

**PUKEKURA PARK**  
**MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
**2004**

**PART B**  
**POLICIES**

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## PART B - PUKEKURA PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2004 - POLICIES

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**PUKEKURA PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2004  
POLICY FRAMEWORK**

**PURPOSE STATEMENTS FOR RECREATION AND LOCAL PURPOSE RESERVES**

These statements encapsulate Purposes And Management Objectives as set out in the Reserves Act 1977 establishing the benchmark against which all decision-making regarding the Park will be measured.



**VISION STATEMENT**

The Overall Vision For The Park



**MANAGEMENT PHILOSOPHY**

Principal Aims Of Management Thorough Which The Vision Will Be Achieved



**KEY ACTIVITY AREAS**

Areas Of Management Are Grouped Into Key Activity Areas



**GOALS**

Specific Outcomes To Be Obtained In Order To Achieve The Management Objectives



**POLICIES**

Statements Guiding The Day-To-Day Management Of The Park



**IMPLEMENTATION**

The Means By Which A Particular Policy Will Be Given Practical Effect

## PURPOSE STATEMENTS FOR RECREATION AND LOCAL PURPOSE RESERVES

### RECREATION RESERVES

#### Purpose:

Providing areas for the recreation and sporting activities and the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public, and for the protection of the natural environment and beauty of the countryside, with emphasis on the retention of open spaces and on outdoor recreational activities.

#### Management Objectives:

##### Primary:

- (a) Allowing the public freedom of entry and access to the reserve, subject to such conditions and restrictions as are necessary for the protection and general well-being of the reserve and for the protection and control of the public using it
- (b) Conserving those qualities of the reserve which contribute to the pleasantness, harmony, and cohesion of the natural environment and to the better use and enjoyment of the reserve.

##### Secondary:

- (c) Managing and protecting any scenic, historic, archaeological, biological, geological, or other scientific features or indigenous flora or fauna or wildlife
- (d) Maintaining the reserve's value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area.

### LOCAL PURPOSE RESERVES

#### Purpose:

Providing an area of land suitable for a specified local educational or community purpose which does not duplicate any other reserve purpose.

#### Management Objectives:

##### Primary:

- (a) Determined by the purpose
- (b) Prohibiting access to the whole or any part of the reserve except by permit where appropriate.

##### Secondary:

- (c) Managing and protecting scenic, historic, archaeological, biological or natural features
- (d) Maintaining value as a soil, water and forest conservation area.

## **VISION STATEMENT**

**“A sustainable and attractive park environment that provides a diverse range of recreation, educational and leisure activities for its visitors and users while protecting and enhancing its natural character and values.”**

### **Management Philosophy**

The Park's Vision will be achieved through meeting the following principal aims of management.

1. To develop, enhance and maintain Pukekura Park and Brooklands for public enjoyment and inspiration
2. To protect and enhance the unique natural values, beauty and ambience of the Park
3. To contribute to the community's cultural and recreational needs
4. To offer a range of recreational, sporting and educational opportunities that complement the Park's atmosphere and environment
5. To provide the community with an accessible and dynamic conservation and education resource
6. To present and develop a range of plant materials and environments, both exotic and indigenous, in an appropriate setting
7. To protect and invest in the sustainable ecology of the Park
8. To recognise the Park as a primary regional tourist attraction and as such to allow for appropriate commercial opportunities
9. To manage the Park in a manner that gives effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi

## POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

In this section the issues and considerations relating to the Park's management objectives and philosophies and in particular, each of the key activity areas, are identified and discussed.

### ACCESS AND CIRCULATION

#### Potential Areas of Conflict

The Council's policies and bylaws relating to the use of bicycles (and other mobile recreational items) and the regulation and control of dogs in the Park are not strictly enforced. The ongoing use of prohibited items in the Park and the presence of unleashed dogs in prohibited and restricted areas can adversely impact on its use by the general public and also, the well being of both its inhabitants and users. The Council aims to provide a safe and enjoyable environment for all users and therefore intends to manage these areas of conflict in a more proactive way.

#### Paths Network

The paths network is an integral part of the Park experience requiring careful management. The physical form and layout of the Park has resulted in a complex network of pathways that can be confusing to the casual visitor. The primary network is centred around the lakes and the connection to car parks and key features. The secondary network links the bush and primary pathways and connects to gardens, secondary entrances and other feature areas throughout the Park.

Main circulation patterns, in terms of pathway hierarchy, need to be extended where appropriate. Better accessibility and circulation within the Park could be achieved through the provision of improved signage and visitor brochures and, in some places, the further sealing of some of the primary pathways.

#### Accessibility and Safety

Efficient and safe access and circulation systems for pedestrians are critical to the successful use and management of the Park. These systems need to be provided in a way that does not impact on the informal and natural character of the Park. Linkages with surrounding reserves and the coastal walkway and open space could also be extended and enhanced.

Accessibility and safety of tracks are linked to three key elements of their design - slope, surface and safety. These elements should be addressed in accordance with:

- track hierarchy;
- priority of provision;
- the degree of accessibility relative to track hierarchy;
- requisite maintenance according to track hierarchy;
- the need to provide for less able Park visitors and users – including those using mobility scooters, wheelchairs and pushchairs.

## Vehicle Access and Car Parking

Vehicle access and car parking in and around the Park is inadequate for its current levels of use. In particular the main car park at the Bellringer Pavilion and the street car parking at the main entrance on Fillis Street is of increasing concern because:

- the vehicle entrance is a one-way system;
- the car park is frequently full;
- there is an increasing congestion problem ; and
- the system creates a pedestrian/vehicle conflict.

When addressing the car parking problem a range of issues need to be considered, including the:

- need to consider the development or extension of new or existing car parks at appropriate locations around the Park;
- continued use of the Sportsground as a major sporting venue;
- wider implications of pedestrian and vehicle access and circulation throughout the Park; and the
- option of developing a large capacity car park for event activity.

## Infrastructure Improvement

Over recent years Park usage and demand for services such as track lighting and power outlets has increased. Consideration should be given to the installation of a power system and pathway lighting and also to the upgrading and sealing of the main pathways.

## Accessibility of Park Features

Accessibility impacts upon the success of the Park's key features. All key features should be made accessible wherever practicable to all Park visitors and users (including those less able) and where possible alternative access made available.

## RECREATION AND USE

### General Access and Use

Freedom of entry and access to reserves is one of the primary objectives of recreation reserves. Such freedom is, however, subject to leases or licences and to any conditions or restrictions necessary for the protection and general well being of the reserve and for the protection and control of the public using it.

The Reserves Act confers a number of powers on the Council to enable it, as administering body of the Park to ensure its use, enjoyment, development, maintenance, protection and preservation, as the case may require, for the purpose for which it is classified.

### Exclusive Use

Clubs and organisations leasing Park grounds or facilities within the Park may have exclusive use to those areas and/or facilities during organised events.

### Park Closures

Clubs and organisations charging an admission fee, or paying a rental fee for use of the Park grounds and/or facilities may be given the right to close off access to specified areas of the Park. The Reserves Act limits the number of days in which an area of the Park can be closed in this way.

## **Sportsground**

The Sportsground is the primary sports event area of the Park, used mainly for representative level sports and major events. Its unique setting also creates a popular location for community events and activities. The first game of cricket was played on the sportsground in 1892 and since has hosted a number of international sporting fixtures and is widely regarded as one of the finest venues for cricket in the world

## **Commercial Activity**

The public has always been cautious about the impacts of commercial activity on the peaceful ambience of the Park. The commercial use of the Park can detract from its public use and enjoyment and adversely affect the general character, values and amenity of the Park. Such activities may also adversely impact on the Park's neighbours. In common with many other factors in the Park it is maintaining a sustainable balance of activity that is of utmost importance. Public expectations change over time and this should be reflected in any consideration of additional commercial activity.

Commercial activities in the Park may be considered appropriate in circumstances where the activity is determined to be complementary to and compatible with the purpose for which the Park is managed and/or is able to be undertaken in a manner which avoids or suitably mitigates any adverse effects on the Park and its neighbours.

The opportunity for a café type facility in the Brooklands Zoo exists. The need is also acknowledged for the continued services of existing facilities such as the Tea House, boat hireage and functions at the Bowl of Brooklands and the Sportsground.

## **Events Management**

The Park is increasingly used as a venue for large-scale community events, such as the Festival of Lights, the Summer Scene programme (now known as Daytime Delights and Tonight's Highlights), functions at the Bowl of Brooklands and WOMAD. It is likely that other large-scale community events will be staged within the Park boundaries.

The Festival of Lights is a significant event for the New Plymouth district and Taranaki region.

Any large-scale public events can require the temporary exclusive use of an area of the Park for the duration of the event and where permitted, must be managed so as to minimise any potential adverse effects on the Park's character and values.

Further, the Park has a limited capacity to cater for large volumes of people over short periods of time. The success of WOMAD 2003 emphasised the important role the Park can play as an event venue. Future Park management needs to consider the implications of providing for large-scale events. Any upgrade of the Park's assets needs to provide capacity for event activity.

It is important to review and evaluate community entertainment to achieve and maintain acceptable standards and, where appropriate, to provide further entertainment opportunities for the community.

## **Sponsorship**

Sponsorship has benefited the Park and its users in a number of areas such as the Sportsground, playgrounds, waterfall, the Bowl of Brooklands, the Festival of Lights and Daytime Delights and Tonight's Highlights. It plays an important role in the provision of public activities and events and will be encouraged and pursued where appropriate. Sponsorship, however, needs to be carefully managed to ensure that the informal character of the Park, its longevity and its dynamic nature are protected and preserved.



## **Levels of Service**

The opportunity for users of the Park to enjoy some of the Park's key attractions is limited by its current opening hours. It is considered that there is a need to better meet seasonal demands of users throughout the year, for example, the main gate closure operation and the opening/closing times of the Tea House, the Fernery and Brooklands Zoo need reviewing, taking into account resourcing and budgetary factors.

## **Marketing Strategy**

Marketing of such a dynamic visitor environment as the Park needs an integrated approach that addresses all marketing issues such as promotion, advertising, information and interpretive signage.

The marketing strategy will be aimed at giving a unified professional image of the Park that exceeds the expectations of its visitors and is supported by the provision of quality information and services whilst recognising and preserving the Park's character and values.

# **LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION**

## **Park Ecology**

The Park is a fragile ecosystem that is increasingly under pressure from surrounding built development. The long term effects of sealing natural drainage areas, piping water, constructing residential housing on park boundaries and the degradation of primary bush may impact on the natural health of the Park.

Action needs to be taken to ensure that any activity that has the potential to adversely affect the ecology and environment of the Park is identified and effectively avoided or minimised.

## **Water Management Technical Study**

In 2000/2001 a Water Management Technical Study was carried out on the Park as a direct result of concerns raised by the Friends of the Park and policy from the 1993 Management Plan. This study built upon the findings from the WITT Water Quality Study 1996-1999. The study stressed the vulnerability of the Park, which relied predominantly on its own unique water catchment. The Study considered a number of major water management issues, such as: base flows and the natural replenishment of the hydrological system, localised bank stability, flood flows, water depths and siltation, water quality and habitat values, lake and waterway edge environments, water weed management and fish passage.

The study provided a recommended management strategy that recognises soakage issues, bank stability and siltation as top priorities. These issues should be addressed over 2003-2006 with the full recommendations considered by 2012.

