

## **Nelson City Council - Stoke-Tāhunanui General Ward**

Ian Barker  
Matthew Bengé  
Mel Courtney  
Mike Gane  
Sarah Minchington  
Harry Pearson  
Campbell Rollo

Harvey Ruru (No response)  
Valmai Palatchie (No response)  
Allan Hoult (No response)  
Rhys Bromell (No response)  
Trudie Brand (No response)  
Lyndell Dodunski (No response)

---

**Ian Barker**

**What is your vision of mountain biking in Nelson/Tasman?**

Great recreation. Good to utilise our great environment.

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

Cycleways very good and well used by recreational bikers. Bit not utilised by commuters.

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

Just a recreational rider around my Stoke loop.

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

I'll support where appropriate as in the past.

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

Continue marketing.

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

Not appropriate too be specific before financials are known.

---

**Matthew Benge**

**What is your vision of mountain biking in Nelson/Tasman?**

I am not a mountain biker, had it been a sport when I was young I am sure I would have . I am aware of it's popularity and the wonderful trails we have in our region via my younger brother who is a keen mountain biker. I would support the continuing expansion of the trail network as it is a healthy outdoor sport . There are two issues that I would like to see etiquette around I don't feel it needs rules just common courtesy 1 I have been forced to leap off a track by over zealous riders several times , I feel some basic common sense etiquette should be promoted by bike clubs so this type of thing does not get out of hand. 2 some alpine environments are so sensitive and can be damaged by a bike because it can create a line in the soil/vegetation that can begin to run water and create erosion

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

I support the expansion of the cycle network particularly linking all cycleways so the road network can be avoided. What has been done so far is fantastic and I would like to see it get bigger . I believe that the right to walk must not be pushed into second place by cycling. I don't want new or more rules just some common courtesy that can be made a custom

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

We use our bikes instead of the car. Pre covid we went on a two week cycling holiday

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

We have a massive network of roads etc in our hills. I would support efforts to expand access to this. I would support the expansion of cycleways to help change people to cycling instead of cars.

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

I understand that this has a lot of potential but do not have enough knowledge of the sport/recreation to know what needs to be done to encourage events etc here

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

Don't have enough knowledge to answer this but am happy to learn

---

**Mel Courtney**

**What is your vision of mountain biking in Nelson/Tasman?**

Vision for mountain biking in Nelson/Tasman region A world class mountain bike destination.  
1. Build on the infrastructure and develop the network of mountain bike tracks.

2. Increase participation by having safe, enjoyable and accessible opportunities for all mountain bike users.
3. Bring events and attract visitors to the region which generate benefits for the economy.
4. Greater involvement contributes to the enhanced well-being of the community.
5. Lessening the impact on the environment by considered track design.

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

Vision for general cycling in Nelson/Tasman region A bike friendly community.

1. Connect the network of cycleways throughout our city and region.
2. Ensure cycling has equal consideration alongside motor vehicles.
3. Increase the number of people regularly travelling to work by bike.
4. Promote cycling because it has health benefits and improves well-being.
5. Encourage people to bike because it reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

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

Mountain biking family involvement. Leisure cyclist. Strong advocate and supporter of mountain biking as keenly aware of the benefits it brings to the region.

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

Action plan for mountain biking and cycling in next 3 years:

1. Adequate funding for both.
2. Realizing the recommendations for mountain biking in the BERL Report 2018.
3. Linking the cycleways across the city and region.
4. Strengthening Council's partnerships and collaborations within the community.
5. Making this 'the' destination for mountain biking events.

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

Promoting. Enabling. Encouraging. Funding.

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

\$3m+

---

**Mike Gane**

**What is your vision of mountain biking in Nelson/Tasman?**

As a life member of the NMTBC I am keen to assist the club to keep the great momentum they have built up over the years.

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

Cycling is part of the solution to the transport woes that beset most growing cities. It is not 'THE' answer but a part of it. Making it more attractive to cycle as a commuter is part of getting people out of their cars more often. Making it safer is another part. There is much to work on in this area.

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

As mentioned, I am a life member of the NMTBC and as such I have been a part of the whole scene that has evolved up to now. I was a committee member for many years and I am very keen to see the great progress made by our various committees continue.

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

Nothing specific but I'll back any efforts of the club to further expand the track network wherever I can.

