

Date released: 2 April 2024



Request: OIA- 1342

Original LGOIMA Request:

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1. What is(are) the proposed source(s) of the proposed \$400,000 funding to be spent on an Adventure Playground in Omarama in years 2025 and 2026 of the LTP, and the ongoing funding as detailed in the list of initiatives to be included in the council's 10-year budgets?
*(Agenda item 7.1 February 27, 2024 council meeting as detailed below:
In 2025, it is proposed \$208,080 will be spent on an adventure playground in Omarama. An amount of \$226,414 is set aside for spending on the adventure playground the following year. In the years that follow until 2034, \$37K to \$39K is to be set aside for the playground annually.)*
2. Who put forward the idea of an 'adventure playground' or 'visitor attraction' on the reserve land formerly a sports pitch in 2019/2020, given it was not asked for at any of the public sessions held to contribute to the Masterplan, or at any of the subsequent council workshops *(according to the material about the workshops provided to the Omarama Gazette at the time)*, and given [REDACTED] comment in a letter in response to questions at the LTP drop in session in May 2021 about where the idea had come from?
*[In May 2021 in a letter to the Residents' Association of Omarama meeting after the Long Term Plan drop-in session in Omarama [REDACTED] apologised for any misleading comments at the session stating that "a number of community members had requested an adventure playground". However, it had scored as a "medium level priority" in the subsequent community feedback, he said.
He did not explain why the playground was included in option two of the Masterplan or where the idea had come from, or where the funding would come from for it]*
3. Has there been a needs analysis done for an adventure park/playground for Omarama? If so, could you please forward a copy.
4. The funds, as detailed in the AP/LTP proposal, appear to be ring-fenced for an adventure park. Why can these funds not be spent on reinstating the Omarama Sports field which has been listed as a community priority in visioning sessions, surveys and questionnaire responses since 2018?
5. Sports fields are funded across the district using district services charges – what proportion of these have been spent in Omarama on its sports field in the past five years?

Official LGOIMA Response:

1. What is(are) the proposed source(s) of the proposed \$400,000 funding to be spent on an Adventure Playground in Omarama in years 2025 and 2026 of the LTP, and the ongoing funding as detailed in the list of initiatives to be included in the council's 10-year budgets?
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The proposed \$400,000 funding to be spent on an Adventure Playground in Omarama in years 2025 and 2026 of the LTP is budgeted to be loan funded. The amounts in later years will be funded by rates.

- Who put forward the idea of an 'adventure playground' or 'visitor attraction' on the reserve land formerly a sports pitch in 2019/2020, given it was not asked for at any of the public sessions held to contribute to the Masterplan, or at any of the subsequent council workshops (according to the material about the workshops provided to the Omarama Gazette at the time), and given [REDACTED] comment in a letter in response to questions at the LTP drop in session in May 2021 about where the idea had come from?

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The adventure playground was put forward as an option during the 2018/2019 masterplan process and we would have received feedback to support this as it was identified as the 5th most preferred option. The ranking was based on surveys and feedback received from the community workshops that were undertaken at the time. It was consequently identified as an option and included in the final masterplan map.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

We went out to the community and asked for their views on the three masterplan options. The community gave us a clear direction on how they want to see Omarama develop in the future.

Information on the feedback received from the community can be found [here](#).

