



Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ngāmotu
NEW PLYMOUTH
DISTRICT COUNCIL
newplymouthnz.com

OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY - 30 YEARS



October 2015



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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

New Plymouth District is unique for its diversity of recreation and open spaces including beaches, walkways, rivers and streams, recreational trails, neighbourhood parks, swimming pools, playgrounds, skate parks, sports parks, the mountain and cemeteries. The access that is available to these recreation and open spaces, to Mount Taranaki and to the sea forms part of the district's identity. These are important features that attract people to New Plymouth District.

Sport and recreation activities are an essential part of many peoples lives. Participation in recreation and sport contributes to a healthy community, provides ways for people to interact with each other and improves social cohesion.

While the population in New Plymouth District is increasing and is likely to continue to do so, we need to ensure that we have a consistent long-term decision-making framework for the delivery of open space, sport and recreation.

The Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy (replacing the District Leisure Plan 1999), addresses the key issues and emerging trends discussed in the Background Document dated August 2014, by providing a strategic framework to plan for open space, sport and recreation for the community for the next 30 years.

The strategy identifies New Plymouth District Council's level of service for providing open space and recreation facilities that meet community recreational needs. It includes criteria to guide decision making for buying or disposing of open space and identifies opportunities for improving and enhancing recreational opportunities (such as bridle trails and mountain bike tracks).

The strategy provides a framework for the following vision:

'Great spaces and places for an active and healthy community'

Ensuring connections between open spaces is also an important consideration so they are accessible to the community. Having strong partnerships with stakeholders will ensure that the community and users of recreation and open spaces are supported.

The strategy proposes to achieve the following goals for the next 30 years.

- 1. Our spaces are appropriately located***
- 2. Our spaces make it easy to exercise, play, socialise and relax***
- 3. Recreation and open space contributes to community identity, vibrancy and sense of place***
- 4. Facilities encourage ease of participation and maximise spectator enjoyment***
- 5. The delivery of sport and recreation is supported***
- 6. Our biodiversity and cultural heritage is protected and valued as an experience***



2. INTRODUCTION

Open spaces and recreation contribute positively to social, physical and mental well-being. They also have positive benefits for the local economy and help preserve and enhance the natural environment.

Open spaces and recreation facilities contribute to great lifestyle opportunities that attract people to the district and make them want to stay.

Open spaces in this district hold a special place in the heart of residents. Looking after these spaces enhances community pride.

Year after year, surveys show that more than 90 per cent of New Plymouth residents use open spaces. Satisfaction with these spaces is consistently more than 95 per cent.

For these reasons it is imperative that we continue to plan for open spaces and recreation facilities that meet the current and future needs of the community.

This Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy sets out the strategic direction for Council-owned facilities, open spaces and the many features within. The strategy also outlines the leadership and support the Council will give to 'key partners' who also have a role in the delivery of open space, sport and recreation.

*Left: Te Rewa Rewa Living
Legends Planting Day 2014*

2.1 What is recreation and open space?

Open spaces comprise land that is owned and/or administered by New Plymouth District Council. This strategy will cover public open spaces, public indoor recreational facilities, public outdoor high performance venues and recreational facilities.

Public open spaces are land and water areas, including beaches, available to the public for sport, recreational, cultural, conservation and leisure purposes.

Facilities are sites and infrastructure required for people to participate in sport and recreation.

Recreation is activity undertaken for lifestyle, well-being, health and/or enjoyment. This may include playing in a playground, walking, going for a run, biking to work, dancing, kicking a ball around in the park or playing a sport. It may be participated in either individually, with a group or as a team.

Sport is physical activity that is competitive, organised, involves the observation of rules, and may be participated in either individually or as a team.



What do people like doing in Taranaki?

A 2013 survey found that the top five most popular participation activities in Taranaki are:

- Swimming (31 per cent)
- Fishing (18 per cent)
- Cycling (17 per cent)
- Jogging/running (15 per cent)
- Tramping (13 per cent)

From top: Barrett's Lagoon; Yarrow Stadium; TSB Stadium; Tapuae

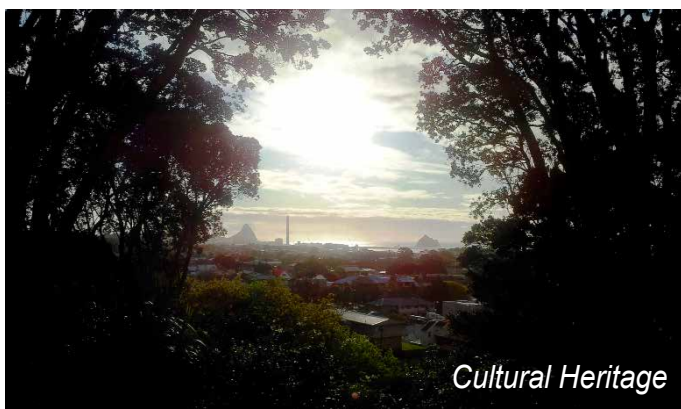
2.2 What is the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy?



Sports and Recreation Open Spaces



Civic Spaces



Cultural Heritage



Neighbourhood Parks

The Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy is a long-term planning document that will help the Council plan, develop and manage Council-owned recreation and open spaces within the district, in a way that meets the current and future needs of the community.

The strategy:

1. Sets clear goals for recreation and open spaces including consideration of:
 - High performance sport needs;
 - Connectivity and use of open space for community accessibility;
 - Regional biodiversity objectives; and
 - Local identity and sense of place amenity.
2. Defines levels of service for open space and recreation facility provision.
3. Identifies options for purchasing land that has a high potential to meet community recreational needs or is required through level of service provision.
4. Includes criteria for purchasing new open spaces and disposing of land and facilities that offer limited opportunities or public benefit.
5. Identifies opportunities for improving and enhancing recreation opportunities, including opportunities for bridle trails, mountain bike tracks and a dog park (as identified during the Community Plan 2009-2019 consultation process).

This strategy has been developed with consideration of demographics, future trends, research and national and local studies.

For clarity the strategy does not focus on:

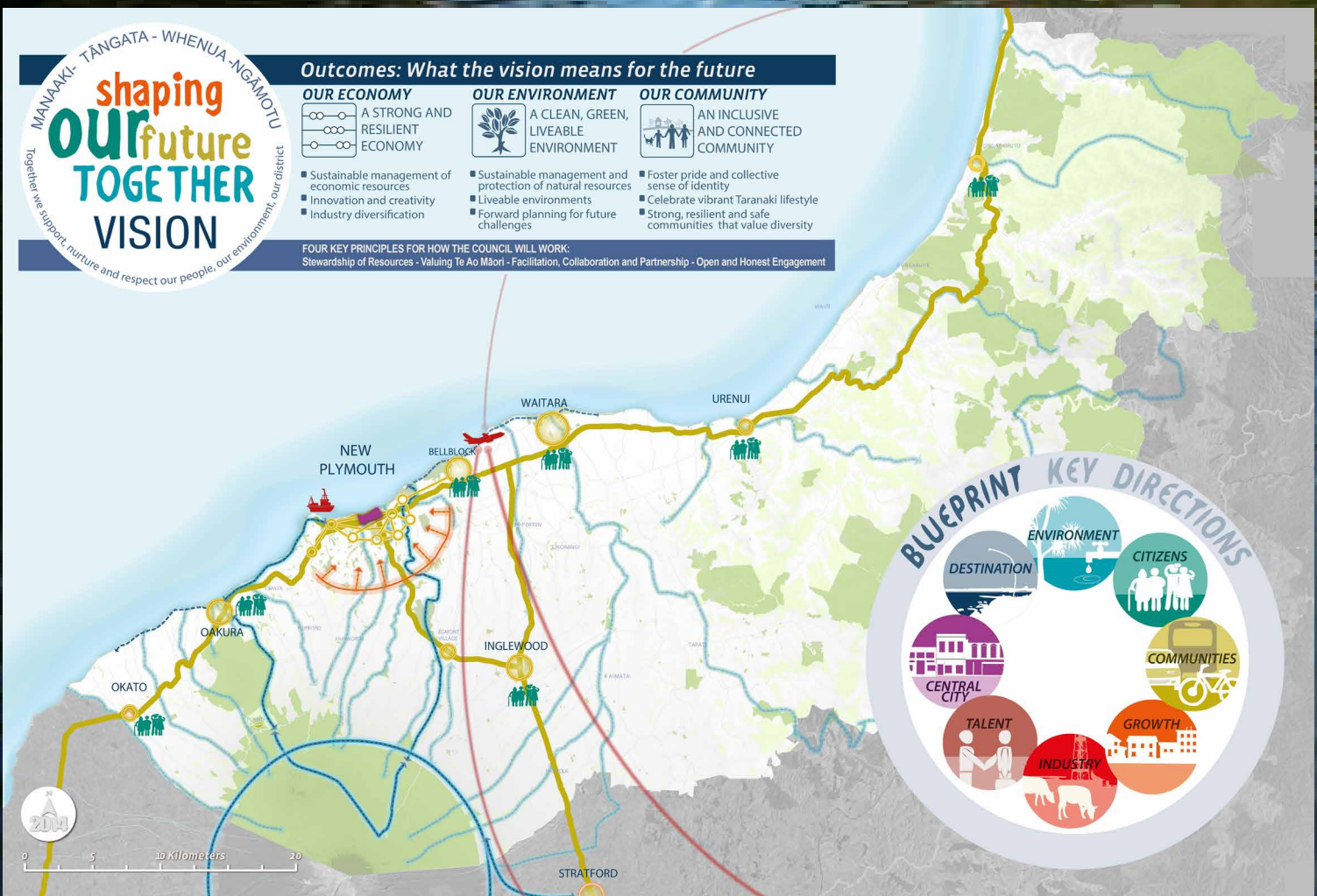
- Assets within private land.
- Libraries.
- Cultural venues not associated with open space, e.g. TSB Showplace.

From top: Sportsfield; Brougham Street/Puke Ariki; Marsland Hill; Wallace Place Reserve



New Plymouth District Council's Integrated Planning Framework

The vision and goals of the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy will assist the Council to achieve its Shaping Our Future Together vision and Blueprint key directions through the clarification of the Council's role, direction and initiatives articulated in this strategy. The Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy informs the future development and review of the Long-Term Plan, Infrastructure Strategy and District Plan. The strategy also provides a consistent decision-making framework for the delivery of open space, sport and recreation for the many proposals and opportunities that are presented.



2.3 The Council's role in open space

The Council has an active role in the provision of recreation and open space within New Plymouth District but more specifically has the following roles.

Provide, develop, and maintain recreational facilities and open spaces under the purpose of the Local Government Act 2002. The purpose of local government in the Act sets out that the Council has a broad responsibility to ensure good quality infrastructure is provided that meets the current and future needs of the community.

Manage and administer recreation and open spaces often in Crown ownership, through the preparation and implementation of reserve management plans under the Reserves Act 1977.

Protect and preserve the recreation and open space network from inappropriate use and development under the Reserves Act 1977, Local Government Act 2002 and Resource Management Act 1991.

Have **partnerships** with Taranaki Regional Council, Stratford District Council, South Taranaki District Council, tangata whenua, community groups, schools, funders and other government-funded agencies that provide recreation and open space opportunities.

Advocate the importance of recreation and open spaces to the community through strategic documents, plans and information.

Undertake ongoing **research and planning** during the preparation of strategies and management plans to meet the needs of existing and future generations.

Fund long-term plan projects and community events such as guided walks. The actions within this strategy require funding in the long-term plan to varying degrees.

Deliver a limited number of programmes including learn to swim, aqua-aerobics and guided walks. Currently the Council does not deliver any programmes in stadiums or halls.

Facilitates sport and recreation with open space and the strategic direction of facilities.

Right: Whitecliffs Walkway



2.4 Who are the key partners?

The delivery of open space, sport and recreation is not something that the Council undertakes on its own. There are many key players identified below, that are integral to the delivery, management and development of open space, sport and recreation.

The implementation of the strategy for the next 30 years will require ongoing collaboration with these key partners.

Tangata Whenua



Working with tangata whenua is important to ensure that heritage resources of cultural and natural value within open spaces are preserved and protected.

Sports Clubs



Sports clubs are the main deliverer of sport in the community. Providing support to sports clubs assists them with the delivery of a diverse range of activities.

Biodiversity Groups



Connecting with biodiversity groups enables innovative ideas to be shared that can help preserve and enhance the biodiversity within open spaces.

Taranaki District Health Board



Providing open spaces and facilities encourages people to have active and healthy lifestyles which the TDHB promotes.

National Sports Organisations (NSOs)



NSOs take responsibility for the health, well-being and capability of their RSOs. NSOs develop national facility strategies and 'whole of sport' plans for delivery of sport.

Landowners



Working with landowners is vital to acquire land for open space and improve connections between open spaces.

Regional Sports Organisations (RSOs)



RSOs have direct relationships with clubs and schools and are responsible for providing leadership and support to schools, clubs and events.

Education Groups



Schools provide playing fields and playgrounds, some of which are for community use. Sharing recreational facilities with schools can build vibrancy within the community.

Who contributes to funding?

In 2011/2012, the major funders within New Plymouth District gave \$5.2 million in grants to the sport and recreation sector.



Other Councils

Working collaboratively with Taranaki Regional Council, Stratford District Council and South Taranaki District Council can ensure a consistent approach to providing open spaces and facilities.

Sport New Zealand



Sport New Zealand is a central government organisation proud to be the guardian of our country's world-leading sporting system, from grassroots through to elite sport.

Sport Taranaki



Sport Taranaki's mission is to lead and support active sport and recreation in Taranaki. It provides programmes and services to a range of organisations.

Commercial Providers



Commercial providers have a role in providing facilities, activities and events within open spaces that contribute to having a vibrant community.

Disability Groups



Open spaces and facilities are designed so that people of 'all ages and abilities' can use them. Various disability groups provide input into open space development and assist individuals with information.

Community Groups



Connecting with community groups allows people to learn and experience the biodiversity and cultural heritage within open spaces. A number of 'Friends' groups have an active role in looking after open space.

Department of Conservation (DOC)



DOC provides and manage open space with recreation and conservation values. By working together joint initiatives have been put in place including community plantings and guided walks.

Venture Taranaki



Promoting the diversity of open spaces for events and commercial opportunities is important to create a vibrant community and a healthy economy. VTT supports businesses and events through a number of services including promotion of the district. www.taranaki.info

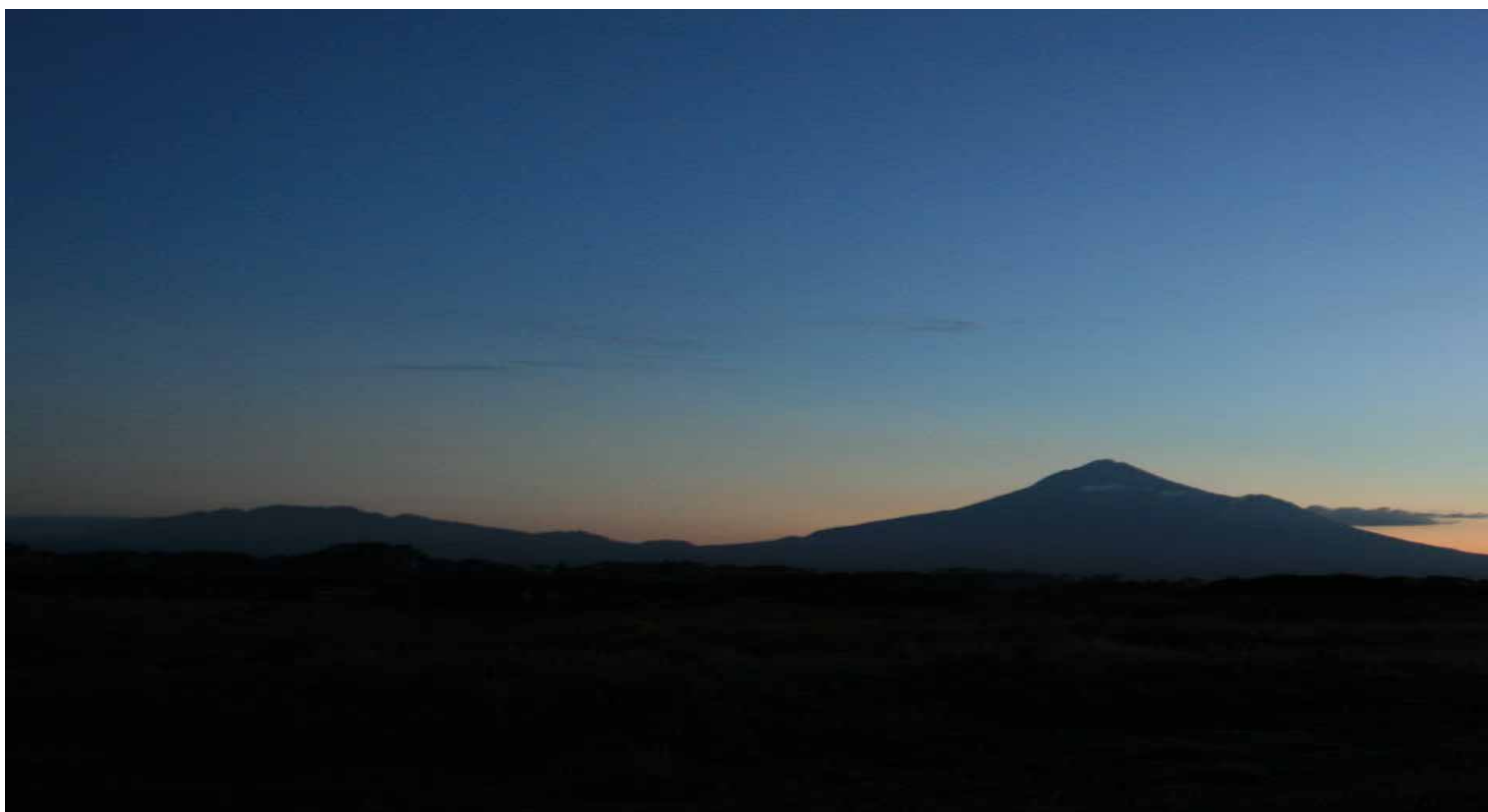
Funding Trusts



Funding trusts such as TSB Community Trust and Taranaki Electricity Trust support sport, recreation and open space through grant funding to a number of organisations including the Council.

