

Features

The Hawke's Bay Multi-Use Velodrome would be a modern sport and recreation facility catering for a range of activities, for example, court sports (basketball, futsal, volleyball etc.), track cycling, and general recreation including walking and running. It would also have the potential to host concerts, conferences, exhibitions, dinners, trade shows and other events. It would include:

- A 3,000m² (approx.) infield featuring three courts suitable for court sports and other uses, including non-sporting events
- A 250m indoor timber cycling track designed to meet requirements for national and smaller international competitions
- A 300m indoor walking/running track
- Space for equipment storage, maintenance and repair services

When cyclists are on the track, the three multi-use courts located on the infield could be used at the same time as walkers/joggers could use the walking/running track located on the spectator level.

Benefits

A Hawke's Bay Multi-Use Velodrome fits three of Council's community outcomes and resulting benefits; providing infrastructure and services to support good health and wellbeing; safe and accessible recreational facilities, and supporting a strong prosperous and thriving economy.

There is demand for additional indoor courts in Napier, particularly from basketball, futsal and volleyball. This is documented in the Hawke's Bay Regional Sport Facilities Plan (2015), Sport New Zealand National Indoor Facilities Strategy (2014) and Basketball New Zealand Facilities Guide (2014).

If it was located adjacent to the Pettigrew.Green Arena (PGA) additional features would include:

- Enhancing PGA as an indoor event venue - doubling the number of courts available would make it more attractive to regional and national competition organisers
- Utilisation of existing PGA facilities which would reduce the project's scope and costs
- A significant Eastern Institute of Technology (EIT) sports presence, including a sports lab. EIT is also interested in partnering and developing a relationship with a university to enhance the delivery of sport and recreation programmes locally.
- Good access to roads, bus and cycle trails, and greater proximity to Hastings and Central Hawke's Bay
- 25,000 students live within 15km of PGA
- 105,000 residents live within 15km of PGA

This kind of facility could bring a boost to our local accommodation providers, as regional and national events bring in plenty of visitors – competitors and supporters – and boost other businesses.

It could have positive flow on effects for the local economy, with business owners thinking of moving here having another state of the art sport facility to factor into their lifestyle considerations. If a partnership between EIT and a university comes to fruition it will also boost our local tertiary education opportunities.

There has also been significant interest in Hawke's Bay having a velodrome to support continued growth in cycling in a safe and managed way. The cycling track in this facility would cater for people aged 10 and over, of different abilities, including school, club and recreational users.

The Cambridge and Invercargill facilities, and others around the world have proved their popularity. For example, in the 12 months to June 2015 more than 25,000 community rides, excluding elite and event use, took place at the Cambridge facility.

Cycling NZ is interested in making this facility one of their regional performance hubs. This would mean increased opportunities for elite and pre-elite riders, including locals to train here and at other cycling facilities. For local talent it could mean the difference between having to leave and staying in Hawke's Bay longer.