

Objectives and Policies

Part Two of this Reserve Management Plan identifies the matters arising from the investigation of the Context and Background in Part One, appropriate to be translated into Objectives and Policies. These Objectives and Policies are outlined in Part Two that are required to effectively guide the future development and management of the reserves.

A Concept Plan is included in Part Three of this Reserve Management Plan, which is a visual representation of the below policies.

1.0 Vision Statement

Henderson Valley Park will be managed to continue to provide for equestrian facilities, to enhance informal recreation opportunities and to enhance and restore ecological values.

2.0 Ecological Values

The Opanuku Stream is of great importance to the overall ecological values of the park, and provides a green belt due to the thick expanse of native vegetation upon the steep stream banks of the Opanuku. This area therefore has the potential to support habitat for a variety of flora and fauna.

The natural ecology of the park has been modified for the most part due to the current land use of the Henderson Valley Pony club, who have fenced off paddocks and have jumps scattered across the landscape. Ground stability including riparian areas is unstable, due to lack of suitable vegetation. Infestation from invasive weeds poses a significant threat to this potential native habitat.

Objective

To restore, protect and enhance urban ecosystems, and to extend and connect areas of vegetation in the park.

Policy 2.1

To continue to work with Project Twin Streams to restore the margin of the Opanuku Stream.

Implementation:

- Undertake weed control and removal of weed species that are threatening to the local cosystem, in accordance with priorities in the Waitakere City Council Weed Strategy.
- Undertake indigenous revegetation along the stream margin to enhance existing vegetation, and to provide a buffer zone from the surrounding residential areas.
- Ensure planting plans allow for any amenity areas outlined in this Reserve Management Plan.
- Develop detailed planting plans for revegetation areas that comply with Waitakere City Councils Native to the West – Lowland Ecosystems.
- Ensure planting plans retain view shafts to the Opanuku Stream from the proposed cycleway where possible.
- Seek the involvement of the local community and the Henderson Valley Pony Club and the Riding for the Disabled to assist in vegetation management of the reserves, both weed control and planting.
- Ensure, wherever possible, all new restoration planting is derived from propagated ecosourced species appropriate to the site, in accordance with Waitakere City Councils ecosourcing policy.

Policy 2.2

To establish ecological corridors, and develop lineal natural habitats in the reserves, that link the Henderson Valley Park to the Opanuku Stream.

Implementation:

- Connect patches of indigenous vegetation on reserves, through ecological linkage planting, utilising tributaries and contour lines for ecological linkage planting (refer concept Plan).
- Develop detailed planting plans for ecological corridors and enhancement areas that comply with Waitakere City Councils Native to the West – Lowland Ecosystems.
- Ensure planting plans retain and form view shafts to the existing vegetation of the Opanuku Stream and the Waitakere Ranges where visible on the park, and from surrounding residential areas.
- Allow for the development of a wetland area on the park, that incorporates the existing stormwater pond, and pony jumps as part of the proposed cross country course.

Policy 2.3

To ensure a programme is implemented that controls and manages weed infestation on the reserves in identifies areas, in accordance with the Waitakere City Council Weed Strategy and the Regional Pest Management Strategy.

Implementation:

- Discourage and remove areas of garden encroachment and organic waste dumping from neighbouring properties, also investigating the possibility of signage in appropriate locations highlighting the threats of garden waste dumping.
- Liaise with neighbours in regard to invasive weeds growing on park boundaries.

- Establish a programme of native restoration and ongoing maintenance in areas of weed control, to inhibit the possibility of weed species regenerating.
- In addition to the Waitakere City Council Weed Strategy, the Auckland Regional Plant Pest Management Strategy may be referenced to aid in identifying weed pests.
- Encourage the use of non-chemical control of weeds where practicable.
- Ensure that the public are notified by signs or public notice where weed control is being carried out.
- Control weeds at the head of tributaries as a priority, to reduce weed transportation into the Opanuku.

Policy 2.4

To monitor contaminated sites caused by past landuse practices.

Implementation:

- Investigate the area if the park known to have been used as a landfill site.
- Monitor the possible contamination that may be present due to the past land use site, in conjunction with Waitakere City Council Aftercare.