2.5 Tangata whenua

Open spaces are rich in cultural heritage which are of importance to tangata whenua.



Taranaki has been settled by humans for approximately 800 years, with the arrival of many waka over the centuries. There are six intertwined iwi groups having rohe in New Plymouth District: Ngati Tama, Ngati Mutunga, Te Atiawa, Ngati Maru, Taranaki and Ngati Maniapoto.

The Mana Whenua Mana Moana document prepared by the Mana Whenua Reference Group in 2005 notes (page 5) that “one of the most important issues for tangata whenua is land and land use, whether it is in their ownership, private ownership or local authority ownership. Their responsibilities of kaitiakitanga do not alter”.

The Crown assumed ownership of a large amount of land at the time of European settlement and in later years as the district developed. Over a million hectares of land was confiscated across the country during the 1860 land wars. Subsequently, lands were taken for public works such as the railways and schools.

These events disrupted the relationship between tangata whenua and their rohe and the kaitiakitanga, or stewardship, role that they traditionally held with regard to those lands and resources.

Issues related to land ownership are still in the process of being resolved. The Treaty of Waitangi settlement process has given statutory acknowledgement to Ngati Tama and Ngati Mutunga of their relationship to lands and resources with their rohe. Te Atiawa Iwi Authority entered into a Heads of Agreement with the Crown in 1999 and is working towards a Deed of Settlement. Additional settlements may occur in the future as iwi and the Crown address Treaty claims.

Tangata whenua’s open space role

The Council currently consults with hapu groups including Nga Hapu o Poutama, Otaraua Hapu, Ngati Rahiri, Ngati Tawhirikura, Puketapu, Pukerangiora, Ngati Te Whiti Ahi Kaa, Ngati Tairi and Nga Mahanga during the development of reserve management plans, open space developments, subdivision and land use consents and on a day-to-day basis.

The Council also has partnership arrangements via Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) and through formalised agreements (MoU with Ngati Mutunga and the Te Rewa Rewa Agreement with Ngati Tawhirikura Trust).

KAITIAKITANGA

“KAITIAKITANGA in the traditional concept was an obligation and responsibility of tangata whenua to be protectors and caretakers of the tribal estates, interests and resources. This included the ability to put in practice particular protection methods such as rahui. The modern concept of kaitiakitanga is the responsibility on tangata whenua to advocate and practise sustainable development.”

Tangata whenua have an important role as being guardians of areas in accordance with Tikanga Maori in relation to natural and physical resources. Sections 6 and 7 of the Resource Management Act acknowledges that all territorial authorities as a matter of national importance when considering development, must take into account the relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga. District councils also have a responsibility to protect historic heritage from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.

One of the most immediate ways for the Council to acknowledge the kaitiaki role of tangata whenua within their rohe is to provide opportunities for participation in decision-making processes on issues related to the management of land and resources, including open spaces. The Council's Tangata Whenua Forum was involved in the development of this strategy and consisted of hapu representatives in New Plymouth District.

The strategy proposes for the Council and tangata whenua to work collaboratively together to:

- Protect sites of historic significance where appropriate.

- Utilise existing knowledge for open space developments and reserve management plans where appropriate.
- Collaborate with tangata whenua on open space developments that may have an impact on cultural values.
- Uphold existing partnership arrangements (MoU with Ngati Mutunga and Te Rewa Rewa Agreement with Ngati Tawhirikura Trust).

There are specific actions within the strategy that will require the Council to work closely with tangata whenua on an ongoing basis. Working together will ensure that heritage resources of cultural or natural value are protected and preserved for current and future generations.

2.6 Case studies

Case Study 1: Herekawe Restoration Project

The Herekawe Stream Walkway Project was initiated in 2002. The project had three aims: to establish an all-weather walkway along the Herekawe Stream to link inland residential areas with the coast, to re-establish natural habitat through the planting of native trees and to provide a recreational facility for the Taranaki community.

The key partners in the project were Dow Agrosiences, Methanex Ltd, Shell Todd Oil Services, AJ Cowley Ltd, New Plymouth District Council, Taranaki Regional Council, the Taranaki Tree Trust, iwi and the community.

In late 2011 discussion was held between the Taranaki Tree Trust and New Plymouth District Council about the potential for Stage II of the project to build on the work that had already been done. A three-year work programme was drafted for 2012-2014 focusing on weed control, restoration planting, maintenance of the walkway and information.



Case Study 2: Clifton Park Community Project

The Clifton Park Community Project is a good example of how the 'sportsville model' can be successful in increasing sport and recreation in local communities. In 2011 there was a desire by clubs and Waitara Gymsports to improve facilities at the park, and the TSB Community Trust, Taranaki Electricity Trust, Sport Taranaki and the Council therefore agreed to work together with the Waitara community to consider what would be the best development of Clifton Park for all users.

In December 2011, Global Leisure Group Limited was commissioned to prepare a plan for the future shared governance and development of facilities at Clifton Park. The primary purpose of a new facility at Clifton Park would be to increase community participation in regular sports activity and informal recreation and to enable residents to develop their skills and abilities. Clifton Park would also continue to be a neighbourhood park for the immediate residential population.

The Clifton Park user group (including Council officers), working with Global Leisure, agreed to adopt the "sportsville" governance model that will see the sports clubs remain sovereign entities under a board set up as North Taranaki Sport and Recreation (NTSR) Incorporated. This entity may govern the clubs and Waitara Gymsports at Clifton Park depending on the final option chosen. The recommended option includes both a new facility at Clifton Park including an indoor court, common social space for clubs and replacing the outdoor netball/tennis courts. The next step in the project is for NTSR to initiate a feasibility study on the development options to be completed to allow NTSR to determine its preferred option.



Case Study 3: Marsland Hill Historic Reserve

In 2010 the Council adopted a Historic Reserve Management Plan (prepared under the Reserves Act 1977) that includes Marsland Hill Historic Reserve. The management plan identifies appropriate uses, activities and future development within the reserve and assists with day-to-day management and decision-making.

Marsland Hill is a prominent land feature of the city and a significant historical site for New Plymouth with both Maori and European history. For Marsland Hill the historic values and features of the reserve are balanced with accommodating other modern activities. The objectives and policies in the management plan recognise ongoing use of the reserve by the Taranaki Emergency Management Office and New Plymouth Astronomical Society.

The policies and development plan for the reserve also include provision and maintenance of view shafts, which provide views over New Plymouth City and the sea. Management plan funding in the Long-Term Plan 2012-2022 allowed for paths around the base of the reserve to be upgraded and bollards installed to protect the site from vehicle vandalism.



Above right: Herekawe Stream
Middle left: Clifton Park sportsfields
Bottom left: Bell Tower, Marsland Hill

Case Study 4: Barrett Domain Management Plan

In 2013 the Council approved a new management plan for Barrett Domain. The plan found a balance between the recreational user groups (Riding for the Disabled and Taranaki Equestrian Network) who have different needs, along with the preservation of the natural environment of the domain.

The domain retains a rural and natural bush setting and was once separated from the city by farmland but now more than half of the domain is surrounded by residential dwellings. This has brought about an increase in accessibility to the domain as well as a greater awareness of it.

The domain also has the potential to provide pedestrian, cycle and bridle connections to Ratapihihi Scenic Reserve.



Top right: Barrett Lagoon, Barrett Domain
Above: View of the Coastal Walkway including the Len Lye Wind Wand
Bottom right: Flax collection at Hickford Park

Case Study 5: Coastal Walkway Development

In 1999, construction of the Coastal Walkway began with development of a small section in front of New Plymouth CBD, which was completed in time for the switching on of the Wind Wand. Sections to the east and west from Ngamotu Beach to Waiwhakaiho River were constructed and opened between 2001 and 2003, providing a seven kilometre walkway. In 2007, the Council and Ngati Tawhirikura Hapu signed a joint management agreement allowing public access across the historic Rewa Rewa Block and the extension of the Coastal Walkway to Bell Block. In 2008 the bridge across the Waiwhakaiho River and three kilometres of walkway from the river to Bell Block were constructed and eventually opened in 2010, increasing its length to 11 kilometres (with a \$1.88m contribution from Land Transport New Zealand).

Use and demand of the walkway continues to grow and in 2012 the Council began planning for the next section of the walkway through Hickford Park and along Bell Block Beach. Local community interest in the route was high and a consultation process was undertaken. Local tangata whenua played an important role and assisted with a cultural and ecological impact assessment of the options. The end decision was to construct the primary Coastal Walkway on an inland route, away from sensitive areas, while other routes will form part of a wider pathway network.

Planning is continuing for extension of the walkway to Waitara, including consideration of a route through the Future Urban Growth Area known as Area Q. Today the walkway is both a recreation space and one used by many in their daily commutes. Since 2008 usage has increased by 23 per cent and the walkway is consistently one of the top things that residents comment on as something the Council has done well in the annual resident survey¹.

¹ National Research Bureau Limited (2014). *Communitrak survey – Public perceptions and interpretations of Council services and representation*. Prepared for New Plymouth District Council.

Case Study 6: Hickford Park Flax Collection - Partnership with Tangata Whenua

In 2013 the Council entered into an agreement with Kaitiaki Pa Harakeke Group. This agreement enabled the Rene Orchiston Harakeke Collection within Hickford Park to be maintained by the group with a view to enabling the division and distribution by the Council of Harakeke plants throughout New Plymouth District. The agreement also enabled the group to access plants for harvesting and weaving activities.

This case study is a good example of how collaborating with mana whenua can help preserve and protect open spaces within New Plymouth District that are rich in biodiversity values and cultural heritage.



3. STRATEGIC DIRECTION

This section discusses the strategic direction of the strategy including the **vision** and the **goals** that the Council wants to achieve for the next 30 years.

3.1 Our vision

‘Great spaces and places for an active and healthy community’

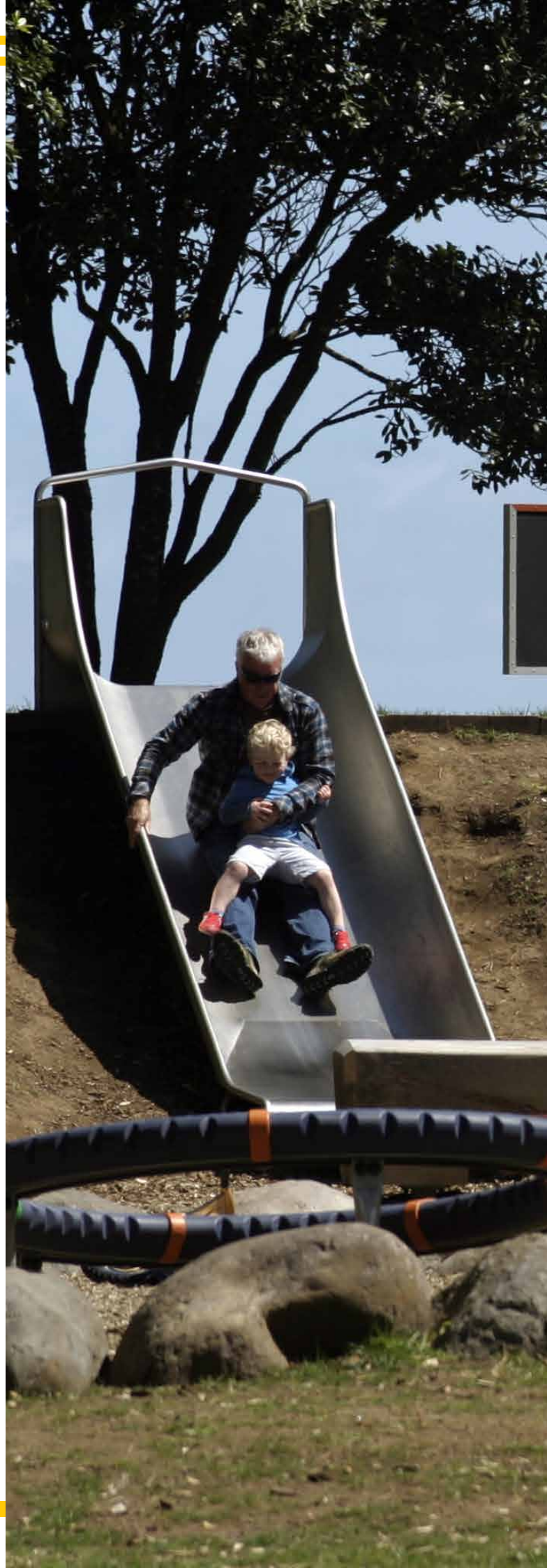
‘Providing good quality recreation and open spaces that the public can enjoy and working together with community groups form the platform to achieve this vision’.

How well are our open spaces and facilities used?

The 2014 NRB Survey found that 94 per cent of households have visited a park or reserve in the last 12 months.

Fifty-eight per cent of households have visited a public swimming pool.

Right: East End Reserve Playground near the mouth of the Te Henui River





3.2 Strategic goals

To achieve this vision the Council strives to achieve six goals.

1. *Our spaces are appropriately located*
2. *Our spaces make it easy to exercise, play, socialise and relax*
3. *Recreation and open space contributes to community identity, vibrancy and sense of place*
4. *Facilities encourage ease of participation and maximise spectator enjoyment*
5. *The delivery of sport and recreation is supported*
6. *Our biodiversity and cultural heritage is protected and valued as an experience*

To achieve the goals, objectives have been identified that relate to actions in the action plan. These objectives are discussed under each goal.

It also needs to be acknowledged that there are actions within other Council planning documents that are relevant to recreation and open space and will help contribute to achieving the Council's goals. This strategy endorses the actions from these planning documents including the Heritage Strategy 2012, the Central Area Urban Design Framework 2013 and the Coastal Strategy 2006, asset management plans, the Events Strategy and the Regional Walkways and Cycleways Strategy for Taranaki 2007.

Children learn from sport and recreation

Involvement in sport from an early age can help build character and discipline in children that can be applied to other aspects of their lives, e.g. learning skills such as hard work, self-esteem, good health and discipline.



Goal 1: Our spaces are appropriately located

The Council plans, manages and maintains 1440 hectares of parks and reserves land, including 48 neighbourhood parks, 13 historic reserves and 24 sports parks used by residents and visitors.

Distance from houses to open space

Currently within New Plymouth District, 86.7 per cent of dwellings are within 400 metres of a Council-owned open space and 89.26 per cent of dwellings are within 500 metres.

Iconic open spaces such as Pukekura Park, Hickford Park, Lake Mangamahoe, Barrett Domain and Lake Rotomanu are just a few examples of open spaces within New Plymouth that provide for a diversity of recreational activities.

As well as providing open spaces it is equally important to ensure that they are well connected, to each other and/or by other networks such as roads, cycleways and along waterbodies and the coast, so they are accessible to the community.

Geo-spatial analysis of our existing open spaces within urban areas has been undertaken and the mapping is provided in the [Draft Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy Background Document](#). The analysis identified specific areas within New Plymouth District and in Future Urban Growth Areas¹, where there are gaps and/or oversupply in open space. It is therefore important that an appropriate and consistent decision-making framework is provided for open space across the district so that it is clear to the community what they can expect the Council to deliver.

Building **key partnerships** with **other councils** including Stratford District Council, South Taranaki District Council and Taranaki Regional Council encourages a consistent decision-making framework for open space in the Taranaki region

Left:
Brooklands Park

¹ Future Urban Growth Areas - those areas identified in the Council's Future Framework for Growth Document (approved by the Council on 4 March 2008) that are anticipated to experience urban expansion within the district in the next 20 years.

What does the Council provide?

- Forty-eight neighbourhood parks.
- Twenty-four sports parks.
- Thirteen historic reserves.
- Other green spaces (esplanade reserves, esplanade strips and beautification strips that make up pathway networks).

What do we want to achieve?

The following objectives will help the Council have a consistent decision-making framework for open space location and assist the process of prioritising the acquisition or disposal of open space where there are gaps and/or oversupply. It also sets out how it is proposed to fund new open spaces within existing and future urban areas in New Plymouth District.

Objectives

1.1 Our open spaces create an attractive living environment.

Neighbourhood open spaces

- All urban households will be within a 10-minute walking distance radius, or 500 metres, of a neighbourhood open space.
- The ideal average size of a neighbourhood open space shall be between 3,000m² and 5,000m².
- There will be road frontages across at least one boundary to ensure the neighbourhood park is easily accessible and provides an attractive, welcoming ambiance to the immediate local community.

Sports and recreation open spaces

- Will be provided to a level that is appropriate to meet the needs for winter and summer sport for junior, senior, practice and competition levels.
- These open spaces will also provide a neighbourhood function or informal use.

Pathway networks

- Support a secondary network of movement (walking and cycling) by providing open space that connects to places.
- Prioritise connections alongside rivers, streams, the coast and between existing open spaces.

Civic spaces

- Are provided in all new business/retail developments.

Cultural heritage and biodiversity spaces

- Natural and cultural features will be considered when locating open spaces.