## **Pest Management**

Plant and animal pests pose continual threats to the Park environment. Continued vigilance is required to control and, where possible, eradicate these pests (See Part A Appendix IX for the Park's pest list). Pest and disease management is a continuing challenge from a health and safety perspective. Where necessary, for the good of public enjoyment, environmental health and protection of the Park's 'Character and Values', appropriate strictly controlled methods of chemical and non-chemical pest and disease management should be undertaken.

## **Preservation of Park Vegetation**

Much of the vegetated areas of the Park are man-made, although they rely on natural processes to sustain their environments. In general these processes need to be self-sustaining without major input from external management. In some areas, however, these vegetated areas are struggling to be self-sustaining. It is important to identify the reasons

for this. It is also essential to closely monitor the vegetated environments of the Park and to ensure their ongoing sustainability so as to protect the very character of the Park itself.

### **Park Topography**

The natural topography of the Park has contributed to the development of the present day landscape layout. Pukekura comprises a series of stream valleys and dells surrounded and connected by dense bush areas following small waterways, many of which open up to create areas of formal open space. Brooklands has the distinct landscape of a formal estate garden and lawns surrounded by gullies of dense native bush.

### **Bird Environment**

The diversity of indigenous and exotic natural habitats in the Park provides both protection and a natural food source for a range of birds. Appropriate pest and disease control, together with appropriate landscape and waterways management, are important factors in providing a safe and sustainable environment for birds in the Park.

### **Aquatic Environment**

The lakes and waterways of the Park are home to a range of aquatic invertebrates and fish life that contribute to the visitor's experience of the Park. Their presence indicates a healthy aquatic environment. It is of benefit to the overall ecology of the Park to maintain a healthy balance of aquatic life.

### **Park Relationship with the City**

The Park's landscape relationship with its surrounding residential areas, the CBD, the mountain and sea are of critical importance to the city's urban setting. These physical and visual linkages need to be reinforced.

### **Management of Significant Treescape**

One of the current landscape issues in Pukekura Park is the changing nature of the tree skyline as a result of the decline of the pre-1900 radiata pine plantings and the succession by such trees as Norfolk Island pine and kauri. The importance of the radiata pines as dominant skyline features is recognised and future skyline trees need to be appropriately planned for and managed.

The Brooklands formal treescape also needs to be addressed. Most of the dominant trees are over 100 years old and are showing signs of decline, have died or have been removed over the last decade. The landscape of Brooklands needs to be managed so as to maintain the balance of scale, shade, interest and open space.

### **Protection of Historic Features**

Throughout the development of the Park many significant endowments have provided a range of features now classified as heritage items. These items include The Gables, the Bandstand, The Poet's Bridge, the Brooklands Fireplace, the Victoria Road gates and the Queen Victoria drinking fountain. There are also a number of historical sites in the Park such as Maori food pits, the musket range embankment and the Brooklands saw pit. These sites and features are all worthy of merit and protection for the benefit of the local community, Park visitors and future generations.

## **Heritage and Character of the Park**

The Park represents many years of development and management. The Park's current landscape layout represents the values and expertise of the developers and communities that have helped meld and enhance the landscape that the local community and visitors benefit from today. It is important that future generations acknowledge and protect the heritage and character that defines the Park. Future landscape development should be compatible with the existing heritage and character factors of the Park.

## **Preservation of Character**

The essential character of the Park is distinct to Taranaki, New Zealand. The Park's appearance and ambience is very much one of a natural native parkscape although the Park is generally man-made. This diverse landscape character creates a perception of informality and harmony in the Park. This character needs to be preserved and actively protected.

## **Plant Collections**

The Park is nationally recognised as having a role as an informal botanic garden. Throughout its history there has been constant development of plant collections which has contributed to the unique landscape character of the Park. These Park collections are presented in an informal way, subservient to the wider landscape, in order to maintain the "natural" effect and to capitalise on specific site attributes.

## **Management of Collections**

The Park is home to a wide range of notable and historic trees, botanically rare plants and feature collections. There is a continuing need to manage these collections for their landscape values, conservation role, educational potential and the enjoyment of the community.

The collections' renewal, maintenance and expansion should be part of an ongoing long term planning process. Appropriate planting records, specific collection planting plans and specific collection goals are important to sustain the plant collections' value and accessibility.

## **Fernery**

The Pukekura Park Fernery is presented as one of the leading glass house displays in New Zealand. Its setting of clay banks, enclosed tunnels and sunken caverns offer a unique sense of mystery and tranquillity. Recent developments have enhanced the display without affecting its character or ambience. The Fernery plays an important role in plant education and conservation that is provided through appropriate collection management. Its accessibility is a key issue both in terms of its location and internal circulation.

## **Brooklands Zoo**

Brooklands Zoo was redeveloped between 1998 and 2001. Its popularity and increased patronage reflect the success of its redesign from a caged zoo to one providing an interactive experience, with birds and small animals displayed in open enclosures. To ensure its continued viability, the Zoo is managed in accordance with strict collection management criteria.

## **Unique Indigenous Vegetation**

The Park has some unique areas of indigenous endemic vegetation that should be recognised and protected.

## **Encroachments**

Private properties encroaching upon reserve land excludes and discourages the public from using that portion of the reserve, and as such contravenes the purposes for which recreation reserves are managed. It is considered important to ensure that no new encroachments are permitted on the Park and to require the removal of existing encroachments over time.

## **INFORMATION AND EDUCATION**

### **Park Information and Reception Centre**

The 1993 Plan proposed a park centre in order to improve visitor experience, understanding and appreciation of the Park. This management plan does not specifically propose a park information and reception centre but does recognise the importance of offering various activity and information services; providing education and understanding of Park features; and a main arrival point to the Park, and recognises the need to continue to compile databases on flora and fauna.

### **Information Services**

The Park is one of the key tourist attractions in Taranaki. Emphasis needs to be given to the provision of directional, interpretational and educational signs, brochures and on-site information.

Information and advice should raise the public understanding of the natural environment, historic, and cultural values within the Park and encourage visitors to conduct themselves in a manner which avoids or minimises adverse impacts on the Park environment.

### **Educational Opportunities**

The provision of educational opportunities will be an increasing role of the Park. This is an area where the community may be involved in an active participation and leadership role. Opportunities for a range of educational community activities and participation need to be explored.

## **COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS**

### **Community Support**

One of the continuing successes of the Park is the level of community support it receives. The community is proud of the Park and the recreation opportunities it offers. There is also a deep sense of ownership amongst the community that sustains the need for involvement and participation in the affairs of the Park. Opportunities should be provided to encourage this continued partnership approach.

### **Friends of The Park**

The Friends of the Park group is a community group with a particular interest in all aspects of the care of the Park. It provides comment on issues relating to Park management and is regularly involved in informal activities related to visitor services. Over recent years the Friends of the Park group has provided such visitor services as guided tours and the operation of a mobility cart. These services have been provided in partnership with Park management and have been of great benefit to Park visitors. The Friends of the Park group has an important role both in representing the interests of the community and servicing its needs within the Park.

## **Community Relationships**

Fostering community relationships and involvement in the Park is a function that requires continued effort. Although the community is in support of the Park they can be quite passive about it and may not see opportunities for personal or social benefit.

## **FACILITIES, BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES**

### **Quality of Structures**

It is important that any Park facility, building or structure should not adversely impact on the Park environment. It is also imperative that design and materials reflect a quality of presentation complementary to other facilities, buildings and structures in the Park.

### **Appropriateness of Structures**

Since the inception of the Park various facilities, buildings and structures have been constructed to provide a range of activities and functions. Due to changing circumstances existing facilities, buildings or structures may require upgrading, removal or replacement.

Any new structures and facilities should maximise benefits to Park users while reducing existing problems such as public access, mobility, circulation and congestion, car parking and pedestrian/vehicular conflicts.

New structures and facilities must have the potential to resolve existing difficulties within the Park whilst increasing its attractiveness to, and use by, Park visitors.

### **Toilet Facilities**

The provision of high quality, safe, accessible toilet facilities are considered an urgent requirement and will be given high priority. Consideration of this will be given through the ongoing reviews of the District Public Toilet Strategy.

## **LEASES, LICENCES AND OTHER AGREEMENTS**

The provision of facilities and services for the public may enhance and increase the Park's use from a recreational, educational and tourism perspective and thereby provide a significant economic benefit to the district. The granting of leases and licences and entering into other types of agreements must, however, be compatible with the management objectives of the Park and the Reserves Act.

Policies are necessary to provide general guidance on factors to be taken into account by Council when assessing applications and appropriate terms and conditions for leases, licences and other agreements relating to Park land.

Some of the Council's delegated powers, functions and duties are dependent upon new types of leases, licences and other agreements being provided for or contemplated in an approved management plan.

## **DEVELOPMENT**

### **Park Dynamics**

The Park has benefited from a continuity of vision and dynamic management from a group of very dedicated people well supported by the community. It has always been subject to change and because of its very nature relies on this change to guarantee its future.

One of the dangers of a community asset like the Park is the perception that it is finished, that no more work is required, and that it is acceptable as it is. The Park is in fact a dynamic living system and being an important tourist and community attraction it needs to respond to changing user demands and trends.

### **Changing Requirements**

While change is necessary and inevitable for the Park's future it is essential that any development proposals that may significantly impact on the Park are critically assessed in order to protect the Park's character and values.

### **Long-Term Sustainability**

Developments or improvement proposals must firstly consider their impact on the Park environment. The merits of this fine example of a 19th Century park must be acknowledged and accommodated.

### **Development Proposals**

An assessment process (involving public consultation where appropriate) needs to be embodied in this Management Plan in order to avoid any adverse effects on the Park's character and values.

### **Integrated Development**

Any development undertaken without reference to the management objectives of the Park could be detrimental to its character and values. An integrated development approach must be implemented to ensure that all built and natural developments are in harmony with the Park environment.

### **Development of Key Attractions**

The four key Park attractions are the Sportsground, the Fernery, the Zoo and the Bowl of Brooklands. It is important that these popular facilities receive continual focus and priority and that all developments associated with these facilities are seen through to their planned completion.

## **ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT**

### **Council Management**

The community sees the Council as the most appropriate managers of the Park for all community interests. The Council is committed to the sustainable management, development and stewardship of the Park.

### **Horticultural Staff**

The key to the ongoing maintenance and development of the Park is the need to secure a horticultural skilled workforce. In recent years it has become difficult to secure qualified, skilled and experienced staff so a philosophy of internal staff training and apprenticeships has become even more important.

## CHARACTER AND VALUES

This section details all those things that define the Park's character and values and are referred to a number of times in the Policy sections of this plan.

### **Landscape**

Pukekura Park is a significant landscape feature of New Plymouth, today a mature form of a park laid out in the 19th Century. It has its own distinctive character and identity, reflective of its heritage. Features such as artificial lakes, the Sportsground, Tea House, Bandstand and timber bridges reflect the values of those who developed the Park within the valley setting.

The essential character of Pukekura Park is that of a range of diverse features. This is the secret of the Park's success - all elements work in harmony with the topography. The result is an informal but unified structure, creating an atmosphere of tranquillity and serenity for Park users. The delicate balance of bush, cultivated areas and open spaces provides a variety of opportunities to experience drama, richness and intimacy.

