



NGATI WHAKAUE GIFTED RESERVES
PROTOCOL MEETING

Meeting between Pukeroa Oruawhata Trust and Rotorua District Council
to be held in Committee Room 1, Rotorua District Council
on Monday 11 April 2011 at 2:00pm

Chairperson:	His Worship the Mayor		
Councillors and Trustees:	Cr Maxwell Mr S Harris Mr D Tapsell	Cr Donaldson Mr P Kingi Mr D Rangitauira	Mr A Wilson Mr M Short
Quorum:	6		

AGENDA

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P Guerin
Chief Executive



60-12-270\02

**MINUTES OF NGATI WHAKAUE GIFTED RESERVES
PROTOCOL MEETING**

Held on Monday 4 October 2010 at 1:00pm in Regulatory Meeting Room 1, Rotorua District Council

PRESENT: Mayor K Winters (Chairperson)
Mr A Wilson, Ngati Whakaue representative
Mr S Harris, Ngati Whakaue representative
Mr M Short, Ngati Whakaue representative
Mr M Patchell, Hulton Patchell
Cr T Maxwell, Rotorua District Council representative
Cr C Sturt, Rotorua District Council representative

APOLOGIES: Absent: Mr B P Kingi, Mr D Tapsell and Mr D Rangitauira

STAFF PRESENT: P Guerin, Chief Executive; N Claassen, Group Manager, Infrastructure Services;
G Page, Manager Parks and Recreation; P Dine, Works Manager; E Haycock, Parks
Assets Planning Manager; C Peden, Committee Administrator.

His Worship the Mayor welcomed everyone present to the meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Resolved

Mr Wilson) ***That the apologies from P Kingi, D Tapsell, and D Rangitauira (for absence) be***
Cr Maxwell) ***received.***

CARRIED

2. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Resolved

Cr Sturt) ***That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 31 May 2010 be confirmed as***
Mr Wilson) ***a true and correct record.***

CARRIED

3. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The following items were discussed:

- A. Mr Page said that the licenses of lakefront operators would be extended to after Easter 2012 ;
- B. Policy Analyst/Maori Research Officer, Ms Bella Tait would arrange a meeting with Mr Wilson or another member of Pukeroa Oruawhata Trust within ten days to work towards formalising the Fenton Agreement in preparation for its display in the Council Civic Centre. Mr Guerin said he would follow this issue up with Ms Tait;

- C. The Rotorua Primary School car park and landscaping had now been completed;
- D. Ngati Whakaue representatives would be holding a second meeting on 10 November with NZ Historic Places Trust;
- E. Mr Harris complained that he had not received the minutes from the previous meeting until 4 days ago, as part of the agenda;
- F. Mr Guerin had met with representatives of the Shambles Theatre committee (and Pak 'N Save), who had expressed the view that they were not prepared to raise the additional funds needed to relocate. This being the case, he said some urban design work was needed to ensure that the needs of Pak 'N Save and Shambles Theatre were met;
- G. Mr Guerin had met with Rev Alex Czerwonka, Chairperson of the Night Shelter Trust, to discuss the needs of the homeless. Pukeroa Oruawhata Trust had offered their support, and have a property in mind, but would need some funding support.

4. ALTERATION TO DESIGNATION – ROTORUA EASTERN ARTERIAL (REA)

Mr Dine spoke to a slide titled 'Alteration to REA designation' (Attachment 1). The designation was held by NZTA who would have to apply for the alteration. As it affected Gifted Reserves land, consent of the Gifted Reserves Protocol Committee would be necessary.

Mr Claassen updated members on the progress of the Victoria Street arterial, along with Option 8CB and the Rotorua Racing Club (RRC) option, which are still subject to a Commissioner's decision.

The Ngati Whakaue representatives asked that consultation for the REA include the wider community, and they also suggested that meetings be held with the Chairperson of Ngati Whakaue Tribal Lands. Mr Dine said that NZTA was managing the consultation process relating to the Rotorua Eastern Arterial and compensation was a legal requirement to be settled prior to construction.

Mr Claassen commented that the realignment of the Victoria Street Arterial option 8CB, including the RRC realignment, required this minor alteration to the REA designation.

Resolved

- Mr Short)
Mayor Winters)
1. ***That the 'Alteration to Designation – Rotorua Eastern Arterial' report be received; and***
 2. ***That the committee consent to the Alteration to the Designation of the Rotorua Eastern Arterial within the Sanatorium Reserve.***

CARRIED

5. PARKS AND RECREATION: POLICY ANALYSIS AND REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr Page spoke to a powerpoint presentation titled 'Operational Policy Analysis and Review' (Attachment 2).

Mr Claassen said that the purpose of this item was to provide members with notification that a review was pending, which would then be followed by formal consultation for each policy. It was agreed that Pukeroa Oruawhata trustees would be consulted on items of particular interest to them before any revised policy was circulated.

Mr Harris raised a concern that the mana of the Ngati Whakaue Gifted Reserves Protocol was being reduced by more and more "protocols" being signed by Council with other Iwi Authorities. He suggested that these other agreements should be known as accords or agreements.

Resolved

- Mr Wilson)
Mayor Winters)
- 1. That the report titled 'Parks and Recreation: Policy analysis and review recommendations' be received and the contents noted;**
 - 2. That the Ngati Whakaue Gifted Reserves Protocol members resolve to support the analysis and review of policies within the Parks and Recreation Department; and**
 - 3. That revised policies, where appropriate, be tabled at a Ngati Whakaue Gifted Reserves Protocol meeting first as and when individual draft policies are ready to be approved.**

CARRIED

6. CBD URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK UPDATE

Mr Guerin spoke to a powerpoint presentation titled 'CBD Urban Design Framework' (Attachment 3).

Submissions to the Urban Design Framework had been extended by a month, and would now close on 15 October 2010, as interest had been high.

Mr Owen Glenn had made an announcement at the unveiling of Sir Howard's headstone regarding a new Entertainment Centre in Sir Howard's memory, but no details had been provided yet.

