



Report 2018.307
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Committee Environment
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Parks Network Plan review initial consultation feedback

1. Purpose

To provide a summary of the feedback received during the initial consultation period for the review of the Parks Network Plan.

2. Background

The current Parks Network Plan was approved by Council in 2011 and encompasses eight parks and forests:

- Akatarawa Forest
- Battle Hill Farm Forest Park
- Belmont Regional Park
- East Harbour Regional Park
- Kaitoke Regional Park
- Pakuratahi Forest
- Wainuiomata Recreation Area
- Queen Elizabeth Park

In May 2018 the Environment Committee approved *Everything is Connected*, the Parks Network Plan Review Discussion Document, for an initial six week consultation period. The aim of the consultation was to seek feedback and suggestions from the public and park stakeholders to inform the development of a new Parks Network Plan.

2.1 Consultation and engagement undertaken

The consultation and engagement undertaken was a **listening and information gathering opportunity**. We sought general comments as well as specific feedback about the issues identified in our consultation material about the management of our regional parks into the future and what

facilities and services might be needed. The discussion material supported dialogue on a wide range of topics and feedback indicated that it was useful and well received.

Consultation and engagement activities between 21 May and 29 June (and extending into July) included:

- Mana whenua engagement
- Information on the website including the discussion document, supporting documents and an online survey form
- Copies of consultation material available in all Greater Wellington offices and all major libraries throughout the region as well as park ranger offices
- Summary flyer with feedback form available in all park brochure holders in park entrances
- Over 1400 flyers handed out over two occasions at Wellington Railway Station
- A series of social media (Facebook and Instagram) posts on a range of topics
- Direct emails to over 1900 people on parks and environment related databases. This included regional and national conservation and recreation groups, and individuals who submitted feedback via other Greater Wellington planning processes
- Meetings and discussions with interested stakeholders and groups across the regional park network, such as friends groups.
- A drop in discussion session for East Harbour Regional Park stakeholders
- Meetings with territory authority open space and parks planners, DOC officers and others
- One to one meetings with park rangers
- Public notice in the Dominion Post
- Media release.

The six week engagement period was informally extended to eight weeks by leaving the online survey on the website to allow for more feedback.

Queen Elizabeth Park

Over the past two years there have been periodic and vocal objections to some aspects of park management at Queen Elizabeth Park. For this reason, more intensive engagement activities were undertaken to listen to the community and stakeholders concerns about the park. This included:

- Meetings with local iwi and most park stakeholders over a period of three days to seek their feedback.

- An independently facilitated workshop with iwi and stakeholder group representatives to explore common key issues topics in more detail. The feedback is summarised in **Attachment 2**.
- The consultation flyer and feedback form was mailed to all residents in Paekakariki and all residents in the streets immediately north of the park in Raumati South. In total over 1200 residents were mailed the information.

In addition, the annual parks satisfaction telephone survey, which took place between February and April this year, included extra questions to inform parks management planning. The survey also included an increased population sample size (+100 people) within the vicinity of Queen Elizabeth Park and some specific questions for this park.

2.2 Community feedback

The level of engagement has confirmed that the community is very interested and engaged in regional parks. Many respondents know our parks well and have made a significant effort to provide detailed commentary about concerns they have as well as suggesting possible improvements for management of parks.

Over 345 people submitted feedback in writing, and many others provided feedback via officer discussions and in response to social media posts. In addition, a petition in favour of developing wetlands titled '*Restore the Raumati Wetlands in Queen Elizabeth Park*' was provided with 712 signatures (as of 30 July; the petition is still open for signatures).

Feedback was received in the form of:

- Online surveys and hard copy feedback forms
- Emails to parksplanning@gw.govt.nz
- One to one meetings between officers and stakeholders
- A workshop for QEP stakeholders, drop in session for East Harbour stakeholders and individual meetings with other park stakeholder as they expressed interest
- Public comments on a series of social media posts (Facebook and Instagram).

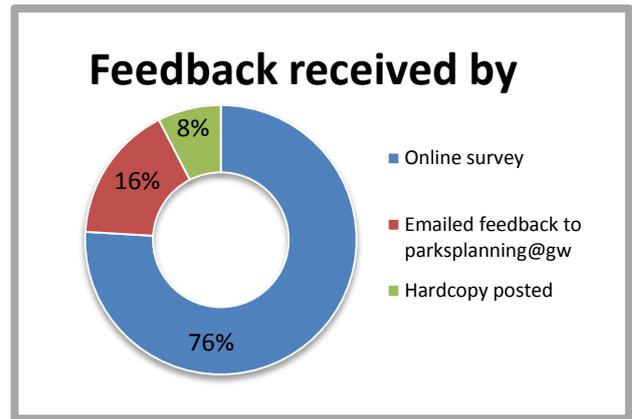
The feedback provided by the community during this consultation will help us develop a new management plan which reflects community needs and aspirations for regional parks.

2.2.1 Feedback themes

At the close of consultation:

- 262 online surveys were completed
- 26 hard copy surveys returned
- 57 emails to parksplanning@gw.govt.nz

Total 345



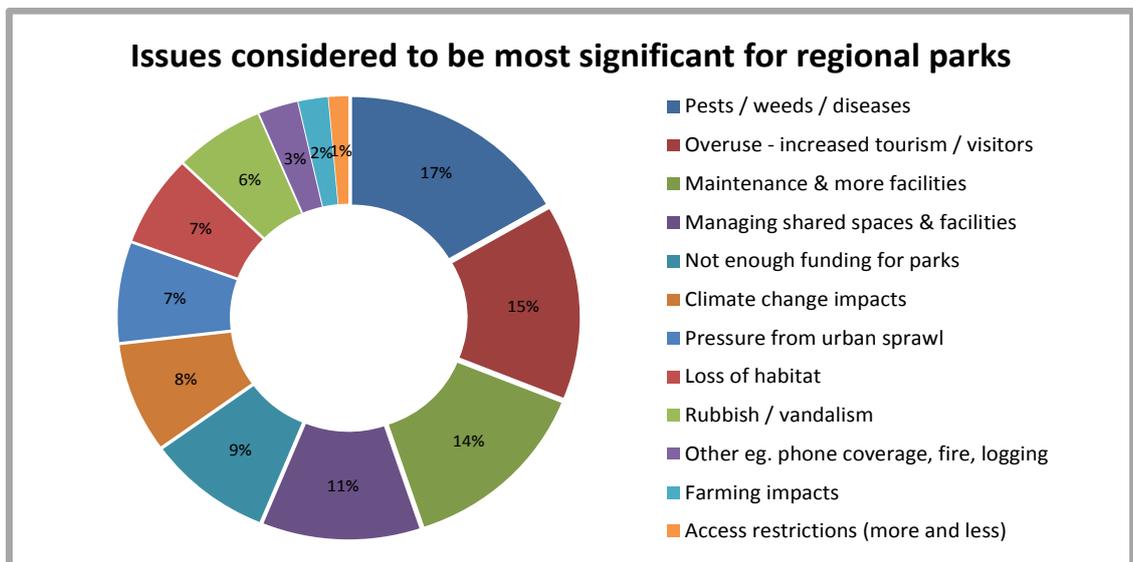
In addition, approximately 40 completely blank hard copy surveys were also received. It is not known who sent these or what the intended message of the blank form is.

A summary of the feedback received is set out in **Attachment 1**.

In the online survey we asked for feedback via five questions. The results are set out below.

Note: It was not compulsory to answer every question; therefore the number of respondents to each question varies. Respondents could provide multiple answers to each question.

1. *What do you think are the most significant issues facing regional parks now and over the next ten years?*

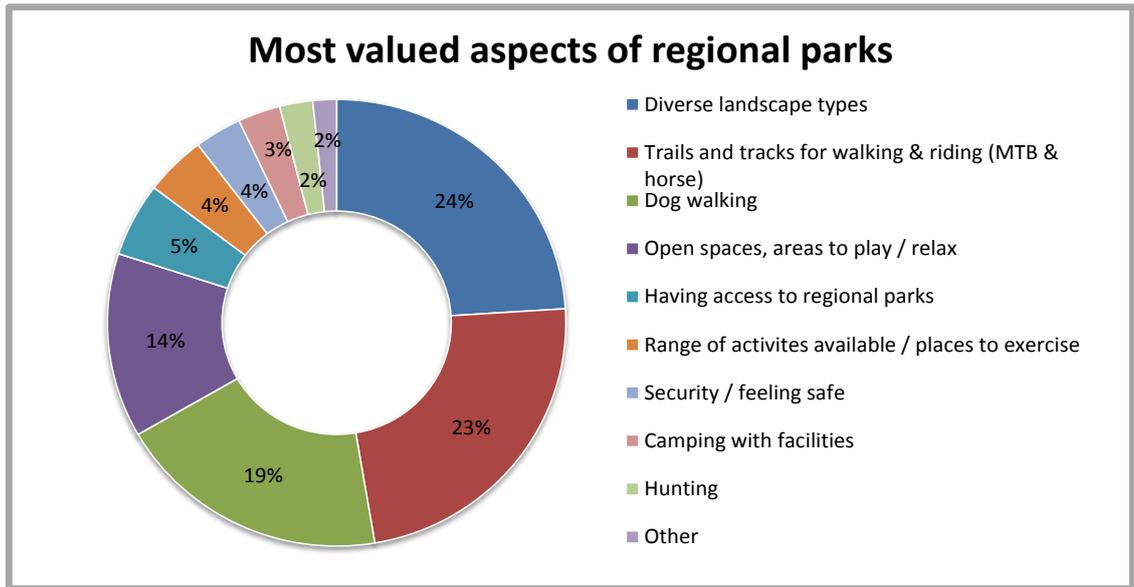


A significant proportion of respondents are concerned about the natural environment within parks. Managing the environment to minimise the impacts of pest plants and animals is the most significant concern. This is followed closely by concerns about the pressure on parks from tourism and

visitors, and the challenge of providing more facilities and maintaining parks. Concerns about managing shared spaces often related to dog walking and horse riding on shared trails.

