

## THE DRAFT WHAKAMAHERE WHAKATŪ NELSON PLAN KEY INFORMATION

The Draft Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan combines the current resource management plans for Nelson into one combined Plan that reflects Central government requirements and direction, current best practice, and the latest research and local information. Once notified, the Nelson Plan will guide how we use our natural resources, where and how we develop land, and how we protect our environment.

### OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION ZONES

#### What are the proposed Open space and recreation zones about?

Areas of public open space (usually parks) need to be managed to ensure that activities happening there don't adversely affect other parts of the community. Council also recognises that the Reserves Act, which involves a public process, guides how those public spaces should be used.

Under the umbrella of Open space and recreation, there are three distinct zones proposed:

- The Sports and recreation zone includes our large and small sports grounds, camping grounds and the park on Wakefield Quay used for fishing and boat launching
- The Natural open space zone covers mostly undeveloped areas along streams, coastal margins, elevated areas that overlook the city, and sections of the Bryant and Whangamoā Ranges
- The Open space zone covers urban amenity parks, including places like the Queens Gardens and Isel Park, as well as the 1903 Square, neighbourhood parks and also cemeteries.

Each of these zones is then divided into precincts, to provide for the sort of activities that are specifically suitable for those parks.

#### What are the Open space and recreation zones trying to achieve?

The zones aim to ensure that public parks provide a high-quality urban environment that is pleasant, safe and does not impact on the amenity of neighbouring sites. They provide for the recreational needs of the community, temporary events and some commercial activities in the zone.

#### What type of activities could I do in this zone?

Mostly, the provisions would guide what might be developed on public open space. They would provide assurance that adverse effects on neighbouring sites would be managed to acceptable levels, and that any development meets the expectations of the community about the amenity of parks generally.

This includes provisions for the height and bulk of buildings and fences on those parks, and the types of activities that are provided for (including recreation, community and park management activities, as well as the type and scale of commercial activities in the zones).

The standards for activities in these zones address matters such as:

- Building heights (varying depending on the zones and the precinct)
- Setback and daylight admission for road and residential zones boundaries
- Vehicle loading requirements
- Vehicle access must be provided, depending on the type of development proposed
- Hours of operation
- Noise limits.

Recreation and community activities generally would not need resource consent, except where they do not meet the standards. Consents will generally be assessed on the adverse effect of the activity on the amenity (high-quality, pleasant environment) of the park and surrounding area.



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Where consents are needed for buildings, applications would also need to consider the effects of the building on streetscape and landscape values, compliance with the principles of CPTED (Crime prevention through environmental design) and the design and appearance of the building.

In many cases, the park will have a Reserve Management Plan. That would also be taken into account when assessing a resource consent application.

### **How would the Open space and recreation zones chapter change from the current Nelson Resource Management Plan (NRMP)?**

The NRMP takes a similar approach, managing activities based on the type of park (though in a schedule instead of using different zones and precincts). The proposed new zones and precincts would be well-aligned with the current parks management categories, as well as with the National Planning Standards brought in recently by Central government.

The NRMP also has a reference to activities listed in a Reserve Management Plan being permitted. However, feedback from Council resource consents team was that interpretation of the rule was difficult and not working out in practice. The reference to activities in those documents would therefore be removed and, as mentioned above if consent is needed any relevant Reserve Management Plan would be considered in assessing that consent.

### **Further information on the Nelson Plan**

This key information sheet is a summary of the provisions in the Draft Nelson Plan that relate to Open space and recreation zones. It should not be used as a definitive representation of content.

To view actual Draft Nelson Plan content, please go to [shape.nelson.govt.nz](https://shape.nelson.govt.nz). To find the Open space and recreation zone provisions refer to Part 4 NOSZ – Natural open space; Part 4 OSZ – Open space zone; Part 4 SARZ – Sport and recreation zone; Part 4 PREC6 – PREC15 – Open space and recreation zone precincts

Related provisions include Part 2 ECO – Ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity; Part 2 UFD – Urban form and development; Part 3 General matters NOISE – Noise; Part 3 General matters TEMP – Temporary activities.

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