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**Fw: Liquor application submission concern**

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**Paul McIntosh** <pmcintosh64@yahoo.com>

Thu, Jun 1, 2023 at 3:58 PM

To: Lynette Graham | Traffic Concepts &lt;lynette@tcl.kiwi&gt;

Cc: OurMapua Email &lt;info@ourmapua.org&gt;, Marion Satherley &lt;marionawayfromhome@gmail.com&gt;

Gary / Lynette,

Thanks for your feedback on the Liquor Licencing discussion at the recent May MDCA Public Meeting.

As Chair, I am very much aware of, and have made clear on multiple occasions, that the MDCA does not represent/speak for the community. Neither, as you point out, is our membership demographically representative of the community as a whole, but membership is open to all residents.

As you noted, MDCA's remit is broadly defined by the constitution and as such open to interpretation, however MDCA's priorities/projects/engagements only need to be approved by membership - and these activities may or may not be supported by the majority of residents/businesses/faith groups etc.

Regarding the Liquor Licencing issue specifically, based on our understanding of the constitution the MDCA executive did unanimously support putting a motion to object to members. This decision was based on established public health concerns on the impact of having hard liquor (spirits in particular) becoming prominently for sale potentially at multiple outlets within our community. Jim's presentation represented his personal/professional views as an MDCA member and former GP (similarly to Jan Heijs's presentation the prior month reflected his views on our Wastewater network). The membership vote on making a submission on this issue indicated that there was a majority of like-minded members present (and some via email) in support of opposing new liquor stores, and consequently the MDCA executive worked with Jim to draft the final submission document.

Per your comment below questioning whether MDCA members vote on this issue "*is a reflection of the wider community's position on this matter*", you may well be correct, but this does not mean that members are not entitled to their opinions too. All residents had the opportunity to support or oppose these new liquor outlets, and based on the number of submission made MDCA was just one of many voices heard.

As per normal process, both your original email and this reply have been entered into MDCA correspondence and further discussion on this matter can be requested during *Matters Arising /General Business* at our next Public Meeting

Best regards,  
Paul McIntosh

MDCA Chair

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