

Summary of feedback to date

Submissions

301 written submissions were received in total. Many of the submissions covered a variety of topics for consideration.

Outlined below are the general issues raised. (In preparation for the Council workshop these will be further refined and discussed at that point.)

- Support for Whareroa Farm acquisition was mentioned in 20 of the submissions received.
- One submission was received from the NZ Motorhome Caravan Association requesting permission for its members to have overnight staying rights within QEP. (refer to Submission 41 for full details)
- Six submissions covered the difficulties of access into the park. Some of these issues will be resolved with the changes being undertaken at McKay's crossing on SH 1.
- Six specifically mentioned the need for further revenue required to enhance the amenity and status of QEP. This issue should be considered with the submissions offering major facility infrastructure suggestions which imply Council make, or seek, external revenue injections into the park. (i.e. for Golf courses, Motor Cross tracks etc.)
- Seven submissions were received requesting continued user rights for the clubs and stakeholders that have an interest in the park already (see "Other Stakeholders" mentioned further in this attachment).
- Nine submissions offered suggestions for generating revenue within the park including small businesses such as cafes, service providers such as Kayak hiring and the like.
- Nine submissions discussed possible use of the currently leased farm block of QEP and suggesting strategies for future use or mentioned management options for its development for recreational use. Of these nine, a submission was received from the farm's current lease holder (refer to "Other Stakeholders" for referencing).
- 12 submissions directly mentioned the "Open Space Gateway" concept and how QEP relates to this community driven initiative. Council may wish to take QEP's role in this concept into account when making decisions about the future use of the Park.
- 12 submissions offered QEP as a potential site for eco tourism opportunities. Many mentioned this in conjunction with the above mentioned "Open Space Gateway" concept.
- 16 submissions related to Council providing more facilities within the park, particularly information centres, education facilities and better signage.

- 28 submissions made suggestions for distinct major infrastructure projects to cater for a specific user group or add value to the park in terms of visitor attractions. These included theme parks, a golf course, rowing lake and race track.
- 35 submissions specifically mentioned WWII and Maori cultural and historical values of the park and the need to protect, enhance or increase awareness of these values.
- 48 submissions offered suggestions for increasing the diversity and range of activities catered for within the park, these ranged from mountain bike tracks, to more family events, “art in the park” and commissioning sculptures to be placed in the park.
- 98 submissions were made in favour of Motorised Recreation being catered for within the park. 80 of these used the QEP Submission Form as a proforma type submission and were submitted as a collective. The remaining 18 submissions have been submitted by various car and motorised recreation enthusiasts from the Kapiti Coast.
- 173 submissions oppose motorised recreation in QEP. Submissions ranged from one line emails to lengthy reports on the affects of this activity on the park. The commonly associated issues of allowing this activity included noise, pollution, increased traffic issues on SH 1 and safety.
- 135 submissions related to the continued and/or increased protection of existing value, either cultural, heritage, open space and the natural character of QEP. This included those submissions that requested an increase in environmental management to enhance various aspects of the park.

Full copies of all submissions are available in the Councillors lounge.

Department of Conservation

The key issues raised in the submission from Department of Conservation include:

- Importance of QEP in terms of ecology and recreation
- Linkages in terms of open space networks
- Reclassification of the sand dunes to Scenic Reserve to afford higher protection than current Recreation Reserve and zoning allows for.
- Recreation within sensitive areas should be passive, more active and intrusive recreation should be set back from wetland and dune areas
- Rare opportunity to adopt an “open space/minimal facilities” concept with focus on passive use, given its proximity to urban areas
- Enhancement of natural communities that exist in the park (see submission 00159 for full list)

- Supports Councils intention to stop the lease of land for dairy farming
- Existing Reserve Management plan is confusing, seeks clarity in new draft plan.

Local Authorities and Community Boards

Kapiti Coast District Council(KCDC) (Submission number 306)

- Wrote a formal letter to support the interests of Paekakariki Community Board and Paraparaumu/Raumati Community Board. Refer to comments below

Paekakariki Community Board (Submission number 254)

- The central message in the formal submission received from Paekakariki Community Board is that QEP is a “special, central and important place for Paekakariki people, for other Kapiti Coast residents and for the region as a whole. The Board wants to see its “unique and remarkable qualities protected and enhanced for generations to come”. The report covered a number of other issues including their position on Whareroa farm, Motor Sports, Ecological Values, Weed eradication, Dune restoration, KCDC partnerships, Community Involvement, Extended use of the Park, History and Access. (For a copy of the full submission refer to Submission Number 278)

Raumati South Community Board (Submission number 306)

- Paraparaumu/Raumati Community Board submitted detailed comments under the following headings; Ecological, Landuse, Facilities, Partnerships with KCDC and requested that Whareroa Farm acquisition, Noise Management and the appropriateness of Motor Sports in QEP are issues to be considered further.

Wellington Conservation Board (WCB)

The WCB strongly supports the current management plan for QEP; “Council is to be congratulated on the detail, relevance and forward strategy of the plan”

For a full copy of the WCB submission please refer to Submission Number 00046.

The following specific concerns were raised:

- The coastal dunes between the Whareroa development area and Raumati south must be given the highest priority in park management
- To assist in protecting the dunes both walking tracks and horse riding on the beach needs to be addressed
- No place for motorsport in the park
- Supports the planting of ecological corridors that would permit and encourage the movement of birds from the ocean and Kapiti Island to the mountains
- Access to the park is important but the board opposes any through traffic in the park

- Addressing the maps on page 7 Part 2 Resource Statement to reflect the changes at McKay's crossing.

Iwi

We have contacted relevant Iwi groups (Ngati Toa, Te Runanganui o Taranaki Whanui) about the review. A written submission has been received and has been included with the general submissions (Submissions number 86 Queen Elizabeth Park Management Plan Submissions (Phase 1) 00001 - 00150).

Although we have been unable to meet, officers will continue liaising with iwi throughout the review process. Officers are also aware of an initiative to restore and redevelop aspects of the Whareroa Pa site. We have met on site to discuss the best approach, funding avenues and potential stakeholder involvement. We will continue to assist in the furthering of this project.

Key Stakeholders

Please refer to the following submissions of current QEP stakeholder responses:

Friends of QEP – Submission Number 00087

- Friends of QEP have met several times to discuss their approach to the QEPMP review and have supplied an extensive written submission.

Others

- Kapiti Pony Club – Submission Number 00125
- Farm Lease Holder (current) – Submission Number 00280
- Wellington Tramway Museum – Submission Number 00282
- Kapiti Areomodellers Club Inc. (KAMCI) – Submission Number 00122