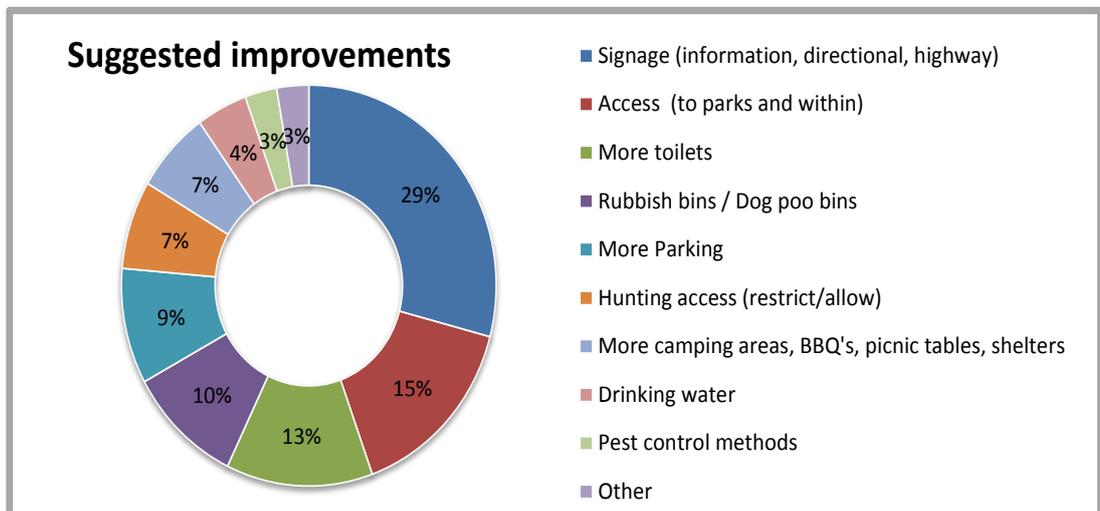
Community feedback about issues of concern is explored further in **Attachment 1**.

2. What do you value most about particular regional parks? For example, particular landscapes, places, trails, or recreation activities?



Diverse landscapes were the most valued aspect of regional parks. This was followed closely by the trail based recreation opportunities of walking, bike and horse riding and dog walking. Responses to this question are explored more in **Attachment 1**.

3. What could Greater Wellington do to improve our regional parks? For example, are facilities needed in a particular place or accessibility improved?

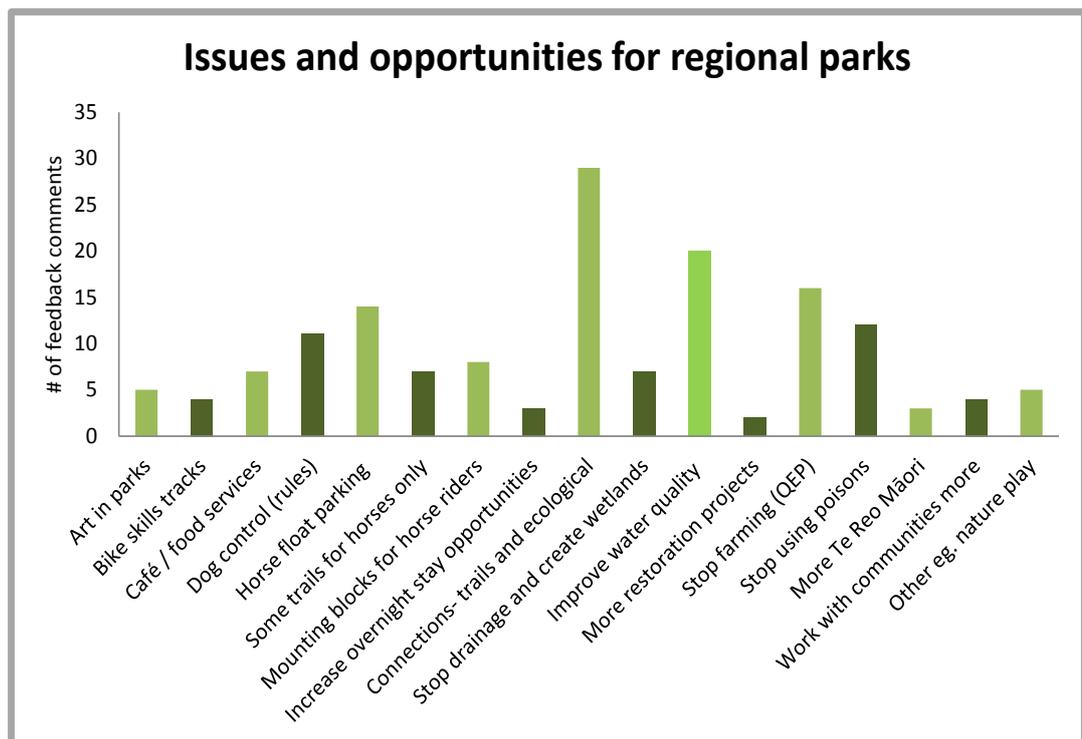


Community feedback here relates to recreation facilities and public access.

More work is required to improve signage to and within parks, and to improve a range of other facilities to support recreation activities. Concerns about signage are also reflected in feedback provided in the annual parks telephone survey.

Access to and within parks is identified as a significant opportunity for improvement. Commentary provided within feedback includes concerns about restrictions on ‘freedom to roam’ in some parks which are recreation reserves; in particular Belmont and Queen Elizabeth Park. There are many references in the feedback to fences and gates making access more difficult, and the feeling of recreation access being shaped or constrained by farming licence activities, rather than farming activities accommodating recreation access. **Attachment 1** describes community suggestions for improvements for recreation facilities in more detail.

4. Do you have any feedback about issues or opportunities raised in this discussion document or the supporting documents (External Influences on Parks and Farming in Regional Parks)?



Throughout the feedback and officer/ stakeholder discussions the common overall theme is the desire for ‘connections’, in particular ecological corridor habitat connections and trail connections to and within parks for recreation purposes. Discussions with territorial authority and other land management agencies were also often focused on open space connections. The

consultation theme, 'Everything is connected' appears to have been particularly pertinent.

The current Parks Network Plan identifies areas where **ecological corridor connections within and beyond parks** could be made. Community feedback is that further work is required to support and enhance ecological corridors, and that this needs to happen in a deliberate and collaborative manner with adjoining private land owners, other land management agencies and community groups. Feedback was critical of Greater Wellington where stated ecological corridors have not been achieved to the extent community members expected.

Looking beyond park boundaries, **trail connections** to parks for cycling and walking from public transport and home are also seen as important by the community. The boom in cycling activities and retiring baby boomers could be generating some of this demand as well as general community interest in sustainable transport options. The desire for better park access and facilities for horse riders is also apparent in community feedback. Social media posts relating to horse riding in regional parks received many 'likes' and 'shares' of the survey link. Regional parks are seen as key destinations in the region for horse trail riding. Other trail related feedback includes the desire for more circuit trails within parks and trails with easy or intermediate gradients.

Improving water quality was the second most important issue and opportunity identified by the community. Feedback also included references to perceived poor water quality and upstream grazing activities in parks. The community has identified that they expect regional parks to be exemplars of best practice in sustainable land management and expressed concern that not all streams or seeps are fenced from stock grazing activities. Where parks encompass the headwaters of catchments respondents see Greater Wellington as having a core role in downstream water quality. Concerns about management of wetlands and waterways in Queen Elizabeth Park were also raised and an online petition to change park management practices has been received.

Overall, throughout feedback there is support for more use of **Te Reo Māori** in park names and signs, and for more mana whenua heritage story telling in parks. This will be explored more with mana whenua. In meetings with mana whenua, particular aspirations for parks were identified and these will also be explored in more detail as planning progresses. For example, Ngati Haumia, a hapu of Ngati Toa has expressed interest in development of community meeting facilities on Ngati Toa owned land within Queen Elizabeth Park.

Feedback showed a desire for Greater Wellington to phase out **farming activities at Queen Elizabeth Park** and for farming activities to be reduced over time in Belmont Regional Park with more areas restored to native vegetation. Both parks are comprised of land largely classified as recreation

reserve under the Reserves Act and therefore managed for the purposes of conservation and recreation.

Many respondents identified that they would like to see trail development for recreation activities throughout areas currently closed to public access on the Raumati South side of the Park (see Attachment 2 for suggested trails and recreation facilities). Many noted that meandering streams and shaded picnic facilities at the Paekakariki end of the park would be beneficial to also have at for the northern end of the park. An equestrian focus and beach access via east-west circuit trails was also sought.

Community feedback is that Greater Wellington has adopted a 'flood management' style approach to stream management and they would like to see a different focus. Positive community feedback relating to farming included better weed management under the current grazing licence.

Many members of the Kāpiti and broader community have expressed a desire for **restoration of wetland areas at Queen Elizabeth Park**. A petition of 712 signatures is provided under the title 'Restore the Raumati wetlands in Queen Elizabeth Park' with the request for Greater Wellington to '*Please retire the Raumati wetlands from farming, re-wet the peat by stopping drainage and restore with wetland plants. The 85ha wetlands, once part of the Kāpiti Coast's Great Swamp, comprise all of the flat land between Poplar Avenue and Waterfall Stream parallel to State Highway 1 and drained by the North Whareroa drain for farming by a private lessee. Queen Elizabeth Park is a publicly owned recreation reserve and managed by GWRC*'.

Information about the petition can be found at <https://our.actionstation.org.nz/petitions/save-the-raumati-wetlands-in-queen-elizabeth-park-and-create-kapiti-s-biggest-carbon-sink>

Concerns were also widely expressed about Greater Wellington's use of **herbicides and pesticides** and possible environmental effects, as well as application methods. Further public feedback can be expected on this topic, with the Draft Regional Pest Management Plan was recently on public display.

