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Rolleston Project wins Award

Selwyn District Council has won an award from the New Zealand Planning Institute for its work on developing plans to guide Rolleston's future development.

The Council won a Best Practice Award in the Strategic Planning and Guidance category for the "Rolleston - Your Town...Your Future" project. Planning consultants Boffa Miskell and recreation and leisure consultants Global Leisure provided technical expertise and advice on the project.

By 2031 it is expected that Rolleston's population will grow from around 10,000 to approximately 20,000. The Rolleston "Your Town ...Your Future" project focuses on how the development of a town centre and a new recreation park can improve the quality of life of people living in Rolleston and Selwyn District. The overall project is made up of two separate Masterplans for the Town Centre area and Foster Recreation Park to the east of the town centre.

The Rolleston Town Centre Masterplan focuses on developing a town centre and a main street as the heart of Rolleston, attracting people to shop and work in the town and to provide new facilities and public places for people to enjoy. The plan includes the development of a new library, community and technology centre and town square.

The Foster Recreation Park Masterplan outlines the development of the Park as the largest sport and recreation park in Selwyn. The park will be able to be used for sports games and training, for walking and cycling, recreation and community events. The park will also include a children's play area.

The Rolleston project involved a cross organisation Council team involving staff from the planning, open spaces, roading and community services, and consultants from Boffa Miskell and Global Leisure. Two community steering groups were also established at the start of the projects and have overseen the project development.

New Zealand Planning Institute judges said they decided to recognise the Rolleston project as both projects had achieved a number of best practice outcomes in planning, recreational planning and urban design. "It is an excellent example of a collaborative approach to visioning and forward planning, bringing together a range of disciplines and a number of diverse (and conflicting) public and private sector aspirations."

372 submissions were received on both Masterplans, and indicated there was a high level of public support for both plans. The plans are expected to be adopted later this month by Selwyn District Council, with any changes arising from submissions.

Ends

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