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

I'll do whatever I can in this regard

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

As a possible first-time elected member of the NCC I cannot honestly answer this question as I will have a lot to learn. But, I will do everything I can to promote mountain biking as I know the real benefits of it to the individual and our region.

---

**Sarah Minchington**

Thank you for sending me your survey.

I have not completed it as I have limited knowledge in regards biking. I haven't ridden a bike in over 40 years. I own a rental car company 40 cars and my personal vehicle is a V8 ute and a motorbike. However what I do know is I get many customers who fly into Nelson with bike bags/boxes and they love it here. So the only thing I can say is....

Nelson has some of the best biking areas in New Zealand. It would be in the best interest for Nelson and the greater area in particularly the mountain biking sport to really develop tracks and venues that could support major events coming here.

Not overly informative but my knowledge just isn't good enough yet to say anything else in this area

Thank you

---

**Harry Pearson**

**What is your vision of mountain biking in Nelson/Tasman?**

.  
As a member of the NMBC and having also enjoyed adventure racing and multisport events, I'd like to see our regions mountain bike parks catering for all levels of mountain biking, so that family members can have a day out together and still enjoy challenging themselves and each other. Council owned plantation forestry should be replaced by native trees and plants, to provide a more natural and sustainable environment to cycle in and so our tracks are not disrupted by logging. This would also better protect our waterways and the land from erosion, as well as offering a place for our native fauna and flora to thrive.

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

Recreation is essential for everyone's wellbeing and needs to be promoted and made accessible to as many people as possible. It would be great to make cycling of all forms more accessible to children, especially those that aren't so well off. More of our children need to be encouraged to ride to school. As a mountain biker, road racing cyclist and commuter cyclist, I would like more protection for cyclists using our roads, along with 1.5m signage, etc, as explained in this article:  
<http://cyclingchristchurch.co.nz/2015/11/13/mythbusting-what-a-safe-passing-rule-means/>  
Cycleways that have been trialed, like on St Vincent Street, and found to be dangerous to use, need to be redesigned before a tragedy occurs. WE need to learn from our mistakes - not persevere with them.

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

I have been a member of the NMBC off and on, and am currently a member, along with my step son. I spearheaded a campaign to get the Gentle Annie hill widened in 2014 to make it safer for people cycling to Cable Bay - see:  
<https://www.stuff.co.nz/nelson-mail/news/64039065/road-widening-should-make-annie-gentler> I have enjoyed riding most of the local mountain bike trails either for pleasure or as part of my training for adventure races, Coast to Coast and other sports events.

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

Assuming that I get the communities backing, then as pine plantations in Nelson are logged, I will push for them to be replanted in native plants and trees to restore our city's land back to native forests. This would also provide better land protection and reduce future closures of recreational areas due to high fire risk (as this would be minimal in a native forest), logging and other plantation practices. We should have access to our recreational areas year round, and this would help ensure that. Native planting can be carried out at minimal council cost by getting government subsidies and working with schools and other organisations to do the planting - so it does not have to be an expensive exercise.

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

Pop up cafes / coffee carts should be allowed to operate at accessible trail heads, wherever the community deems it is appropriate. Our council needs to work in conjunction with TDC to promote The Top of The South throughout NZ and Australia as NZ's mountain biking mecca.

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

The amount of funding for tourism promotion needs to be agreed on with TDC, other councillors and the community. The amount of funding required for reinstating native forests where there have been pine plantations, should be minimal, so I see no reason why that can't go ahead, as long as we have backing from the majority of other councillors and the community.

---

**Campbell Rollo**

**What is your vision of mountain biking in Nelson/Tasman?**

Mountain Biking is an unsung hero of our Community from 2022 onwards we have a chance to invest & enhance this sector for both locals getting into the sport but also create a sport that our tourism sector to promote around the world with a push from Council to see this happen it can return so much for our region

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

The way forward promoting cycling into our CBD & region can be the way forward investing into creating accessible family safe cycle ways with things such as lighting we can push forward

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

Keen cyclist who loves to get out & about within our region on bike

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

If elected I would plan to meet with committee & Council staff to get a better understand of where we can push the limits to how can we invest for the better & how can the private sector join forces as well to make this a true community project

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

Bring events & let the results show the way forward

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

A collective agreement between Council , Club , Community we should be able to create a pool of money in the millions to enhance this sector

---