

Kaipātiki Open Space Network Plan 2022-2032



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Executive Summary

The changing demographics of Kaipātiki are placing increasing pressures on the open space network to provide services, including access to recreation, active transport, socialisation, community and environmental services.

This plan recommends a range of actions to guide the local board's decisions across the Kaipātiki open space network as the area grows and changes in the coming decade. Its overall objective is to provide a high quality, safe and well-used open space network that enables a range of activities, uses and experiences for people of all ages and abilities.

The way that we use open space is changing. This change is driven by shifting demographics, growing preferences for more informal recreation and increasing demand for more walking and cycling options.

The way we live is also changing. The Auckland Unitary Plan allows more intensive residential and business development in parts of the local board, including Birkenhead and Northcote. As fewer residents have a backyard, access to good quality open space becomes even more important.

The main strengths of the existing Kaipātiki open space network are:

- good open space provision in most areas
- a community that treasures the environment and is engaged in working to protect and enhance it
- prominent environmental, cultural and heritage features throughout the network.

The main challenges relating to existing open space in Kaipātiki include:

- increased use through population growth and limited capacity for expansion in some areas
- park amenities and facilities in need of upgrading
- kauri dieback threatening native flora and disrupting the use of tracks and connections between parks.

The Kaipātiki Open Space Network Plan (the network plan) sets out how open space needs can be met to support the growing population over the next 10 years.

Its overall objective is to provide a high quality, safe and well-used open space network that enables a range of activities, uses and experiences for people of all ages and abilities.

The network plan is structured around four key moves developed through research and engagement with stakeholders and mana whenua. The four key moves are:

1. provide equitable access to open space across Kaipātiki
2. enhance and broaden the visitor experience
3. treasure the natural and cultural environment
4. enhance walking, cycling and green corridors to connect communities.

Actions to improve the open space network have been prioritised and are listed at the end of this plan. High priority actions will be delivered as budget allows.

Section one – The Kaipātiki Open Space Network

Introduction

The Kaipātiki Local Board has clearly articulated its vision and aspirations for its residents in the Kaipātiki Local Board Plan 2020.

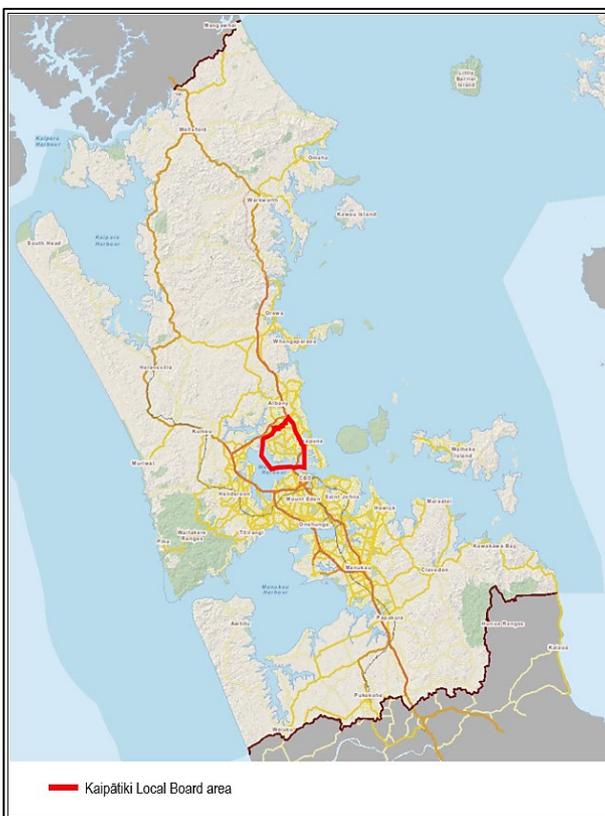
The network plan aligns with this vision and sets the framework to deliver a high quality, safe and well-used open space network.

Section one of the network plan discusses its purpose, its strategic alignment with the council's policies and the current state of the Kaipātiki open space network.

Section two sets out the key moves that provide the framework for prioritising actions for future development and management of the Kaipātiki open space network over the next 10 years.

Section three lists the prioritised actions to deliver the key moves.

Figure 1. Kaipātiki Local Board area



1.1 Purpose of the network plan

This plan sets out the key directions and high-level actions needed to deliver a high quality, safe and well-used open space network that enables a range of activities, uses and experiences for people of all ages and abilities. The actions are in response to anticipated population growth and aim to provide the community with access to a range of recreational, social, cultural and environmental experiences.

This plan will assist the local board in prioritising its spending for parks and open space development and inform the development of future local board plans, the long-term plan and the annual plan.

Implementing this plan

Actions recommended in this plan include:

- operational activities
- developing assets
- planning for asset renewals
- working with mana whenua and community groups
- promoting recreational opportunities.

Some projects are ready to action, while others require feasibility assessments and further planning.

Implementation of the network plan will be coordinated by the Customer and Community Services Directorate who will provide regular progress updates to the Kaipātiki Local Board.

1.2 Strategic context

The network plan contributes to implementing the Auckland Plan 2050 and the Parks and Open Spaces Strategic Action Plan 2013. The Auckland Plan sets the direction for how Auckland will grow and develop over the next 30 years.

The Parks and Open Space Strategic Action Plan sets out how Auckland's parks and open space network contributes to outcomes in the Auckland Plan.

It identifies four areas of focus:

1. Manaakitia te taiao / Treasure our parks and open spaces
2. Ngā papa rēhia / Enjoy our parks and open spaces
3. Ngā papa haumi / Connect our parks and open spaces
4. Ngā papa rangahau / Utilise our parks and open spaces.

The network plan aligns with the Kaipātiki Local Board Plan 2020 and primarily contributes to:

- Outcome 1: Te whai wāhitanga me te oranga | Belonging and wellbeing
- Outcome 2: Te taiao | Environment
- Outcome 3: Ngā wāhi me ngā takiwā | Places and spaces.
- Outcome 4: Te Ikiiki me ngā tūhononga | Transport and connections

This strategic relationship is illustrated in figure 3.

Kaipātiki Local Parks Management Plan

Auckland Council is currently developing a local parks management plan for the Kaipātiki Local Board area.

This statutory document sets the expectations of the local board and the public regarding how parks are used, managed and protected. The local community were consulted with in the development of this plan to ensure their needs and aspirations for local parks are considered.

This plan is being prepared under the statutory requirements of the Reserves Act 1977 and will replace individual reserve management plans.

The key moves in the network plan will guide the development of the management principles and key outcomes in the local parks management plan.

1.3 Kaipātiki Local Board area

The Kaipātiki Local Board is located on the north shore of Tāmaki Makaurau, to the west of the northern motorway which forms its boundary (figure 2).

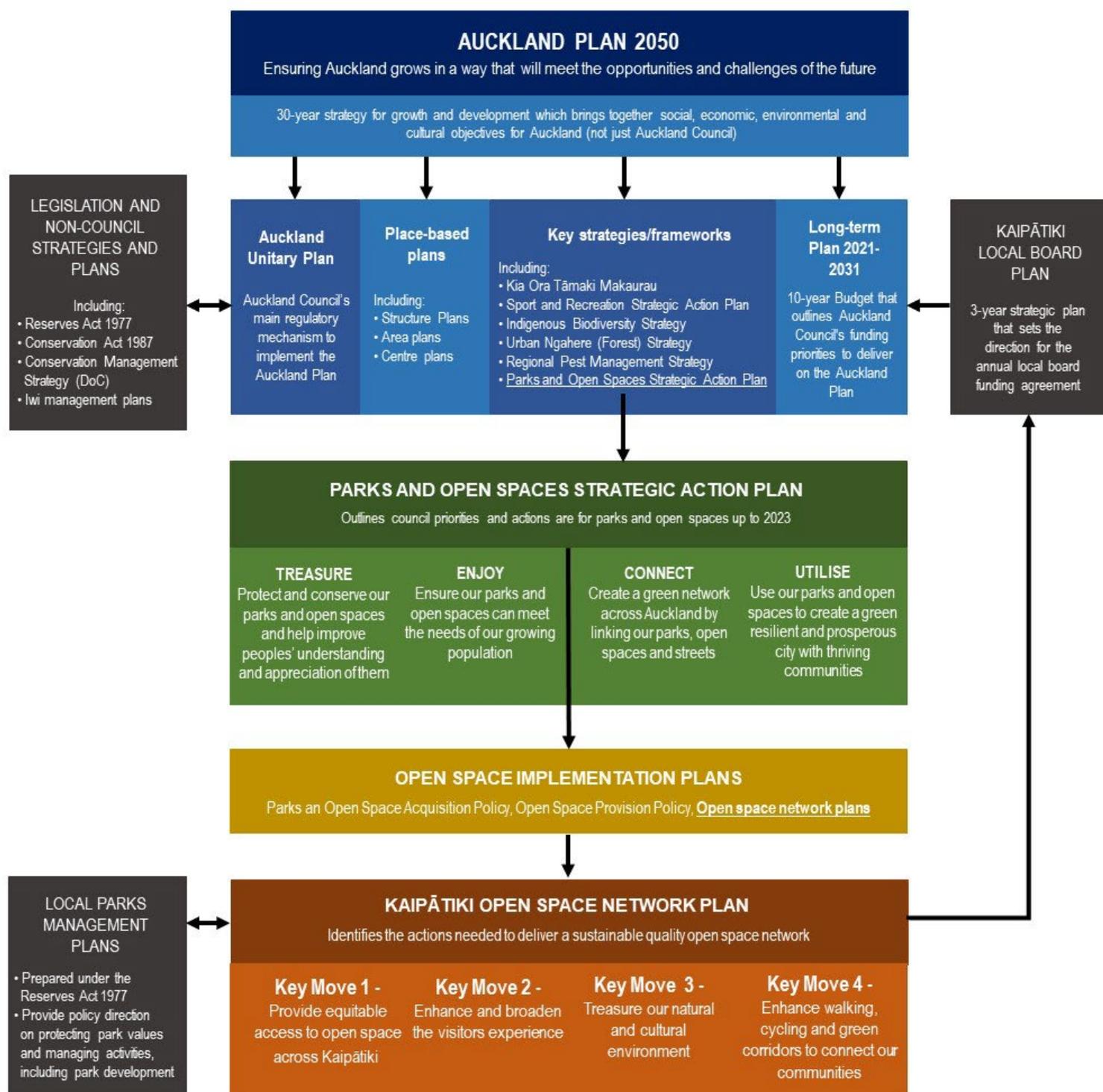
It encompasses 4917 hectares, comprising 530 hectares of reserves and walkways, and 1510 hectares of adjoining Waitemātā harbour and inlets. The Kaipātiki Local Board area includes the suburbs of Beach Haven, Birkenhead, Chatswood, Bayview, Birkdale, Northcote, Glenfield, Hillcrest, Totara Vale and Marlborough.

The local board area is predominantly residential and all of it is classified as urban.

