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Enquiries to: Jennie Cox
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Tēnā koe Ian

REQ208325 Williamson Pond

Request Details: *Since our last correspondence TCDC set up a stormwater workshop with stakeholder engagement. I am one of the ratepayers (stakeholders) representatives at the workshops. The intent was to create a master plan of stormwater improvements to minimise and where possible mitigate surface flooding. I want to keep this request just to the Williamson Pond within the CSDC 105667 (TCDC Whangamata) for the moment. We 'the stakeholders' disagree with a recent TCDC decision to install a 'wetland' within the Williamson Park where the current pond is located. We will be taking this decision to the Ombudsman for review (for obvious reasons) if TCDC does not withdraw the decision. TCDC has stated it is in receipt of a letter from WRC (but won't provide it) claiming WRC has stated that WRC require a 'wetland' in the Williamson Park. To remove doubt this was communicated to us in a workshop by the TCDC delegated staff official conducting these workshops as a non-negotiable requirement. My request:*
1. If the WRC letter exists, please provide an unredacted copy.
2. If the WRC letter exists, please include any background correspondence between TCDC and WRC leading up to the letter regarding a 'wetland' proposal, concept or intention or other options that could be applied to improve the current situation.
3. If there are any limitations or requirements in support of the WRC letter please provide these as well.
4. Has TCDC even discussed a 'wetland' for Williamson Park with WRC?
5. If the WRC letter exists, please provide the application and or request for 'wetland' from TCDC showing how the 'wetland' would meet the current 2020 version of the WRC Stormwater Management Guidelines pages 190-205. I have a copy of this document.
6. Has there been any subsequent amendments to this guide in relation to 'wetlands'.

If so please provide a link for me. We have a community board meeting next week (Tuesday). 021607611 221 Bellona Road Whangamata ian@moisturedetection.co.nz

Council Response:
The letter described in point 1 was provided to you by email on 5 April 2024.

The Team Leader, Consents (Hugh Keane) has discussed with you your concerns on the proposed TCDC re-design of the Williamson Park stormwater pond. To summarise those conversations, we have captured the following points.

- The comprehensive stormwater discharge consents have requirements for TCDC to investigate and make improvements to their stormwater (s/w) management through the term of the consents.

- For Whangamata, TCDC are proposing the conversion of the Williamson Park s/w soakage pond into a constructed wetland to better treat the s/w prior to discharge to the dunes.

- While WRC hasn't required this specific improved treatment option, we have accepted TCDC's design as being best practice in line with the requirements of the s/w consent and an improvement for the treatment of s/w runoff from that urban sub-catchment.

- Mr Keane has discussed TCDC's wetland proposal with you over the phone and via emails that this is a TCDC decision, as they hold the s/w consent and manage the s/w network for the Whangamata community.

To provide you with the background documents you are seeking we have collated the correspondence and technical reports from the file. This correspondence and the technical reports regarding the pond will be provided to you by a separate link – CoreShare – where you will be able to download the files, or review from the website.

If you wish to discuss this, please feel free to contact me.

Nāku iti nei, nā

Jennie Cox
Official Information And Privacy Advisor, Democracy