Outdoor adventure spaces

- Opportunities are made available for outdoor adventure recreation activities within existing open spaces.
- Development will be provided for roads, tracks and facilities for active outdoor recreation use compatible with the management and use of the open space.
- Future land for outdoor recreation spaces will be considered as opportunities arise including areas associated with the Taranaki Traverse route which will enhance journeys or local destinations.

The categories above are an adaptation of the categories set out in the New Zealand Recreation Association (NZRA) 'National New Zealand Park Categories and Levels of Service' document, which sets out a recommended level of service for open space provision for territorial authorities in New Zealand.

These categories form part of the strategic criteria for land purchase and disposal decisions. Other strategic criteria to consider include population trends, demographics of the community, proximity to other facilities (e.g. schools) and connectivity to existing infrastructure (e.g. stormwater, water, sewer etc). Location and site specific values including strategy, ecological/natural values, historical/cultural values and recreation and amenity values are also part of the decision-making framework. The full criteria are listed in **Appendix One**.

What do we have already?

Maps on the following pages show the location of where there are gaps and oversupply of open space in urban areas within the district, based on the proposed levels of service and open space analysis.

There are gaps and/or oversupply of open space within Okato, Oakura, New Plymouth Central, New Plymouth South, New Plymouth East, Bell Block, Waitara, Egmont Village and Inglewood. How these gaps and/or areas of oversupply were identified is discussed in the background document.

Other future possible acquisitions are also shown on the maps that have been identified as part of other Council processes (e.g. Central Area Urban Design Framework identified the need for a civic space within the eastern CBD area). Similarly, areas for possible disposal include those that the Council currently has on the land sales schedule or have been identified by another process.

How will we address gaps and oversupply?

To address the gap and/or oversupply locations identified it is proposed to:

- Use set criteria for decision making when considering purchase or disposal of open spaces (Appendix One).
- Investigate potential locations for new open spaces within structure plans, plan changes, subdivision development in the District Plan and use the key factors to assist decision-making on open space locations.
- Include proposed open space areas using plan change processes in the District Plan.
- Acquire land in future urban growth areas using financial contributions and development contributions.
- Make recommendations to the Council for surplus land to be sold or developed for community consultation.

1.2 Growth that creates demand for new open space or upgrades to existing open space is funded by contributions from land development and subdivision.

- Appropriate mechanisms are used for purchase and development of land for future open spaces, including financial contributions and development contributions.

Gaps, future possible acquisitions and oversupply of Open Space within New Plymouth



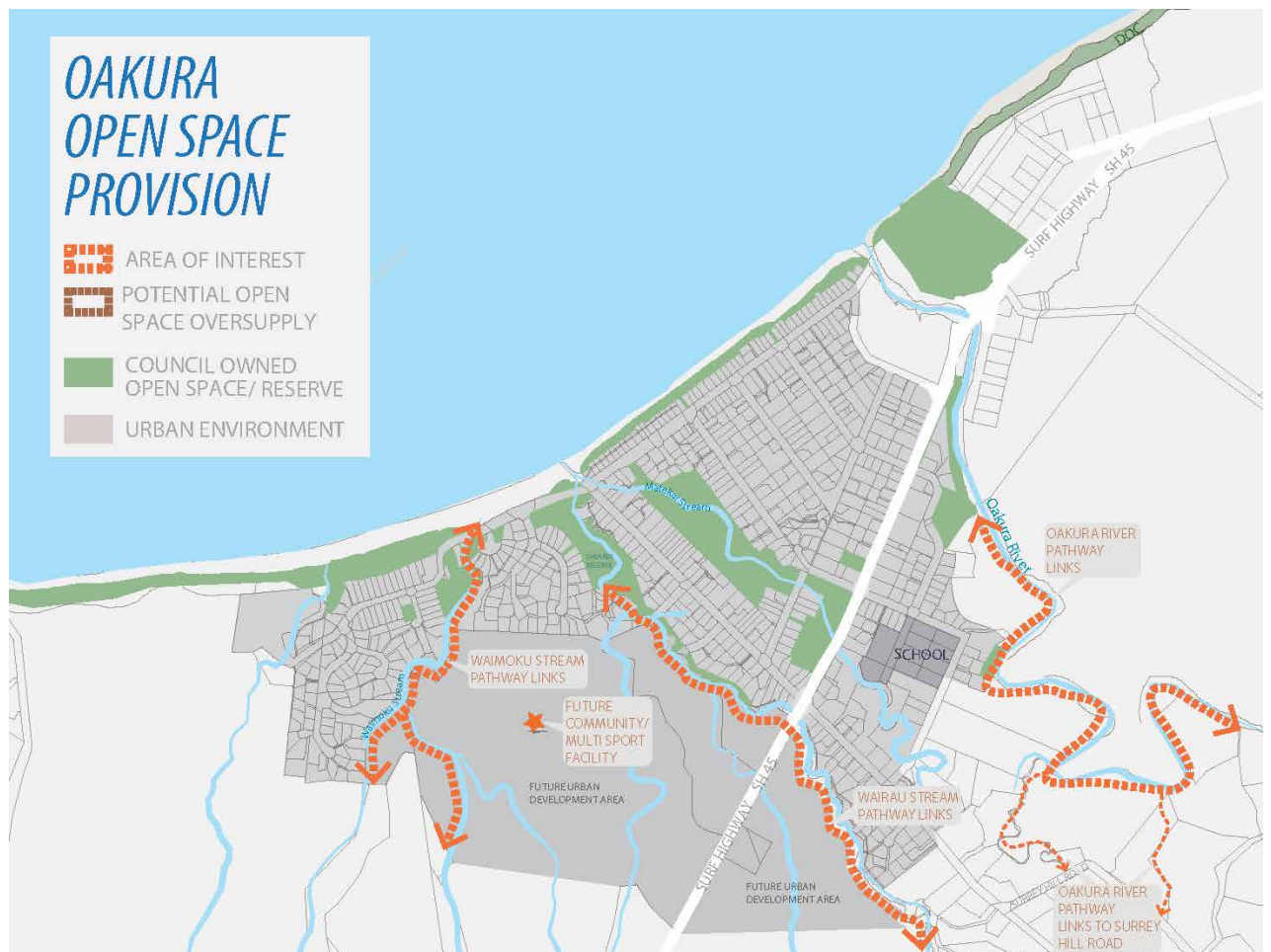
OKATO OPEN SPACE PROVISION

-  AREA OF INTEREST
-  POTENTIAL OPEN SPACE OVERSUPPLY
-  COUNCIL OWNED OPEN SPACE/ RESERVE
-  URBAN ENVIRONMENT



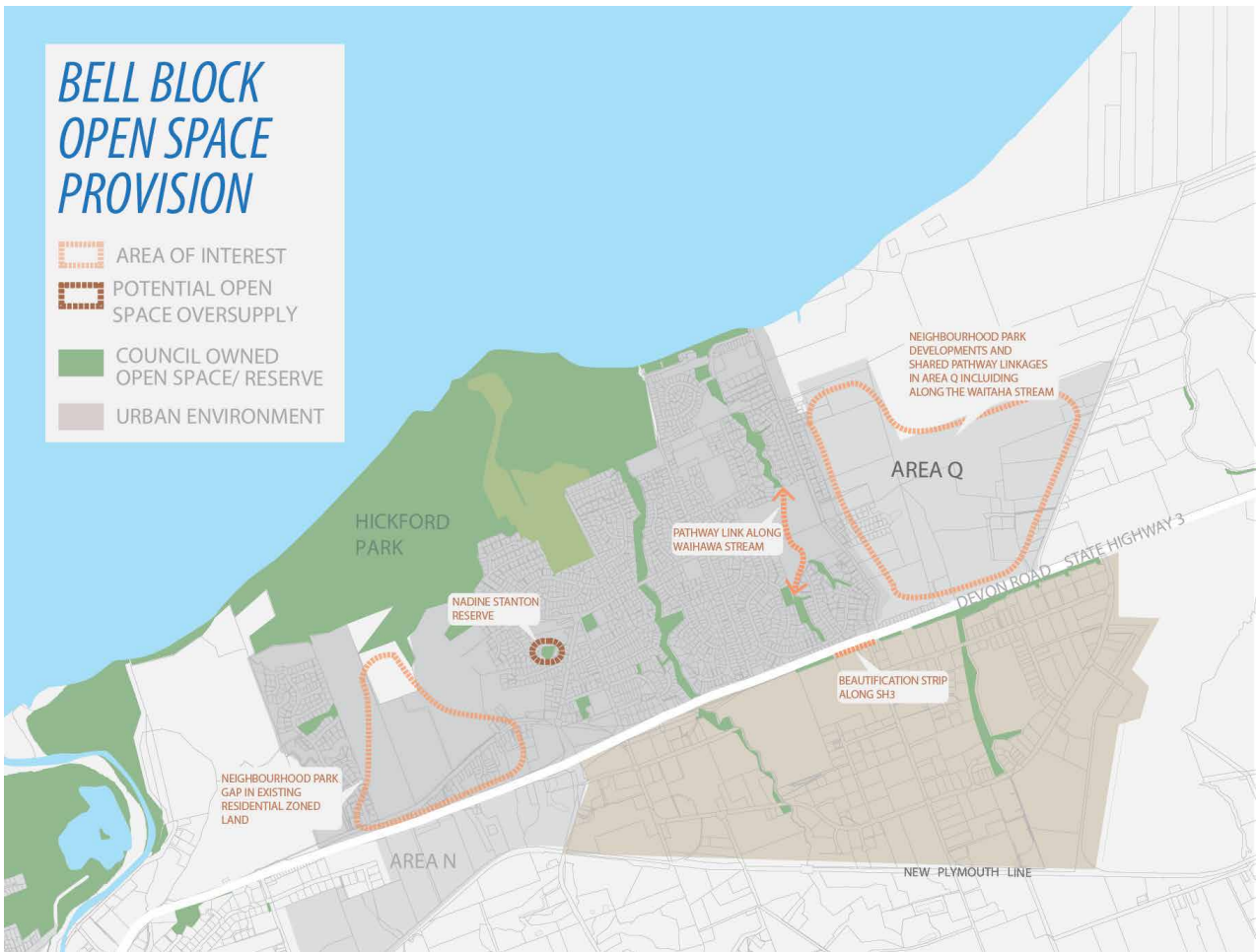
OAKURA OPEN SPACE PROVISION

-  AREA OF INTEREST
-  POTENTIAL OPEN SPACE OVERSUPPLY
-  COUNCIL OWNED OPEN SPACE/ RESERVE
-  URBAN ENVIRONMENT



BELL BLOCK OPEN SPACE PROVISION

-  AREA OF INTEREST
-  POTENTIAL OPEN SPACE OVERSUPPLY
-  COUNCIL OWNED OPEN SPACE/ RESERVE
-  URBAN ENVIRONMENT






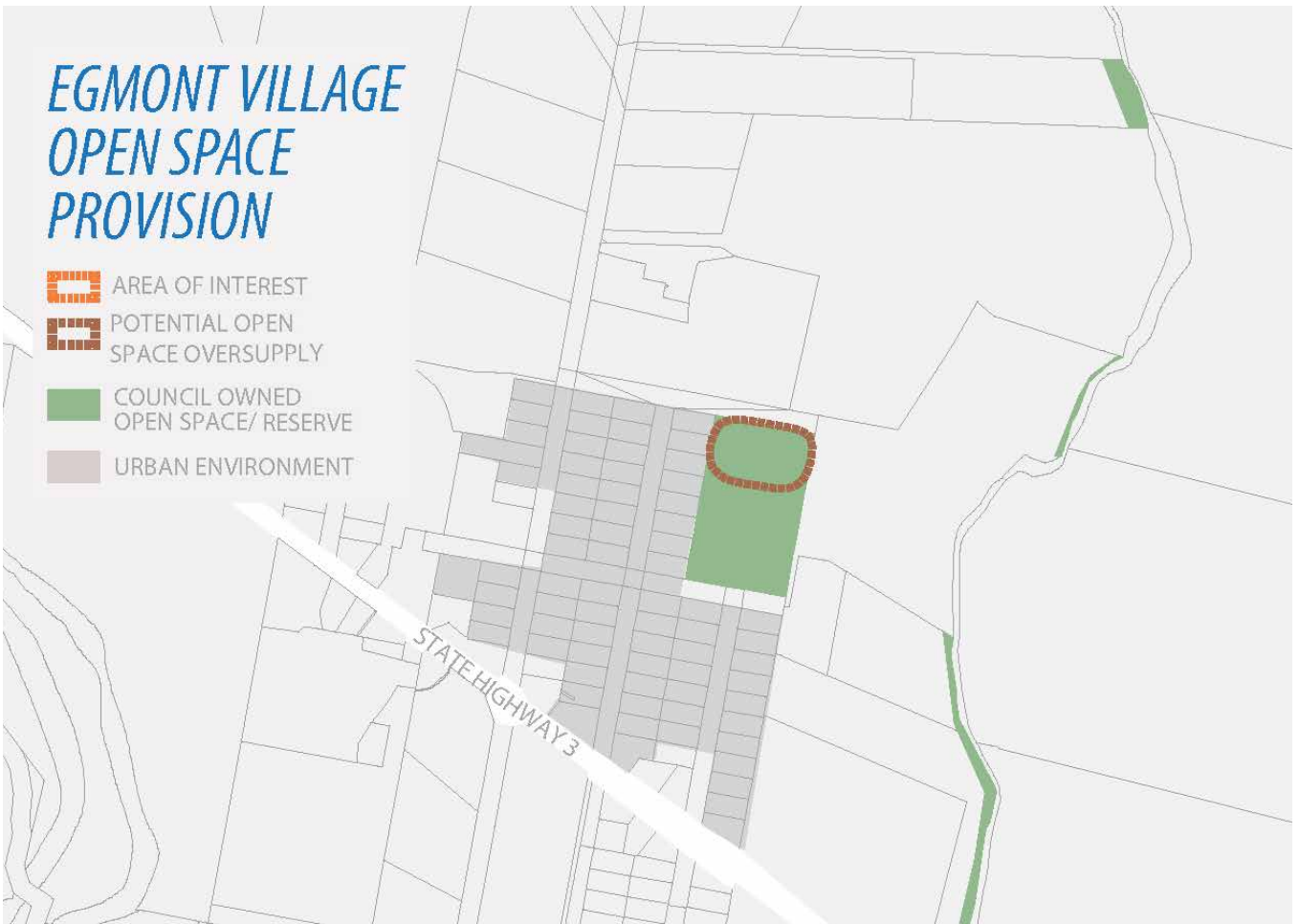
WAITARA OPEN SPACE PROVISION

-  AREA OF INTEREST
-  POTENTIAL OPEN SPACE OVERSUPPLY
-  SUBJECT TO AGREEMENT WITH TE ATIWA POST SETTLEMENT ENTITY
-  CROWN LAND ADMINISTERED BY NPDC
-  COUNCIL OWNED OPEN SPACE/ RESERVE
-  URBAN ENVIRONMENT



