

Manurewa Local Parks Management Plan

Consultation summary

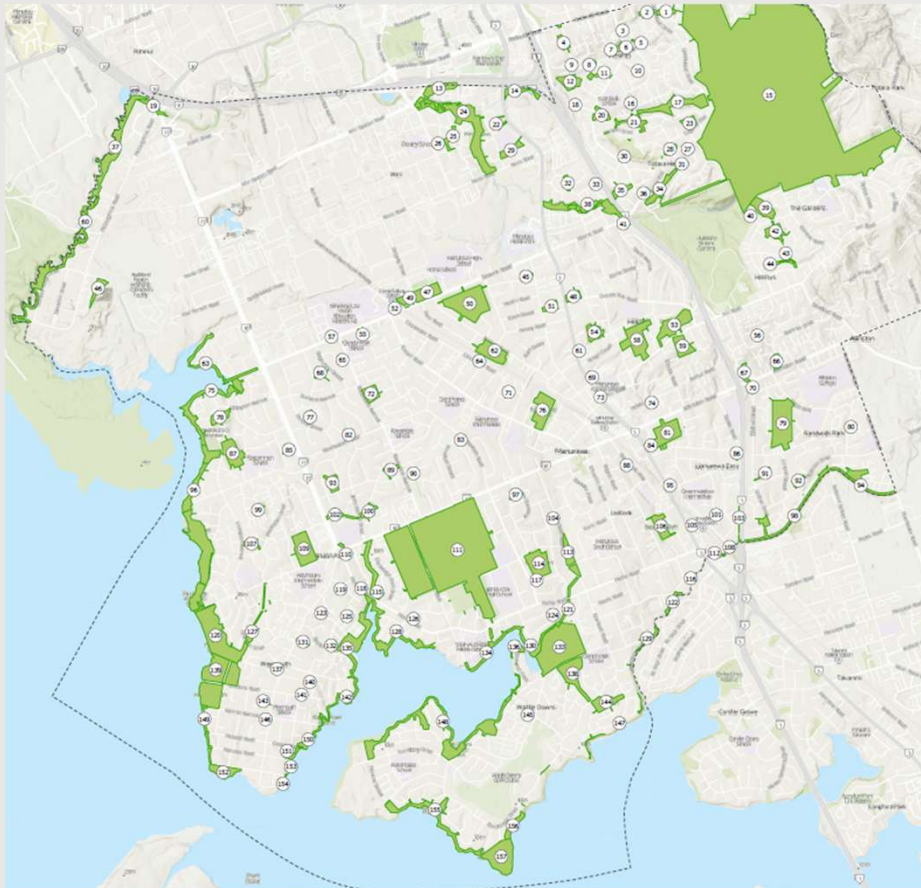


Summary

- The Manurewa Local Board is preparing a management plan for approximately 140 local parks.
- The first step is to notify of the local board's intention to prepare the plan and invite suggestions on the proposed plan.
- Public submissions were invited over one month (3 July- 3 August 2025). We received more than 150 submission forms, supplemented by comments on a social pinpoint map and surveys at engagement events. Eight organisations provided feedback, as well as one mana whenua group.
- This document provides a summary of the feedback received, including summaries of the responses for each question, park specific comments and feedback provided by organisations and mana whenua.
- In preparing the plan, the local board shall give full consideration to any comments received (s41 Reserves Act 1977).



Reserve management plans



Reserve management plans:

- are required for most types of reserves held under the Reserves Act 1977.
- guide the use, protection and enhancement of reserve land.

The Manurewa Local Parks Management Plan (LPMP) will:

- cover over approximately 140 local parks (Reserves Act and Local Government Act land).
- replace eight existing reserve management plans (including omnibus plans covering multiple parks).



Feedback received

We received:

- 152 Have Your Say feedback forms (151 online and 1 hardcopy)
- 68 contributions on the online Social Pinpoint map
- feedback from seven organisations
- feedback from Ngāti Tamaterā Treaty Settlement Trust
- contributions at consultation events and displays (73 comments and approximately 300 stickers)
- feedback about approximately 80 individual parks in scope of the Local Parks Management Plan project.

