

## Annual Plan Hearing

The submission by the Onepoto Lagoon Co-ordination Committee (OLCC) to the draft North Shore City Council Annual Plan seeking funding to be set aside for the dredging and re-instatement of the Onepoto ponds was heard on 22 May 2008.

The submission presented requested \$300,000 for the work, based on the size of the pond, estimated volume of silt to be removed and costs for similar stormwater pond maintenance costs.



The presentation further recommended that the dredging should be carried out immediately prior to the installation of the aerating fountains which are to be installed as part of the Northcote Centenary this year.

In support of this request, the evidence presented included:

1. The level of use of the ponds by the Electrons, Ancient mariners and the NZ Radio Control Yacht Squadron.



2. A series of photos of the pond problems:



3. A sample of emails describing the pond conditions as they affected racing.

The questions from the Council included asking if the yacht clubs were noted in the Onepoto Domain Reserve Management Plan (which all 3 are), whether the proposal for dredging was discussed with the Community Board (the matter was discussed with the Chair of the Community Board and a member during 2006) and whether the ponds were identified as stormwater ponds (which they are in the management plan).

Councillor Chris Darby expressed interest in whether or not the ponds were 'live or dead' ponds and whether any biological assessment had been carried out. So, I was able to talk about the WaiCare water quality and biological monitoring that the OLCC had carried out over the past year and the results that have been logged on to the website: <http://www.waicare.org.nz/site/groups/onepot-o-lagoon-coordination-committee.aspx>

The Council will be deliberating on submissions over the next couple of weeks. So, we hope to hear favourably soon.