EGMONT VILLAGE OPEN SPACE PROVISION

-  AREA OF INTEREST
-  POTENTIAL OPEN SPACE OVERSUPPLY
-  COUNCIL OWNED OPEN SPACE/ RESERVE
-  URBAN ENVIRONMENT



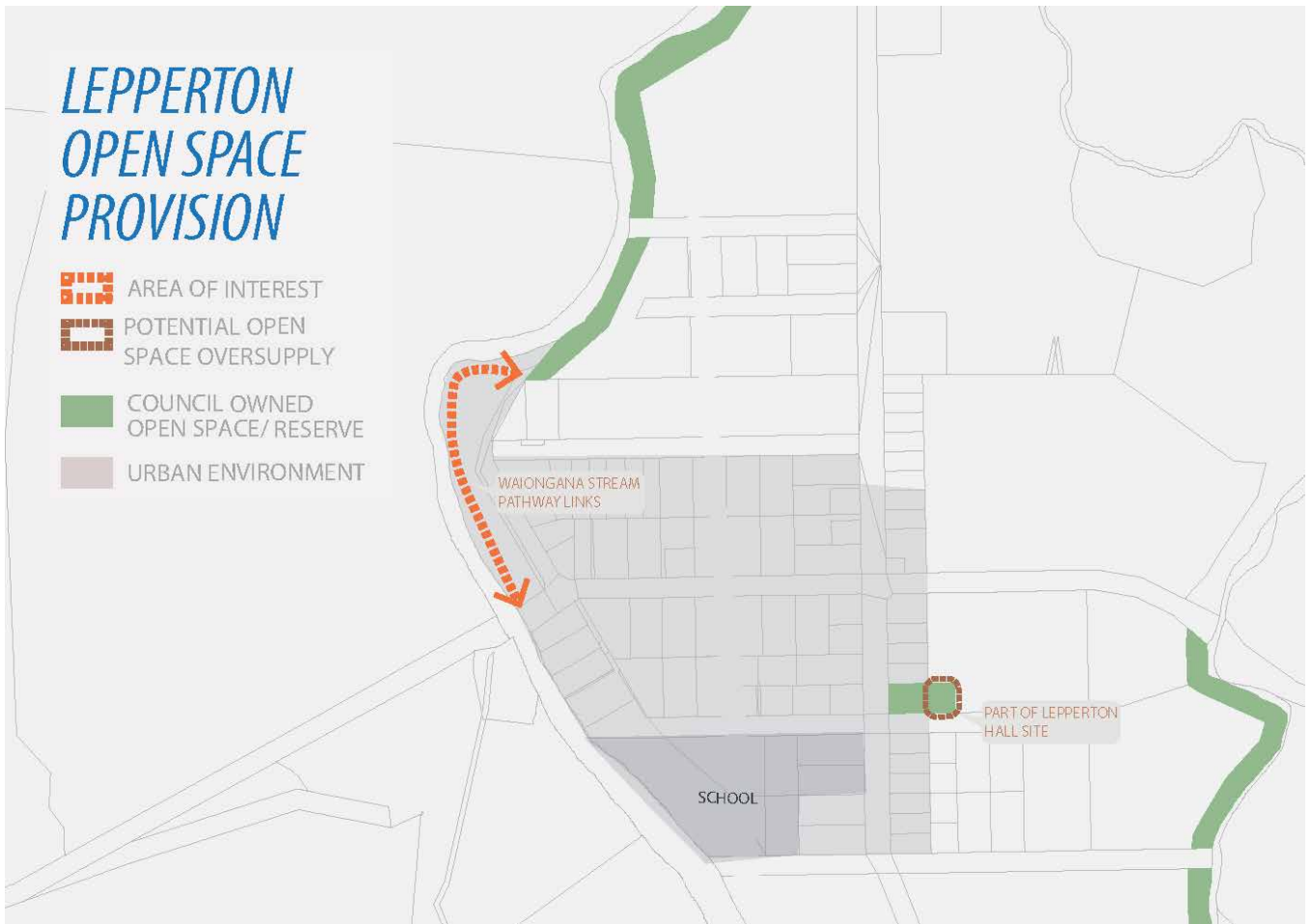
INGLEWOOD OPEN SPACE PROVISION

-  AREA OF INTEREST
-  POTENTIAL OPEN SPACE OVERSUPPLY
-  COUNCIL OWNED OPEN SPACE/ RESERVE
-  URBAN ENVIRONMENT



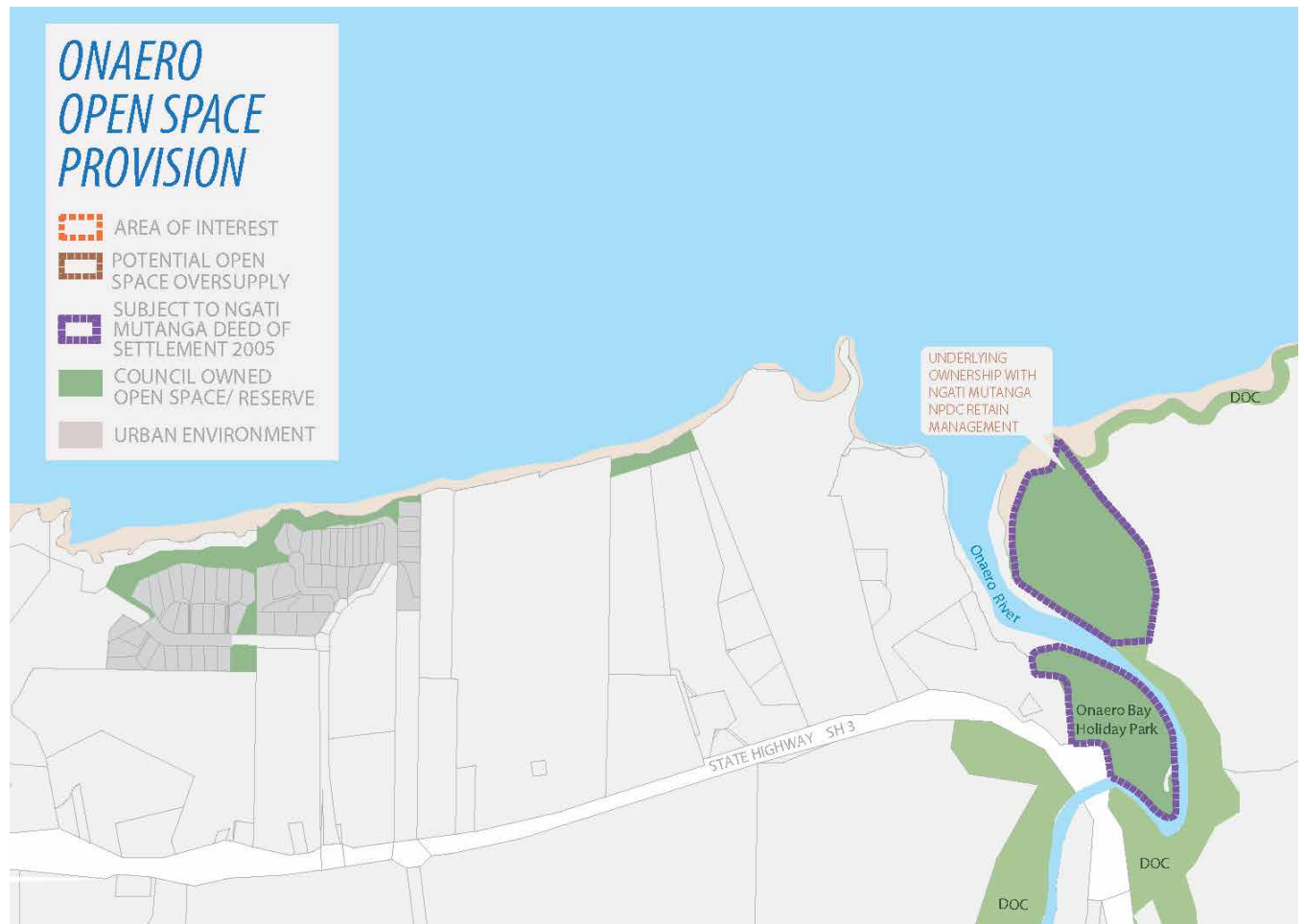
LEPPERTON OPEN SPACE PROVISION

-  AREA OF INTEREST
-  POTENTIAL OPEN SPACE OVERSUPPLY
-  COUNCIL OWNED OPEN SPACE/ RESERVE
-  URBAN ENVIRONMENT








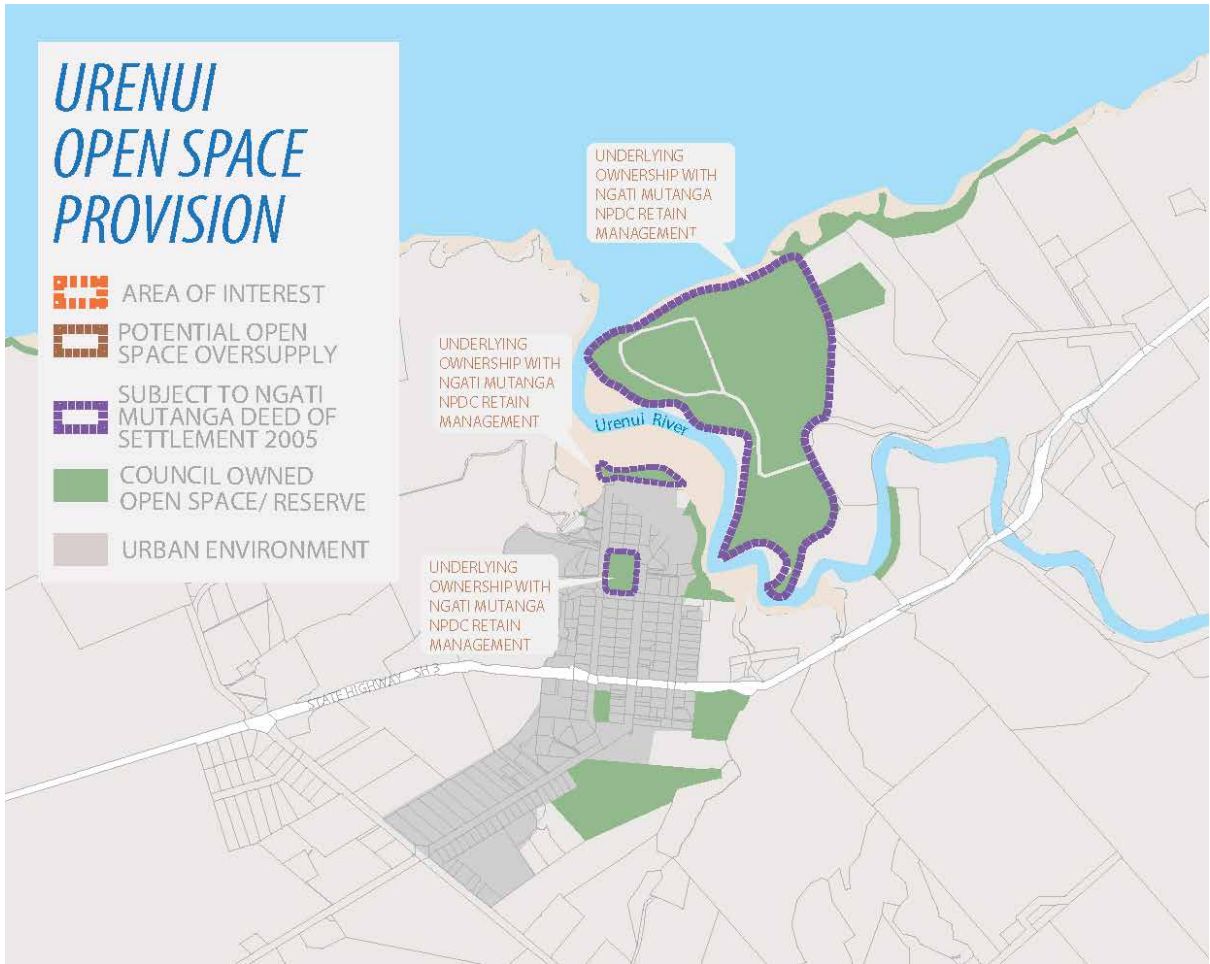
ONAERO OPEN SPACE PROVISION

-  AREA OF INTEREST
-  POTENTIAL OPEN SPACE OVERSUPPLY
-  SUBJECT TO NGATI MUTANGA DEED OF SETTLEMENT 2005
-  COUNCIL OWNED OPEN SPACE/ RESERVE
-  URBAN ENVIRONMENT



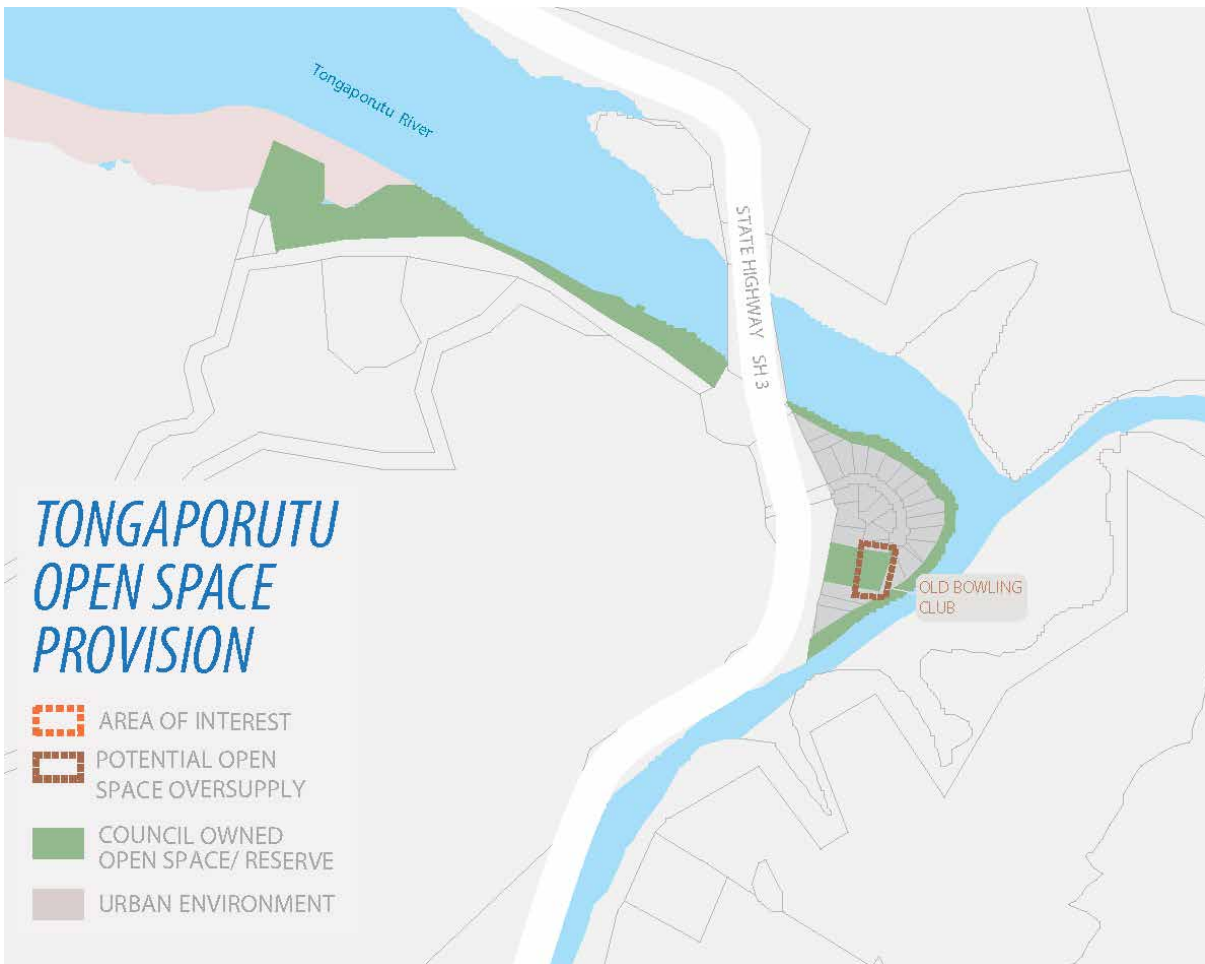
URENUI OPEN SPACE PROVISION

-  AREA OF INTEREST
-  POTENTIAL OPEN SPACE OVERSUPPLY
-  SUBJECT TO NGATI MUTANGA DEED OF SETTLEMENT 2005
-  COUNCIL OWNED OPEN SPACE/ RESERVE
-  URBAN ENVIRONMENT



TONGAPORUTU OPEN SPACE PROVISION

-  AREA OF INTEREST
-  POTENTIAL OPEN SPACE OVERSUPPLY
-  COUNCIL OWNED OPEN SPACE/ RESERVE
-  URBAN ENVIRONMENT





Goal 2: Our spaces make it easy to exercise, play, socialise and relax

A strong and resilient community is of high importance to New Plymouth District and forms one of the community outcomes. Sport and recreation is well known to have positive benefits to physical and mental health. Such activities are often undertaken within public recreation facilities and open spaces.

Recent survey data shows that the Taranaki region has a high obesity rate for adults and children. It is therefore important that people have access to a range of recreation facilities and opportunities to enable people to make healthy choices.

Recreational facilities should also be provided so they can be used by people of 'all ages and abilities'. The 2013 Census data shows that New Plymouth District's population is increasing, with the likelihood of an increasingly ageing population.

Recreational facilities in open spaces include walkways, skate parks, signage, seating, tables, playgrounds, shading areas, ramps, public artwork and monuments.

What does the Council provide?

The Council currently provides:

- Forty-eight playgrounds.
- Twelve youth facilities (skate parks, skate ramps and basketball half courts).
- Seventy-two kilometres of walkway.
- Eleven kilometres of coastal walkway.
- Signage, seating, tables and shading areas.

Popular activities

The 2008 New Plymouth Open Space Survey found the top three things people wanted from open space were walkways, beach access and events/concerts.

The 2008/09 Active Survey found that walking is the most popular sport and recreation activity for adults in Taranaki.

Destination play spaces...

Te Henui Reserve

Pukekura Park

Kawaroa Park

Marine Park

What do we want to achieve?

The objectives below support the ongoing provision of the asset types and includes new initiatives that are identified to help ensure that well-designed, quality open spaces and recreational facilities are prioritised and planned in appropriate locations.

Objectives

2.1 Recreation and open spaces are designed so they are affordable, attractive, pleasant and maintained with consideration for personal safety.

- Consider the design and functionality of open spaces within the district through a best practice design guide.
- Open spaces are adaptable to the changing needs of the community and are safe for people to use.
- A low impact design approach is used to manage the use of open space, e.g. stormwater design considers cultural and biodiversity values with an aim of improving water quality.
- Open spaces will continue to be used for reticulation services where appropriate (e.g. stormwater, sewer and water reticulation).

2.2 Accessible amenities are provided within open spaces for all ages, cultures and abilities.

- Facilitate community and recreational groups to deliver a range of activities for the community.
- Amenities are easily accessible by a wide range of users within the community, e.g. elderly, families, children etc.
- Appropriate beach access points are clearly identifiable to discourage the increase in informal access.



Above: East End Skate Park

How often do young people participate in informal recreation?

Around seven out of 10 young people in the region spend three plus hours a week on informal sports/activities while “mucking around” with friends, family or on their own. Five to 10 year olds are more likely than 15 to 18 year olds to spend three plus hours a week (Sport New Zealand, 2013).

2.3 The quantity, location and quality of play space equipment are strategically planned.

- Assist all ages and cultures to be active and healthy.
- Be adaptive to the current community demand for new play spaces.
- Maintain a network of destination, community and neighbourhood play spaces as outlined in the New Plymouth District Play Space Framework.

Health trends for children and adults

The 2011-2013 NZ Health Survey found that the obesity rate for **Taranaki children is 22.1 per cent** (the national rate is 10.7 per cent). The obesity rate for **Taranaki adults is 27.1 per cent**. (The national rate for adults is 29.1 per cent). Currently one in 20 adults (5.0 per cent) in Taranaki have diagnosed diabetes (the national rate is 4.4 per cent).



Above: New Plymouth Coastal Walkway (Fitzroy Beach)

2.4 Shared pathway networks are developed for multiple uses along waterbodies and the coast, so that they are easily accessed by the community.