Resolved

- Mr Wilson)
Cr Maxwell)
- That the verbal report on CBD Urban Design Framework update be received.**

CARRIED

7. RCYCT (ROTORUA COMMUNITY YOUTH CENTRE TRUST) BUILDING REFURBISHMENT PROJECT PHASE 2

Mr Haycock spoke to a powerpoint presentation (Attachment 4). About 500 young people per month used the facility. Burton Construction was currently working on Stage 2 of the project, which would hopefully be completed by mid-November. Before Stage 3 could be commenced (which would cost an estimated \$3 million), funding would need to be sourced, and Pukeroa Oruawhata trustees consulted. A 'pump track' for mountain bikes would be developed in the area where a pine tree currently stood, which was due for removal. His Worship the Mayor said that the General Practitioners operating from RCYCT had also secured the contract to supply health services for the new youth residence facility at Horohoro.

Resolved

- Mr Short)
Mayor Winters)
- That the verbal report on the RCYCT Building Refurbishment Project Phase 2 be received.**

CARRIED

8. ACTIVITIES ON RESERVES' DRAFT POLICY CONSULTATION

Mr Page said that he would be happy to liaise with a nominated Pukeroa Oruawhata representative to work through this draft policy prior to a more formal presentation to the trustees.

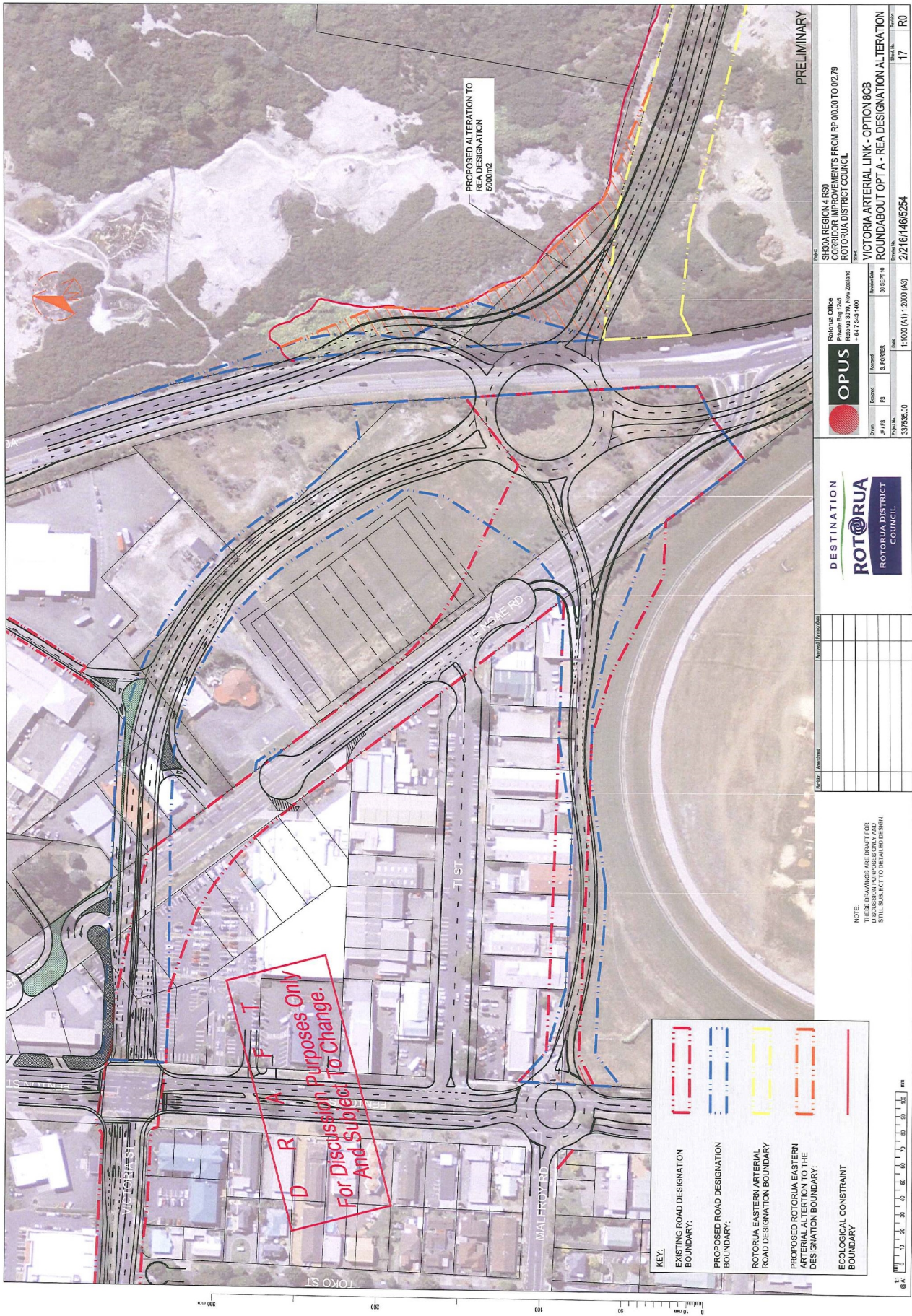
9. GENERAL BUSINESS

None.

10. NEXT MEETING

Members would be notified once the dates for next year's Council meetings had been finalised.