Do you have any feedback about particular aspects of the current Parks Network Plan? www.gw.govt.nz/greater-wellington-parks-network-plan/

Whilst many respondents did not answer this question, responses included:

- Support for delivering identified trail connections and facility improvements identified in the management plan
- Support for continuing to prohibit windfarms in Belmont and Battle Hill parks
- Requests to carry forward long term outcomes which have not been delivered yet into the new draft Parks Network Plan such as ecological corridor connections

- Support for working with other agencies to remove known fish passage barriers such as Parangarahu Lakes outlets
- Keeping the overall structure of the Parks Network Plan as it is now but identifying outcomes which are reported on.

2.2.2 Community aspirations for particular parks

This section summarises both written and verbal feedback. Note that the aspirations are identified without identifying short, medium or long term priorities or identifying resource requirements or possible funding sources. Queen Elizabeth Park aspirations are more extensive due to the feedback gathered from individual meetings and a stakeholder workshop.

Akatarawa Forest

- A desire for greater connectivity to other parks e.g. Queen Elizabeth Park / Whareroa / Battle Hill to Upper Hutt
- Ongoing support for motorised recreation activities in the park
- Better maps and signage for park visitors
- Better access and facilities for horse riders
- A desire for policy to prohibit the development of wind farms in the forest.

Battle Hill Farm Forest Park

- Concerns about potential downstream effects from forestry harvesting, such as sediment to Porirua Harbour
- A desire for replanting in native species when plantation forests are harvested
- Concerns about the Transmission Gully motorway dividing the park, and also the opportunity for promoting it to passing motorists
- Additional camping facilities such as picnic tables and BBQs
- Improvements to park entry layout which visitors find confusing
- More 'farm park' education and interpretation activities.

Belmont Regional Park

- Support for more mountain biking trails with easy and intermediate gradients
- A desire for whole catchments to be retired from grazing activities and to be allowed to return to native vegetation
- More focus on restoration activities in the western hillsides of the park
- Concerns about the Transmission Gully motorway dividing the park, and also the opportunity for promotion of it to passing motorists
- Removal of obstacles to bike and horse access such as gates and fences through grazed areas
- A shift in focus from a 'farm' with recreation to a freely accessible park with some grazing to support management

- Establishment of a community reference group to support park management for the park.

East Harbour Regional Park – Northern Forest

- Development of lower level trails to create circuit loops between residential areas
- Development of further mountain bike trails or circuit opportunities
- More and less hunting access to the park. Feedback has been provided for both. This issue is to be workshopped to determine changes to current policy
- Support for further pest plant and animal management
- Ecological corridor gaps closed

East Harbour Regional Park – Baring Head

- Support for ongoing natural and cultural heritage conservation works
- Allowing limited walk/bike in camping at the lighthouse complex
- A shift to sheep only grazing

Kaitoke Regional Park

- Improving trail connections to the park from Te Marua
- Camping facility improvements as per Long Term Plan proposals
- Improving amenity values and security at Te Marua and mini-master plan development and implementation

Pakuratahi Forest

- Support for wide riparian and trail native vegetation setbacks from plantation forests to support water quality and recreation amenity
- Support for mountain bike trail development
- Improved trail connections and signage
- Promote and improve access to Mount Climie as a key destination for the forest

Queen Elizabeth Park

- Recreation access and further trail development throughout the park but particularly in the northern areas including circuit trails
- Development of a network of easy and intermediate ‘single track’ trails to enable Queen Elizabeth Park to become a key ‘family trails’ destination for Wellington, including mountain bike skills tracks
- Support for realisation of mana whenua interests in the park as expressed through consultation and engagement
- Phased out retirement from farming activities, but continuing horse grazing as it relates to recreation
- Creation of connected wetlands throughout the park including the ‘Great Raumatī wetland’ and stream rehabilitation works

- Restoration activities and rehabilitation of dune blow out areas
- Support for the development of an **overall landscape masterplan for Queen Elizabeth Park** to spatially identify projected changes. The master plan can be used as a blue print to guide projected changes in land use based on expert advice
- Consideration through master planning of integrated and improved equestrian facilities in the park to enable it to become a key Kāpiti Coast equestrian hub
- Establishment of a community reference group for the park in the short term to support planning and ongoing operational management of the park
- Development of nature play opportunities throughout in the park
- Development of interpretive trails focusing on different stories
- Opportunities for art in the park such as community initiatives or events
- Orchard or 'food bowl' plantings (in liaison with Kapiti Coast District Council community garden development)
- Fitness stations along trails
- Enhancement of equestrian facilities including riding arena, additional toilets, shower and horse wash down facilities to support major events
- Café or food truck staging facilities
- Park entry for vehicles and picnic facilities for the Paraparaumu and Raumati South communities at the northern end of the park
- Further storytelling and heritage interpretation
- Relocation of recreation facilities away from coastal erosion
- A name change for the park or additional mana whenua name.

Wainuiomata

- Support for a name change to Wainuiomata Regional Park (from Wainuiomata Recreation Area)
- Support for more trail development including longer and circuit trails

2.2.3 Overall possible future directions for a new Parks Network Plan

From the feedback provided it is apparent that whilst our parks are appreciated and enjoyed by the community, there are changes that we need to make if we want land uses and management practices to better reflect current community expectations and aspirations.

Some of the areas that we will need to focus on during the next stage of the Parks Network Plan review are set out below.

Managing the natural environment of parks and climate change

We need to define how we manage the catchments of parks to achieve water quality outcomes sought in the Natural Resources Plan. This could include both better communications about the work that we are doing and well as

changing land management practice to reduce effects on water quality. Some feedback indicates that there is an opportunity for Greater Wellington to better identify the ways in which volunteers can contribute to restoration project work.

The community is seeking a long term vision for native habitat restoration in parks, with more retirement of grazed areas and restoration. They are also interested in Greater Wellington's response to climate change and in particular coastal erosion in Queen Elizabeth Park.

Community feedback showed a high level of support for Greater Wellington's Sustainable Land Use Plans which have been developed for Queen Elizabeth, Belmont and Battle Hill parks. These plans are land use focused and guide operational management by identifying land management zones, land use capability based on soil types and other influences and waterway management considerations. They include an action plan to guide activities such as progressive retirement from grazing activities and restoration and riparian plantings.

The Queen Elizabeth Park plan identifies opportunities for biodiversity protection and enhancement. For example under 'Corridors and linkages' it identifies that *Queen Elizabeth Park offers outstanding opportunities to create continuous corridors of habitat from the coast and dunes, across coastal wetlands and low altitude streams to kohekohe forest in Whareroa Farm and north to the Mataihuka escarpment area. Behind these areas there is almost continuous linkage to Maugakotukutuku, Akatarawa and Tararua forests.*

The proposed network of restoration, riparian and wetland restoration planting creates an almost continuous network of linked habitat through the flat eastern parts of the park. This network partially restores the original network of inland lakes and wetlands that would have provided food sources and transport links for Maori.

Community feedback supports ongoing implementation of the directions of sustainable land use plans, but in Queen Elizabeth Park there is a desire for the plan to have a wider scope and a faster rate of restoration and retirement from grazing. In this and other recreation reserves where grazing takes place such as Belmont, Baring Head and Kaitoke parks and Battle Hill Farm Forest Park (which is held in part for farming purposes) the national *Good Farming Practice Action Plan for Water Quality 2018* provides additional guidance for sustainable land management. It identifies 21 'Agreed National Good Farming Practice Principles' (refer **Attachment 3**). Implementing the principles outlined in this plan will help reduce adverse effects on water quality.

Recreation experiences and facilities

Where horse riding is permitted, community feedback indicates that we need to improve facilities. This includes access arrangements, float parking areas, horse tie up rails and mounting blocks.

In camping and picnic areas, feedback indicates that additional facilities as BBQs, shelters and picnic tables would be beneficial.

To improve access to parks, we need to consider the Regional Trails Framework directions, work with others to improve trail connections and facilities such as signs to regional parks, and better identify public transport connections. Within parks, community feedback was in favour of further development or improvement of trails, in particular easy and intermediate gradient trails for cycling and walking and riding loops between residential areas in parks such as East Harbour and Belmont. Development of more mountain bike skills tracks such as small informal mounds and obstacles was also suggested.

The need to improve access for recreation was clearly identified in feedback. In recreation reserves where grazing occur, in the short term Greater Wellington needs to shift the focus to be primarily recreation access with as few barriers as possible, and grazing licence activities accommodating recreation access. In a practical way this could mean changing gate and fence obstacles to allow greater access and ensuring year round freedom for the public to roam. This means we need to operationally change the way we are managing areas of some parks.

To enhance visitor experiences community feedback indicates that development of basic nature play opportunities and more story telling/ heritage interpretation would be beneficial. Community members expressed the desire for existing well-loved nature play places not to be removed, such as good climbing trees which may not be native species.

Working with mana whenua and the community

We work individually with many community groups in many parks to achieve positive conservation and recreation work which benefits park visitors and the environment. A key opportunity presented by the feedback from the community and park stakeholders, is for Greater Wellington to establish community reference groups for individual parks to work together on shared outcomes and provide input to park management.

It is envisaged that a community reference group will be guided by a terms of reference and have members of park stakeholder groups, meeting at least quarterly and hosted by the park ranger. Community reference groups generally work to address and support resolution of issues and opportunities or changes in operations in parks. This is an established and successful model used by many other park management agencies.

Long term focus

Community feedback about issues and opportunities in regional parks includes matters relating to both to day to day practical recreation access and activities, and broad, long term biodiversity restoration work.

