

Annual Plan Submission
Marlborough District Council

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Annual Plan 2023-2024 Proposal – 3x3 Basketball Court at Ballinger Park

The Social Return on Investment (SROI) of the Recreational Physical Activity in Aotearoa New Zealand study found that for every \$1 spent, there was a social return of \$2.12 to New Zealand, meaning that the value of the wellbeing outcomes for New Zealand is greater than the costs of providing these opportunities, making recreational physical activity a potentially cost-effective investment.

The SORI report highlights the contribution physical activity has on the well-being of people living in Aotearoa. It also noted the importance of valuing Māori and Te Ao, Māori perspectives.

I submit to the Marlborough District Council to consider a joint venture with Te Pukenga/NMIT to enhance Ballinger Park for the benefit of the community. We would like to sit at the table with you and make a small financial contribution to this space.

“Basketball is set to become the most popular sport among young people nationwide, surpassing the traditional favorites of rugby and netball”.

In reading your Sports Facilities Strategic Plan 2021-2031 it references basketball, a sport that is a passion of many of our ākonga/learners.

The Sports Facilities Strategic Plan refers to having hubs, not stand alone recreational spaces. Ballinger Park is already a hub. The hub includes the Kohanga reo/pre-school, community gardens (both on leased Te Pukenga /NMIT) Ballinger Park, and Te Pukenga/NMIT. We would like to enhance this hub to include a 3x3 basketball area with in the

park itself. The size of the competition 3x3 court, with boundaries is 17mx13m. A small area of green space would be redesigned, however a significant portion of greenspace would be available in the existing space. We include a photo for your visual reference.

Te Pukenga/NMIT is currently in the development phase of increasing facilities on campus, as we continue to grow the educational opportunities across Marlborough, allowing ākonga/learners to obtain qualifications in their own backyard. While this development is progressed, a basketball court cannot be accommodated. Basketball will not be accessible nor benefit our community in the short term. A solution to this, would be instead install a basketball court in Ballinger Park, and therefore the benefits would expand, include and be accessible to the wider community. The community would be provided with a multi enhanced park, a space for youth to use that have outgrown the playground to be offered other options for recreation and sport. A hard surface would be multi use – basketball, bikes, skates, and trikes throughout all seasons.

All users would have further opportunities to create engagement with others to help with their well-being, and provide more opportunities to increase community buy-in. In our Have Your Say feedback forum, the majority of our ākonga/learners have identified a basketball court as area of need. They would like a space to develop skills and fitness. As a Well Being Advisor, I believe it will enhance relationships, build on resilience and promote positive competition. Akonga/learners will be provided with a community space they can feel proud of and will give them more community belonging.

By implementing this proposal, teenagers in our community will not only have a place to go to but also that their needs and desires as a group have been heard and actioned. This could be empowering and mitigate some negative teenage activity in the community.

Using the costings of the 2022 development of a multipurpose court at Te Pa Wananga Te Kura at Omaka an estimation of expenses, is an \$80,000 investment. Using the Social Return on Investment (SROI) of Recreational Physical

Activity in Aotearoa New Zealand study social return equation, this financial contribution will have a social return of \$169,600 to the Marlborough community.

As part of our partnership, the Te Pūkenga/NMIT carpark would be available as a shared resource. We are unable to commit to on going costs, however our ākonga/learners will be kaitiaki, caretakers of this area.

The Ballinger Family donated Ballinger Park and surrounding land to the Marlborough District Council. They believed in social investment. In giving Helen Ballinger a brief outline of our proposal, in essence, she endorsed the basketball project.

We look forward to presenting our proposal to the Marlborough District Council. The benefits to the community are outstanding. Let us grow this space together.

Ngā mihi nui

Marlborough campus

Emily Hargreaves

Student Wellbeing Support Advisor

He aha te mea nui o te Ao? He tangata, he tangata, he tangata

What is the most important thing in the world? It is people, it is people, it is people

Te Pūkenga trading as NMIT

Te Whare Wānanga o Te Taihū o Te Waka a Māui



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