The meeting concluded at 2:35pm



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Rotorua
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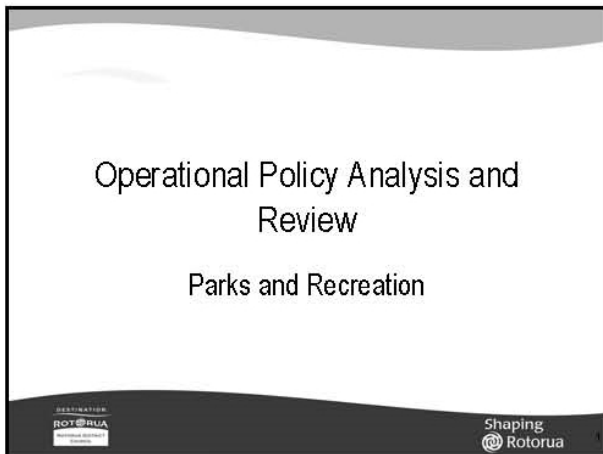
Project: VICTORIA ARTERIAL LINK - OPTION 80B
Roundabout Opt A - REA Designation Alteration

Sheet: 17 of 17

DESTINATION ROTORUA
ROTORUA DISTRICT COUNCIL

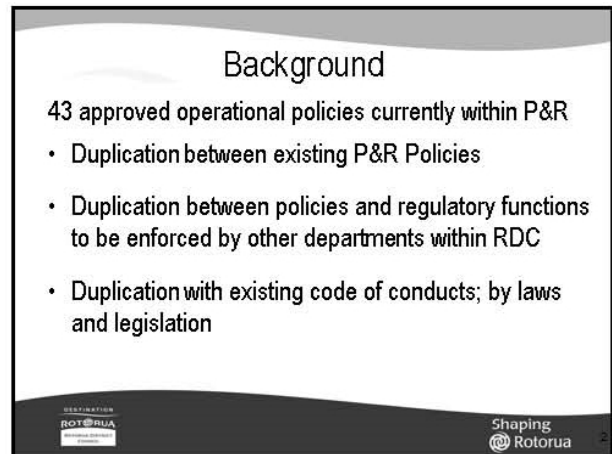
NOTE:
THESE DRAWINGS ARE INTENT FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY AND WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE FINAL DESIGN.

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Operational Policy Analysis and Review
Parks and Recreation

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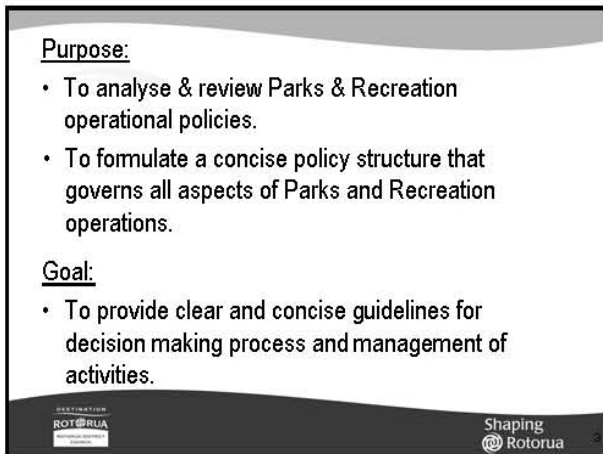


Background

43 approved operational policies currently within P&R

- Duplication between existing P&R Policies
- Duplication between policies and regulatory functions to be enforced by other departments within RDC
- Duplication with existing code of conducts; by laws and legislation

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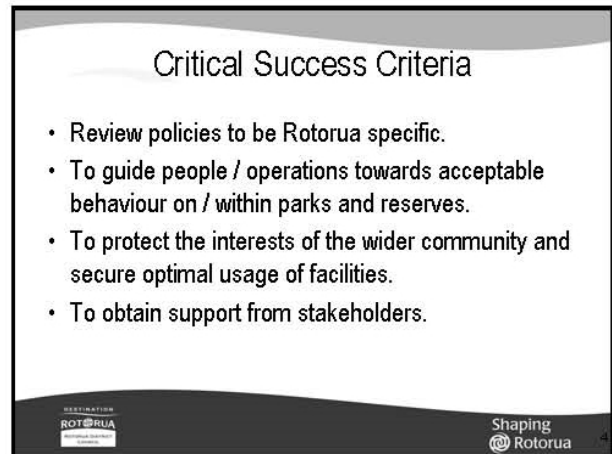
Purpose:

- To analyse & review Parks & Recreation operational policies.
- To formulate a concise policy structure that governs all aspects of Parks and Recreation operations.

Goal:

- To provide clear and concise guidelines for decision making process and management of activities.

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Shaping
@ Rotorua



Critical Success Criteria

- Review policies to be Rotorua specific.
- To guide people / operations towards acceptable behaviour on / within parks and reserves.
- To protect the interests of the wider community and secure optimal usage of facilities.
- To obtain support from stakeholders.

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New Policy Structure

Current Policies	Anticipated policies categories
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sportsgrounds Clubrooms & other buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sportsgrounds/facilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aquatic Centre (Swimming Pools Policy) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aquatic Centre
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cemeteries & Crematorium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cemeteries/Crematorium
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blue Lake Reserve Special Events Commercial water based activities Overnight camping Smoke Free policy Beaches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities on Reserves

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Current Policies	Anticipated policies categories
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreational and Community Lease Policy Lease Policy (Parks & Recreation) Bonds (for entrepreneurial proposals on reserve land) Service concession and commercial activities on reserves To korangi & Whakarewarewa Forest Event Management and Fees Temporary Commercial activities on Lakefront Reserve General access and use Reserve closures and exclusive use Community organisations Grazing on reserves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leases, Concessions, Licences & Reserve hire

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Current Policies	Anticipated policies categories
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shade creation Playgrounds Parks & Reserves "Takarangi" signage Parks & Reserves "Totorangi" signage Outdoor furniture on reserves Litter control & dumping Fencing Contribution Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reserves Structures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landscaping & Amenity Planting Walkways Beaches Public security & safety Neighbouring property protection & community consultation Rural reserve location & development policy Private access to reserve land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design of Reserves

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Current Policies	Anticipated policies categories
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nursery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nursery
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jetties & Boatramps Boat launching facilities Jetties & boatramps on private property 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Lake Structures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant pest control Animal pest control Conservation & restoration of environment Lake weed clearance Reserve Environmental Management Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reserves Environmental Management