(See Appendix Two to see New Plymouth's existing shared pathways)

- Public access is provided to the natural environment, including, rivers, lakes, the mountain and the coast to enable public enjoyment.
- Shared pathways provide opportunities for commuter routes, mountain biking, equestrian and recreation with dogs.
- The Taranaki Traverse (refer to New Plymouth District Blueprint key directions) is progressed as part of becoming a world-class destination in partnership with regional stakeholders.

New Plymouth District's Future Shared Pathways



Where do people like to relax?

A 2013 survey found that the top three locations where people in Taranaki like to engage in recreation are in the outdoor roadway/walkway in a city, the beach, river, lake and the sea and in indoor sports facilities.

A 2008 regional coast, rivers and lakes survey found that Fitzroy Beach, Ngamotu Beach, Opunake Beach and New Plymouth Coastal Walkway were the most frequently visited locations in the region.

2.5 Streetscapes¹ are acknowledged as places of recreation for walking and cycling and contribute to amenity.

- Streetscapes are designed with consideration of walking and cycling through the use of the Council's Code of Practice for Land Development and Subdivision and urban design protocol.
- Street trees will continue to be planted and maintained in accordance with the District Tree Policy.
- Paper roads provide opportunities for recreation where there is community support.

¹ Streetscapes include roadways and footpaths with associated landscaping.



Goal 3: Open space, sports and recreation contributes to community identity, vibrancy and sense of place

Recreation and open spaces contribute significantly to the overall vibrancy, prosperity and sense of place of a community as they allow for a variety of activities to be undertaken that the community can experience and enjoy. Ensuring that recreation and open spaces are able to cater for recreational activities, public art and commercial use and events activities is important as it enables people to live within a vibrant community with abundant lifestyle options.

Catering for a variety of activities means open spaces can have a positive impact on tourism and the local economy within New Plymouth District. Open spaces such as Pukekura Park and the TSB Bowl of Brooklands, Puke Ariki Landing and the Huatoki Plaza are examples of event venues, that have a positive economic impact on retail activities within New Plymouth District.

Supporting a 'sense of place' has positive benefits as people are more likely to take care of open spaces, invest in open spaces, keep safe in open spaces and they feel attached to open spaces.

A community's 'sense of place' can be built by the community taking ownership of open spaces, while at the same time ensuring they are healthy, sustainable and well looked after. There are a number of ways the community can get involved in taking ownership of open spaces from participating in public consultation processes on projects to volunteering in parks and reserves and even reporting vandalism to the Council.

Sense of Place

'Individuals' experiences create a memorable visual and physical image of these spaces and are based on a relationship between an area, the individual elements that make up that area, the patterns of use and activities that occur and the interaction with other people in an area.

Left: Puke Ariki Landing

What does the Council provide?

The Council currently provides:

- Community events and commercial activities in open spaces e.g. TSB Bank Festival of Lights, WOMAD.
- Public artwork and monuments.
- Community orchards.
- Investment to communities, groups, individuals and organisations within the district as part of the Community Funding Investment Policy.
- Opportunities for community engagement through planting days.
- A Community Gardens Policy that sets out how the Council will consider and support community groups who wish to start a community garden in public space.

What do we want to achieve?

The objectives below support the ongoing provision of the above activities, including new initiatives that are identified as actions within the strategy.

Objectives

3.1 Recreation and open spaces cater for a diversity of activities that contribute to community identity, vibrancy and sense of place.

- Recreation and open spaces allow for a variety of activities including recreational activities and where appropriate commercial use activities and events.
- Public art is located within open spaces that is appropriate to the site and the immediate and surrounding environment and in accordance with the Art in Public Places Strategy.
- Open spaces and the activities within are places for the community to come together.

We have a great quality of life!

Eighty-one per cent of residents think that overall the quality of life in the district is **very good**. The national average is 42 per cent.

Parks and reserves is the most highly rated Council service (including the Coastal Walkway and Pukekura Park).

Ninety-six per cent of respondents are either **very or fairly satisfied** with the quality of parks and reserves, including the Coastal Walkway and Pukekura Park. The national average is 60 per cent.

Access to the natural environment is also highly rated (95 per cent).

Fifty-two per cent of respondents could identify something the Council had done well in the last year (up from 49 per cent in 2013), with respondents mentioning the Coastal Walkway, events and entertainment, parks and playgrounds.¹

¹ (2014) *Communitrak Survey for New Plymouth District Council – Public perceptions and interpretations of Council services and representation.*

3.2 The contribution that open space, sport and recreation have on the local economy is recognised.

- Open space provides opportunities for events and tourism that have economic spin-offs for local businesses.
- Our iconic open spaces (e.g. Pukekura Park and the Coastal Walkway) make New Plymouth District an attractive place to live and visit.
- The development of the Taranaki Traverse will consider marketing opportunities, including collaboration with a regional gardens branding.

Recreation has economic value

Since 2003 WOMAD (World of Music and Dance) Festival, held at the Bowl of Brooklands in Pukekura Park has contributed \$73 million to the Taranaki economy.

3.3 To build partnerships with community groups to empower the public to look after open space.

- Engage with and empower community groups to provide input into open space development and management and promote public participation and awareness of open spaces, e.g. schools, youth-orientated groups and workshops.
- Communities are supported to take ownership and look after our open space.
- Community events educate the public about the district's open spaces and increase the public's awareness and a sense of place.

People have a sense of 'pride' within their community

In 2013 the community contributed 10,424 volunteer hours to caring for, and enhancing the district environment, including community plantings and working bees in our parks.



Right: Coastal Walkway school planting



Goal 4: Facilities encourage ease of participation and maximise spectator enjoyment

Good quality facilities are essential for providing a place and the infrastructure required for people to participate in sport and recreation. It is therefore important to provide facilities within open space to meet the demands of organised sports codes within New Plymouth District. These provide recreational opportunities for those people who consider playing sport as their preferred form of recreation.

A key to effective facility management is ensuring that the appropriate quantity and quality of facilities are provided within recreation and open spaces. These should be sustainable, meet the needs of the community and help to create vibrant communities. This means ensuring sports codes make better use of existing Council-owned facilities. Building partnerships with other groups such as schools is one way the Council could utilise other facilities that meet the needs of the community.

Facilities include clubrooms, auxiliary buildings, swimming pools, sportsfields, public toilets, stadia for indoor and outdoor sports and community halls.

Building partnerships with schools can enable sports codes to share facilities and have a vibrant community.



Left: Waiwhakaiho Netball Courts

What does the Council provide?

A number of facilities are provided that enable the community to participate in sport and recreation within the New Plymouth District including:

- TSB Stadium.
- Twenty-four sports parks for sport and recreation.
- Five swimming pools and learn to swim and fitness programmes.
- Eleven community halls.

These facilities are positive for the community because they allow people to participate in sport and recreation, which contributes to their overall physical and mental well-being.

The above facilities are currently planned for and funded through the Long-Term Plan process which will determine the timing of future developments. Other sport and recreation facilities are developed by other sporting organisations through lease arrangements issued by the Council under the Reserves Act 1977 and the Local Government Act 2002.

The Council is not the sole funder for sport and recreation within New Plymouth District. Funding trusts including TSB Community Trust and Taranaki Electricity Trust have a role in funding sport and recreation.

Schools are also a provider of facilities within New Plymouth District. School facilities including sports fields, hockey turfs, netball courts and basketball courts are used by various sporting codes.

What do we want to achieve?

The objectives in this goal support the on-going provision of the above facilities and provide for new initiatives that will assist the Council in making decisions for facility provision to benefit the community. In most cases the facilities currently provided are sufficient.



Above: TSB Stadium

Is there a need for facilities?

Many sports codes require facilities for their sport. Participating in sport and recreation is important for:

- The overall physical and mental well-being of people.
- Reducing stress.
- Increasing self-esteem.
- Developing leadership and life skills.
- Creating stronger families.
- Integrating diverse communities.

People are happy with our facilities

Ninety-five per cent of the public are satisfied that the Council provides high-quality community pools that encourage the community to participate in aquatic activities.

Between 2009 and 2014 usage of the Todd Energy Aquatic Centre has been constant, ranging between 371,056 people (2009) and 370,731 people (2014) on an annual basis.



Above: Todd Energy Aquatic Centre

Objectives

4.1 Sports facilities are provided in open spaces for community use.

- Sports facilities are appropriately managed to encourage participation in sport.
- Sports facilities provide for a range of sporting needs.

4.2 New facilities or alterations to existing facilities must meet key principles in addition to lease requirements.

- Must have strong evidence that there is a **demand and need** for the facility. This can be achieved by identifying all users of the facility and demonstrating that the need for the facility aligns with the relevant national facility strategy.
- Facilities are **environmentally and financially sustainable**. This requires considering the 'whole of life' costs of the facility at the outset, including operating and maintenance costs of the facility and how they will be funded. This also includes governance structure/models.
- Facilities are used in **partnership** with other stakeholder groups. This requires developing partnerships with those outside the sector including education, iwi and the health and private sectors.

What is a National Facility Strategy?

National facility strategies are prepared by national sports organisations with assistance from Sport New Zealand to set out a strategic direction for facility provision across the country for their sports code.



- Facilities are **integrated** by driving concepts such as the 'sportsville model'. Facilities need to be 'fit for purpose' and sustainable. The most effective way to achieve this is to create multi-use facilities or to co-locate 'hub' with other sport and recreation, community, education or transport facilities and infrastructure.
- Facilities are **future proofed** to suit the changing market and the future needs of the community. Facilities should be designed to accommodate changing needs over time. This can be achieved by designing facilities that are adaptable, developed and extended in response to future demands.
- Facilities are **accessible** to the community. This can be achieved by providing facilities and programmes within those facilities that take into account the demographics and culture of the community.

4.3 Sports facilities and resources are shared by sports codes in open spaces and where possible through partnerships with community groups.

- Buildings and resources are shared by sports codes within open spaces to ensure that sports codes are sustainable and vibrant (the sportsville model).
- Opportunities are explored to build partnerships with schools to allow sports codes to share facilities.

4.4 Facilities used by high performance teams allow a high quality spectator experience and contribute towards the vibrancy of New Plymouth and the economy.

- Provide facilities that enable spectators to experience and enjoy sport within the district.

4.5 Community halls are provided within urban areas where there is demand for indoor recreation and leisure.

- The Council currently provides 11 community halls, however it is important that the provision of these facilities is reviewed against demand. The demand for community halls will be monitored by keeping record of usage, and comparing this with the target set by the Council of 70 hours per month.

Sportsville are partnership initiatives to bring sports clubs in one location together, sharing ideas, resources, knowledge and skills, and boosting sports participation.



Sportsville can:

- Attract new members.
- Offer new programmes.
- Control operational costs by pooling resources (accounting, membership registration etc).
- Share facilities.
- Increase the capability of the clubs.
- Increase the vibrancy of communities, by clubs taking ownership of their own facilities and providing protection of the long-term future of the use of those facilities.



Above: TET Stadium, Inglewood

Proposed situation and the Council's role for facilities within New Plymouth District

The table below shows the facility levels that are provided for different sports codes in the district and the Council's role for each code. The ticks in each column show whether the facility is a local, district, regional or national/international facility. The ticks shaded in blue show the change in facility level resulting from a new facility or redevelopment. The Council's role in different facilities is set out in the right column. In many cases the Council is the provider of open space and not the provider of built facilities.

Where the Council has a role in future projects, funding will need to be considered as part of a future Long-Term Plan

(LTP) process which will determine the level of funding and timing of the project.

The national facility strategies and regional and local studies for sports codes are used as a 'best practice' guide to determine what the future facility needs are. [Figure 7 within the Strategy Background Document](#) provides detailed information about the national facility strategies, regional and local studies that have been used to determine what the Council's role should be in facilities and what the facility needs are for New Plymouth District.

Sports code	National/ International	Regional	District	Local	Council's Role
Aquatic sports (pool-based)			√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local district pools continue to be provided in Inglewood, Waitara, Okato and Fitzroy. The Council also operates the Todd Energy Aquatic Centre. Continue to provide land for Bell Block Aquatic Centre, run by Bell Block Community Pool Society with an operational grant subject to the LTP. Consider redevelopment of Todd Energy Aquatic Centre to meet unmet demand and community needs identified in the District Aquatic Study.
Archery/shooting sports			√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open space continues to be provided for two archery clubs at King Road and Ngamotu Domain and a location for a shooting hub will be investigated.
Athletics	√	√	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to provide open space for a regional athletics stadium at Jubilee Park. Sports parks are provided and maintained for community athletics.
Bowls	√*	√	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support proposal for sustainable partnerships where the result would reduce the number of venues as recommended by the national strategy.
Cricket	√	√	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pukekura Park continues to be provided and maintained as a premier national cricket venue. Field space and space for additional wickets provided within existing sports parks in accordance with the Sports Parks Management Plan.
Cycling sports	√	√	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open space for community mountain biking will continue to be provided. District roads acknowledged as important for road cycling. Open space provided at Hickford Park for regional and national facilities including road and track cycling and BMX.

* When collaborating with many clubs to have multiple greens around Taranaki.

Sports code	National/ International	Regional	District	Local	Council's Role
Equestrian sports			√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open spaces will continue to be provided for pony club grounds and arenas. Acknowledge that Hawera is the regional and national facility for indoor equestrian. Bridle trails will be considered when planning for the future network of shared pathways, including paper roads. Consider equestrian competition facility needs as part of the Regional Facility Strategy and future master planning.
Football		√	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open spaces will continue to be provided and maintained for full-sized and mini football community fields. Provide input into a 'home of football' regional facility (which may not be on a Council-owned site).
Golf				√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No additional golf facilities will be provided in accordance with the National Facility Strategy. Support proposals that use Golf NZ hierarchy of golf facilities model, including facility transformations and mergers with community hubs.
Gymsports			√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide space at Pukekohe Domain for Waitara Gymsports until a facility proposal is developed. Support proposal for relocation of Waitara Gymsports facility.
Hockey		√	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No current role. Consider a new hockey turf at a time when sufficient need/demand is demonstrated at levels recommended by the National Facility Strategy. Support projects that allow entry-level hockey to be played on multi-sport surfaces.
Horse racing			√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open space will continue to be provided for the Pukekura Raceway.
Indoor sports	√	√	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to provide indoor facilities that meet community needs and use targets. Continue to provide land for YMCA Stadium with an operational grant subject to the LTP. A regional stadium facility be developed at TSB Stadium with an additional three courts to meet community sport demand and enable national tournaments to be held.
Motorsport	√	√	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open space will continue to be provided for Taranaki Radio Car Control Club. Open space will continue to be provided for the Todd Energy Raceway in Waitara.
Netball	√	√	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open space for two satellite venues continues to be provided at Trimble Park and Clifton Park. A total of 16 (10 outdoor, six indoor) multi-use courts provided at a central location as part of the TSB Stadium Development project.

Sports code	National/ International	Regional	District	Local	Council's Role
Rugby	√	√	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sportsfields provided and maintained for rugby at sports parks. • Yarrow Stadium (owned by Taranaki Stadium Trust) will continue to be supported and maintained as the premier international stadium.
Rugby league	√	√	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sportsfields will continue to be provided and maintained for rugby league at sports parks. • Open space is provided for the development of one or more additional community fields within existing sports parks.
Skate sports		√	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open space will continue to be provided for a club-owned regional skating rink facility.
Softball		√	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open space will continue to be provided and maintained for a softball diamond. • Open space will be provided for a second softball diamond at Hickford Park.
Squash	√	√	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open space continues to be provided for squash facilities in New Plymouth, Okato and Inglewood, including YMCA courts.
Surfing	√	√	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open space continues to be provided that enables public access to surf breaks and acknowledge nationally and regionally significant surf breaks, including Waiwhakaiho
Surf life saving			√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open space continues to be provided for surf life savings clubs at Oakura, East End and Fitzroy.
Tennis			√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local community needs will be determined by working with clubs at a regional level.
			√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Options for increased public use of courts will be investigated. • Work with the tennis community to determine the potential for multi-use courts as part of the TSB Stadium redevelopment project.
Triathlon/multi-sport/running/orienteering	√	√	√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of open space to hold events and off-road pathways for training and events.
Water sports			√	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open space continues to be provided for clubs/storage facilities adjoining water bodies, i.e. Clifton Rowing Club.

The table above shows that the sports codes that may experience the most significant change include:

- **Cycling sports.** It is expected that a BMX facility will be available at Hickford Park that can cater for activities and events at local, district, regional and national levels.
- **Tennis.** It is expected that there will be a change from a local facility to at least a local and a district-wide facility, as part of the proposed TSB Stadium redevelopment, should it proceed.

- **Netball.** Should the redevelopment of the TSB Stadium proceed, it is anticipated that facility needs could be met at a local, district, regional and national level.
- **Football.** The proposal to have a 'central home of football' that may be used at local, district and regional levels for training and events.
- **Indoor sports.** Should the TSB Stadium redevelopment proceed it is expected that a facility could be made available for events at national, regional, district and local levels.



Goal 5: The delivery of sport and recreation is supported

While a primary role of the Council is to provide and manage recreation and open spaces and facilities, it is also important to provide support to the users within these spaces and in particular sports clubs, as they have a key role in creating healthy communities.

It is also well known that participation trends and the culture of sport are changing, which creates challenges for club facility management and sport delivery at a local level.

The change and challenges include fewer volunteers, ageing facilities and increasing costs for clubs. In some cases club membership numbers are declining, however research is showing in general they are static across most codes¹.

There is a need now, more than ever, for key stakeholders including funders, national sports organisations, regional sports organisations, regional sports trusts, sports clubs, schools and territorial authorities to collaborate and provide support to sports clubs in local communities to ensure sport is delivered in a way that creates vibrant communities.