3.0 Landscape Values

Henderson Valley Park has a distinct rural, pastoral feel. The remnant orchard and the corrugated iron packing sheds on the park contribute to the rural character, as does the pony club fences, horses and paddocks. The rising vegetated of the Opanuku Stream and the distant vista of the Waitakere Ranges frame the park and form an attractive backdrop to the rural setting.



Objective

To protect and enhance the landscape values of Henderson Valley Park and ensure that the potential adverse effects of structures and physical processes on the landscape are avoided, remedied or mitigated.

Policy 3.1

To protect and enhance the rural character and landscape values of Henderson Valley Park.

Implementation:

- Retain and protect the remnant orchard to the north western edge of the park.
- Investigate further planting of fruit trees to reflect the past horticultural land use.
- Retain or restore packing sheds, where possible, replicating materials used and building style (refer policy 3.4).
- Retain views into the reserve, toward the Opanuku Stream green belt and the vista of the Waitakere Ranges.
- Retain the remnant orchard plants on the reserve where such species are not invasive and where such species are not hazardous to the health of horses.
- Retain views into the park and to the Opanuku Stream and Waitakere Ranges from surrounding residential areas.

Policy 3.2

Ensure that utility services are only located on the reserve if required for some function of the reserves, or visual effect is mitigated through provision of works to benefit the reserve.

Implementation:

- Ensure, where possible, that existing poorly located utility services are better integrated into the reserves environment, through design techniques such as planting, if unable to be relocated.

- Ensure that utility services are only located in reserves if required for some function of the reserves.
- Do not allow any telecommunication towers or aerials (including cell sites) on the reserves unless they are for the exclusive benefit of the reserves and have no adverse effects on the reserves environment.
- Ensure any proposal to install services as mentioned above includes consultation with Te Kawerau a Maki and Ngati Whatua.

Policy 3.3

To ensure that the existing buildings on reserve land are maintained to a standard that does not lower the character and amenity value of the reserve.

Implementation:

- Ensure damage, vandalism and graffiti is cleared from facades of buildings on reserves, working in conjunction with leaseholders.
- Allow for the removal of the existing tractor shed to the north of the existing dressage arena.

Policy 3.4

To ensure that any new structures or additions to existing structures are designed to complement the open space character of reserves while not compromising the natural character and ecology of the reserve. Ensure that any new structures or addition to existing structures are approved through an appropriate Waitakere City Council process, and as listed below.

Implementation:

- Any proposal for addition of or extension to a building or structure within a reserve must meet the following criteria:
 - The need for the structure to be within the reserve, in terms of the structure

- serving the purpose for which the reserve is classified under the Reserves Act 1977.
- The need for the structure to be sited in the location identified;
- The protection of archaeological or heritage areas from disturbance
- The protection of public views into the reserve;
- The maintenance of the reserves character;
- The contribution of the structure to the quality and experience of the reserve;
- The public benefit obtained from the structure;
- A minor impact on the immediate neighbourhood;
- An ability to meet relevant District Plan requirements;
- An ability to meet the objectives and policies of this plan;

- Utilise appropriate design guidelines and building materials, including utilising permeable and semi-permeable paving options wherever possible so as to reduce the quantity of stormwater runoff.
- Allow for the restoration of packing shed to a usable shed. Restore the structure in keeping with its character as much as possible – i.e., retaining windows, colour scheme and materials.
- Allow for the relocation of the existing arena. (see concept Plan)

Policy 3.5

To ensure that new and/or upgraded structures within the park and new park facilities are designed in a manner that takes advantage of sustainability initiatives such as energy efficiency, renewable energy, water reuse and recycling, waste minimisation and other sustainable building initiatives.

- Identify and incorporate opportunities for energy efficiency and water efficiency to reduce the resource requirements for buildings and structures of the park.

- Identify and incorporate opportunities for renewable energy (such as solar and wind power) to contribute towards meeting the energy needs for the park facilities.
- That all opportunities are taken to reduce, reuse and recycle waste that is generated in the parks.

4.0 Recreation and Use

The majority of Henderson Valley Park is leased by the Henderson Valley Pony Club. There are two areas of open space, and two playgrounds on the park. A cycleway is proposed to the Opanuku Stream edge of the park.

Objective

To increase the use and enjoyment of the park and its recreation opportunities in a way that is consistent with the purposes and values of the reserves.

