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# Submission to Council

for a

# D R I F T C I R C U I T

in the

B A Y O F PLENTY

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D R I F T C I R C U I T B O P

The BOP is the 2nd fastest growing region in NZ – between 2013 & 2018 the region’s population grew 15.2% to 308,499, and with this continued growth there must become more entertainment facilities. There are only so many days a week one wishes to go to the beach which is a seasonal activity. The Sun newspaper on Friday 25 October 2019 confirmed that Northland, Waikato, and Bay of Plenty were the fastest-growing regions in the year ended 30 June 2019. Bay of Plenty had a growth of 2 per cent, which is greater than the national average of 1.6 per cent. Waikato had a growth of 2.1 per cent.

We are a city and as such we need to be providing facilities in order to teach our youth about acceptable behaviour, when and where to cut loose. The Drift (D1) Community has added its support and are also looking for a venue close to home not only for their own use but also to add to their list of circuits for their meets. I have had strong support from the Waikato who are very keen to be part of this as well. It is my hope that these adult drifters will become great mentors for our youth and in return our youth will learn responsible skills, appreciation of machinery, learn repairs and maintenance but also how to have fun in an environment that is specifically theirs to use.

The Police and the media have done a wonderful job of linking both those that wish to break the law and those who are passionate about motorsport in the same category, this is of course incorrect. The passionate motorsport drifting youth have no-where to go to practice their craft in our city. The survey shows that potentially 117 of our youth will be rehomed at the circuit and this is just the start.

With a lot of our youth being employed within the kiwifruit industry they quite often don’t have the luxury of planning weekend trips to other venues. They must work when its dry and take their time off when its wet especially at harvest time. The dairy industry has its own restraints with early starts, late finishes with a bit of a break during the day if lucky, which reinforces the need for a local facility.

I have called upon the Government to support this initiative due to the high number of youths who are appearing in the court system. The Prime Minister has noted my concerns and referred my correspondence to the Minister of Justice, The Minister of Police and the Minister for Local Government.

So, the Council can understand that there is a real need and real support to move this venture forward, on the 2nd of October I started a live survey to collect data to support my submission and now I am happy to present my findings. Our youth need a place away from the law and the court system to behave their age with their peers, to feel invigorated and rejuvenated………. Drifting is a natural adrenalin sport that should be encouraged for good mental health.

The survey has produced several people that have offered their help, support and expertise as far as running events, circuit design etc, and a volunteer drift community ambassador. Youth are stating that they are wanting this as a positive alternative to what they are currently engaged in.

I envisage a system whereby car entrants would book a time at the facility to keep demand ticking over because if people must wait with an indefinite time frame, they will lose interest. As far as circuit time goes these variations in industry work times will be extremely helpful towards alleviating the heavy usage days for the circuit and skid pad as shown by data which are Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

This submission is already a good 10 years too late, and as stated to the Prime Minister if in 2009 when ‘The Vehicle Confiscation and Seizure Bill 2009’ was put in place, if Judith Collins had have had the foresight then to start putting venues in where youth could practice their craft I would not be addressing this now. The Council needs to act now with urgency because the sport is growing and the number of youths in the Bay of Plenty is growing.

**SUMMARY OF SURVEY:**

Considering I have only managed to tap into a relatively small percentage of the BOP population just under 1000 people (with a 36.6% response rate) by using social media my survey only received 1 no but he wishes to access the circuit every day of the week?

* 359 people believe we need a drift circuit in the Bay of Plenty and 5 maybes’
* 306 males and 59 females responded
* The largest group of respondents were between 18-28 years of age at 213, (which is the target age group of street drifters) followed by 96 respondents between 29-39 years of age.
* The responder’s regions were Te Puke with 89

Papamoa with 43

Tauranga with 133

Greater BOP with 18

Waikato with 37

Auckland with 9

Gisborne with 2

Hawkes Bay with 2

Rotorua with 12

Taupo with 3

Wellington with 13

Taranaki with 2

Brisbane with 1

Canterbury with 1

* Interests: competitive 171

Casual 297

Training 202

Spectator 224

Supporter 198

Drift Taxi 96

Other – 21

fun x4

Photographer x1

Circuit racing x1

Car builder x1

Mechanic x1

Community member x1

Supportive local farmer x1

Burnouts x1

Parent of a Drifter x1

All of the above x1

Other x3

Don’t like them in the street – making all that mess and noise

See a need to provide somewhere for young drivers so they can have fun without breaking the law or endangering people and property

Community member who observes the need for young people who enjoy this past time to have facilities available

* 312 said they would pay an entrance fee and 43 were maybe
* 110 said they would make a financial contribution (donation) for on-going running costs and 185 said maybe
* 130 fully equipped vehicles ready for the circuit

