

Long-term Plan 2024–34



Respondent No. 361

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Personal information

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I'm providing a submission (choose one):
on behalf of an organisation

Write organisation name here Kapiti Community Recreational Turf Trust

Please let us know what ward you live in
Paraparaumu

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission at our public hearings on 2 May?
Yes

Are you happy for your name to be published with your feedback:
My name can be published with my feedback

Submission

Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about this LTP?

Introduction

The KCRTT is the Trust that oversees the Hockey Turf and Pavilion at Mazengarb Reserve and has been very successful over the 20 years since the Trust was incorporated. Significant community related, and an element of KCDC based funding has been invested into Mazengarb Reserve to create the following:

- During 2009 the water based hockey turf, lights and dug outs were installed.
- The KCRTT Pavilion opened in September 2012.
- Installation of the electronic Scoreboard in August 2014
- Turf Re-surface 2013 - Council assumed ownership of playing surface

These investments have resulted in an asset of currently \$2.8 million (approx.) being available for the Hockey playing children and adults of our community. The Kapiti Hockey Turf and Pavilion are a source of immense community pride for the district and is the envy of many other districts throughout New Zealand. This was confirmed when we co-hosted the National Hockey Masters tournament this February 2024, with games running from 8.30a.m to 9.30pm for the seven days of tournament week. All visitors to the facility

were extremely complimentary of the facility.

It is now time to plan for the strategic direction of Hockey on the Kapiti Coast and protect the investments made to date with this LTP submission being the initial step for establishing the future for Hockey.

It is time to plan for a second hockey turf and warm up area to be created to supplement what is currently in place at Mazengarb Reserve.

Current Status of Hockey on the Coast

The growth in Hockey players on the Coast has been dramatic during the last 17 years initially with one senior adult team being established in 2007. This number has now grown to seven senior teams for the 2013/14 seasons.

For Junior Hockey the growth has continued, with an increase in playing numbers:

2013/14 – 360 Projected

Our Colleges have remained strong despite the interruption of Covid, and there are six teams registered this 2014 season.

Although covid did have an impact on the player base we are recovering quickly and there is significant pressure on the current facility with demand outstripping availability of turf time for both games and trainings.

KCRTT financial situation

A set of the 2013 KCRRTT financial accounts supported by a full independent Audit report were forwarded to the KCDC finance unit earlier this year. For the purposes of this paper, I include a high level summary for your information.

1. Pavilion income has steadily improved since it first operated in 2012/13 from \$28,623.00 to \$191,06.00 in 2022/23. Our current KCRRTT General Manager has focussed strongly on pavilion hire, catering for events in the pavilion and servicing the hockey community during hockey season.

2. Turf income of \$52,905 for the 2023 financial year has recovered from the covid impacted playing seasons of the prior two years. This income is in-line with pre-covid years. The static nature is primarily due to meeting the needs of our primary stakeholder Kapiti Coast Hockey Club (discounted local rates) and having to set our fees consistent with those adopted by Wellington Hockey.

Current Constraints being experienced by the KCRRTT

We have reached capacity with our current one turf set up and the future growth of our sport on the Coast will be hindered by this lack of capacity for both playing games and lack of turf time to allow for practices and limited time to allow for a decent warm-up routine. We do not have a small practice/warm up turf like many other turf facilities.

We are also experiencing difficulties with our water storage capacity as the additional growth and subsequent increase in games during the peak season results in us running out of water to keep the turf adequately dampened to match the caliber of players' skill on display and lessen injuries which can result if the turf is left dry. KCRRTT are seeking quotes to allow for more storage and allowance to recycle bore water faster, which is estimated \$30,000.00. We intend to seek a funding grant from a community body to overcome this constraint. Once costs have been established, KCRRTT officials will work with KCDC Officials to locate where these tanks can be installed.

The lighting in place is another area of focus for KCRRTT, as there are two areas of concern that need to be addressed.

- Lighting in the car park next to the pavilion is totally inadequate and is a safety concern for our staff and players who exit the pavilion and turf late at night. As this is a KCDC carpark, we are requesting that KCDC officials review the current car park lighting situation, and implement the necessary changes.

