

KATIKATI - WAIHI BEACH WARD RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2018

The Decisions



*Western Bay of Plenty
District Council*

Introduction

Thanks for providing feedback on the 2018 review of the Katikati - Waihi Beach Ward Reserve Management Plan. This decision story sets out the key decisions made and actions that will be taken in response to community feedback.

The Review Process

Council is required to keep its reserve management plans under continuous review so that they are adapted to changing circumstances, aligns with current community views and assists users, staff, public, neighbours and various authorities and organisations. This review has created a single plan for the Katikati - Waihi Beach Ward.

Preparing the draft began with workshops with the Katikati and Waihi Beach Community Boards and Council's Policy Committee. Given the inclusion of the Tuapiro Point Reserve and Lund Road Reserve (a

new proposed site for horse riding), consultation ran alongside the Reserves and Facilities Bylaw review which was proposing to cease permission for horse riding on the beach at Tuapiro Point.

Community consultation began on 14 May 2018, ended on 9 July 2018 with advertisements in local newspapers, and making an interactive website available for those who wanted to provide feedback online. We held Open Days at Katikati and Waihi Beach in May and June. We gave an overview of the process to Council's Te Arawa - Tauranga Moana ki Takutai Partnership Forum which has Tangata Whenua representatives from across the district.

We received a lot of feedback about the Pio Shores cycle-way/walk-way (97), reserves and projects in Katikati and Waihi Beach (37) including the Skate Park and Reserves and Facilities Bylaw issues (27) which in the end were diverted to the Bylaw process.

Several submitters attended the Have Your Say Sessions with elected members at Waihi Beach on Thursday 19 July 2018 presenting submissions on Pio Shores cycle-way/walk-way (9 submitters), Katikati Reserves (5 submitters), Waihi Beach Reserves including Skate Park (7 submitters) and Heritage NZ (1 submitter).



Waihi Beach Reserves

Improving the **Bowentown headland tracks** to and around significant features such as pa sites and including the **Anzac Bay beach stairs**, is very unlikely to be allowed by Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga. It is also very difficult to say how effective such trail improvements would be when weighed up against the significant cost involved in the design and construction, including the process to obtain approval from them. We would also require the strong support from Tangata Whenua for such project. We will continue to monitor until support and the appropriate funding becomes available for these projects. Council has endeavoured over many years to work with all the sectors involved in **Anzac Bay** to provide signage/story boards and will continue to work with the Community Board, Tangata Whenua and Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga to achieve the desired results. Similarly with reserve maintenance, we continue to monitor and manage all the sites especially the high use areas e.g. **Bowentown Domain**.

The current action in the **Broadlands Block** Concept Plan - "The areas in the east will be developed for a community and /or commercial chip and putt course..." has not been completed, and will therefore be removed. With the new proposed boardwalks, pathways and wetlands project in 2019/20, the Community Board and Council will work together to plan and raise the appropriate funds.

A walkway and cycleway connection between Athenree, Waihi Beach and Bowentown has been recognised as an outcome that would be very beneficial. Funding for the construction is included in the Waihi Beach Community Board's roading budget. From a planning perspective, we have included the following policy statements in the **Koutunui Reserve** through which the route would potentially follow:

- Long term development of walkways/cycle ways to be consistent with conservation values.
- Investigate opportunities for walkways/cycle ways.
- Investigate location of walkway/cycleway from Athenree to Emerton Road, Waihi beach.
- Extend and enhance pedestrian linkage to adjoining Local Purpose reserves.

Of the submissions about the **Pio Shores cycle-way/walk-way**, 79 completed a Ranking Assessment based on options provided in a map that was also presented at the Open Days to which many made comments.





Pio Shores cycle-way/walk-way proposed options

This feedback regarding **Pio Shores** revealed that the most favoured routes were those that were the least expensive, least disruptive, and those located mainly on existing streets and the slip lanes. Many opposed cycle-ways generally, on the basis that they felt;

- They were unsafe, due to those who speed and disregard other users of footpaths.
- Cycle-way and walk-way users infringe on neighboring houses.
- Concrete surfaces would create unwanted noise and excessive speed causing safety issues.
- There were potential safety issues with cars using slip lanes.
- The options provided limited off road experience for cyclists.
- The dune cycle-way options cause damage to the dune environment and ecology.

In the end, Council decided that retaining the status quo suited the majority of submitters, and cyclists are still able to find their way along existing streets and footpaths to Anzac Bay. This option had no construction and maintenance costs to burden ratepayers and it is in response to many submitters who were apprehensive about the cycle-way. A cycle-way in this area could be revisited in the future if demand increases.

