

1. PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS ON DRAFT BEXLEY WETLAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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| Corporate Plan Output: Parks Plans and Policy Statements | |

The purpose of this report is to outline the submissions received on the draft Bexley Wetland Development Plan and to seek support for the draft Plan to be reprinted and distributed to the community. The development plan has been separately circulated to the Committee.

Seven submissions were received on the draft Bexley Wetland Development Plan. Six supported the plan, while one individual provided feedback that included tentative support and proposals for a few significant changes.

The six submissions in support ranged from total agreement to suggestions for minor changes. A preference to remove the contaminated material off site was backed up with the comment that the proposal for on-site disposal was a good compromise. Other submissions highlighted the need to deal with the contaminated material as soon as possible. Enhancement of the ecosystem and the provision of birdhides and walking tracks received support.

A comment that more information on recreation and history would be worthwhile was followed with the suggestion that the Bexley Wetland Trust could get involved with regular monitoring and reporting on the birds visiting the area. It was also observed that the reintroduction of new species such as the Fernbird would need to be co-ordinated with the other major wetlands in Christchurch.

The submitter who was not altogether in agreement with the plan made a number of suggestions. However, it is considered that both individually and in total these would not provide any benefits in respect of the goal to “restore lost or damaged plant communities and wetland bird feeding, nesting and roosting habitat” and the objectives relating to the restoration of landscape character, plant and aquatic communities. For this reason these submissions were not supported by the Committee.

- Recommendation:**
1. That incorrect street name references in the draft Development Plan to the Pacific Park Subdivision be corrected.
 2. That the Bexley Wetland Development Plan be approved for reprinting and distribution to the community.