



New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc.

7/114
"Because you'll
never be alone
on the road again."

Canterbury Area

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To The Hearings Panel

7 April 2016

New Zealand Motor Caravan Association's Submission To The Hearing On The Preliminary Draft Recovery Plan For The Waimakariri District Council Red Zoned Areas

Introduction

My name is John Allen and I hold the position of Resource Management Assistant for The Canterbury Branch of NZMCA. I am the author who wrote the submission on behalf of the Canterbury Branch of the NZMCA which was made on the Plan for the Waimakariri District Council Red Zoned Areas, (submission reference number [sn] 7). I am also speaking on behalf of the submission made by James Imlach, the NZMCA's Resource Management Planner, on behalf of the National Office of the Association, (sn 114).

The New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Inc. (NZMCA) thanks the Waimakariri District (Council) for providing this opportunity at the Hearing to further submit on the written submissions already made on the Preliminary Draft Red Zone Recovery Plan (the Plan). This submission relates specifically to the 'Regeneration Area – Kaiapoi East' proposed motorhome park (site 15). We commend the consultative approach and level of community engagement in making the plan.

The NZMCA is an experienced land manager, currently operating 33 (and growing) private motorhome parks nationwide. The Association is a strong advocate of responsible camping in completely self contained, (CSC), motor homes and caravans to NZS5465:2001. Members of the Association also support various environmental initiatives throughout the country.

In speaking to the aforementioned written submissions I am taking them as being read by members of the Hearings Panel, and therefore wish to highlight a number of points already made. I am also available to answer any questions that members of the Panel may wish to ask.

Officers Report and Recommendations

Both the Canterbury Branch author and National Association Resource Management Planner have read the Technical Officers Report and Officers Recommendations. We both support the evaluations made in the report, and the recommendations derived from these evaluations. The squaring up of the one hectare park to support a more inclusive atmosphere, and provide better security with one access point as made in both submissions is appreciated.

Highlighted Points

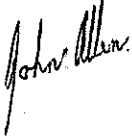
1. The six reasons for choosing the Kaiapoi East area as the preferred site for a NZMCA Park over the other two Kaiapoi Areas (south and west) are clearly set out on the first page of the Canterbury Area's submission (sn 7).
2. The Association prefers to lease or purchase land for NZMCA parks, (with purchase being the preferred option), In a lease situation the Association covers all costs, - see pages 1 and 2 sn 7, and number 7 and 8 on page 2 of sn 114.
3. A list of 9 considerations when a site is developed to make it suitable for NZMCA members' vehicles is set out on page 2 of sn 7. Further considerations are included in the second bullet point under number 12 on page 3 of sn 114. All development and future maintenance costs will be paid for by NZMCA.
4. The economic benefits accruing from a NZMCA Park being in a locality are set out on the second page of sn 7, (\$211 million dollars are spent annually by over 63,550 NZMCA members when travelling around New Zealand). NZMCA commissioned results have indicated that at Murchison a typical couple spend on average \$117 per day in the local shops, - number 11 page 3 of sn 114.

5. The NZMCA has a very strong environmental ethos, to ensure members comply with the 'Self Containment Standard' NZS 5465:2001, - second to last paragraph on the second page of sn 7.
6. Members regularly volunteer their time to tidy up public areas and plant trees etc which provides members with a prime opportunity to support local environmental initiatives, - number 14 on page 4 of sn 114.
7. The Association contends there are social benefits from allowing CSC camping in an area, in that campers provide oversight of that area while camping, which provides security, and a lessening of vandalism in these areas, - number 13 page 3 of sn 114.
8. Some commercial camping ground operators may oppose the Kaiapoi East motor home park proposal and if so we make the following comments:
 - Access is restricted to members only in CSC vehicles. Commercial operators will still receive patronage from international visitors, and the general public.
 - Members wishing to stay longer in an area than NZMCA parks allow will need to move to a commercial camping ground.
 - Protecting trade competition is an invalid reason to object or decline a proposal under the Resource Management Act 1971, and we would argue considered anti-competitive behaviour under the Commerce Act 1986. – number 12 page 3 sn 114.

Questions

I welcome the opportunity to answer any questions that the Hearing Panel members may wish to ask me

Thank you



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