The cycle-way route maps provided in the Reserves Management Plan for the district are indicative based on proposals at the time the draft was published. Where they are shown in existing streets, they would be

at the user's discretion. Part of the **Brighton Park** section is deferred until resource consent issues have been dealt with. The playground at Brighton Park will proceed as proposed in the 2019/20 year.

The playground located at "Main End (North End)" i.e. **Pohutukawa Park** is due for renewal and the work is programmed to commence 2018/19.



Island View Reserve

In the past Council has had difficulty developing **Island View Reserve** due to the presence of archaeological remnants. Now, the reserve is very popular increasing demand for further facilities to be developed.

A new BBQ and a playground costing approximately \$220,000 along with appropriate Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga consents, will be included in the Reserve Management Plan.

Western Bay of Plenty District Council has administrative responsibility for **Tuapiro Point Reserve**, an area of approximately 29 hectares lying in the northern Tauranga Harbour area. Outcomes of the Reserves and Facilities Bylaw review focuses on permitting horses in defined areas of Tuapiro Point. However, submissions to

this process sought further development of the Point in terms of revegetation and also a closer working relationship between Council and Tangata Whenua and the Community. Therefore, to assist and manage that process the following new Reserve Management Policies will be added:

- That investigations are carried out to set aside an area of land for equestrian related activities between the driveway into the reserve and the inner side of the estuary.
- That horse riding is permitted within a restricted area as per schedule one of the Reserves and Facilities Bylaw in recognition of the cultural and ecological significance of this reserve.

In regard to the discussion about co-management of Tuapiro Point Reserve, the Reserve Management Plan mentions processes for the involvement of Tangata Whenua and the local community. Therefore, a new action will be added:

That a process will be jointly developed with Tangata Whenua to partner and collaborate in the future management and development of Tuapiro.

The proposed additional signage and planting of the reserve will be funded from within existing budgets, and proceeds from the existing tree milling project. It is also acknowledged that implementation of the new Reserve Management Policies will include identifying any future funding requirements for referral to Council’s Annual Plan and Long Term Planning processes.

The land below/behind the RSA opposite Wilson Road turnoff is privately owned and is not a Council owned reserve. Therefore, Council will not be entering into any development of this site.

We received a lot of feedback from young people about the **Waihi Beach Community Centre Reserve - Skate Park** highlighting it was old, dangerous and not fit for purpose. One submitter maintained that the current location caused public safety issues, was not close enough to the beach environment and that it should be at Brighton Park. Moving forward it was noted that it would be good for local teenagers to be involved in the development of the skate park to give them ownership and a sense of responsibility. Good ideas were presented about working

with Council and the local community to progress the project, with the formation of the Waihi Beach Skate Park Committee and Design Project Team.



Existing skate park at Waihi Beach Community Reserve

We confirmed in the Long Term Plan 2018/28 that \$50,000 was budgeted for the Skate Park in the 2019/20 year. This means that the community would be required to raise the balance of funds. This is consistent with Council’s funding approach for other skate parks or skate paths in the District like Omokoroa and Te Puke. To ensure our continued involvement, staff will assist by supporting the community team with the knowledge and experience gained from recent skate park builds throughout the District. During the scoping of the project, an assessment will be required to determine preferred suppliers, funding and whether the current location of the skate park and associated facilities is the most suitable.

In relation to the feedback about graffiti on the privately owned fence overlooking this reserve, Waihi Beach Community Centre Reserve Council's Public Art Policy and Guidelines assist with graffiti art on Council owned assets. Because the proposed memorial graffiti artwork specifically targets users of the reserve, there are going to be implications for Council. Staff will need to liaise with the community on this matter.

In some cases through licenses/lease agreements, horses would be allowed to graze reserves. However Council's Reserves and Facilities Bylaw, bans horses from **Wilson Park** which we will continue to enforce.

Katikati Reserves

In the Long Term Plan 2018/28, we decided to increase the **Dave Hume Swimming Pool** Service Delivery Contract budget by \$242,000 over 10 years. We have also included a budget of up to \$50,000 in the 2018/19 year to update the feasibility study into an indoor aquatic centre at Katikati. The feasibility study process will consider all users and potential locations including Moore Park.



Dave Hume Pool

The Landing Jetty project at **Haiku Park and Uretara Stream Reserve** was recently confirmed in Council's Long Term Plan in the 2023/24 year, awaiting community support to progress the construction. When the planning commences, one of the priorities will be to confirm timing of the build with availability of funds. This funding could be brought forward if there is support to do it sooner.