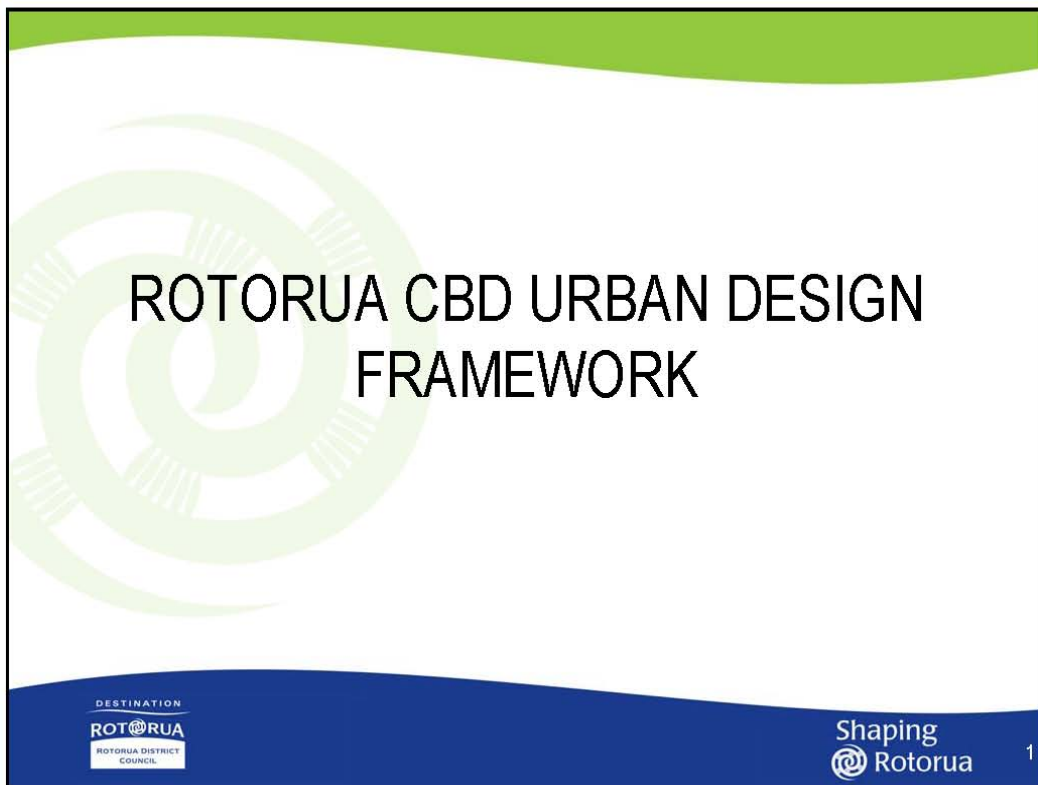
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PROJECT TIMELINE

3 August 2010	Community Parks & Recreation Committee
6 September 2010	Te Arawa Lakes Trust
13 September 2010	Te Arawa Standing Committee
30 September 2010	Council
4 October 2010	Ngati Whakaue Gifted Reserves Protocol
3 November 2010	Tuhourangi Protocol Meeting
2 December 2010	Rotorua Lakes Community Board

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SUSTAINABLE
GROWTH

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CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK

What is the Urban Design Framework?

The Urban Design Framework (the framework) is a document that describes the overarching vision and the desired outcome for the Rotorua city centre and gives direction to subsequent policies and site-specific initiatives that will shape the future of the city centre.

The framework is the result of extensive community consultation undertaken as part of the city centre Revitalisation Strategy in 2006, the Lakefront Concept Development and the Annual Plan submissions. This document is part of a wider working strategy that Council is undertaking to revitalise the city centre and lakefront, attract economic growth, and boost tourism into these areas.

The framework also serves as a platform for the district plan review and urban design guidelines. These guidelines will be incorporated into the proposed district plan to improve the look and feel of the city centre and protect its character.



What has happened so far?

In 2006 the Council prepared a CBD Revitalisation Strategy that identified several issues facing the city centre and outlined a series of integrated studies and projects to be conducted. The Council has already commissioned some of these studies including the Lakefront Concept Plan released for public consultation this year, the Travel Demand Management Strategy (2007), the Parking Study (2010), and the successful city centre activities of East Street and the Night Market.



Fact Sheet...

Tutanekai Precinct

Urban Design Framework

The Urban Design Framework (the framework) identifies precincts that support the clustering of key activities to support intensification and improve character in the city centre. The Tutanekai precinct has been identified to provide the link between the north and south edges of the city centre through a sequence of spaces, features and events. Council intends to deliver the Tutanekai precinct projects within the short to medium term.



Fact Sheet...

What are the proposed changes in Tutanekai Street?

- Higher density commercial and residential development along the length of Tutanekai Street
- Enhancements to Tutanekai Street to help make Rotorua a walkable city
- Design Hinemoa Street so it is more attractive to pedestrians and is more integrated with the City Focus
- Plant trees to change the street scale and examine other streetscape improvements
- Upgrade East Street with flexibility for winter and summer dining numbers

Haupapa Precinct

Urban Design Framework

The Urban Design Framework (the framework) identifies precincts that encourage the clustering of key activities to support intensification and improve the character in the city centre. The Council is aiming to develop a Transport Centre in Haupapa Street that integrates with the Information Centre, Jean Batten Square and the Rotorua Library. The Haupapa precinct interchange will become a focal point bringing visitors for shopping into the city centre as well as providing transport for local people. The timing of the Haupapa precinct depends on the completion of an Interchange Study which will address the preferred design options for consultation.



What are the proposed changes for Haupapa Street?

- New bus interchange around the existing park
- Development of a transport hub that combines tourist, regional and local buses into one location
- Development of shop frontages and possible development of an arts and entertainment building in close proximity to the bus terminal
- Shelters and new planting to be designed to complement the bus interchange
- Development of ground floor shops, and accommodation or commercial space above

Fact Sheet...

The Urban Design Framework (the framework) identifies precincts that encourage the clustering of key activities to support intensification and improve the character in the city centre. The aim is to consolidate the southern boundary of the city centre by the development of the Southern precinct. By doing this, activity will increase, there will be better integration of Rotorua Central and a more compact City Centre.

Some physical works around Rotorua Central are likely to occur in the short term. However, most changes are dependent on the Victoria Street Arterial notice of requirement proceeding to the detailed design stage.



What are the proposed changes for the Southern Edge?

