

OPEN SPACE STRATEGY 2003

for the Papakura District

Prepared by
HARRISON GRIERSON
— HC —



Karakia

He kororia he maungarongo ki runga i te mata o te whenua
He Whakakororiatia te Atua i runga rawa
He whakaro pai ki nga tangata katoa
Hanga e te Atua he ngakau hou
Ki roto ki te pukapuka nei, Whakatongia tou wairua tapu
Hei awhina, hei tohutohu i a matou
Arohaina nga teina nga tuakana
Noreira whakapuakina mai to matou pukapuka nei
E pai nei, I nga taonga a o tupuna matua kei a koe e te matua
He whakamaramatanga mo tou matou tama
Hoki tou matou kaiwhaka ora Ko ihu kataiti
Amine
PAIMARIRE

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for the Papakura District

Prepared for

PAPAKURA DISTRICT COUNCIL

Prepared by

HARRISON GRIERSON CONSULTANTS LIMITED

Supported by

Dr Andrea Julian – Ecology
Clough & Associates – Cultural Heritage
Rob Bates – Development Contributions Model

RECOGNITION

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Drury Primary School students

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Part One Analysis and Context

1. INTRODUCTION

Background

The Auckland Regional Growth Strategy has allocated considerable growth to the Papakura District with the District's population expected to increase from a 2001 base of 40,665 to around 104,000 by 2050. The Papakura District Council has no formal Public Open Space Policy or spatial plan to guide the development of an open space system and the acquisition of reserve land has tended to be managed on an ad-hoc basis.

In recognition of the above, the Papakura District Council has initiated this project which develops a District-wide integrated open space system based on an environmental assessment and user needs. The Auckland Regional Council has recently prepared a draft Regional Open Space Strategy, which provides a broad framework for open space provision in the Region.

What is Open Space?

Open Space means different things to different people. It might be a field or native bush area, a wetland, a sports field, a playground, a park or coastal reserves for public access to our harbour. Open Space is most easily defined as land and the air space above, which are not developed for residential, commercial or transportation uses, and for most part, free of buildings. Indoor sports facilities are included as open space for the purpose of this study.

What is the Aim of the Open Space Strategy?

The aim of this Strategy is to reflect the recreational needs of the community and protect sensitive ecological areas and historic significant sites in an integrated way. The Open Space Strategy guides the development of an open space system, the acquisition of reserves and the provision of recreation facilities over a timeframe of up to 50 years.

The Open Space Strategy 2003 is functional up to 2013 and is to be reviewed in 5 years.

The Legislative Framework

Council is guided by the following legislations and statutory requirements for the provision and planning of open space.

Local Government Act 2002

The Local Government Act describes the role and duties of local authorities in terms of the provision of reserves and community facilities. It also gives direction in the taking of development contributions for reserves.

Reserves Act 1977

The Reserves Act sets the process for protecting open space and for the development of reserve management plans. According to this Act, it is the role of the Minister for Conservation to monitor and approve activities on reserves.

Resource Management Act 1991

The purpose of the Resource Management Act is to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources. In achieving the purpose of the Act, several matters of national importance should be recognised and provided for such as the preservation of the natural character; the protection of outstanding natural features; the protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous flora; the maintenance and enhancement of public access to and along coastal marine areas; the protection of historic heritage; and the relationship with Maori and their culture and traditions.

The Act is also the mandate for the District Plan with regards the development of parks and reserves. As is the case with the Local Government Act, it also provides the framework through which Council will obtain financial contributions upon subdivision and development.

Although the Open Space Strategy is a non-statutory document, it is a key mechanism through which Council can meet many of its core obligations under the Resource Management Act, particularly Sections 5 to 8.

Operative Papakura District Plan

The District Plan sets objectives, policies and rules for the “Reserves and Community uses Zone”. Some of the key objectives and policies that guide the provision of open space include:

- *“To provide sufficient land to meet the recreation and community needs of the District”.
(Objective 8.6.1)*
- *“Reserves land will be provided at a rate not less than 4 hectares per 1000 population”.
(Policy 8.6.1.1)*
- *“To enable a range of recreational activities in accordance with the needs of the District”.
(Objective 8.6.2)*

The District Plan makes provision for the collection of reserve contributions of 6 percent of the value of each additional allotment.

What are the Community Benefits of Open Space?

Open Space provides;

- wildlife habitat areas that attract and maintain a healthy wildlife population;
- areas for protection of natural vegetation and features;
- necessary active and passive recreational opportunities for a growing and healthy community;
- for adequate stormwater detention areas;
- definition and focal point to a neighbourhood and helps establish a “sense of place”;
- an “outdoor classroom” for educational institutions.

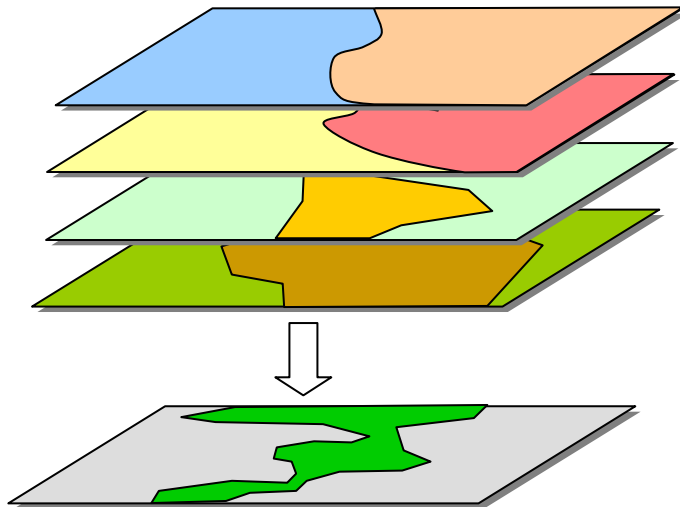
Methodology

The Open Space Strategy is supported by a sound methodology and a holistic approach, which includes extensive consultation, analysis and research. An open space inventory and condition analysis of existing facilities formed part of the early process.

Two key components underpin the study, namely a physiographic assessment and a user needs analysis.

Physiographic Analysis

During an environmental screening process, factors such as significant vegetation, wildlife habitats, historic sites, soil conditions and hydrology were assessed and identified. The information of each environmental factor was mapped separately to form a series of layers. After which, a composite map was produced using an overlay technique (left).



The idealised open space framework is the key result of the physiographic analysis and forms the basis for the identification of land suitable for open space.

User Needs Analysis

Community consultation played a key role in identifying the open space user needs. The spectrum of the level of public participation is indicated in the diagram below:

INFORM

Goal: To provide the public with objective information to assist them in understanding the issues.

Promise to the Public: We will keep you informed.

Tools used: Newspaper articles; brochures (to follow)

CONSULT

Goal: To obtain public feedback on open space issues.

Promise to the Public: We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and provide feedback on the outcomes.

Tools used: Questionnaires.

INVOLVE

Goal: To work directly with stakeholders throughout the process to ensure their issues are considered.

Promise: We will work with you to ensure your issues are reflected in the outcomes.

Tools used: Questionnaires; one-on-one interviews; workshops

Papakura Open Space Strategy

The table below shows the number of responses to questionnaires received during the user needs analysis. Note, this table does not reflect individual interviews.

	No. of questionnaires distributed/available	No. of responses
Sports Clubs	110	30
Residents/Ratepayers Associations	5	2
Schools	17	11
School students	150	145
Local iwi	10	1
General public	Unlimited	20

The participation of the community and various stakeholders is described below.

Sports Clubs

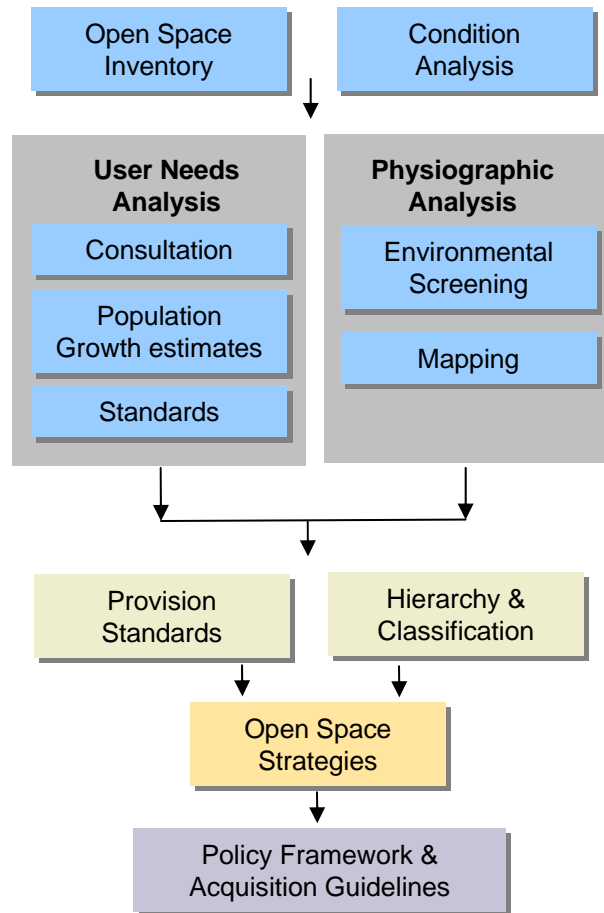
Questionnaires were distributed to approximately 110 sports clubs in the Papakura District. The main purpose of this survey was to determine the future needs of the sports clubs, problems experienced with fields and facilities and membership trends.

School Students

Children and youth are among the most frequent users of open space. For this reason, a survey was undertaken of children of various age groups. Approximately 150 questionnaires were distributed to high school students of the Papakura High School, while interactive workshop sessions were held with students of Rosehill Intermediate School (left). The students of two primary schools, Drury and Cosgrove Primary participated in a drawing exercise with the theme, “my ideal park”.

Iwi

Consultation with iwi took place through a workshop session with the Maori Standing Committee. Written invitations were distributed to local iwi groups to put forward their issues relating to open space. The protection of heritage sites and the relationship between people and the environment, were of particular significance during the workshop.



Residents Associations

Questionnaires were distributed to five residents associations in the District. Questions regarding the level of open space provision and maintenance of parks formed part of this questionnaire.

Community

Questionnaires for the broader community were available at the library and Council offices and included questions relating to the quality of parks, favourite features in parks and level of open space provision.

Local and Regional Authorities

One-on-one interviews were held with staff members of Manukau City Council, Franklin District Council and the Auckland Regional Council. Consultation with Papakura District Council staff took place throughout the process.

Counties Manukau Sports Foundation

The Counties Manukau Sports Foundation plays a key role in facilitating sports events and providing valuable information on sports activities. Various interviews were held with members of the Foundation.

Other Key Stakeholders

Other stakeholders who participated in the process through one-on-one interviews, questionnaires and written correspondence include;

- Principals of local schools;
- South Auckland Forest and Bird Society;
- Pahurehure Inlet Protection Society;
- Bruce Pulman Park Trust;
- Bridle Track Support Group.

In addition to the above consultation, population forecasts and open space standards have been used to determine future needs. The diagram to left shows the key tasks and sequence of the process.



2. THE CURRENT SITUATION

Population

The District's population is 40,665. A significant feature of the demographics is that the population of Papakura is relatively young compared to the rest of New Zealand. For example, couples with children make up 43.5% of all families, which is higher than the national average of 42.1%, while the median age of people in Papakura District is 32.1, compared with 34.8 for all of New Zealand. This feature is significant when it comes to the allocation of types of reserves and facilities.

Current Open Space Supply

In total, there are approximately 250ha of reserves and open space in the Papakura District, resulting in a supply of 6ha per 1,000 population. However, this figure is not a true reflection of the open space supply, as a large number of these open spaces are inaccessible to the public.

An analysis on the provision of the current open spaces shows that the various types of reserves are not evenly spread throughout the District. For example, the northern part of Papakura has more than adequate neighbourhood parks, while a shortage exists in the southern part of Papakura.

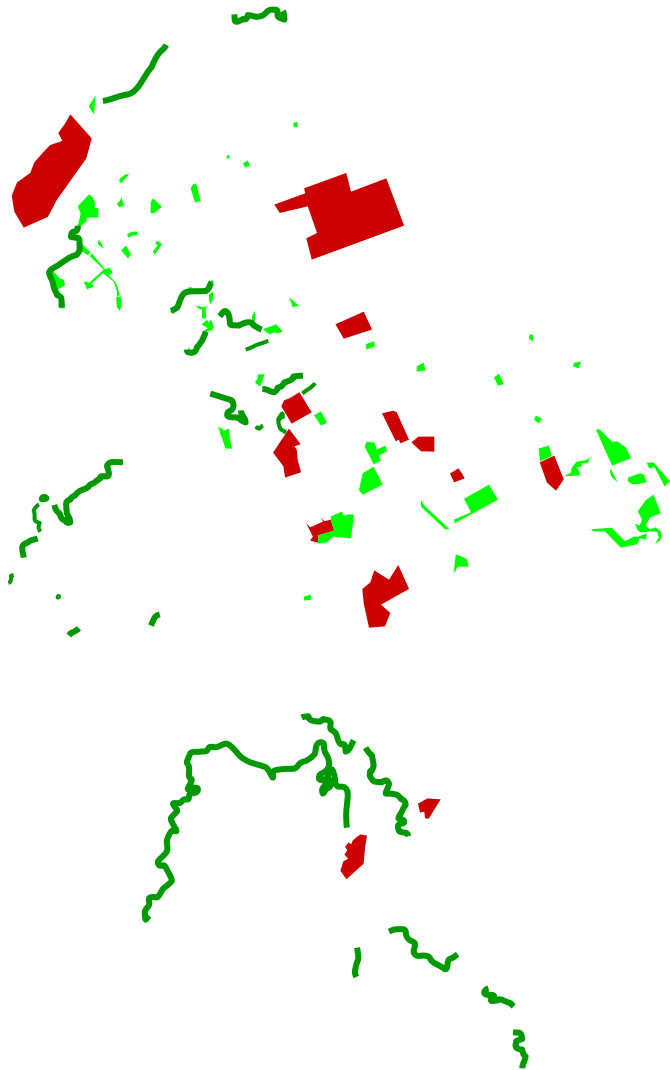
The current land area of sports facilities is approximately 131ha, providing an allocation of 3.2 ha per 1000 population.