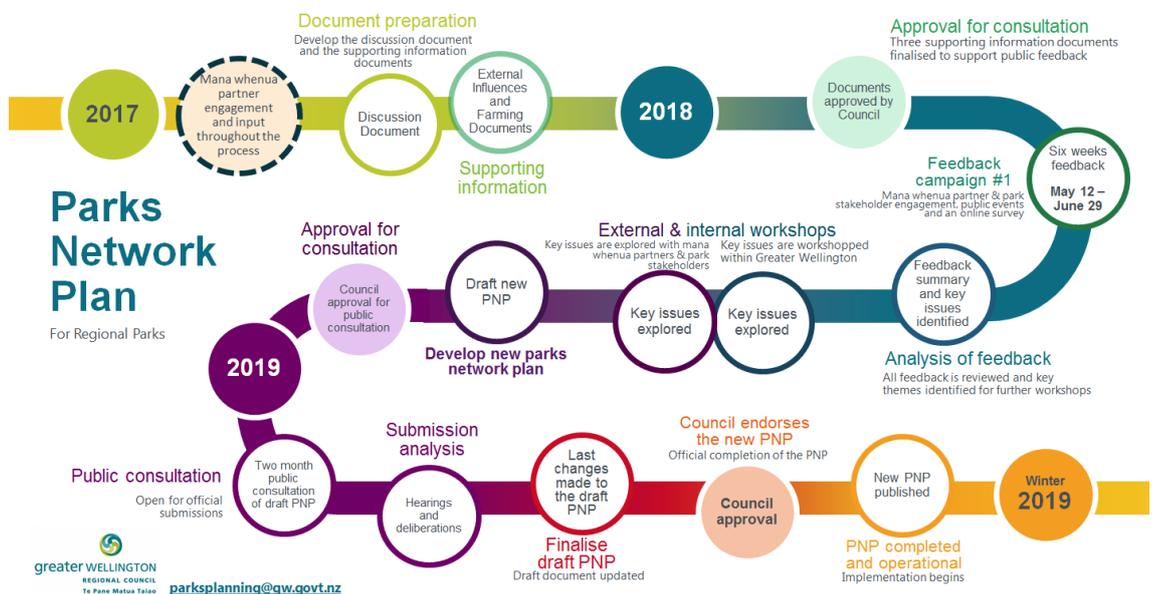
The current Parks Network Plan focuses largely on natural values and recreation facilities within park boundaries, and has a 10 year management horizon. However, it is apparent that the community would like to see us managing regional parks with a core focus on long term conservation and ecosystem restoration outcomes, with appropriate recreation activities facilitated. They have would like us to look beyond short term means of land management such as grazing licences which are not delivering the outcomes communities expressly want.

Through their feedback the community is, in many ways, reminding Greater Wellington to focus on the bigger picture and the primary purpose of parks for conservation of open space and recreation activities which deliver both social and environmental benefits. The community trusts that we will listen to their suggestions and aspirations for management of parks and make changes as a result of their feedback.

2.3 Where to from here?

This report describes the consultation and engagement undertaken and summary of feedback received. The information we have received during this stage of the process will be used to help inform the development of a new draft Parks Network Plan.

The Plan review process and timeline is set out in the diagram below. We are currently at the 'Analysis of feedback' stage:



As we move into the 'External and Internal workshop' stage of the process, issues and opportunities will be explored in more detail. As part of this process workshop(s) with Councillors will be organised. Further discussions with Ara Tahi are also planned.

When a new draft plan is finalised it will be considered by the Environment Committee and approved for public notification and formal consultation. At this stage, the Reserves Act requires a consultation period of at least two months, and an opportunity for submitters to attend formal hearings to present their submissions.

Over the next two months we plan to explore issues and opportunities in more detail with key internal and external stakeholders and subject matter experts.

3. Consideration of Climate Change

The discussion document and supporting document 'External Influences on Parks' explored park management issues related to climate change in detail. Climate change effects for park assets and resilience of facilities and services and minimisation and mitigation measures were detailed as well as climate change projections for each Whaitua, as well as Greater Wellington's interests in the Emissions Trading Scheme and the Permanent Forest Sink Initiative. Climate change concerns were reported in the feedback received in Attachments 1 and 2. Climate change will be addressed in the draft new management plan.

4. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report.

The formal notification process for the new draft Parks Network Plan is outlined in the Reserves Act (s41(6)). This applies only to the new draft Plan which will be developed after this initial period of consultation concludes.

4.1 Engagement

Engagement on this matter has been outlined above and was supported by a communications and engagement plan which was prepared and sent to councillors in December 2017. The plan will be updated prior to the formal consultation on the new draft management plan.

5. Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 1. **Receives** the report.*
- 2. **Notes** the contents of the report and appendices.*
- 3. **Notes** that a workshop with councillors is planned to explore future directions for the new draft management plan in more detail.*

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Attachment 1: Summary of feedback

Attachment 2: Queen Elizabeth Park feedback

**Attachment 3: Good Farming Practice Action Plan for Water Quality 2018 Agreed
National Good Farming Practice Principles.**

Attachment 1: Summary of feedback on the Parks Network Plan Review Discussion Document

Introduction

The Parks Network Plan 2011 is now being reviewed. Three documents were carefully crafted to give current context and aid understanding of the current Plan, what has changed and some options going forward. These documents were: 'External influences on parks', 'Farming in parks' and the 'Parks network plan review discussion document'.

On May 12, 2018, the public feedback period began and ran for a total of eight weeks. People were able to submit their feedback via email, an online survey or in hardcopy via a freepost feedback form. Stakeholders were engaged and many met with officers for one-on-one meetings. An independently facilitated workshop was held at Queen Elizabeth Park, and a drop in session was held for East Harbour Regional Park. Officers also met with territorial authorities staff to receive their feedback. A total of 345 submissions were received.

Issues considered to be most significant for regional parks

The first question asked in the Parks Network Plan Review feedback form was about what significant issues people thought the regional parks were facing over the next ten years. A variety of issues, with some of more concern to community members than others.

- Regional parks are areas of natural conservation which means the community views **Pests, weeds and diseases** to be a real issue in the future. This has different levels of factors, some being newly introduced into parks, some being the ability to maintain or control them, and some being the negative impact they have on the native habitats.
"A demand for use while budgets are reduced or stagnant. Invasive species or diseases in our parks are a real worry." (submitter #94)
- Visitor numbers have been increasing and are set to rise even more and this has led the community to feel **over-use of the parks** will become an issue. The concern over how the increasing number of visitors would impact sustainability and lead to other issues such as vandalism, rubbish and a strain on the ability to keep up with maintenance.
"The overuse of existing park facilities by increasing local and tourist numbers" (submitter #85)
- More **development or construction** was seen as an issue because people said they valued the natural beauty of the parks and also had concerns that the more man-made parts of the park, would put too much strain on maintenance.
"I value open space, natural landscapes that are free from urbanisation, commercialisation and manmade structures. Bush, views, clear rivers, quiet, ridges and hills that are free from infrastructure." (submitter #61)
- The ability to **manage shared spaces** or allocating spaces for particular recreational activities over others has been expressed as a potential issue. People are already expressing issues with other users not showing consideration for other users, or users in places they shouldn't be. With the increasing number of users, many see this as an escalating issue which will need to be managed better.

“Managing the expectations of the different user groups... common shared access trails and activity specific areas to reduce contention.” (submitter #328)

- **Funding** was seen as a common issue too. Several views around funding were shared as the fear of funding being reduced due to budget cuts or economic changes which would negatively impact the upkeep of the parks.

“the Wellington region has beautiful parks but the cost of upkeep is high... lack of funding for maintenance and upkeep.” (submitter #150)

- **Climate change** was raised as an issue because the physical effects of coastal erosion are evident and causing many problems with coastal walkways and beach access as is it now in Queen Elizabeth Park. People also suggested that we need to show case the parks as a contributing to combating climate change with increased planting and wetlands.

“Climate change causing increasing damage to trails, and the increased expenditure on their maintenance.” (submitter #141)

- There is a general concern that Greater Wellington will give into pressures for urban development as neighbouring communities need to sprawl causing a **loss of habitat** was also a significant issue. In conjunction with the loss of land, the way in which some areas of land are managed now raise concern because habitats such as the penguins on the *Kāpiti* coast are attacked by unleashed dogs.

“Retaining them (regional parks) in the face of urban spread & the forces of commerce & development” – (submitter #344)

- **Farming in parks**, specifically Queen Elizabeth Park and Belmont Regional Park, has been expressed as non-recreational and confining the user experience. Although people enjoy the ability to see and experience animals in the park, farming or any form of intensive farming has been expressed as not in the best interest of the parks or the people who use them.

“The principle purpose of the reserve is recreation. That is currently not happening because the land is being farmed.” (submitter #51)

- A range of other issues were mentioned, such as more **rubbish** being dumped, property being **vandalised** and **lack of respect** for the natural environment.
- Certain groups, such as hunters, expressed they saw more **restrictions** to their recreational activities a significant issue, whilst others expressed they did not condone hunting by non-professionals.

“I am strongly against amateur hunting in East Harbour Regional Park” (Submitter #50)

“Professional deer culling should continue, but at more frequent intervals” (submitter#22)

Most valued aspects of regional parks

The next question in the survey asked people what they valued most about the regional parks.

- Throughout the feedback it was apparent that people value having regional parks that have **diverse habitats** and **landscapes**.
- The **diversity of the parks** was greatly valued. Having some parks with forest, others with open space, some with beaches and others with camping and not having the parks homogenised was a real strength.

“From a Capital Kiwi perspective the parks provide a space where endemic biodiversity can thrive, and where people can enjoy experiencing our natural taonga. And from a technical perspective, where we can learn and apply 'best practice' lessons about being effective kaitiaki (guardians) of these spaces.” (submitter #153)

- They value having the **ability** to walk tracks, ride tracks on their bikes, ride trails on their horses and the space to do a range of other recreational activities.

E-bikes will revolutionise cycling and make it attractive to a wider range of the community for commuting and exercise/recreation.” (submitter #70)

- The ability to **access** these spaces and facilities are also highly valued.

“the fact that you can be in the heart of the city and in 20mins walk to a place... that feels like completely remote and serene.” (submitter #332)

- Other highly valued qualities were the ability to have areas to get **exercise, camping** and the camping facilities, the sense of **security** and how safe the parks feel and for some the ability to go hunting.

