

Notice of Meeting:

I hereby give notice that an ordinary meeting of the Hearings Committee will be held on:

Date: Wednesday 20 November 2024
Time: 9:30 am
Venue: Council Chambers, Dunedin Public Art Gallery, The Octagon,
Dunedin

Sandy Graham
Chief Executive Officer

Hearings Committee

Signal Hill Reserve Management Plan

MEMBERSHIP

Chairperson	Cr Steve Walker
Members	Cr Christine Garey Cr Brent Weatherall Mr Hoani Langsbury
Senior Officer	Jeanette Wikaira, General Manager Arts, Culture and Recreation
Governance Support Officer	Rebecca Murray

Rebecca Murray
Governance Support Officer

Telephone: 03 477 4000
Rebecca.Murray@dcc.govt.nz
www.dunedin.govt.nz

Note: Reports and recommendations contained in this agenda are not to be considered as Council policy until adopted.

ITEM	TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
1	Declaration of Interest	4
PART A REPORTS (Committee has power to decide these matters)		
1	Speaking Schedule	8
2	Draft Signal Hill Recreation Reserve Management Plan 2024 - Summary of Feedback from Community Engagement	10

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Members are reminded of the need to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected representative and any private or other external interest they might have.
2. Elected members are reminded to update their register of interests as soon as practicable, including amending the register at this meeting if necessary.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:

- a) **Notes/Amends** if necessary the Elected Members' Interest Register attached as Attachment A; and
- b) **Confirms/Amends** the proposed management plan for Elected Members' Interests.

Attachments

	Title	Page
↓A	Register of Interests	5

Hearings Committee Register of Interests as at 5 November 2024				
Name	Responsibility (i.e. Chairperson etc)	Declaration of Interests	Nature of Potential Interest	Member's Proposed Management Plan
Cr Christine Garey	Trustee	Garey Family Trust - Property Ownership - Dunedin	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Women of Ōtepoti	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member (alternate)	Grow Dunedin Partnership (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Otago Museum Trust Board (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Sophia Charter (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Chairperson	Study Dunedin	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Ashburn Hall Charitable Trust Board	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	St Paul's Cathedral Foundation (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Theomin Gallery Management Committee (Olveston) (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Cr Steve Walker	Trustee	Dunedin Wildlife Hospital Trust	Potential grants recipient	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table. If the meeting is in public excluded leave the room. Seek advice prior to the meeting.
	Member	Orokonui Ecosanctuary	Potential grants recipient	Withdraw from discussion and leave the table. If the meeting is in public excluded leave the room. Seek advice prior to the meeting.
	Member	Society of Beer Advocates	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	New Zealand Labour Party	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Port Chalmers Historical Society	Potential grants recipient	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Owner	Residential Property - Dunedin	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Shareholder	Various publicly listed companies	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	NZ Sea Lion Trust	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Edinburgh Sister City Society (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Justice of the Peace		No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Predator Free Dunedin	No conflict	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Predator Free Dunedin (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.

Name	Responsibility (i.e. Chairperson etc)	Declaration of Interests	Nature of Potential Interest	Member's Proposed Management Plan
Cr Brent Weatherall	Member	Urban Access	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Owner	Residential Property	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Owner	Business George Street, Dunedin	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Brent Weatherall Jeweller Limited	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Weatherall Trustee Company	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Residential Rental Properties	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Craigieburn Reserve Committee (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Dunedin Public Art Gallery Society (Council Appointment)	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
Hoani Langsbury	Manager	Otago Peninsula Trust	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Deputy Chairperson	Dark Skies Advisory Group	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Otago Peninsula Biodiversity Group	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	External Issues Komiti	Te Runanga o Otakou	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	TBA	Te Runanga o Otakou-Tangata Tiaki	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Otakou Alternate	Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	DoC Te Roopu Kaitiaki	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Committee Member	Ariki Athletics Club	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Port Otago Technical Committee	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	RMA Commissioner	Environment Canterbury	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Predator Free Dunedin	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Chairperson	Peninsula Biodiversity Trust	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Trustee	Wild Dunedin	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Member	Technical Advisory Group to the New Zealand Battery Project	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
OPCB representative	Wellers Rock and Wellers Jetty project	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.	

Name	Responsibility (i.e. Chairperson etc)	Declaration of Interests	Nature of Potential Interest	Member's Proposed Management Plan
	Member	Site Led Committee - Otago Regional Council	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Committee Member	ORC Regional Leadership Committee	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.
	Panel Member	Dunedin Hospital Build	No conflict identified	Seek advice prior to the meeting if actual or perceived conflict of interest arises.