The current land area of local neighbourhood parks is approximately 35ha, providing an allocation of 0.9ha per 1000 population.

Esplanade and scenic reserves take up a land area of approximately 84ha.

Figure 1 (overleaf) shows the current distribution of open space types.

Current Open Spaces



-  Passive Open Spaces
-  Sports Facilities
-  Esplanade Reserves



Figure 1

Current Provision of Sports Fields

The following major sports facilities are currently provided in Papakura.

Type	Fields / Facilities	Number of Locations
Rugby Union / Touch	11	7
Cricket	5	4
Softball	3	1
BMX	1	1
Soccer	8	3
Athletics	1	1
League	4	3
Gymnasium	1	1
Netball	24	1
Squash	1	1
Tennis	3	2
Aquatic Centre	1	1
Halls (Badminton)	4	4
Bowls	4	4

Unique Characteristics

One of the unique characteristics of Papakura is the length of its foreshore, providing an excellent opportunity to link different open spaces, and to create an integrated open space network.

Archaeologically significant sites in the area and the significant wildlife and vegetation areas to the east, are also key features that could be optimised.

The eastern part of the District including the Hunua Ranges and Red Hill Forest, is rich in significant wildlife and vegetation habitats, which could provide opportunities for tracking, education programmes and eco-tourism.

Quality of Existing Open Spaces

In order to assess the quality of the District's open spaces, a condition analysis of a selection of open spaces was conducted. Each of the selected open spaces were assessed against the following criteria;

- Significance of the site;
- Neighbourhood context and accessibility;
- Quality of footpaths;
- Misuse/Abuse;
- Visual attractiveness;
- Safety and surveillance;
- General characteristics;

The findings are set out overleaf.

Papakura Open Space Strategy

<i>Positives</i>	<i>Negatives</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Papakura has a diverse range of open space catering for a wide range of uses.• The sports fields in the District are generally in a good condition.• The parks in Central Papakura have well-maintained gardens with historic character.• There is substantial provision of playground equipment in some parks.• The foreshore of Papakura is an important strength with opportunities to improve amenity, access and signage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More work is needed to provide a fully interconnected network of open space.• Many clubrooms at the sports facilities are in poor condition.• Improved maintenance is desirable at some parks.• The tennis courts in Smiths Street are of poor quality and unused.• Playground equipment of the same type tend to be clustered in one area, instead of distributed more evenly.• Some parks are isolated with poor surveillance, while the links to and from the parks are of poor quality.• A lack of good signage and legibility.• Parking areas at the sports facilities and parks are generally in a poor condition.• There is a lack of facilities such as seating, rubbish bins and footpaths in some parks.• Parking at the open space facilities tends to be isolated.• Toilet facilities are generally lacking or in a poor condition.• Vandalism and graffiti is an issue in some parks.

3. ANALYSIS OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

The key outcomes of the environmental screening process are summarised in this Section. Detailed reports and maps of the analysis of the environmental factors are available under a separate cover.

The environmental screening process has formed an important component of the physiographic analysis, and in the end, the production of the idealised open space framework. During this environmental screening process, various environmental factors were assessed and identified including significant vegetation, wildlife habitats, cultural heritage sites, flood hazard areas and geology and soils.

Vegetation

The following significant vegetation habitats exist in the District:

Alfriston Fragments

There are a number of small, loosely connected remnants on the 20 million-year-old clay hills to the north of Alfriston. The vegetation in these remnants is tall forest consisting of a wide variety of podocarp and broadleaf tree species. These include totara, kahikatea and rimu.

Margans Bush / Kaipara Road Remnants

The older remnant at Margans Bush Reserve has a similar composition, with taraire, tawa and kahikatea being the major species in the canopy, with rewarewa emerging above and kohekohe and nikau being the most numerous species beneath.

Alluvial Forest Remnants

There are a number of small, generally isolated fragments of kahikatea-dominated forest on the alluvial terrace type of habitat. This type of habitat consists of the relatively young pumiceous and alluvial deposits of the flat parts of Papakura District.



Kirks Bush and Butterworth Bush

These two mature forest reserves are in the middle of the developed urban part of Papakura District. They are also alluvial forests, but have matured to the stage where they support a mixture of species. Both Kirk's and Butterworth's Bush are dominated by taraire. In Kirk's Bush, karaka and puriri are also numerous.

Red Hill Forest

The forest in and around this reserve is a mature area of forest growing on a volcanic substrate, an uncommon substrate in the Papakura District.

Hunua Road Dam and Hays Creek Forest

These forest areas grow on a variety of topographical positions ranging from dry upper slopes down to damp gully bottoms. The forest is predominantly tawa and taraire forests growing on the lower and midslopes. A wide range of conifers is present including kauri, miro, rimu, totara and tanekaha.

Defence Department Bush

The area is a very large mosaic of broadleaf and treefern shrublands regenerating into forest, with several small, scattered patches of mature vegetation. Mahoe, mapou, kanuka and mamaku are typical species in the shrublands. The largest surveyed area in this bush block is of relatively tall forest of kanuka and mamaku.

Sutton Volcanic Forest

A forest remnant consisting of a variety of forest types. The most significant of the forest types is characterised by species that prefer the fertile conditions to be found on soils of volcanic origin. This forest is dominantly puriri, but has a mosaic of tree associations including combinations of kahikatea, totara, rimu, rewarewa and kohekohe.

Ponga Road Forest

This is a very large area of predominantly tawa-taraire forest, regenerating kanuka, treefern forests and shrublands covering several hillsides.

Estate Bush

This is a good example of secondary kauri-podocarp forest on lowland foothills and is a significant collection of a variety of mature forest types. Kauri is dominant throughout, including in the emergent tier, with kahikatea, rewarewa and tanekaha also present. In one section there is a very tall pole stand of kauri.

Appleby Road Bush

These are two small areas of podocarp/broadleaf forest that are partly fenced, but have good potential for regeneration. Canopy species include taraire, kohekohe, puriri, kahikatea, rimu, matai, nikau and pigeonwood.

Wildlife

The following significant Wildlife habitats are present in the District:

Alfriston Fragments

These areas support typical bush bird species.

Kirks Bush and Butterworth Bush

Both areas support typical bush bird species.

Red Hill Forest

This forest together with surrounding regenerating areas makes up a significant wildlife habitat for a range of common bush birds.

Hunua Road Dam and Hays Creek Forest

This steep-sided, deep-water reservoir is a significant wildlife habitat, providing a loafing and moulting site for a variety of waterfowl. A black shag colony and a range of bush birds are present.



Defence Department Bush

During the 1980's this area was considered to have potential as a wildlife habitat. The habitat quality has improved over the intervening years as the vegetation matured.

Ponga Road Forest

It is moderately diverse and is a significant wildlife habitat, especially for kereru (NZ pigeon).

Estate Bush

This area is considered to be significant wildlife habitat. It is a small, well-managed area that is particularly attractive to kereru (NZ pigeon) and a range of common forest birds.

Appleby Road Bush

Common bush birds are present in this area.

Hydrology

Several of Papakura's larger streams rise in the foothills of the Hunua Ranges and Brookby Hills and discharge to the Manukau Harbour through Papakura District.

Besides those few larger streams there is also a network of smaller streams and drains draining generally small catchments directly to the Manukau Harbour. In the urban area many of these have been piped. The times of concentration of these tributaries is generally short (less than one hour), and the baseflows relatively low. Only one stream (the Upper Taitaia, a tributary of the Wairoa River near Clevedon) drains towards the east. Approximately 50% of the stormwater draining through Papakura District originates outside the District.

Consistent with its proximity to the Hunua Ranges, Papakura can be subject to high-intensity rainfall events from time to time. Several of these have caused damaging flooding in recent years and reinforced the need for pro-active land-use planning including the identification and protection of flood plains and flood hazard areas.



*Overland Flowpaths and
Flood Hazard Areas*

Cultural Heritage Items

Although many historical sites are identified as significant, it is important to note that not all of these sites will necessarily form part of the open space system, as many include houses or buildings on residential zoned sites. Several sites have been identified as being of particular significance:

- Pukekiwiriki Pa (R12/4), Red Hill – the majority of this archaeological site is contained within a reserve administered by the Council. However, surviving archaeological remains associated with this site are located outside the reserve on surrounding private land. The location and extent of these remains needs to be determined by field survey and priority given to their protection and inclusion within the Pukekiwiriki reserve as part of the open space system.
- Te Aparangi kainga – the accurate location and extent of surviving archaeological remains associated with this village on the lower slopes of Pukekiwiriki or Red Hill, needs to be determined by field survey and priority given to their protection and inclusion within the open space system.
- Historic sites and structures – cultural heritage sites of early European occupation are inadequately represented or formally recorded within Papakura District. Those sites identified should be considered on a case by case basis for inclusion within the Papakura District open space system.

There are also several areas within Papakura District where there is a concentration of cultural heritage sites or a surviving cultural heritage landscape. The combination of site types and their close proximity increases their significance, giving them additional value as a group. The following groups/landscapes should be considered for inclusion within the Papakura District open space system:

- Alfriston historic sites in the Takanini Structure Plan area;
- Coastal midden sites Kopuahingahinga, Pararekau and Orona Islands;
- Drury-Papakura Hills Maori archaeological sites;
- Red Hill Maori archaeological sites.
- Local war memorials in their existing or preferred locations.

Geology and Soils

The Papakura District is underlain by a variety of geological units. The oldest unit is the "greywacke" basement known as Waipapa Group. Greywacke underlies the rugged foothills of the Hunua Ranges, while remnants of the Waitemata Group are present on the western edge of the foothills and on the Alfriston Hills to the north.

Recent floodplain and stream alluvium has accumulated on the Manukau low lands that cover the western part of the district.

Waipapa and Waitemata Group rocks weather to soils (silts and clays), which can be up to 20m thick. Alluvium is a varied group of sediments mainly mud, sand and gravel with lenses of organic rich peat.

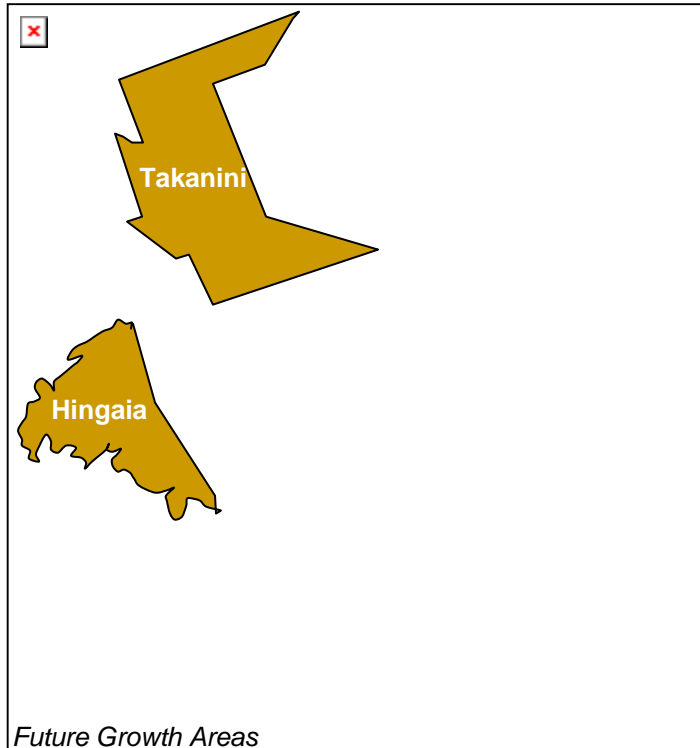
The areas likely to be affected by geotechnical hazards are adjacent to stream banks and coastlines, steep slopes and areas affected by land slips and areas underlain by soft and compressible soils.

The area most suitable for agriculture is the flat to gentle sloped land located mainly in the western part of the Papakura District.

4. GROWTH AREAS

The growth trend over the past ten years shows that the population of Papakura has grown slowly, from 37,000 to 40,665. However, Papakura has been acknowledged as a major growth area in future.

Two growth areas are identified in the District, namely Takanini (1100 hectares) and Hingaia (700 hectares). These greenfields areas are expected to accommodate approximately 20,000 and 10,000 people respectively over the next fifty years.



Hingaia

The Hingaia Structure Plan proposes an integrated open space network enhancing the character of the Peninsula. The Plan further proposes an esplanade reserve along the foreshore with “green corridors” along major streams. These major streams will form part of the integrated open space system (refer to Figure 9). An active reserve area of approximately 7ha is proposed on the northern side of Hingaia Road. Another open space component identified in the Plan is a network of local purpose reserves to be formed upon subdivision as a consequence of integrated catchment management plan measures on stream margins. The Structure Plan defines a 20m motorway buffer strip along the full western length of the motorway.

A Plan Change for Stage 1A, which is generally the north-eastern part of the Peninsula, has been prepared.

