

PUBLIC INVITED TO HAVE SAY ON FUTURE OF ILOTT GREEN

Wellington residents are being urged to take part in a public discussion about the future of the Ilott Green site.

“This is a special and sentimental pocket of green space in the centre of Wellington and it’s important that everyone who wants to have a say about its future can do so”, says Wellington Civic Trust chair Di Buchan.

The Trust’s next biennial seminar will canvas the topic “Development ideas for Ilott Green” on Saturday 21 August 2004, 9.00am, at Te Papa.

Ms Buchan says, “The topic is designed to encourage debate and explore options for the site – everything from a high-rise building to a redeveloped green open space.”

She says the Wellington City Council recently approved a proposal for a 27 metre high building and negotiations were underway with Victoria and Massey universities for the establishment of a joint music school in the building – but all that is now on hold.

“The Trust is not specifically opposed to the concept of a music school but wants to ensure there is proper public discussion and a range of options canvassed,” Ms Buchan says.

“We take issue with the Council’s decision that public consultation was not necessary for the current proposal for Ilott Green.”

The Civic Trust points out that a parliamentary select committee has recognised the importance of public scrutiny of any proposals for the site.

People wishing to attend the August seminar should register their interest with Wellington Civic Trust secretary, Margery Renwick, phone 475 9727 or email renwick.glenmore@xtra.co.nz

Ends

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