Figure 2. Public open space in Kaipātiki



Figure 3. Strategic context for the Kaipātiki Open Space Network Plan



Kaipātiki's parks and open spaces

The Kaipātiki Local Board has a network of around 200 council-owned and managed parks and open spaces, including Crown land.

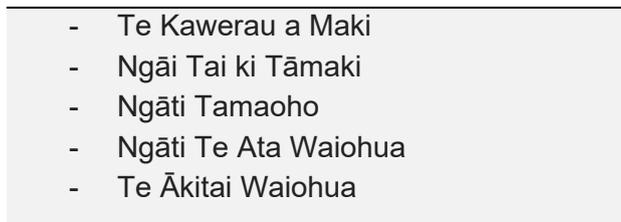
The total area of parks and open space is around 540 hectares (or 16 per cent of the local board's land area).

Mana whenua

The following 13 iwi have links to the Kaipātiki Local Board area:



- Ngāti Whātua
- Ngāti Whātua ki Kaipara
- Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei



- Te Kawerau a Maki
- Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki
- Ngāti Tamaoho
- Ngāti Te Ata Waiohua
- Te Ākitai Waiohua

- Ngāti Paoa
- Ngaati Whanaunga
- Ngāti Maru
- Ngāti Tamaterā
- Te Patukirikiri

Mana whenua have been engaged in the development of this plan.

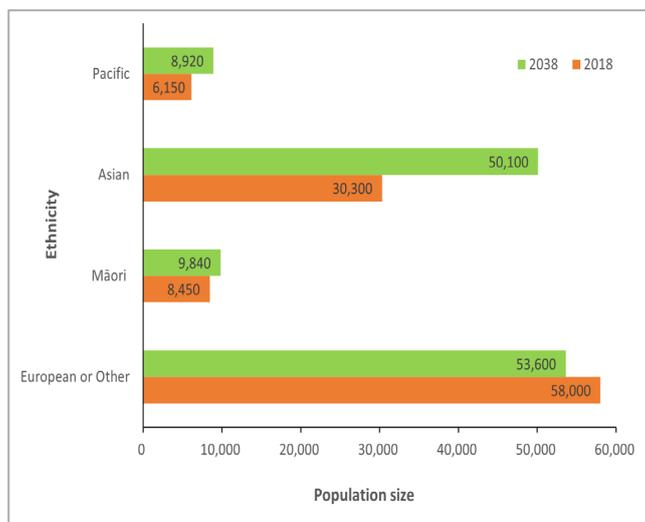
Projected population growth

The Kaipātiki Local Board has the sixth largest population amongst the 21 local boards in Tāmaki Makaurau, with 88,269 residents at the 2018 census. The local board area is projected to grow by up to 0.9 per cent annually. By 2048, the population is projected to reach 122,600 people, a 39 per cent increase.

The population is ethnically diverse, with high growth anticipated amongst those who identify as Asian. The 'European or other' population group is expected to decrease by 12 per cent to

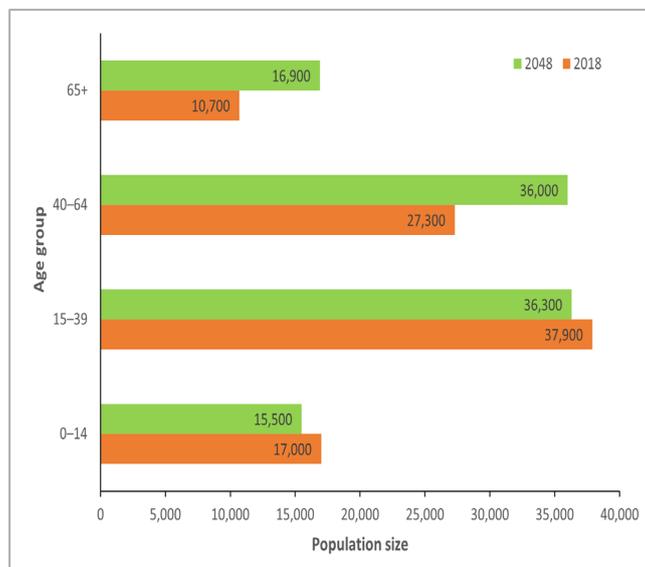
53,600, while the Māori and Pacific populations will remain relatively static (figure 4).

Figure 4. Population growth by ethnicity



The population is relatively young, including many families with young children. However, in line with global and national trends, the population is ageing: the median age in Kaipātiki is expected to increase from 34.7 in 2018 to 40.4 in 2048. The biggest shift will be amongst 40 to 64 year olds and, to a lesser extent, over 65 year olds (figure 5).

Figure 5. Population group by age



Intensification areas

The Auckland Plan¹ identifies three areas for significant urban intensification in the Kaipātiki Local Board area: Northcote, Birkenhead and Sunnynook² (refer Appendix 1).

Auckland Council is in the process of reviewing existing planning regulations as required by the National Policy Statement on Urban Development.

The National Policy Statement on Urban Development directs Auckland Council to allow buildings with a minimum of six-storeys in city centres and metropolitan centres and where they are within walking distance of existing and planned rapid transit stops. 'Walking distance' is not defined but is at least 800m. The six-storeys can be residential, business or a mix of both.

These new rules will likely trigger intensification in parts of Kaipātiki, within walking distance of the Akoranga, Smales Farm, Sunnynook and Constellation Drive rapid transit bus stations. As the number of dwellings increase, the population will likely exceed that anticipated in the Auckland Plan.

Planning and development of the open space network in Kaipātiki needs to account for proposed increases in residential density and any further intensification proposed in response to the National Policy Statement on Urban Development.

The changing needs and preferences of the community also need to be considered in parks and open space development, incorporating flexible and multifunctional spaces.

1.4 Current state

The current state of the Kaipātiki open space network is discussed using the four key focus areas of the Parks and Open Space Strategic Action Plan: treasure, enjoy, connect and utilise.

This section identifies strengths, issues and opportunities, as well as community perceptions and potential future influences on the open space network.

Manaakiatia te taiao / Treasure

Protecting and conserving our environment, heritage and landscape, and growing education opportunities

Cultural heritage

The Kaipātiki Local Board area is rich in the history of both mana whenua and the early settlers of Tāmaki Makaurau with many parks, streets and built heritage reflecting these origins.

The key elements that contribute to the area's cultural heritage are outlined below.

Te tirohanga Māori ki te ao / the Māori worldview

Māori, as tangata whenua, regard the physical environment as having mauri or life force. They consider themselves the kaitiaki (guardians) of these ecosystems and protectors of all the inhabitants.

Associations between the natural world and tūpuna (ancestors) are at the heart of Māori identity. Māori define their tūrangawaewae (place of belonging) through their ancestral mountains, landscape, lakes, rivers and coastline. This is why protecting and enhancing

¹ The Auckland Plan 2050 provides the strategic direction and the Auckland Unitary Plan provides the regulatory framework, including zoning, to guide and manage Auckland's growth.

² The Sunnynook development area sits across two local board areas: Sunnynook itself is within Devonport-Takapuna, and Totara Vale and Wairau Valley are within Kaipātiki.

the natural environment is at the heart of Māori wellbeing and kaitiakitanga.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi (the Treaty of Waitangi) forms the foundation of the relationship between Māori and the Crown. The Crown has statutory obligations to Māori. Auckland Council is committed to meeting these obligations and recognises the contribution Māori have made to establishing and developing Tāmaki Makaurau.

Te Aranga design principles

Te Aranga Māori design principles are founded on intrinsic Māori cultural values and provide practical guidance for enhancing design outcomes.

The principles emerged out of a desire to enhance mana whenua presence, visibility and participation in the design of the physical realm.

They provide direction to project teams to influence and guide design processes to positively engage with mana whenua, help shape the built environment and create distinctive outcomes.³ It is important to ensure that these principles are used as a guide only, and do not substitute engagement with mana whenua.

Te Aranga design principles were applied to Opaketai Beach Haven Garden and Kaimataara o Wai Manawa in Birkenhead.

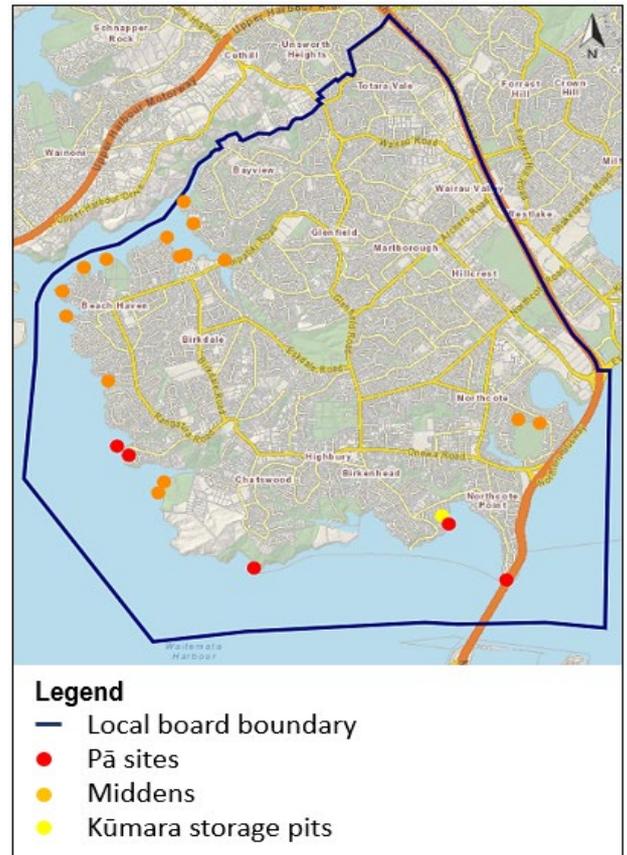
Māori historic sites

The Auckland Unitary Plan identifies 21 Māori archaeological sites on publicly owned open space in Kaipātiki (figure 6).

Pā sites identified by name are:

- Te Onewa on the tip of Northcote Point
- Te Mātā-rae-o-Mana on Kauri Point
- Te Wai Iti o Tora at Island Bay.