- Potential development of Victoria Arterial to be designed as a city edge boulevard with slip roads to encourage active frontages
- Connection of existing streets to slip lanes
- Zoning changes along the northern edge of Victoria Street to consolidate city centre
- Tree planting to provide a landscape buffer along the route to Rotorua Central
- Streetscape Ranolf to match Arawa and Fenton Streets

Fact Sheet...

Lakefront Precinct

Urban Design Framework

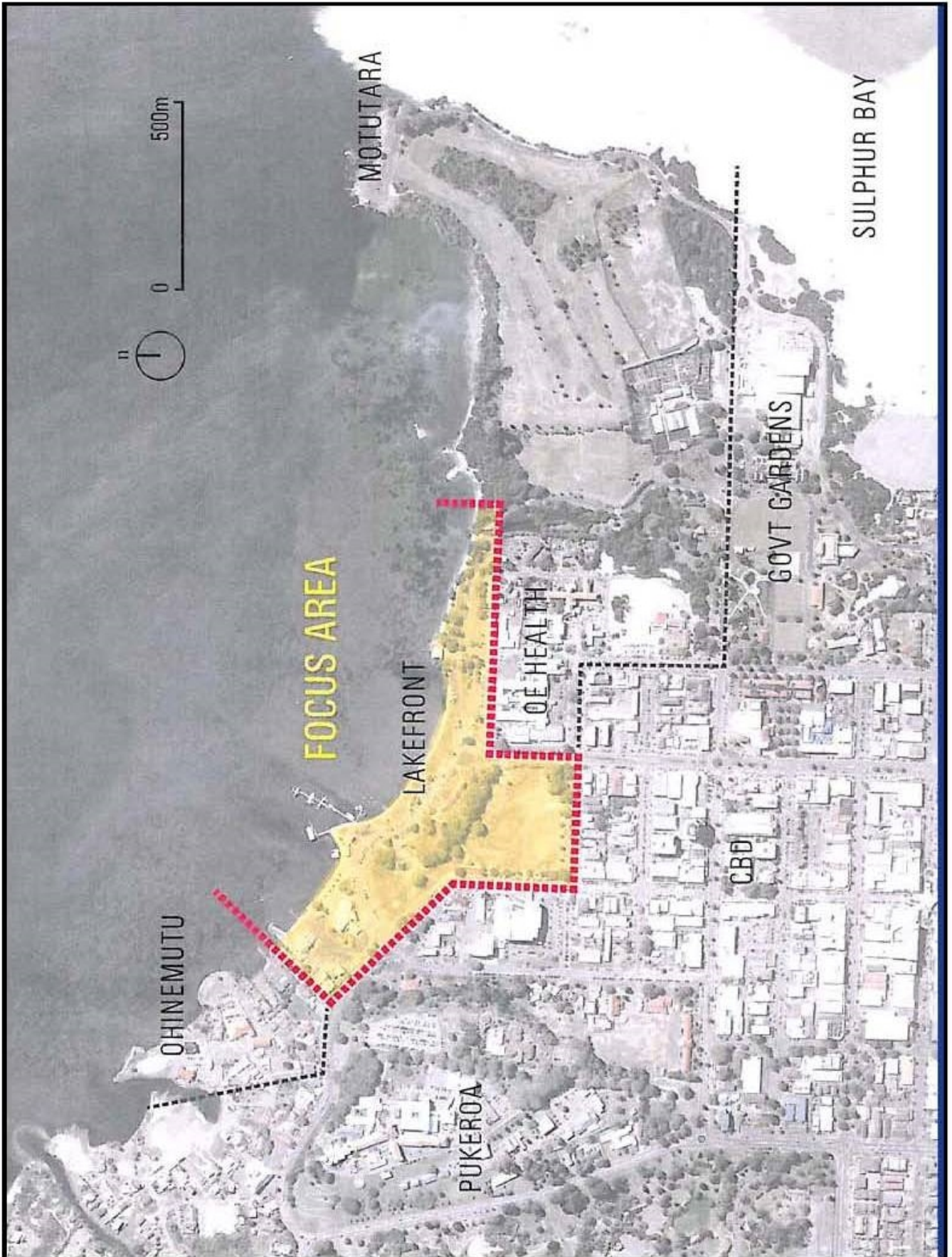
The Urban Design Framework (the framework) identifies precincts that encourage the clustering of key activities to support intensification and improve the character in the city centre. Detailed designs have been prepared for the lakefront following an earlier round of community consultation. This long-term project aims at developing a sense of place, protecting the environment and using the unique qualities of Rotorua to increase the urban activity that connects to the city centre.



What are the proposed changes for the Lakefront?

- Rezoning of Queen Elizabeth site and Resort A areas to encourage development
- Locate a high-end international hotel in the lakefront to attract tourists to the city centre
- Whakaue Street to become a street where pedestrian traffic has priority
- Redevelopment of parkland and urban spaces to accommodate a broad range of tourism and recreation activities with a key focus on the natural lakefront setting, the geothermal resources and Maori culture
- Active building frontages to improve street amenity
- New urban square at the intersection of Tutanekei Street and the new wharf
- Extension of Hinemaru Street through to the lakefront

Fact Sheet...