Policy 4.1

To increase the use and range of recreation facilities.

Implementation:

- Continue to support the Henderson Valley Pony Club and the Riding for the Disabled on the park through
 - Allow for the new location of the arena for Henderson Valley Pony Club (refer concept Plan). Investigate using the old arena for parking for horse trailers.
 - Allow for the new jumps proposed as part of the cross county course, with the incorporation of a designed wetland area.
 - Allow for the future construction of a covered all weather arena on the park, located in a manner that is sensitive to adjoining neighbour's views and is in keeping with the rural nature of the park. Ensure that the proposal is designed in a manner that is in keeping with Policy 3.4.



- Upgrade the playground at the Henderson Valley Road frontage as part of the playground renewals programme.
- Investigate installing play equipment for disabled children as part of the upgrade, for the Riding for the Disabled children.
- Retain the stile at the Tabitha Crescent open space area to allow for the informal access and connection to the playground at the Henderson Valley Road frontage.
- Upgrade the Tabitha Crescent park area (refer concept plan).
- Ensure that the grassed bridle trail that connects Border Road to Henderson Valley Road is constructed in conjunction with the cycleway.
- Allow for the removal of the existing tractor shed to the north of the existing dressage arena.
- Allow for the construction of a circular pen to the north of the dressage arena (see Concept Plan).
- Allow for spectator seating to be constructed at the two arena areas.
- Allow for the construction of a half court to the Tabitha Crescent open space area.

Policy 4.2

To support partnerships between council, the local community and the Henderson Valley Pony Club in developing and managing the park.

Implementation:

- Encourage public involvement in ecological restoration projects.
- Involve the community in planting days and events in reserves.
- Ensure that the local community is consulted on the facilities and any change in purpose when new concept or development plans are submitted.

Policy 4.3

To recognise and protect the open space qualities of the park and its value in providing passive use for the local community.

Implementation:

- Undertake a programme of specimen tree planting to improve the amenity value of the park to provide shade in the open grass areas.
- Ensure that future developments in and around the reserves do not reduce their capacity to provide quiet open space for passive use.
- Retain open space areas the park through restriction of buildings into open space areas in reserves.

Policy 4.4

To ensure safety and sight lines are provided for reserve users in Henderson Valley Park.

Implementation:

- Ensure that appropriate levels of park user safety are maintained.
- Implement “Safer Design for the Green Network – Design Guidelines to ensure that buildings facilities and plantings are designed and maintained in a way that minimises safety concerns and maximises surveillance”.
- Ensure that vegetation planted in conjunction with the cycleway above .5 m high is kept to at least 0.5 from the edge of the concrete path for the convenience and visibility of users wherever possible. Where planting abuts the path, this may be achieved by planting low plants, ground covers and grasses as necessary.
- Assess lighting requirements and install at areas of high vandalism if considered appropriate.

- Maintain all play equipment in accordance with NZS 5828 and Council Safety Standards and ensure all buildings comply with the building code.
- Follow CPTED guidelines for the future design and management of parks, in conjunction Safe Waitakere.
- Allow for sun shelters to be installed above play equipment.
- Provide shade by way of trees/structures at open space areas.

Policy 4.5

Utilise interpretation signs, artwork and other indicators to promote and enhance recreation, ecological and cultural values in the reserves as appropriate.

Implementation:

- Develop interpretative signage or other indicators to describe the historical value of the park, including signage to indicate the value of the remnant horticultural plants.
- Investigate the use of signs as botanical labels and to indicate traditional usage in revegetated and enhanced reserve areas, particularly along the proposed cycleway.
- Ensure that signs and indicators do not detract from the natural recreational values of the reserves.
- Install educational signage along the cycleway in regard to the ecological value of the Opanuku Stream.

5.0 Access, Parking and Circulation

Objective

To minimise obstacles to free access, parking and circulation without compromising reserve value.

Policy 5.1

To improve pedestrian and cycle access through the reserve.

Implementation:

- Allow for the proposed cycleway from Border Road to Henderson Valley Road, ensure that fencing and planting associated with the cycleway is in line with the objectives and policies of this plan.
- Investigate the use of signs or other signifiers (such as walkway tiles) to identify access points and link the reserves with adjacent streets and footpaths, at Border Road and Henderson Valley Road.
- Investigate the provision of a connecting track to the reserve, linking the Tabitha Crescent playground to the Henderson Valley Road playground.
- Investigate the provision of a permeable loop road connection from the secondary entrance of Henderson Valley Road, to the main carpark area.