110 not yet equipped vehicles

68 would consider purchasing a vehicle for this purpose

=308 vehicles

* 111 vehicles will drive to the track and carry spare tyres

182 vehicles are not road legal and will be trailered to the track

6 vehicles are neither road legal nor have a trailer

=299 vehicle

* 153 would like a drift circuit

15 would like a skid pad

176 would like both

20 have no preference

* 111 would like to develop their skills to circuit drifting, 16 are maybe
* The days of the week are showing a need for the facility to be open everyday

Monday 128

Tuesday 117

Wednesday 131

Thursday 152

Friday 287

Saturday 348

Sunday 334

* The preferred opening hours are as follows:

7am – 75 8am – 78 9am – 62 10am – 28 24/7 – 54 Any – 10

* The preferred closing hours are:

5pm – 57 6pm – 36 7pm – 40 8pm – 33 9pm – 22 10pm – 47

12am – 42 Any – 10

Subject to seasons

The suggestion has been put forward for 24/7 from Friday to Sunday

There have been many requests for twilight drifting

* 194 are available for further contact and 84 are maybe

**ENVIRONMENTAL:**

Each year around 5 million tyres come to the end of their life in New Zealand and until now most have ended up in landfills, paddocks, storage sheds, or being illegally dumped.

While manufacturers are becoming greener thinking / more environmentally friendly focused they are still in the conceptual stages for general purpose tyres only. There is no plan by any company at this stage to develop a more environmentally friendly tyre for motorsports.

Our youth drifters will mainly be recycling old tyres so in theory they will not be contributing to the volume or increase in volume of tyre purchases.

The Wiri Recycling Plant will be processing 3 million tyres each year, that can be used as a fuel source mainly in cement. A 2nd plant in the South Island will be opening in late 2019, so in the future we may have the capacity to recycle all recyclable tyres here.

Until New Zealand can take the full capacity, Southern Xpress Head Office Christchurch, agent Te Puna will provide a cage and collection for the tyres from the drift circuit at a cost of $3.50 per tyre (payable by the owner). These tyres will be sent to India and turned into fuel.

**Track Clean down:**

A large blower

**Toilets:**

Hopefully compostable, while working these into the plan a cheap interim option of port-a-loos from Hire Pool at the Mount would have a lease price of approximately $100 per month with 1 free clean.

**FUNDING SOURCES:**

* Te Puke and Tauranga Councils – match fund ( the project requires to put up financial funding itself in order to apply to other funding agencies).

OR open to any other financial assistance Tauranga and Western Bay Councils may offer

* Bay Of Plenty Regional Council
* Local Government – Hon Nanaia Mahuta Minister of Local Government
* The Lottery Significant Projects Fund - The Lottery Significant Projects Committee aims to invest in projects that will help build closer and stronger communities by increasing people’s participation and social interaction at a regional or national level. The fund provides grants to purchase, create or improve community assets that have regional or national significance. It provides grants for these capital expenditure projects with a total cost of $3 million or more.

If the grant applicant is deemed a non-profit organisation, then grant applications can be made to the following:

* Lion Foundation – no January meeting – meet monthly and application requires 2 competing quotes. There are 4 venues in Tauranga and 2 in Te Puke so can apply.
* Pub Charity – for amateur sport, meetings are held at the end of the month and advised within a week.
* TECT Trust – application request needs to be 3 months prior to final date when requiring a decision. Approval process takes 7 weeks from the cut-off date. Meet monthly. Application under Community Amenities/Community Development Fund and cut of date is the 1st of every month.
* BayTrust – Application under the Communities Amenities Fund is for over $100,000 and allocated annually and application under Strategic Partnership funding over $100,000 is quarterly.
* The Southern Trust – requests larger than $30,000 are reviewed at the next available monthly BOT’s meeting. No cut-off dates. Available for amateur sport and application will be made under ‘funding for sport’.

It is crucial that the Council move urgently on this so that funding applications can be forwarded to venues, therefore have a response early in the New Year so that work can commence a.s.a.p.

**FINANCIALS:**

The potential income based on the survey responses are:

Potential financial contribution for on-going running costs (donation): x52 weeks = $83,148.00

14 memberships x 100 = $1400.00

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$84,548.00

Potential one-off contributions =$27,137.00

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$111,685.00

Potential Council match fund =$111,685.00

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$223,370.00

This will be a great start so that funding applications can get underway.

**CONSIDERATIONS:**

Lighting for twilight drifting

**FOR A LATER DATE:**

For Non- Compliant Drifter Drivers: $25k – 30K

‘The Right Track Programme’ owned and initially setup by ‘The Eduk8 Trust’

“Over the course of time it changes their attitudes”

“To educate someone is one thing but to then go on and change behaviour and attitudes is so much more powerful.”

Waikato gained funding from Dept. of Corrections

Oranga Tamariki

NZ Police

District Health Boards

Ministry of Health

Fire and Emergency

Justice Dept.

Waikato already has contacts throughout Police DHB Trauma Teams and Courts that we could tap into.

**To view the full results from this survey please visit:** <https://bit.ly/2LK6HVB> **OR** <https://surveyhero.com/results/171957/9302bd77827ce5865353e5cf9d279400>