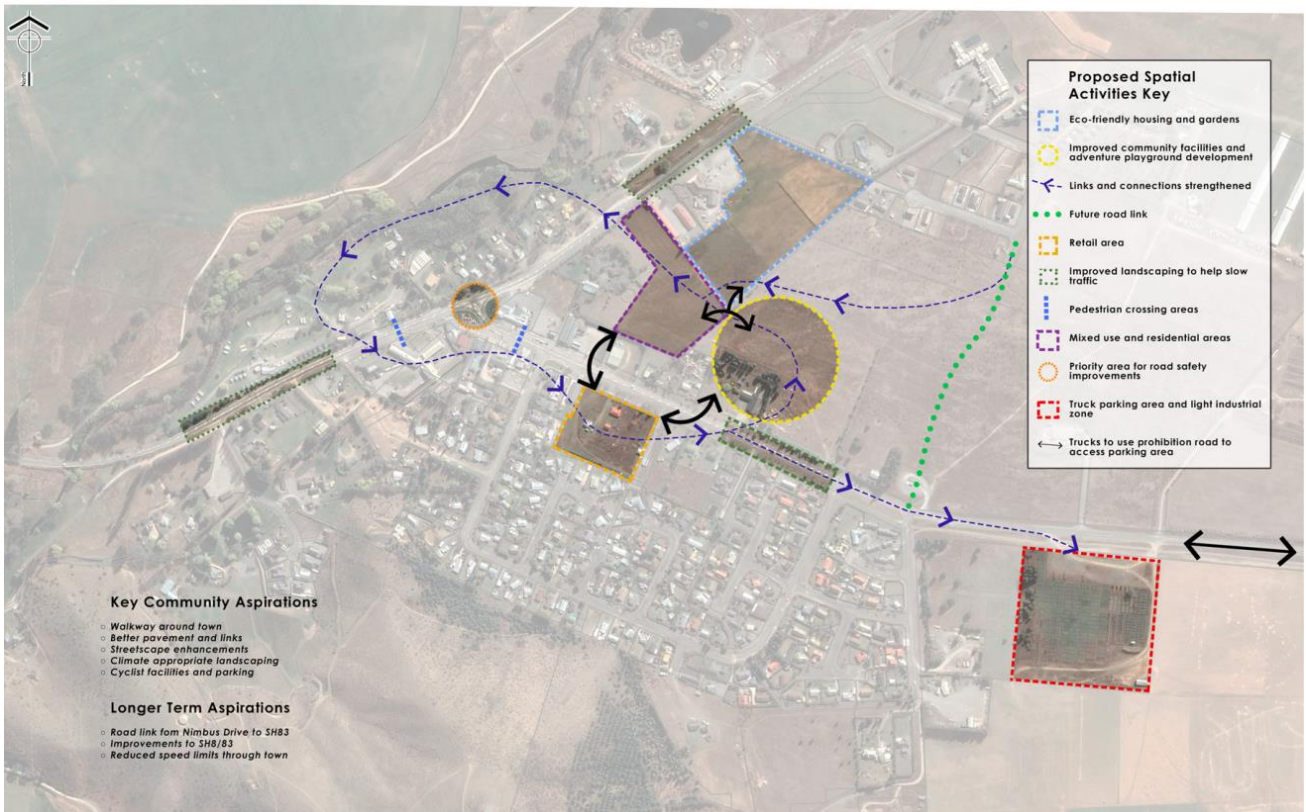


HERE'S A SNAPSHOT OF WHAT YOU TOLD US AT THE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP:



AND HERE'S WHAT YOU TOLD US FROM YOUR WRITTEN FEEDBACK:





The Masterplan mentions about a “potential extension of bicycle track to create adventure play area” Money had then been allocated to this project for the current LTP.

<https://www.waitaki.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/2/files/our-council/plans-reports-and-strategies/other-plans-and-reports/omarama-masterplan-2020.pdf>

[long-term-plan-projects-summary.pdf \(waitaki.govt.nz\)](#)

3. Has there been a needs analysis done for an adventure park/playground for Omarama? If so, could you please forward a copy.

No, we are not aware of any needs analysis that was carried out at the time.

4. The funds, as detailed in the AP/LTP proposal, appear to be ring-fenced for an adventure park. Why can these funds not be spent on reinstating the Omarama Sports field which has been listed as a community priority in visioning sessions, surveys and questionnaire responses since 2018?

Money has been set aside in the 2031 financial year for a Sports field in Omarama. If the community feels that priorities should change, then they will be able to do that through the Annual Plan / Long term engagement processes for council to consider.

5. Sports fields are funded across the district using district services charges – what proportion of these have been spent in Omarama on its sports field in the past five years?

No money has been spent on rates in the Omarama area within the last 5 years.

The Reserve Management Plan categorises Reserve types and their service levels. As Omarama is not classed as a sports field, it is not maintained as one and is not funded from the district sports ground rate.