Policy 5.2

To provide for a variety of car park locations while managing vehicle parking so as not to compromise the character of the reserves.

Implementation:

- Investigate the use of the existing arena area as potential car parking for horse trailers when the arena is relocated.
- Utilise permeable surfaces for new car parking, or for the upgrading of existing car parks or roads within the reserves and ensure that such works are in keeping with the character of the area.
- Undertake amenity planting where possible, to mitigate the adverse visual effects of car parking, and to provide shade in car parking areas.



6.0 Park Furniture

Objective

To ensure that there is a range of park furniture and facilities to enhance the recreational and social use of the reserves, while protecting the character of the reserves.

Policy 6.1

Park furniture, including litterbins, seats, signs, playgrounds and barbeques will be provided at an appropriate level to cater for local community use.

Implementation:

- Where possible, signs will be amalgamated in order to reduce the overall number of signs and all signs will be in accordance with the WCC Code of Practice, Parks Guidelines.

Policy 6.2

To adopt a unified approach to the design of site furniture, facilities and signs ensuring that the design and location of park furniture will be provided in a way that minimises visual impact on the reserves.

Implementation:

- The design of park furniture should be in accordance with Council's Parks Code of Practice Design Guidelines.
- Apply high standards of design and materials to all site furniture and facilities.
- Ensure signage is placed sensitively in the reserves in terms of visual impact, and access.

7.0 Maori Cultural Heritage

Objective

To recognise, protect and, as appropriate, promote the Maori cultural and historical values of the park and its wider catchment, and to work

in partnership with iwi on the management of issues of significance on the park.

Policy 7.1

Recognise and provide for the mauri of any site or place of significance associated with the Park.

Implementation:

- Liaise with Te Kawerau a Maki and Ngati Whatua to identify all sites and areas on the park that is of significance.
- In consultation with Maori, decide on the appropriate form of interpretation for sites of cultural significance within the park and the appropriate treatment of these sites.
- Undertake archaeological assessments prior to any work involving terrain modification being undertaken within the reserves, including planting, fencing and power under grounding.
- Provide District Plan protection for all identified and recorded archaeological sites.
- Develop a strategy for the appropriate interpretation of Maori cultural values and implement this strategy in a staged way over time.
- Support the meeting of iwi objectives in the park where they do not contradict the objectives and policies of this Plan.
- Support any activities that raise awareness of tangata whenua issues, such as kaitiakitanga, tribal history of the area.
- Support the use of historical cultural and ecological interpretation, such as signage or artwork with information of historical relevance, or explaining the traditional uses of certain plants.
- Support the use and enjoyment of the reserves for any activities consistent with Maori culture, such as Hangi and Kapa Haka

as appropriate and where they meet the policies and objectives of this Plan.

Policy 7.2

Provide for the customary use of native flora by Te Kawerau a Maki and Ngati Whatua and local Maori groups.

Implementation:

- Implement planting programmes, in consultation with Te Kawerau a Maki and Ngati Whatua that include plants for customary use such as for arts, *rongoa* (medicinal), ceremonial and food purposes.
- Support the implementation of *pa harakeke* planting, i.e. appropriate flax collection for customary use, especially weaving.
- Ensure that any cultural harvesting of plants is consistent with the Draft Cultural Harvesting Protocols.

Policy 7.3

Involve Iwi in the design and management of reserves.

Implementation:

- Consult with Iwi in the design and management of the park, in particular with regard to proposed developments within reserves and the location of structures.
- Consult Iwi over management of priority restoration sites and any specific programmes to reintroduce native species.
- In consultation with Te Kawerau a Maki and Ngati Whatua, highlight any areas of tapu and investigate possible options, where appropriate, to discourage public access to those areas.

8.0 European Cultural Heritage

Henderson; once covered in Kauri forest and mānuka scrubland soon became barren gum fields when the kauri was removed. These barren swathes of land were later transformed into pasture, through the introduction of grass. This led to the planting of orchards and market gardens. Gooseberry, apple, pear, peaches, Japanese plums, lemon, orange, pomelo, sweet oranges, passion fruit and other tropical fruits were grown in Henderson.

