

# Kenepuru & Central Sounds



Kenepuru & Central Sounds Residents Association Inc.

Nicole Chauval  
Annual Plan Consultation Document submissions  
**Marlborough District Council**

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7 May 2017

Dear Nicole

## **Submission for Funding Allocation for a Public Toilet in the vicinity of the Torea Bay Jetty- Annual Plan 2017**

This submission is made on behalf of the Kenepuru and Central Sounds Residents' Association.

**Who we are:** The Association was established in 1991 and currently has over 280 household members whose residents live full time or part time in the Kenepuru and Pelorus Sounds. The Association's objects include, among others, to coordinate dealings with central and local government and promote the interests of residents of Kenepuru Sound and adjacent areas and to promote and act in the best interests of residents, ratepayers and persons associated with the Kenepuru and Central Sounds area. AGMs of the Association are well attended.

### **Submission**

We refer to our correspondence and subsequent discussions with various Council Officers and Councillor's in connection with the above.

The Association **strongly** believes that a public toilet facility located in reasonable proximity to the Torea Bay wharf is long overdue given the significant year round flow of people (residents, New Zealand and overseas visitors), vessels and vehicles to and from this busy wharf.

We believe **and submit** that the case for this community facility is clear and eminently justifiable.

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### **Kenepuru & Central Sounds Residents Association Inc.**

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## **Why the delay?**

We note this is the fourth year in a row that the Association has submitted on the need for a public toilet at Torea Bay. The Association is becoming concerned that no progress has been made. Not even a suggestion from Council that there is some great difficulty that could stand in the way of this relatively modest project.

We draw the Council's attention to the fact that the Association got wholeheartedly and publicly behind Council in its efforts to install a public toilet at Ohingaroa Bay. Correct us if the Council holds a different view but the Association perceives no such difficulties at Torea Bay as were encountered at Ohingaroa Bay.

**Result:** we now have an excellent, well-sited public facility at that location.

We remind readers that, in our view, one of the tipping points was the persuasive article that appeared in the local media following a Council Officer investigating the area that many visitors to Ohingaroa Bay were using as a toilet in the absence of any other facility. Such is the case at Torea Bay.

The era of pointing to the "Bush Toilet" as an adequate and appropriate response for basic human needs is **we submit** long past. For a high use area such as the Torea Bay Wharf the Council needs to both acknowledge that fact and most importantly take action!

Accordingly, the Association requests and **submits** that the Marlborough District Council set aside in its Annual Plan a sufficient sum of money for the placement, construction and maintenance of a public toilet at the Torea Bay wharf.

## **Funding Source**

There has been some suggestion that there is not enough money available given other community priorities. We have done some homework on this and **are pleased to point** the Council to an unallocated source of funding on its own books.

We recently noted Minister Dunne's press release that as a result of the restructuring of the Rural Fire Service, Councils would no longer be required to contribute around 30 million dollars annually to that service. The Minister expects that saving to go to ratepayer projects.

We have corresponded with the MDC CEO who confirms that the sum that will be freed up is likely to be significant.

**We urge** and **submit** that the Council allocates some of this for the Torea Bay Public Toilet Project.

We also **submit** that this should be a priority project for Council and not be seen as of little importance. The reputation of the Sounds both local and international is at stake here – all for the lack of a modest public toilet in a heavily used spot.

The golden goose of Tourism also brings responsibilities and making adequate proviso for basic human needs at high usage public places is, **we submit**, one of them.

The Association confirms and assures the Council that once such an allocation is made it would be pleased to support and assist the Council in the process of identifying an appropriate location and in the associated resource consent application.

**Conclusion**

We believe that this project is of real significance to the many local residents and visitors to the Torea Bay wharf and Marlborough Sounds generally and needs to be given a much higher priority than that accorded it to date.

We thank you for the opportunity to submit the Association's proposal and we would be pleased to speak to this submission at the proposed hearing

The Association looks forward to working with Council in putting in place this long overdue piece of public infrastructure.

Yours faithfully

  
Ross Withell

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