The Park's appearance is one of a naturalistic landscape generally man-made and featuring mostly indigenous and exotic trees and shrubs. This diverse landscape character supports visitors' perceptions of informality and harmony in the Park.

The combination of topography, vegetation, structures, visitor use and experience combine to produce the Park's particularly distinctive ambience. It is the interaction between Park users and the Park's various elements within a relatively small and defined area, which makes the Park appealing to many.

Within the overall character of Pukekura Park there are a series of recognisable areas that have their own distinct identity. The largest of these is Brooklands, which echoes an English estate garden. Open lawns, formal flower gardens, and a variety of specimen trees are framed by a series of planted borders with the backdrop of Maranui Gully's indigenous bush. Other areas with a distinctive identity include the Rhododendron Dell, the lakes and waterways, Stainton Dell and other landscaped features. The various pathways and dells throughout the Park enable users to experience this environment from within, using all the senses.

Physical assets of the Park include its natural grandeur, its expanses of water, its view of Mount Egmont/Taranaki and the hills emphasised by a skyline framework of evergreen trees that surround the Park.

### **Topography**

The natural topography of the Park has contributed to the development of the present day landscape layout. Pukekura comprises a series of stream valleys and dells surrounded and connected by dense bush areas following small waterways, many of which open up to create areas of formal open space. Brooklands has the distinct landscape of a formal estate garden and lawns surrounded by gullies of dense indigenous bush.

The physical setting of the Park is strongly reflective of New Zealand's natural bush environment – steep hills, water, and lush vegetation.

### **Vegetation**

The Park is nationally recognised as having a role as an informal botanic garden. Throughout its history there has been constant development of plant collections, which have contributed to the unique landscape character of the Park. The collections are unique because they are presented in an informal low-key context, subservient to the wider landscape in order to maintain the "natural" effect and to capitalise on specific site attributes. Enhancing this effect is an opportunist understory of native and shrub species.

Many of the gardens display a broad range of annuals, perennials, shrubs and trees that can add interest to the home garden and are readily available in the local market. The Park has extensive areas of native bush much of which is now naturally reoccurring. With pukatea, tawa and puriri it provides a good example of a remnant lowland coastal forest.

Taranaki boasts many skilled nurserymen and horticulturists who have produced plants locally that are well suited to the local environment. These plants are featured in the Park's garden collections.

Viewed from both outside and within the Park's boundaries, the tall ridge top vegetation offers another distinct aspect of the Park's character. Various emergent conifers provide a sense of scale and drama, with the added effect of making the Park seem larger than it is.

### **Historic Park Features**

Throughout the development of the Park many significant endowments have provided a range of features now classified as heritage items. These items include The Gables, the Bandstand, The Poet's Bridge, the Brooklands Fireplace, the Victoria Road Gates and the Queen Victoria drinking fountain. There are also a number of historical sites in the Park such as Maori food pits, the musket range embankment and the Brooklands saw pit.

### **Relationship with Mountain, Sea and City**

The Park's relationship with the surrounding town, suburbs, mountain and the sea is of critical importance to the natural setting of New Plymouth city. The Park provides a strong connection between the sea and mountain through its character and presence. Pukekura Park is an urban park and should not be seen in isolation from New Plymouth city's development. The Park's landscape relationship with its surrounding residential areas, the CBD, the mountain and sea are of critical importance to the city's urban setting. These physical and visual linkages need to be reinforced.

The capturing and framing of the Mount Egmont/Taranaki view from the Tea House is a particularly significant feature expressing the Park's character.

### **Community Support**

One of the continuing successes of the Park is the level of community support it receives and the enormous level of pride the community has in the Park. The community is proud of the Park and the leisure and recreation opportunities it offers. There is also a strong sense of ownership amongst the community that sustains the need for involvement and participation in the affairs of the Park. The special relationship with the Friends of the Park is noted.

The Park represents many years of development and management. Its current landscape layout represents the values and expertise of the developers and communities that have helped meld and enhance the landscape that the local community and visitors benefit from today.



## MANAGEMENT GOALS FOR THE PARK

For the purpose of meeting the Park's Management Objectives, in accordance with the Council's Vision and Management Philosophy, the Management Plan sets specific goals to be achieved or undertaken by the Council, on behalf of and in partnership with the community. These goals will be achieved through the implementation of policies that will be set out in the Policies section of this plan and will be organised under each of the Key Activity Areas.

A summary of the stated Goals, organised under each of the Key Activity Areas, is set out below:

| KEY ACTIVITY AREAS                         | NO.        | GOALS   |
|--|------------|---|
| <b>ACCESS AND CIRCULATION</b>              | <b>1.1</b> | To provide freedom of access and entry to Park users in such a manner that minimises the impact on the Park's character and values.   |
|  | <b>1.2</b> | To provide safe, accessible and logical pedestrian access to and within the Park that meets the needs of all users whilst conserving its recreational purposes, character and values.   |
|  | <b>1.3</b> | To provide convenient vehicular access to and parking in the Park without detriment to neighbouring properties and to balance the provision of adequate car parking facilities against the preservation of land available for recreational purposes.                            |
| <b>RECREATION AND USE</b>                  | <b>2.1</b> | To encourage and maintain recreational activities and activities for public enjoyment within the Park in a manner that respects the needs and values of all users and protects and preserves the Park's character and values.   |
|  | <b>2.2</b> | To control and maintain a sustainable level of events and commercial activities within the Park so as to maximise community benefit whilst avoiding or minimising detrimental impacts on the Park environment, other Park functions and uses and the surrounding neighbourhood. |
| <b>LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION</b> | <b>3.1</b> | To maintain, enhance and protect the environment of the Park to encourage natural health and long-term sustainability through industry recognised best practice landscape management  |
|  | <b>3.2</b> | To preserve, protect and maintain those qualities of the Park's character and identifiable features which contribute to its distinctive environment and to its better use and enjoyment.  |
|  | <b>3.3</b> | To recognise, protect and enhance the intrinsic values of the Park plant and Zoo animal collections through appropriate management.   |

| <b>KEY ACTIVITY AREAS</b>                    | <b>NO.</b> | <b>GOALS</b>  |
|--|------------|---|
| <b>FACILITIES, BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES</b>  | <b>4.1</b> | To provide for and maintain, or allow for, a range of facilities, buildings and structures throughout the Park to meet various operational and visitor needs, that are appropriate to the Park's character and are consistent with its management objectives.   |
|  | <b>4.2</b> | To establish design criteria for structures that will meet the needs of the community in terms of access, location, safety, quality, comfort and multi-use capability in a manner that complements the park environment, its existing character and structures. |
|  | <b>4.3</b> | To ensure that the features and facilities provided in the Park are managed as appropriate to meet the needs of all users.  |
| <b>LEASES, LICENCES AND OTHER AGREEMENTS</b> | <b>5.1</b> | To grant leases, licences and to enter into agreements for use of areas within the Park to the extent necessary to give effect to the management objectives of recreation and local purpose reserves.   |
| <b>INFORMATION AND EDUCATION</b>             | <b>6.1</b> | To provide interpretive facilities, services and information to enhance visitor experience within the Park and to increase visitor understanding and appreciation of the natural, historic and cultural values within the Park.                                 |
| <b>COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS</b>               | <b>7.1</b> | To acknowledge the importance of the Park to the community by encouraging the community to be continually involved with the conservation, management planning, use and development of the Park  |
| <b>DEVELOPMENT</b>                           | <b>8.1</b> | To continue to develop the Park to meet changing community needs and expectations in an integrated manner that ensures the Park's long-term sustainability and protection and enhancement of its character and values.  |
| <b>ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT</b>         | <b>9.1</b> | To ensure that the interests of the Park are best served through appropriate management practices, resources and support.   |

# ACCESS AND CIRCULATION



**GOAL 1.1:** To provide freedom of access and entry to Park users in such a manner that minimises the impact on the Park's character and values.

**Policy 1.1.1**

To restrict entry and access to the Park only where necessary for the protection and general well-being of the Park and for the protection and control of the public using it.

**Policy 1.1.2**

To actively enforce Council Bylaws which prohibit and restrict access to the Park.

**GOAL 1.2:** To provide safe, accessible and logical pedestrian access to and within the Park that meets the needs of all users whilst conserving its recreational purposes, character and values.

**Policy 1.2.1**

Three categories of pathway networks will be defined within the Park as follows:

- a. Primary pathways with paved surfaces;
- b. Secondary pathways with appropriate metal surfaces;  
and
- c. Bush pathways, which will remain informally surfaced.

*Explanatory note:*

- *These categories describe a level of finish and maintenance, not their importance to the Park network.*
- *Pathway classification will be flexible and accommodate the changing needs of users*

**Policy 1.2.2**

To maintain and develop the Park's pathway networks at appropriate levels and according to their classification to ensure Park user safety, easy accessibility, and appropriate accessibility for less able Park visitors.

**Policy 1.2.3**

Directional signage will be used to improve access and circulation. These signs will also indicate the type of track surface.

**Policy 1.2.4**

**To provide additional forms of access and circulation within the Park which link to and enhance the existing pathway network.**

**Policy 1.2.5**

**To maintain, design and develop pathways within existing Park features such as the Fernery, the Zoo and other high activity areas to enable improved access and circulation by all visitors, including the less able, wherever practicable.**

**Policy 1.2.6**

**To open up previously inaccessible areas within the Park where necessary to improve accessibility and circulation and/or to enhance the Park visitor's experience.**

**Policy 1.2.7**

**To establish new pathways, upgrade existing pathways, alter pathway routes and close pathways taking into account relevant factors, including:**

- The need to provide for access to the Park;
- Whether the proposed change/closure is likely to negatively impact on visitor experience and interpretation and recreational opportunities;
- Whether the proposed pathway will be complementary to the informal nature of the Park;
- Whether construction methods will minimise future maintenance requirements;
- The need to have regard to the objectives of any Council policy on walkways and the role that any pathways may play in forming links with the Council walkway system; and
- The needs of less able Park visitors.

**Policy 1.2.8**

**To provide appropriate lighting along primary pathways for the safety and convenience of the public.**

**GOAL 1.3:** To provide convenient vehicular access to and parking in the Park without detriment to neighbouring properties and to balance the provision of adequate car parking facilities against the preservation of land available for recreational purposes.

**Policy 1.3.1**

Parking, riding or driving of motorised vehicles, motorcycles, power cycles or bicycles within all areas of the Park is prohibited beyond designated car parks, except for Council employees acting for the purposes of their employment or Tea House service vehicles and other authorised vehicles. All vehicle use should be kept to a minimum.

**Policy 1.3.2**

To maintain existing car parks in a state of good repair.

**Policy 1.3.3**

To provide vehicle access and car parking facilities within the Park in order to provide adequate access to and circulation within the Park, in a manner which minimises congestion and conflict with pedestrians.