The Council works closely with the regional sports trust, Sport Taranaki, which has a significant role in providing support to sports organisations at different levels. The major trusts that fund sport within the Taranaki region include TSB Community Trust and the Taranaki Electricity Trust.

¹ Refer to *Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy Background Document* to find out what challenges sports clubs are currently facing and what the implications are for facility provision.

What does the Council provide?

The Council currently supports the delivery of sport and recreation by:

- Providing annual financial support to Sport Taranaki to help deliver sport and recreation to local communities.
- Issuing concessional leases for community activities within open spaces.
- Supporting community sporting events within recreation and open spaces, which helps promote community participation in sports and recreation.
- Providing facilities to the community for sport and recreation and subsidising the use of these through the Council's Revenue and Financing Policy.
- Funding sports organisations through the Community Funding Investment Policy.

Teenagers are dropping off in sport and recreation (15 to 18 years)

The 2013 Sport New Zealand Young People survey suggests that teenagers spend less time playing sport, but have an interest in rugby, basketball, football (boys), netball, volleyball and badminton (girls).

What do we want to achieve?

The objectives in this goal support the ongoing provision of the above activities and provide for new initiatives that will support the delivery of sport and recreation within Taranaki.

The Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy Background Document discusses the current situation of how the Council provides support to the delivery of sport and recreation, key trends in sport and recreation and the current challenges that the Council and community face.

Participation by young people (aged five to 18 years)

The 2013 Young People Survey found that nine out of 10 young people participate in some form of sport and recreation.

More than 60 per cent of young people belong to a school sports team.

Around nine out of 10 young people spend three plus hours a week taking part in sport and recreation.

The top four most popular activities for young people are swimming, running/jogging, rugby/rippa rugby and cycling/biking.

Participation by adults (16 plus years)

The 2013 NZ Health Survey shows that only four out of 10 adults are 'physically active' (i.e. they met physical activity guidelines in the last seven days).

Three out of 10 adults are volunteers.

The top three activities in Taranaki are swimming, cycling/biking, and fishing.

Participation levels have been maintained for the last 10 years.

A quarter of adults belong to sports clubs.

Objectives

5.1 The Council will work with sports codes to help achieve sustainable governance and management of facilities.

- Council resources are made available to encourage and support sports clubs in managing and sharing facilities with other sports clubs.
- Together with key partners new models for management will be investigated.

5.2 The Council's support to sport and recreation is delivered on the principles of equity, sustainability and efficiency for the sporting codes and the Council.

- The level of public/private benefit of the Council's facilities and services determines user charges and subsidies. The public and private benefit of facilities is determined through the Council's Revenue and Financing Policy. A review of this policy is an opportunity to consider all facilities subsidisation.
- The Council collaborates with sports codes to determine the role of the Council in funding/ subsidy of sport and equity between codes.

5.3 There is strong collaboration with Sport Taranaki, regional sports organisations, clubs and schools to improve the delivery of community sport.

- Ensuring the Council has strong relationships with key stakeholders is important to enable the delivery of community sport that meets the changing and varied needs of existing and future participants in sport.
- A strategic partnership will be investigated with Sport Taranaki.
- Where the Council does deliver programmes within facilities, collaboration and partnerships with other sport and recreation organisations will be explored.
- Monitoring of sport and recreation trends will continue.

5.4 Sport is acknowledged and celebrated as a tool for community development

- Support is provided to sports clubs to deliver initiatives that bring communities together and ensure that people actively participate across many facets of sport including volunteering, coaching and supporting.

Building partnerships with sports clubs, schools, regional sports trusts and regional sports organisations can provide support to ensure that children and adults can participate in community sport.



People in Taranaki like volunteering

The 2013 Sport New Zealand Young People survey found that four out of 10 young people (10 to 18 year olds) in the Taranaki region said they had volunteered in one or more of nine roles (e.g. coach/assistant coach, team/assistant manager, club administrator, referee/official, helper, team captain and physical activity leader).

The 2013 Gemba Survey found that 23 per cent of the sample population (257 people) volunteer in sport and recreation in Taranaki. Parent helpers, coaches/teachers/trainers/instructors and referees/judges/officials or umpires are the three most common volunteer types in Taranaki.

The challenge is providing support to maintain these volunteering levels, and encouraging young people to continue volunteering into adulthood.

Barriers to participation in sport and recreation

The 2013 Gemba Survey found that the top three barriers to people participating in sport and recreation in Taranaki are:

- Cost of participating.
- Time required to do sport/activity.
- Not having equipment to participate.

Goal 6: Our biodiversity and cultural heritage is protected and valued as an experience

New Plymouth District is rich in biodiversity. Our open spaces are guardians of many of the district's key biodiversity assets and are characterised by areas of indigenous vegetation cliffs and rocky shores, beaches, estuaries and river mouths, wetlands, rivers, streams and lakes. Iconic open spaces such as Pukekura Park (Green Flag award recipient 2013), Hickford Park, Lake Mangamahoe and Barrett Domain are rich in biodiversity both on a natural and a man-made level, with biodiversity values contributing to their iconic status.

Mount Taranaki is a major biodiversity resource of the district, from which many of our rivers and streams flow to the coast. The coastline and beaches are high in natural character and ecological value. Many of our local parks are green corridors providing connections for biodiversity. Many of the parks and reserves in the district have significant biodiversity values, including bush remnants at Sheppard's Bush, Waipu Lagoons at Hickford Park and Mangati Walkway to name a few.

It is important that biodiversity is maintained in our open spaces not only from an environmental perspective but also to encourage prosperity in the district. The health and environmental values within our open space contribute to the district's sense of place and the health and well-being of the community.

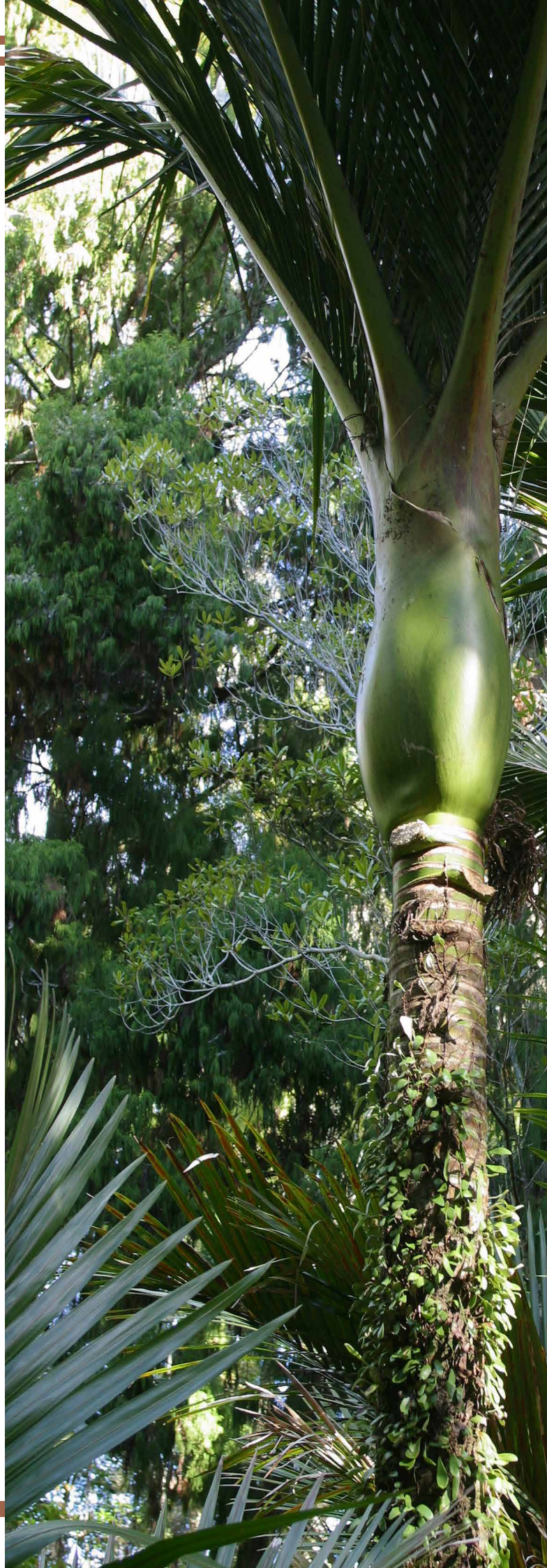
Cultural heritage in the context of this strategy describes the natural and man-made resources, which contribute to an understanding and appreciation of New Zealand's history and cultures. Council-managed open spaces contain large amounts of historical and cultural heritage that need to be identified, protected, appreciated and made available to be experienced (where it is appropriate to do so). It is important to note that heritage takes many forms including built heritage, natural heritage and cultural heritage¹.

¹ *Built heritage. The legacy of man-made buildings, structures and objects and associated intangible attributes.*

Natural heritage. The legacy of natural places, objects and intangible attributes encompassing the rural and natural environment, including the district's biodiversity, flora and fauna.

Cultural heritage. The objects and artefacts, as well as the language, stories, customs, protocols, knowledge and skills that communities, groups and individuals recognise as part of their cultural heritage.

Left: Indigenous vegetation in Pukekura Park



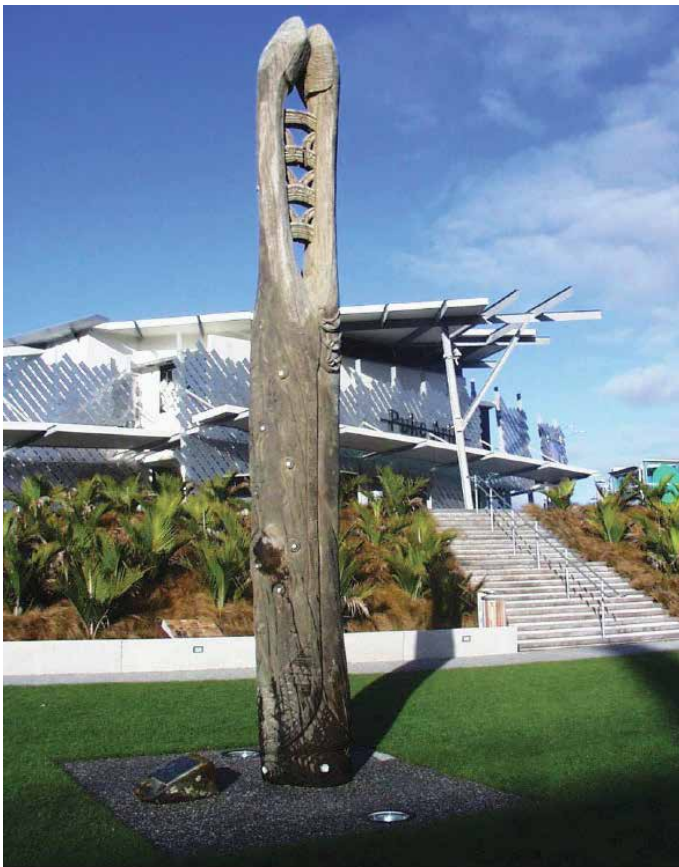
What does the Council provide?

The Council's current role:

- Owns and manages 13 historic reserves, reserves with bush remnants and esplanade reserves and strips.
- Develops reserve management plans to protect and maintain biodiversity and heritage values within recreation and open space.
- Esplanade reserves, esplanade strips and beautification strips are acquired through the implementation of the District Plan under the Resource Management Act 1991.
- Implements strategies that carry out functions of regional plans under the Biosecurity Act 1993 including the Pest Animal Strategy, Pest Plant Strategy and the Regional Biodiversity Strategy (this includes Biodiversity Plans).

What do we want to achieve?

The objectives in this goal support the activities that the Council wants to continue, including some proposed new initiatives.



Above: Tukotahi Sculpture, Puke Ariki Landing

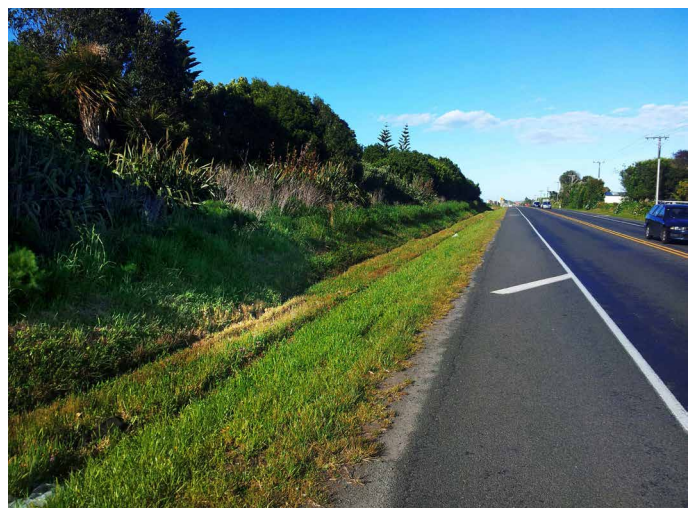
Biodiversity

'...the variety of biological life – plants, animals, fungi and even micro-organisms, it describes the diversity of ecosystems on land, in water and in the ocean. It is a term that encapsulates the whole diversity on earth including the diversity within species, and between species, from their genetic diversity to the ecosystems they live in'¹

Heritage

'...is that which is inherited from past and current generations, cared for in the present and handed on for the benefit of future generations, and includes built, natural and cultural heritage'

¹ New Plymouth District Council (2012). *Heritage Strategy*. (Author).



Above: Devon Road Beautification Strip

Objectives

6.1 *Work in collaboration with key partners and agencies on biodiversity and cultural heritage management of open spaces.*

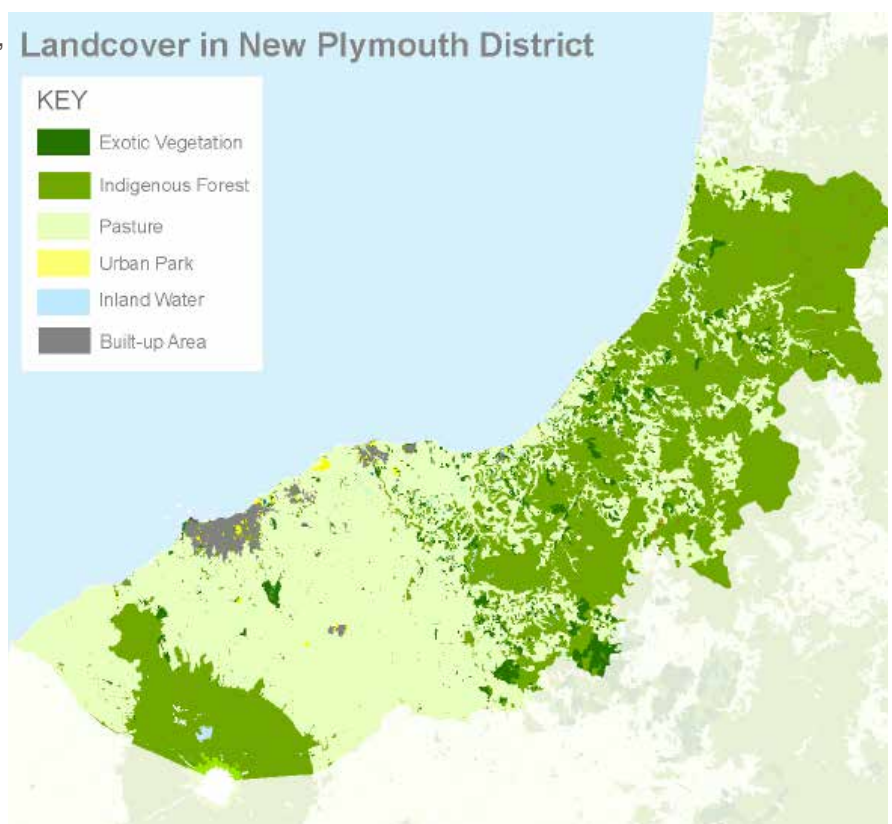
- Work collaboratively with tangata whenua and heritage organisations to protect sites of historic and cultural significance, and utilise existing local cultural heritage knowledge of open spaces for open space developments.
- It is important to collaborate with tangata whenua on open space developments that may have an impact on cultural values.
- The Council continues to uphold existing partnership arrangements with tangata whenua (e.g. Memorandums of Understanding with Te Runanga o Ngati Mutunga and the Te Rewa Rewa Agreement with Ngati Tawhirikura) and the Taranaki Biodiversity Forum Accord, which sets out a strategic vision, desired outcomes, priorities and actions for biodiversity across Taranaki.

It is noted that objective 3.3 covers partnerships with community groups which also contribute to Goal 6.

Threatened Species

Taranaki has 70 native animal species and 99 native plant species that are identified as threatened, at risk, or regionally distinctive.

Building partnerships with the Taranaki Biodiversity Accord, biodiversity groups, Department of Conservation, tangata whenua and community groups that care about the environment.



6.2 Biodiversity and cultural heritage values are protected and enhanced by maintaining, enhancing and developing green corridors and spaces in the district to link the mountain to the sea, and provide for linkages across the coast

- Continue to acquire esplanade reserves and esplanade strips in accordance with the District Plan as a way of extending ecological corridors and linking the mountain to the sea and along the coast.
- The need to protect biodiversity is balanced with providing access and recreational activities to the open spaces that the community value. Reserve management plans are one example of how these values are balanced.
- Connecting biodiversity areas enhances the health of biodiversity within open spaces in the district.
- Expert advice and local knowledge is used to assess the impacts of open space developments on the ecological and cultural heritage values of open space, and this advice is used for proactive conservation planning. The type of assessment and reporting is dependent on the location and scale of open space development.
- A range of tools is used for effective management to ensure that biodiversity within open spaces are healthy.
- See Appendix Three to see how the district's indigenous vegetation cover has changed over time prior to human settlement.

