



DUNEDIN
CITY COUNCIL | kaunihera
a-rohe o
Ōtepoti

Statement of Proposal
Town Belt
Reserve Management Plan Review 2024



Introduction

The Dunedin City Council (DCC) is beginning a review of the Town Belt Management Plan (Town Belt Plan) ([link here](#)).

This statement of proposal sets out background information, what is being proposed, reasons for the proposal, how submissions on the proposal can be made and how long the consultation period will run for.

Management plans are a requirement under the Reserves Act 1977 to ensure proper management of reserves and they must be regularly reviewed. The Town Belt Plan was last reviewed by the Council in 2007. The 2024 review will allow the DCC to respond to the community's changing needs and requirements and to introduce best practice models and trends.

It is also a requirement under the Act to consult with the public when a reserve management plan is being created or reviewed.

Background

The Town Belt lies between Dunedin's hill suburbs and the city centre. It is a unique and important asset to the city, a high profile public reserve, and is one of only three Victorian Town Belts in the world. It is recognised and appreciated for its recreational, landscape, amenity, ecological, cultural, historical and educational values. It covers 202 hectares across Mornington, Roslyn, Maori Hill, Woodhaugh and Opoho and is made up of about 50 reserves, including 22 sportsgrounds.

The Town Belt is a remaining fragment of the great ngahere (forests) that grew around Dunedin. Māori used the area for hunting and resource gathering and the Toitū stream, which flows through the area, was important to them.

It has a network of tracks through woodland and parks as well as significant trees, historic buildings and panoramic views of the city, harbour and surrounding hills. The historic Southern and Northern Cemeteries are in the Town Belt. Although the Dunedin Botanic Garden is included, it has its own management plan.

Events are hosted in several areas of the Town Belt. It is also used for education purposes through Town Belt Kaitiaki, a student-led education programme for Dunedin schools and early childhood centres.

DCC's pest and weed control is supported by Predator Free Dunedin's City Sanctuary and community and school groups. Educational conservation panels are scattered throughout the area.

The Dunedin Amenities Society has been involved in preserving, protecting and developing the Town Belt since 1888.

What we're proposing for consultation

In accordance with the requirement of the Act, we will publicly notify our intention to review the Town Belt Plan and invite feedback from interested parties. As well as advertising in the Otago Daily Times and the Star, we will notify the media and encourage feedback through social media and the DCC's website.

Have your say

We would like to know what you think about the Town Belt, what the issues are and how these issues can be resolved. We would like to hear how you think reserves within the Town Belt Recreation Area can be best used and managed. We are interested in your thoughts on the future use of the Town Belt

Your feedback will help shape the updated Town Belt Plan. The draft of this will undergo further public engagement later in 2024. Parks and Recreation Services staff will be available to discuss the Town Belt Plan and explain how to make submissions.

The submission period runs from Monday, 4 March 2024 to Monday, 1 April 2024.

How to give feedback

Feedback can be made via:

- Online: www.dunedin.govt.nz/consultation
- Email to: parcsconsulting@dcc.govt.nz
- Post to:
Town Belt Reserve Management Plan Submissions
Parks and Recreation Services
Attention: Katie Eglesfield
Dunedin City Council PO Box 5045
Dunedin 9054
- Hand delivery to a DCC service centre or library.

For any queries, please email parcsconsulting@dcc.govt.nz

What happens next?

- The submission period is from Monday, 4 March 2024 to Monday, 1 April 2024
- Parks and Recreation staff will review feedback and prepare a draft Town Belt Reserve Management Plan
- Later in 2024, the draft plan will be notified for public consultation, with details about how to make submissions.

Please note: Your name and submission will be made public as part of the DCC's decision-making process. This information will be included in papers available to the public and the media but will only be used for the Town Belt Reserve Management Plan consultation.

Late submissions may not be accepted.

Thank you for your submission.