**Policy 1.3.4**

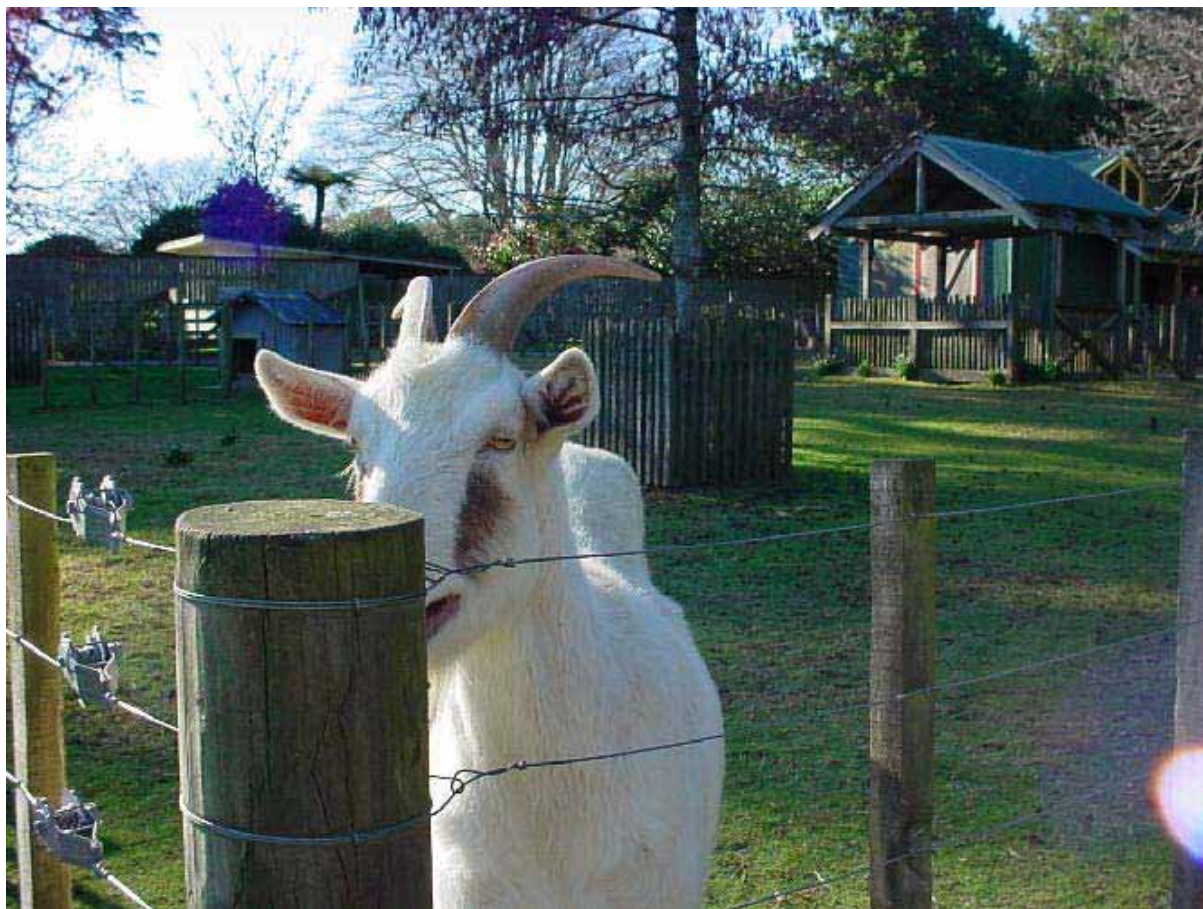
To set aside car parks for less abled users where reasonably practicable.

**Policy 1.3.5**

To consider sites for new car parks in accordance with the following non-exhaustive factors:

- Whether or not the proposed site will create a need for extensive internal pathways;
- Whether or not pathways to other parts of the Park can easily be developed from the proposed site;
- Whether the proposed site is in an open space area, an area of high recreational use or amenity value;
- Whether the design of the proposed car park minimises any visual impact on the Park's character and values.

## RECREATION AND USE



**GOAL 2.1:**

To encourage and maintain recreational activities and activities for public enjoyment within the Park in a manner that respects the needs and values of all users and protects and preserves the Park's character and values.

## INFORMAL RECREATION

**Policy 2.1.1**

To provide for a variety of recreational pursuits whilst respecting the needs and values of all users.

**Policy 2.1.2**

To inform and educate Park visitors and users about the need to preserve and protect the Park's character and values.

**Policy 2.1.3**

To provide for extended hours of opening to the Park, the Fernery and the Zoo to enable better use and enjoyment of the Park's key features.

**Policy 2.1.4**

To do such things as are necessary to enable the Park's visitors and users to obtain the maximum recreational use and enjoyment of the Park's lakes, rivers and streams.

**Policy 2.1.5**

To maintain the Zoo with its emphasis on displaying a range of small, exciting and diverse animals and birds.

**Policy 2.1.6**

All activities undertaken in the Park will comply with the Council's regulations in relation to noise control, public health and safety, and environmental standards.

**Policy 2.1.7**

In accordance with the Council's Consolidated Bylaws 2000, unleashed dogs are not permitted in any area of the Park.



**Policy 2.1.8**

To impose a user fee on an individual or group where the privilege of access to any part of the Park, its facilities or buildings is granted to such an individual or group to the exclusion of the general public.

**Policy 2.1.9**

To allow the continued limited use of rowboats for hire on the main lake.

**Policy 2.1.10**

To develop a marketing strategy which addresses all marketing issues such as promotion, advertising, information, interpretation and signage.

**EXCLUSIVE USE****Policy 2.1.9**

To grant restricted exclusive use of areas of the Park to persons, bodies, voluntary organisations or societies (whether incorporated or not) for the purpose of particular games, sports or other activities for public recreation or enjoyment and the restricted authority for such persons, bodies, voluntary organisations or societies (whether incorporated or not) to demand an admission fee for entry to such areas.

*Explanatory note:*

*Such activities include, but are not limited to, competitive sports events, musical performances or events, theatrical performance, fund raisers, sponsored activities or events where a charge is made or a donation requested for entry to such activity or event.*

**Policy 2.1.10**

To retain specified exclusive use areas within the Park for recreation/community purposes in a manner that protects and preserves its historical values, until such time as Council determines otherwise.

*Explanatory note:*

*Such community uses include Pukekura Kindergarten (North Taranaki Free Kindergarten Association Incorporated, Pukekura Scout Group*

*(Scout Association of New Zealand), New Plymouth Model Engineers Club, the New Plymouth Chess Club, Taranaki Society of the Arts and New Plymouth Brass.*

## ORGANISED SPORTS, GAMES & RECREATION ACTIVITIES

### Policy 2.1.11

**To maintain the Sportsground as a premier sports facility and a venue for international, national and district-wide sporting events and other recreational uses and public events.**

### Policy 2.1.12

**To allow casual use of the Sportsground by the public subject to priority of use being given:**

- firstly to international and national events;
- secondly to those organisations holding licences and leases for areas and buildings within the park; and
- thirdly to regular club users; and fourthly to one-off events.

### Policy 2.1.13

**To take into account the following factors when considering whether to allow organised sports, games and other recreational activities to take place in the Park:**

- The anticipated demand for the proposed use and its accessibility to the public in general and to neighbouring residents in particular;
- The effect, if any, on the right of members of the public to use the Park on a casual basis as individuals and the loss of land available for such use;
- The period of time the Park or any part of it will be committed to organised usage;
- Any possible conflict between the proposed use or activity and other activities in the Park and adjoining land uses;
- Existing turf and landscape conditions.

### Policy 2.1.14

**To impose such conditions for use of the park for sports, games and other recreational activities as considered necessary for the protection of the Park and for the protection and control of Park users and visitors.**

**GOAL 2.2:**

To control and maintain a sustainable level of events and commercial activities within the Park so as to maximise community benefit whilst avoiding or minimising detrimental impacts on the Park environment, other Park functions and uses and the surrounding neighbourhood.

### SHORT TERM SPECIAL EVENTS AND/OR ASSOCIATED COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

**Policy 2.2.1**

To provide for major Park events and to encourage the development of a vibrant events environment in the Park in a manner compatible with the Park's character and values.

*Explanatory note:*

*Groups or organisations seeking funding for the holding of significant new events within the Park that can be expected to attract substantial economic benefit and/or significantly enhance the national or international profile of the district may seek funding support from the Council.*

**Policy 2.2.2**

To regularly review the provision of community events programmes and implement changes where necessary to ensure events meet community needs and expectations.

**Policy 2.2.3**

To provide for limited forms of commercial activity associated with short-term special events within the Park as necessary to enable the public to obtain the benefit and enjoyment of the park and/or for the convenience of Park users and visitors.

**Policy 2.2.4**

To assess proposals for short-term special events and or associated commercial activities on a case-by-case basis taking into account relevant factors, including:

- Whether the event is of general public interest;
- The likely contribution of the event and/or activity to the local and wider community and to the enhancement of public appreciation of the values of the Park;
- Whether there will be a conflict with Park values;
- Whether the event or activity will significantly infringe upon the

- public's right to use the Park on a casual basis;
- Whether the commercial activity is compatible with the nature and intent of the short-term activity or event;
- Date(s) of the proposed event and/or activity and the length of time that occupation or utilisation of the park is required for the event or activity;
- Relevant Council policies, strategies, bylaws and other legislative and regulatory requirements;
- The need to protect the character and values of the Park;
- The financial resources of the event organiser and/or its identified sponsors.

### Policy 2.2.5

**To impose appropriate conditions and charges on the approval of short-term special events and any associated commercial activities, which may include:**

- A reinstatement bond;
- Proper provision being made for emergency access, the location of toilets, first aid, litter and waste disposal, parking and other facilities, advising neighbours and the local community about the event;
- Proper provision being made for preparations leading up to the event and/or activity and reinstatement after the event and/or activity;
- Existence of operator's licences for any operator supplying or in charge of any amusement device;
- Appropriate provision having been made for food storage, food preparation and food and liquor sales at the event;
- Proof of appropriate public liability insurance cover;
- The setting of financial responsibilities for the organisation and the Council.

## FILMING

### Policy 2.2.6

**To encourage and allow for private or semi-commercial filming and photography in the Park for the purposes of public enjoyment and also to enable the Park to be further promoted and marketed to the wider community.**

*Explanatory note:*

*Although the Council welcomes and encourages use of the Park for wedding photos or for marketing purposes this activity needs to be managed. Agreement for such use of the Park is to be obtained – see policies relating to **Leases, Licence and Other Agreements** set out in this Management Plan.*

|                     |
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| <b>Policy 2.2.7</b> |
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**To allow commercial filming and photography in the Park in a manner that protects and preserves the Park's character and values.**

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| <b>Policy 2.2.8</b> |
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**To enter into agreements allowing commercial filming and photography, where appropriate, after considering the following factors:**

- The length and type of activity proposed;
- The location(s) sought for the activity;
- The date, time and duration;
- Refuse and waste collection and disposal requirements;
- If access to water, electricity and other services is required;
- Number of people involved;
- Likely light and noise emission;
- Proposed parking arrangements;
- Whether the activity will involve the construction of sets (buildings and structures), and, if so, whether building consents are required;
- The arrangements for the removal of sets upon completion of filming;
- If exclusion of the public is required during the process;
- Whether the activity will involve the use of animals, special effects, explosives, firearms, helicopters and/or planes;
- Whether the activity will involve landform or vegetation modification;
- Whether the activity will involve the use of lakes or waterways in the Park;
- Ownership/acknowledgment of images;
- If adjacent landowners and/or businesses within the Park need to be informed;
- Signage and Security arrangements;
- Whether current licence/leaseholder(s) consent is required/has been given;
- Clean up and reinstatement of land forms and vegetation;
- Whether the activity is likely to adversely impact on the use of the Park by the public or its character and values;
- Relevant regulatory and statutory requirements;
- Whether any likely adverse impacts can be effectively avoided or sufficiently minimised;
- Whether a public consultation process is required;
- Other relevant policies set out in this management plan;
- Other relevant factors.

