

Tasman District Council - Golden Bay Ward Candidates

- Celia Butler
 - Chris Hill
 - Quinn Lake
 - Phil Smith (no response)
 - James Wolfen-Duvall (no response)
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Celia Butler

What is your vision of mountain biking in Nelson Tasman

I envisage some more mountain bike tracks, particularly down the western side of the Takaka Hill, but only where resources exist to maintain them. Connecting across the Takaka Hill would be good. New tracks provide more access for pest control. We have seen the success of this at Rameka. A lot depends on landowners. I don't support any more existing walking tracks being opened to mountain biking eg Abel Tasman.

What is your vision of general cycling for transport and recreation in Nelson Tasman

Cycle paths are connected with each other to provide continuous travel. Off road separate cycle paths are the ideal in some situations, recognising that there is maintenance required. Cycle paths that deviate a lot from the road are nice for recreation, but cycling for transport comes first and people will choose the shortest route, especially school children. Surfacing is preferably hard, but gravel will be necessary in some places as hard surfaces are expensive.

Have you had any involvement, support or interest in mountain biking our members may be interested in?

Advocate and sometime cyclist.

What action do you plan to take in the next three years to support and realise your vision of mountain biking and cycling?

That TDC implements the Walking and Cycling Strategy as adopted by council in 2022. Advocate for mountain bike projects.

How would you further realise the economic benefits of the tens of millions of dollars that mountain biking brings to our region?

Longer trails requiring overnight stays along the way. E.G. connect over the Takaka Hill, stay the night in Takaka and go on to the Heaphy.

How much funding are you prepared to invest to realise the potential of mountain biking over the next 3 years?

Maintain the Great Taste Trail. Otherwise it depends on what initiatives are put to council

What support do you think Tasman District Council should provide to the \$20million mountain bike park known as the Wairoa Gorge Bike Park, which is an international mountain biking destination gifted to NZ, but currently enabled by NMTBC?

I support some funding towards it. Bring a proposal.

Chris Hill

What is your vision of mountain biking in Nelson Tasman

Given the recent storm event, that the tracks that have sustained damage are restored as soon as possible. My vision is that the already great tracks in a number of areas in Tasman continue to be developed further. That the number of people that are drawn to visit Nelson/Tasman because of the bike tracks increases and the reputation for being a bikers paradise grows.

What is your vision of general cycling for transport and recreation in Nelson Tasman

I am fully supportive of any initiatives that promote and develop cycleways and tracks through the region. I am a strong advocate for the Golden Bay cycleways group and as a sitting councillor have sought funding for the Motupipi Bridge currently being built, to make safe Pohara to Takaka rides. I am currently working to ensure that the Birds Hill remediation includes a cycleway as it is a significant pinch point for our community. I advocate for all improvements to reading that makes cycling safe.

Have you had any involvement, support or interest in mountain biking our members may be interested in?

I'm a committed advocate and sometimes commuter.

What action do you plan to take in the next three years to support and realise your vision of mountain biking and cycling?

Prioritising the roll out of Tasman's active transport strategy, ensuring it is implemented as soon as possible given funding constraints. An essential aspect is the cultural shift required by people driving cars - reducing speed, fewer parks, enabling safe biking/walking/scootering/wheeling etc. The Dutch built the paths and then the bikes came - subsidised. The huge uptake in electric bikes needs the support of sufficient infrastructure. If re-elected I'll be supporting any endeavour relating to cycling.

How would you further realise the economic benefits of the tens of millions of dollars that mountain biking brings to our region?

N/A

How much funding are you prepared to invest to realise the potential of mountain biking over the next 3 years?

N/A

What support do you think Tasman District Council should provide to the \$20million mountain bike park known as the Wairoa Gorge Bike Park, which is an international mountain biking destination gifted to NZ, but currently enabled by NMTBC?

I'd need to see the details of the project, the business case and understand the other funding mechanisms.

Quinn Lake

What is your vision of mountain biking in Nelson Tasman

I'm pro mountain biking and cycling in general. Happy to support people/groups who are creating safe mb spaces.

What is your vision of general cycling for transport and recreation in Nelson Tasman

As above, can happily support cycling initiatives for all ages.

Have you had any involvement, support or interest in mountain biking our members may be interested in?

I'm not currently a mb rider, have done quite a bit of cycling in my life. My commitment is to represent and support my local community in their wishes and endeavors.

What action do you plan to take in the next three years to support and realise your vision of mountain biking and cycling?

Firstly, to listen to what is wanted and needed, I'm not current with bikers and their need for support yet, plan to get up to speed with local groups.

How would you further realise the economic benefits of the tens of millions of dollars that mountain biking brings to our region?

As above, plan to get schooled up on what is needed and wanted - listen to the experts first. I see my role as getting educated by the people in the know, listening for their creative and practical planning.

How much funding are you prepared to invest to realise the potential of mountain biking over the next 3 years?

Not in a position to answer this currently. I don't have the background

What support do you think Tasman District Council should provide to the \$20million mountain bike park known as the Wairoa Gorge Bike Park, which is an international mountain biking destination gifted to NZ, but currently enabled by NMTBC?

As above, need more information