Takanini

The Takanini Structure Plan suggests an open space network combined with well designed flood management and water quality systems as well as footpaths, cycle ways and bridle paths. The Plan further suggests that the Papakura Stream be developed and revegetated as a major open space feature to include footpaths, cycle routes and bridle paths along the stream edges.

A Plan Change has been completed for rezoning Stage “1b”, being approximately 7% of the Takanini Structure Plan Area, as medium density residential area. As part of the agreement for Stage 1b in Takanini between Council and the developer, reserves will comprise 5% of the net land area, while 1% of the land value will be used to develop the reserves. The estimated population for this stage is 5,000 people, with an area of reserves approximately 1.5h per 1,000 population. Development is progressing on the basis of a specifically designed network of small passive reserves, suitable for medium density housing areas.

A similar agreement between Council and the developers in Hingaia has been undertaken.

5. FUTURE NEEDS

The future recreation and open space needs have been determined through community consultation and a numerical analysis against specific standards.

Population Growth

Population projections and demographic analysis are cornerstones to forecasting open space needs. The “Medium Growth Scenario” of the Papakura District Population Growth Model (prepared by Rob Bates), was used for this purpose. This growth scenario differs from New Zealand Statistics estimates, which do not recognise target estimates for the major growth areas. The scenario used for the Open Space Strategy also differs from previous Council forecasts. As noted earlier, over the past ten years the population of Papakura has grown from 37,000 to 40,665. Papakura has however been acknowledged as a major growth area in the future, and it is unlikely that this slow growth rate will be repeated. The projected population growth is indicated in the table below.

Year	Population Forecast
2001-2006	50,310
2006-2011	60,956
2011-2016	67,167
2016-2021	73,067
2021-2026	79,971
2026-2031	85,801
2031-2036	91,642
2036-2041	97,485
2041-2046	100,899
2046-2051	104,018

Community Consultation

A thorough and extensive consultation process has been undertaken as described under Section 1.

Although many specific issues were raised during the consultation process, a number of common themes and issues emerged:

Safety and Security

People of all ages identified the lack of safety and security in parks as a major issue. The feeling among members of the community is that poor surveillance in parks is contributing to the fact that people feel unsafe. Some sports clubs also expressed concern about vandalism and the lack of security at sports facilities. For example, the BMX Club is considering relocating as a result of break-ins.

Links

The poor condition of footpaths as well as the lack of linkages in the form of walkways and cycle ways between parks, and the need for a continuous walkway along the esplanade reserve and bridle trails in the rural areas were highlighted.

Size of Parks

A number of school students believe that local parks are not large enough for playing activities.

Playground Equipment

The lack of playground equipment, especially for teenagers, was highlighted. Some of the equipment identified by youth include a skate park, graffiti wall, flying fox, basketball hoop and obstacle course. The fact that many of the same type of facilities are clustered in one area (for example basketball hoops in Papakura East), instead of evenly distributed throughout Papakura, is a major issue.

Signage

Improved signage and legibility of the open space system were proposed by a number of community members.

Provision of Parks

The lack of local parks and playgrounds in the southern part of Papakura is a concern among some members of the public. Residents in Conifer Grove are however satisfied with the number of parks provided in their area.

Quality of Parks

The maintenance and enhancement of the quality of parks, including playground equipment and other park facilities such as toilet facilities, rubbish bins and seating, is a high priority.

Future Sports Facility Needs

The sports clubs survey revealed the following key needs in sports facilities;

- Additional soccer and cricket fields, specifically at Drury and McLennan Park
- Indoor facilities for netball, bowling, badminton and gymnastics
- A permanent facility for the Pony Club
- Better access to tennis courts and additional badminton courts
- Additional lighting at Prince Edward Park and Ray Small Park
- Additional club rooms, changing rooms and toilet facilities at various sports complexes

Availability of Sports Facilities

The sports codes experiencing difficulties with sports facilities are rugby league, tennis, badminton, cricket and soccer.

Condition of sports fields and Facilities

The sports clubs survey revealed that most sports codes are satisfied with the condition of the sports facilities. However, field failure during winter is of concern to the clubs.

Community Garden

The provision of a community garden was identified as a possible way to create a sense of community and to involve young and old.

Open Space Standards of other Local Councils

The table below indicates the standards used by other Councils in the Region. These standards apply to different types of open space, making it difficult to draw comparisons between open space provisions. For example, the standards of Manukau City include community facilities, while Rodney District's standards only include sports facilities and local neighbourhood reserves.

However, these figures provide a good indication of the current trend of open space provision in the Region.

Current	Standard (Ha/1000 population)	Comment
Auckland Regional Council	3	Includes standards for sports fields and local neighbourhood reserves.
Auckland City Council	3.2	Includes standards for sports fields and local neighbourhood reserves.
Manukau City Council	4	Includes standards for passive and active open space as well as community facilities.
Franklin District Council	4	Includes standards for passive and active open space
North Shore City Council	5.8	Includes all open spaces except esplanade reserves.
Rodney District Council	3.2	Includes standards for sports facilities and local neighbourhood reserves.

Numerical Analysis of Future Open Space Needs against “Traditional Standards”

In this Section, the future sports facilities and neighbourhood park requirements are measured against the standards set out in the Draft Auckland Regional Open Space Strategy, 1992. Many of the above-mentioned standards are used by Councils in the Region as a guideline for the provision of open space. Although these are not necessarily applicable to Papakura, they provide a good indication of where the District is at in terms of open space provision and what the future needs might be. Unique standards for Papakura are proposed in Section 9.

To provide greater depth in assessing the spatial distribution and provision of open space, the Planning Area Units (PAUs) (Figure 2) established during the development of the “Population Model”, are used. PAUs correspond with Statistics New Zealand Census Area Units. These are well-defined areas of relatively homogeneous development type, bounded by major roads or water bodies. PAUs in Takanini and Hingaia are based on the different stages of development that are expected to occur.

Sports Facilities

The current land area of sports facilities is approximately 131ha, providing an allocation of 3.2 ha per 1000 population. This is significantly higher than the standard of 1.8ha per 1000 population identified in the Draft Auckland Regional Open Space Strategy, 1992. The table below shows the total surplus or deficit of sports facilities per 1,000 population over different timeframes.

Surplus/Deficit of Provision per 1000 Population (at 1.8ha/1000 population)		
Current	10 Years	50 Years
+1.4ha	+0.1ha	-0.6ha

Apart from the above numerical analysis, an assessment of the spatial distribution and catchments of sports complexes has been undertaken. Figure 4 shows the distribution of existing sports complexes.

Local Neighbourhood Reserves

The total land area of local neighbourhood reserves is approximately 35ha, providing an allocation of 0.9ha per 1000 population. Land used for passive open space in sports complexes, which fulfill the purpose of a neighbourhood reserve, were included in this calculation.

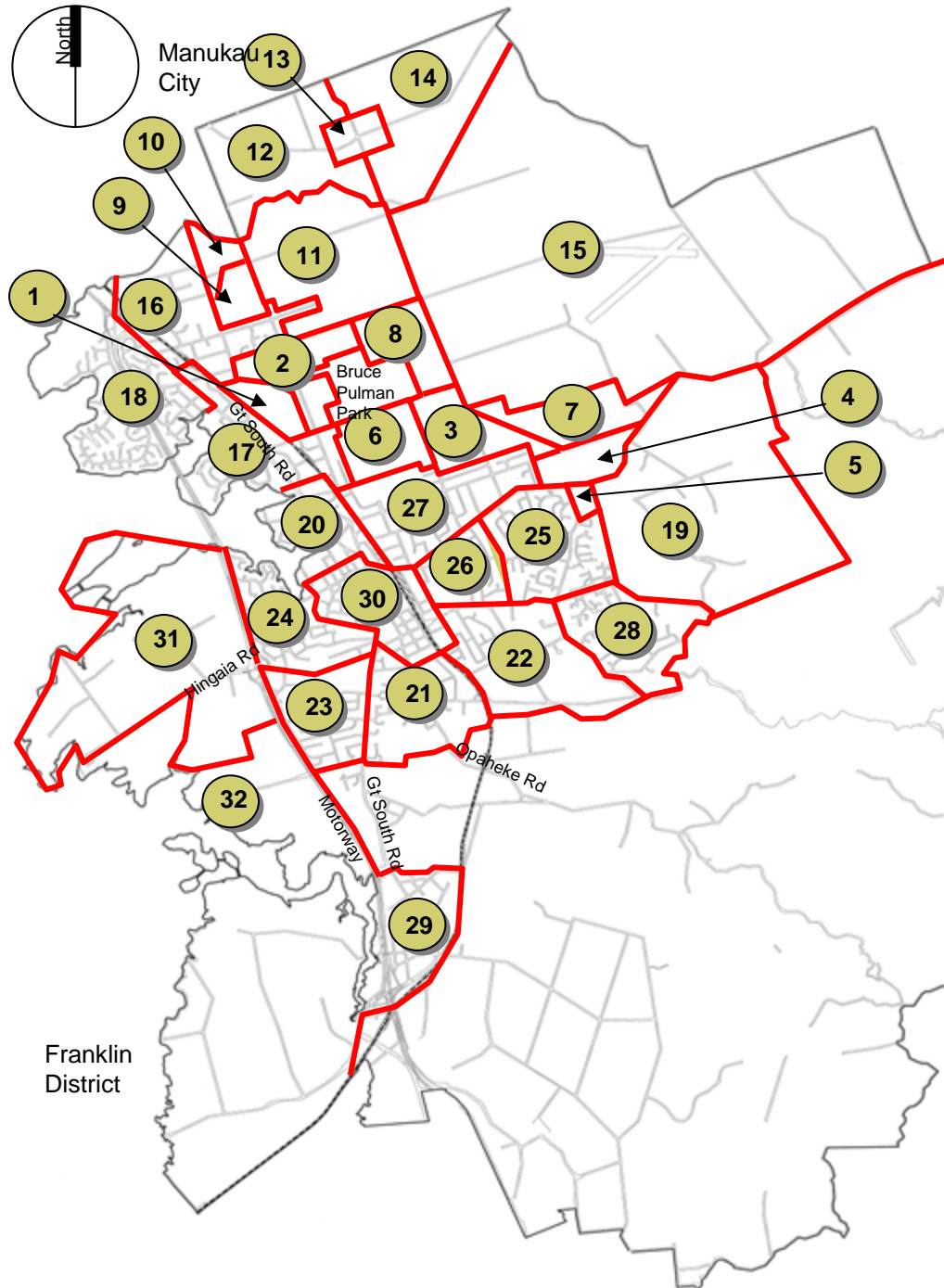
This is well below the standard of 1.2ha per 1,000 population described in the Draft Auckland Regional Open Space Strategy. The table below shows the total surplus or deficit of neighbourhood reserves per 1,000 population over different timeframes.

Surplus/Deficit of Total Provision per 1000 Population (1.2ha/1000 population)		
Current	10 Years	50 Years
-0.3ha	-0.7ha	-0.9ha

The surpluses or deficits in specific Planning Area Units over different timeframes are shown in Figures 5 to 7. Conifer Grove, Takanini Central Area 2 and Red Hill are the only Planning Area Units with a surplus in neighbourhood reserves. A significant number of additional neighbourhood reserves are required in the southern and eastern part of Papakura.

Figure 3, which shows the spatial distribution and 400m catchments (walkable distance) of neighbourhood reserves, emphasises the shortage of local neighbourhood reserves in the southern part of Papakura, particularly in the Rosehill, Opaheke areas and Papakura East.

Planning Area Units and Population Forecasts

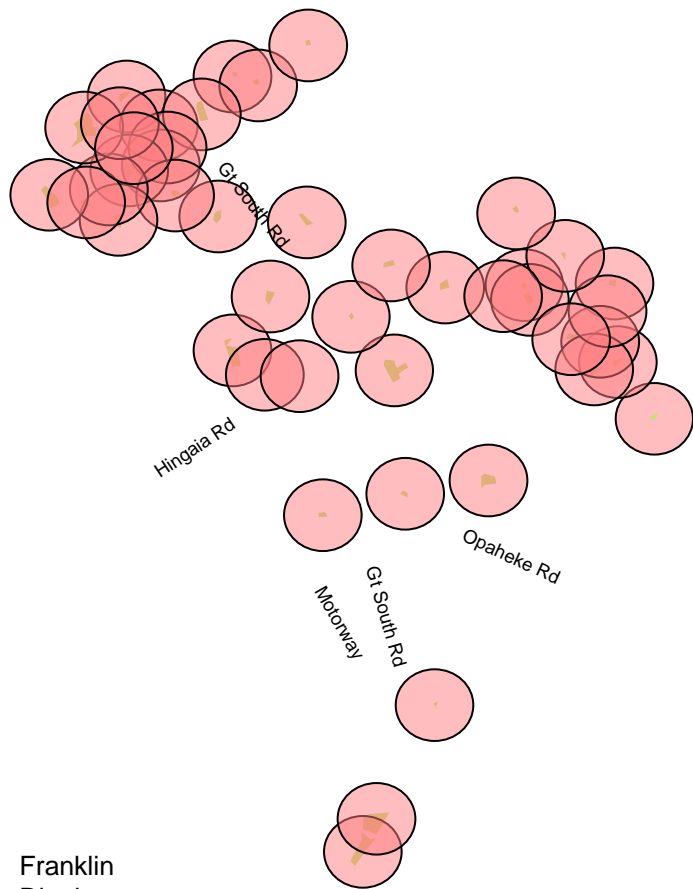
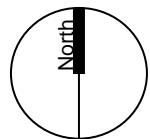