*Explanatory note:*

*"Commercial filming and photography" includes filming and photography that produces or is intended to produce a product for sale; a product to be used for commercial purposes; the act of filming or photographing for the purposes of financial gain or reward.*

## LONG-TERM COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

### Policy 2.2.9

To allow for long-term commercial activities in the Park in limited circumstances, where the activity relates to and will enhance the prime functions of the Park.

### Policy 2.2.10

Proposals for long-term commercial activities will be assessed on a case-by-case basis taking into account relevant factors, including:

- Whether a long term need for such an activity can be established;
- Whether the commercial activity is compatible with the prime functions of the Park;
- Whether the activity/service is already existing within the Park;
- Whether the commercial activity will adversely impact upon the Park's character and values;
- Whether the use will significantly infringe upon the public's right to use the reserve on a casual basis;
- Consideration of the applicant's business plan;
- The results of consultation with tangata whenua and the wider community;
- Those factors set out in the **Development** section of this management plan where the activity has the potential to have a significant impact on the Park.

### Policy 2.2.11

To grant commercial leases and licences for the purposes of carrying out an approved long-term commercial activity in accordance with the Leases, Licences and Other Agreements policies set out in this management plan.

### Policy 2.2.12

To encourage sponsorship as a commercial partnership opportunity for the Park whilst ensuring any form of recognition for such sponsorship is in compliance with the advertising policy set out in the Facilities, Buildings and Structures policies of this management plan.

# LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION



**GOAL 3.1:** To maintain, enhance and protect the environment of the Park to encourage natural health and long-term sustainability through industry recognised best practice landscape management.

**Policy 3.1.1**

Flora of the Park in shall be managed in a long-term sustainable way to ensure compatibility with and enhancement of the recreational and community use, historical, cultural heritage and landscape values of the Park.

**Policy 3.1.2**

To monitor, preserve, and where possible, enhance population numbers, density and distribution ranges of threatened indigenous species as appropriate, and prevent additional indigenous species and ecological communities from becoming threatened.

**Policy 3.1.3**

**A healthy aquatic environment shall be maintained within the Park's streams and water bodies and the diversity and abundance of indigenous aquatic life in the Park protected.**

**Implementation, the Council will:**

- Include the programme of recommendations from the 2000/2001 Water Management Technical Study in the Long-Term Council Community Plan;
- Commence a programme of lake margin protection;
- Undertake regular aquatic introduced plant surveys and inspections to monitor the presence and/or numbers of aquatic introduced plants within the Park;
- Develop a system for monitoring the health and status of all streams and water bodies in the Park;
- From time to time undertake appropriate control of aquatic weeds within the main water bodies of the Park; and
- Encourage a range of native fish by considering the installation of appropriate fish passes and the restocking of selected species if required.



**Policy 3.1.4**

**The role of tangata whenua in the management of natural and ecological resources in the Park is acknowledged and they will be consulted on all significant management issues for the Park.**

**PEST MANAGEMENT**

**Policy 3.1.5**

**Council will control and/or exterminate introduced plants that impact on natural, recreational or historic values in the Park and/or that the Council has a legal obligation to control, in a manner that is effective and efficient and considers public safety.**

*Where necessary for the good of public enjoyment, environmental health and to conserve the natural attributes of the Park, appropriate methods of chemical and non-chemical pest and disease management should be provided under strict controls.*

**Policy 3.1.6**

**To preserve indigenous flora and fauna in the Park, through the integrated management of indigenous species and the control of introduced plant and animal species and human impacts.**

**Implementation – the Council will:**

- Implement control methods in the following order of priority:
  1. Introduced plants and animals, which have the actual or potential ability to significantly impact on the Park's natural health and sustainability;
  2. Introduced plants and animals, which the Council has a legislative requirement to control;
  3. Introduced plants and animals, which are given priority by the Council;
  4. For the purpose of preventing the introduction of new introduced plants and animals that are likely to adversely affect the Park's natural health and sustainability.
- Undertake introduced plant and animal control in cooperation with other agencies and landowners
- Monitor the impacts of introduced plant and animal control methods on the Park's ecological and historic values to ensure that control methods are efficient and have minimal adverse effects on the Park environment;
- Control unwanted invasive plants by implementing a regular weed control programme (see Part A Appendix IX)
- Continue to select methods for introduced animal control that are efficient and effective.

## VEGETATION

### Policy 3.1.7

To continue to increase knowledge and understanding of ecosystem restoration and management through research and monitoring and to apply that knowledge to the management of the Park.

#### Implementation:

- Educational establishments will be encouraged to gather scientifically robust data.

### Policy 3.1.8

To preserve and maintain biological diversity and ecosystem integrity and health.

### Policy 3.1.9

To maximise the aesthetic, environmental, climatological, ecological, economic and social benefits gained from trees whilst ensuring public safety and avoiding or minimising the adverse effects on the Park's environment, Park users and its adjoining neighbours.

#### Implementation:

- The Council will ensure that the overall bush framework of the Park is left largely intact and free of intensive development;
- The Council will prepare a plant management regime to determine the future provision and management of plants in the Park.
- The Park's trees will be managed in accordance with the District Tree Policy, the District Plan, the Reserves Act, the Resource Management Act 1991, other objectives and policies set out in this Management Plan and other relevant statutory and regulatory requirements.

## BIRD LIFE

### Policy 3.1.10

To maintain and enhance the diversity of bird life through the provision of suitable natural habitats.

#### Implementation – the Council will:

- Maintain a wide range of plant species attractive to birds, with emphasis being placed on providing a year round food supply;

- Take all reasonable steps to protect known nesting sites from predators and visitor impact;
- Encourage the creation of secure nesting 'islands';
- Alter sections of banks, where appropriate, to the main lakes to make them easier for young birds to negotiate;
- Comply with all relevant regulatory and statutory requirements;
- In association with the Ornithological Society, endeavour to maintain an up-to-date census of birdlife in the Park

## ADJOINING LAND USE

### Policy 3.1.11

**Vegetation on park boundaries shall be managed in order to protect the integrity of park plantings and to minimise any adverse effects on adjoining properties.**

**Implementation:**

- The Council will establish and maintain fencing where it is necessary to protect Park values in accordance with the Reserves Act.

### Policy 3.1.12

**To remove all existing unauthorised land use, rubbish, drainage, weed, plant and other private encroachments that impede the use and enjoyment of the Park.**

**Implementation:**

- The Council will seek to define all boundaries abutting the Park to enable the boundary between the Park and properties abutting the Park to be clearly delineated;
- The Council will clearly determine park boundaries;
- The Council will request the relevant party/s of encroachments to have the encroachments removed and the reserve reinstated at the cost of the encroacher(s) (subject to any existing agreements between the encroacher(s) and the Council);
- Where removal and reinstatement does not occur, then the Council may carry out the removal and reinstatement itself and recover costs;
- Encroachments that adversely impact on public use and enjoyment of the Park will be given priority by the Council.

### Policy 3.1.13

**Future private encroachments onto the Park will not be tolerated.**

**GOAL 3.2:** To preserve, protect and maintain those qualities of the Park's character and identifiable features which contribute to its distinctive environment and to its better use and enjoyment.

**Policy 3.2.1**

To enrich and extend, where appropriate, the natural qualities and features of the Park's land form, the streams, water bodies and vegetation for passive and other informal recreational uses.

**Policy 3.2.2**

To preserve, or enhance, where possible, landscape values by ensuring that any development will be undertaken in a manner that minimises any adverse impacts on the Park environment.

**Policy 3.2.3**

To ensure that the Park's Maori and European cultural and historical sites or objects of importance will, as far as possible, be preserved and managed in accordance with the District Plan, the Council's Heritage Maintenance Programme, and other relevant statutory and regulatory requirements.

**Policy 3.2.4**

To raise Park visitors and users awareness of the Park's cultural and historical sites or objects.

**Policy 3.2.5**

To acknowledge the role and importance of tangata whenua in the management of any Maori cultural historic or archaeological sites, or objects of importance and to ensure that tangata whenua are consulted on the management and involved in decisions on how these values should be managed.

**Policy 3.2.6**

To maintain and develop the Park's relationship and linkage with key city features and recreational opportunities.

**Implementation:**

- The Council will consider landscaping options for the purposes of linking the park with existing walkway linkages, streams (the Te Henui and Huatoki) and the coast (Foreshore and Coastal Walkway).

## TREES

### Policy 3.2.7

**To manage indigenous forest remnants without the further introduction of non-endemic indigenous species.**

### Policy 3.2.8

**To manage and enhance the mix of exotic and indigenous trees for public interest and enjoyment.**

### Policy 3.2.9

**To produce a tree management plan and replacement programme which ensures the long-term sustainability of trees within the Park.**

**Implementation – the Council will:**

- Seek to retain the dominant skyline effect of trees in the Park landscape;
- Maintain the formal landscape settings of trees throughout the Park, such as Brooklands;
- Take account of the need to maintain a series of open spaces within the Park when undertaking any landscape development.

### Policy 3.2.10

**To install utility services in compliance with the District Tree Policy – Part II Appendices: - Guidelines For Works Within The Vicinity of Trees.**

**Implementation:**

- The Council will ensure that, whenever practicable, cables will be installed underground and that, wherever possible, facilities will be co-located.

## WATER FEATURES

### Policy 3.2.11

To maintain and develop the Park's water features as focal points in the Park.

**GOAL 3.3:** To recognise, protect and enhance the intrinsic values of the Park plant and Zoo animal collections through appropriate management.

## PLANT AND TREE COLLECTIONS

### Policy 3.3.1

To maintain, renew and develop the Park's plant collection features to ensure compatibility with the Park environment and the relationship with other major plantings elsewhere in the District.

#### Implementation:

- Plant collections of national importance including a collection of significant Taranaki bred hybrids shall be maintained and developed;
- All major plant collections will be periodically reviewed to ensure that the balance between botanical merit and display value is maintained;
- A database of plants will continue to be developed and adequate plant records will be maintained to ensure effective management of the botanical collections;
- The Park's garden collections will be further developed to provide the community with examples of local indigenous plants and plants that are suited to local gardens;
- The importance of display and special interest gardens to the overall character of the Park is noted. These will be maintained and enhanced.

### Policy 3.3.2

To ensure that the kauri groves in the Park are managed in accordance with the Council's long-term sustainable management plan and the policies set out in the District Tree Policy.

### Policy 3.3.3

To continue to incorporate indigenous endemic plants within the Park's plant collections.

**Policy 3.3.4**

To maintain the Fernery's plant displays with a focus upon high quality aesthetic experience and the conservation of rare and endangered plants.

**Implementation:**

- The Fernery will continue to be managed to the highest industry standards;
- The Fernery will be increasingly promoted for its conservation and educational value to the community.

**Policy 3.3.5**

Any further development of the Fernery and any extension of its plant displays should be compatible with its unique character and ambience.

## ZOO COLLECTIONS

**Policy 3.3.6**

The Park's Zoo collections and associated facilities shall be managed in accordance with the Brooklands Zoo Management Plan, other relevant Council policies and appropriate regulatory and statutory requirements.