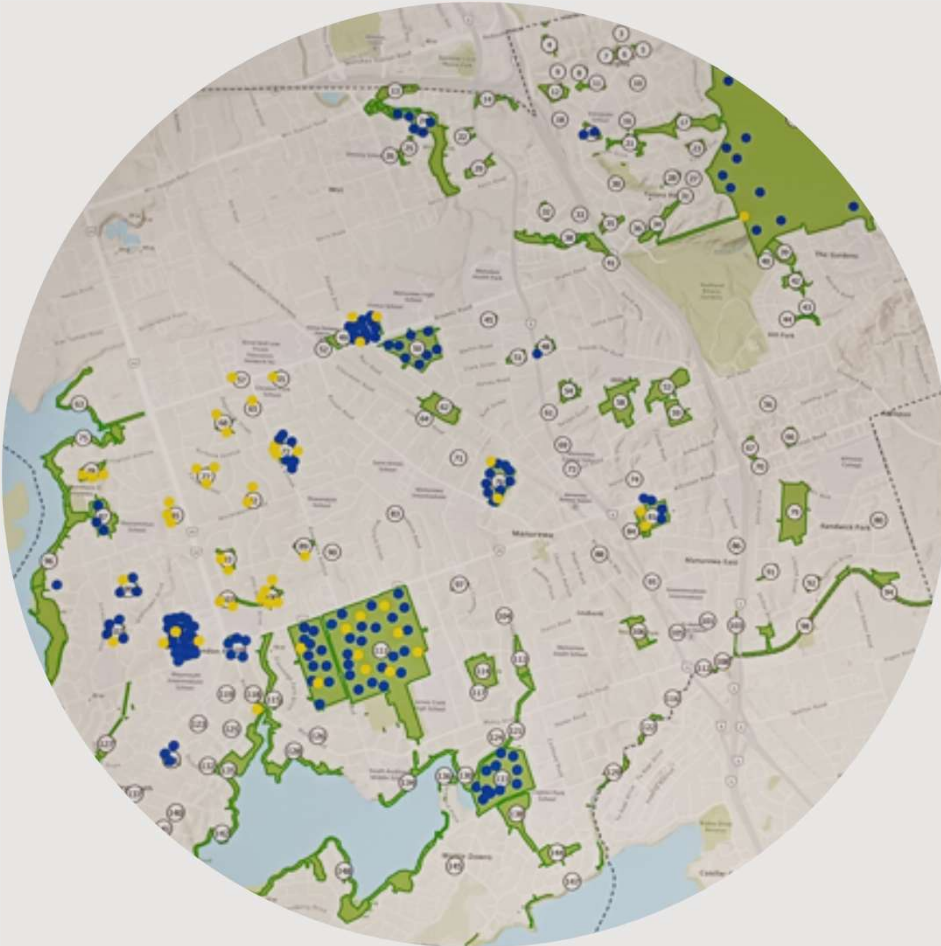
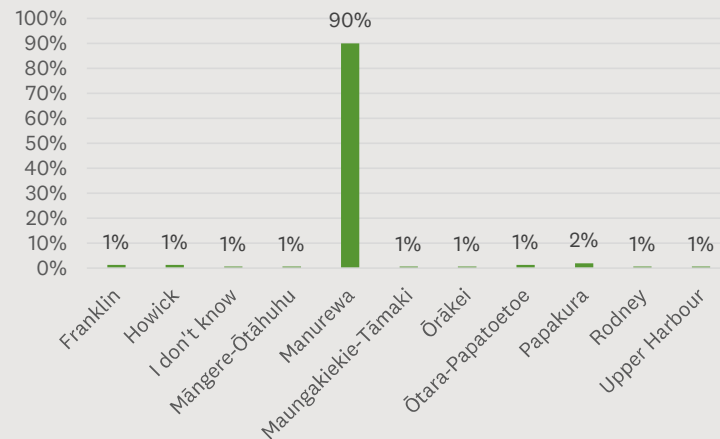


Image: An example of the contributions from consultation events - people placed stickers on parks which they visit and value the most as well as parks where they faced challenges or had concerns.