No	Plan Area Unit	2050 Pop
1	Takanini East 1a	3120
2	Takanini East 1b	5500
3	Takanini East 2a	1568
4	Takanini East 2b	2245
5	Takanini East 2c	353
6	Takanini East 3	4120
7	Takanini East 4	1863
8	Takanini East 5	1840
9	Takanini East 6a	400
10	Takanini East 6b	420
11	Takanini East 7	2120
12	Takanini East 8	1403
13	Takanini East 9	2233
14	Takanini East 10	943
15	Ardmore	425
16	Takanini Central 1	2684
17	Takanini Central 2	2684

No	Plan Area Unit	2050 Pop
18	Takanini West	6460
19	Keri Hill	5150
20	Papakura North	3364
21	Papakura South	2648
22	Opaheke	3706
23	Rosehill	4282
24	Pahurehure	4823
25	Papakura East	5758
26	Massey Park	3232
27	North East Papakura	4542
28	Red Hill	3722
29	Drury	2960
30	Papakura Central	3713
31	Hingaia Stage 1	6138
32	Hingaia Future Stages	6114



Manukau
City



Franklin
District

Papakura Open Space Strategy

Local Neighbourhood Reserve Cathments

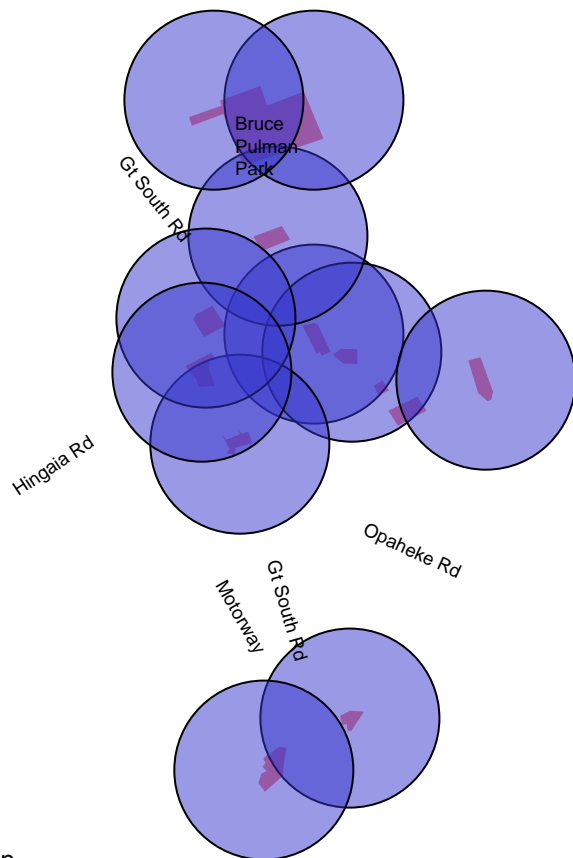
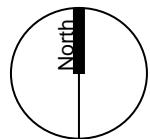


**400m catchment from local
neighbourhood reserves**

A distance of 400m generally represents a 5minute walking distance. The 400m catchments indicated on this plan would however result in walking distances of between 650 to 700m, depending on the street layout. It is however providing a good indication of the distribution of local neighbourhood parks.



Manukau
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District

Papakura Open Space Strategy

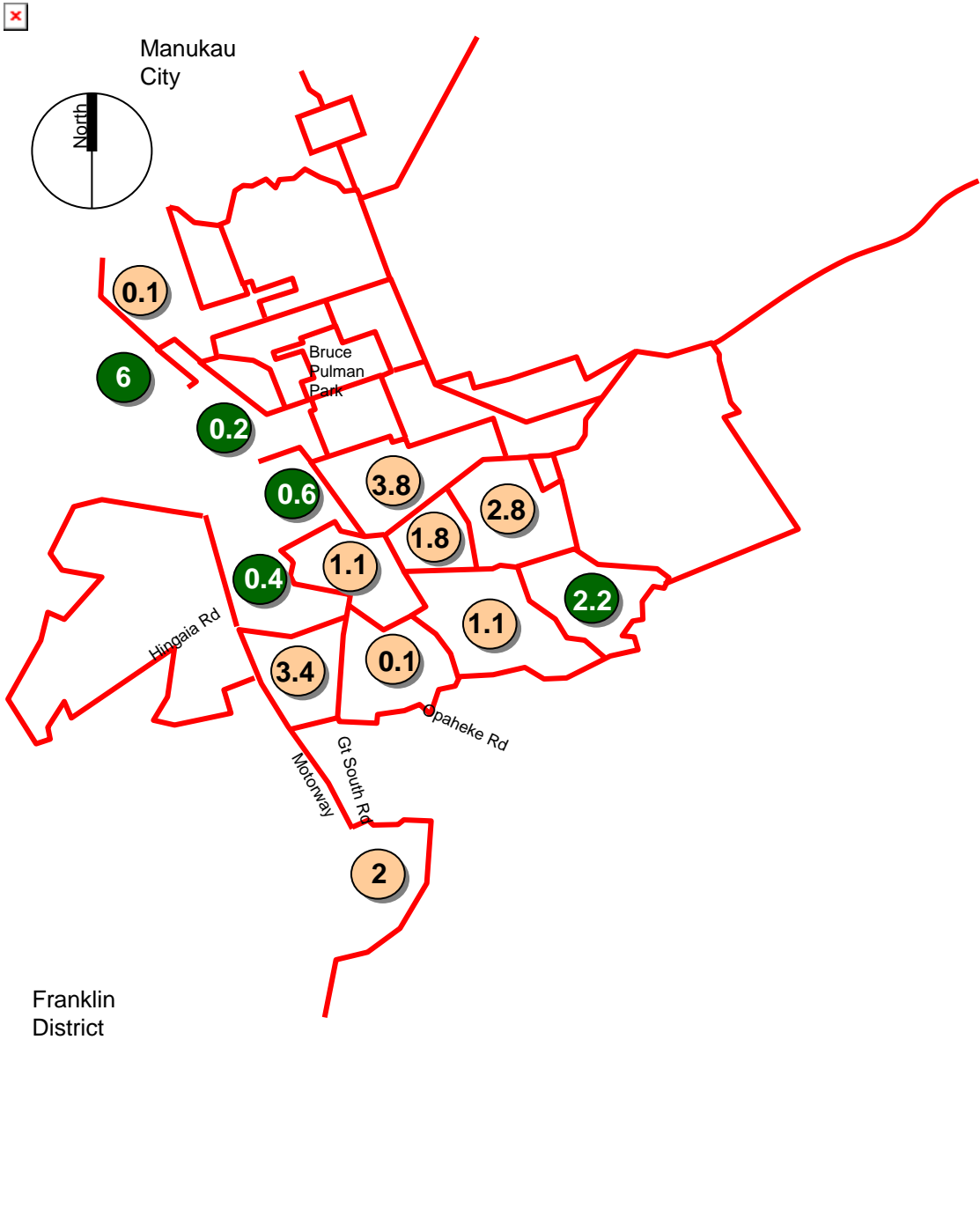
Sport Complex Catchments



1km catchment from major sports complexes

Although the catchments of many sports facilities such as Bruce Pulman Park and Massey Park are larger than indicated on the plan, the 1km catchments provide a good indication of the distribution of sports facilities in the District.

Neighbourhood Parks: Current Level of Provision at 1.2ha per 1000 Population

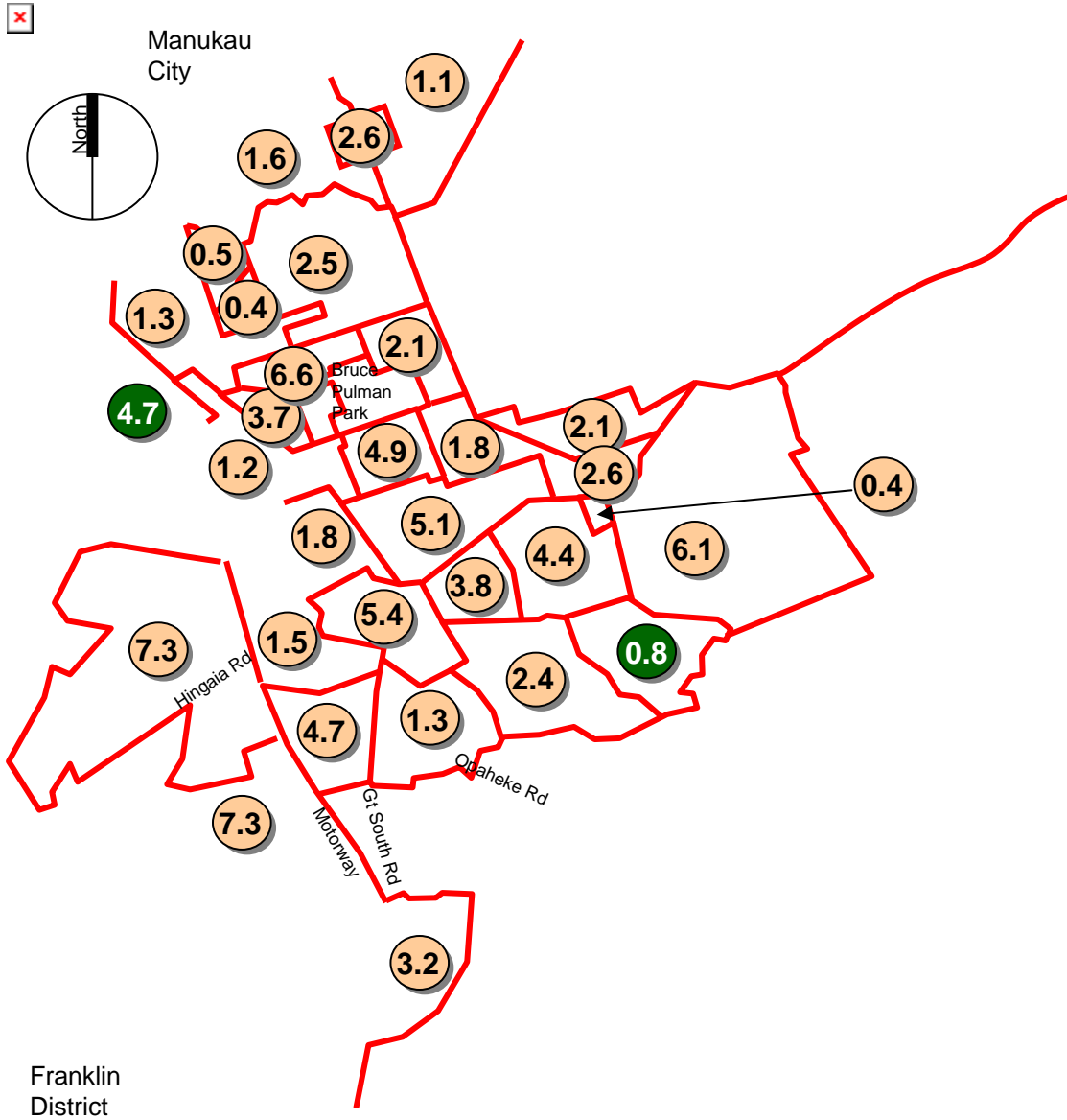


 Surplus of Neighbourhood Parks (in hectares)

 Deficit in Neighbourhood Parks (in hectares)

Please note that the rural area has been excluded from the local neighbourhood park requirements.

Neighbourhood Parks: 2046-2051 Level of Provision at 1.2ha per 1000 Population



 Surplus of Neighbourhood Parks (in hectares)

 Deficit in Neighbourhood Parks (in hectares)

Please note that the rural area has been excluded from the local neighbourhood park requirements.

6. CONCLUSION FROM ANALYSIS

The population growth estimates for the next 50 years predict a significant increase in population, which will create challenges for the provision of open space facilities. The relatively young population of Papakura indicates a more active community in terms of sports participation, while the large proportion of families with children indicates an increasing need for playgrounds and local parks.

The above population characteristics require the development of a unique hierarchy of open space and provision standards for Papakura, suiting specific needs of the local community.

The condition analysis shows that the majority of parks in Papakura are generally well maintained, while some parks need improvement in terms of the provision of facilities, visibility, surveillance, signage and walkways. Playground equipment also tends to be clustered in one area, as opposed to being evenly distributed.

Papakura has a number of significant natural and historical areas including the foreshore that need to be enhanced and protected. Areas not suitable for urban development, such as flood hazard areas (see page 14), could form part of the open space network.

Although some sports clubs experience a shortage of facilities, the overall provision of sports facilities is sufficient to provide for the current and short-term needs of the community. However, additional land for future facilities need to be earmarked to provide for medium to long-term needs.

The numerical analysis of future neighbourhood parks shows that, apart from Takanini West (Conifer Grove) and Red Hill, the urban areas experience a significant shortage in local neighbourhood parks. This is probably one of the main challenges facing the Council, especially in the light of the population growth estimates and demographics described above.

Part Two The Strategy

7. STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Guiding Principles below are the basis of the Open Space Strategy and provide a framework for the goals, objectives and strategies discussed further on in this document. They have been developed through consultation, research, trends and the physiographic analysis:

".... To honour and respect means to think of the land and the water and plant and animals who live here as having a right equal to our own to be here. We are not the supreme and all-knowing beings, living at the top of the pinnacle of evolution, but in fact we are members of the sacred hoop of life, along with the trees and rocks, the mountain lion and the eagles and fish and toad, that each fulfils its purpose. They each perform their given task in the sacred hoop, and we have one too" David. Wolf Song

Quality

The quality of open spaces is essential to ensure the optimum use of the facilities.

Diverse Age Groups

Open space facilities should be provided to people of all age groups, including children, the youth and seniors.

Diverse Cultures

Papakura has a community rich and diverse in culture. The open space system should reflect the demands of the different cultures with a variety of opportunities and experiences.