6.3 The community has an enhanced appreciation of the biodiversity and historic and cultural heritage within our open spaces.

- Enable the public to experience our natural and physical environment within our open spaces to build a sense of place within the community.

The Council has formalised partnerships with tangata whenua through memorandums of understanding and agreements. Examples of current agreements include Memorandum of Understanding with Ngati Mutunga and the Te Rewa Rewa Agreement with Ngati Tawhirikura Hapu.

- Information about biodiversity and cultural heritage is made easily accessible to the community where appropriate, e.g. signage, website information, Puke Ariki collection.
- Continue holding community events in collaboration with community groups that allow the public to experience and learn about biodiversity and cultural heritage in open spaces.
- Open spaces within the Taranaki region that are ecologically significant are promoted.

6.4 Monitor and gather information on biodiversity in open spaces and use this to provide better management of open spaces.

- Continue active monitoring programmes to ensure there is an appropriate understanding of biodiversity values in our open spaces. There is an opportunity to work with existing agencies to gather information and improve management of open spaces.



4. STRATEGIC ACTIONS AND MONITORING

The actions from this strategy will be included in, and delivered through, the New Plymouth Blueprint Implementation Plan.

The advantage of an integrated implementation plan is that all actions are then matrixed against each other and other key directions to determine priority, delivery mode and agency responsibility.

Priorities are determined to maximise efficiencies and to achieve multi-wins. This will ensure the Council is not undertaking ad hoc decision making. Actions will be integrated into the Council's long term planning, district plan review and ultimately how it delivers services to the community.

The Implementation Plan will have associated monitoring and evaluation and regular reports to the Council on progress.

This strategy's success can also be evaluated by the performance of targets set in the Long-Term Plan. In the Long-Term Plan 2015-2025 targets are set for performance measures associated with open space, sport and recreation including:

- *Percentage of community satisfied with the quality of the district's parks and reserves.*
- *Percentage of community satisfied with the quality of the district's sports parks.*
- *Percentage of households living within 500 metres of a neighbourhood open space.*
- *Percentage of residents satisfied with the swimming facilities and staff service.*
- *Number of attendees and events/bookings across all venues is maintained or increased where possible.*

This strategy will be reviewed every five years.

Left: New Plymouth Coastal Walkway

5. GLOSSARY

Term	Definition
Public open space	Land and water areas available to the public for sport, recreational, cultural, conservation and leisure purposes.
Recreation	An activity done for pleasure or relaxation that refreshes and recreates. It revitalises your body and mind by means of some pastime, sport, agreeable exercise, play, games or hobbies.
Sport	A type of organised physical recreation where there are standards, rules and competitions.
Biodiversity	The variety of biological life – plants, animals, fungi and even micro-organisms, of ecosystems on land, in water and in the ocean.
Natural heritage	The legacy of natural places, objects and intangible attributes encompassing the rural and natural environment, including the district's biodiversity.
Waahi tapu sites	A site identified by tangata whenua or the New Zealand Heritage List as being waahi tapu to tangata whenua as identified on the planning maps.
Significant Natural Areas	An area of indigenous vegetation or a habitat of indigenous fauna that meets the criteria in Schedule 21.1 and is identified in Schedule 21.2 or Table 21.3 of Appendix 21 in the New Plymouth District Plan. Except that, no vegetation that has regenerated since this plan was notified shall be regarded as a Significant Natural Area.
Future Urban Growth Areas	Those areas identified in the Land Supply and Framework for Growth approved by the Council in 2008.
Esplanade strips	A strip of land created by the registration of an instrument in accordance with Section 232 for a purpose or purposes set out in Section 229 of the Resource Management Act 1991.
Historical and cultural heritage	The natural and physical resources that contribute to an understanding and appreciation of New Zealand's history and cultures.
Waahi tapu	Places or things that are sacred or spiritually endowed and include, but are not limited to, pa, area (tracks), urupa, battle sites and tauranga waka (canoe landings).
Outstanding Landscapes	Landscapes within the district having exceptional value or eminence or distinction on a national scale and identified as an 'Outstanding Landscape' on the planning maps.
Outstanding Natural Features	Natural geological sites and landforms that are listed as being of international scientific importance or of national scientific, educational or aesthetic importance in the Inventory of Important Geological Sites and Landforms in the Taranaki and Wanganui regions.
Notable trees	A tree or group of trees considered significant for their historical, botanical, landscape, amenity or cultural values, that meet criteria listed in sections 13.1 and 13.3, Appendix 13 in the New Plymouth District Plan. Notable trees have been assigned as either Category 1 or Category 2 as described in section 13.2 of Appendix 13. Notable trees are identified on the planning maps.
Priority water bodies	Those water bodies identified as being important for natural character or public recreation and access purposes, as identified in Appendix 18 in the New Plymouth District Plan. Priority water bodies are identified on the planning maps.



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Left: Te Rewa Rewa Bridge



APPENDICES

Appendix One: Criteria for determining land purchase or disposal of open space

Criteria have been developed to help make decisions around purchasing or disposing of land for open space purposes. The criteria developed indicate what elements of open space are important and have a strategic, ecological, historical and cultural, recreational and cost focus. The criteria are listed in the table below.

Criteria

1. Strategic values

Does the land:

- Or is the land needed, to achieve the defined open space levels of service or facility development?
- Offer a linkage between other open spaces, schools, streets, another community asset (e.g. stormwater, water, sewer services) or a water body?
- Appear in another Council strategy or plan, i.e. the District Plan, Cycling Strategy, Coastal Strategy, Central Area Urban Design Framework?
- Fulfil another perceived need of the community or is it required for another Council purpose (e.g. sewer)?
- Meet the needs of population trends and demographics of the community that it may serve?

2. Ecological/natural values

Does the land:

- Contain significant landforms?
- Offer protection of locally, regionally or nationally significant natural habitats, for flora and fauna?
- Help sustain a “carbon sink”?
- Meet a need identified in Taranaki Regional Council’s Biodiversity Strategy or the New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy and Statement of National Priorities for Protecting Rare and Threatened Native Biodiversity?
- Provide opportunities to improve water quality (i.e. Riparian Strips)?
- Provide for the maintenance or restoration of linear or ‘stepping stone’ linkages and networks for indigenous species within the district generally and between natural areas of significance?

3. Historical and cultural values

Does the land:

- Contain a waahi tapu or other historical site?
- Associate with historically or culturally significant individuals, events or stories and offer opportunities for open space users to learn about the history and culture associated with the open space?
- Offer access to cultural resources?
- Is public ownership the most appropriate land ownership structure?

4. Recreation and amenity values

Does the land:

- Offer recreation opportunities and fulfil an identified need in the community?
- Contribute to the amenity of the area or provide a buffer between development?

5. Costs

- What is the cost of acquisition/disposal?
- What are the ongoing costs for owning and maintaining the land?

Once an assessment against the criteria has been made and values of the land determined, these need to be balanced with one another and a decision about the acquisition or disposal needs to be made. The decision matrix below provides a guide to decision making with four scenarios with different outcomes based on the level of values held by the land.

Decision Matrix	
High strategic High or low biodiversity/cultural/recreational values Acquire land - retain	Low strategic High biodiversity/cultural or recreational values High purchase and/or ongoing maintenance costs Consider other land ownership/protection options
Low strategic Low biodiversity, cultural or recreational values Do not purchase – dispose of land	Low strategic High biodiversity/cultural or recreational values Low purchase and/or ongoing maintenance costs Consider land acquisition options/consider retaining

The following examples demonstrate how the above matrix should be applied:

- A piece of bush land is included within a subdivision development. The bush land is not connected with any other existing future reserve land and is determined to have low strategic value. The bush has high ecological and natural values, however due to the low strategic values the decision matrix suggest other land ownership/protection options should be considered. The result is a consent condition requiring a QE11 covenant.
- Decision-making is often required to retain or dispose an existing Council-owned reserve that is currently grazed. The reserve is considered against the defined open space levels of service together with other Council strategies or plans and the conclusion is made that it is not required to meet open space needs. The reserve is then assessed for ecological, historical/cultural and recreational values and these are also found to be low. The decision matrix therefore suggests that the Council should dispose of the land and the land sales process (which includes community consultation) should be initiated.

Acquisition - land ownership options

Once the Council has identified a need to acquire open space the Council then needs to consider:

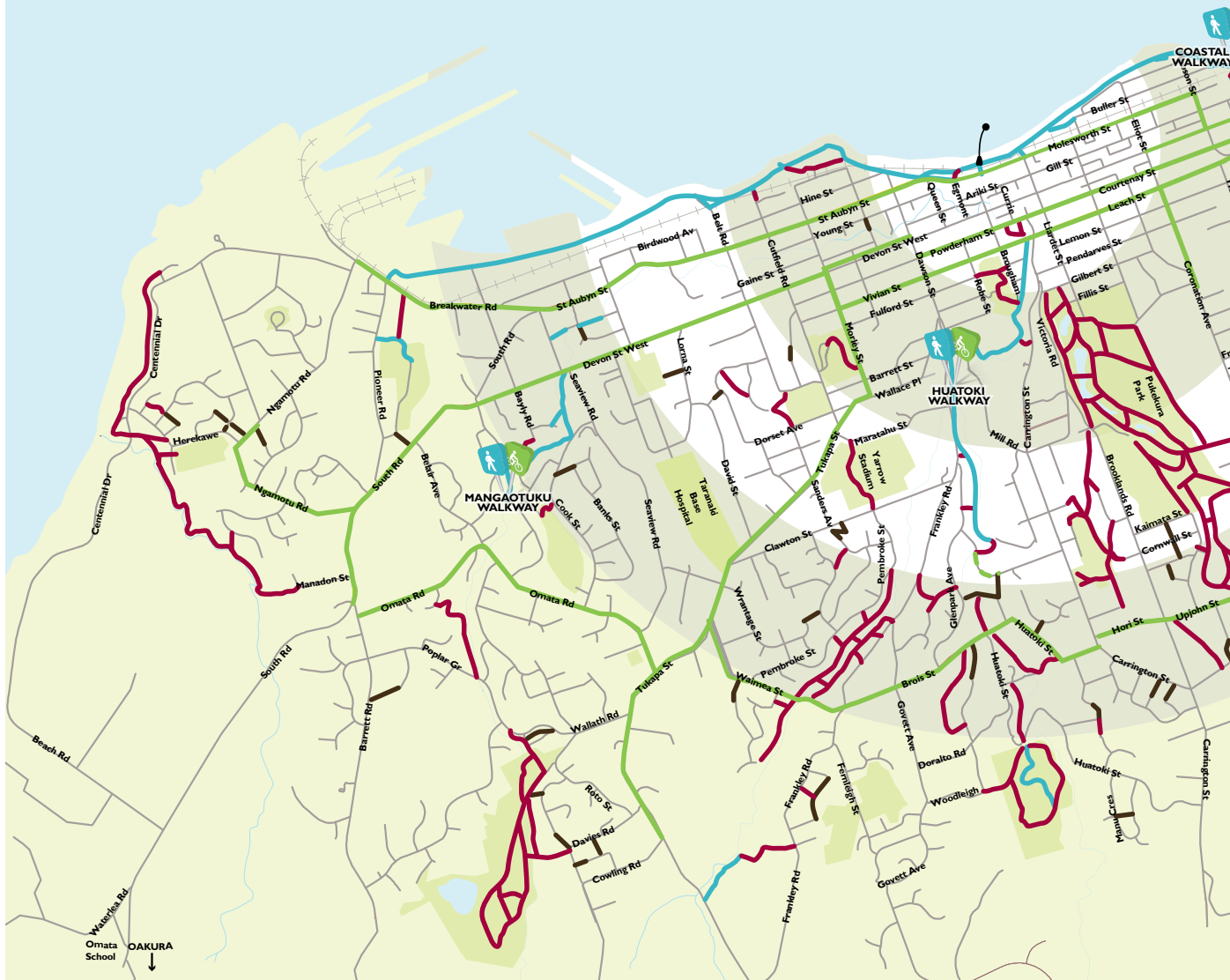
- Whether land ownership is the best option to achieve open space objectives. Could it be met in another way, such as acquisition of an easement?
- Whether there are any potential partnership approaches for land ownership and management.
- Whether land should be vested as a reserve or remain freehold. Before deciding the land status the Council needs to consider the long-term purpose and strategic value of the land. Once land has been given reserve status it can potentially be a lengthy process to revoke or change this.
- If the land is to be vested in the Council as a reserve, the relevant reserve classification needs to be considered.

Appendix Two: New Plymouth's Existing Shared Pathways

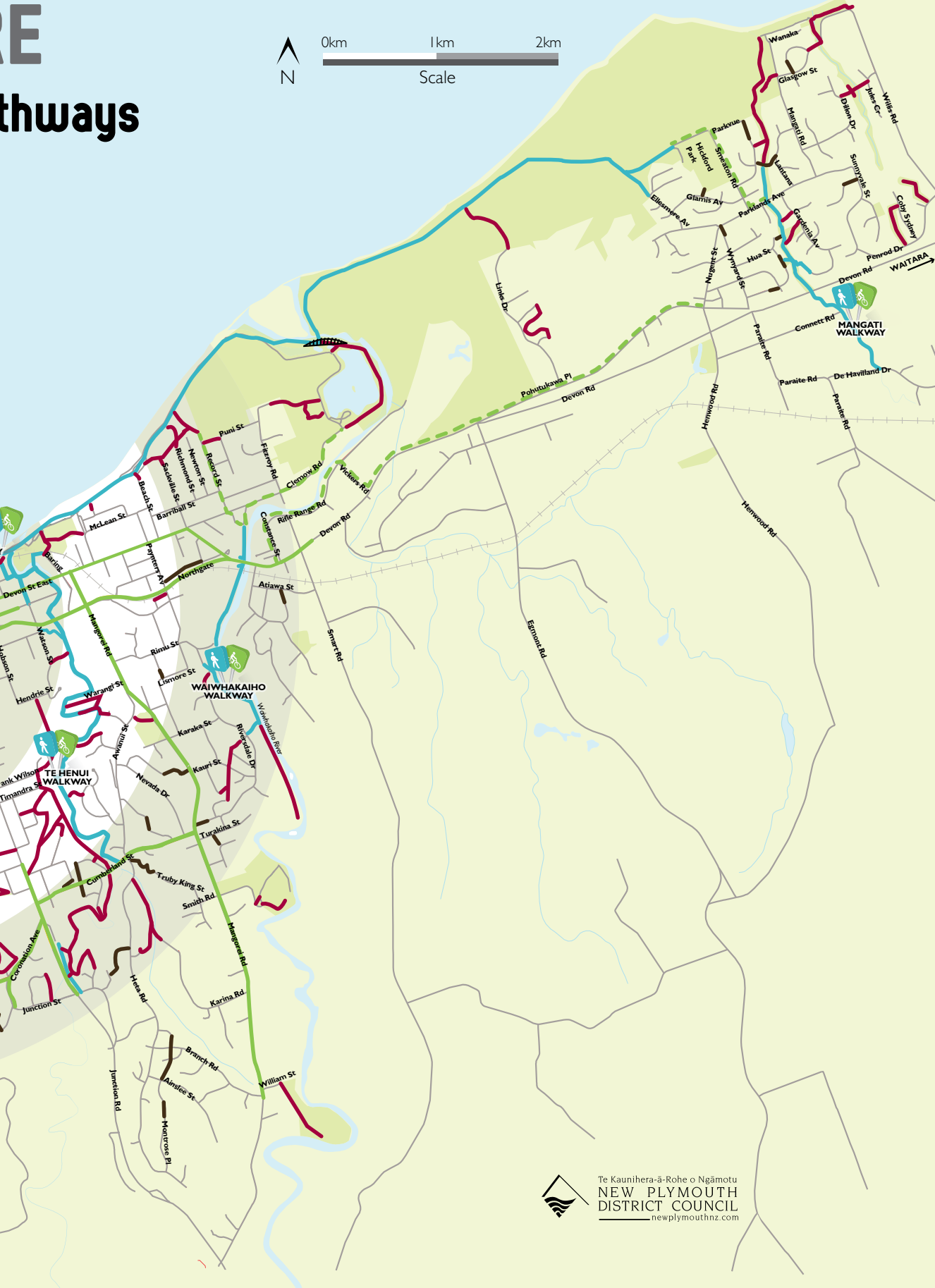
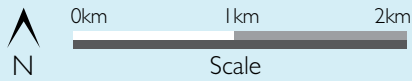


LET'S GO EXPLORE New Plymouth Shared Pathways

-  Roads
-  Off Road Shared Pathways
-  Cycle Lanes On Road
-  Suggested Cycle/Walking Route
-  Tracks - gravel, grass/ground or steps
-  Accessways - some with steps
-  Streams/Rivers



RE thways



Appendix Three: New Plymouth District Play Space Framework

This framework supports the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy Objective 2.3 “The quantity, location and quality of play space equipment is strategically planned” and the directly related initiative of “Maintain a network of destination, community and neighbourhood play spaces as outlined in the New Plymouth District Play Space Framework”.

Play spaces are defined as areas within parks or reserves that facilitate play through the provision of play equipment or structures such as skate parks.

Playground categories

Destination play spaces

Premium play spaces for the whole district that are a major attraction (or within a major attraction/destination) for residents and visitors.

These play spaces are typically the largest in the district and have several components catering to all ages. The design aims to have a unique element at each.

Community play spaces

Premium play spaces serving a small town or wide catchment area or wide range of users (i.e. local residents and sports park/beach users), often comprising both playground equipment and a skatepark.