Specific development of the **Hunter Estate Reserve** was not identified in the drafting of the Katikati-Waihi Beach Ward Reserve Management Plan or in the Long Term Plan 2018/28 processes. However, it is identified in the list of priorities for the Katikati Trails Development Group. Staff will continue to work with this group regarding the development of future trails in Katikati.

In response to the feedback about the tin fence along the west side **Katikati Area Office and Library** behind the building and along the pathway from the Museum, Council will work with the Katikati Community Board to achieve an agreed desired outcome.

The proposed **Lund Road** development for recreation provides a budget to complete the proposed Concept Plan 2019, which will address the following concerns raised in submissions:

- Naming the reserve;
- Car parking, mountain bike park, horse trails;
- Change to a Recreation Reserve but manage the conservation values of the reserve;
- Establish pedestrian links to other walkway connections e.g. Thompsons track;
- Provide suitable signage; and
- Consider use for wastewater and ground disposal.

Staff are currently gathering information and working with representatives of the Working Group to co-ordinate community input.



Lund Road forestry block 2017 aerial photograph

At this time, Council has no proposals to develop and landscape esplanade reserves in the Coastal Marine area for recreational purposes, or creating a beach area for boat launching near **MacMillan Reserve**. The existing boat ramp and others around neighbouring parts of the Katikati harbour provides access for launching sea craft. The Katikati Boating Club are wanting to establish a base at the end of Beach Road, therefore consideration may need to be given to a concept plan for future use of this area for boating activities.

Council's Long Term Plan (LTP) recently adopted the **Moore Park** budgets as provided in the Katikati Waihi Beach Ward RMP. Any variations relating to naming, timing and budget amounts will be decided following the design and costing stage. The figures used in the draft plan will remain as estimates. Once the final designs for the new area are developed, we will have a better understanding of the overall Moore Park field use, which will enable us to make more informed decisions about location of the intended and proposed additional uses. To ensure the Reserve Management Plan notes other potential uses of Moore Park, the following will be added as a new Reserve Issue;

“Consider additional use of the park for the following; sand based volleyball court, basketball hoops, netball courts, 2/3 lane artificial cricket training net and an indoor aquatic centre.”

Any flooding issues due east of the rugby club facility and in the new area, will be investigated during the latest development.



How we manage reserves

With the wide range of feedback about individual reserves across the ward, we received a lot of support about the various projects in the Reserve Management Plan. Budgets and timing for individual reserve projects shown in the Plan as funded OR proposed to be funded means Council is well placed, to respond to many matters raised by submitters. Several people commented that more should be done to improve reserves and associated infrastructure. We are happy to confirm that during the recent considerations for the 2019/20 Annual Plan process, Council approved the allocation of funds for that particular year. Estimated costs and timing for other non-budgeted projects in the Plan will be referred to the next Annual Plan and/or Long Term Plan processes to consider budget allocation.

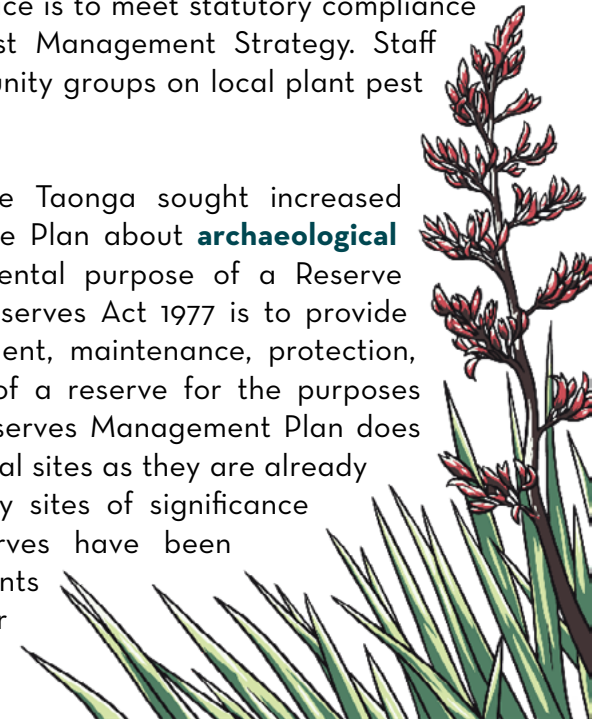
Council manages over 200 reserves throughout the District, catering to a wide range of uses and communities. We have in place a comprehensive **asset management system, with renewals and replacements** as required according to the Condition Assessments of all assets including playgrounds.