Figure 6. Māori archaeological sites in Kaipātiki



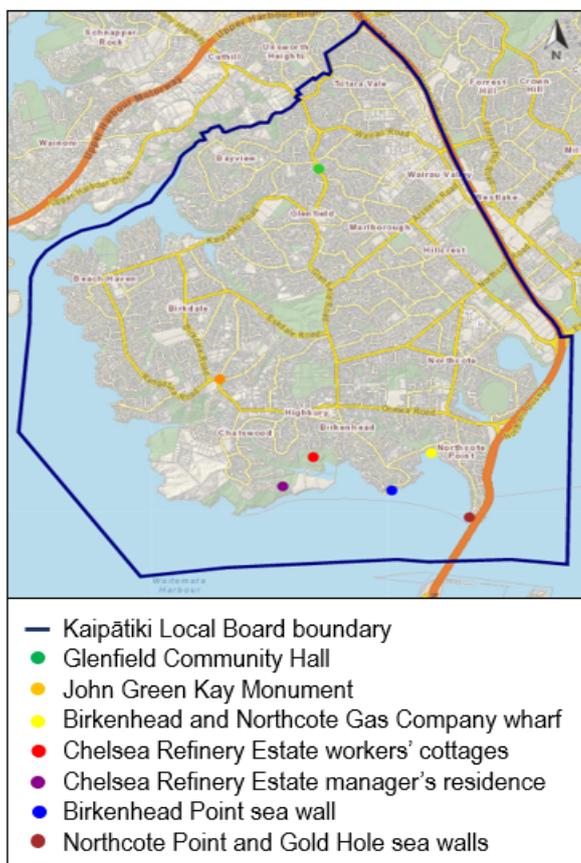
Colonial heritage

Historically, Northcote and Birkenhead were the most convenient areas in Kaipātiki for Pākehā to settle as they formed part of the Mahurangi Purchase. These were a series of Crown purchases from Māori in which almost all of the land on the north shore was acquired.

There are several historic structures from the early period of European settlement located on open space in Kaipātiki. Seven sites are identified in the Auckland Unitary Plan (figure 7).

³ https://www.aucklanddesignmanual.co.nz/design-subjects/maori-design/te_aranga_principles

Figure 7. Colonial heritage sites on open space in Kaipātiki



Natural heritage

The Kaipātiki Local Board area is one of the largest areas of continuous urban indigenous vegetation remaining in Tāmaki Makaurau, with 30 per cent tree cover spread between public and private landowners.

Examples of remaining original forest include the remnants of kauri forest in Birkenhead and Northcote, the escarpments of the upper Waitematā Harbour creeks, the fringes of pōhutukawa forest around the coast and the kahikatea-puriri forest of Smiths Bush.

Challenges for biodiversity in Kaipātiki include:

- urban expansion and development
- ongoing degradation from pest species that continue to threaten the maintenance of indigenous biodiversity
- predation of endangered species
- kauri dieback.

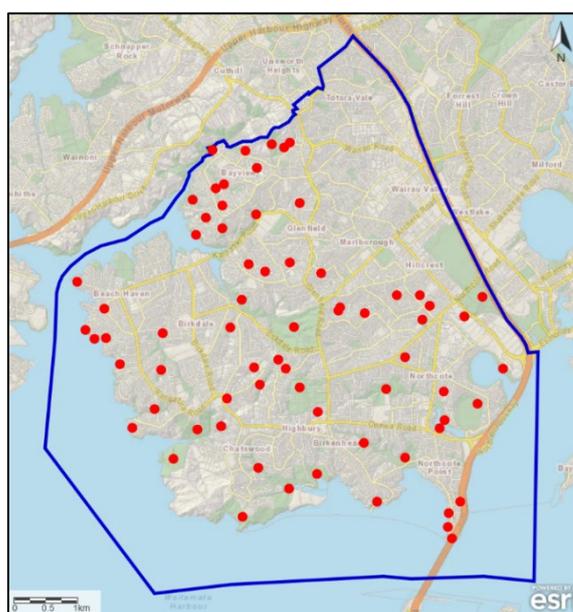
Significant Ecological Areas

The Auckland Unitary Plan designates ecological sites as significant if they are important for the maintenance of biological diversity.

The Unitary Plan identified 69 open spaces in Kaipātiki that contain significant ecological areas (figure 8).

These areas must be managed appropriately for future generations.

Figure 8. Open spaces in Kaipātiki containing Significant Ecological Areas



Coastal risks

The following events pose a risk to open space in coastal areas of Kaipātiki:

- Coastal inundation: caused by the combined action of high tides and adverse weather conditions, leading to storm surge events that inundate low-lying coastal areas.
- Coastal erosion: when material is removed from the shoreline, leading to the loss of land as the coast recedes.
- Tsunamis: a series of waves, typically created by sudden movement or rupturing of the ocean floor from earthquakes, underwater landslides or an underwater volcanic eruption.

These risks will be exacerbated by sea-level rise and increased storm events induced by climate change.

Many parks in Kaipātiki are coastal, in the form of esplanade reserves or connection and linkage reserves. These are likely to face the most significant impact due to their location and narrow width.

A community that cares about the environment

A range of initiatives and projects are currently underway in Kaipātiki to protect and enhance the natural environment on public open spaces. These include:

- The North-West Wild link: Tuff Crater Restoration project
- the Kaipātiki Project: EcoFest North festival; Pest free Kaipātiki
- the Kaipātiki Restoration Network.

The Kaipātiki Local Board support these projects which help realise outcome two of the Local Board Plan 2020 'Our natural environment is protected and restored for future generations to enjoy.

Ngā papa rēhia / Enjoy

Ensuring our parks and open spaces can meet the needs of our growing population

Urban intensification planning

The Auckland Plan identifies three areas of urban intensification that are either fully or partly within the Kaipātiki Local Board area: Northcote, Birkenhead and Sunnynook.⁴

Two of those areas are covered by a spatial plan:

- Northcote Town Centre Benchmark Masterplan
- Sunnynook Plan.

Spatial plans guide intensification and follow design principles that encourage connections between people, places and the environment. This can include civic spaces, parks and connections with surrounding cycling, walking and public transport networks.

Where possible, the key moves in the network plan should support relevant goals of the spatial plans and deliver:

- cycleway connections
- pedestrian transport corridors
- landscaping aspirations.

Future intensification in parts of Kaipātiki within walking distance of the Akoranga, Smales Farm, Sunnynook and Constellation Drive rapid transit bus stations in response to the National Policy Statement on Urban Development will also need to be considered when identifying potential future open space acquisition and/or development.

Parks provision analysis

Kaipātiki has 530 hectares of open space, or 16 per cent of the local board's total land area. This is high compared to other urban local board areas. Historic development patterns and the physical constraints imposed by the area's topography, stream network and extensive area remnant and regenerating native forest mean that although Kaipātiki has a lot of open space it is unevenly distributed and much of it is not suitable for recreational use.

The Open Space Provision Policy (2016) contains provision metrics for the distribution, quantity and configuration of open space across Auckland.

The policy is primarily intended to guide open space acquisition in new urban areas. In existing urban areas, the open space network is largely in place and opportunities for land

⁴ Parts of Totara Vale and Wairau Valley fall within the Auckland Plan 2050 Sunnynook development area.

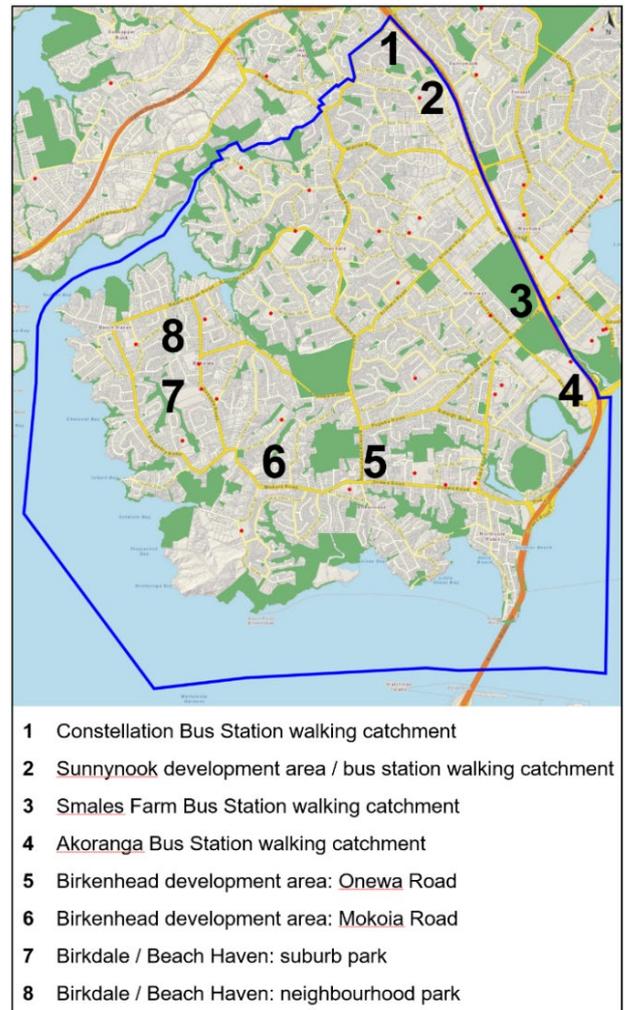
acquisitions are often constrained for financial or practical reasons.

The provision metrics in the policy (refer to Appendix 2) can nonetheless be used as guidelines for analysing provision.

Analysis of the Kaipātiki open space network against the policy's provision metrics show that:

- Areas 1 to 6 (pocket park provision): The acquisition of pocket parks that comply with council open space policy are recommended in all six of these intensification areas to better meet the day-to-day recreational needs of future residents.
- Area 3: One neighbourhood park is required between Sunnybrae Road and AF Thomas Park, immediately north of Marywil Crescent and Terrylin Drive.
- Areas 5 and 6: Some of the open space network along Onewa and Mokoia roads and Birkenhead Avenue lacks the appropriate amenities expected at neighbourhood and/or suburb parks. Steep terrain and/or heavily wooded areas constrain the development of existing reserves.
- Area 7: There is no gap in open space provision in this area. However, Rangatira Reserve, a suburb park that comprises 9.3 hectares of land, is poorly configured and lacks multifunctional recreation space. This equates to a qualitative gap in the area.
- Area 8: There is a neighbourhood park provision gap in this area.
- Areas 7 and 8 (mitigation of provision gaps): The Auckland Plan does not identify significant residential intensification in either of these areas. This means that the acquisition of new open space cannot be considered a high priority relative to Auckland Plan growth areas and potential National Policy Statement on Urban Development intensification areas within Kaipātiki.

Figure 9. Areas identified as having current or future open space gaps - either qualitative or quantitative



Existing school grounds (e.g. Northcote College, Kauri Park School and the four schools along Birkdale road) provide amenities such as play equipment and sports fields or courts. However, community access is limited to after-school hours and subject to ground closure if a school chooses.

Given the urbanised nature of these suburbs, opportunities to acquire new parks are limited. The local board may identify new opportunities to develop and enhance the network. Enhancing existing space through improving entrances and access to open spaces will improve the network overall.

Options to mitigate quantitative or qualitative provision gaps are discussed in the key moves section.

Sportsground and recreation

Parks and open spaces provide Kaipātiki residents benefits including opportunities to create safe spaces for parenting outside the home and for increasing physical activity.

Research by Sport New Zealand provides an insight into the sport and recreation activities that people participate in.

The 2019 survey results show that participation:

- is higher for boys than girls in most respects
- drops off in the teenage years, particularly for girls
- varies by ethnicity
- is lower amongst Asian young people in most aspects of sport and recreation overall.⁵

The top five activities amongst young people in the North Harbour region, which encompasses Kaipātiki, primarily involve outdoor play (table 1).

