

Tasman District Council – Richmond Ward Candidates 2022

- Ray Griffith
 - Joni Tomsett
 - Tim Tyler
 - Maxwell Clark (no response)
 - Glen Daikee (no response)
 - Jo Ellis (no response)
 - Mark Greening (no response)
 - Kit Maling (no response)
 - Rachel Stevenson (no response)
 - Adele Terrill (no response)
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Ray Griffith

What is your vision of mountain biking in Nelson Tasman

I would like to see the continued use and enhancement of the tracks we have in the district. I understand they are popular by talking to some members who use them and are an attraction so should be preserved and if possible promoted to others both locally and nationally.

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

We need the infrastructure in place so that if people choose to use their bikes for transport or recreationally they can do so safely so that it is an attractive mode of transport if people choose.

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

I haven't had any involvement but wouldn't say no to trying it out and seeing the facilities. I do know a handful of people that use it and think it's a great asset to our region and district.

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

I would like to consult with the club or clubs to understand their needs and try implement these into the councils plans. This could be either jointly with the clubs or as a stand alone investment for council.

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

I think that promotion is key through the likes of NRDA or similar groups as well as through other outlets such as social media or newspaper.

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

At this stage i think it would depend on the needs of the industry. I would like to think that if there could be a return of investment in the money spent then that number could be as large as it needs to be because of the extra revenue the ROI

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 think that the council should support this as it sounds like a world class destination that has great recreation and economic benefits to the area. I think a partnership between council and central government is needed to support the park.

Joni Tomsett

What is your vision of mountain biking in Nelson Tasman

Nelson/Tasman has potential to be one of the top cycling destinations in New Zealand and I believe that it should be leveraged to encourage local tourism. We have quality parks that serve all abilities and we should promote that more than we do currently. My vision is also to ensure that parks have the resources that they need to maintain the tracks and continue building new ones if they allow.

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

The walking and cycling strategy has just been passed in Tasman which is progressive and aimed at building infrastructure to allow for safe cycling in the bigger towns and within Richmond. My vision is that cycling for transport is the norm, people are commuting regularly by bike and feel safe to do so.

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

I love all forms of cycling but mostly i'm a cycling commuter, casual volunteer on dig days, an average mountain bike rider, and strong advocate. I have worked for outdoor organisations in Tasman and abroad so have also experience teaching students on our local mountain bike parks. I support all of the incredible work that the mountain biking community does and especially after having to rebuild some of them after the storms.

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

I have advocated strongly within the Motueka Community Board to allocate and seek funding to bring the walking and cycling strategy forward. I am currently working on the Motueka Skatepark redevelopment alongside BMX riders and in future I will continue to advocate for cycling infrastructure to ensure the safety of riders.

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

I would support partnered financial resourcing to create an all inclusive campaign to promote Nelson/Tasman as New Zealands best cycling destination

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

Honestly, cannot commit to a number because if elected, I would be one person of 13 who would have a say but I would definitely support any investment in infrastructure on council property to realise potential and would also support investment to NRDA or other organisation to create a campaign and promote Nelson/Tasman as a mountain biking destination.

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?

Whilst I would love to say, give you millions and lets put in a gondala! it's a difficult question. I appreciate how incredible Wairoa Gorge Bike Park is and what incredible value it has for the region, it is quite difficult terrain and tracks that wouldn't particularly service the common user in Tasman District. I think councils part is to help with staff hours and potentially a community grant to help connect you with significant funders for upkeep and equipment etc but also helping ensure that there are safe cycle networks surrounding it so people can park, drive and cycle there safely.

Tim Tyler

What is your vision of mountain biking in Nelson Tasman

Simply that our region maintains and enhances it's IMBA Ride Center Gold status, with increasing participation and access from toddler through to wrinkle.

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

TDC's recently adopted plan was a bold and popular move for me. If elected I would work hard to ensure that it gets fully implemented, so that cycling becomes a preferred choice for more people for transport and recreation.

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

Yep. I've provided logistics for track building in St Arnaud back i nthe day and more recently have been a volunteer coach with Krankin' Kids nippers (shout out to Emma and Syd and Marty and Emma and...!)

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

Ensure the plan for Tasman is implemented, and continue to help out where I can. Probably cut back on the number of bikes in the house - 4 per person is starting to be a bit difficult to house.

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

By supporting maintenance and development of our already extensive network and trumpeting how terrible it is and people should definitely not come and check it out on their holidays...

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

Funding is ratepayer money so really, the case would have to stack up well against all the other competing claims out there. I can assure a sympathetic ear, however.

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 should get out and use it more personally. In fact - the whole darn council should. And then maybe we can talk about what we can do to leverage it into prominence as a bucket list destination globally.