These play spaces typically have a feature piece of equipment such as a modular unit as well as other stand alone items.

Neighbourhood play spaces

Play spaces for residents in the immediate and close-by neighbourhoods.

These play spaces typically have only a few stand alone pieces of equipment or small skate area.

Play space development guidelines

- Redevelopment of destination or community play spaces that are above the value of replacement of the existing, are funded through a partnership model with funding contributed from the Council and an external party.
- Play space development in new growth areas will be funded from financial contributions.
- The Council's funding of play spaces is subject to long-term plan and annual plan budgets.
- New play spaces, relocations, upgrades or retirements will be undertaken in consultation with the local community.
- All new and redeveloped play spaces will be designed to meet New Zealand Playground Surfacing and Equipment Standard.
- Accessibility and Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) guidelines will be considered as part of play space development.

Location guidelines

- Destination play spaces are located where they become major attractions or are within an existing attraction for residents, visitors and tourists, e.g. Brooklands Zoo.
- Community play spaces locations will take into account existing support facilities such as toilets and parking and ease of access for the whole community. They will often be located beside another community amenity such as a sports park, local beach or camping ground.

- Neighbourhood play spaces locations are determined with consideration of:
 - Proximity to another play space (including schools).
 - Accessibility, considering barriers such as main roads, access to transport.
 - Suitability of site – road frontage and good surveillance.
 - Demographics of area, e.g. number of children (while acknowledging grandparents are high users of neighbourhood play spaces).

Destination play spaces

Ten destination play spaces will be maintained or redeveloped when required

1. Pukekura Park playground.
2. Brooklands Zoo playground.
3. Ngamotu Beach playground which will be relocated from under the trees and redeveloped.
4. Kawaroa playground.
5. Coastal Walkway (Wind Wand) playground (which may need to be relocated in five years if lease of the land is not renewed).
6. East End playground.
7. East End skate park.
8. Shearer Reserve playground and skate park.
9. Marine Park playground and skate park.
10. Jubilee playground and skate park.

Community play spaces

Fifteen community play spaces will be maintained or redeveloped when required

1. Okato playground and skate park.
2. Hickford Park playground and skate park.
3. Urenui Domain playground.
4. Glenpark Avenue playground.
5. Onaero Domain playground.
6. Fitzroy Beach playground.
7. Waitara West Quay playground.
8. Yandle Park playground.
9. Onuku Taipari playground.
10. Lynmouth Park playground.
11. Rogan Street playground.
12. Merrilands Domain playground.
13. Peringa Park playground.
14. Vogeltown Park playground.
15. Sutherland Park playground.

Neighbourhood play spaces

Seventeen neighbourhood play spaces will be maintained or redeveloped when required

1. Poplar Grove playground.
2. Marfell Park skate park.
3. Wallace Place playground.
4. Turi Street playground.
5. Kenmore Street Reserve playground.

6. Maui Place playground.
7. Glen Avon Park playground.
8. Urenui skate park.
9. Te Mete Park playground.
10. Drake Street playground.
11. Te Kowhai Park playground.
12. Kinkade Park playground.
13. Gardenia Avenue playground.
14. Lawry Street playground.
15. William Franklyn playground.
16. Ferndale Park playground.
17. Waiwhakaiho Park playground.

Seven neighbourhood play spaces will be relocated and/or upgraded

1. Hurdon Street playground – relocate within the reserve to a section adjoining Cowling Road to provide better site surveillance and access.
2. Marfell Park playground – relocate to new Marfell Park entrance adjacent Marfell shops.
3. Bromley Street playground - relocate to a suitable nearby reserve that will provide more suitable ground conditions
4. Heta Road playground – relocate to the Branch Road reserve to provide large area for play space and access for families in newly developed area
5. Mangati playground – removed, awaiting relocation to Silvan Place reserve to provide better distribution of playground in Bell Block with consideration of new growth area.
6. Karamea Street playground – relocate to a suitable nearby reserve that will provide better surveillance and visibility.
7. Pennington Park playground and skate park – consider with the community and North Taranaki Sport and Recreation Inc relocation to Clifton Park where it becomes a community play space and is co-located with the proposed sports hub.

Two neighbourhood play spaces will be retired due to their proximity to another play space(s) and/or location no longer considered appropriate

1. Cook Street playground – retired following completion of new Marfell Park playground due to close proximity.
2. Clovelly Street playground – retired due to close proximity to Brooklands Zoo and Vogeltown Park playground and lack of road frontage and surveillance of site.

Two new neighbourhood play spaces will be built (subject to funding)

1. Fernbrook new residential area.
2. Area Q Bell Block future growth area.

Plan implementation and amendment

Maintenance of play spaces is funded through operational budgets.

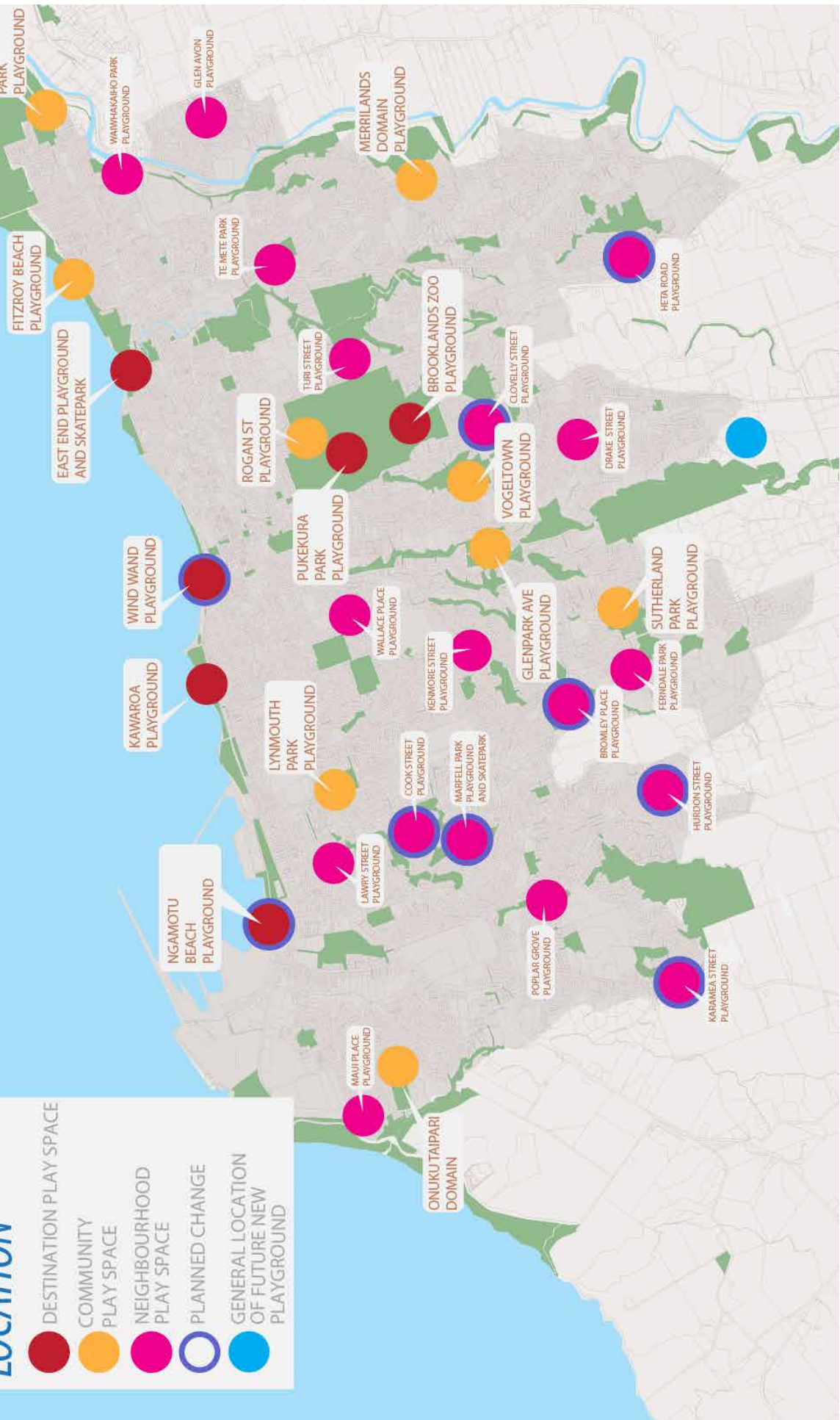
Replacement of play spaces is funded from an annual renewal budget, with priority established based on condition assessments, as well as partnership opportunities. It is from this budget that this plan will be primarily implemented.

New play space development or upgrades need to be considered as part of the Council's Long-Term Plan process in terms of funding and timing.

This play space framework will be reviewed at least every five years and may require amendment following development of Local Area Blueprints.

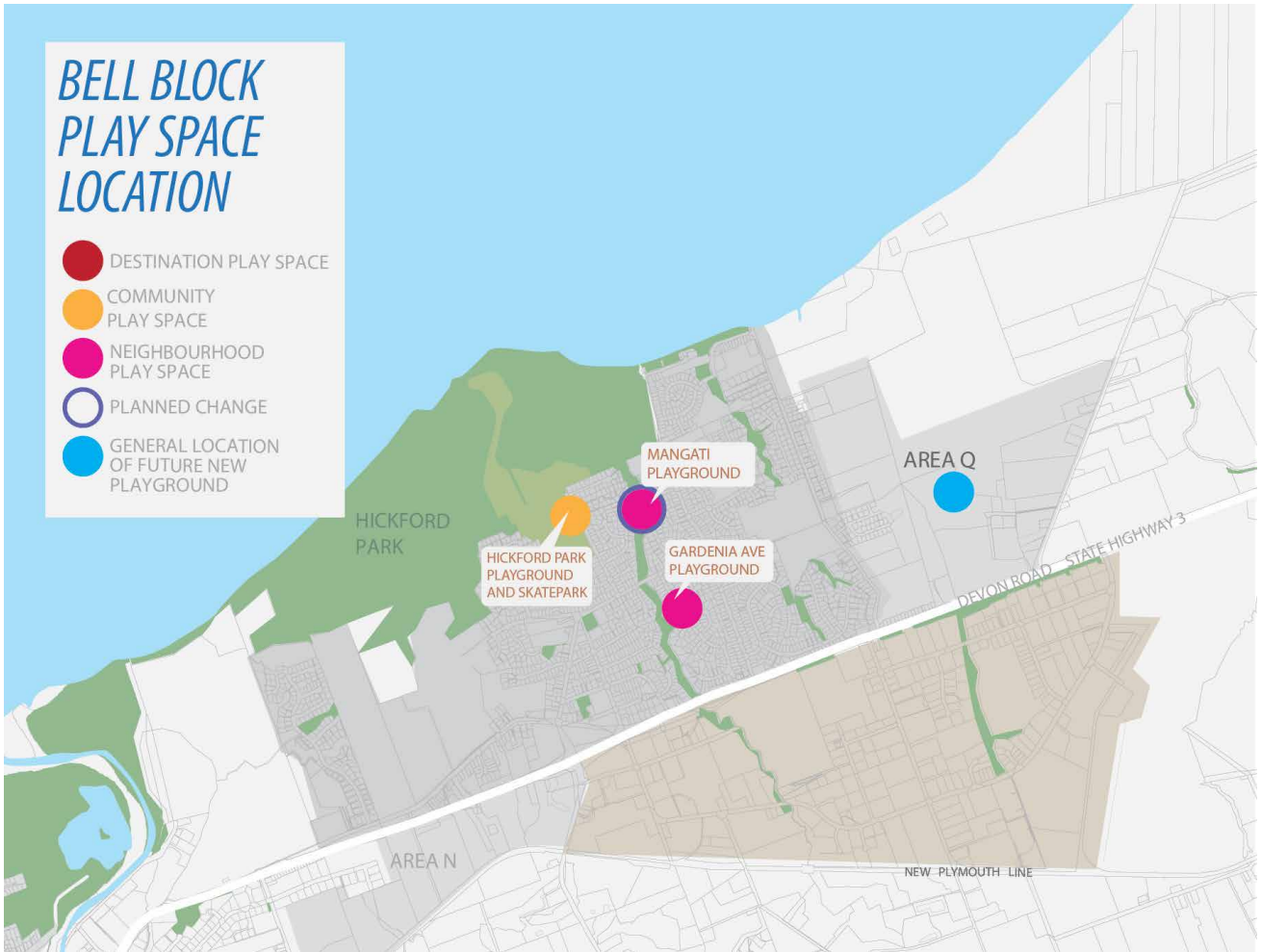
NEW PLYMOUTH PLAY SPACE LOCATION

- DESTINATION PLAY SPACE
- COMMUNITY PLAY SPACE
- NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAY SPACE
- PLANNED CHANGE
- GENERAL LOCATION OF FUTURE NEW PLAYGROUND



BELL BLOCK PLAY SPACE LOCATION

- DESTINATION PLAY SPACE
- COMMUNITY PLAY SPACE
- NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAY SPACE
- PLANNED CHANGE
- GENERAL LOCATION OF FUTURE NEW PLAYGROUND



INGLEWOOD PLAY SPACE LOCATION

- DESTINATION PLAY SPACE
- COMMUNITY PLAY SPACE
- NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAY SPACE
- PLANNED CHANGE



ONAERO PLAY SPACE LOCATION

- DESTINATION PLAY SPACE
- COMMUNITY PLAY SPACE
- NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAY SPACE
- PLANNED CHANGE



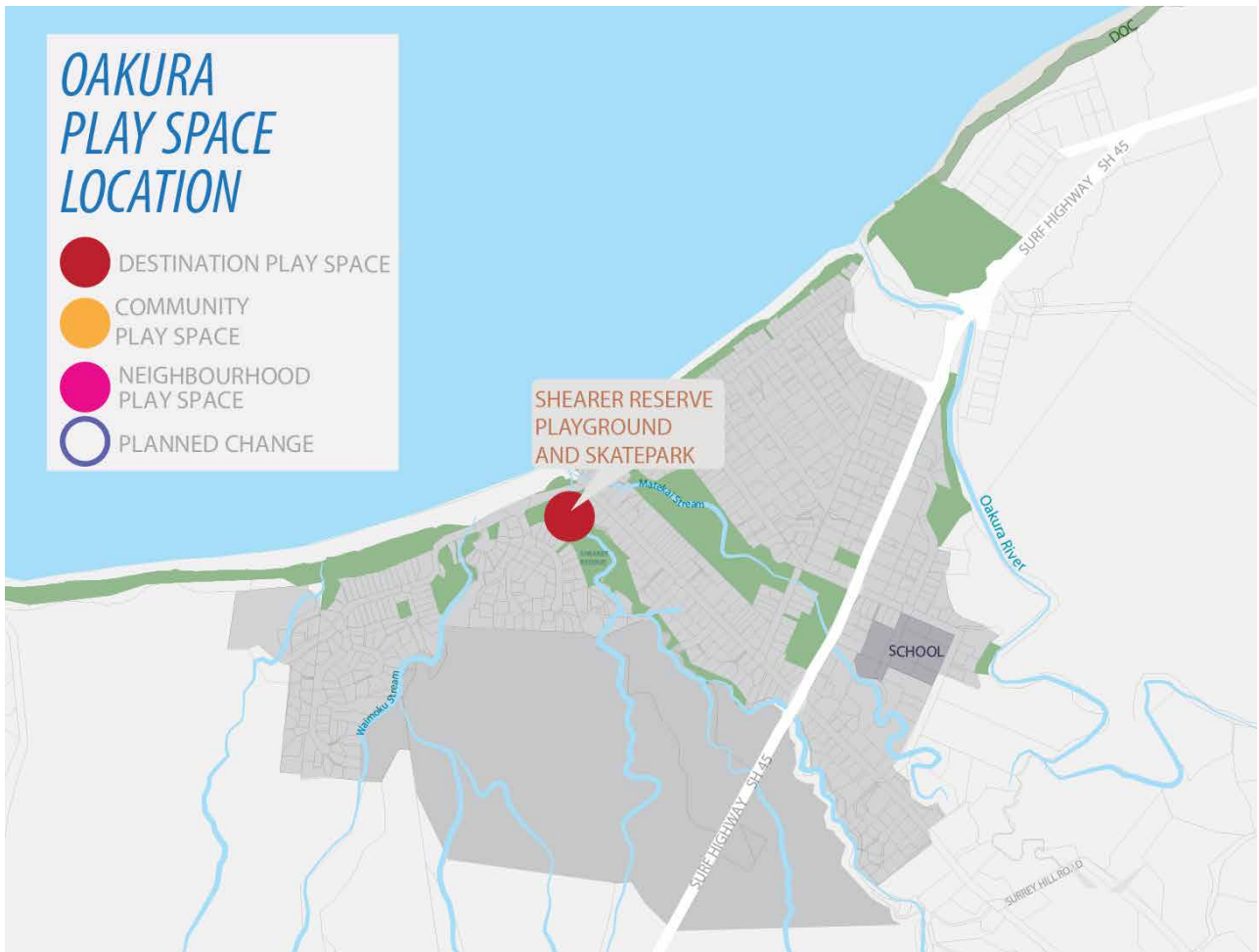
OKATO PLAY SPACE LOCATION

- DESTINATION PLAY SPACE
- COMMUNITY PLAY SPACE
- NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAY SPACE
- PLANNED CHANGE



OAKURA PLAY SPACE LOCATION

- DESTINATION PLAY SPACE
- COMMUNITY PLAY SPACE
- NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAY SPACE
- PLANNED CHANGE



URENUI PLAY SPACE LOCATION

- DESTINATION PLAY SPACE
- COMMUNITY PLAY SPACE
- NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAY SPACE
- PLANNED CHANGE