Diverse Needs

The diverse needs for active and passive recreation should be provided for. A full range of recreation facilities, parks and services should be available to the whole community. These facilities should also be accessible by disabled people.

Change over time

The open space system should be responsive to changing demands, flexible in design and capable of providing opportunities for multiple uses.

Distribution

The Council should strive for an accessible and equitable distribution of different types of open space facilities throughout the District

Marco Polo described a bridge, stone by stone.

“But which stone is supporting the bridge?” Kublai Khan asked.

“The bridge is not supported by one stone in particular but by the line of the arch which is formed by these stones,” Marco Polo answered.

Kublai Khan was silent and reflected on this matter. Finally he said, “Why do you talk about the stones, if it is only the arch that matters?”

Marco Polo replied, “There is no arch without stones”.

(Italo Calvino, Le Citta Invisibili)

Accessibility

Open spaces should be accessible to the whole community.

Linkages

An integrated open space system should be developed through linkages between different open space facilities as well as other community facilities and land uses.

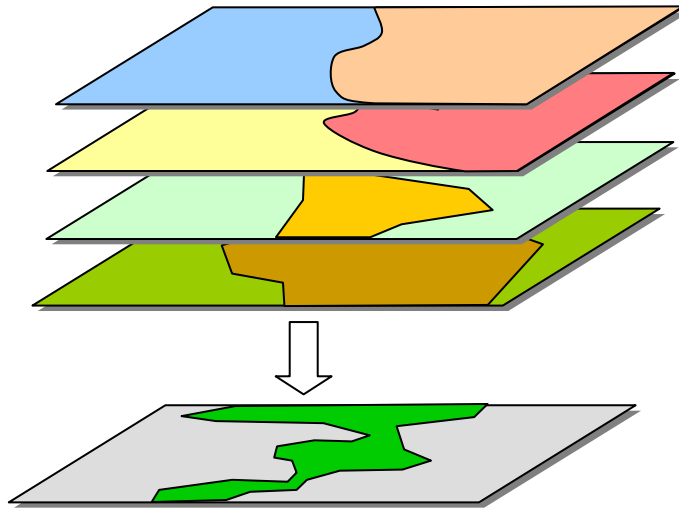
Safety and Security

Users of the open space facilities are entitled to feel safe at all time.

Sustainability

The open space system should provide a sustainable balance between the social needs of the community, environmental protection, cultural and economic value.

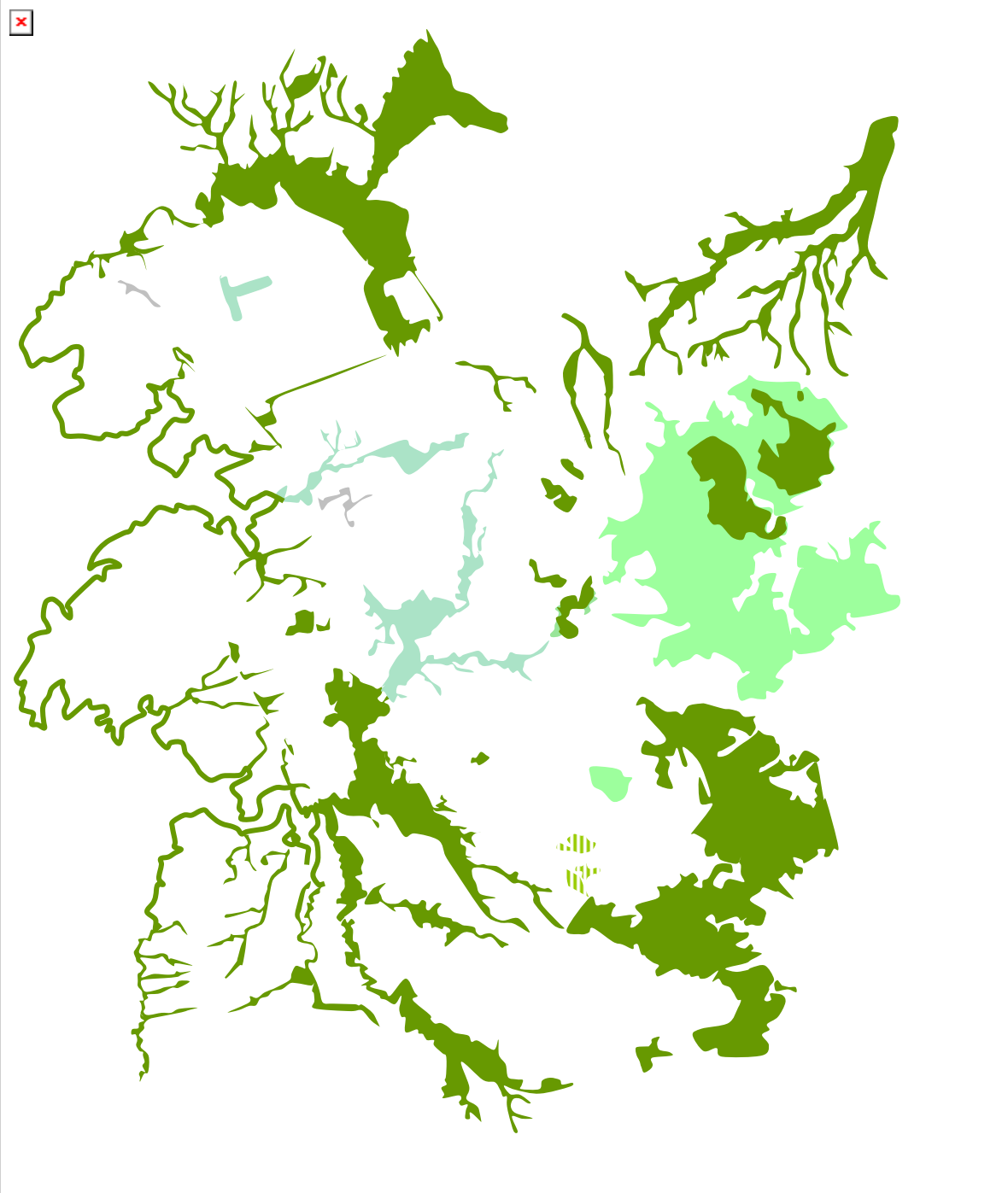
8. IDEALISED OPEN SPACE SPATIAL FRAMEWORK



The idealised spatial framework (Figure 8) is the sum total of the different layers produced during the analytical stage, and is the key outcome of the physiographic analysis. The following environmental factors are included in the spatial framework:

- Significant vegetation areas;
- Significant wildlife habitats;
- Historic and cultural heritage sites;
- Flood hazard areas;
- Hazardous soil conditions;

The spatial framework provides the basis for the identification of suitable land for retention as open spaces, when Council assesses whether to protect or dispose of open space for public or private use.



Papakura Open Space Strategy

Idealised Open Space Spatial Framework

-  Priority 1 Areas
-  Priority 2 Areas
-  Priority 3 Areas
-  Priority 4 Areas

9. LEVEL OF OPEN SPACE PROVISION

A primary benefit of an open space hierarchy and standards, is that they provide a consistent framework for identifying “areas of deficiency”. The hierarchy and provision standards proposed in this Section, are unique to Papakura and have been developed using different inputs, including the user needs analysis, age structure / other population characteristics, current provision of facilities and usage levels for Papakura and recognised standards, trends and existing requirements in other municipalities.

Goal

Provision for adequate and accessible open space for the whole community

Objectives

To provide equity in the geographic and demographic distribution of open space by adopting and maintaining an open space hierarchy.

To ensure an adequate and equitable distribution of open space by adopting open space provision standards.

... an open space hierarchy and standards provide a consistent framework for identifying areas of deficiency....

Recommendations / Strategies

1. The following hierarchy of open spaces, (defined overleaf) is proposed:
 - Conservation Areas
 - Scenic Reserves
 - Sports Facilities
 - Urban Parks and Gardens
 - Local Neighbourhood Parks
 - Civic Spaces
 - Other Functional Open Spaces

Conservation Areas

Conservation Areas are areas intended principally to conserve unique natural resources such as vegetation and wildlife habitat areas, and archaeologically significant areas. The majority of these areas would be situated in the rural area with limited public access. Few Conservation Areas would be acquired and managed as “reserves” and would mostly be in private ownership.

Scenic Reserves

Scenic Reserves also intend to conserve natural and scenic resources. They are different from Conservation Areas in that they would be smaller, provide public access and be acquired and managed as a legal reserve. Scenic Reserves would include vegetation areas, wildlife habitat areas and areas of historic and cultural significance, mostly in urban areas. Land providing access to water resources e.g. esplanade reserves, beaches, foreshores and stream banks are included as scenic reserves. Water spaces such as the harbour also form part of this category.

Sports Facilities

Sports Facilities are areas primarily used for organised sports and recreation. Buildings which provide for indoor sports activities, or which are ancillary to organised sports, would be included in this category.

Urban Parks and Gardens

Urban Parks and Gardens are significant parks which fulfill a District purpose and are used for events, festivals and informal relaxation. These parks are centrally located in the CBD or close by or within other commercial and mixed use areas. Urban Parks and Gardens could incorporate sites of historical importance as well as community facilities. Central Park is an example of a typical Urban Park and Garden.

Local Neighbourhood Parks

Local Neighbourhood Parks are smaller parks in local neighbourhoods within easy walking distance from residents, usually with a combination of passive and informal active use areas. These parks contain playground equipment for children. Community facilities could be provided on parts of the local neighbourhood parks.

Neighbourhood Commons is a sub-category of Local Neighbourhood Parks. These are smaller pocket parks largely for amenity purposes and to create a sense of space in medium to high density residential areas. These parks will typically have no designated specific use by people, other than for informal and passive use (seating, shelters etc.).

Civic Spaces

Civic Spaces consist of urban squares, market places and other paved or hard surface areas with a civic function. In many cases, these open spaces would form part of the road reserve. Civic Spaces help to define the image of a town and are gathering places of people.

Other Functional Open Spaces

Other Functional Open Spaces include buffer zones such as railway strips, stormwater detention areas and cemeteries. In most cases, stormwater detention areas could however form part of a sports facility or local neighbourhood park.

2. As a guide to ensure an adequate distribution of open space, the following provision standards are recommended:

Classification	Catchment (straight line distances, except where indicated otherwise)	Ha/1000 population	Size	Level
Conservation Areas	Variable	NA	Resource based	Sub-regional / District
Scenic Reserves	Variable	NA	Resource based	District / Local
Sports Complexes	1.2km – 3.2km	2	2ha+	Sub-regional / District
Urban Parks and Gardens	3.2km	NA	2000-5000m ²	District
Local Neighbourhood Reserves	400m walking distance (240m straight line distance)	*1.2 – 1.4	1500-3500m ²	Local
Civic Spaces	Variable, wherever feasible	NA	200-1500m ²	Local

Note

- *The justification and rationale for the above provision standards are discussed in detail in the Technical Report (Appendix 6). Also refer to the Technical Report for a preliminary review of the history and future of open space standards.*
- ** The level of local neighbourhood park provision will depend on the density of an area. For instance, neighbourhoods with large private gardens would require less public open space and play areas for children. The following cut-off points apply:*
 - o *Small lot suburban housing areas and medium to high density urban housing (450m² and smaller per unit) - 1.4ha/1000 population.*
 - o *Conventional suburban housing areas (450 m² per unit and larger) - 1.2ha/1000 population.*
- *It is recognised that other types of open space such as sports facilities and scenic reserves also have the capacity to provide for this function, and should be taken into account in the local neighbourhood park requirement calculations. (See Strategy 20). Neighbourhood commons should be provided where feasible in high density residential areas and on a level sufficient to enhance the amenity value of an area and to create a sense of space. Neighbourhood commons are not included in the proposed standard for local neighbourhood parks.*
- *Although no specific hierarchy is proposed for Community Facilities, they could be provided for on a case-by-case basis in Urban Parks and Gardens, Local Neighbourhood Parks and Sports Facilities. The provision of community facilities on open space land must however be taken into account in the calculation of open space supply.*
- *Significant land forms such as flood areas and natural habitats (see Figure 8) should be included in the calculations of open space requirement. For instance, esplanade reserves could be suitable for local neighbourhood reserves or flood areas for sports facilities.*
- *In some instances, Civic Spaces may form part of a road reserve.*

10. OPEN SPACE WITH CONSERVATION VALUE

The maintenance of indigenous biodiversity is an increasingly relevant issue for territorial local authorities and regional councils. The RMA Amendment Bill currently before parliament, is likely to result in amendments to the Act that make indigenous biodiversity a responsibility of local and regional government. Papakura has a number of significant natural areas including wildlife and vegetation habitats, historic and cultural heritage sites, and the coastal edge that require protection. This Section provides goals, objectives and strategies for these areas (typically Conservation Areas and Scenic Reserves under the hierarchy).

Goal

Protection and enhancement of areas with conservation value.

Objectives

To protect and preserve areas with significant wildlife and vegetation habitat.