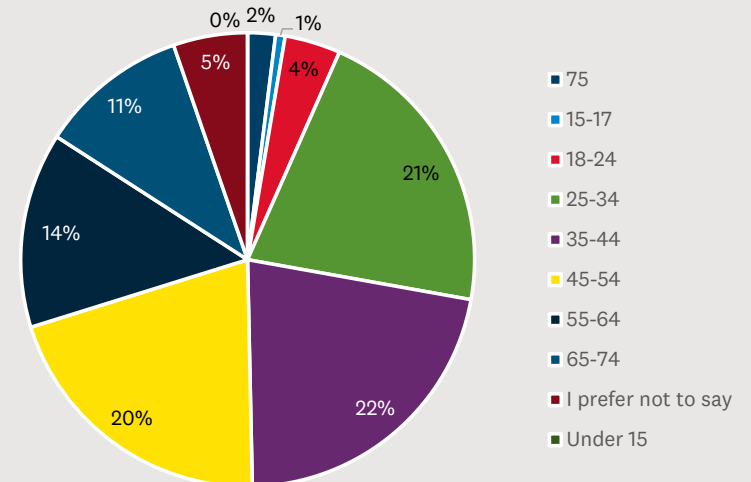


Demographics of submitters

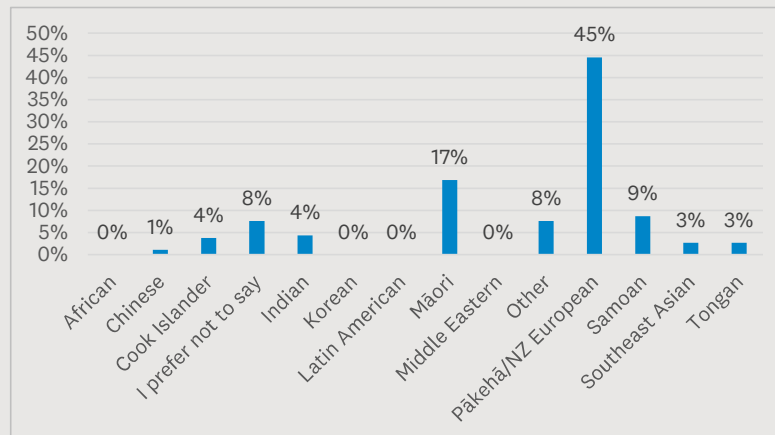
Local board area



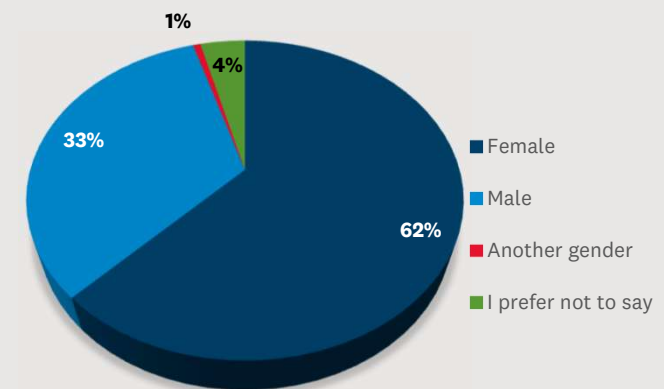
Age



Ethnicity



Gender



Note: Demographic information was optional as part of the Have Your Say feedback form only. It does not include submitters who used the interactive map or provided comments at events.



**Have Your Say
feedback form
responses**



Q1 - How do you use parks?



 Walking or running 74%	 Playgrounds, pump tracks, skate parks 46%	 Connecting with nature 56%
 Socialising, playing with friends / whānau 47%	 Dog walking 31%	 Commuting / travelling 17%
 Attending events 34%	 Organised sports 23%	 Volunteering 15%
 Picnic / BBQ 33%	 Other 15%	

Note: Submitters were able to respond with more than one answer to this question, which explains why the percentages do not add to 100%.





Q2 - Who do you visit parks with?

 Family 80%	 By myself 51%	Other 8% 
 Friends 47%	 Group / club 26%	

Q3 - How often do you visit?

 Every day or most days 35%	 Once or twice a week 44%
 Once or twice a month 18%	 Less often 3%

Note: Submitters were able to respond with more than one answer to Question 2, which explains why the percentages do not add to 100%.



Q4 - What parks do you visit the most?

