

Tasman District Council - Lakes Murchison Ward Candidates

- Dean McNamara
 - Sharon Rogers
 - Richard Osmaston (no response)
 - Stuart Bryant (no response)
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Dean McNamara

What is your vision of mountain biking in Nelson Tasman

I think that our region has many fabulous mountain bike trails and tracks. Should we ever get back to normality then I think the NRDA would be better off promoting this over seas than craft beers (a fight I have previously lost). I'd rather see a few world class tracks rather than dozens of average tracks in various states of disrepair.

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

No problem encouraging recreational cycling, do not support forcing people to commute on cycles particularly in Tasman with our widespread geographical challenges.

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

Not actively involved

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

If I was to be reelected then I am happy to work with the likes of the NRDA to see how we can promote our cycling assets. The council has already opened up the Kainui forest for the creation of cycle tracks and I am happy to support the future development of this relationship.

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

If the region is benefiting to the tune of tens of millions of dollars I am sure the beneficiaries are already looking at ways of maximising that benefit. I look forward to hearing how

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

How much more do you want your rates increases to go up? Double digit rate increases are something that needs sorting out before Council goes looking for more ways to spend money. However, the next 10 year plan review is the time to present your case for further budgets.

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?

A decent road in and out.

Sharon Rogers

What is your vision of mountain biking in Nelson Tasman

I am all for Mountain biking in our region, great recreation and a great tourist attraction, as long as you don't have to cut down any native trees. We are currently looking to build a track in Tapawera which will be a great opportunity for the local kids to both use and participate in the building. I would also like to push that Borlase Forest also gets utilised for mountain biking. It is currently being logged and the plan is to replant the lower slopes with redwoods that have a longer rotation. A series of trails through these Redwoods would be fantastic. It is also large enough to accommodate horse-riding and motorbike trails and still leave room for the pig hunters. It could be split into quadrants that different groups could use at different times. The human smells around the perimeter should also assist in keeping TB carrying pigs and possums off farmland.

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

I am all for the Great taste trail but I believe given the financial incentives, for both the TDC and the Tasman Cycle trail trust, to take private land over public land that the TDC should have policy in regards to how land is acquired for the trail and what landowners can expect in the way of compensation. I will reiterate that I am totally for bike trails but they should be built with kindness and consideration not the current modus operandi which is little short of bullying and extortion. I am also totally for urban cycling but the same caveat as above applies. As a tax payer I am getting a little sick of constantly having to pay to repair cycle trail sections that are getting consistently wiped out due to flooding. It will only get worse so greater commonsense when establishing trails would be good.

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

I frequently bike to work.

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

As I stated earlier, Borlase Forest would be a particular area of interest to me. While Mountain biking / trail biking has greater tourist appeal I believe we should be looking at how areas like Borlase Forest could be utilised by a wider range of recreational sectors with slightly less focus on tourism and a little more focus on the needs of the regions people. Currently Noriss Gulley is an unofficial motorbike track, as many riders are very young there is considerable scope for a nasty accident with a vehicle to occur, Borlase Forest would be a far safer alternative. Horse riders and dog walkers also require more options.

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

I haven't seen a lot of evidence for the tens of millions.

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

Climate change and flood mitigation measures are greater priorities for me.

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?

If there is tens of millions of dollars coming in then I expect it should be able to finance itself. Those businesses profiting the most from it could possibly be levied if required. The many vehicles that go past my property with Mountain Bikes strapped on does often make me wonder if more public transport to venues would reduce greenhouse gas emissions. I would support further investment in this.