To protect areas with cultural and historical value

Recommendations / Strategies

3. Allocate identified significant wildlife and vegetation habitats (refer to page 11 of the Strategy and the Ecological Assessment Appendix) as conservation areas, and ensure the ongoing ecological health and functioning of these areas through;
 - protection and maintenance rules in the District Plan, which include a dual perspective of natural values, recognising indigenous biodiversity as an amenity for people and measures necessary for maintaining intrinsic values;

- working with key stakeholders such as iwi, Department of Conservation and the Forest and Bird Society to identify significant natural areas in the District Plan, by using appropriate criteria such as diversity, rarity, quality, size, shape, contribution to patterns and habitat value for other species;
 - esplanade reserve provisions under the RMA for acquiring land along coastal margins and waterways;
 - working in partnership with other bodies such as the ARC and Department of Conservation to acquire and preserve such areas;
 - entering into joint ventures to acquire such areas; and
 - purchasing of land.
4. Allocate identified significant historic and archaeologically significant sites (refer to page 15 of the Strategy and the Cultural Heritage Appendix) as conservation areas, with protection from future development (See recommendation 3).
 5. Where conservation areas are in private ownership, liaise with landowners regarding access to the public where appropriate. Develop a package of incentives to encourage landowners to protect and restore conservation areas and to covenant them through mechanisms, such as Queen Elizabeth II National Trust. The type of access will be defined during the land access agreement process.
 6. Obtain land that is not yet designated as esplanade reserves along the foreshore through acquisition, or the subdivision process, to establish a continuous esplanade network.
 7. Indigenous riparian vegetation needs to be a minimum of 10m wide to prevent the area degenerating into weeds. Maintain and promote riparian vegetation utilising native plants along streams and wetlands in accordance with regional plans such as the Auckland Regional Plan: Air Land and Water.
 8. Enhance and maintain indigenous and exotic vegetation along streams where appropriate.

9. Maintain and promote coastal edge vegetation along all coasts (the Mangrove Management Plan being prepared is an example of such an action).
10. Restore, enhance and maintain the recreational, social and amenity value of the harbour area by protecting the reserves and publicly owned land, along the inlet and enhancing the water quality of the coastal environment.
11. Prepare a coastal management plan for the coastal environment, addressing key water spaces and the harbour area. The coastal management plan should be in line with the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 1994.

11. OPEN SPACE FOR SPORTS FACILITIES

By analysing the demand for future sports facilities, the District's future needs have been identified. From the statement of needs, appropriate strategies, distribution and site-specific recommendations have been developed. This Section provides goals, objectives and strategies for Sports Facilities.

Goal

Provision of adequate and accessible sports and recreation facilities.

Objectives

To maintain and enhance existing sports facilities that offer multiple use opportunities for sports clubs.

To develop new sports facilities in areas that maximise accessibility and preserve ecology.

To provide for emerging and new sports facilities in the open space system.

Recommendations / Strategies

12. Ensure the sufficient provision of sports facilities by using the proposed standards in Recommendation 2. The table below indicates the additional sports facilities required at different timeframes:

10 Years	20 years	50 Years
3.2ha	28.8ha	77ha

Cumulative figures

13. Acquire approximately 40ha land south of Papakura within close proximity to the Drury Sports Fields for the purpose of a multi-function sports facility and to address existing sporting and recreational needs. A range of multi-use sports and recreation activities complementing the facilities at Bruce Pulman Park (and not provided for elsewhere) should be accommodated, including soccer, rugby and the pony club.
14. Acquire approximately 10ha of land in Hingaia for the purpose of a multi-function sports facility and to address the existing sporting and recreational needs.
15. Extend McLennan Park to the north and east by acquiring a strip of land from the Army Camp, and by integrating the park with the proposed flood detention area.
16. Explore opportunities to make sports facilities of schools accessible to the community.
17. Optimise the use of sports facilities by ensuring that land within these facilities are developed to the optimum and integrated with passive open space. Encourage multi-use or sharing of club houses between different sports codes.
18. Progressively provide sufficient clubrooms and other facilities such as toilet facilities at sports complexes.

12. OPEN SPACE FOR INFORMAL USE

The assessment of local neighbourhood reserves shows a significant shortage in most neighbourhoods. This Section provides strategies and recommendations to ensure adequate land is acquired to address the existing deficiencies, and to serve future populations. This Section deals with Open Space defined as Local Neighbourhood Parks, Urban Parks and Gardens and Neighbourhood Commons.

Goal

Provision of adequate and accessible open spaces for informal use.

Objectives

To provide additional local neighbourhood parks in areas with inadequate levels of provision.

To provide adequate neighbourhood commons in medium density residential areas.

Recommendations / Strategies

19. As a priority, focus on areas deficient in local neighbourhood parks by acquiring sufficient land for this purpose. The proposed standards in Recommendation 2 ensure the sufficient provision of local neighbourhood parks. See Figure 8 for the additional local neighbourhood reserves required in Planning Area Units in terms of the proposed standards.
20. Locate new local neighbourhood parks at least 800m walking distance (approximately 480m straight line distance) from parks of similar type and size to ensure the equitable distribution of these type parks.
21. The Council should not consider the purchase of land for local neighbourhood parks in areas with a surplus of parks. (See figure 8).

Papakura Open Space Strategy

22. In areas where land is not available for the purpose of local neighbourhood parks, explore the potential of utilising the following areas for this purpose;
 - school sites which are or could be accessible to the public including;
 - Rosehill Intermediate School;
 - Rosehill College;
 - Park Estate School;
 - Cosgrove Primary;
 - Papakura South School.
 - areas within sports facilities which are accessible to the public;
 - community facilities such as church sites accessible to the public.
 - stormwater detention areas.
23. Upgrade Central Park as an “Urban Park and Garden” by providing opportunities for community events, festivals and informal recreation. As part of this exercise and through appropriate consultation, explore the opportunity for the disposal of under-utilised areas of the eastern portion of Central Park, which does not form part of the functional open space and contributes little to the open space network. The disposal of any open space should be in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002.
24. Explore the potential and feasibility of a “community garden” at Te Koiwi reserve in partnership with the local iwi.
25. Improve utilisation of Smiths Avenue Reserve as a local neighbourhood park by providing a skateboard park and outdoor basketball hoops.
26. Provide areas for passive use at the proposed sports facilities described in Recommendations 13, 14 and 15.
27. Provide for neighbourhood commons in medium and high-density residential areas to enhance the appearance and character of the urban environment.
28. Ensure that local neighbourhood parks and neighbourhood commons are an integral part of the subdivision of new development areas.

13. OPEN SPACE LINKAGES

The development of an integrated walkway and cycleway system is recommended as a top priority. This Section also provides strategies to ensure sufficient linkages between the different conservation areas.

Goal

Development and maintenance of an integrated open space network

Objectives

To enhance the role of walkways, cycleways and bridle tracks as links between different open spaces and community facilities.

To enhance the role of esplanade reserves, waterways and habitat corridors as links between different conservation areas, the open space system and surrounding districts.

To link different open spaces together in such a way as to provide enjoyable and varied routes for pedestrians and, where appropriate, cyclists.

Recommendations / Strategies

29. Progressively improve the walkway system in urban areas by focusing on the following:
 - filling the gaps in the existing network;
 - connecting open space with neighbourhoods;
 - extending the walkway system to new areas.

30. Provide a continuous rural walkway and cycleway (and bridle tracks where appropriate) along the esplanade reserve, linking different open spaces in Papakura, Manukau City and Franklin District. The following key links should be established through the esplanade walkways;
 - Hingaia and Drury;
 - Hingaia and Papakura;
 - Papakura and Manukau City.
31. Develop a range of “green corridors” for multi-purpose use, providing continuous links between the conservation areas and other open spaces in the urban area. The main purpose of these corridors would be for wildlife migration, with a secondary purpose of tracking, cycling and bridle ways. Where possible, these corridors should follow stream valleys. The following principles apply to the provision of natural linkages:
 - Any linkages selected to provide a continuous network of open space should be first based on existing vegetated corridors;
 - The possibility of integrating streambank management, flood management and the provision of wildlife corridors along streams should be considered;
 - Linkages should be wide enough to provide a variety of forest conditions;
 - Linkages should be wide enough to provide both undisturbed habitat and formed accessways;
 - A hierarchy of walkways should be established e.g. for rural and urban areas.
32. Where possible, provide walkways and cycleways in the “green corridors” and along transport routes, such as the Southern Motorway and railway developments.
33. Prohibit off-leash dogs within conservation areas and “green corridors”
34. Walkways within urban areas should link to bus stops and train stations.

35. Provide a link between McLennan Park, Papakura Normal Primary and Bruce Pulman Park in the form of a wide walkway and cycleway. This link could form part of a possible future subdivision of the land north of McLennan Park.
36. Provide bridle tracks in the following locations;
 - Along inland flood areas in Hingaia where feasible;
 - Keri Hill – a circular route along Kaipara and Ohiwa Roads;
 - Takanini – Along the Papakura Stream;
 - Along Green corridors in the Hunua Gorge;
 - Along the Papakura Stream.
37. Provide a rural walkway (see definition in Section 23) along the Papakura Stream as a key link to the open space network of Manukau City.
38. Provide a route linking the following cultural heritage and historic sites with the urban areas;
 - Puke-o-Kiwiriki Pa;
 - Children's Forest;
 - Te Aparangi kainga at Red Hill;
 - Alfriston Historic sites.
39. Provide a link in the form of a rural walkway (see definition in Section 23) and cycleway along Ponga Road, with lookout points at suitable locations and associated parking areas.

14. QUALITY OPEN SPACES

The quality of parks and reserves should inspire people to value and use them. This Section provides strategies to ensure a high quality open space system. Safety and security issues are also addressed in this Section.

Goal

Provision of high quality, secure open space accessible to the whole community

Objectives

To ensure that open spaces are of high quality, if necessary at the expense of quantity.

To ensure that open space enhance the amenity value of the built and natural environment.

To enhance personal safety and security in parks.

To provide safe access to parks for people with disabilities.

To ensure best practice maintenance standards apply to all parks and reserves.

To provide appropriate facilities at open space.

To improve open space attractiveness and enhance community ownership.

Recommendations / Strategies

40. Maintain and improve local neighbourhood parks by providing sufficient park infrastructure. Where possible, provide park infrastructure such as playground equipment and seating within stormwater detention areas. Explore the opportunity to work in partnership with the Counties Manukau Sports Foundation regarding the provision of playground equipment.

41. Ensure an equitable distribution of different types of playground equipment throughout the urban area. Avoid clustering the same type of facilities in one neighbourhood.
42. The following design guidelines should apply in the development of parks;
 - Locate playground equipment in areas visible from the street;
 - Vegetate open space in a manner to provide clear sight lines in and out of parks;
 - Provide adequate lighting in open space if evening use is to be encouraged;
 - Provide adequate seating facilities, especially in informal open spaces;
 - Consider the needs of disabled users in the design of open space facilities;
 - Provide “vandal-proof” toilet facilities at major parks and sports complexes;
 - Provide adequate hard surface in parks for winter use;
 - Provide clear signage at the entrances of parks; and
 - Parks should be edged by at least one major road to enhance surveillance.

15. OPEN SPACE AWARENESS

Papakura is fortunate to have an extensive foreshore, many vegetation and wildlife habitats, several waterways and good sports facilities. Raising awareness of Papakura's open space system, and the significant natural areas in the District is essential. This Section describes methods of increasing the community's awareness.

Goal

Awareness of Papakura's open space network.

Objectives

To improve the legibility of the open space system through signage.

To promote the open space system to the local community.

To promote and market the open space system to tourists.

Recommendations / Strategies

43. Improve and promote awareness of the significant natural features and historic sites through the development of a communications strategy, publications and use of the media. The strategy could include the distribution of brochures to tourists indicating tracks and information of the wildlife and vegetation habitats.
44. Provide interpretative signs along walkways and tracks, as well as in parks describing park resources, both natural and cultural.
45. Promote educational programmes at schools about conservation areas.
46. Support community groups such as the Royal Forest and Bird Society.

16. OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION GUIDELINES

The assessment of future open space needs indicates that Council will have to acquire additional land to ensure sufficient provision of both passive and active open space. The guidelines set out in this Section should be used for future land assessment and acquisition.

Goal

Open space acquisition guidelines that will enhance the quality and provision of open space.

Objectives

To ensure that any acquisition of open space is consistent with the Open Space Guiding Principles.

Recommendations / Strategies

47. When considering the acquisition of land for the purpose of local neighbourhood parks, neighbourhood commons and urban parks and gardens, the following guidelines should be considered:
 - The acquisition of the site will advance the goals, objectives and guiding principles of the Open Space Strategy;
 - The site should not be acquired in particular locations which are experiencing a surplus in open space provision (refer to Figures 9 to 11);

- Sites with significant biodiversity and historical values should have priority. (The idealised spatial framework shall be used as a basis to determine whether a particular site is significant from an ecological point of view);
 - “Backyard” locations should be avoided wherever possible;
 - The site should be edged by at least one major road. Road frontage should be maximised to enhance access and safety;
 - The site should be a minimum of 800m walking distance from an open space of similar size and purpose to ensure equitable distribution; and
 - The size of the site should conform to the minimum size standards.
48. When considering the acquisition of land for the purpose of sports facilities, the following guidelines should be considered:
- The acquisition of the site will advance the goals, objectives and guiding principles of the Open Space Strategy;
 - The site need not be acquired in particular locations which are experiencing a surplus in sports facilities;
 - The site shall be accessible from a major arterial or principal road;
 - The size of the site shall conform with the minimum size standards in Recommendation 2;
 - The site shall be able to accommodate a range of sports facilities as well as passive open space. Flexibility is the key;
 - Sites adjacent to schools will have priority; and
 - Sites located on land with natural constraints not suitable for any other development such as flood hazard areas will have priority.

49. When considering the acquisition of land for the purpose of scenic reserves, the following guidelines should be considered:
 - The acquisition of the site will advance the goals, objectives and guiding principles of the Open Space Strategy;
 - The site should be accessible to the public;
 - The sites should have significant biodiversity and historical value. (The idealised spatial framework shall be used as a basis to determine whether a particular site is significant from an ecological point of view);
 - Is there a possibility to have land access agreements with private land owners; and
 - Land that enhances and maintains the amenity values found in the coastal environment should have priority.