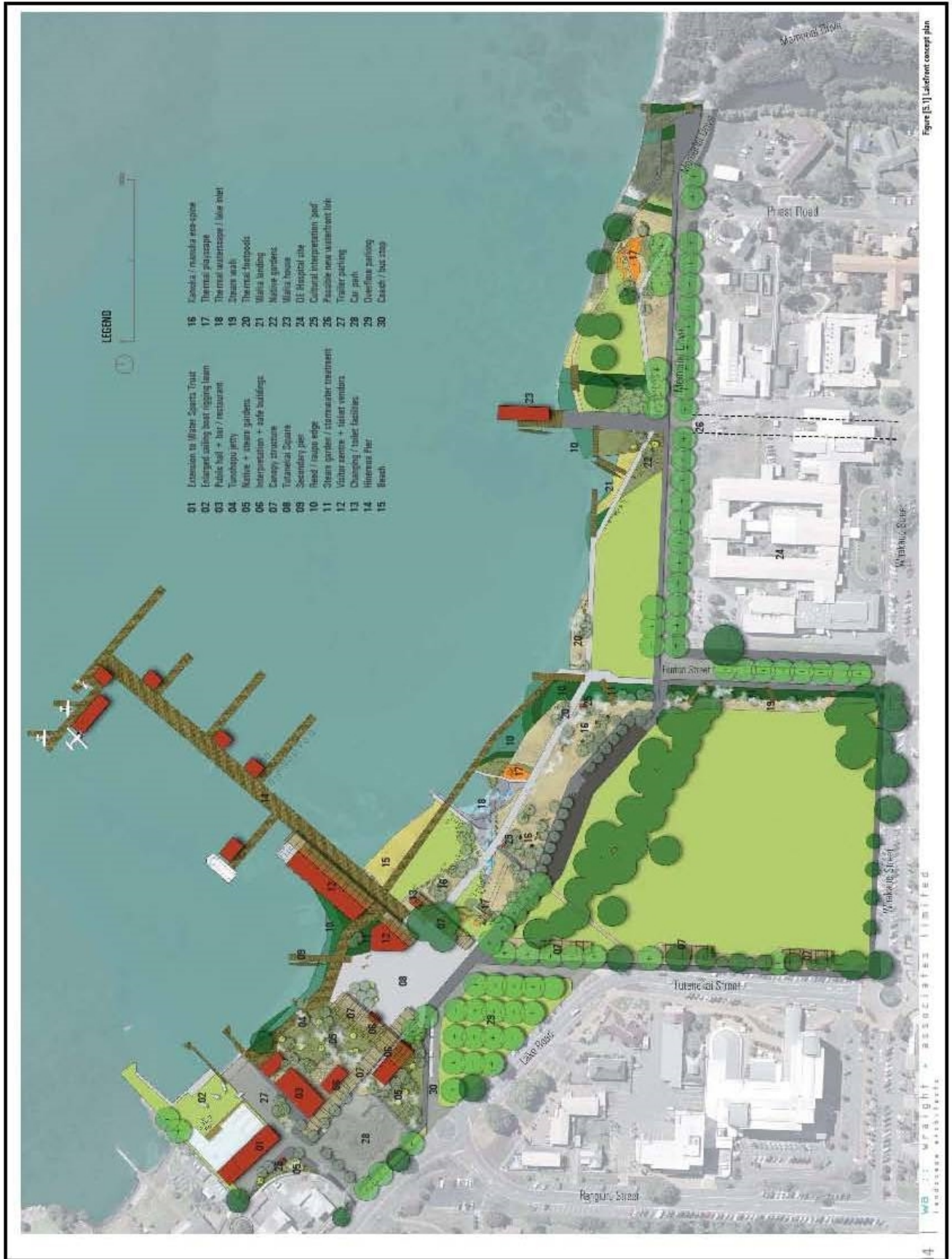


Figure 15.1 | Sidefront concept plan







Stage Two – progress

Gallery & Hall – First Floor



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5

Stage Two – progress

Drop in (youth lounge) – Ground floor



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6

Proposal for Stage Three

The construction of an enclosed Youth Event Facility




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7

Completed project





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8

Youth Centre- Sanitorium Reserve

Progress - Stage 2





Stage One Completed – Medical Centre






Stage Two

- Involves the internal refurbishment of the interior of the building (with the exception medical centre), Construction commenced early August, and will be completed sometime in November
- The total cost is over \$600,000.00 (most of which is being covered by funding that RCYCT obtained from the Lottery Board).



Stage Two – progress

Dance Studio – First floor



ROTORUA DISTRICT COUNCIL

60-12-270\02

His Worship the Mayor
Chairperson and Members
NGATI WHAKAUE GIFTED RESERVES COMMITTEE

CBD IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY / URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK

Report prepared by: Nick Dallimore, Manager, Special Projects (CBD Investment & Business Partnerships)

Report approved by: Mark Rawson, Group Manager Economic and Regulatory Services

1. **PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this agenda item is for Pukeroa Oruawhata Trust to receive an update on the Urban Design Framework process to date, and to seek input on the framework implementation plan, prior to the plan being submitted to Council.

2. **RECOMMENDATION 1**

THAT THE REPORT TITLED 'CBD IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY/URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK' BE RECEIVED AND THE CONTENTS NOTED.

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Urban Design Framework (UDF) was prepared as the next step to the 2006 CBD Revitalisation Strategy. The UDF provides a spatial plan for the city centre that identifies key actions and timeframes for specific areas. The aim of the UDF is to increase activity, investment and use of the city centre. Two of the main methods to achieve this are activity precincts and pedestrians oriented areas. Four main activity clusters or precincts are identified - the Lakefront, Haupapa, Tutanekai and the Southern Edge.

Consultation

- 3.2 The UDF was subject to numerous internal discussions with officers and Elected Members. The UDF was released to the public for consultation in August 2010. Due to the large amount of interest and discussion the closing date for feedback was extended to 15 October 2010.
- 3.3 By the close of feedback the UDF had attracted over 85 separate responses. Most of these were from individuals. A number of organisations took the opportunity to provide comment including QE Trust, Pukeroa Oruawhata Trust, New Zealand Transport Agency, Environment Waikato, Bay of Plenty Regional Council, and the New Zealand Historic Places Trust.

Assessment of feedback received

- 3.4 The feedback received was generally supportive of the UDF and the concept of a walkable, pedestrian orientated city. Some respondents acknowledged the advantage of having specialty retail in close proximity to large retail format (Rotorua Central) and commended the UDF objective of connecting these elements to form a single city centre.

