

17 March 2015

Freepost Wellington City Council
Open Space and Parks Team
Wellington City Council
P.O. Box 2199
Wellington 6140
mtvictoria@wcc.govt.nz

Re: WCC Draft Mount Victoria-Matairangi Master Plan

This submission is from the Architectural Centre, an incorporated society dating from 1946, which represents both professionals and non-professionals interested in the promotion of good design.

The Architectural Centre generally supports the Mount Victoria-Matairangi Master Plan. We have the following specific comments.

1. We appreciate the important role that Mt Victoria/Matairangi has as part of the city's wider green corridor network.
2. We support the plan's approach to build on the existing track system, and the clarification of track hierarchies. Including the retention of dedicated mountain bike tracks.
3. The master plan appears to establish a good balance of provision for universal access and enabling more challenging tracks, as well as providing legibility for people less familiar with the park, and retaining the variation and interest for regular users, for example: "It is important to maintain a sense of adventure and discovery in the park. A too high level of development has the potential to limit the value of Mt Victoria for its most regular users who live to wander at will via many interesting and varied route options" (p. 5).
4. We support comprehensive bilingual signage.
5. We support the creation of bee corridors, which may require the retention of some exotic species (pp. 14, 37).
6. We support common colour coding for both in-situ signage and park maps.
7. We support the progressive replacement of exotic vegetation with native species and the removal of branches/trees likely to fall on people.

Additional issues

8. There is potential to also consider new views relevant to temporary civic events (e.g. fireworks displays on the harbour)
9. There is no explicit consideration of the potential role of the open spaces in post-disaster contexts.
10. Is there potential to daylight some of the culverted streams? (p. 17)
11. The plan discusses provision of driving, car parking (e.g. around the Centennial Memorial), biking and walking. How do current bus routes facilitate access to the



the architectural centre inc.
PO Box 24178 Wellington

park? Should the location of bus stops also be considered in relation to the park, park entrances, and entry points of specific tracks?

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this draft Mount Victoria Master Plan. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully



Christine McCarthy
President, Architectural Centre
arch@architecture.org.nz