50. Explore opportunities to obtain public access in the conservation areas such as;
 - Land access agreements;
 - Easements;
 - Covenants; and
 - Leases.

17. OPEN SPACE DISPOSAL GUIDELINES

The Open Space Strategy proposes the disposal of under-utilised areas of Central Park, through a consultation process. Given the shortage of local neighbourhood parks in Papakura, the Strategy does not propose the disposal of any other significant open spaces at this point in time. However, some undeveloped areas may prove to be little use as open space in future. This Section describes guidelines for the disposal of these sites.

Goal

Provision of open space disposal guidelines that will enhance the quality and provision of open space.

Objectives

To ensure that any disposal of open space achieves the open space Guiding Principles.

Recommendations / Strategies

51. When considering the disposal of open space, the following guidelines should be considered:
 - Sites shall not be disposed of when:
 - the site has historical or cultural heritage value;
 - the site has significant bio-diversity value;
 - there is social, economic or environmental impact on adjacent land if the land is lost as open space;
 - there is a reduction of recreational opportunities in the District if the land is lost as open space.

- Sites with one or more the following attributes could be disposed of:
 - The disposal of the site will advance the goals, objectives and guiding principles of the Open Space Strategy;
 - A surplus of the specific type of open space is experienced in the area;
 - The size of the open space is less than the minimum size specified in the set standards;
 - The size and shape of the open space is insufficient to promote the intended use of it; and
 - Parts of the site, which do not form part of the functional open space.
- 52. The funds raised shall be used to acquire new open space or improve the existing open space network.
- 53. Consider leasing if this will provide a benefit to Council greater than alternative options.

18. OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT

The management, planning and development of open space are key responsibilities of Council. This Section describes the key management responsibilities of Council and actions to ensure the protection of the open space network.

Goal

Effective management of the open space network

Objectives

To ensure that the open space network is identified, protected, managed and enhanced through a combination of regulatory and non-regulatory methods.

Recommendations / Strategies

54. The Papakura District Council shall be responsible for the following core services;
 - the provision of open space to serve the whole community;
 - the maintenance of Council owned and controlled open space and associate buildings; and
 - the provision of information regarding the open space system.
55. Provide for the proposed hierarchy and standards in the District Plan.
56. Incorporate policies, objectives and rules in the District Plan to protect and enhance the open space system.
57. Prepare reserve management plans under the Reserves Act for all major open spaces.
58. Prepare a coastal management plan for the esplanade reserves.

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59. Explore opportunities to work in partnership with the Auckland Regional Council, the Department of Conservation, and the Forest and Bird Society to ensure the protection of conservation areas.
60. Explore opportunities to work in partnership with local iwi regarding the co-management of parks, such as a community garden at Te Koiwi Reserve.
61. Explore opportunities to work in partnership with the Counties Manukau Sports Foundation in preparing management plans for local neighbourhood reserves.
62. Monitor the provision and quality of the open space network on a regular basis through:
 - Condition analysis of existing facilities;
 - User needs analysis by way of consultation;
 - Assessment of the level of provision in accordance with the set standards.
63. Progressively adopt ecologically sustainable management practices including minimum energy and water use, and low maintenance plantings.
64. Use this Strategy as the basis for resource allocation in future programmes and budgets. Assess implementation annually and review the Strategy every 5 years.
65. Actively pursue funding from external sources to help fund the recommendations and actions identified in this Strategy such as:
 - Funding from Infrastructure Auckland for stormwater detention ponds, which form part of the open space system;
 - Government Funds such as the Nature Heritage Fund and QE II National Fund;
 - Trusts such as the NZ Historic Places Trust and ASB Trusts;
 - Sponsorships;
 - Gifts;
 - User Charges such as hiring of community halls; and
 - Lottery Grants.

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66. Establish a management strategy for integrating the management of private clubs.
67. Achieve the intentions and recommendations of the Open Space Strategy by including land acquisition and improvement requirements in the Papakura Development Contributions Model.
68. Participate in the implementation of the Draft Regional Open Space Strategy (2003) in partnership with the Auckland Regional Council, other regional Territorial Authorities and the Department of Conservation.
69. Adopt a "*standards based and real costs approach*" in determining the level of financial contributions for open space in the future.

19. OPEN SPACE PLAN











The Open Space Plan (see Figure 9) is a summary of the recommendations and strategies which can be expressed graphically including;

- Green corridors;
- Key linkages;
- Site specific recommendations such as new areas for sports activities;
- Conservation areas;
- Required provision of local neighbourhood parks.

Papakura Open Space Strategy

Open Space Plan



-  Esplanade Reserves with continuous walkway
-  Conservation Areas
-  Green Corridors (multi-purpose corridors including walking, cycling and bridle trails)
-  Planning Area Unit Boundary (refer to Fig 2)
-  Key future links in the form of walkways and cycleways
-  Focus areas for additional sports facilities
-  Primary Bridle Trails
-  Surplus of Local Neighbourhood Parks (in hectares) – 50 year timeframe
-  Required Local Neighbourhood Parks at a standard of 1.2ha/1000 population (in hectares) – 50 year timeframe
-  Required Local Neighbourhood Parks at a standard of 1.4ha/1000 population (in hectares) – 50 year timeframe

20. FUNDING

Funding Options

Funding will be required to protect current open space and provide adequate open space in future.

The Resource Management Act 1991 allows Local Councils to collect financial contributions on subdivision and development to provide for open space to meet the demand of new growth. Financial contributions may be used to obtain additional open space and to develop parks and reserves, but not for the maintenance of open space.

Revenue received from rates are used to maintain existing open space and is generally not used to obtain land for additional open space.

These two sources account for the majority of funding available for the provision and maintenance of open space.

There are however other sources of funding available to Regional and Local Councils for this purpose including:

- Government Funds such as the Nature Heritage Fund and QE II National Fund;
- Trusts such as the NZ Historic Places Trust and ASB Trusts;
- Sponsorships;
- Gifts;
- User Charges e.g. the hiring of community halls and entrance fees at the aquatic centre; and
- Lottery Grants.

Current Development Agreements

As mentioned in Part One of the Strategy, as part of the agreement between Council and the developer of Takanini and Hingaia, reserves will comprise 5% of the net land area, while 1% of the land value will be used to develop the reserves.

Apart from this contribution, reserve contributions to community facilities are made by developers and include:

- Landmarks in the town centre
- Pedestrian and cycle amenity
- Acquisition of Army Base Sports Base
- Papakura Stream Walkway
- Bruce Pulman Park Development
- Esplanade walkways
- Hingaia sports field land purchase
- McLennan Park extension
- Bratlie Block land acquisition
- Hingaia sportsfield construction

Other benefits to the district in the provision of reserves through the Development Agreement process include:

- the provision of reserves in a comprehensive manner where the reserves are integrated with the development and the subdivision of the land;
- associating reserves within stormwater detention areas;
- Council is not required to fund the purchase of reserves in advance of development;
- Council retains control of the standard of reserves.

Financial Contributions Model

The Papakura Development Contributions Model, or the existing District Plan Financial Contributions should reflect the recommendations of the Open Space Strategy. This Section provides general indicators for passive and active open spaces to establish a link between the Open Space Strategy and Contributions Model.

Sports Facilities

Land acquisitions and improvement requirements for sports facilities should be costed and included directly into the Development Contributions Model as cost items. The table below provide information on the location, scale and nature of the proposed sports facilities.

Sports Facility	Size	Nature
McLennan Park Extension	15ha	Playing fields with some passive open space. Playground equipment would be provided in the areas used for passive open space and be incorporated with the stormwater detention ponds. Landscaping would be required.
Drury Sports Facilities	40ha	A range of multi-use sports and recreation activities which complement the facilities at Bruce Pulman Park and are not provided for elsewhere e.g. soccer, rugby and the pony club. Some passive open space with landscaping and playground equipment as well as parking.
Hingaia Sports Facilities	10ha	Playing fields and associated club houses and changing rooms. Some passive open space with landscaping and playground equipment and parking.

Local Neighbourhood Reserves

The Open Space Strategy provides the requirements for additional local neighbourhood reserves on an area-by-area basis (PAUs) across the District. The table below provides general indicators for each PAU.

The Land Area Requirements are provided on the basis of:

High = No land yet provided or significant shortfalls

Medium = Minor land shortfalls

Low = PAU meets the standards of 1.4ha/1000 population

Similarly, the Improvements Required are provided on the basis of:

High = Full facilities required

Medium = The majority of facilities required

Low = Some new facilities required

No	Plan Area Unit (refer to Fig 2)	Type of Development	Land Area Requirement	Improvements Required
1	Takanini East 1a	Greenfield	High	High
2	Takanini East 1b	Greenfield	High	High
3	Takanini East 2a	Greenfield	High	High
4	Takanini East 2b	Greenfield	High	High
5	Takanini East 2c	Greenfield	High	High
6	Takanini East 3	Greenfield	High	High
7	Takanini East 4	Greenfield	High	High

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No	Plan Area Unit (refer to Fig 2)	Type of Development	Land Area Requirement	Improvements Required
8	Takanini East 5	Greenfield	High	High
9	Takanini East 6a	Greenfield	High	High
10	Takanini East 6b	Greenfield	High	High
11	Takanini East 7	Greenfield	High	High
12	Takanini East 8	Greenfield	High	High
13	Takanini East 9	Greenfield	High	High
14	Takanini East 10	Greenfield	High	High
15	Ardmore	Greenfield	High	High
16	Takanini Central 1	Infill in existing urban area	Low	Medium
17	Takanini Central 2	Infill in existing urban area	Medium	Medium
18	Takanini West	Fully developed urban area	Low	Low
19	Keri Hill	Greenfield	High	High
20	Papakura North	Infill in existing urban area	Medium	Medium
21	Papakura South	Infill in existing urban area	Medium	Medium
22	Opaheke	Infill in existing urban area	High	Medium

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No	Plan Area Unit (refer to Fig 2)	Type of Development	Land Area Requirement	Improvements Required
23	Rosehill	Infill in existing urban area	High	High
24	Pahurehure	Infill in existing urban area	Medium	Medium
25	Papakura East	Infill in existing urban area	High	Medium
26	Massey Park	Infill in existing urban area	High	High
27	North East Papakura	Infill in existing urban area	High	Medium
28	Red Hill	Infill in existing urban area	Low	Low
29	Drury	Infill in existing urban area	Medium	Medium
30	Papakura Central	Infill in existing urban area	High	Medium
31	Hingaia Stage 1	Greenfield	High	High
32	Hingaia Future Stages	Greenfield	High	High

Conservation Areas

The Open Space Strategy identifies a number of ways to preserve conservation areas including the following;

- lobbying other bodies such as the ARC and DoC to acquire land;
- Government funds such as QE II Fund;
- entering into joint ventures to acquire land; and
- purchasing such areas.

The estimated expenditures of the above should be entered directly into the Development Contributions Model for recovery from development contributions, or for recovery from other sources of funding.

Determining the Level of Financial Contributions

A sensitivity analysis has been undertaken to determine the effect of the provision standards on the financial contributions by developers. Although the standards have some effect, it was found that the value of the land is the key variable that has the most significant effect on the level of contributions.

A "*standards based and real costs approach*" is proposed for determining the level of financial contributions for open space in future, as opposed to the 6% arbitrary approach. This approach would involve the following:

- calculate the needs based on the standards;
- calculate the cost of meeting these;
- remove the Improved Level of Service (ILOS) costs for possible supply backlogs;
- calculate the cost attributable to growth;
- divide it by the number of new household units;
- arrive at a \$ contribution.

A "*standards based and real costs approach*" would ensure that a sufficient and consistent level of open space is provided, irrespective of the value of land and other variables.

21. DISTRICT PLAN POLICIES TO CONSIDER

The following objectives and policies, based on the goals and principles of the Strategy, are proposed for consideration for possible inclusion in the District Plan. Specific District Plan rules will be developed during the preparation of the variation.

Level of Open Space Provision

Objective

To provide for adequate and equitable provision of open space throughout the District.

Policies

By providing equity in the geographic and demographic distribution of open space, by adopting and maintaining an open space hierarchy in accordance with the Open Space Strategy.

By ensuring an adequate and equitable distribution of open space by adopting open space provision standards in accordance with the Open Space Strategy.

Open Space with Conservation Value: Vegetation and Wildlife

Objective

To maintain and enhance the District's indigenous vegetation and wildlife habitats

Policies

By maintaining and enhancing significant remnant vegetation and fauna habitat.

By maintaining and enhancing significant wildlife habitats.

By controlling activities that have significant impacts on vegetation and wildlife habitats.

By restoring connections between natural areas.

Open Space with Conservation Value: Cultural Heritage

Objective

To retain and enhance cultural heritage items as part of the open space network.

Policies

By ensuring that the protection and management of heritage items reflect their significance and overall heritage values.

By encouraging the inclusion of natural heritage items in the open space network.

Open Space with Conservation Value: Coastal Environment, Streams and Gullies

Objective

To protect the natural character, bank stability and water quality of the coastal environment, rivers and streams and enhance their significant natural features.

Policies

By maintaining and promoting riparian vegetation utilising native plants along all streams.

By maintaining and promoting coastal edge vegetation along all coasts, to enhance the quality of the coast, principally by stabilising the coastal edge and by protecting the marine natural values.

By ensuring that any access and recreational activities along the coastal edge and streams, is undertaken in a manner that is consistent with ecological values.

Open Space for Organised Sports Facilities

Objective

To provide adequate and accessible sports and recreation facilities to meet the active recreational needs of the community.

Policies

By maintaining and enhancing existing sports facilities that offer multiple use opportunities for sports clubs.