**Policy 3.3.7**

The Zoo will be maintained in accordance with the best interests of its inhabitants' welfare, with the emphasis on the continual upgrading and improvement of housing facilities.

## UTILITY SERVICES

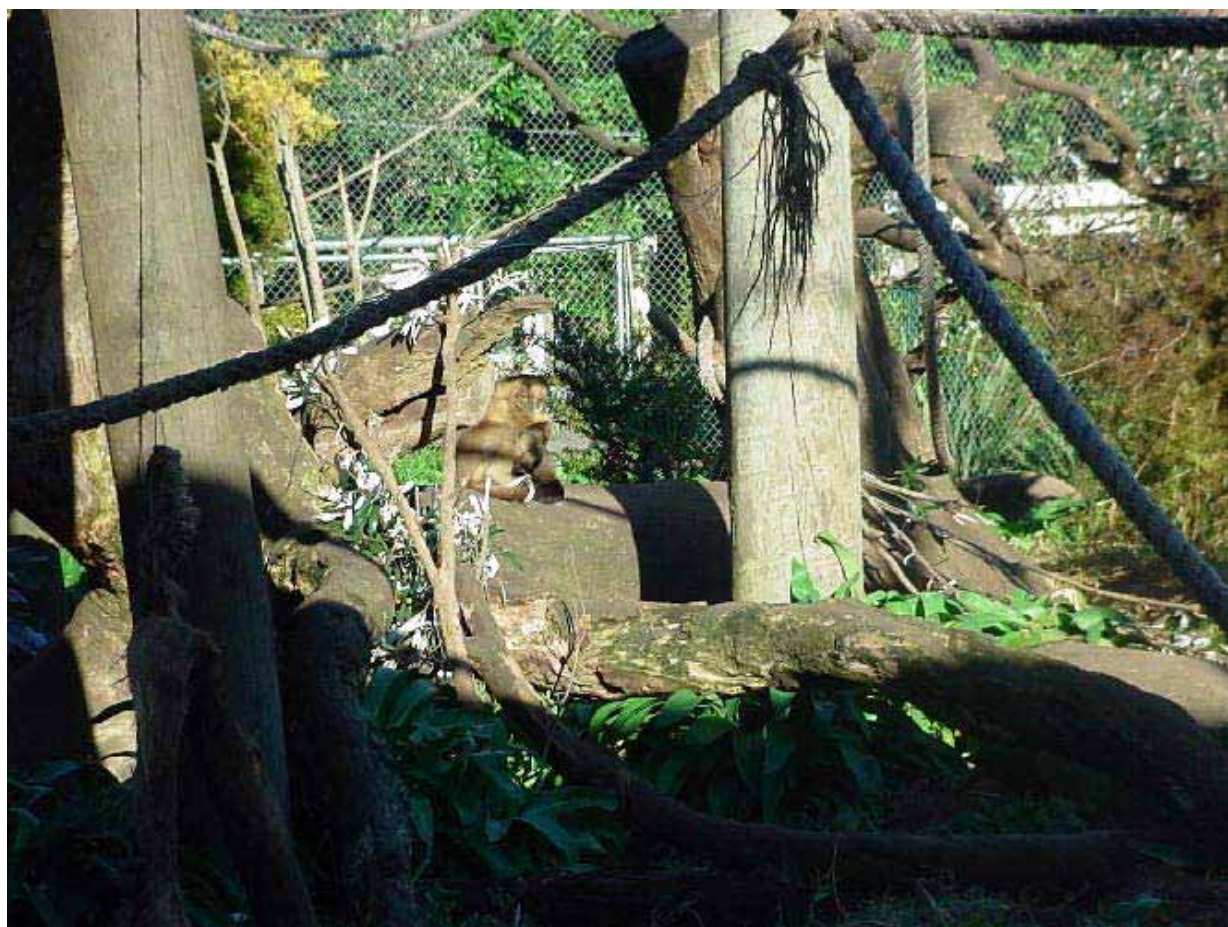
**Policy 3.3.8**

Adequate utility services for the necessary servicing of the Park will be provided whilst minimising their visual and physical impact on the Park.

**Implementation:**

- Unless exceptional circumstances exist, all utility services shall be placed underground;
- Installation of underground services shall be undertaken using trenchless technology options, unless alternative approval for trenching is obtained from the Manager Premier Parks.

## FACILITIES, BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES





**GOAL 4.1:**

To provide for and maintain, or allow for, a range of facilities, buildings and structures throughout the Park to meet various operational and visitor needs, that are appropriate to the Park's character and are consistent with its management objectives.

**Policy 4.1.1**

To permit the erection of new facilities, buildings and structures or upgrades to existing facilities, buildings or structures only where such provision is necessary for operational, sporting and recreational purposes and/or to facilitate the appropriate use of the Park by the public.

**Implementation:**

- Park facilities and features will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that the Park reflects the changing needs and wishes of the community;
- All developments involving the erection of new facilities, buildings or structures or upgrade of existing facilities, buildings or structures, which have the potential to have a significant impact on the Park's character and values will be assessed in accordance with the policies set out in the **Development** section of this management plan.

**Policy 4.1.2**

To ensure that facilities, buildings and structures provided are compatible with the historical, ecological, cultural and landscape values of the Park.

**Implementation:**

- Any adverse effects on the Park will be avoided, remedied, or mitigated by imposing appropriate terms and conditions on the use and development of facilities, buildings and structures;
- The provisions of the District Plan relating to heritage sites and notable trees will be adhered to.

**Policy 4.1.3**

To ensure any future facilities, buildings or structures in the Park are complementary to the character and values of the park.

**Implementation:**

- Proposals for the establishment of new facilities, buildings or structures will be considered on a case-by-case basis, in accordance with the policies set out in the **Development** section of this Management Plan.

**Policy 4.1.4**

To grant suitable leases, licences and other agreements for facilities, buildings and structures where appropriate, in accordance with the policies set out in the Leases, Licences And Other Agreements section of this Management Plan.

**Policy 4.1.5**

To assess all facilities, buildings and structures on an ongoing basis to determine whether or not they are meeting current and/or projected community needs and expectations.

**Policy 4.1.6**

To remove, replace, supplement or provide additional facilities, buildings and structures as appropriate to meet current and/or projected community needs and expectations.

**Policy 4.1.7**

To maintain existing levels of accommodation for Council staff at Brooklands Zoo and 25 Victoria Road until such time as Council determines otherwise.

**GOAL 4.2:**

To establish design criteria for structures that will meet the needs of the community in terms of access, location, safety, quality, comfort and multi-use capability in a manner that complements the park environment, its existing character and structures.

**Policy 4.2.1**

To adopt a unified approach to the design, materials and colour scheme of the Park's facilities, buildings and structures that complements the Park's environment, functions and existing structures.

*Explanatory note:*

*The above policy includes "Park furniture and minor structures" such as bridges, boardwalks, drains, culverts, weirs, gates, ticket boxes, barriers, fences, bollards, seats, tables, rubbish bins, lighting and drinking fountains.*

**Policy 4.2.2**

**To permit advertising, naming or sponsorship signs of a non-permanent nature.**

**Policy 4.2.3**

**To permit advertising, naming or sponsorship signs where sponsors of representative or international fixtures wish to display advertising, subject to:**

- Prior application being made by the organising body to the appropriate delegated officer;
- Advertising being displayed for such period prior to any fixture as may be agreed to by the appropriate delegated Manager; and
- The placement of all advertisements being at the discretion of the appropriate delegated officer.

**Policy 4.2.4**

**To permit the future erection of identification signs for a longer period than in policy 4.2.3 above [but not permanent] where clubs, commercial operators or community organisations have premises on or leases on the Park, subject to:**

- Prior application being made by the club to the appropriate delegated officer;
- The identification signs being located within an area significantly enclosed; and
- The signs not affecting the general aesthetic values of the Park.

## LONG TERM ADVERTISING

**Policy 4.2.5**

**To permit organisations, clubs or codes which have an established tenancy in the Park to negotiate a long term naming/sponsorship sign arrangement, subject to the following conditions:**

- The primary message shall indicate the organisation, club or code name with the balance of the sign displaying the sponsor's name e.g. "Taranaki Marbles Association proudly sponsored by XYZ Fruiterers";
- The sponsor(s) brand and logo not being displayed; and
- Prior application being made by the organisation, club or code to the appropriate delegated officer who will determine the sign's location, design and size (which in any event shall not exceed 10% of the area upon which the sign will be located).

**Policy 4.2.6**

To ensure signs in the Park, which are of an interpretive, promotional, or directive nature minimise any physical detracting from the Park's natural environment and visual amenity and are in accordance with the Council's approved sign manual.

**GOAL 4.3:** To ensure that the features and facilities provided in the Park are managed as appropriate to meet the needs of all users.

## PUBLIC TOILETS

**Policy 4.3.1**

To continue to upgrade and provide new public toilets, their provision to be determined by level of use or by a needs assessment in accordance with the Council's Public Toilet Strategy.

**Policy 4.3.2**

To maintain and develop access to all Park facilities, including access for those with limited mobility wherever possible.

## PLAY AREAS

**Policy 4.3.3**

Play areas will continue to comply with Council-approved safety standards in relation to both design and maintenance.

**Implementation:**

- Council may remove and not replace play area equipment should the use not justify the provision.

## BOWL OF BROOKLANDS

### Policy 4.3.4

**To maintain the open amphitheatre effect of the Bowl of Brooklands environs as a key open events space.**

**Implementation:**

- Council will ensure that any structural improvements (e.g. for weather protection) will retain the open space characteristics of the Bowl.

### Policy 4.3.5

**To allow alternative recreational uses for the Bowl area which are complementary to its concerts/events function.**

## SPORTSGROUND

### Policy 4.3.6

**To manage and maintain the Sportsground and surrounds (including terraces) in a manner commensurate with its international profile, history, traditions, community use, intrinsic values and purpose.**

## LEASES, LICENCES AND OTHER AGREEMENTS



**GOAL 5.1: To grant leases, and licences and to enter into agreements for use of areas within the Park to the extent necessary to give effect to the management objectives of recreation and local purpose reserves.**

## LEASES

### Policy 5.1.1

**To manage and assess leases in accordance with the provisions of the Reserves Act, appropriate delegations and in accordance with the objectives and policies set out in this management plan.**

### Policy 5.1.2

**For those parts of the Park classified recreation reserve, to grant:**

- a) Leases for facilities for public recreation or enjoyment e.g. tennis courts;
- b) Leases for buildings and structures associated with and necessary for the use of the reserve for outdoor sports, games, or other recreational activities e.g. clubrooms;
- c) Leases of buildings and structures for sports, games, or public recreation not directly associated with outdoor recreation if the Council considers it to be in the public interest (e.g. The Taranaki Society of the Arts Society and New Plymouth Brass);
- d) Leases to any voluntary organisation for the whole or part of the reserve for the playing of any outdoor sport, games, or other recreational activity where the preparation and maintenance of the area for such sport, games, or other recreational activity requires the voluntary organisation to spend a sum of money that in the opinion of the Council is substantial; and
- e) Leases for the carrying on of any trade, business, or occupation on any specified site within the reserve, provided that the trade, business, or occupation must be necessary to enable the public to obtain the benefit and enjoyment of the reserve or for the convenience of persons using the reserve (e.g. the Tea House);

*Refer section 54 Reserves Act*

|                     |
|---------------------|
| <b>Policy 5.1.3</b> |
|---------------------|

**To grant and/or maintain existing leases, at the Council's discretion:**

- a) for any part of the Park not being used for the purposes of a recreation reserve and not likely to be used for that purpose (e.g. New Plymouth Model Engineers Club; Pukekura Kindergarten); or
- b) where the lease is an existing use and the effects of the use will be the same or similar in character, intensity and scale.