“Protecting the biodiversity and encouraging people to use the parks by creating a wider range of recreational options within them like camping and mountain biking.” (submitter #212)

Suggested improvements for Greater Wellington

What Greater Wellington could do to improve our regional parks was asked and although there was plenty of positive feedback about how much people enjoy the parks, they had plenty of suggestions for improvement.

- **Signage** was by far the greatest idea expressed for GW to improve.
 - o Signage is very important to the safety of visitors to any park. Having signs to notify people about track information, such as the length, time to complete, and the level of difficulty can influence the decision to use the track or not. It is suggested that many tracks may not get used as much as they potentially could because people currently have no knowledge of the track and if they can do it with the time they have or even the shoes they have on.

“major improvement needed is upgraded signage, map signs, distances and names of tracks and peaks” (submitter #183)

“More signage is always helpful, e.g. times of walks and km markers, dogs on or off lead, warnings about karaka berries etc.” (submitter #90)
 - o Many tracks and trails don't have signage at all, or the information to clearly indicate who the track is for. Equestrians often mentioned they encounter cyclists on trails that were meant to be for horses only.

“Ensure adequate signage and facilities at trail heads” (submitter #225)

“parks with signage advising other users how to approach riders...” (submitter #322)
 - o Signage throughout the parks, from the entrance to the focal points on the tracks, is lacking information and/or interpretation signage. This is an opportunity to educate visitors about the history, natural features, wildlife, and the biodiversity of the area.

“Clear consistent directional signage - more story telling interpretation.” (submitter #91)

- Outside of the park there are plenty of opportunities to use signage too. Attracting people into the parks or even guiding them in easily is something GW needs to be more aware of. It is suggested that with infrastructure being developed, such as the *Kāpiti* express way and Transmission Gully, big road signage could greatly improve visitor access to the parks.
- **Visitor access** to the parks is a concern due to the fact that visitors must currently rely on personal car transportation to be able to access any of the parks unless the live within a close proximity. Integrating the parks into the public transportation network would offer a great deal of people with access. Currently there is a train line that runs parallel with Queen Elizabeth Park and to develop a train station/stop outside the park entrance would greatly support recreational users of the park.
- **Access through farmed areas.** Currently, there are some farming practices that occur in parks, such as Queen Elizabeth Park, that cause the exclusion of the visitors to that park. The visitors experience locked gates, fences and other obstructions.

“Fair access to all users” (submitter #204)
- **Facilities** such as toilets were commented on frequently. Much of the feedback requested that we added more toilets, in more locations. Some need to be more central in the park for those who are too far from any to get too, some need to be at other entrances to parks, and some need to be in places where events could be held or camping could be potentially established.

“In areas where there is easy public access I think there is a need for more facilities like toilets e.g. at all the Belmont RP road-ends, and also around the Pencarrow lighthouses (almost every time I go there I see someone pissing against the wall of the lighthouse)” (submitter #219)
- A lot of the comments said there are no **rubbish bins** which some have said they understand as the general attitude is that you take out everything you take in, however relating to their significant issues facing the parks, more visitors (especially those who do not respect the parks) will leave more rubbish laying around. They would prefer rubbish bins and a good collection service so the parks don't become polluted.

“Rubbish bins by the car park and toilets...” (submitter #135)
- **Parking** needs to increase as the numbers of visitors is increasing. Also there are a vast number of horse riders that commute in from other areas and often struggle for suitable float parking. When equestrian groups have events there are many floats needing space to park too.

“Infrastructure as more people use park....toilets...parking ...maintenance.” (submitter #223)
- **Camping** (more camping areas too)
 - Gas BBQ's would be useful for visitors who come for the day with friends or family.
 - Picnic tables and areas
 - Access to water

“More signage about shared use and freedom camping areas for legitimate park users” (submitter #272)

- **Water stations/access**, for people as well as dogs. Several comments have said that during the heat of summer they often worry for their dogs wellbeing when they are out in the parks and don't have enough water for their dog or access to water for their dog.

"Ensure there are toilets and/or potable water available at all major entrances. Ideally with a permanent dog bowl fixture." (submitter #86)

- Other things such as **pest control** options or better practice methods. Recreational hunters can offer a more viable option to eradicating deer from some parks.

"Look at new, innovative ways of plant and animal pest control." (submitter #141)

Issues and opportunities

From the three supporting information documents that were made public, people were asked if they had any feedback on any issues or opportunities raised in the discussion document. Many issues and opportunities were raised although not all were directly related to the documents.

- Being an issue but also a fantastic opportunity for GW is **connections/linkages** equally for trails and tracks as well as the natural eco-corridors to empower the smaller native wildlife to migrate safely around the region.

"We would like to see PNP include the development of a regional-wide ecological linkages plan... none of the ecological corridors in the eastern side of Belmont Regional Park have been established..." (submitter #69)

- **Water quality** issues arise from more than just farming practices. The forestry industry has also caused some long term negative effects on streams. Also, the perceived best practice management of streams due to flood control has allowed diggers to dredge the streams leaving absolutely nothing behind, destroying the natural eco systems.

"Water quality - we should aspire to be able to drink from the streams once more." (submitter #141)

- Phase out **farming**. (See below)

- Horse **float parking** is a necessity for the volume of park visitors that use the trails for horse riding. There are also multiple stakeholders that hold equestrian events that attract hundreds of horses and their handlers.

"GWRC need to consider the areas equestrian community who need safe off road riding and provide increased access to riders with more shared pathways and improved float parking I.e. Belmont Dry Creek" (submitter #142)

- Some **track segregation for horses** has been expressed due to the nature of horses. Some users of tracks have been reported to be disrespectful of horse riders, being loud, fast and/or irresponsible. Horses can be frightened easily causing a danger to the rider or others.
- Use of **poison** has been mentioned consistently. The use of 1080 has been controversial as the community believes this has evident negative knock on effects. Other poisons such as herbicides and pesticides have also been expressed as unnecessary and potentially dangerous to other animals and people. The community has clearly said stop the practice of aerial spraying.

“Ideally some poisons may be used to control mustlids and vermin but not the broadcasting of 1080 into the bush for all pests. Concern around waterways and poisons decomposing on the forest floor and invertebrates and birds ingesting them and other food chains and webs be susceptible to secondary poisoning - especially our great native birds” (submitter #174)

- The community has expressed that **dog control** needs to be looked into. There are too many dogs off leashes in areas that they need to be on leashes. Some dog owners appear to have very little control of their dogs which poses a risk to other users of the parks.

“Ensure dogs are kept on leads and that there is enough space or alternatively separation for multi-users...” (submitter #316)

- **Te Reo Māori** needs to be used more. There is very little signage that has Te reo Māori which is seen as disrespectful to Māori culture. Using Te reo Māori is a good way to show that the local Iwi are important and are partners with GW.

“Very few names in the parks recognise the Māori story for the area.” (submitter #53)

- **Mounting blocks** for horses and bikes, especially near toilet blocks would make it a lot easier for riders to be able to use the facilities without fear of losing their horse or bike.
- **Café** and/or food truck area in Queen Elizabeth Park to compensate for the lack of food places either side of the park. This space would also allow people to stay in the park for longer periods without having to go in search of food.

“I support the inclusion of commercial activities such as coffee carts” (submitter #62)

- Work more with communities to promote activities and utilise volunteers better.
 - **Stop the drainage** of wetlands in Queen Elizabeth Park and let the natural environment restore.
 - **Art in parks** as either features or part of a temporary event/exhibit to attract visitors.
- “There should be sculpture and art everywhere and integrated with local arts programmes.” (submitter #95)*
- Increase **overnight activities** such as camping for some parks so that people can experience the night stars, such as Baring Head, or provide a place for those who’ve travelled for horse riding events.

“the potential to allow some camping should be considered.” (submitter #21)

- **Skills courses** to promote safe bike riding and/or family friendly activities.

“Te Whiti Park and track are awesome and I use them frequently for walking and exercise . My children and grandchildren often meet at Avalon Park where they practise bike skills.” (submitter #341)

- More **vegetation/restoration projects** as the communities’ emphasis for conservation priorities is more prominent.

“It’s important that the council find the right balance between access to our regional parks, and ecological protection and restoration. People better recognise the value of our ecology when they’re able to interact with it, so it’s important that opportunities are available for everyone to get out and enjoy our open spaces, bush and forested hillsides.” (submitter #119)

- **BBQ's** that are free to use in all parks for visitors to use with their friends and families are a great way to encourage people into the great outdoors without having to do a long walk or bike ride.
- **Nature Play** areas where children can enjoy playing outside without it having to be an artificial playground.

"There should be more nature play spaces." (submitter #95)

- **Farming.** Some community members say that they like seeing animals and the experience of seeing animals and even engaging with them, but other don't. There appears to be less concern with sheep grazing than cattle. Farming in Queen Elizabeth Park has additional access restrictions which some see as not appropriate in public recreation reserve. For example:

"Farming QEP is not a recreational activity" (submitter #11)

"I recommend that termination of the farming lease be arranged with urgency, so that the remaining wetlands and their associated flora and fauna communities can recover from decades of adverse impacts." (submitter #43)

"QEP is designated for recreation and yet 60% of it is farmed, and whilst this has been a conscious choice by GW in the past, we do not believe this is appropriate any longer" (submitter #42)

"Farming at QEP, Kāpiti is a serious problem and must be phased out" (submitter #89)

Attachment 2: Queen Elizabeth Park feedback

Queen Elizabeth Park – Conversations with the QEP community

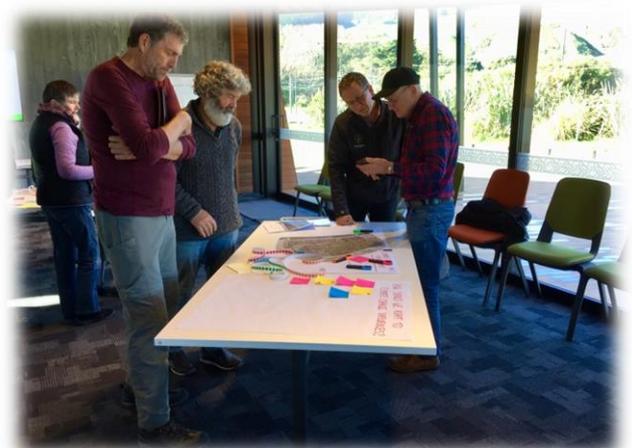
Queen Elizabeth Park is a recreation reserve and one of the most diverse and multi-user recreational parks managed by Greater Wellington. The park is the most visited in the region and has a high level of community involvement.