Where we have had feedback about our existing levels of service not being met, we vigorously monitor the levels of service against industry best practice and all our contractors performance to ensure the specifics of their contracts are being met. During the recent LTP 2018/28, Council decided to proceed with the current work programme for boat ramps and jetties as part of the review of the **Recreation and Leisure Strategy**. This will also include assessments of our general **Levels of Service Asset Provision Guidelines**. Council also decided, through the Tauranga Harbour Advisory Group, to request development of a joint Tauranga Harbour Access Strategy to inform future decision making for boat launching facilities across the sub-region. Council will use this study to inform future decisions on investing in any new boat ramps and/or jetties.

We received a submission seeking amendments to our approach to **power utilities**. It should be acknowledged that the fundamental purpose of a Reserve Management Plan is to provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection, preservation and development of a reserve for the purposes for which it is classified. We prepare concept plans to show our communities how development of the individual reserves may occur, and receive feedback to ensure we keep abreast with their thinking. The **Reserve Management Plan Generic Policy P2 Utilities** addresses issues of management consistency across reserves. In addition Council's District Plan Section 10: Infrastructure, Network Utilities & Designations comprises issues, objectives, policies, rules and assessment criteria to be used in respect of the establishment, development, operation, maintenance and upgrading of such activities. It is considered that the District Plan remains the appropriate place to set out these rules and obligations.

Council monitors and manages **weed infestation of reserves** and the roading network throughout the District on an ongoing basis using a range of options. Council's level of service is to meet statutory compliance with the Regional Council's Pest Management Strategy. Staff will continue to work with community groups on local plant pest management strategies.

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga sought increased information being included in the Plan about **archaeological sites on reserves**. The fundamental purpose of a Reserve Management Plan under the Reserves Act 1977 is to provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection, preservation and development of a reserve for the purposes for which it is classified. The Reserves Management Plan does not identify specific archaeological sites as they are already noted in our District Plan. Many sites of significance to Tangata Whenua on reserves have been identified by individual assessments prepared for specific projects or maintenance activities.



Concept plans have been prepared for the larger, popular iconic reserves to show our communities how development may occur and to share feedback to ensure we keep abreast with community thinking where applicable. Those plans also reference the need to prepare archaeological assessments where applicable.

With regard to the protection of archaeological sites referenced in Council's District Plan, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga would normally make submissions to that review process. Archaeological issues are considered during planning for projects and resource consent application processes.

Requests for speed limit changes can only be progressed through a review of **Council's Speed Limits Bylaw**. This will be commencing soon so we will divert these to that bylaw review process.

Council's policy on **CCTV cameras** applies to equipment we currently own for the purposes of protecting Council owned assets for security, crime prevention, community safety and property damage. At the time, Police with the assistance of local Community Boards identified the locations of the cameras for crime hotspots. The technology is used to support the Police and locals and managing crimes ranging from tagging to assaults. We recognise there are a number of solutions for addressing a range of community safety issues and CCTV systems need to be considered alongside other options for dealing with problems.

The Policy sets out Criteria for Determining Future Locations and provides a checklist and guidelines of what will be considered to establish new CCTV cameras, these include:

- Principles of the Privacy Act 1993,
- Signage notifying the operation of a CCTV system,
- Level of monitoring,
- Access and Use of Footage,
- Asset Management - faults with cameras.

Our Generic Policy provides guidelines to enforce boundary creep, when appropriate. See the adopted **Reserve Management Plan for Generic Policy P13 Encroachment Policy**.

Requests have been made for **dedicating areas for remembrance** on our reserves. We have remembrance walls at our cemeteries in Katikati and Te Puke, which also include areas for ashes and we have policies to assist us with gifts and commemorative features, including trees.

Council will be reviewing the Communities Strategy in 2018, which will include consideration of alternative cemetery and memorial options, and the level of service that Council provides in relation to cemeteries and urupā. See the adopted Reserve Management Plan for the following policies: **P9: Gifts and Commemorative Built Features** and **P10: Commemorative Trees**.

With regards to other comments about the presence of horses on reserves, the Reserves and Facilities Bylaw sets out the permitted areas for the riding horses within the District. In some cases, through licences/lease agreements, **horses are permitted** to graze specific reserves. Additionally, some facilities and trails are

developed for the specific use of horses - such as the equestrian trails at TECT All Terrain Park, and future development of trails at Lund Road Reserve.



Katikati Remembrance Wall

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