Table 1. Top five activities amongst young people in the North Harbour region

Activity	Participation rate
Running, jogging, cross-country	56%
Playing (outside, climbing trees, make believe)	42%
Swimming	36%
Playing on playground	35%
Games (four square, tag, dodgeball)	34%

It is important to look at how preferences differ between ethnic groups. Kaipātiki has had high growth in Asian populations. Survey data reveals that Asian young people engage significantly less in playing (e.g. running around, climbing trees, make-believe).

Additionally, Asian adults have higher rates of participation in badminton, table tennis, squash and basketball. These preferences need to be considered when planning for future provision in Kaipātiki.

Sports fields provision

There are eight council-owned sports fields in the Kaipātiki Local Board area. A list of these parks can be found in Appendix 5.

Sports field provision in Kaipātiki is considered adequate relative to other local board areas, with ample capacity for weekend games. However, there are some shortfalls in sports field capacity during weekdays – particularly in the Birkenhead, Birkdale, Beach Haven, Glenfield and Marlborough areas.

Auckland Council allocates budget for sports fields based on areas of greatest need. Kaipātiki is not considered an area of greatest need. Alternatives to acquisitions should be sought such as upgrading fields from soil to sand carpet to increase playing hours.

The Kaipātiki Local Board has aspirations to upgrade Birkenhead War Memorial Park. The redevelopment will be guided by the Birkenhead War Memorial Park Masterplan⁶ and delivered in stages based on the priorities identified by the local board in consultation with the community.

The upgrade of sport fields and facilities will offer local whānau a richer park experience through:

- improvements to sport and recreation facilities
- environmental protection
- car parking and signage
- acknowledgement of the park's cultural heritage and past.

Until this is completed, the local board will work with impacted park users to find solutions to challenges with storage, changing facilities and social spaces.

⁵ <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/3639/active-nz-year-3-main-report-final.pdf>

⁶⁶ <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/plans-projects-policies-reports-bylaws/our-plans-strategies/topic-based-plans-strategies/parks-sports-outdoor-plans/parks-masterplans/Pages/Birkenhead-War-Memorial-Park-Masterplan.aspx>

Playground provision

There are over 70 playgrounds or formal play areas in Kaipātiki, including school playgrounds open to the public after hours.

There are two main skateparks and a BMX track. Play provision encourages a variety of activities.

Auckland Council does not have a defined metric for the provision of playgrounds.

Satisfaction with parks

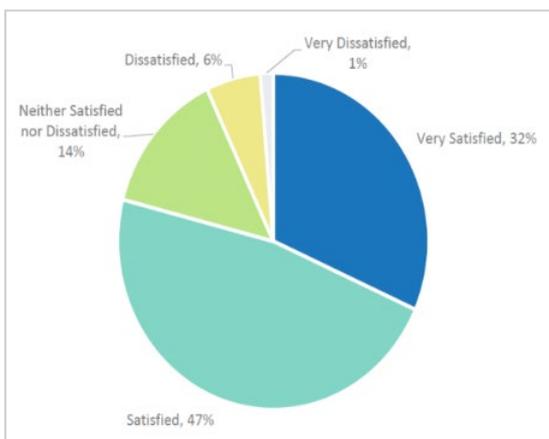
Kaipātiki residents were asked to provide their views on the parks network over the summer of 2017/18.⁷

Overall, survey data suggests satisfaction with the parks network was high, with 79 per cent of respondents either satisfied or very satisfied with the number, size and location of neighbourhood parks in their suburb (figure 10).

Respondents stated that they had a good number of parks around them, including a variety of types of parks (e.g. with playgrounds, walks and bush).

Eighty-seven per cent of respondents agreed that they had a neighbourhood park within a short walk of their home, with responses consistent across suburbs.

Figure 10. Satisfaction with the number, size and location of neighbourhood parks in Kaipātiki (Captivate, 2018)



The most common suggestions for improvements across all ages, ethnicities, family structures and incomes included:

- better playgrounds, including play equipment for different ages
- more facilities such as benches/seating, water fountains, barbeques, toilets and basketball courts/hoops
- improved maintenance/safety such as removing rubbish, cleaning toilets and adding lighting.

Ngā papa haumi / Connect

Creating a green network across Auckland by linking our parks, open space and streets

A connected open space network delivers a variety of recreation, ecological, transport, storm water, landscape and health benefits.

One of the strengths of the Kaipātiki open space network is its connectivity. Over time more connections have been created to encourage residents and visitors into green space whether recreationally or as a thoroughfare for walking and cycling.

A key aspect of developing connections is signage and wayfinding. These tools have been used successfully by the Kaipātiki Local Board. Signage and wayfinding encourage use of the network and creates an opportunity for storytelling and historical identification.

Walking and cycling network

To reduce private vehicle use and alleviate commuter congestion, the Kaipātiki Local Board encourages people to walk and cycle for shorter journeys. Open space can provide transport corridors in growth areas to increase active transport and reduce reliance on motorised forms of mobility.

⁷ Captivate surveys - 30 December 2017-11 March 2018: using a mixed methodology approach to capture data from both park users and non-users. On site intercept surveys were completed at 21 neighbourhood parks. Telephone interviews and online surveys provided additional data.

The Kaipātiki Connections Network Plan 2016 is a greenways plan that outlines key walking and cycling projects to improve connections in the area. The plan aims to provide safe and pleasant cycling and walking connections while improving local ecology and access to recreational opportunities.

The local board are aiming to update the plan in 2022.

Public transport network

The Kaipātiki Local Board prioritises ease of transportation in its Local Board Plan 2020.

The recent changes to the northern bus network have provided more frequent services to get people where they want to go. The new network is helping shape Tāmaki Makaurau to support future growth. There are now fewer routes that are easier to understand but may require a slightly longer walk to the bus stop.

Phased implementation for the north shore began in September 2018.

A recently completed project advocated for by the local board was the introduction of ferry services between Beach Haven and the city.

Ngā papa rangahau / Utilise

Utilising our parks and open spaces to create a green, resilient and prosperous city with thriving communities

Environmental quality

Healthy and functioning ecosystems contribute to improved water quality, soil conservation and carbon sinks.

Future use and development of open space may be limited by historic contamination or current shared land use. Contamination often results from landfill, industrial, commercial or horticultural land uses that have released hazardous substances into the ground.

When planning new facilities or activities, additional investigation is needed to ensure that appropriate controls are in place to address any hazards. Appendix 6 contains a map of the network infrastructure in Kaipātiki.

Marine and harbour quality

The quality of Kaipātiki's marine water affects the health and quality of coastal land and environments.

Auckland Council has ranked the water quality of the Upper Waitematā Harbour as poor. The overall marine and harbour report card for 2018 is a D. This poor grade is unchanged from 2016.⁸

The poorest ecological health is generally associated with sites located in the upper reaches of tidal arms like Hellyers Creek, or Rangitopuni, Paremoremo and Main and Upper Channel sites which rank as 'unhealthy.'

These issues reflect decades of wear and tear such as sedimentation and contamination.

Freshwater quality

Auckland Council has ranked the freshwater quality in the Waitematā reporting area (which includes the Kaipātiki Local Board area) as a D which is poor. The council considers the north shore's urban streams to be health impaired.

Urban development has led to a high level of impervious surface in the area, preventing rainfall from soaking into the ground. This has resulted in higher water temperatures, changes to the natural flow patterns and increased pollution from contaminated stormwater.⁹

⁸ <https://knowledgeauckland.org.nz/report-cards/marine-report-card-upper-waitemat%C4%81-harbour/>

⁹ <https://knowledgeauckland.org.nz/media/1219/soa-rpt-card-2018-freshwater-waitemata.pdf>

Connecting communities

Parks and open spaces act as venues for community events, gatherings, picnics and summer fun programmes.

The Auckland Council Events Policy provides the framework to support decision-making for events. Local boards are responsible for these local events.

Community leases

Community leases allow community organisations to operate from Auckland Council properties, providing services that deliver benefits aligned with the council's outcomes and priorities.

Auckland Council has guidelines for the use of park land by community groups that includes eligibility and assessment criteria.

Community leases provide exclusive rights to land which restrict the recreational activity capabilities of the park. As residential intensification occurs, the growing lack of private open space will drive demand for greater public open space.

The local board will take into account the needs of the current and future communities when considering new leases or reviewing existing leases.

Discussions about the future of leases need to begin well before the lease expires, especially if an alternative use of the currently leased land is being considered.

Open space leased for exclusive use

Lease holders tend to have exclusive use of publicly-owned assets. The local board will consider how to maximise public value from the use of these assets when reviewing these leases. Similar considerations apply as to the benefits delivered to the community.

Takapuna Golf Course currently leases 42.94 hectares of reserve land in Northcote from Auckland Council. It provides an 18-hole traditional moderate-level development parkland course well suited to the casual or

novice golfer. It is one of 17 public golf courses in Tāmaki Makaurau.

The lease comes to an end in February 2025. When considering entering into a new lease agreement, the Kaipātiki Local Board must assess the level of benefit to the community from different uses under the Community Occupancy Guidelines. This allows consideration of how the land can be transitioned from publicly owned land used exclusively by golfers to multi-purpose sport and recreation facilities for the enjoyment of all residents.



Section two — Key moves

Four key moves have been identified to deliver a high quality, safe and well-used open space network in Kaipātiki. They have been developed in partnership with mana whenua and the local board.

They provide direction for the development of the open space network over the next 10 years.

The four key moves are:

1. Provide equitable access to open space across Kaipātiki by

- increasing the capacity of the open space network
- improving the quality of the open space network.

2. Enhance and broaden the visitor experience by

- improving the quality and accessibility of parks to cater for a range of user needs
- increasing socialisation and active recreation opportunities.

3. Treasure the natural and cultural environment by

- protecting and enhancing the ecological quality of parks including native biodiversity and habitat
- promoting and enhancing the cultural heritage of parks.

4. Enhance walking, cycling and green corridors to connect communities by

- increasing and enhancing connections between open spaces
- improving awareness of connections.

2.1 Key move one – Provide equitable access to open space across Kaipātiki

Summary box: key move one

Auckland Council aims to provide a high-quality, safe and well used open space network that has flexible spaces and amenities. As the city continues to grow and land use intensifies, this becomes increasingly important and requires careful planning.

Actions to provide equitable access to open space across Kaipātiki include:

- investigate the provision of play equipment on open space in the vicinity of Woodhams and Flaxdale streets to help mitigate the neighbourhood park provision gap in Beach Haven
- seek acquisition of pocket parks that comply with Auckland Council's open space policy to help meet the day-to-day recreational needs of future residents
- mitigate suburb open space provision gaps in Birkdale by investigating school partnerships to allow greater community access
- consider investigating service property optimisation opportunities as a tool to help fund improved provision of open space
- assessing the options to open the publicly owned Takapuna Golf Course to other users with new play spaces, walking, running and cycling paths and other sport and recreation activities as part of the lease allocation.