- 3.5 Briefly, numerous comments related to detailed design matters covering such aspects as the design of street seating, location of lighting, and the inclusion of tree planting to provide streets with a human scale. Some of the comments were about how the framework would be translated into district plan rules and zones - these aspects are being assessed in the latest version of the draft district plan that is currently being finalised for public release.
- 3.6 Many respondents focussed on the lakefront and the development of the QE site. Responses to this were mixed, with concern being raised on the potential impact on public space and the allowance for high rise buildings (3-4 floors). Alternatively support was provided for the upgrade of the premises and the provision for more activity within the area. A number of respondents took the opportunity to present alternatives to the Lakefront Development Concept Plan adopted by Council in 2009. The alternatives entail a significant amount of earthworks to modify the lake edge and create a harbour/marina-style precinct.
- 3.7 The majority of submitters supported the Tutanekai Precinct, and its development as the spine of the city centre. Matters of increasing safety and ensuring Tutanekai Street did not get left behind in favour of lake front development were the key issues raised within the submissions.
- 3.8 Haupapa Precinct and its associated transport hub was generally supported, with the main concerns relating to the incorporation of CPTED policies and security being available onsite upon the transport hubs design.
- 3.9 Support was provided for the consolidation of the City centre through the creation of the Southern Edge Precinct which follows the Victoria Street Arterial. It was acknowledged by many submitters that commercial sprawl is a problem that challenges the vitality of the city centre.

4. Next Steps – Implementation Plan

- 4.1 Taking into account the feedback received it is now considered important to meet with key city centre stakeholders as part of developing an **implementation plan**. It is considered that this process commence, and be completed prior to the UDF being finalised by Council. The implementation plan will focus on actions that can be progressed in the short to medium term, and defining the longer-term priorities.
- 4.2 Implementation Plan consists of 8 short /medium term implementation and incentive strategies;
 - 3.1.1. Finalise Urban Design Framework
 - 3.1.2. Lakefront Precinct
 - 3.1.3. Tutanekai Street 'spine'
 - 3.1.4. Haupapa Street Precinct
 - 3.1.5. District Plan (linkages)
 - 3.1.6. Development Contributions Incentive Package
 - 3.1.7. Marketing Communications
 - 3.1.8. CBD Investment Manager
5. The discussions with stakeholders are being programmed for March and April, with report-back to elected members at the May 2011 meeting of the Economic and Regulatory Services Committee meeting.
6. The timetable suggested above aligns with the Development Contributions CBD Incentive Package that is presently being developed. The Development Contributions Incentive Package will form part of the overall UDF implementation plan.

N Dallimore
31 March 2011

ROTORUA DISTRICT COUNCIL

His Worship the Mayor
Chairperson and Members
NGATI WHAKUAUE PROTOCOL COMMITTEE

PROTECTION OF HERITAGE TREES ON PUKEROA HILL

Report prepared by: Joby Barham, Landscape Architect

Report approved by: Nico Claassen, District Engineer

1. **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to seek consent for assessment of significant heritage trees on Pukeroa Hill to identify if the trees should be protected.

2. **RECOMMENDATION 2**

- 2.1 **THAT THE 'PROTECTION OF HERITAGE TREES ON PUKEROA HILL' REPORT BE RECEIVED AND THE CONTENTS NOTED;**
- 2.2 **THAT THE COMMITTEE APPROVES COUNCIL TO ASSESS THE TREES TO IDENTIFY IF THE TREES SHOULD BE PROTECTED; AND**
- 2.3 **THAT THE COMMITTEE APPROVES PROTECTION OF THE TREES IF THE TREES MEET THE CRITERIA FOR PROTECTION.**

3. **BACKGROUND**

Currently, there is one notable tree on Pukeroa Hill, within the hospital grounds, which is protected by the mechanisms of the Rotorua District Plan. The protected common English oak tree (*Quercus robur*) is next to the larger of the two urupa sites and was planted by Jean Michel Camille Malfroy on 20 January 1884.

The notable tree protection programme gained momentum in Rotorua when S. W. Burstall released his report 'Historic and Notable Trees of New Zealand: Waikato, Thames Valley-Coromandel, Bay of Plenty' in 1972. Since then the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture and the New Zealand Arboricultural Association has implemented a programme of identifying and recording notable trees in New Zealand. In response to conjecture about how to assess the notability of trees, a landscape architect Ron Flook published the Standard Tree Evaluation Method (STEM) in 1996 to standardise industry practice around assessment of trees.

Council protected 38 trees in the 1996 district plan largely based on Burstall's report and supported by STEM assessments by experts. However, Council has not had a policy on how to add new trees to the list. There has not been a benchmark for notable tree status nor a method to attribute notable status to trees that have grown to have notable qualities. In 2010, Council approved the Rotorua District Tree Policy which contained a policy on the process of accessioning notable trees and benchmarks for protection of trees.

Over recent years, officers have received numerous requests from the public for protection of trees. As a consequence of Council adopting the tree policy, officers have reviewed the database of requests and have

identified significant heritage trees on Pukeroa Hill that will probably meet the criteria for protection. The Rotorua Tree Council reviewed the collection of trees on Pukeroa Hill in 2004 and published an article about the trees. The trees Council wished to assess were all identified as being significant by the Rotorua Tree Council.

The trees of interest include the avenue of plane trees (*Platanus* species) that are large, excellent quality examples of the species in Rotorua and are a remnant of the original structural planting arrangement for the site. There is one common English oak (*Quercus robur*) of interest and three Turkey oaks (*Quercus cerris*) that are very large specimens of good quality for Rotorua. There is also a horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) of interest on the site.

4. **STRATEGIC PURPOSE**

Council protects a small number of trees with notable qualities in the district. Protection of these trees is one aspect of Council's responsibility to recognise and protect the heritage values of the district. The intention though is not to freeze the district at one point in time. As trees grow and die, some trees attain notable qualities and other trees may lose the notable qualities they were recognised for. Therefore, it is important to review the list of protected trees to see if any should lose the notable tree status and other trees should be granted the status.

Although Pukeroa Hill is not one of the reserves within the mandate of this committee, officers considered it appropriate to approach the committee members to discuss endorsement of the proposal to assess the trees as they have involvement with the subject property.

5. **POLICY/LEGISLATION**

In accordance with section 7(e) of the Resource Management Act 1991, Council protects heritage values in the district including notable trees through the mechanisms of the district plan. By monitoring and protecting notable trees, Council is able to preserve the heritage, botanical, and amenity values provided by the trees.

6. **CONSULTATION**

With regard to the subject trees, Council policy requires the consent of the landowner to protect the trees (subject to the trees meeting the criteria for protection) before an assessment is undertaken.