Objective

To recognise, protect and, as appropriate, promote the European cultural and historical values of the Reserves and to work in partnership with the community on the management of issues of significance on the reserves.

Policy 8.1

To recognise and provide for the protection and interpretation of any site or place of historical significance associated with the park.

Implementation:

- Identify and record historical sites and heritage trees located in the reserves and ensure appropriate protection of such sites in consultation with the Historic Places Trust and West Auckland Historical Society.
- Ensure that thorough archaeological investigations are carried out in the riparian margins prior to any construction or earthworks in the esplanade reserves.
- Ensure appropriate recognition and protection for heritage sites and trees through the District Plan and inclusion in the Auckland Regional Council Cultural Heritage Inventory if appropriate.
- Encourage and support the installation of artwork, park furniture, planting and other



features that illustrate local heritage values in the reserves.

Policy 8.2

To recognise and protect all trees or vegetation of historic significance within the reserves and ensure that they are maintained in accordance with the standards and techniques of approved arboricultural practice.

Implementation:

- Identify all trees of historic/cultural significance in the reserves, both exotic and native.
- Provide for the protection of all identified trees and vegetation of significance through the provisions of the District Plan.
- Implement the Council's draft Tree Strategy as appropriate in the reserves.
- Ensure that walkways and other structures are kept clear of the roots of significant trees or vegetation, where those trees are vulnerable to damage.
- Replace any amenity or specimen trees that are dead, dying or posing any hazard as appropriate in accordance with the Parks Standards and management policies.

9.0 Administration and Management

The structure for administration of day to day management of the reserves is established within the context of the Reserves Act. Consideration has also been given to the district plan, under the Resource Management Act 1991.

Objective:

To ensure the reserve is managed in terms of the reserve classification for the enjoyment if the local and regional community now and in the future.

Policy 9.1

Any activity or development not provided for under the policies and implementation in the management plan will not be permitted unless such an activity or development at least complies with the District Plan Rules for Open Space environment and the General By-laws 1990.

Policy 9.2

To achieve the implementation actions outlined within each policy in this document, Waitakere City Council will follow an annual plan process to allocate funds for these actions. The actions identified in the Policies are necessary to achieve the objectives of this management plan.

Policy 9.3

To provide for user concessions by way of permit for special events as detailed in Policy 4.3.

Implementation:

- Permits for temporary concessions or events may be granted for the use of areas of the reserves that are compatible with the objective for the reserves and in accordance with policy or implementation under this Management Plan. Applications are made to the Manager of Parks, who may consult with the Community Board as required to assess such applications.
- Permits for special events may incur an additional bond or charge in respect to the potential for damage or the need for remedial works.
- Concessions may be granted in respect to refreshments and for wheeled transport compatible with the values of the reserves.

Policy 9.4

To use the control of lease agreements to ensure the most effective and equitable use of Henderson Valley Park.

Implementation:

- Provide for the continuation of leasing areas of land within the reserves to provide for community use and well-being. The leases of facilities such as buildings will be reviewed when the opportunity arises, to ensure maximum potential of the reserve is realised for the community.
- Ensure new applications for leases will have to conform to the criteria as set out in the Community Assistance Policy and Parks Strategy. In addition the applicant will need to satisfy the Waitakere City Council that the proposed use:
 - Will be in accordance with the Objectives and Policies of this Plan;
 - Will be in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977;
 - Will not detract from the existing environment and use of the park;
 - Will generally provide a benefit (or benefits) to the public which is greater

than any adverse effect caused by granting the lease;

- Is in an appropriate location;
 - Will not cater exclusively to any one sector of the public, except where this is provided for and is appropriate in terms of the Objectives and Policies of this Plan.
- Revise and renew all existing leases in accordance with the criteria listed above.


Policy 9.5

To keep this Management Plan under regular review.

Implementation:

- Changes to the emphasis or specific policies of this Management Plan will need to be addressed following the Amendment to a Management Plan process as outlined in section 41(2) of the Reserves Act 1977.



Henderson Valley Park
Concept Plan
 NTS

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 Check all measurements on site
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 One

Date:
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