These actions will contribute towards the following local board outcomes:

- Outcome 1: Te whai wāhitanga me te oranga | Belonging and wellbeing
- Outcome 3: Ngā wāhi me ngā takiwā | Places and spaces.

Addressing open space provision gaps

The Parks and Open Spaces Acquisition Policy 2013 sets out how Auckland Council will prioritise opportunities to acquire land.

Acquisitions are prioritised in areas identified for significant residential intensification in the Auckland Plan 2050 and are subject to budget considerations.

Open space provision gaps may be addressed through:

- acquisition of land to create a new open space or to expand an existing open space
- development of existing open space to improve visibility and usage and better meet needs
- land exchanges
- service property optimisation
- open council-owned leased land to a wider range of uses
- partnerships with other organisations to enable community access to non-council owned open space.

Alternatives to land acquisition should be explored first because:

- suitable land may be lacking (suitability as in configuration, topography, stability, visibility, accessibility - necessitate a willing seller and possibly require demolition of existing dwellings)
- gaps may not be located in a priority area for acquisition, that is an area of urban intensification and population growth
- acquisition may not deliver the best public value and budget may not be available.

Development of existing open space to improve visibility and usage and better meet needs

The local board may identify new opportunities to develop and enhance the network. Enhancing existing space through improving entrances and access to open spaces will improve the network overall.

Land optimisation

Service property optimisation is a process that aims to improve open space by releasing underlying value from the land that is not fit for purpose.

Underperforming space (for example, small residual parcels of land) can be divested and the sale proceeds can be reinvested in the same local board area. This is used to address the over provision in some areas and under provision in others.

Currently, there are no active service property optimisations taking place in the Kaipātiki Local Board area.

Open council-owned leased land to a wider range of uses

Some leased assets in Kaipātiki provide exclusive rights of use to community groups. The local board has an obligation under the Community Occupancy Guidelines to consider benefits to the community as part of the lease renewal and/or allocation of new leases.

New leases provide an opportunity to maximise community access to existing open space and mitigate provision gaps in the network.

The lease for the 18-hole Takapuna Golf Course on publicly owned land comes to an end in February 2025. The Kaipātiki Local Board will consider a new lease for this land. Golf courses are increasingly open to other users with new play spaces, walking, running and cycling paths as well as other sport and recreation activities. The land could be transitioned from publicly owned land used exclusively by golfers to multi-purpose sport and recreation facilities for the enjoyment of all residents.

Community partnerships

The local board would like to increase public access to open space by investigating partnership opportunities with potential providers of open space such as schools, infrastructure providers and private sports facilities.

There are 26 schools in the Kaipātiki local board area. Most school grounds contain playgrounds, sports fields and facilities. Schools that are not closed off to the public can be encouraged as makeshift parks and open space for extracurricular and recreational activities by the wider public.

Birkdale Primary has undergone facility upgrades for this purpose. Birkdale Intermediate is also undergoing some work to benefit the wider Kaipātiki community.



2.2 Key move two – Enhance and broaden the visitor experience

Summary box: key move two

Park redevelopments and improvements will ensure that the Kaipātiki open space network continues to provide a wide range of experiences in response to the changing recreational needs and aspirations of the community.

Ensuring accessibility for all ages and abilities will encourage use and create opportunities to improve health and wellbeing. Inclusive recreational opportunities also promote equity and social cohesion between people of different ages, cultures, ethnicities, abilities and socio-economic backgrounds.

Actions to activate and enhance Kaipātiki's parks and open spaces include:

- prioritise core amenities – water fountains, toilets, seating and shade – as part of the parks renewal programme
- where possible, activate esplanade reserves through the introduction of park amenities
- implement the recommendations in the Kaipātiki Play and Sunsmart Provision Audit (2018)
- transform currently underutilised pocket parks into community projects
- investigate and deliver opportunities for community gardens on parks
- investigate and design play spaces that provide inclusive and stimulating play environments
- investigate parks that could be refitted to accommodate off-leash dog play
- work with mana whenua to provide for customary uses of open space including taiaha and kapa haka practice
- engage mana whenua in the development of Māori games and play features for parks.

These actions will contribute towards the following local board outcomes:

- Outcome 1: Te whai wāhitanga me te oranga | Belonging and wellbeing
- Outcome 3: Ngā wāhi me ngā takiwā | Places and spaces.

Recreation

Running/jogging is the most popular recreational activity in the local board area, followed by outside play and swimming. Spaces that encourage and enable these activities are important and will assist in maintaining health and wellbeing for all ages.

Research into 21 neighbourhood parks in the local board area has shown that:

- 49 per cent walk to the park while 43 per cent drive
- on average, people live within a nine-minute walk or 12-minute drive from the park they use
- 92 per cent visit with someone else
- 72 per cent visit with one to four others
- 37 per cent visit at least once a week in winter
- 62 per cent visit at least once a week in summer.¹⁰

The park network provides a variety of experiences and opportunities to be active or enjoy the outdoors. However, the research has also shown that a lack of shade, seating and adequate amenities, such as toilets and water fountains, was a recurring criticism of parks.

Enhancing the standard of these core facilities should be prioritised as part of the park's renewal programme.

Seating

Seating in parks can contribute to activating the open space. It is a cost-effective way of improving park use and encourages use by the whole community.

Older Aucklanders have expressed the need for outdoor spaces that have seating, shade, drinking fountains and good lighting.¹¹

Seating is optimal for the following locations:

- next to areas of activities such as playgrounds, sports fields and barbeques
- in shaded areas for respite
- adjacent to walkways.

Factors that should be taken into consideration include:

- wind and seasonal changes
- views
- social settings and tradition
- clear sight lines to ensure safety.

The local board would like to work with community groups including Rotary Kaipātiki to fundraise for additional seating in the open space network.

Shade

New Zealand has high levels of ultraviolet rays and low ozone levels that contribute to health issues. It is important that adequate shade is provided in parks to minimise exposure.

Research has shown that while 59 per cent of park users visit for 45 minutes or less, 22 per cent visit for between one and two hours, resulting in prolonged exposure if there is not adequate shade.

The provision of shade is important in areas where people congregate for extended periods including playgrounds, sports fields, barbeque/picnic areas and walkways.

There are options for the provision of shade, both natural and artificial. Natural shade in the form of trees should be used where possible as they contribute to the amenity of parks and are environmentally friendly. If natural shade is not practical or effective in an area, shade sails should be used. Factors such as levels of use and site characteristics must be considered for each setting.

¹⁰ Kaipātiki Local Board Neighbourhood Parks Research Results March 2017, Captivate Research Ltd

¹¹ Age-Friendly Auckland Project: Community Engagement Findings Report

Activation

People enjoy parks for many reasons including relaxation, recreation, play, sport, fitness, nature and cultural activities. Because of the local board's limited scope for creating new, large green spaces, finding ways to activate existing open space and civic space is a priority and will enhance and encourage use.

Due to their dense tree coverage and steep topography, esplanade reserves do not usually contain typical park amenities like playgrounds, BBQ equipment or exercise equipment. Cycling or walking trails are a good use of esplanade reserves and connect beaches and streams.

Auckland Council recently upgraded facilities at Manuka Reserve in Glenfield to accommodate pets by installing a dog park. This was well received by the local community.

Both Kaipātiki residents and visitors from other areas in the north shore travel to Manuka Reserve because it offers a different experience than that of a standard park or reserve.

Informal feedback from the community indicates a desire for the local board to consider a second dog park. Existing parks that are fenced can be easily transitioned into dog parks as part of a development optimisation. Dog parks require extra amenities such as rubbish bins.

Community projects

Community projects such as pollinator paths and community gardens also create alternative recreational activities.

These serve a dual purpose of enhancing and improving open spaces, and encouraging activity and social engagement, all of which contribute to community wellbeing.

The local board supports community groups such as 'the Kaipātiki project' to run community gardening workshops. There is one community garden in Kaipātiki located in Beach Haven.

The local board area has some small underperforming pocket parks that could be

transitioned to community gardens and pollinator paths.

Deliver innovative play spaces

Good quality play spaces facilitate varied play opportunities that provide both social and developmental benefits. Play spaces should be flexible and multi-functional so that it promotes inclusivity.

Inclusive play promotes equity and social cohesion between people of different cultures, abilities and socio-economic backgrounds. The ethnic diversity in Kaipātiki makes play an excellent opportunity to bring these groups together.

In Kaipātiki, play is aimed at younger children and there is little provision for older children and teens. The Local Board Plan 2020 recognises the lack of play spaces for junior and senior age groups.

Establishing play equipment that is more physically challenging and involves risk taking (for example, obstacle course style play, flying foxes and equipment with greater physical difficulty) is key to ensuring play activation across a young person's life.

Providing play equipment to users across the disability spectrum should also be a priority in play provision. This should be developed in consultation with users to ensure it remains accessible for all groups.

Play does not always occur in a playground. The local board could consider how to promote unstructured play opportunities that are planned and designed around the existing environment. For example, leaving fallen trees in place will activate play in the natural landscape.

The local board have successfully implemented natural play equipment into Normanton Reserve in Glenfield.

Auckland Council has no formal metric for playground provision. However, research has found some gaps in play spaces in central and

southern Kaipātiki.¹² There are some opportunities to install play spaces within existing reserves. However, some areas would require potential property acquisition to address gaps due to the absence of suitable reserves.

The Kaipātiki Play and Sunsmart Provision Audit (2018) provides detailed recommendations for the local board to address play space gaps.

Natural play spaces and māra hūpara

Māori have a long history of play-based activities. The māra hūpara concepts incorporate play elements that Māori traditionally used to help develop skills for children, such as self-confidence and the ability to get on with others.

Harko Brown, a traditional Māori play specialist, worked alongside mana whenua to successfully infuse māra hūpara designs into play spaces in Tāmaki Makaurau, such as Wiri Stream Reserve and Te Auaunga. The local community were actively engaged in the design of these spaces.

The play spaces are made entirely from natural materials to connect people to the surrounding environment and create a richer play experience.

Māori play elements installed in these projects include:

- a torere tree for climbing
- a triple-posted tama-tane-wahine installation
- giant upturned ancient kauri log roots – te ko-uru which are linked by ko-papa
- several dozen hikeikei on which to hop, jump and walk over
- a land-based kōkiri
- a series of wera-te-paatu to practice agility, speed and balance.

Landscape architect Mark Lewis said: “By integrating traditional play elements into this project, we are encouraging our mokopuna to re-engage with the restored natural environment and thereby to reawaken their sense of history and place”.

These types of play spaces inspire opportunities to investigate more programmes and services on parks that target Māori cultural, physical and mental health. It would be beneficial to partner with local Māori to design and run programmes that may arise from this plan.



¹² The Kaipātiki Play and Sunsmart provision assessment (2018)

2.3 Key move three – Treasure the natural and cultural environment

Summary box: key move three

Kaipātiki residents treasure their natural and cultural environment. The local board's three-year plan supports actions to achieve a thriving natural and cultural environment. Parks and open spaces are an intrinsic part of this environment.

