

Submission to WCC Draft Play Spaces Policy
From: Creswick Valley Residents Association, 17 November 2016

Strategic Priority 1 - Community play space network: We agree with the analysis of the network of play spaces and support the proposal to provide a new play space at the city end of Karori. The Northland/Wilton area is well serviced for play spaces for (toddlers -10 years).

Strategic Priority 2 - high quality, fit-for-purpose play space

Ian Galloway Skate Park: This is not included in your playground map or discussion, other than a mention of it in the skate park section. Now that this area has had the BMX track and adjoining dog exercise area added, we consider that this should be categorised as a **destination** playground for older children and young adults. Use of these facilities over the last year since the creation of the BMX track has skyrocketed. It is close to Karori and accessible by bus from town and Karori, so it's use will likely increase as, as noted in the policy document, there is a marked lack of play facilities of any kind in the city-end of Karori. However it is currently completely lacking in amenities – there is no toilet, shade or shelter, and the parking is insufficient to accommodate increased use (which has been exacerbated by the popularity of the dog exercise area). We do note that the original plans for this area included a toilet, and the water and sewerage connections are in place.

This is a destination where people are clearly going to stay for at least an hour (definition of community play space) and many will stay for more than 2 hours (definition of destination play space). Our members who live near the facility advise that they regularly see park users using the trees and bushes at the rear of the site for toileting, which is unacceptable. We consider that this should be a priority for this summer.

Northland Park: This is the nearest and only flat grassed area in Northland (as the school has no playing fields). This is an example of a neighbourhood play space where kids can socialise with their peers, and play run-about wider-ranging sports/games without small children about. In this location, there are tennis courts, which provide hardstanding for scooters and playing basketball, but we would like to request that a permanent football goal (no nets required) be installed at the northern end of the park, for use all year round. We think this would be well utilised.

Key points of submission:

- Categorise Ian Galloway Park Skate Ramp and BMX track as Destination play area
- Provide appropriate amenities (toilet and drinking water)
- Provide additional parking, in recognition of the additional demands being placed on the area by use of the dog exercise area.
- Install permanent football goal frame (no nets) at Northland Park.

Strategic Priority 3-5 – We broadly support these, but have no particular submissions to make.

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