PART A REPORTS

SPEAKING SCHEDULE

Department: Civic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Hearings Committee with a schedule of submitters wishing to present their views, in person, on the Draft Signal Hill Reserve Management Plan Hearing.
- 2 The speaking schedule is attached (Attachment A). Please note as there may be changes to the schedule, an updated one will be supplied at the meeting.
- 3 As this is an administrative report the Summary of Considerations is not required.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:

- a) **Notes** the speaking schedule.

Signatories

Author:	Lynne Adamson - Governance Support Officer
Authoriser:	Clare Sullivan - Manager Governance

Attachments

	Title	Page
↓A	Speaking Schedule	9

Signal Hill Reserve Management Plan Hearing as at 15 November 2024			
DATE	TIME	SUBMISSION	NAME
Wednesday, 20 November 2024			
20-Nov-24	09:40 a.m.	1081193	Gretchen Robertson, Otago Regional Council
20-Nov-24	09:50 a.m.	1058151	Fiona Jakobs
20-Nov-24	10:00 a.m.	1053160	Fiona Jakobs speaking on behalf of Hilary Calvert
20-Nov-24	10:10 a.m.	1068919	Rhys Millar, Predator Free and Halo Project
20-Nov-24	10:20 a.m.	1081185	Ben Nicholls, Valley Urban Ecosanctuary
20-Nov-24	10:30 a.m.	1056809	Glen Knol
20-Nov-24	10:40 a.m.	1068930	Andrew Rutherford
20-Nov-24	10:50 a.m.		
11.00 AM - 11.20 AM		BREAK	
20-Nov-24	11:20 a.m.	1068916	Rachel Elder, Dunedin Tracks Network Trust
20-Nov-24	11:30 a.m.	1081180	Aidan Braid, Dunedin Forest and Bird
20-Nov-24	11:40 a.m.	1068855	Richard Wilson
20-Nov-24	11:50 a.m.	1052591	Mary O'Brien, CCS Disability Action
20-Nov-24	12:00 p.m.		
20-Nov-24	12:10 p.m.	1068930	Robyn Bridges, Friends of Burns Reserve Trust
20-Nov-24	12:20 p.m.	1068912	Simon Noble
20-Nov-24	12:30 p.m.	1061138	Robert Havill, Mountain Biking Otago
20-Nov-24	12:40 p.m.	1057168	Phil Page
20-Nov-24	12:50 p.m.		
20-Nov-24	01:00 p.m.	1068860	Tom Scott, Te Whatu Ora (Health NZ)

DRAFT SIGNAL HILL RECREATION RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2024 - SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Department: Parks and Recreation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1 This report presents a summary of the submissions received during community engagement on the draft Signal Hill Reserve Management Plan 2024 (the Draft Plan). The Draft Plan is an update of the 2003 Signal Hill Recreation Reserve Management Plan. The continuous review of reserve management plans is a statutory requirement under the Reserves Act 1977.
- 2 There were 192 submissions made during the community engagement on the Draft Plan. The public engagement process, as prescribed by section 41(6) of the Reserves Act 1977 and Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002, was followed. Of the submissions, 34 supported the draft Plan, nine did not state either their support or opposition, and 147 did not support the Draft Plan.
- 3 31 submitters wish to speak to their submission at the Hearing. Of those that wish to be heard at the hearing, 20 do not support the Draft Plan, 11 supported the Draft Plan, and one did not state their support or opposition to the Draft Plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:

- a) **Considers** the feedback from the public engagement of the Draft Signal Hill Recreation Reserve Management Plan.
- b) **Makes** recommendation to DCC staff based on the information provided by submitters.

BACKGROUND

- 4 The Reserve Act 1977 requires management plans for all Council administered reserves. It is also a requirement under the Reserves Act 1977 to consult with the public when a reserve management plan is being created or reviewed.
- 5 The Signal Hill Recreation Reserve is a key recreation reserve in Dunedin with high landscape and biodiversity values. It is a popular reserve for mountain biking, walking, trail running, orienteering and dog walking. It is used by some residents as a commuter route to the Logan Park area.
- 6 The 2003 Signal Hill Recreation Reserve Management Plan (2003 Plan) was adopted December 2003. The Act requires an administering authority keep reserve management plans under continuous review. The 2003 Plan has not had a comprehensive review since its adoption.