Actions to treasure the natural and cultural environment:

- work with mana whenua to instil mana whenua values and methods of land guardianship into the care, use and development of open space
- champion iwi and community-led projects that target weed and pest management and enhance the mauri of the water
- work towards carrying out the goals of the Urban Ngahere Strategy, including protecting kauri from kauri dieback
- increase riparian planting efforts along the steep coasts and esplanade reserves
- work with mana whenua to identify, protect, preserve and manage waahi tapu and other places of significance
- work with mana whenua to tell stories of Māori cultural heritage throughout Kaipātiki parks and open spaces, including through place names, interpretation, artwork and memorials
- implement te kete rukuruku
- work with mana whenua to apply and adapt Te Aranga design principles when developing parks.

These actions will contribute towards the following local board outcomes:

- Outcome 1: Te whai wāhitanga me te oranga | Belonging and wellbeing
- Outcome 2: Te taiao | Environment
- Outcome 3: Ngā wāhi me ngā takiwā | Places and spaces.

Natural heritage

The biodiversity and preservation of native flora and fauna are important to the local community including mana whenua, residents, volunteers and the local board.

Recognise and uplift mana whenua as kaitiaki

The environment is integral to Māori identity and culture. Māori see the environment as an interconnected whole and assess its health in the same way.

Mana whenua recognise that the privileges and benefits the environment provides us comes with a responsibility to care for and maintain the environment for future generations. This commitment is expressed as kaitiakitanga – the practice of guardianship and environmental management grounded in a Māori worldview. Maintaining mauri is important in expressing kaitiakitanga and is supported by the actions in this plan.

A partnership approach is beneficial for the development of parks and open spaces, local residents and mana whenua in the Kaipātiki Local Board area. This involves incorporating traditional methods of land stewardship which will encourage responsible care and use of the park network in the area.

Plant and pest management

Kaipātiki's natural ecosystems and biodiversity are under threat from pest plants and animals.

The Auckland Regional Pest Management Strategy 2019-2029 outlines the framework to manage or eradicate specific organisms in the Auckland region.

The intention is to:

- minimise the actual or potential adverse or unintended effects associated with these organisms
- maximise the effectiveness of individual actions in managing pests through a regionally coordinated approach.

The local board is active in this space and supports community empowerment and education initiatives around pest control.

In 2019, the local board signed a memorandum of understanding with Pest Free Kaipātiki Restoration Society in 2019. It outlines how both parties work together on predator control, weed eradication, planting of native vegetation, asset management and development and other conservation and restoration activities.

This collaborative approach will continue to be a priority for the local board as a means of protecting the parks and open spaces within the local board area.

Ecological corridors

The North-West Wildlink supports community service volunteers in developing and restoring wildlife corridors across the Auckland region. The project is a collaborative effort between Auckland Council, the Department of Conservation, and Forest and Bird, with additional support from mana whenua, private landowners, schools, other government departments and community groups.

Auckland Council recently carried out a naturalisation of parks service assessment for the Kaipātiki Local Board area. Consultation with the local board highlighted a desire by community representatives to advocate for naturalising local parks and improving ecological corridors.

The recommendations suggested an initial trial at Monarch Park that should include fruit trees and a natural meadow (no mow/low mow area). In future years the roll-out of this trial could consist of edible gardens and food forests components such as vegetables, herbs and plants.

Protect the urban ngahere

According to the Kaipātiki Urban Ngahere Report, canopy cover was 30 per cent in 2013, considerably higher than the 18 per cent overall in the region. It was also the highest for all urban local boards.



Although Kaipātiki has excellent tree cover overall, there are parts where forest cover is less than ideal and, in many areas, a high proportion of the cover comes from smaller trees.

The northern suburb of Totara Vale had 'moderate cover' (17 per cent), while industrial Wairau Valley had 'bare cover' (7 per cent). Parts of Kaipātiki that have comparatively low canopy cover on public land (e.g. public parks and school grounds) are Birkdale South, Birkdale North, Glenfield Central and Sunnybrae.¹³

The local board would like to explore ways in which established mature trees across the area can be retained where possible, noting that the long-term management of some large stands of pine trees in parks, specifically along the coastal edge, will need careful consideration.

Some mana whenua groups have expressed interest in exploring opportunities to cultivate rongoa / medicines in the ngahere.

The Kaipātiki Local Board area has a large concentration of mature kauri trees. Consequently, a significant portion of the Natural Environment Targeted Rate fund has

¹³ Urban Ngahere Analysis Report 2019 – Kaipātiki Local Board

been allocated to the area. This fund is being used to upgrade bush tracks to prevent the spread of kauri dieback.

The local board is working with community groups such as Pest Free Kaipātiki to mitigate the risk of kauri dieback.

Improve water quality

Watercare is working on upgrading and reducing the strain on existing pipes and drainage. A proposed new transmission pipeline from the Kahika Pump Station to Eastern Park Parade will ease future maintenance and repairs and reduce environmental risks, including in the Kaipātiki Stream and Waitematā Harbour.

The local board is committed to improving the quality of the freshwater and marine environment. They run a pollution prevention programme in the industrial areas of Birkenhead, Beach Haven and the Wairau Valley. They have also established a local water quality monitoring programme to better understand the current state of the environment.

One project of note is the Te Ara Awataha greenway. The local board is working alongside mana whenua, healthy waters, Panuku and Kāinga Ora to restore the Awataha Stream. This regenerative process, known as 'daylighting', will boost the mauri (life essence) of the stream, improving water quality and allowing it to become a habitat for birds, insects and tuna (eels) once more. It will also reconnect the community to this lost environmental taonga (treasure).

The local board will also work on improving water quality throughout the catchment of the Wairau Estuary and down to Milford Beach, by advocating for the installation of gross pollutant traps in the Wairau Valley.

Respond to coastal hazards

Climate change is expected to result in rising temperatures and sea levels, increased rainfall, prolonged periods of drought and marine and coastal erosion. These significant changes will impact parks and open spaces across the entire Auckland region.

Kaipātiki is surrounded by coastlines so is particularly susceptible to inundation, flooding, coastal erosion and slips. The impacts of coastal inundation and flooding are already evident at Little Shoal Bay Reserve. Riparian planting can help mitigate this.

The local board aims to understand these local coastal hazards better to reduce the impacts where possible, particularly for those disproportionately affected communities and users of the reserve.

Cultural Heritage

Kaipātiki has a rich cultural history from early Māori settlement to the present. The local board want to partner with mana whenua to tell the stories of Māori and their cultural heritage and knowledge.¹⁴

To achieve this, the local board will continue to develop partnerships with and actively engage mana whenua in managing and developing open space.

Roll out heritage information on parks

Promoting Māori identity when developing parks is an opportunity to celebrate our history and reflect Māori culture as our point of difference in the world.

Dual naming of parks and interpretive signage will help with cultural storytelling. The local board will seek to identify locations of significance to mana whenua as focal points for cultural storytelling in Kaipātiki.

Work is underway to investigate, devise and implement new signage around Kaipātiki

¹⁴ Kaipātiki Local Board Plan 2020

indicating both the English and Māori names for open spaces. This is reflected in the current work programme through Te Kete Rukuruku – Māori naming of parks and places project.

Apply Te Aranga design principles to park development

The local board will ensure that Te Aranga design principles are upheld in park development projects and that opportunities specific to Māori are included in the delivery of projects.

Should financial budgets allow, mana whenua have suggested incorporating Māori art in the local parks and open spaces to cement a visual representation of the Māori community in Kaipātiki. The installation of Māori art also elevates the visitor experience to a park or open space by adding a different sensory experience to the usual enjoyment of a park.



2.4 Key move four – Enhance walking, cycling and green corridors to connect communities

Summary box: key move four

Parks and open spaces allow people to meet and connect and provide alternatives for travelling through and around an area.

The Kaipātiki Local Board has prioritised creating a safe and well-connected transport network. This includes walking and cycling options that cater to a wide range of abilities and connect suburbs and open spaces.

A well-connected network will enhance the use of existing open spaces, whether as a meeting point, a thoroughfare or a haven from busy city life.

Actions to enhance walking, cycling and green corridors to connect communities include:

- implementing the actions identified in the Kaipātiki Connections Network Plan and monitor delivery progress
- increasing the number of wayfinding maps to improve connections between parks
- establish signage at all entrances of every park to improve visibility
- reviewing private encroachment to ensure access and connections are maintained for all communities across the Kaipātiki open space network.

These actions will contribute towards the following local board outcomes:

- Outcome 2: Te taiao | Environment
- Outcome 3: Ngā wāhi me ngā takiwā | Places and spaces
- Outcome 4: Te Ikiiki me ngā tūhononga | Transport and connections.

Enhancing walking and cycling connections

Walking and cycling routes contribute to an effective transport network and communities that are well connected are more cohesive.

The Kaipātiki Connections Network Plan details actions to enhance and extend the existing network and improve connections within and between parks.

The local board is committed to actioning the network plan and is in the process of updating the connections plan again to consider developing opportunities and challenges. The impact of kauri dieback disease has led to the temporary and permanent closure of some parks and tracks. These restrictions may require rerouting and reprioritising certain connections.

Well used and safe parks

Accessways into parks affect perceptions about their nature, safety and standard, which can either encourage or discourage use.

There are two main aspects to safety:

- A safe route into a park is a direct route with unobstructed visibility. Park users have said that safety becomes increasingly important at night.¹⁵
- A safe park environment is where people are confident finding their way around and have multiple entry and exit points. Improving navigation and accessibility can help to increase the safety of a space for everyone.

The local board will continue its commitment to a continuous maintenance and improvement programme that meets best practice standards, allowing people to move freely and confidently through parks and open spaces.

Signage and wayfinding

Signage is a key tool to improve public awareness of open space connections. It helps to enhance the utilisation of existing open space and combat the challenges of track closures due to kauri dieback and budgets constraints which restrict or delay the development of new connections.

The idea of improving current wayfinding maps has been supported through public feedback provided to Kaipātiki Local Parks Management Plan in 2019.

Wayfinding maps would show a graphic representation of nearby parks and open spaces and how they connect to the user's current whereabouts. These maps are enhanced with the use of bilingual messaging.

Encroachment

The encroachment of public land is perceived as an increasing issue in the area.

There have been cases in which private land has crept onto publicly maintained open space without clear differentiation.

It is especially troubling when a local park or open space can only be accessed by a bordering private property or a little-known trail, making the park or open space difficult to access by the public.

If the public cannot easily access a park or open space, which is a community good, then the park's social value to the community is diminished.

Private encroachment needs to be reviewed to ensure access and connections are maintained for all communities across the open space network.