- A total of 52 parks were mentioned in response to this question.
- Many people listed more than one park.
- Some people mentioned a group of parks or a general suburb, rather than a specific park (e.g. parks along coast).
- 27 parks only received one comment each, while 10 parks were mentioned more than five times.
- Some people responded with a park that is not in the scope for this plan. These included parks outside of the local board area (Hayman Park, Barry Curtis Park, David Lange Park) and the Botanic Gardens, which is a regional park.



Q4 - What parks do you visit the most? Top results



1. Tōtara Park (60)



2. Mountfort Park (38)



3. David Nathan Park (11)



4. Anderson Park (11)



5. Keith Park (8)



6. Jellicoe Park (7)



Note-the numbers in brackets represent the number of people who answered with this park.

Q5 - What do you value most about parks?



Natural environment

- It is important to protect and enhancing the natural environment, biodiversity and ecological corridors- including through revegetation projects.
- Parks help educate people about the environment.
- Parks have a variety of native and exotic plant species and a variety of environments such as forests and wetlands.
- Protection of waterways and fish habitats is important.



Community wellbeing

- Parks bring people together, help create bonds and are good for community wellbeing.
- Parks provide spaces for community activities, public events and council activities.
- They also provide space for clubs and opportunities for volunteering.



Personal wellbeing

- Parks contribute to mental wellbeing by providing opportunities for people to spend time in nature. They provide spaces for reflection, peace and quiet.
- Parks promote physical activity, providing opportunities to play sport and be active.
- Local parks provide for a variety of activities, including swimming, walking, biking, play, formal sports, bridle paths and dog walking.
- Parks provide access and views to the water.

Note- While Q5 was only specifically asked in the Have Your Say form, this summary also reflects comments from drop in sessions about park values.



Q5 - What do you value most about parks?



Family activities

- Children love to run around and play in large open spaces.
- There are a variety of play facilities, pump tracks and bike paths in the local parks.
- People value parks as a place for family events, picnics and other gatherings.



Safety and accessibility

- People value safe places to play in parks, especially areas with fences.
- Dog-free spaces are considered safer.
- Parks are easy to enjoy because they are free.
- Clean, well-maintained parks and facilities are valued.



Other

- Green spaces provide relief from the urban environment.
- Amenities such as seating and toilets are important.
- Parks can help to protect heritage.
- Some local parks provide for unique activities including bridle paths (Tōtara Park) and radio control sailing (Wattle Farm Ponds Reserve).

Note- While Q5 was only specifically asked in the Have Your Say form, this summary also reflects comments from drop in sessions about park values.



Q6 – Are there challenges you experience?



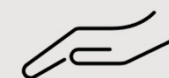
Sports and recreation

- Some fields are closed too often and need to be upgraded to address drainage issues.
- There are some conflicting uses- such as cycling, horse riding and walking at Tōtara Park.
- There is some overcrowding of facilities and spaces.
- There is a need for more covered courts.
- There is a lack of purpose-built skate and wheeled sports infrastructure.



Children's activities

- Playgrounds are not always safe, especially due to dog access, lack of fences and proximity to roads.
- Many playgrounds need upgrading and/or better maintenance.
- There is a need for more variety of playgrounds - including for toddlers and older children and accessible playgrounds.
- The design of parks and play experiences can cause challenges for users- for example if activities are too separated from each other.



Safety and accessibility

- Motorbikes and dirtbikes on the fields create safety (and maintenance) concerns.
- Off-leash dogs can make areas feel unsafe, have led to incidents and deter some people from using parks.
- Some parks are not accessible for people with prams or who use wheelchairs.
- The rubbish left in parks, such as broken bottles, can be unsafe.
- Some parts of cycleways are isolated and feel unsafe.
- There are illegal activities and anti-social behaviour in parks.
- Some areas in parks are not well-lit.

Note- While Q6 was only specifically asked in the Have Your Say form, this summary also reflects comments from drop in sessions.



Q6 – Are there challenges you experience?



Infrastructure and amenities

- There is a lack of amenities, including toilets, shade, tables, rubbish bins, seats, and water fountains in many parks.
- Some areas need more lights, to enhance safety and/or increase hours of use.
- Some parks don't have enough signage.
- Inadequate parking can be an issue in well-used parks.
- There are gaps in the cycle network.