- 7 A review of the 2003 Plan commenced in November 2020. The community engagement period for DCC’s intention to review the 2003 Plan ran from 7 November 2020 until 8 December 2020. We received 38 responses from the community during this period. Community engagement included a public notice in a newspaper and DCC’s social media platforms advertising the four-week engagement period on the 2003 Plan.
- 8 The preparation of the Draft Plan was disrupted due to COVID-19. Additional workshops were held with submitters and stakeholders in 2022 to discuss progress of the draft Plan and to ensure the initial feedback provided in 2020 was still relevant.
- 9 The Draft Plan was prepared with full consideration of the feedback received both from the statutory submission period and feedback received through engagement workshops and meetings. Input was also provided from the working party that was comprised of the following organisations and representatives:
 - Mountain Bike Otago
 - Dunedin Orienteering
 - Logan Park High School
 - Sport Otago.
- 10 The draft Plan differs to the 2003 Plan in following ways.
 - It formally recognises the importance of Signal Hill and the surrounding area to mana whenua.
 - It is based on specific actions which are proposed to support the management and development of the Reserve. The proposed actions include a Reserve Master Plan, a Habitat Restoration Plan, an Interpretation/Storytelling Plan, and a Fire Plan.
 - It acknowledges the landscape and biodiversity values of the reserve. There will be a focus on habitat restoration and the re-establishment of native vegetation within the reserve, including the managed removal of noxious pest species. The draft Plan does not support any further planting of exotic tree species within the reserve.
- 11 Currently development within the reserve has occurred without any formal direction or planning.
- 12 The draft Plan has a range of proposed projects and matters to consider that will recognise the values of the reserve while encouraging both active and passive recreation alongside habitat restoration. An implementation plan will be developed once the final draft has been prepared for adoption.
- 13 Staff presented the Draft Plan to the Strategic, Planning and Environment Committee on 13 February 2024. A Statement of Proposal (SOP), as required under the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) for public consultation, was also presented to the committee. The committee approved the Draft Plan and the SOP for public engagement.

DISCUSSION

- 14 A 2-month period of consultation is required in section 41, 6(a) of the Reserves Act 1977.
- 15 Public engagement on the Draft Plan was carried out between 13 May 2024 and 15 July 2024.
- 16 Methods of engagement included information posted to the Dunedin City Council’s website, a public notice in both the Otago Daily Times and the Star and a media release, signage and posters displayed at reserve and in proximity to the reserve with a QR code. A number of drop-in sessions, information evenings and weekend pop-ups were run over this time a several different venues, these included the city library, Edgar Centre, Unipol, Civic Centre, Logan Park High School and within the reserve itself.
- 17 The submission form, in Attachment C asked whether submitters supported the changes to the Draft Plan and to comment on their reason for either approving or disapproving of the Plan. There was more space provided for ‘other comments’ as well.

Submissions

- 18 One hundred ninety-two submissions were received during the public engagement period.
- 19 The submissions received were summarised and analysed to identify themes. The majority of submissions were made up of the pro forma submission organised by Mountain Bike Otago (MBO), these submissions identified the following concerns:
- They did not support setting a limit on the number of mountain bike tracks within the reserve.
 - They did not support the removal of pine trees as part of management of pest plants and protection of view shafts within the reserve due to the shelter they provide to the track network.
 - They wanted MBO to have a greater representation on the Signal Hill Recreation Reserve User Group.
 - They did support the designation of tracks just for mountain biking.
 - They did support road safety improvements.
 - They also wanted to see the provision of additional tracks to the network and had a wish list of what they would like to see provided for mountain biking within the reserve.
- 20 Outside of this proforma submission form the prominent themes were:
- Opposing restrictions on the number of mountain bike tracks within the reserve (39)
 - Support management of pest species (33)
 - Support track development and maintenance (33)
 - Support making Signal Hill Recreation Reserve a destination (29)

- Support ensuring connections to the reserve exists (29)
- Support designation of tracks (29)
- Support biodiversity improvements (28)
- Support increasing public access and making it more available to all users (25)
- Proportionate representation on the Signal Hill Recreation Reserve User Group (24)
- Do not support mountain biking within the reserve (23)

21 Please refer to the feedback report attached in Attachment B.

22 77% of submissions do not support the Draft Plan.

- This was dominated by mountain bikers who were mainly concerned with restricting the number of mountain bike tracks, removal of pine trees and wanting a better representation of MBO on any Signal Hill Reserve User Group.
- There were submissions from those who supported the majority of the Draft Plan but had concerns around the management of Burns Reserve, there was a mixed opinion around how the consistent management of this reserve might look.
- Some wanted more detail and clarity around the history of the reserve and more information around ecological enhancement of the reserve.
- There was also concern about lack of representation on the Signal Hill Reserve User Group from residents within Opoho and on Signal Hill Road, the Friends of the Burns Scenic Reserve, tourism operators and other organisations.