¹⁵ Kaipātiki Local Board Neighbourhood Parks Research Results March 2017, Captivate Research Ltd

Section three — How to use this plan

Actions that will contribute to delivering a sustainable and high-quality open space network have been identified. These actions respond to anticipated population growth and will provide the community with access to a range of recreational, social, cultural and environmental experiences.

Actions have been classified as either a high, medium or low priority. They will be reviewed in future years should reprioritisation be required.

3.1 Prioritisation criteria

Prioritisation criteria provide direction for planning and implementing park development to improve the open space network.

The following list of criteria have been considered when prioritising actions:

- existing capital works programmes and contractual commitments
- areas zoned for high growth (metropolitan centre, town centres, local centres, mixed use, terrace housing and apartments) and areas where a gap in provision has been identified
- areas of deficiency and/or poor-quality open space are prioritised over areas of good provision and/or good quality open space
- alternative options that still deliver high benefits for the community
- planning and funding cycles and other influences such as land acquisitions, large infrastructure projects, integrated planning with neighbouring local boards and other stakeholders.

The actions are prioritised for delivery using the following criteria:

Underway	
High priority (1 to 3 years)	
Medium priority (3 to 5 years)	
Low priority (6 to 10+ years)	

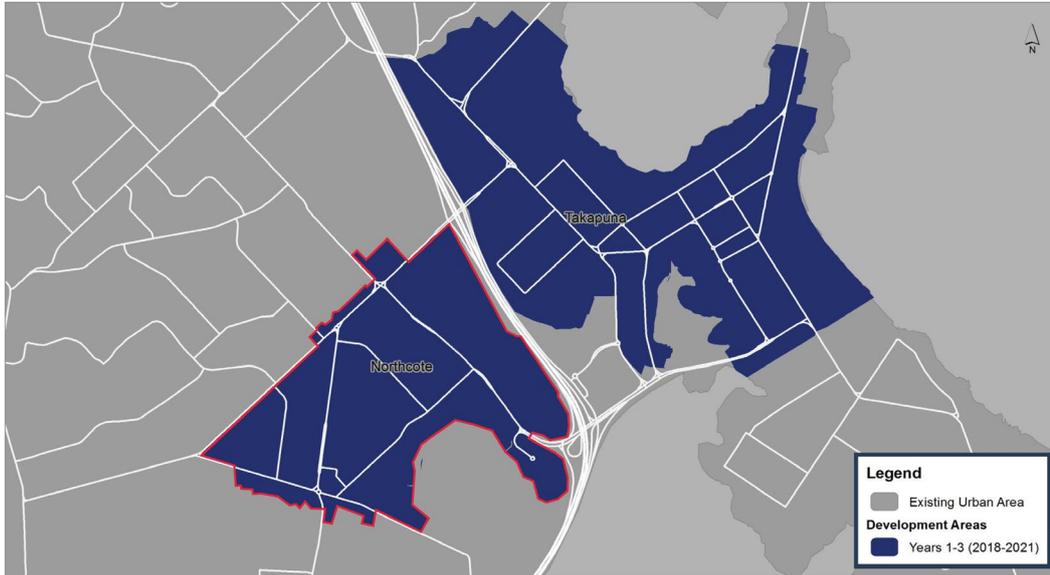
3.2 Actions

Key Move	Proposed Action	Priority
Key move one – Provide equitable access to open space across Kaipātiki	Investigate the provision of play equipment on open space in the vicinity of Woodhams and Flaxdale streets to help mitigate the neighbourhood park provision gap in Beach Haven.	
	Seek acquisition of pocket parks that comply with Auckland Council's open space policy as recommended in all six of the intensification areas identified on Figure 9, page 14, to help meet the day-to-day recreational needs of future residents.	High priority – underway
	Consider investigating service property optimisation opportunities as a tool to help fund improved provision of open space.	
	Investigate the options to repurpose part of AF Thomas Park, currently occupied by the Takapuna Golf Course, for other open space activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provision of a neighbourhood park to meet Auckland Council's open space provision targets between Sunnybrae Road and AF Thomas Park, immediately north of Marywil Crescent and Terrylin Drive • walking, running and cycling paths • other sport and recreation activities, potentially as part of the lease allocation. 	
	Mitigate suburb open space provision gaps in Birkdale by investigating partnerships with Birkdale North Primary School, Birkdale Intermediate School and Birkenhead College to allow greater community access and use of school grounds and facilities such as playgrounds, sports fields and hard courts.	
Key move two – Enhance and broaden the visitor experience	Prioritise core amenities – water fountains, toilets, seating and shade – as part of the parks renewal programme.	
	Where possible, activate esplanade reserves through the introduction of park amenities.	
	Implement the recommendations in the Kaipātiki Play and Sunsmart Provision Audit (2018).	High priority – underway
	Transform currently underutilised pocket parks into community projects.	
	Investigate and deliver opportunities for community gardens on parks	
	Investigate and design play spaces which provide inclusive and stimulating play environments.	
	Investigate parks that could be refitted to accommodate off-leash dog play	

	Work with mana whenua to provide for customary uses of open space including taiaha and kapa haka practice.	
	Engage mana whenua in the development of Māori games and play features for parks.	
Key move three – Treasure the natural and cultural environment	Work with mana whenua to instil mana whenua values and methods of land guardianship into the care, use and development of open space.	
	Champion iwi and community led projects that target weed and pest management and enhance the mauri of the water.	
	Work towards carrying out the goals of the Urban Ngahere Strategy, including protecting kauri from kauri dieback.	
	Increase riparian planting efforts along the steep coasts and esplanade reserves.	
	Work with mana whenua to identify, protect, preserve and manage waahi tapu and other places of significance.	
	Work with mana whenua to tell stories of Māori cultural heritage throughout our parks and open spaces, including through place names, interpretation, artwork and memorials.	
	Implement Te Kete Rukuruku – dual language signage programme.	High priority - underway
	Work with mana whenua to apply and adapt Te Aranga design principles when developing parks.	
Key move four - Enhance walking, cycling and green corridors to connect communities	Implement the actions identified in the Kaipātiki Connections Network Plan and monitor delivery progress.	
	Increase the number of wayfinding maps to improve connections between parks.	
	Establish signage at all entrances of every park to improve visibility.	
	Review private encroachment to ensure access and connections are maintained for all communities across the Kaipātiki open space network.	

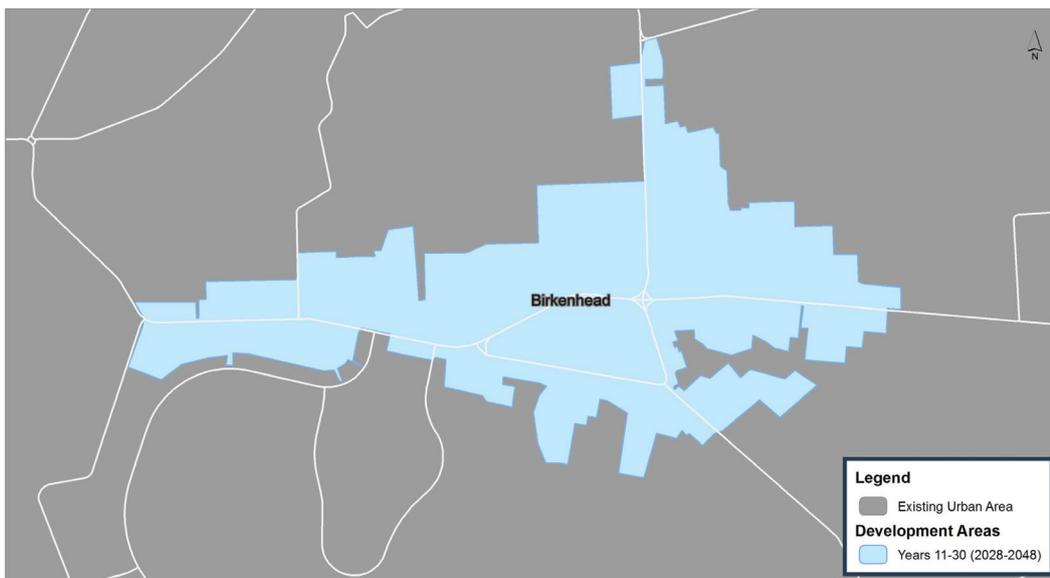
Appendix 1: Auckland Plan 2050 growth areas in Kaipātiki

Northcote: The Northcote growth area (outlined in red) includes Kāinga Ora’s Northcote Development project.



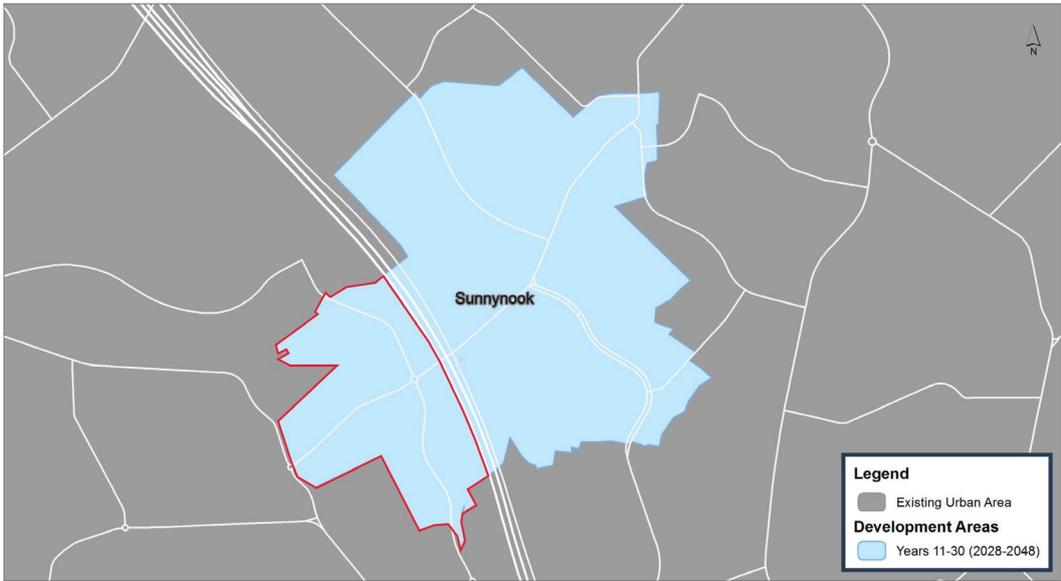
	Takapuna	Northcote
Anticipated household growth 2018-2048 [1]	5,390	1,450
Anticipated population growth 2018-2048 [1]	11,635	3,631
Anticipated employment growth 2018-2048 [1]	11,620	320
Average no. jobs accessible within 45min morning peak public transport by 2026 [2]	Over 300,000	200,000-300,000
Enabled housing capacity* [3]	7,260	10,430
Feasible development capacity 2017 [3]	1,150	880
Phasing / Sequencing	1-3 years	1-3 years

Birkenhead: Intensification is proposed along Mokoia and Onewa roads and Birkenhead Avenue.