Environment

- There is damage and loss of trees and plants in parks due to storms, vandalism, and trampling by people, off leash dogs and bikes.
- There are pest animals including feral cats and rats and invasive pest plants in some parks.
- Many parks have drainage and flooding issues.
- There is concern about erosion of stream banks and in coastal parks.



Maintenance and upkeep

- Rubbish, illegal dumping, the lack of bins and infrequent emptying of bins are common concerns.
- Some paths are in poor condition and there are not enough paths.
- Park facilities are not always clean.
- Smaller parks appear less well maintained.
- Some play equipment is poorly maintained and is at times left broken for a long time.
- Some parks have overgrown trees.
- Graffiti can be an issue.
- Maintenance of culverts is not adequate and leads to issues with water flow.

Note- While Q6 was only specifically asked in the Have Your Say form, this summary also reflects comments from drop in sessions.



Q7 - What are your ideas and suggestions for the future?



Play & Community use

- Provide for a wider range of play opportunities, including pump tracks, water play, incidental play, wheeled sports, play for all age groups and accessible play.
- Recognise the role that parks play in areas of residential intensification.
- Provide exercise equipment for adults in more parks.
- Promote opportunities for the community to be involved in planning and looking after parks e.g. volunteering, youth-based initiatives.



Protecting the natural environment

- Protect natural environments including vegetation, habitats and waterways.
- Plant more native species and enhance biodiversity.
- Enhance access to the natural environment.
- Support education and volunteering activities.
- Undertake initiatives to reduce illegal dumping and manage pest plants and animals.



Climate resilience

- Enhance the climate resilience of facilities and infrastructure, including in coastal areas and upgrading of sports fields to withstand flooding and heavy rain.
- Protect waterways from erosion through planting and managing access.
- Consider planting slow growing tree species in underused open spaces to mitigate the effects of climate change.
- Consider using some open spaces for flood retention.

Note- While Q7 was only specifically asked in the Have Your Say form, this summary also reflects comments from drop in sessions.

Q7 - What are your ideas and suggestions for the future?



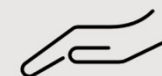
Incorporate Matauranga Māori

- Reflect the significance of open spaces and landscapes to Māori.
- Look for opportunities for more native plantings and consider suitable locations to establish rongoā (medicinal) gardens, and mara kai (food gardens).
- Create storytelling trails and share iwi narratives about open spaces and cultural landscapes.
- Protect and enhance the Waimāhia Inlet (see slides 35 and 36).



Improving facilities and amenities

- Provide more toilets, bins, tables and seats in more parks.
- Increase usage of parks and make the most of existing facilities e.g. consider providing lights to allow for night time use of more sports fields and extending hours of pools.
- Provide indoor training facilities.
- Improve maintenance, for example the frequency of rubbish collection.



Improving safety

- Provide for sun safety and shade using large trees and/or shelters.
- Restrict motorbike/dirtbike access.
- Increase dog control measures.
- Consider installing security cameras and lighting in key areas.
- Separate conflicting activities for safety- including dogs, bikes and horse-riding.
- Consider using fences to create safe and well-defined spaces.

Note- While Q7 was only specifically asked in the Have Your Say form this summary also reflects comments from drop in sessions.



Q8 - Do you have any additional feedback?



Parks play important roles for the environment and the community, including by providing spaces:

- to relax and relief from the urban environment
- to be physically active
- that are free for tamariki, whanau and communities to enjoy
- that help protect the natural environment and biodiversity.

Submitters want:

- more community events and educational opportunities in parks.
- quality over quantity- focus on maintenance and upgrades.
- council to work in partnership with mana whenua.
- safer parks- specifically in regards to road safety, dog access and anti-social behaviour.
- Spaces and facilities that are flexible for the future and designed with the community.

Note- While Q8 was only specifically asked in the Have Your Say form, this summary also reflects comments from drop in sessions.



Feedback by park- a snapshot



Local parks most mentioned overall



Map Ref	Park name
1	Tōtara Park
2	Mountfort Park
3	Clendon Community Centre Reserve
4	Te Pua / Keith Park
5	Rowandale Reserve
6	Anderson Park (Grand Vue Road Reserve)
7	Wai-hīrea / Wattle Farm Ponds Reserve
8	David Nathan Park
9	Weymouth Park (Joshua Place Reserve)
10	Manurewa Netball Complex
11	Gallaher Park
12	Jellicoe Park
13	John Walker Park
14	Manurewa Recreation Centre
15	Te Pae Maumahara / Manurewa War Memorial Park
16	Laurie Gibbons Memorial Park

Note- All of these parks were mentioned more than 10 times across all questions and types of responses.