*Explanatory note:*

*There are areas of the Park currently leased for community purposes, for example Pukekura Kindergarten (North Taranaki Free Kindergarten Association Incorporated); Pukekura Scout Group" (Scout Association of New Zealand); New Plymouth Model Engineers Club, the New Plymouth Chess Club, Taranaki Society of the Arts and the New Plymouth City Band. The areas on Gover Street currently occupied for private purposes will be re-integrated into the Park for recreation purposes.*

*Refer Reserves Act sections 54 and 73.*

|                     |
|---------------------|
| <b>Policy 5.1.5</b> |
|---------------------|

**To determine, in each particular circumstance, the terms and conditions upon which leases will be granted, subject to the provisions of the Reserves Act and the further provisions set out in the First Schedule to the Act. In general the following basic lease provisions will apply to all new or renegotiated leases on recreation reserve areas within the Park:**

**Term:**

- 21 years where the organisation or club owns the building on the leased land;
- 10 years in the case of Council-owned buildings, structures or facilities;
- 5 years for commercial leases, with a provision for a right of renewal.

**Rental:** The initial basic rate shall be determined in accordance with those applicable to existing leases for appropriate categories; where there are no applicable existing leases by a registered valuer;

**Rental Review:** Rental reviews shall take place every three years;



**Basis of Rental Review:** The basis shall be the movement in the Consumer Price Index over the three year period

For the purpose of fixing basic rentals leases shall be divided into the following categories:

- I. Sites where building sites and grounds are leased for more or less exclusive use;
- II. Sites where buildings which are owned by the Council are leased on a long-term basis to recreational groups;
- III. Exclusive use and possession for commercial purposes.

**Transfer of leases:** Lessees cannot assign or transfer the lease without the prior written consent in writing of the Council;

**Operational and capital costs:** Payable by the Lessee unless otherwise determined by Council.

**Policy 5.1.6**

**To publicly notify Council's intention to grant a new lease only where the use of the area will change and the effects of the use by the new lessee will not be the same or similar in character, intensity and scale.**

**Policy 5.1.7**

**To grant and maintain the provision of leases to a body, voluntary organisation, or society (whether incorporated or not) for a community building, playcentre, kindergarten or other like purposes where considered appropriate, for those parts of the Park classified as local purpose reserves.**

Refer Reserves Act Section 61 and Part A, Appendix III attached to this Management Plan for a description of those areas of the Park being classified local purpose reserve (community purposes and recreation). Upon classification these areas will be managed under the provisions of the Reserves Act applying to local purpose reserves.

**Policy 5.1.8**

**To consider applications for leases sought for local purpose reserve areas in the Park in accordance with section 61 and 74 of the Reserves Act, current Council policy and in accordance with appropriate Council delegations.**

**Policy 5.1.9**

Leases sought for commercial purposes will be considered by Council in accordance with the Long-Term Commercial Activities policies set out in the Recreation and Use section of this Management Plan, together with any other relevant Council policies and/or strategies.

**Policy 5.1.10**

All leases will be reviewed upon their expiry and leases renewed only where:

- a) The Council considers there is a continued need for the type of lease and/or activity provided;
- b) The Council is satisfied with the lessee's performance; and
- c) The leased area is not the subject of a proposed development having the potential to have an impact on the Park's character and values.

## LICENCES

**Policy 5.1.11**

To grant licences for the carrying on of any trade, business, or occupation on any specified site within the Park, for those parts of the Park classified recreation reserve, whereby the licence confers upon the holder exclusive use of a specified area of the Park for the period set out in the licence provided that the trade, business, or occupation must be necessary to enable the public to obtain the benefit and enjoyment of the Park or for the convenience of persons using the Park.

*Refer Reserves Act section 54*

**Policy 5.1.12**

To ensure any licence is compatible with public use of the Park for informal recreation and does not detrimentally affect the character and values of the Park.

**Policy 5.1.13**

To grant licences to occupy where a building site is not required.

**Policy 5.1.14**

To consider applications for licences sought for the purposes of a special event in the Park in accordance with appropriate delegations and against the criteria set out in the Recreation and Use policies of this Management Plan.

**Policy 5.1.15**

**Licences will include the following terms and conditions:**

- Term:** One year
- Renewals:** Two, for a further one year period if the Council is satisfied with the licence holder's performance in all respects
- Fee:** To be determined by Council in accordance with Council policy.

## OTHER AGREEMENTS

**Policy 5.1.16**

To enter into agreements and set fees and other charges for the exclusive non-commercial or semi-commercial use of certain areas of the Park for short-term or one-off events in accordance with approved Council policies.

*Refer Reserves Act section 53*

*Explanatory note:*

*Factors to be taken into account when considering "other agreements" applications are set out in the **Recreation and Use** policies of this Management Plan.*

**Policy 5.1.17**

To enter into agreements for the exclusive use of certain areas of the Park for commercial filming and photography, where appropriate.

## RIGHTS OF WAY AND OTHER EASEMENTS

### Policy 5.1.18

To permit and grant rights of way and other easements over parts of the Park in accordance with the provisions of the Reserves Act, in only limited circumstances, where it will benefit overall park management or public use without adversely impacting on the Park's character, values and its use by the public.

*Refer Reserves Act section 48*

## MONITORING LEASES, LICENCES AND OTHER AGREEMENTS

### Policy 5.1.19

To monitor compliance by lease, licence and other agreement holders and related impacts on the Park environment to ensure that any adverse effects on the Park's character and values are effectively controlled.

#### **Implementation – the Council will:**


- Assess impacts on the Park caused by any activity;
- Assess whether further controls are required to ensure protection and preservation of the Park;
- Implement further controls if considered necessary for the protection and preservation of the Park.

# INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

### The Tree

The pinkish flowers are produced almost year round and are followed by bright red drupes or fruits that are popular food for Kereu, the native pigeon.


The wood of the Puriri is a dark reddish-brown hardwood and valued for its strength and durability.



### History

This tree is one of 20 Puriri in this area that are estimated between 1,000 and 2,000 years old.


The darkened basal scars are believed to be from Maori camp fires.





### Ecology

Look for holes from the Puriri moth that bores into the trunk to lay its eggs. Also look for the epiphytic tree lilies, Kahakaha, *Colloperum hastatum*, that are at home in the branches.

This tree is also known as the home of the bees with its sweet flowers providing a popular nectar source and a site for hives within the sheltered folds of the trunk.




### How Old?

|   |  |                                    |  |   |   |
|---|--|------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| 0   | 150  | 600                                |  |   |   |
|  | <i>Asplenium, Cistus Octavianus, Emperor of Rome</i> | <i>(approx) The Taupo Eruption</i> | <i>Arrival of Polynesians to New Zealand</i> |  | <i>1300 Major Maori settlement at the mouth of south Taranaki Rivers, Kaupokonui and Whangonoro</i> |
|   |  |                                    |  | <i>1775 Last eruption on Mt. Tararaki</i>   | <i>1843 Captain Henry King, establishes Brooklands estate</i>                                       |
|   |  |                                    |  |   | <i>1998 Timber deck constructed around tree to protect roots from trampling</i>                     |

2,000 year old

# PURIRI

*Vitex lucens*



**You are Here**

**GOAL 6.1:** To provide interpretive facilities, services and information to enhance visitor experience within the Park and to increase visitor understanding and appreciation of the natural, historic and cultural values within the Park.

**Policy 6.1.1**

To provide information support and services to the Park visitor that enhances the experience and adds value to the benefits gained from use of the Park.

**Implementation:**

- As far as reasonably practicable plants will be labelled;
- The Fernery will be promoted for its educational value to the community;
- Zoo educational programmes will be sustained and developed;

**Policy 6.1.2**

To encourage the use of the Park by schools and other educational institutions in a manner that improves the understanding and appreciation of Park values.

**Implementation:**

- Council will explore options regarding the provision of environmental education services with the Park. E.g. partnerships or sponsorship arrangements.

**Policy 6.1.3**

To promote a wider and more informed perspective of the Park by the provision, where practicable, of interpretive, promotional and educational information, displays and website.

**Policy 6.1.4**

Where resources allow the Council will, in partnership with the community, compile and maintain a database of flora and fauna in the Park in a form accessible to the public.

## COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS



**GOAL 7.1:**

**To acknowledge the importance of the Park to the community by encouraging the community to be continually involved with the conservation, management planning, use and development of the Park.**

**Policy 7.1.1**

**To provide appropriate opportunities for public input and to consult with interested organisations and parties on substantive management and development issues.**

**Implementation:**

- The Friends of the Park group is recognised as a beneficial community advocate for the Park and Council will consult with them on issues concerning the Park;
- Council will consult with adjacent landowners on matters of mutual concern relative to the Park;
- Council will appoint councillor(s) to provide liaison with the Friends of the Park.

**Policy 7.1.2**

**To ensure ongoing communication and consultation with tangata whenua regarding the management and development of the Park.**

**Policy 7.1.3**

**To establish and maintain effective working relationships with external organisations through participatory research, communication and co-operation on issues of common interest.**

**Policy 7.1.4**

**To utilise volunteers where consistent with the management objectives for the Park, Council policy and relevant regulatory and statutory requirements.**

**Implementation:**

Council will investigate opportunities for volunteer involvement in educational, practical and community-related activities. This may include working together on jointly delivered projects or programmes such as weed control or community demonstration gardens.



**Policy 7.1.5**

**Council will accept gifts, bequests and endowments only when compatible with the purposes for which the Park is managed and when beneficial to the Park, its visitors and users.**

**Policy 7.1.6**

**Council will consider all requests from individuals and/or organisations within the community for the sponsorship and/or gifting of park features including the appropriate recognition to be given to the benefactor.**

**Policy 7.1.7**

**All proposals for gifts, bequests and endowments will be assessed by Council taking into account the following factors:**

- The compatibility of the proposed gift, bequest or endowment in relation to the character and use of the Park;
- The potential benefit to Park users;
- The ease and cost of maintenance of the proposed gift, bequest or endowment;
- Who will be responsible for maintenance costs;
- The relevance of the gift, bequest or endowment to the community;
- Whether the gift, bequest or endowment is appropriate taking into account the intrinsic character of the Park;
- The purposes for which the Park is managed; and
- Any other relevant factors.

**Policy 7.1.8**

**Council shall not be bound to accept any gift or bequest.**

**Policy 7.1.9**

**Acknowledgement of benefactors will be considered on a case-by-case basis taking into account the significance of the gift.**

**Policy 7.1.10**

**Significant gifts will be subject to a protocol setting out the principles and any conditions attached to the gift.**

**Policy 7.1.11**

The benefactor will generally not retain any ongoing rights or responsibilities in relation to the feature, although the Council may consider the acceptance of gifts and bequests with restrictions in special circumstances.