In recent years the community has expressed concerns about farming activities in the park and the way they have been undertaken. This culminated in two community meetings in a local public hall where members of the public and park stakeholders expressed concerns about management activities such as herbicide spraying. Park managers have faced ongoing community opposition to some aspects of park management, in particular farming activities.

To help develop directions for a new plan, a higher level of community engagement was deemed appropriate. By working more closely with the community, concerns and issues were explored in detail. Over a period of three days, one to one meetings were held with mana whenua and all park stakeholder groups.

Community feed revealed a wide range of issues and opportunities. From this but six key themes for further discussion and investigation were identified and groups were invited to come to a workshop to explore these more together. The six key issues and opportunities for discussion were:

- The environment and climate change
- Recreation facilities and trails
- Connecting QEP – community, environment, transport and other connections
- Story telling
- Animals in the park (horses, farm stock, dogs,
- Mana Whenua partner interests, and opportunities for revealing cultural heritage stories



Community members were also asked to help identify priorities – short, medium and long term actions. A summary of the results of the workshop follow.

STORY TELLING

Animal stories such as horses and their **CONTRIBUTIONS TO QEP**

A big empty picture frame for people to capture the view

More events and guided activities

People's memories from childhood reflections

Use digital media and technology to help people connect better

Native species stories – the birds, the plants, the insects etc.



A reflective QUOTES walking trail

More Maori history of the park and area told

RAMAROA could be used more to tell stories about the park, where to go, how to volunteer, what to look out for etc.

Stories of **Kai**, in the streams and how to keep them clean

Stories from famous people and their use of the park, e.g. Mark Todd

MAORI PLANTS used for medicine or similar uses

Stories of the restorations projects, e.g. eventing wellington using 40 volunteers to clear paddocks where the army used to occupy

Community/Ngati Haumia Marae



Use Wetlands or waterways to show a waka and the stories of once being able to travel by water

MIRIONA'S HOUSE moved to the care/ownership of **Ngati Haumia** within the parks

USE FARMING to teach people about animals, food and working the land

A past, present a future story board

Stories of how QEP is connected to the surrounding area. E.g. the connection with Maori Pa sites and coastal routes

A mihi welcome

A mana whenua journey re-enactment story through the park

Use SCULPTURES to tell stories or to **ATTRACT** people to a story

WWII influence on the park

Introduce soundscape, E.g. at the entrance use bird calls

Multiple points for visitors to tell their story of their experience in the park

Find more interesting ways to tell stories or introduce guided tours/walks

The stories of the girls who married US Marines and where are they now



ANIMALS IN THE PARK

More connected trails for dog walkers



Aerial spraying is NOT acceptable near any animals (and people)

More involvement with the community to learn about animals

Help visitors experience wildlife at QEP – Bird hides, weta motels etc.

Focus on increasing native birdlife

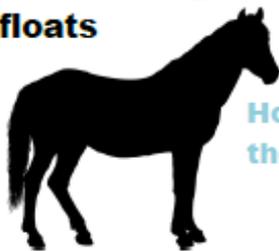


More attention to NATIVE ANIMALS – lizards, birds, penguins, fish etc.

Dog off leash area should be fenced

Water stations and compost bins

Better PARKING for visitors with animals, e.g. horse floats



Get rid of the feral cats, stoats, ferrets and rats



Advocate PROTECTING the catchment areas to ensure habitat and fish passage

Horses have been a part of the park since it started

Horses are recreation

QEP has a great horse trail reputation, build this.



Promote eels. They indicate healthy wetlands and streams

Penguin HABITATS for Korora sand dunes



Weeds (gorse) need to go

Improve WATER QUALITY for fish and animals

Sheep are great at keeping the pasture clean, good for other users. E.g. equestrian

If any farming in the park, set better standards

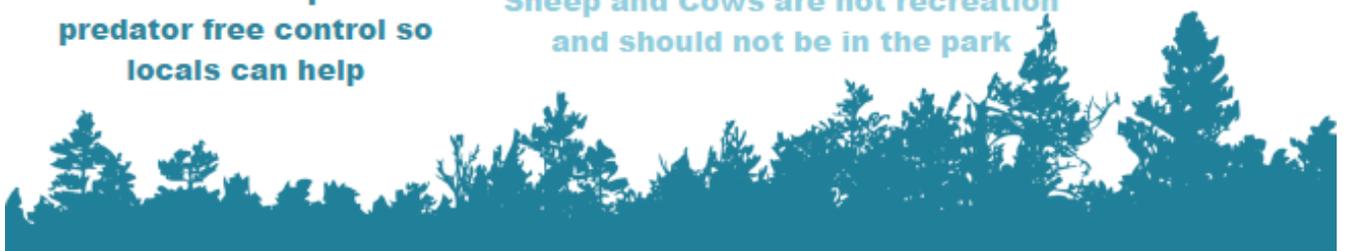
Progressively remove intensive farming and restore ecological values



Farm to the environment, not change the environment to farm

Promote examples of predator free control so locals can help

Sheep and Cows are not recreation and should not be in the park



IMPROVING RECREATION FACILITIES

Keep open spaces,
Less dividing fences



Signage

to show what tracks are for what users

Raumati wetland trail on low dunes

Reduce noise -
No motorised activities

Cross country routes
Short intermittent routes between trails for user flexibility



Increase park visitor hours

Fitness trails with outdoor gym equipment



Extend trails through farms tracks

Replace locks with horse stiles & gates so visitors don't need keys

Connecting tracks across regional parks



Equestrian tracks

made wider and kept clear - riding only areas

Mountain bike skills track

More connecting walking tracks across the dunes

Camping sites

with water



Places to light fires



Art sculptures

Art/sculptures walks with local artists work featured throughout

More picnic areas with gas

More recreation LINKS to other parks

BBQ's

Nature play spaces created

Pickle Pot - outdoor natural amphitheatre space

NEW surf lifesaving building



CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENT

Aid plant restoration –

seed bombs and all means practicable



Naturalise streams, drains into **WETLANDS** and bush

More **Planting** and **streams** protection

Convert more land back to **WETLANDS**, Raumati end of the park

Use **WETLANDS** and peat areas as **carbon sinks**



Retire and restoration **DUNE** land areas for resilience and habitats

RESTORE natural / native areas

Increase quantity of **longer living** trees to maintain carbon absorption

Fish and Wainui stream restoration

Provide and promote **SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT** to access all regional parks

Educational signage and quiet spaces

Mountain to sea connected habitat



Encourage setting for **TRADITIONAL HARVESTING**, e.g. wetlands for eel (tuna) farming

Create signage or information boards to educate the visitors about climate change impacts



Consider *projected regional impacts* of Climate change effects

Creation and protection for **eco-corridors** so critters and plants can migrate

Long Term Conservation

educating about what is really happening and the effects on the park

Plan for staged relocation of assets along the coast



Adapt land use to suit increases in coastal erosion

Adapt the tracks/trails to avoid storm damage prone areas



CONNECTING QEP

Support personal **CONNECTIONS** through experiences, volunteering and recreation

Work with other agency connections – NZTA, KCDC, DOC, for shared outcomes connecting communities



A TRAM CONNECTION from Raumati to Paekakariki

More connections to the **POINTS OF INTERESTS** for visitors who aren't there for the trails. E.g. learn about environmental restoration



Promote family **easy/free** fun days out

Battle Hill to Mt Wainui to QEP **ECOLOGICAL** links/connection

Make **Ramaroa** a place to visit and see the story of QEP, include maps, events and safety tips

Raumati **escarpment** to Whoreroa via QEP

Make the park more **user-friendly**, E.g. install gas BBQ's



Eco Café / food service base at the park

ECOLOGICAL-CORRIDORS to connect the Raumati escarpment

Encourage **NZ Tourism** to promote QEP as a destination



Create and advertise more awareness of **VOLUNTEERING** opportunities - and support the volunteers

Make better connections to Whoreroa, Battle Hill and Akotorawa



Advertise the trail connections between the parks in newspapers or on social media

Encourage **schools** to bring children to learn about the environment etc.

Make an **interactive app** or a QR code system for people to able to hear and see information as the walk around the park

Create a **TRAIN STOP** outside the park



Better or more public transport on event days such as **'spadeaid'**

More public transport connections coming from the North and South

DEVELOP ecological links



MANA WHENUA PARTNERS

Work with mana whenua to explore their aspirations and vision for the regional parks

Rename the park in **TE REO MĀORI**

Restore the wetlands
– Mahinga Kai

Welcome Mihi at Ramaroa
–Audio or/and visual

On **DEMAND**
INFORMATION,
auto screens or group
shows

More **STORY ZONES** to explain the history and lives of the area including historical taonga – food baskets, travel routes, art, medicine, etc.

