

Submission on notified proposal for policy statement or plan, change or variation

Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991

To: Nelson City Council

Name of submitter: Nelson Mountain Bike Club Incorporated

This is a submission on the following proposed plan change proposed to the Nelson Resource Management Plan (the **proposal**):

Private Plan Change 28 Maitahi Bayview to the Nelson Resource Management Plan

I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission and I am not directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission.

The specific provisions of the proposal that my submission relates to are:

Structure Plan
Transport Impact Report

My submission is:

- *Supportive of the proposed recreation opportunities within the proposed plan change*

I seek the following decision from the local authority:

'amend' the PC, specifically the Structure Plan to better support mountain biking and commuter cycling.

*I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission.

Signature of submitter:



Melanie Schroder
Chair, Nelson Mountain Bike Club
17/11/2021

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Contact person: Melanie Schroder (Club Chair)
Enclosures: Annex 1 - Private Plan Change 28 – Maitahi Bayview – Submission

Annex 1: Private Plan Change 28 – Maitahi Bayview - Submission

Preface

1. We wish to preface our submission with the fact that we take a neutral stance overall in relation to the proposed plan change. We represent a membership of close to 3,500, who will have a range of views on the plan change and may choose to make submissions in their own right.
2. We do however wish to comment on certain aspects of the proposed plan change insofar as they relate to the core vision of the mountain bike club “for Nelson to be an exceptional place to mountain bike” and our objectives related to this vision:
 - Foster and strengthen positive relationships with land-owners, local authorities and other stakeholders.
 - Support the development and maintenance of high-quality mountain bike trails and infrastructure that caters for all levels of riders.
 - Have a positive effect on Nelson’s natural environment.
 - Encourage and support mountain bike events in Nelson (racing, working bees, social etc).
 - Be a positive voice for mountain biking in Nelson
3. We welcome the inclusion of recreation areas, incorporating cycling and walking trails within the proposed development and feel the Structure plan has been well conceived in its approach to the recreation opportunities.

Structure Plan

4. We fully support the inclusion of walkway / cycleway links throughout the development, particularly where these are within land designated as open space recreation zone.
5. The incorporation of recreation within urban development is recognised to play an important role in maintaining physical, personal and social health and wellbeing for the residents and the recreation areas are likely to experience a high level of demand.
6. In addition to providing for the residents of the development, the recreation opportunities are likely to serve the people of Nelson, due to the proximity to the city and will provide a “stepping stone” to more adventurous and challenging recreation in the neighbouring Sharlands forest. (Opportunities and Challenges for Peri-urban Recreation in New Zealand’s fastest Growing cities, <https://www.srknowledge.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Peri-urban-summary-report-FINAL-August-20131.pdf>)
7. We would encourage the trails to be designed to be inclusive and where proposed as shared use trails, of a suitable width to facilitate safe use by a range of modalities. The Nelson City Council out and about strategy identifies “imbalance between the grades of tracks available within the network, regardless of activity”, the walkways and cycleways within the structure plan should be designed to address this imbalance and provide for lower grade trails.
8. By incorporating lower grade trails into the wider network, Nelson can build on its reputation as a world class Mountain Biking destination, which provides for riders of all skill levels.
9. Where the proposed trail follows the indicative route of the proposed road, we would recommend physical separation from the road in accordance with the principles set out in the New Zealand Cycle Trail Design Guide (5th ed), <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/assets/new-zealand-cycle-trail-design-guide.pdf>)
10. We note the inclusion of an open space recreation zone to the north-east of the plan and we would encourage the inclusion of a cycling climbing trail through this recreation space, to link through to the Mountain Bike Trails in the Sharlands Forest as indicated in red on the sketch in figure 1 below.

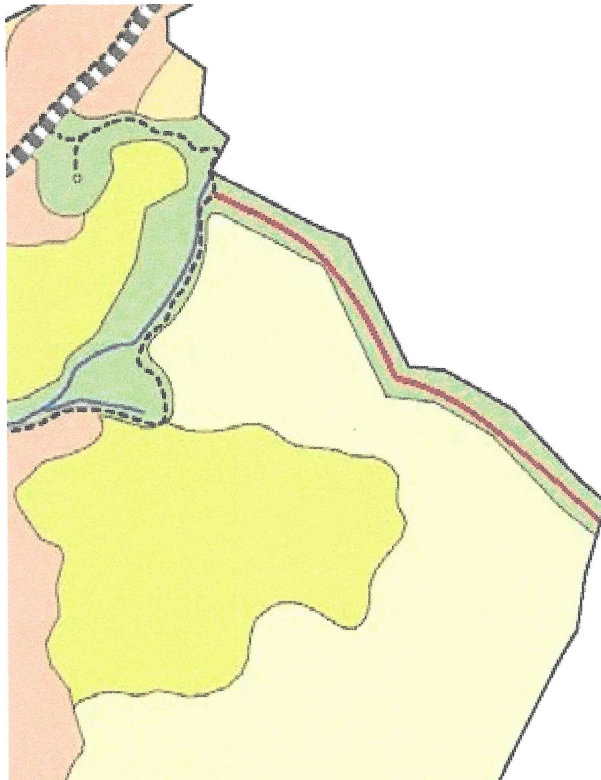


Figure 1: Proposed connecting trail

Transport Impact Report

11. As regular users of Maitai Valley Road, we note the speed data within the report, which shows a high proportion of traffic travelling above the posted speed limit of 50 km/h. This data is concerning and poses a risk to our members and the general public, who regularly cycle up Maitai Valley Road.
12. Noting that the Council has plans to construct a segregated cycle path along the Maitai, to link with the Maitai Hub, together with improvements planned on Nile Street, we would encourage the Council to progress these plans expediently and prior to any development taking place.
13. We anticipate with the aforementioned improvements, our members will increasingly choose to cycle to the trail head at Sharlands Forest, rather than driving.