



APPENDICES MINUTES

**Paekākāriki Community Board
Meeting**

Tuesday, 22 August 2023

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The Greater Wellington Regional Council
Attn: CE GWRC

August 15 2023

Dear Nigel Corry,

We are a group of concerned residents of Paekākāriki who have been discussing the urgent need for a public toilet located on the Paekākāriki Railway Station platform.

Overall we believe that compared with other 'tourist towns' our public toilets here in Paekākāriki are very poor. In particular we believe that the growing number of train and bus commuters which includes workers, school students, cyclists, visitors and travellers are not well catered for due to the fact there is no public toilet on or near the railway station.

A number of commuters who drive or cycle from Raumati to park and ride from Paekākāriki are also inconvenienced.

Having a toilet on the platform is essential for those waiting for a train (sometimes delayed), people who have walked a long way from home, the very young and the older members of the community whose bladders are not always able to cope with a long wait. We have heard sad and scary tales from desperate commuters who have had to find their own solutions to the problem.

The closest toilets to the Paekākāriki Railway station are on the corner of Beach Rd and Wellington Rd but they are a long walk from the station especially for the very young and older commuters. Also they are not easy to navigate for people with mobility issues, nor are they available outside of normal working hours.

Walkers, particularly on the Escarpment Track, visit Paekākāriki in numbers (increasing numbers over the summer months) and often need a toilet urgently at the end of their walk but the lack of public toilets close to the train track means some of them currently use inappropriate places - like the bush track. There are no toilets located along the track.

We have been advised by the Metlink Contact Centre, Greater Wellington Regional Council, that the following stations on the Kapiti line have toilet facilities:

Waikanae
Paraparaumu
Paekākāriki
Plimmerton
Porirua
Wellington

We know there are at least four toilets located inside the Paekākāriki Station building but none are open or available to the public which is absurd.

It is noted that the station is a heritage building as are many of the sheds and tracks around the area. Residents would love to have an all-gender public toilet that is designed in a sympathetic

way to these buildings but would be happy also if we could use one or two of the toilets currently inside the building.

It is also noted that if a train journey lasts for more than an hour, a toilet must be provided on the train for travellers' well-being. Trains from Paekākāriki to Wellington can take that long, as can the train-buses, and the commuters still have no toilet facility before or after the ride from Paekākāriki.

Waikanae station now has two new toilets available on the platform for the comfort of travellers, and new ones are being built at Plimmerton. We need and would appreciate the same or similar toilets available in Paekakariki.

Please enjoy this article I have provided a link to.

https://thespinoff.co.nz/society/22-05-2023/wellingtons-train-network-has-a-wee-problem?utm_source=spinoff-share-button&utm_medium=spinoff-web-mobile

Nga mihi

Robina Smythe
Jude Galtry
Kamala Patel
Dave Johnson
Graham Coe
Michael O'Leary

We are the Needaloo Group.

This letter has been copied to Mayor Janet Holborow, Kapiti Coast District Council, Penny Gaylor - Kapiti Coast representative on GWRC, Councillor Sophie Handford - Paekākāriki -Raumati Ward, and David Haxton, Editor Kapiti News.

KAPITI ART FACTS

Economic

In 2022 KCDC commissioned an Economic Profile report from Infometrics. Key findings were as follows:

- In 2022 the Arts and Recreation industry contributed \$47.1mil to the local KCDC economy which was 1.9% of the total. This was higher than the national level which was 1.2%.
- In 2022 the Arts and Recreation industry in Kapiti grew 6.6% over 2021.
- The Arts and Recreation industry in Kapiti employs 381 people which is 2% of the total employed. The percentage nationally is 1.8%.

Support

In 2020 Creative New Zealand commissioned Colmar Brunton to undertake a research study entitled '*New Zealanders and the Arts 2020: Attitudes, attendance and participation*'. This was a continuation of a research series undertaken every three years.

Key findings were as follows:

- 47% of New Zealanders over 15 attended a **visual arts event** in the previous 12 months. Attendance in Wellington was considerably higher with **Wellington City at 60% and Wellington region at 55%**. Nationally of those attending a visual arts event 20% attended, once and 77% attended more than once (3% did not know).
- 39% of New Zealanders over 15 attended a **craft or object art event** in the previous 12 months. In both **Wellington City and Wellington region the attendance was higher at 44%**. Nationally of those who attended an event, 25% attended once and 72% attended more than once (3% did not know).
- **54% of New Zealanders over 15 agreed that local councils 'should give money to support the arts.'** Only **8% disagreed** and the in **Wellington the support was higher at 64%**.
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