By developing new sports facilities in areas that maximise accessibility and preserve ecology in accordance with the Open Space Strategy.

By providing for emerging and new sports facilities in the open space system.

By acquiring sufficient land to meet the active recreational needs of the community, in accordance with the acquisition guidelines set out in the Open Space Strategy.

Open Space for Informal Use

Objective

To provide adequate and accessible open spaces for informal use to meet the passive recreational and amenity needs of the community.

Policies

By providing additional local neighbourhood reserves in areas with inadequate levels of provision in accordance with the Open Space Strategy.

By providing adequate neighbourhood commons in medium and medium density residential areas in accordance with the Open Space Strategy.

By acquiring sufficient land to meet the passive recreational needs of the community, in accordance with the acquisition guidelines set out in the Open Space Strategy.

Open Space Linkages

Objective

To develop and maintain an integrated open space network, which links communities with the open space network.

Policies

By enhancing the role of walkways, cycleways and bridle tracks as links between different open spaces and community facilities.

By enhancing the role of esplanade reserves, waterways and habitat corridors as links between different conservation areas, the open space system and surrounding districts.

By linking different open spaces together to provide enjoyable and varied routes for pedestrians and, where appropriate, cyclists.

Quality Open Space

Objective

To provide high quality and secure open space accessible to the whole community

Policies

By ensuring that open spaces are of high quality, if necessary at the expense of quantity.

By enhancing the amenity value of the built and natural environment through open space.

By enhancing the safety and security in parks.

By providing safe access to parks for people with disabilities.

By applying best practice maintenance standards to all parks and reserves.

By providing appropriate facilities in parks and reserves.

By improving open space attractiveness and enhancing community ownership.

Acquisition of Open space

Objective

To ensure that the acquisition of land for the purpose of open space will enhance the overall level of provision and quality of the open space network.

Policies

By ensuring that the process of acquiring land for open space purposes follows the acquisition guidelines for different types of open space in accordance with the Open Space Strategy.

22. DEVELOPING AN ACTION PROGRAMME

The table below set out the recommended strategies by priority and timing. The responsibility for implementation rests with the relevant manager in Council.

Funding priorities will be determined through the Annual Plan process.

GOAL	STRATEGY / TASK	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY	TIMING
Provision for adequate and accessible open space for the whole community.	1. Provide a hierarchy in accordance with the Open Space Strategy.		High	Short
	2. Provide standards for the level of open space provision in accordance with the Open Space Strategy.		High	Short
Protection and enhancement of areas with conservation value	3. Earmark the identified significant wildlife and vegetation sites as conservation areas and protect them from future development through identification or designation.		High	Short
	4. Earmark the identified significant historic and archaeologically significant sites as conservation areas and protect them from future development through identification and designation.		High	Medium
	5. Where conservation areas are in private ownership, liaise with landowners regarding access to the public where appropriate. Develop a package of incentives to encourage landowners to protect and restore conservation areas and to covenant them through mechanisms, such as Queen Elizabeth II National Trust. The type of access will be defined during the land access agreement process.		Medium	Medium
	6. Acquire land along the foreshore that is not yet zoned as esplanade reserves to establish a continued esplanade network.		High	Short
	7. Maintain or promote riparian vegetation along streams in accordance with Regional Plans.		Medium	Ongoing
	8. Enhance and maintain indigenous and exotic vegetation where appropriate.		Medium	Ongoing

GOAL	STRATEGY / TASK	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY	TIMING
Protection and enhancement of areas with conservation value <i>Continued</i>	9. Maintain and promote coastal edge vegetation along all coasts.		Medium	Ongoing
	10. Restore, enhance and maintain the recreational, social and amenity value of the Pahurehure Inlet by protecting the reserves and publicly owned land along the inlet and enhancing the water quality of the coastal environment.		Medium	Ongoing
	11. Prepare a coastal management plan for the coastal environment addressing key water spaces such as the harbour area. The coastal management plan should be in line with the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 1994.		High	Short

GOAL	STRATEGY / TASK	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY	TIMING
Provision of adequate and accessible sports and recreation facilities.	12. Ensure the sufficient provision of sports facilities by using the proposed standards proposed in Strategy 2.		Medium	Ongoing
	13. Acquire approximately 40ha land south of Papakura within close proximity to the Drury Sports Fields for the purpose of a multi-function sports facility and to address the existing sporting and recreational needs.		High	Short
	14. Acquire approximately 10ha of land in Hingaia for the purpose of a multi-function sports facility to address the existing sporting and recreational needs.		Medium	Medium
	15. Extend McLennan Park to the north and east by acquiring a strip of land from the Army Camp and by incorporating it into the proposed flood detention area.		High	Short
	16. Explore opportunities to make sports facilities of schools accessible to the community.		Medium	Short
	17. Optimise the use of sports complexes.		Medium	Ongoing
	18. Progressively provide for sufficient clubrooms and other facilities such as toilet facilities at sports complexes.		Medium	Medium

GOAL	STRATEGY / TASK	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY	TIMING
Provision of adequate and accessible open spaces for informal use.	19. As a priority, focus on areas deficient of local neighbourhood parks by acquiring sufficient land for this purpose. The proposed standards in Recommendation 2 should be adopted to ensure the sufficient provision of local neighbourhood parks.		High	Ongoing
	20. Locate new local neighbourhood parks at least 800m from parks of similar type and size to ensure the equitable distribution of these type parks.		Medium	Ongoing
	21. The Council should not consider the purchase of land for local neighbourhood parks in areas with a surplus of parks. (See figures 9 to 11).		Medium	Ongoing
	22. In areas where land is not available for the purpose of local neighbourhood parks, explore the potential of utilising accessible school sites, accessible sports facilities and other accessible community services such as church sites.		Medium	Short
	23. Upgrade Central Park as an "Urban Park and Garden" by providing opportunities for community events, festivals and informal recreation and explore the opportunity to dispose of under-utilised areas of the eastern portion through public consultation.		Medium	Short
	24. Explore the potential and feasibility of a "community garden" at Te Koiwi reserve in partnership with the local iwi.		Low	Medium
	25. Improve utilisation of Smiths Street Reserve as a local neighbourhood park by providing a skateboard park and outdoor basketball hoops.		High	Short
	26. Provide areas for passive use at the proposed sports facilities at Hingaia and Drury.		Low	Long
	27. Provide for neighbourhood commons in medium and high-density residential areas to enhance the appearance and character of the urban environment.		Medium	Ongoing
	28. Ensure that local neighbourhood parks and neighbourhood commons are an integral part of the subdivision of new development areas.		High	Ongoing

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GOAL	STRATEGY / TASK	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY	TIMING
Development and maintenance of an integrated open space network	29. Progressively improve the walkway system in urban areas.		High	Ongoing
	30. Provide a continuous walkway and cycleway along the esplanade reserve, which link different open spaces in Papakura, Franklin District and in Manukau City.		Medium	Medium
	31. Develop a range of “green corridors” for multi-purpose use and providing continuous links between the conservation areas as well as with other open spaces in the urban area.		Low	Ongoing
	32. Where possible, provide walkways, bridle trails and cycleways in the “green corridors”.		Low	Long
	33. Prohibit off-leash dogs within conservation areas and “green corridors”		Low	Ongoing
	34. Walkways within urban areas should link up with bus stops and train stations.		Medium	Ongoing
	35. Provide a link between McLennan Park, Papakura Normal Primary and Bruce Pulman Park in the form of a wide walkway and cycleway. This link could form part of a possible future subdivision of the land north of McLennan Park.		Medium	Medium
	36. Provide for bridle tracks in the indicated areas.		Medium	Short
	37. Provide a walkway along the Papakura Stream as a key link to the open space network of Manukau City.		Medium	Medium
	38. Provide a route linking heritage and historic sites with the urban areas.		Medium	Ongoing
	39. Provide a link in the form of a walkway and cycleway along Ponga Road with lookout points at suitable locations and associated parking areas.		Medium	Medium
Provision of high quality, secure open space accessible to the whole community	40. Maintain and improve local neighbourhood parks by providing sufficient park infrastructure. Where possible, provide park infrastructure within stormwater detention areas.		High	Ongoing
	41. Ensure an equitable distribution of different types of playground equipment throughout the urban area. Avoid the clustering of the same type of facilities in one neighbourhood.		Medium	Ongoing
	42. Apply the proposed guidelines to ensure high quality parks.		High	Ongoing

GOAL	STRATEGY / TASK	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY	TIMING
Awareness of Papakura's open space network	43. Improve and promote awareness of the significant natural features and historic sites through the development of a communications strategy, publications and use of the media. The strategy could include the distribution of brochures to tourists indicating tracks and information of the wildlife and vegetation habitats.		Medium	Ongoing
	44. Provide interpretive signs along walkways and tracks as well as in parks describing park resources, both natural and cultural.		High	Short
	45. Promote educational programmes at schools about conservation areas.		Low	Ongoing
	46. Support community groups such as the Royal Forest and Bird Society and the Pahurehure Inlet Protection Society etc.		Medium	Ongoing
Open space acquisition guidelines that will enhance the quality and provision of open space.	47. When considering the acquisition of land for the purpose of local neighbourhood reserves, neighbourhood commons and urban parks and gardens, follow the proposed acquisition guidelines.		High	Ongoing
	48. When considering the acquisition of land for the purpose of sports facilities, follow the proposed acquisition guidelines.		High	Ongoing
	49. When considering the acquisition of land for the purpose of conservation areas and scenic reserves, follow the proposed acquisition guidelines.		High	Ongoing
	50. Explore the opportunities for land access in the conservation areas through land access agreements, easements, margin strip agreements and declaration.		Low	Ongoing
Provision of open space disposal guidelines that will enhance the quality and provision of open space.	51. When considering the disposal of open space, the proposed disposal guidelines should be followed.		High	Ongoing
	52. The funds raised shall be used to acquire new open space or improve the existing open space network.		Medium	Ongoing
	53. Consider leasing if this will provide a benefit to Council greater than alternative options.		Low	Ongoing

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GOAL	STRATEGY / TASK	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY	TIMING
Effective management of the open space network	54. The Papakura District Council shall be responsible for the following core services; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the provision of open space to serve the whole community. • the maintenance of Council owned and controlled open space . • the provision of information regarding the open space system. 		High	Ongoing
	55. Provide for the proposed hierarchy and standards in the District Plan.		High	Short
	56. Incorporate policies, objectives and rules in the District Plan to protect and enhance the open space system.		High	Short
	57. Prepare reserve management plans under the Reserves Act for all major open spaces.		High	Ongoing
	58. Prepare a coastal management plan for the esplanade reserves.		High	Short
	59. Explore opportunities to work in partnership with the Auckland Regional Council and the Department of Conservation to ensure the protection of conservation areas.		Low	Ongoing
	60. Explore opportunities to work in partnership with local iwi regarding the co-management of parks, such as a possible community garden at Te Koiwi Reserve.		High	Ongoing
	61. Explore opportunities to work in partnership with the Manukau Sports Foundation in preparing management plans for local neighbourhood reserves.		Medium	Ongoing
	62. Monitor the provision and quality of the open space network on a regular basis.		Medium	Ongoing
	63. Progressively adopt ecologically sustainable management practices including minimum energy and water use and low maintenance plantings.		Low	Ongoing
	64. Use this Strategy as the basis for resource allocation in future programmes and budgets. Assess implementation annually and review the Strategy every 5 years.		High	Ongoing
	65. Actively pursue funding from external sources to help fund the recommendations and actions identified in this Strategy.		Medium	Ongoing
	66. Establish a management strategy for integrating the management of private clubs.		Low	Medium
	67. Achieve the intentions and recommendations in the Open Space Strategy by including land acquisition and improvement requirements in the Development Contributions Model.		High	Short
68. Participate in the implementation of the Draft Regional Open Space Strategy (2003) in partnership with the Auckland Regional Council.				
69. Adopt a " <i>standards based and real costs approach</i> " in determining the level of financial contributions for open space in the future.				

23. DEFINITIONS

Community Facility	Means any building used for community activities such as education, culture or worship and includes community halls, libraries, marae and RSA but does not include schools and community houses.
Catchment	Represents an area within walking distance from an open space.
Conventional Suburban Housing Areas	Means residential areas with a density of between 350m ² and 450m ² per unit. (Consistent with the housing definitions used in the Auckland Regional Growth Strategy).
Small Lot Suburban Housing	Means residential areas with a density of more than 450m ² per unit. (Consistent with the housing definitions used in the Auckland Regional Growth Strategy).
Medium to High Density Urban Housing	Terraced houses, low rise apartments, mixed use development and high rise apartments with densities of more than 300m ² per unit. (Consistent with the housing definitions used in the Auckland Regional Growth Strategy).
Open Space	Means land and the air space above it, which are not developed for residential, commercial or transportation uses, and for the most part, free of buildings and includes fields, native bush areas, wetlands, wildlife and vegetation habitats, sports fields, playgrounds, parks and coastal reserves for public access to our harbour. Indoor sports facilities are included as open space for the purpose of this study.
Physiographic Analysis	A spatial analysis of environmental factors such as ecology, geology, hydrology and landscape values which are mapped.
Planning Area Units	These are well-defined areas of relatively homogeneous development type, bounded by major roads or water bodies.
Rural Walkway	Means a footpath or track in the rural area for the use of pedestrians. These walkways could also be used for bridle tracks. Surface treatments could include gravel or mowed strips of grass with directions.
Urban Walkway	Means a footpath in urban areas for the use of pedestrians. Urban walkways could also be used as cycleways and would have hard surface treatments such as concrete, asphalt or cobble stones.

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