- The current lights over the Turf are expensive to operate and are due to be updated with new LED technology. Currently KCRRTT officials are seeking quotes for this to occur and again, depending on costs will seek a community body to support us with funding. An Initial quote received for the cost of replacement LED lights is \$177,500.00 (April 2024)

The lack of a grandstand is another constraint that Hockey is experiencing, as major games (Black Sticks) are difficult to attract to our region as we cannot cope with the crowds that want to view our premier players. Hockey New Zealand insists that seating is available to spectators. Fortunately when we hosted the NZ Blacksticks men vs Japan during the 2014 two game series we were given a donation of temporary seating (estimated value of \$50k) that was supplied at no charge from Safe Scaffold.

The road access to Mazengarb Reserve Park is also a constraint as buses etc. cannot get into the Turf during major events as cars are often parked on both sides of the narrow access road coming into Mazengarb Reserve. Hockey is not the only body that is impacted by this narrow road situation as the

same constraint impacts on the Kapiti Food Fair, and they require a large team of volunteers from Rotary to police the parking issues. We are certain other major users of Mazengarb Reserve experience similar with large events.

However, our major constraint is the fact that we have only one turf and for Hockey to continue to grow on the Coast, we now need to plan for an additional turf to be budgeted for and ultimately installed.

Options for Additional Turf Installation

KCRTT and KCDC officials have had some initial discussions on possible options for where a second turf could be installed at Mazengarb Reserve. The possible options including a practice area location are attached as Appendix One to this document. Currently, KCRTT and KCDC officials have reached a consensus, as to where the second turf should be located. We are proposing a multi-sport surface, managed by KCRTT. KCDC have the estimated costings for this facility.

KCRTT have received and estimate for the practice area, which will also includes some refencing and improving the high nets behind the goals to ensure player safety. The total estimated cost for this works is Practice Turf \$235,600.00plus gst; Nets and fencing \$75,957.00plus gst.

Whatever second turf plan is ultimately designed and budgeted for, there is an opportunity to stage how the agreed turf can be installed. The practice area could form the initial stages of this development as this would allow for an area to accommodate the juniors and relieve some pressure on the main surface in the short term.

Benefits of a second Hockey Turf

Besides the obvious benefits of positioning ourselves for the growth in Hockey numbers. There are a number of other benefits that will occur with the installation of a second Turf.

Kapiti will be able to:

- Hold more practices and games for 'all' local players. Currently one college team and two primary school aged teams have been turned away as we have no room.
- Out of the seven senior teams only five hold regular practices. We do not have room for them all to practice.
- Attract and Host larger tournaments including nationally sanctioned ones allocated from hockey New Zealand. Most of these have a minimum of 16 teams involved which does mean a very tight schedule for games that have to start really early in the morning, and end late into the night. This is not appealing to tournament organisers.
- Host smaller scaled tournaments at good times, like the New Zealand Defence forces, New Zealand Maoris. This would force teams to stay locally, rather than sharing a turf with Wellington and having them stay down there. This supports our local economy.
- Work closely with Hockey New Zealand and attract additional "Black Stick" matches to Kapiti. The second turf will allow us more flexibility with warming up for games, and provide us more room to take advantage of any coaching opportunities that present themselves for our local kids.
- Help us Tick off the requirements of having a warm up area.
- Our colleges, some primary players and seniors have to travel out of the district to play hockey in the Wellington region. Two turfs would give us the ability to host more 'home' games and keep and draw more people here.
- Attract better quality coaches to the area as the ability to train larger groups all at once.

Next Steps to be considered

KCRTT accepts that it will be difficult to obtain funding from the LTP in the next two or three financial years for the design and implementation of a second Hockey turf, however that should not stop proper planning steps being taken.

KCRTT is seeking KCDC's approval to allocate KCDC officials to work with us in a project arrangement over the next 12 months; to investigate what would be the best plan going forward for Hockey on the Coast. At the same time consider any risks or impact it may have on other Mazengarb Reserve users. This project would also identify the concept of a practical staging plan to incorporate a possible initial investment into a practice and warm up turf that would make best use of the current Turf and could also be used for mini hockey for primary schools.

The outcome of that project would form a more detailed submission to the 2025update for our Communities Long Term Plan.

Summary

Hockey is a growth sport on the Coast and KCDC should be congratulated on the various decisions made to date to support Hockey within our Community, but there is more to be done! Let the KCRTT, Kapiti Hockey and KCDC take the opportunity to create a strong coordinated approach that sees Hockey continue to build on the investment and growth to date.