**Policy 7.1.12**

If a gift or commemorative feature requires removal because of its state of disrepair or other considerations the Council will not be obligated to replace the feature.

**Policy 7.1.13**

The Council shall have the right to dispose of, however it sees fit, any feature acquired by gift or bequest considered dispensable, by either:

- a) Giving the donor the choice of repossessing the feature, if the original donor is still alive; or
- b) Disposing of the feature by any method that the Council sees fit, if the original donor is deceased or not able to be contacted.

**Policy 7.1.14**

Commemorative trees will only be permitted in the Park if approved by an authorised officer.

**Policy 7.1.15**

Except in exceptional circumstances, plaques acknowledging the gift will not be permitted.

**Policy 7.1.16**

Commemorative trees will not necessarily be replaced upon removal. If removed, replanting will be governed by the District Tree Policy and in accordance with the overall concept plan for the Park.

**Policy 7.1.17**

To acknowledge the contribution of benefactors in exceptional circumstances, through the placement of monuments, memorials, or plaques.

*Explanatory Note:*

*Such circumstances include, but are not limited to the purpose of commemorating:*

- a) Persons who had an association with and had a significant impact on the Park's history;*
- b) Events that have played an important part in the history of the Park; or*
- c) Structures of particular historical and/or cultural importance.*

# DEVELOPMENT



**GOAL 8.1:** To continue to develop the Park to meet changing community needs and expectations in an integrated manner that ensures the Park's long-term sustainability and protection and enhancement of its character and values.

**Policy 8.1.1**

**Council will ensure the completion of significant developments in the Park particularly where they are undertaken in stages or phased over a period of time.**

*Explanatory Note:*

*Although costly, significant developments such as those associated with the Fernery and Brooklands Zoo need to be completed before their full benefit is realised.*

**Policy 8.1.2**

**Council will only undertake development in a manner compatible with the Park's character and values.**

**Policy 8.1.3**

**All proposed developments which have the potential to have a significant impact on the Park's character and values will be assessed in accordance with the process set out below:**

**STEP 1:**

All development concept(s) will be submitted to the Council for the purposes of gaining approval in principle for further investigation.

**STEP 2:**

If the development concept(s) gain the Council's approval in principle for further investigation, the concept(s) will then be assessed by Council Officers in accordance with the following criteria:

The assessment process will take into account the following:

**1. Need**

- The foreseeable need and demand for the proposed development and whether the development will be sustainable;
- The need for the proposed development to be located in the Park.

## 2. Consultation

- The results of consultation with the community, tangata whenua, interested user groups and organisations.

## 3. Effects

The potential adverse effects of the development on the following:

- The Park's ecosystems, character and water quality;
- The visual integrity of the Park and its landscape values;
- Areas in the Park containing distinctive, unique or significant qualities and/or features;
- Historic and archaeological sites;
- Sites of significance to tangata whenua;
- Existing open spaces;
- Public access and enjoyment of the Park by other park users;
- Safety of those using the Park;
- The visual or physical effects of the development on neighbouring properties and activities;
- The means by which any identified potential adverse effects may be avoided, remedied or mitigated;
- Existing tracks and pathways

## 4. Purpose

- The public benefit to be obtained by the development;
- The ability of the proposal to meet the objectives and policies of this Management Plan;
- Whether the proposal is consistent with other relevant Council plans, policies and strategies;
- Whether the proposed development will provide for visitor safety, or will maintain and enhance Park values;
- Whether the development proposal includes provision for multiple use;

## 5. Compatibility

- Whether the purpose for which the Park is managed is likely to be compromised by the development;
- The need to conserve the Park's variety of spaces, views, significant vegetation and significant landscape features;
- The contribution the development is likely to make to the quality and visitor experience of the Park;
- Whether the development will complement the Park's values, assets and qualities.

## 6. Design

- Whether the particular design of the development is appropriate to the site and consistent with the character of the Park;
- Whether the design of any facility, building or structure complies with the Design policies set out in the **Facilities, Buildings and**

## **Structures** policies of this Management Plan.

### 7. Viability

- The economic costs and benefits of establishing the development;
- Whether or not the Council/developer can demonstrate the requisite ability to properly construct and maintain the development and any ongoing associated costs;
- Recurrent operational maintenance costs for and associated with the development.

### 8. Location

- The appropriateness of the proposed location of the development;
- Whether the proposal is likely to require the provision of further access, pathways, car parks, services and amenities and how these may be met;
- The existence and location of existing heritage sites, waahi tapu, and significant trees.

### 9. Compliance

- The ability to comply with the district plan, other regulatory and statutory requirements and the provisions of this Management Plan.

### 10. Any Other Relevant Factors

#### **STEP 3:**

Council Officers will then summarise the assessment process together with objections and comments received on the development concept(s) and make a determination as to the whether:

- a) The development concept(s) is capable of being supported on the basis that it will enhance the Park's long-term sustainability, its character and values;
- b) Any foreseeable adverse effects on the Park environment can be avoided, remedied, or mitigated by imposing appropriate terms and conditions on the development proposals, if approved.

#### **STEP 4:**

Council Officers will then prepare a report to Council with a recommendation as to whether or not it is considered the development concept(s) should be approved.

#### **STEP 5:**

The Council will then make a decision as to whether or not the

development concept(s) will be:

- a. approved in whole or in part;
- b. approved subject to the imposition of conditions; or
- c. rejected.

**STEP 6:**

If the development concept(s) in whole or in part is/are approved the development concept(s) as approved will become the development plan(s).

**STEP 7:**

Council Officers in accordance with the Council's decision will implement the development plan(s).



# ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT



**GOAL 9.1:** To ensure that the interests of the Park are best served through appropriate management practices, resources and support.

**Policy 9.1.1**

**Council will administer, manage and control the Park through the implementation of this management plan and in accordance with appropriate statutory and regulatory provisions.**

*Explanatory note:*

*Statutory and regulatory provisions include the Taranaki Botanic Garden Act 1876 (whilst it remains in force), district plan provisions, strategies, Council policies and bylaws.*

**Policy 9.1.2**

**Council will take all practicable steps, where compatible with the overall management objectives of the Park, to ensure public safety and to keep the Park and its facilities, buildings and structures secure.**

**Implementation:**

- The design of plantings and pathways alignment will take into account issues of public safety and security;
- Council will identify, measure and manage potential hazards in a timely manner to minimise Council exposure to complaints, compensation claims and litigation;
- Council will carry out regular inspections of the Park to meet Council-adopted standards;
- Council will remove graffiti to meet Council-adopted standards;
- Council will repair damaged equipment or remove such equipment to meet Council-adopted standards;
- Where necessary, Council will utilise public surveillance and security systems;
- Where necessary for the safety of park users or for the security of the Park and its assets Council may limit and in some cases, exclude public vehicular and/or pedestrian access to the Park.

**Policy 9.1.3**

**To implement the provisions of this plan in a structured and integrated manner.**

**Policy 9.1.4**

**This Management Plan will be kept under constant review.**

**Implementation - the Council will:**

- Undertake a measurable visitors and/or community survey biannually to review the extent to which the Park is meeting the needs of its users;
- Adapt parts of this plan as required in order to meet changing circumstances or in accordance with increased knowledge;
- Seek public input where appropriate into proposed plan changes in accordance with the provisions of the Reserves Act;
- Undertake a full review of the entire plan within ten years of its date of approval.
- Report on the implementation of this plan every three years and note significant changes to the Park or its use.

**Policy 9.1.5**

**Council will allocate adequate resources to the Park to ensure its continual improvement and maintenance of its position as a leading community and tourist destination**

**Implementation:**

- A three yearly works programme shall be prepared for the Park based upon the provisions of this management plan and in line with the LTCCP;
- The three yearly works programme will be used to prioritise management tasks and to estimate the annual budget for park management purposes.

**Policy 9.1.6**

**To the extent that Council resources permit, the Park will be managed to ensure its use, enjoyment, development, maintenance, protection and preservation commensurate with its management objectives.**

**Implementation – the Council will:**

- Acknowledge the need to include advanced levels of plantsmanship at middle and upper level management, and provide a skilled workforce adequately resourced to maintain the integrity, quality and presentation of the Park environment;
- Continue to run its horticultural apprenticeship scheme and Staff Training Programme.

**Policy 9.1.7**

**To raise awareness of natural hazards in the Park and to promote safe and responsible attitudes and actions among Park users.**

**Policy 9.1.8**

**To ensure that all facilities, buildings and structures constructed for Park users and for leasing purposes meet building and engineering requirements; meet all relevant safety standards; and are regularly checked and maintained.**

**Policy 9.1.9**

**To prosecute, where necessary, individuals committing offences within the Park under Part V of the Reserves Act and/or Council Bylaws.**

## PARKS - INVENTORY OF LEASES

| LEASE NO | RESERVE                | ORGANISATION                   | LEASE TERM                     | FINAL EXPIRY DATE | RENT REVIEW DATE | AREA LEASE RELATES TO                      | COMMENTS  |
|----------|------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|--|---|
|          | <b>PROPERTY LEASES</b> |                                |                                |                   |                  |  |   |
| 121      | Brooklands Park        | Adele Wisniewski               | Standard tenancy provisions    | N/A               | N/A              | Staff House                                |   |
| 150      | Gilbert Street Reserve | Model Engineering & Chess Club | 21 Years                       | 31 May 2012       | 1 June 2005      | Amenities Building and Model Railway Track |   |
| 97       | Pukekura Park          | Pukekura Park Kindergarten     | 21 Years                       | 31 March 2012     | 1 April 2004     | Land only                                  |   |
| 31       | Pukekura Park          | T S & M Nagel                  | 10 Years                       | 30 June 2005      | 1 July 2004      | Tea House                                  |   |
| 136      | Welbourn Park          | Pukekura Park Tennis Club      | 21 Years                       | 1 September 2013  | 1 October 2004   | Tennis Courts & Pavilion                   |   |
| 105      | Brooklands Park        | Pukekura Scouts                | 21 Years                       | 1 June 2012       | 1 July 2006      | Land                                       |   |
|          | Victoria Road House    | Vacant                         | N/A                            | N/A               | N/A              | Staff House                                | Temporarily vacant  |
|          | <b>PARKS LEASES</b>    |                                |                                |                   |                  |  |   |
| 62       | Pukekura Park          | Bowl of Brooklands             | N/A                            | Expired           | 3 Yearly         | Bowl of Brooklands                         |   |
| 32       | Pukekura Park          | New Plymouth City Band         | N/A                            | N/A               | N/A              | Bandroom                                   | Agreement - no expiry date  |
| 152      | Pukekura Park          | Taranaki Cricket Association   | Ongoing with 3 months notice   | N/A               | N/A              | Scoreboard and site screens                | Licence to Occupy   |
| 20       | Brooklands Park        | Taranaki Society of the Arts   | 5 Years                        | 31 October 2005   | N/A              | The Gables building                        | Right of Renewal further 5 years  |
|          | Pukekura Park          | Mr R Masters                   | Informal Arrangement To Occupy | To be determined  |                  | <b>Sections fronting Gover Street</b>      | Area is to be reinstated as part of the Park to be managed under the classification |
|          |                        |                                |                                |                   |                  | C.T.H 2/621                                | recreation reserve  |
|          |                        |                                |                                |                   |                  |  |   |
|          |                        |                                |                                |                   |                  |  |   |