Significant tapu areas and give appropriate respect - Kowo Urupa – north of whereroa stream inland of dunes

Key sites with audio interpretation E.g. Pa sites

Support the construction of a **MARAE / meeting place for Ngati Haumia** near Paekakariki entrance

More **TE REO MĀORI** throughout the park

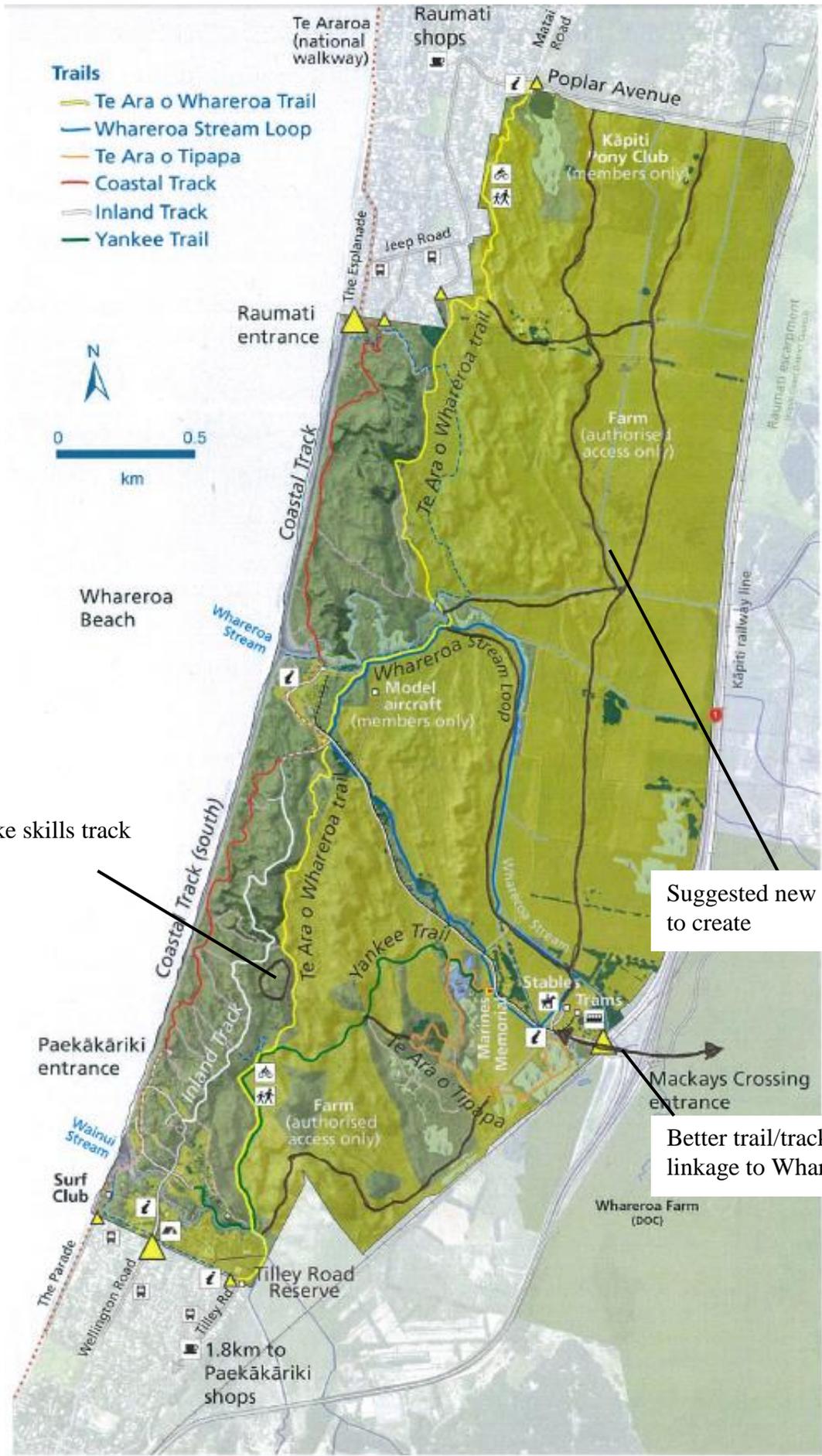
Art works or other media to support **SIGNIFICANT PLACES**

Establish a Ngati Haumia/iwi walk that feeds into the story and artwork

MIRIANA'S HOUSE...
What becomes of it?

Flaxes, plant more, walk through, use flax, educate about flax

New Trail Concepts

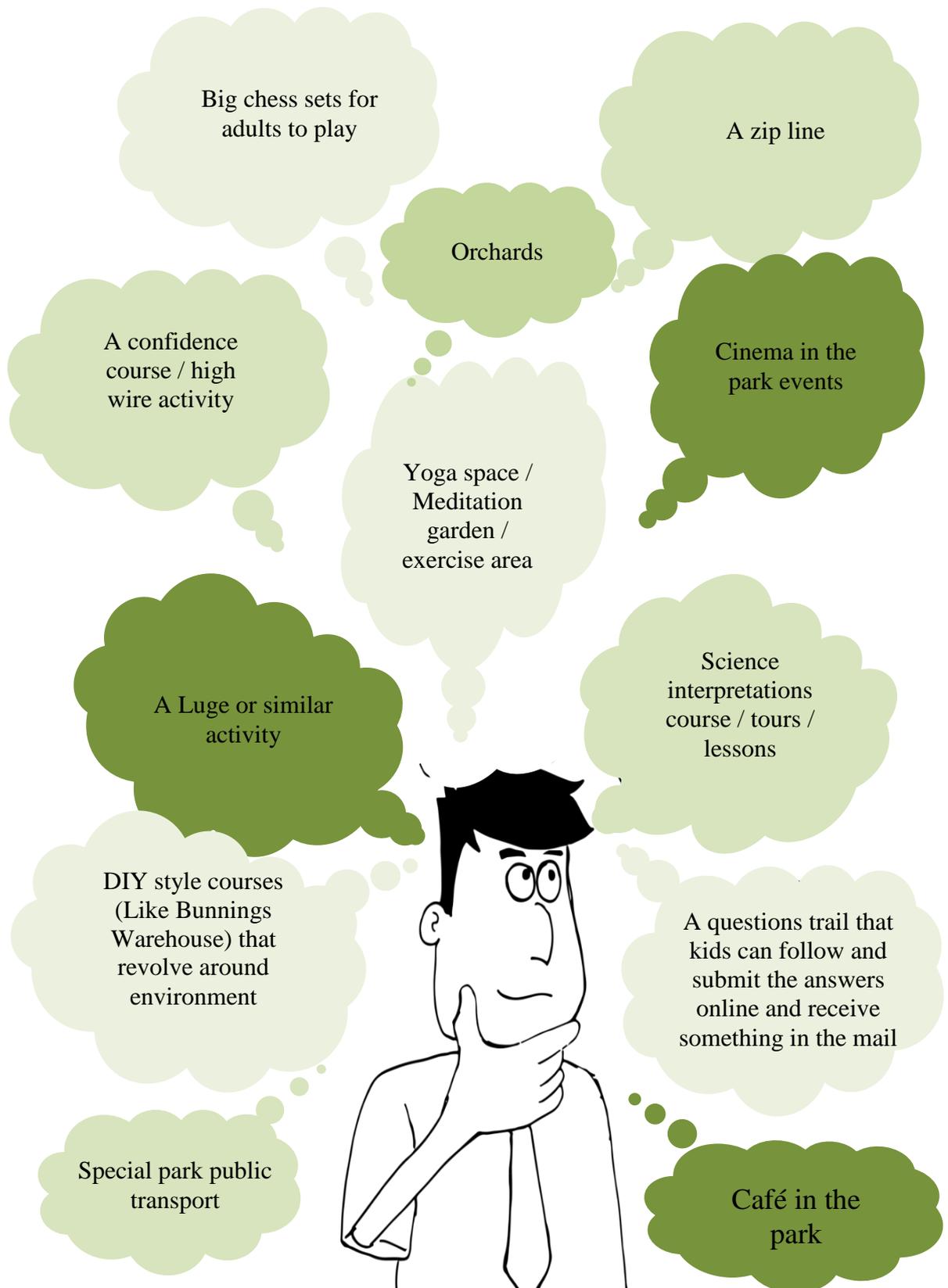


Potential bike skills track

Suggested new tracks to create

Better trail/track linkage to Whareroa

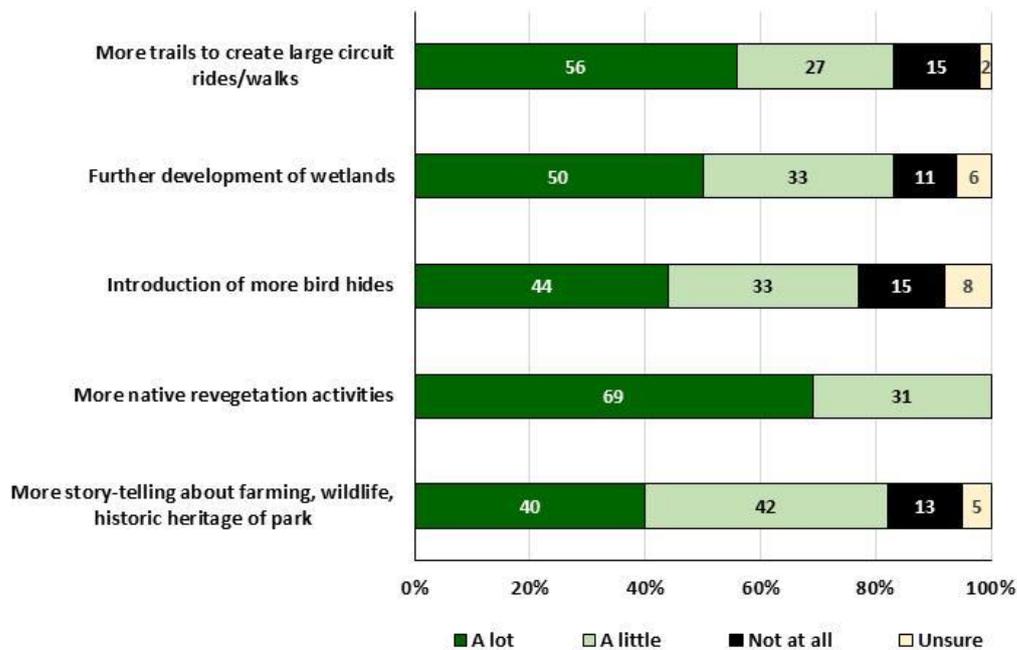
The big crazy ideas – budget-less, limitless park possibilities