Top 5 parks that people commented on



1. Mountfort Park



2. Tōtara Park



3. Te Pua / Keith Park



4. Anderson Park



5. Rowandale Reserve

Note- These results only reflect specific text comments, and do not include sticker votes or parks visited the most.



**Feedback from mana
whenua and
organisations**





Mana whenua

Ngāti Tamaterā Treaty Settlement Trust	Feedback from Ngāti Tamaterā Treaty Settlement Trust relates to the Waimāhia inlet waterways and parks. The trust express concerns that the inlet is being neglected, with concerns relating to rubbish, maintenance, water quality and ecological decline. The submission notes that these issues not only impact environmental health but also hinder safe and equitable access for whānau, kaumatua, rangatahi, and tamariki who use these spaces. It seeks the urgent restoration, maintenance and resourcing for the Waimāhia Inlet parks and waterways and sets out specific management approaches and investments to do this.
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Educational organisations

Te Tuareka O Manurewa Trust	Feedback largely relates to Rowandale Reserve. The park is valued as a space for family time, for kids to be off screens and to meet people. Concerns relate to the small size and overcrowding of some parks and that some are old and unattractive. Ideas relate to providing gated areas within the park to provide a separate area for dogs, and to provide area/s for children with special needs to play.
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Note- mana whenua engagement is undertaken throughout the plan-making process. This feedback was submitted by Ngāti Tamaterā during the community engagement process.





Sports and recreation groups

Manurewa Marlins and Maranga Fanau	Feedback relates to fields at Mountfort Park and Leabank Park. Concerns include access by motorbikes, the amount of rubbish and lack of rubbish bins. Suggestions include improving basic maintenance, improving lighting at Sykes Road training area and improving safe access to toilets.
Manurewa Rugby Football Club	Feedback relates to Mountfort Park, which is valued when the rugby fields are in good condition. Concerns include the limited amount of field space with lighting, drainage issues, damage from motorbikes on the fields, grass not being well maintained and booking issues. Suggestions include involving the clubs when doing renovations, as they are the key users.
East Skate Club Inc	The skate facilities at Randwick Park and Clendon Community Centre Reserve are valued for providing a space for young people to be active, connect with others, and find a sense of identity through recreational activities. Suggestions include providing new skateable environments, youth-led spaces, long-term investment in wheeled sports.
Tōtara Park Mountain Bike Club	Tōtara Park is valued for providing opportunities to enjoy the outdoors, improve fitness and wellbeing. It also offers opportunities to be part of a (mountain biking) club and community events. Suggestions relate to improving the recreational values of the park, by extending the mountain bike and walking trails to bring in both local and regional visitors, completing the Tōtara Park Master Plan and the redevelopment of the Redoubt Rd Carpark, and supporting clubs.





Environmental groups

The Beautification Trust	Feedback relates to Tōtara Park, Walpole Reserve, Orford Park, David Nathan Park, Trimdon Reserve, Papakura Stream/Holmes Road reserve, Charles Prevost Reserve, Peretao Rise Reserve, Hillcrest Grove Reserve. These parks are valued for their vegetation and how they provide for environmental connection, meaningful volunteering opportunities and contribute to people's mental health. Concerns and suggestions relate to include better protection of taonga, roaming dogs, safety, flooding, riparian management, illegal dumping, pest plants and animals, supporting volunteer work, increasing canopy trees and planting natives to enhance biodiversity.
Tōtara Heights Bush Guardians	Feedback relates to Aronia, Banyan, Calluna, Correa Park, De Havilland Park, Eugenia #1 Bush Reserve. These parks are valued for their native bush, providing food and biodiversity corridors for birds. Concerns relate to stream function (e.g. blocked culverts), the erosion of stream banks, damage to riparian environments and flooding in grass areas of the reserves. Suggestions include replanting areas to mitigate the effects of climate change, enhanced protection for forests and looking after streams as part of the network of Te Puhinui Awa.



