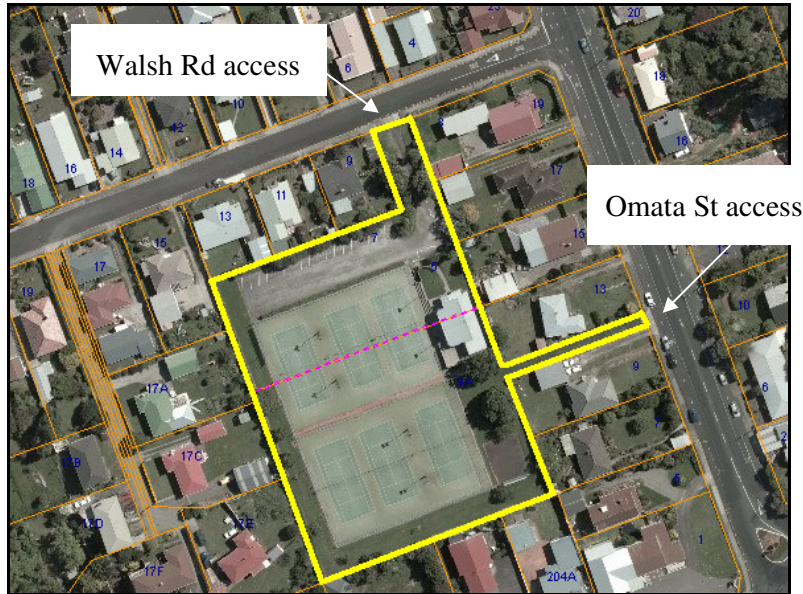


## 6. *Rotokare Park*

### **Description**

Location: 7 Walsh Road, New Plymouth West  
Legal description: Pt Lot 9 Deeds 4  
Lot 1 DP 6419  
Size: 0.75 hectares  
Reserve Status: Subject to the Reserves Act 1977  
Reserve Classification: Recreation Reserve



### **Physical description**

This sports park is located off Walsh Rd in New Plymouth West. A pedestrian access is also located off Omata Rd. The park has six courts covering most of the park. The courts have floodlighting. A sealed, marked car park is along the northern boundary, the clubrooms to the east and a practice volley wall in the south east. The Park is surrounded by residential properties.

The park is within the Open Space A Environment Area in the District Plan. These areas are used primarily for organised sports and recreation. Such areas will normally have associated buildings such as clubrooms, changing sheds or toilet facilities. Residential A Environment Area properties surround the park.

### **Tangata whenua interests**

This reserve is within the tribal rohe of Te Atiawa and Taranaki iwi. The area is of historic and cultural significance to Ngati Te Whiti and Ngā Mahanga-a-Tairi hapū.

### **Land status and acquisition history**

Pt Lot 9 Deeds 4 and Lot 1 DP 6419 were both purchased by the Rotokare Tennis Club Inc in 1948. The Club dissolved in 1978 and both allotments were disposed of and purchased by the New Plymouth City Council. The land was vested in Council in 1979 and gazetted as a Recreation Reserve in 1982 subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

### **History and cultural values**

Rotokare Park (also known as the Walsh Rd Reserve) was developed for the use of tennis in the 1940s. However the Club went into recess in 1958 and dissolved in 1978. The Council purchased that Park and it was used as a neighbourhood children's 'bat and ball' area and from 1979 also used by the Woodleigh Sports and Social Club in winter for junior soccer.

The grounds became exclusively used for tennis again in 1992 when the Kawaroa Park Tennis Club relocated from Kawaroa Tennis Courts to Rotokare Park. The Club was re-named the Rotokare Tennis Club (the name of the original club at the Park).

In 1993 the Club entered into a lease with Council for the use of Rotokare Park. The Club was granted consents in 1993 for the current clubrooms with construction completed in 1997. The outdoor timber decking and seating were built in 1996. A concrete practice volley wall was erected in the south east of the park in 1998. The Club has also installed floodlighting around the courts.

The courts were redeveloped in astro turf in 2002.

### **Existing improvements**

The existing improvements within the reserve include:

Amenities and clubrooms building with outdoor deck and seats, six courts, surround fencing, practice volley wall – all owned by the resident club.

### **Uses and activities**

Rotokare Park is used for tennis. The clubrooms, courts and surrounds fencing is owned by the resident club - Rotokare Tennis Club Inc

Pedestrian access is available through the park around the outside of the courts.

The following club holds a land only lease at Rotokare Park:

- Rotokare Tennis Club (current lease expires 2014 with a right of renewal every 21 years).

### **Management objectives and specific policies**

- 1) The developed areas of this park will be managed as a sports park suitable for formal sport and recreation and pedestrian thoroughfare.

- 2) A lease will be maintained with the Rotokare Tennis Club for the entire park incorporating their clubrooms, the courts and surrounds fencing. Any extensions to the footprint of the existing building or courts will be considered on a case by case basis in accordance with General Policies for Council administered reserves.
- 3) As this park is entirely leased to the Rotokare Tennis Club, who own all the improvements, no development concept has been prepared for the park.
- 4) Contemplated future development of Rotokare Park includes the removal of the volley board and addition of a further court. In accordance with policy 2 above the Club is required to formally request approval for this alteration prior to commencing.