuilding beaches and reserves damaged by erosion	21	22%
More planting in reserves	20	21%
More off-lead dog exercise areas	19	20%
More shared pathways	17	18%
Increasing court space at Taupō Events Centre	6	6%
Improving the tennis courts at Te Kapua Park	6	6%
Better changing rooms at Owen Delany Park	5	5%

* Note that the number of submitters does not sum to 97, nor the percentages to 100%, because submitters were able to select multiple options.

Key Issues Raised

Attached is a summary of all the points raised through submissions with recommendations on changes to the principles from officers. As part of deliberations Council will need to identify if these are the appropriate changes.

NGĀ HĪRAUNGA | CONSIDERATIONS

Whakahāngai ki tā te Kaunihera wawata | Alignment with Council's Vision

Council's vision is 'to be the most prosperous and liveable district in the North Island'. This is accompanied by a core set of values to underpin decision-making, the following of which are relevant to this particular proposal: World Class; Authentic; Charming; Vibrant; Quality; Resilient and Value.

Ngā Aronga Ture | Legal Considerations

Local Government Act 2002

The matter comes within scope of the Council's lawful powers, including satisfying the purpose statement of [Section 10](#) of the Local Government Act 2002. That section of the Act states that the purpose of local government is (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and (b) to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future. It is considered that social / economic / environmental and / or cultural are of relevance to this particular matter.

Ngā Hīraunga Kaupapa Here | Policy Implications

Once adopted, this strategy will guide the development of the asset management plans for Council's reserves and community facilities. It will provide a clear articulation of what outcomes Council wants to achieve across the reserve, sportsgrounds and facilities networks. Feedback from the community has also helped to identify a series of projects that will be further investigated through business cases.

It won't be possible to achieve all of the desired outcomes immediately so Council will need to consider how to fund and prioritise these through the next long-term plan process. That is being developed over 2023 and then being consulted on in the first half of 2024.

Te Kōrero tahi ki te Māori | Māori Engagement

Taupō District Council is committed to meeting its statutory Tiriti O Waitangi obligations and acknowledges partnership as the basis of Te Tiriti. Council has a responsibility to act reasonably and in good faith to reflect the partnership relationship, and to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti. These principles include, but are

not limited to the protection of Māori rights, enabling Māori participation in Council processes and having rangatiratanga over tāonga.

Our statutory obligations outline our duties to engage with Māori, and enable participation in Council processes. Alongside this, we recognise the need to work side by side with the ahi kaa / resident iwi of our district. Engagement may not always be required by law, however meaningful engagement with Māori allows Council to demonstrate good faith and our commitment to working together as partners across our district.

Appropriately, the report author acknowledges that they have considered the above obligations including the need to seek advice, guidance, feedback and/or involvement of Māori on the proposed recommendation/s, objective/s, project/s or service/s outlined within this report. Officers made direct contact with Iwi partners at the start of the engagement process, providing information on the principles and offering to provide further information to help or to meet face to face about the Recreation and Sport Strategy.

Ngā Tūraru | Risks

There are no known risks

TE HIRANGA O TE WHAKATAU, TE TONO RĀNEI | SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DECISION OR PROPOSAL

Council's Significance and Engagement Policy identifies matters to be taken into account when assessing the degree of significance of proposals and decisions.

Officers have undertaken an assessment of the matters in the [Significance and Engagement Policy \(2022\)](#), and are of the opinion that the proposal under consideration is of a moderate degree of significance, particularly for sports and recreation clubs.

TE KŌRERO TAHI | ENGAGEMENT

Taking into consideration the above assessment, that the decision is of a moderate degree of significance, Council undertook a period of engagement with the community to better understand their views and preferences.

TE WHAKAWHITI KŌRERO PĀPAHO | COMMUNICATION/MEDIA

Officers will communicate directly with the submitters to let them know the decisions that Council makes. Following adoption of the strategy, Council's website will be updated and the Council teams looking after reserves and community facilities will be briefed about how the strategy will need to be considered as part of their asset management planning.

WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

Council has developed a Recreation and Sport Strategy that is intended to guide future decision making on the types of facilities that meet the recreation and sporting needs of the community. The detail of what should be built and when will come through detailed asset management planning and business cases for individual projects. The balancing of how to prioritise that investment will take place through successive long-term plans.

Community feedback on the draft Strategy has largely supported the proposed principles. On that basis the only changes to the proposed Strategy are minor additions to the principles and additional wording explaining how the community can influence what investment is made when through the Long-term Plan processes.

We plan on providing a final Recreation and Sport Strategy for adoption at the ordinary Council meeting on 27 April 2023.

NGĀ TĀPIRIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. Summary of Submissions - Recreation and Sport Strategy
2. Draft Strategy Website Content
3. Full Submissions Bundle (under separate cover 1)