23 18% of submissions did support the draft.

- Those submissions in support of the Draft Plan identify the importance of supporting and improving the biodiversity of the reserve.
- Many supported ensuring the reserve is welcoming, accessible and inclusive to all user groups.
- There was support for providing clarity around which groups can use which tracks and improving connections to and within the reserve.
- There was support for management of pest species.
- There was support for improved management of invasive plant species and vegetation that obstruct views at the Memorial Lookout.
- There was support for the provision of toilet and drinking water facilities.
- There was support for improvements to the road network servicing the reserve making access safe.

- There was support for improved track development and maintenance.
- There was support for the management and restriction on where further mountain bike tracks are located.
- There was support for lower gradient and grade tracks for beginners.

24 We received feedback recognising the health benefits that mountain biking and being active within the reserve offers both physically and mentally, promoting the reserve in being vape and smoke free, and minimising the risk of conflict between various users, i.e., high speed downhill bike riders versus children, and dogs.

25 We also received informal feedback during our public engagement this included ideas around improving the marketing and signage about the reserve, many people we spoke to were unaware of the reserve and the facilities on offer, there was also a perception that the reserve was only for mountain bikers and other users were not welcome.

OPTIONS

26 There are no options to this report as the purpose is to present a summary of submissions.

NEXT STEPS

27 Next steps are for the Hearings Committee to consider consultation results and make recommendations to the Council regarding the proposed Draft Signal Hill Recreation Reserve Management Plan 2021.

Signatories

Author:	Elizabeth Schonwald - Parks and Recreation Planner John Brenkley - Planning and Partnerships Manager
Authoriser:	Heath Ellis - Acting Group Manager Parks and Recreation Jeanette Wikaira - General Manager Arts, Culture and Recreation

Attachments

	Title	Page
↴A	Draft Signal Hill Management Plan	17
↴B	Public Engagement Feedback Report	46
↴C	Feedback Form	52

SUMMARY OF CONSIDERATIONS

Fit with purpose of Local Government

This decision enables democratic local decision making and action by, and on behalf of communities. This decision promotes the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.

Fit with strategic framework

	Contributes	Detracts	Not applicable
Social Wellbeing Strategy	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economic Development Strategy	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environment Strategy	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arts and Culture Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓
3 Waters Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓
Future Development Strategy	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Integrated Transport Strategy	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks and Recreation Strategy	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other strategic projects/policies/plans	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The city’s parks and reserves contribute to the wellbeing of the community. Reserve management plans provide opportunities to work with other departments to consider linkages and connections in terms of movement and association. Reserve management plans are also an opportunity to evaluate biodiversity and ecological values and support improvements to the environment. Reserves are destinations and the activities promoted within them can be of economic benefit to the city.

Māori Impact Statement

Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki and Te Rūnanga o Ōtākou through Aukaha Ltd have contributed to the draft Signal Hill Recreation Reserve Management Plan. Mana Whenua have provided no feedback during the submission process.

Sustainability

Sustainability is to be considered through the process of this project and will inform the management and operation of the reserve.

Zero carbon

Council’s Zero Carbon Policy is to be considered through the process of this project and will inform the management and operation of the reserve.

LTP/Annual Plan / Financial Strategy /Infrastructure Strategy

This summary report for consideration has no impacts for these documents.

Financial considerations

There are no financial implications to this summary report.

Significance

The draft Plan is considered low in terms of the Council’s Significance and Engagement Policy.

SUMMARY OF CONSIDERATIONS

Engagement – external

The Reserves Act 1977 requires DCC to consult with the public when a reserve management plan is being created or reviewed.

Engagement - internal

Parks and Recreation Services staff have worked with other departments (Legal, Transport, 3 Waters, Community Development and Events) with the drafting of this reserve management plan.

Risks: Legal / Health and Safety etc.

There are no identified risks to this summary report for consideration.

Conflict of Interest

There is no known conflict of interest.

Community Boards

Signal Hill Recreation Reserve is a key amenity for the entire city and all residents including those in Community Board areas will be interested in the development of a reserve management plan for this facility. Signal Hill Recreation Reserve sits just outside the West Harbour Community Board area, but the Community Board was advised about the draft reserve management plan.

DRAFT



**DRAFT SIGNAL HILL
RECREATION RESERVE
MANAGEMENT PLAN**
JANUARY 2024

 **DUNEDIN** | kaunihera
CITY COUNCIL | a-rohe o
ōtepoti