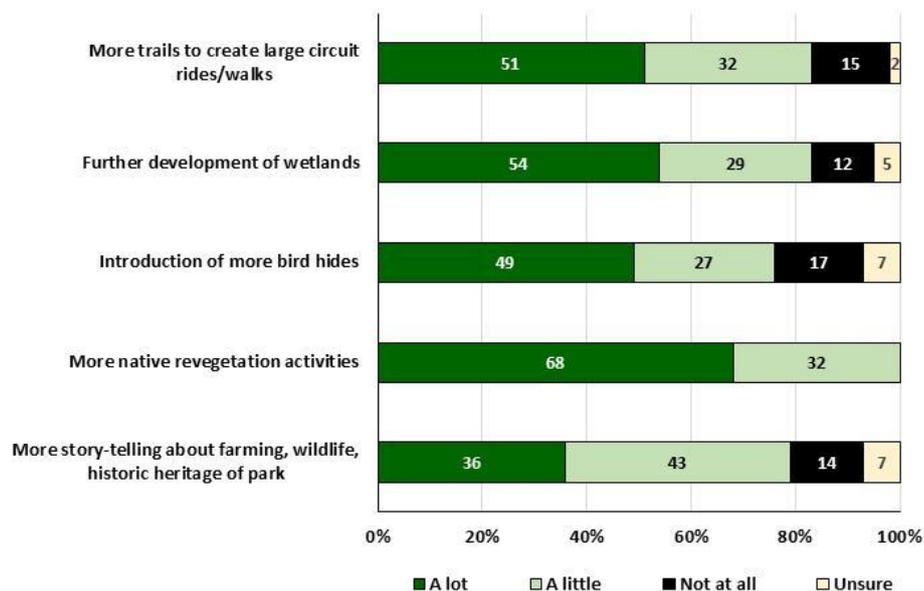
Annual parks telephone survey results

The annual parks survey included two additional questions relating to Queen Elizabeth Park for Kāpiti Coast residents. These questions were included in the survey so that feedback was received from residents in addition to stakeholder and special interest group feedback.

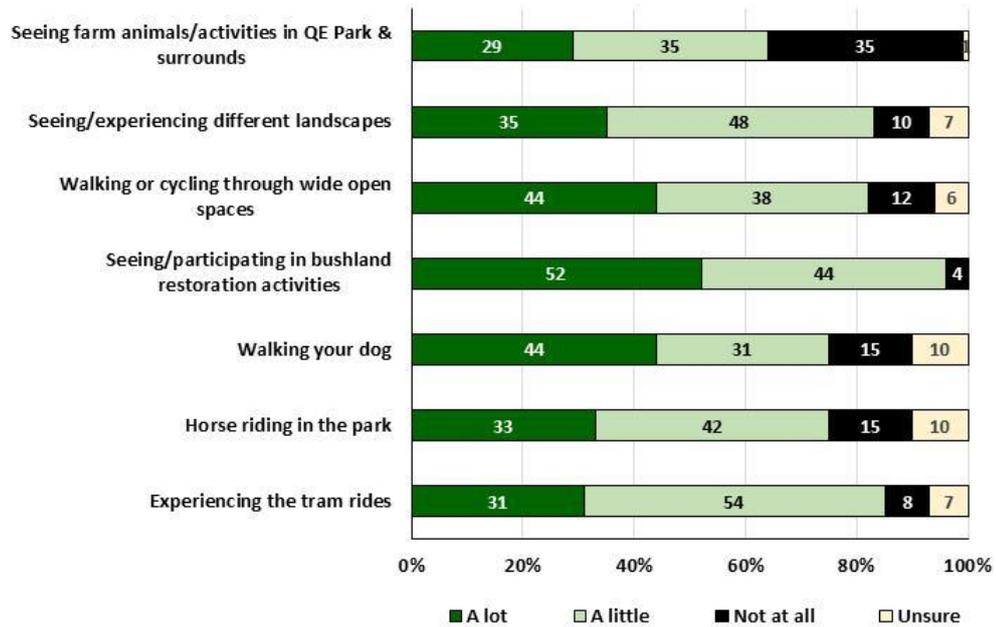
Feedback on a number of ideas considered to enhance Queen Elizabeth Park was sought:



Results indicate that all of the concepts presented had some appeal to the majority of the Kāpiti residents. *'More native revegetation activities'* was, however, the idea most strongly supported for enhancing Queen Elizabeth Park followed by further development of wetlands. These results were further analysed by current users and non-users of Queen Elizabeth Park. All respondents answering this question were Kāpiti Coast residents.



1. “To what extent do you, or would you, like the following experiences when visiting Queen Elizabeth Park – a lot, a little, or not at all?”



The majority of Kāpiti residents felt that each of the experiences would appeal to some extent. ‘Seeing, or participating in, bushland restoration activities, such as native vegetation plantings for wildlife’ held the greatest degree of appeal overall. This is consistent with the earlier findings relating to the appeal of ‘the native revegetation activities’. In relation to seeing farm animals, community responses were more divided with the highest ‘not at all’ response.

What Kapiti residents like most about the inland parts of Queen Elizabeth Park

The research participants were asked to freely identify what they like most about the inland parts of Queen Elizabeth Park, i.e. the areas of the park that are away from the beach. 87% of the Kapiti residents interviewed identified an aspect of the park that they particularly liked. On average, they identified 1.62 different elements. The elements of the park that respondents identified covered the following:

QUEEN ELIZABETH PARK ASPECTS <u>MOST LIKED</u>	% of total Kapiti residents (n=151)
<u>THE LANDSCAPE/SCENERY:</u>	<u>54</u>
The wide open space (and the sense of freedom it gives)	13
The wetlands/restoration of wetlands; the last bit of unspoilt wetlands	8
The sand dunes	8
The ruggedness/barren landscape	8
The (natural beauty of) the scenery/landscape	8
The rolling/undulating landscape	7
The farmland	2
<u>THE BUSH, WATER, BIRDLIFE, NATURAL ENVIRONMENT:</u>	<u>20</u>
The native bush/trees/foilage	10
The water/streams/river	5
The birds/native birds; there is a lot of birdlife there	3
It is safe bush to walk through (you don't have to watch where you step)	2
<u>THE TRACKS/TRAILS:</u>	<u>16</u>
The cycle tracks/trails/newish cycle track (diverse terrain, uphill and down)	11
The tracks are wider/well paved/well maintained	5
<u>THE PEACE, QUIET, SOLITUDE</u>	<u>10</u>
The peace and quiet/solitude (away from people/the crowds/the traffic/the concrete jungle)	
<u>THE ACCESSIBILITY</u>	<u>10</u>
The accessibility; the access is good/easy; the park is accessible but retains a feeling/sense of non-urban	
<u>THE PICNIC AREAS</u>	<u>8</u>
The picnic areas; there are good areas/a lot of different areas for picnics	
<u>HORSE RIDING</u>	<u>5</u>
It is an excellent/great place to ride horses (in their natural state); the new/improved equestrian facilities are excellent	
<u>THE TRAMS</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>	<u>13</u>

Attachment 3: Good Farming Practice Action Plan for Water Quality 2018 Agreed National Good Farming Practice Principles.

AGREED NATIONAL GOOD FARMING PRACTICE PRINCIPLES

GENERAL PRINCIPLES	
1.	Identify the physical and biophysical characteristics of the farm system, assess the risk factors to water quality associated with the farm system, and manage appropriately
2.	Maintain accurate and auditable records of annual farm inputs, outputs and management practices
3.	Manage farming operations to minimise direct and indirect losses of sediment and nutrients to water, and maintain or enhance soil structure, where agronomically appropriate
NUTRIENTS	
4.	Monitor soil phosphorus levels and maintain them at or below the agronomic optimum for the farm system
5.	Manage the amount and timing of fertiliser inputs, taking account of all sources of nutrients, to match plant requirements and minimise risk of losses
6.	Store and load fertiliser to minimise risk of spillage, leaching and loss into waterbodies
7.	Ensure equipment for spreading fertilisers is well maintained and calibrated
8.	Store, transport and distribute feed to minimise wastage, leachate and soil damage
WATERWAYS	
9.	Identify risk of overland flow of sediment and faecal bacteria on the property and implement measures to minimise transport of these to waterbodies
10.	Locate and manage farm tracks, gateways, water troughs, self-feeding areas, stock camps, wallows and other sources of run-off to minimise risks to water quality
11.	Exclude stock from waterbodies to the extent that is compatible with land form, stock class and stock intensity. Where exclusion is not possible, mitigate impacts on waterways
LAND AND SOIL	
12.	Manage periods of exposed soil between crops / pasture to reduce risk of erosion, overland flow and leaching
13.	Manage or retire erosion-prone land to minimise soil losses through appropriate measures and practices ¹
14.	Select appropriate paddocks for intensive grazing, recognising and mitigating possible nutrient and sediment loss from critical source areas
15.	Manage grazing to minimise losses from critical source areas
EFFLUENT	
16.	Ensure the effluent system meets industry-specific Code of Practice or equivalent standard
17.	Have sufficient suitable storage available for farm effluent and wastewater
18.	Ensure equipment for spreading effluent and other organic manures is well maintained and calibrated
19.	Apply effluent to pasture and crops at depths, rates and times to match plant requirements and minimise risk to waterbodies
WATER AND IRRIGATION	
20.	Manage the amount and timing of irrigation inputs to meet plant demands and minimise risk of leaching and runoff
21.	Design, check and operate irrigation systems to minimise the amount of water needed to meet production objectives

1. *Implementing this principle may mean that Class 8 land is not actively farmed for arable, pastoral or commercial forestry land uses as this land is generally unsuitable for these uses as described in the Land Use Capability Handbook.*

These principles were updated from the 2015 Industry-Agreed Good Management Practices Relating to Water Quality. While first applied in Canterbury, they were developed to be applicable across all regions of New Zealand.