

## HMNZS Steadfast draft landscape plan consultation summary – track development and use

The 51 submissions included Cass Bay Residents Association and Reserve Management Committee, the Lyttelton Reserves Management Committee, Mountain Bike Club and Sea Scouts; Summit Road Society, Whaka-ora Health Harbour and Heritage New Zealand; along with the current manager of the on-site plant nursery, and two adjacent property owners. About 20 submitters identified as local residents in Cass Bay, eight from Lyttelton and Harbour/Port Hills.

There was strong overall submitter and key stakeholder support for the landscape plan proposal for public access and use of the park including track development and use along with a desire to prioritise environment management, protection and enhancement - including native regeneration, planting and propagation.

Although mountain bike tracks were not explicitly included in the proposal, more than a third of submitters commented that a range of track users should be provided for in the HMNZS Steadfast landscape plan - including some strong advocacy for mountain biking. Key organisations added to support for a suitably aligned track linking to Whakaraupo and a loop track as proposed.

Some submitters including the Cass Bay Reserve Management Committee suggested consideration of dual tracks, and others such as the Lyttelton Mountain Bike Club and a neighbouring land owner and mountain biker were concerned that mountain biking was not specifically catered for in the draft landscape plan.

Here is a summary of key submitter feedback about the landscape plan proposal for track development and use at HMNZS Steadfast, and project team response:

Summary of submitter comments on tracks proposed in plans A and B draft HMZS Steadfast Landscape Plan	Number of comments	Summary of project team response
<b>Track development</b>		
<b>Key feedback</b> <i>General support for track development - variations on where and how - see below.</i>		
Support landscape plan to proposal to provide track linkage to Summit Road and beyond.	16	A walking track will link to the top of the Port Hills as proposed in the landscape plan.

<p>eg Lyttelton, Governors Bay and right along the Crater Rim</p>		
<p>Appreciate and support loop tracks</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>We envisaged that the proposed loop track will be shared use track, and this is now formally proposed.</p> <p>Loop tracks have been retained in the revised landscape plan, however access along the top of the reserve (true right of the valley) has been removed to avoid rockfall hazards.</p>
<p><b>Track development alternatives</b></p> <p>Other suggestions: Alternative track access to Whakaraupo (as proposed by Lyttelton RMC) which is an informal mountain bike track on unsuitable terrain and includes area of rock fall risk.</p> <p>Other individual comments included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• requesting an alternative to walking track along property boundary to reach Whakaraupo as there are issues with stock disturbance, dogs not on leads,</li> <li>• a suggestion for access to the waterway in places,</li> <li>• the top left hand corner should be left for regeneration owing to rock fall risk</li> <li>• Tracks to Whakaraupo could eventually link up with Linda Woods Reserve</li> </ul>	<p>2</p>	<p>The link to Whakaraupo has been realigned to avoid rock fall hazards.</p> <p>Proposed tracks are all subject to geotech and Ecological Impact Assessment process, and track/access has been removed from plan at top left-hand corner owing to rock fall hazard.</p> <p>A secondary walking track is aligned parallel with the boundary on the true right (western) side of the valley, veering away when it reaches the upper section</p> <p>The waterway will be accessible in a number of location</p> <p>Track/access is removed from the plan at top left-hand corner and this will allow for regeneration</p>

Use of tracks		
<p><b>Key feedback</b> –<i>consider, plan and cater appropriately for the range of users including cyclists, including possible shared path arrangements</i></p>		
<p>Consider all path users and a shared path network – walkers (some tracks can be dual use, multi- use), to include walkers, runners, cyclists, different age groups, and suggestions consider different types of activity such as BMX use. Key suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uphill shared tracks can work well</li> <li>• Shared loop track for runners, bikers, and walkers</li> </ul>	19	<p>Yes, the different types of use and additional tracks are now made specific on the updated tracks proposal. Shared uphill tracks are now proposed in the updated tracks proposal as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared use for the wide mown grass loop track on the lower area. This existing four wheel drive track has good visibility and width and is considered suitable for a range of abilities and ages of cyclists as well as walkers. Similar tracks work well across the Port Hills.</li> <li>• The shared track extends to the start of a one way mountain bike loop and carries on up the valley to join the proposed section of walking track to Whakaraupo Reserve.</li> <li>• Walkers share the top section of the mountain bike track via an alternative walking only track from the park entrance along the western boundary, aiming to divert them away from high use activity spaces when in use.</li> </ul> <p>We envisaged that the proposed loop track will be shared use track, and this is now formally proposed.</p>
<p>Cycling options specifically need to be included in the plan</p> <p>Strong concern from Lyttelton Mountain Bike Club that mountain biking options have been overlooked again – first request by resident over 20 years ago</p>	12	<p>Mountain bike tracks are included in the updated proposal, on the true left of the valley. However, the site is poor from a sun exposure/drying perspective and also rock fall terrain limitations.</p> <p>The mountain bike loop is designed mainly for junior to intermediate level use - especially younger riders - and includes a dedicated down-hill section.</p>

Plan for cycling up front and at the start to get the best results for all users and avoid conflict	5	In response to feedback and following further investigation we are proposing a designated section of mountain bike track. This has been planned as part of an overall, integrated tracks proposal for the park.
Specific request for mountain bike access to Summit Road and beyond	5	We have not been able to accommodate submitter requests for mountain bike access via Whakaraupo to the ridgeline to link with other tracks in the area. This section of track is for walkers only and the steep and difficult terrain is unsuitable for mountain biking. Signs will indicate 'walking only'.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Separate downhill mountain bike track to remove user conflict</li> <li>• Plan for other separate tracks</li> <li>• No biking or separate track for bikers</li> </ul>		<p>We are proposing separate as well as shared tracks including walking tracks and a designated mountain bike loop designed mainly for local use</p> <p>Walkers are catered for in the updated proposal, on shared and separate tracks, and the link to Whakaraupo is for walkers only.</p> <p>Although mountain bike tracks were not explicitly included in the proposal, more than a third of submitters commented that a range of track users should be provided for in the HMNZS Steadfast landscape plan - including some strong advocacy for mountain biking.</p>
Specifically note track benefits for children and families, especially locals	3	We are aware of benefits of a range of tracks for children and families, especially locals. We have catered to this in our proposal and this will be included in the vision for the park.
New tracks can provide access for plantings higher up	2	Yes, this will happen.