Anticipated household growth 2018-2048 [1]	2,820
Anticipated population growth 2018-2048 [1]	7,440
Anticipated employment growth 2018-2048 [1]	580
Average no. jobs accessible within 45min morning peak public transport by 2026 [2]	200,000-300,000
Enabled housing capacity* [3]	9,380
Feasible development capacity 2017 [3]	2,010
Phasing / Sequencing	11-30 years

Sunnynook: The Sunnynook growth area includes parts of Totara Vale and Wairau Valley within Kaipātiki (outlined in red).



Anticipated household growth 2018-2048 [1]	990
Anticipated population growth 2018-2048 [1]	1,970
Anticipated employment growth 2018-2048 [1]	410
Average no. jobs accessible within 45min morning peak public transport by 2026 [2]	200,000-300,000
Enabled housing capacity* [3]	9,810
Feasible development capacity 2017 [3]	990
Phasing / Sequencing	11-30 years

Appendix 2: Types of open space

The Auckland Council open space network comprises a range of land holdings with different attributes and functions, including:

- 1) local and regional parks
- 2) heritage sites
- 3) sports fields
- 4) civic space
- 5) riparian and coastal land around harbours, waterways, wetlands and beaches
- 6) volcanic landscapes
- 7) wilderness areas and native bush.

The Open Space Provision Policy (2016) includes provision metrics for the various types of open space and these are set out in the table below.

Typology	Description	Indicative amenities	Provision target
Pocket Park	<p>Provides 'door step' access to small amenity and socialising spaces in high density residential areas.</p> <p>Provides visual relief in intensively developed areas.</p> <p>New pocket parks are typically between 0.1 to 0.15 hectares.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • landscaping and gardens • small lawn areas • furniture • specimen trees • hard surface treatments • areas for socialising and respite 	<p>Voluntarily provided at no capital cost and only on agreement by council. Alternatively, pocket parks can be retained in private ownership.</p> <p>Located in urban centres or high density residential areas. Must be located on a public street and not an internalised space within a development block.</p> <p>Not to be located within 100m of other open space.</p> <p>In addition to requirements for neighbourhood parks.</p>
Neighbourhood Park	<p>Provides basic informal recreation and social opportunities within a short walk of surrounding residential areas.</p> <p>New neighbourhood parks are typically between 0.3 to 0.5 hectares.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • play space • flat, unobstructed, kick-around space for informal games (30m by 30m) • areas for socialising and respite • landscaping • specimen trees • furniture 	<p>400m walk in high and medium density residential areas.</p> <p>600m walk in all other residential areas.</p> <p>Provides a range of different recreation opportunities between nearby neighbourhood and suburb parks.</p>

<p>Suburb Park</p>	<p>Provides a variety of informal recreation and social experiences for residents from across a suburb.</p> <p>Located in prominent locations and help form the identity of a suburb.</p> <p>Suburb parks will often accommodate organised sport facilities, such as sportsfields.</p> <p>New suburb parks are typically 3 to 5 hectares if providing for informal recreation uses only and up to 10 hectares or larger if also accommodating organised sport uses.</p>	<p>walking circuits or trails within the park</p> <p>multiple kick-around spaces</p> <p>socialising spaces, including picnic and barbeque facilities</p> <p>larger and more specialised informal recreation attractions, such as large playgrounds, skate parks, hard courts</p> <p>beaches and watercraft launching facilities</p> <p>organised sport facilities</p> <p>community event space</p> <p>car parking and toilets</p>	<p>1000m walk in high and medium density residential areas.</p> <p>1500m walk in all other residential areas.</p> <p>Provides a range of different recreation opportunities between nearby neighbourhood and suburb parks.</p> <p>Provides a neighbourhood park function for immediately neighbouring residential areas.</p>
<p>Destination Park</p>	<p>Provides for large numbers of visitors, who often visit for an extended period of time, and may travel from across Auckland.</p> <p>Many destination parks are tourist attractions.</p> <p>Typically they will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be more than 30 hectares • accommodate specialised facilities • have significant or unique attributes. <p>Regional parks are considered to be destination parks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • large events space • networks of walking circuits and trails • destination and/or multiple playgrounds • specialised sport and recreation facilities • distinct natural, heritage or cultural features • multiple places for gatherings and socialising such as barbeque and picnic facilities 	<p>A variety of destination parks should be located to serve each of the northern, western, central and southern areas of urban Auckland.</p> <p>Future provision will be determined through network planning, which will identify if and where new destination parks are required.</p> <p>See Figure 5 on page 34 for indicative provision guidance.</p> <p>Provides neighbourhood and suburb park functions for immediately neighbouring residential areas.</p>

<p>Civic Space</p>	<p>Provides spaces for meeting, socialising, play and events in Auckland's urban centres.</p> <p>Civic space encompasses a network of public space including squares, plazas, greens, streets and shared spaces.</p> <p>Civic spaces can be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • small (<0.1 hectares), typically providing respite, informal meeting and socialising opportunities • medium (0.15 to 0.2 hectares, typically capable of hosting small events • large (0.3 to 0.4 hectares), typically capable of hosting medium scale events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • highly structured and developed urban spaces • predominately hard-surfaces • meeting and socialising opportunities • event space • landscaping and gardens • public artworks 	<p>The extent of the civic space network should reflect the scale of the urban centre.</p> <p>Civic space should be planned as part of an integrated network, which responds to the local character and needs of an urban centre.</p> <p>Local Centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one small civic space. <p>Town Centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one or more small civic spaces; and • one medium civic space. <p>Metropolitan Centres</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one or more small civic spaces; • one or more medium civic spaces; and • one large civic space.
<p>Connection and linkage open space</p>	<p>Provides contiguous networks of open space that establish recreational, walking cycling and ecological connections, integrated with on-street connections.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trails • walkways • cycleways • seating • landscaping • boardwalks • native bush 	<p>The provision of open space for linkages and connections will depend on the particular characteristics of an area.</p> <p>Primarily provided along watercourses or the coast.</p> <p>Refer to the section <i>connect our parks and open spaces</i> for further provision guidance.</p>

Appendix 3: Neighbourhood parks in Kaipātiki

Park / Reserve Name	Address	Area (in sqm)
Agincourt Reserve	7R Agincourt Street	7,521
Anne McLean Reserve	10 Anne Mclean Drive	2,924
Cadness Loop	96 Cadness Street	1,755
Cadness Reserve	6 Cadness Street	4,928
Camelot Reserve	38 Camelot Place	9,721
Celeste Reserve	15 Celeste Place	3,933
Diana Reserve	14 Diana Drive	6,566
Downing Street Reserve	18 Downing Street	10,933
Fernwood Grove	2 Fernwood Grove	7,457
Greenvalley Reserve	32 Greenvalley Rise	7,314
Heath Reserve	140 Exmouth Road	13,845
Highgrove Reserve	15 Highgrove Lane	3,024
Inwards Reserve	57 Salisbury Road	19,405
Jacaranda Avenue Reserve	18 Jacaranda Avenue	1,423
Jean Sampson Reserve	25 Queen Street	3,314
John Kay Park	89 Waipa Street	7,896
Lancelot Reserve	16 Lancelot Place	2,618
Leiden Reserve	13 Leiden Place	4,067
Lenihan Reserve	13 Lenihan Street	3,189
Lindisfarne	229 Lake Road	2,948
Linley Reserve	5 Linley Place	16,582
Locket Reserve	11 Locket Road	12,431
Lysander Crescent Reserve	50 Lysander Crescent	837
Mick Stanley Memorial Reserve	205 Chelsea View Drive	2,034
Monarch Park	68 Moore Street	24,987
Nell Fisher Reserve	204 Hinemoa Street	3,408
Neptune Avenue Reserve	38 Neptune Avenue	580
Opaketai Beach Haven Garden	364 Rangatira Road	835
Oruamo Reserve	350 Glenfield Road	10,875
Park Reserve	59 Park Road	7,137

Pemberton Reserve	35 Pemberton Avenue	17,884
Portsea Reserve	1 Portsea Place	674
Powrie Reserve	36 Powrie Street	22,259
Ross Reserve	1 Ross Avenue	5,208
Sapphire Reserve	14 Sapphire Place	1,850
Spinella Reserve	12 Bonito Place	3,515
Stanaway Reserve	36 Stanaway Street	1,772
Tamahere Reserve	21 Tamahere Drive	15,555
Target Reserve	80 Target Road	5,678
Taurus Crescent Reserve	8 Taurus Crescent	738
Teviot Reserve	6 Teviot Place	6,252
Tōtaravale Reserve	37 Tōtaravale Drive	9,158
Trias Reserve	95 Trias Road	14,281
Vandeleur Reserve	39 Vandeleur Avenue	2,161
Wanita Reserve	5 Wanita Place	4,069
Windy Ridge Reserve	2 Windy Ridge Road	2,689

Appendix 4: Suburb parks in Kaipātiki

Park / Reserve Name	Address	Area (m ²)
A F Thomas Park	21 Northcote Road	508,990
Akoranga Reserve	7 Akoranga Drive	22,882
Birkenhead War Memorial Park	102 Birkenhead Avenue	323,200
Dudding Park Sports field	20 Council Terrace	28,969
Chelsea Estate Heritage Park	57 & 60 Colonial Road	363,800
Elliott Reserve	34 Elliott Avenue	15,031
Greenslade Reserve	1 Greenslade Crescent	14,849
Hinemoa Park	1 Hinemoa Street	24,604
Island Bay Reserve	113 Island Bay Road	7,595
Kaipātiki Park	146 Kaipātiki Road	52,637
Le Roy's Bush Reserve	251 Hinemoa Street	101,800
Little Shoal Bay Reserve - Northcote Pt	20 Council Terrace	118,833
Manuka Reserve	215 Manuka Road	73,088
Marlborough Park	13 Chartwell Avenue	42,896
McFetridge Park	115 Archers Road	58,066
Normanton Reserve	9 Normanton Street	23,635
Onepoto Domain	24 Tarahanga Street	333,635
Onewa Domain	44 Northcote Road	100,700
Rewi Alley Reserve	52 Trias Road	42,436
Rotary Grove (Northcote)	49 Lake Road	22,374
Shepherds Park	31-35 Cresta Avenue	139,331
Stafford Park	18 Denby Lane	32,659
Tui Park	39 Rambler Crescent	19,785

Appendix 5: Parks with sports fields in Kaipātiki

Park / Reserve Name	Address	Area (m²)
Birkenhead War Memorial Park	102 Birkenhead Avenue	323,200
Dudding Park Sports field	20 Council Terrace	28,969
Greenslade Reserve	1 Greenslade Crescent	14,800
McFetridge Park	115 Archers Road	58,066
Onepoto Domain	24 Tarahanga Street	333,635
Onewa Domain	44 Northcote Road	100,700
Shepherds Park	31-35 Cresta Avenue	139,331
Stafford Park	18 Denby Lane	32,659

Appendix 6: Network infrastructure and contaminated sites in Kaipātiki

