Precious Family Reserve Concept Plan Decision Story

Thank you for taking part in the Concept Planning for Precious Family Reserve. We have completed the Plan and this document contains information on some of the key issues, themes of community feedback and the decisions.

What's the story?

Council looks after more than 200 reserves in the Western Bay. Our Reserve Management Plans set the rules for each reserve and provide a vision for how we use and develop public spaces for, and with, our communities. The Kaimai Ward Reserve Management Plan was prepared in October 2003, reviewed in October 2008, and again in August 2016. During the latest review, it was agreed that the existing concept plan for Precious Family Reserve would be reviewed.

Creating a draft plan

The draft concept plan was prepared from community feedback during the Kaimai Ward Reserve Management Plan review, information held on Council files and from the collective knowledge held by Council staff. Opportunities to provide initial feedback to the concept plan was available during the Long Term Plan Community Conversations held at Omokoroa on 6 May and 6 June 2017, and at Te Puna on 27 May 2017.

Engaging with the community

Community engagement for the draft plan started mid October 2017 with advertisements in local newspapers, written invitations to hapū, marae and stakeholders and a notice on Council's web page. Consultation ended on 20 November 2017. People gave feedback on the draft plan through our website, or by filling out submission forms at our libraries and offices.

A drop-in day to allow elected members and staff to provide information about the draft plan was held at Omokoroa on Saturday 21 October 2017.

Those who wished to have their say on the draft concept plan with elected members attended a meeting held in Council Chambers on 5 December 2018.

Our response to your feedback

We received 37 submissions with considerable positive feedback about the key features of the draft plan. A copy of the approved plan is provided in this decision story and if you are interested, all approved concept plans will be posted on our webpage for the next two months.

What will Precious Family Reserve be used for?

The land was purchased primarily to meet storm water management requirements but because of it's strategic location it can be developed to also function as a valuable recreation reserve. With the current and expected growth of Omokoroa, the Precious Family Reserve is a very important harbour access point. Its location close to the harbour, within handy walking and cycling distance for many residents, was evident from the feedback supporting continued passive use. Many also supported the ongoing development of the wetland.

The review of the Kaimai Ward Reserve Management Plan in 2016 also received similar comments plus a petition supporting passive recreation and a place to launch small kayaks, canoes and boats.

Many comments supported walkway only access to the beach.

Feedback on the need for a toilet at Precious Family Reserve was varied e.g. build it close to the water's edge, or we do not need a toilet at all. However, the majority of submissions were in favour of the location proposed – if it is demonstrated that it is needed. We acknowledge that availability of toilets and fresh drinking water outlets will be important for reserve users, particularly with the expected increased use.

We also received considerable support for parking nearer the foreshore. The location of the carpark in the plan is near the proposed toilet with vehicle access from Hamurana Road.

When community demand dictates, the final site layout details will be decided after investigations for storm water management have been carried out, as these could affect the locations of the toilet and carpark areas.

We will also be initiating a future review of Dog Exercise Areas in the District as signalled through our Dog Control Policy and Bylaw review in 2017.

What are we getting in the reserve?

We received 37 submissions with considerable positive feedback about the key features As funding allows, we will continue to work on developing the walkways drains and of the draft plan. A copy of the approved plan is provided in this decision story and if you wetlands.

Several comments were received about more signage and naming the ponds however, the concept plan does not envisage naming the pond. We will consider installing more signs but we heard that we need to retain the natural feel of the area and not have too many signs. We currently have other projects dealing with signage and installation of story boards. We will work with hapū and the local community to clarify details about how to provide these on the respective sites in a manner that meets our signage policy. Park furniture, seats and tables enhance reserves and make a difference to all communities. Once the final design of the wetland and stormwater is completed, determining the location and timing will need monitoring to ensure furniture, seats and tables are in the best locations.

A few people asked whether there was an opportunity to install a playground. Our preference at this stage is to encourage users of playgrounds and play equipment in this part of Omokoroa to make use of the new skate path at the Omokoroa sportsground and the new play ground planned to be built alongside the skate path.

People concerned about planting of reserves can be assured that this will be guided by the location and environment of individual reserves and Council's planting policy. Similarly, our approach to managing rubbish on reserves is primarily to erect signage encouraging users of parks, walkways and cycle ways to take their refuse with them. We will continue to monitor the situation.

Implementation of concept plan

Following adoption of the concept plan, implementation estimates will be prepared and referred to Council for consideration to allocate funds.







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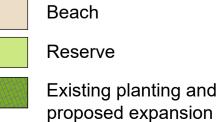


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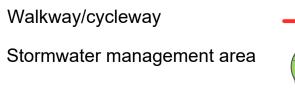
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Site Boundary Small tree

Reserve Concept Plan

Date: 14/06/2018