7. **DECISION**

The decision is consistent with the mandate of this Committee

8. **APPENDICES**

Attachment 1 – Location plan of the subject trees

Attachment 2 – Rotorua Tree Council article about the trees of interest

LOCATION PLAN OF THE SUBJECT TREES



KEY



Existing notable tree



Trees proposed for assessment

ROTORUA TREE COUNCIL ARTICLE ABOUT THE TREES OF INTEREST

MAY 2004

The Trees of Pukeroa Hill

Pukeroa was gifted to the township of Rotorua by the Ngati Whakaue in 1838, as a recreation and sports reserve. It was the site of a rehabilitation camp for convalescing soldiers during the First World War, before becoming the site of the King George V Hospital.

Today, the stark lines of the present Hospital buildings are softened by an assortment of large trees. Planting began very early in the European settlement of Rotorua, but newly planted trees suffered when Pukeroa was used for grazing stock after volcanic ash from the Tarawera eruption in 1886 had destroyed pasture elsewhere in the district. Nevertheless, many survived and Don Stafford remembers a wilderness of trees in which children used to play and throw chestnuts at each other in the 1930s. Most prominent today are the many large London plane trees (*Platanus orientalis* x *Platanus occidentalis*), which line both of the main hospital driveways and the many fine specimens of English oak (*Quercus robur*).

A walking track on the north and east sides curves up beneath large oaks, planes, a chestnut (*Castanea sativa*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), and ash, (*Fraxinus excelsior*). The large Malfroy oak is on one side of the path. The summit trig point is hidden among the trees opposite the entrance to the Edward Guy wing. This quiet, secluded spot is surrounded by planes, oaks, *Rhododendron* spp., and *Magnolia* sp. The track winds through oaks, silver birches (*Betula pendula*), cryptomeria (*Cryptomeria japonica*), radiata pine (*Pinus radiata*), privet (*Ligustrum lucidum*), two tall, wind-battered Douglas firs (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), Lombardy poplars (*Populus nigra* 'Italica'), alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), chestnut, sycamore, lemonwood (*Pittosporum eugenioides*), and totara (*Podocarpus totara*). Just where the track emerges again onto the lawn above Rangiwiri Street there is a border of Australian blackwoods (*Acacia melanoxylon*).

Beyond the north end of the Bridgeman wing and chapel is a fine open grove of trees: two large planes, another wind-beaten Douglas fir, a silver birch planted in honour of a former chairwoman of the Waikato Hospital Board, and two Californian redwoods (*Sequoia sempervirens*). On the bank towards Lake Road there are wattles (*Acacia* sp.), maples (*Acer* sp.), young redwoods, and oaks. Below the hospital stores and trades area is a grove of large redwoods, a couple of large oaks and a kauri (*Agathis australis*). Near the southern hospital entrance adjacent to Arawa

Street, there is a row of she-oaks (*Casuarina cunninghamiana*) and another of lawson cypresses (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*).

A small park at the corner of Arawa and Ranolf Streets contains some excellent specimens of oaks, sycamore, planes, and two dawn redwoods (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*). A large tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) in the corner of Pukeroa and Arawa Streets graces the main hospital entrance. In the grounds of Rotorua Primary School, which form the south-eastern part of Pukeroa, there is an extensive belt of planted trees which includes rimu (*Dacrydium cupressinum*), totara, kauri, tanekaha (*Phyllocladus trichomonoides*), kahikatea (*Dacrycarpus dacrydioides*), titoki (*Alectryon excelsus*), and a cabbage tree (*Cordyline australis*).

Many other tree species such as flowering cherries (*Prunus* spp.), maples, cedars (*Cedrus* sp.), pohutukawa (*Metrosideros excelsa*), albizzia (*Albizzia julibrissin*), and elm (*Ulmus procera*), add to the attractiveness of Pukeroa. The larger tree species offer a variety of summer shade and winter tracery which is appreciated by patients, staff and visitors to our main hospital.

File number: 60-12-270-/02

ROTORUA DISTRICT COUNCIL

His Worship the Mayor
Chairperson and Members
NGATI WHAKAUE GIFTED RESERVES PROTOCOL MEETING

DESIGNATION OF GIFTED RESERVES

Report prepared by: Eric Haycock, Parks Assets and Planning Manager

Report approved by: Nico Claassen, Group Manager Infrastructure Services

1. **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to inform Pukeroa Oruawhata Trust about Council's intention to designate gifted reserves and to indicate what the rationale is for designation of gifted reserves along with other Council owned reserves.

2. **RECOMMENDATION 3**

2.1 **THAT THE REPORT 'DESIGNATION OF GIFTED RESERVES' BE RECEIVED AND THE CONTENTS NOTED.**

3. **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council wishes to designate all reserves (inclusive of gifted reserves) in accordance to stipulations in the Resource Management Act. The advantage of designating the reserves in the District is to enable consistent management of the reserves under the District Plan and avoid the duplication that can occur between the zoning under the Resource Management Act and reserve management planning under the Reserves Act 1977.

4. **BACKGROUND**

The Resource Management Act 1991 allows land to be designated for activities such as schools, roads, engineering services, and parks. The Act allows the Rotorua District Council (among others) to designate land. The current District Plan contains a list of Council roads and engineering works (like pump stations, wastewater treatment plant, refuse transfer stations and the like) that are designated.

The Council can only designate works that it has financial responsibility for or where the designation is needed for the safe and efficient functioning or operation of a public work. A designation can protect land needed for future works or allow day to day maintenance and works. The process only relates to District Plans and resource consent may still be needed from the regional council.

The effect of a designation is like a spot zoning which has its own set of rules for the project or work. If the land is to be used by other people they need to obtain the Council's approval.

An outline plan may be required to provide more details for larger projects.

For widespread works, such as roads, services, or reserves, it is a useful process as it allows all land and activities to be managed in a consistent manner. It therefore allows for certainty and continuity managing reserves.

ROTORUA DISTRICT COUNCIL

His Worship the Mayor
Chairperson and Members
NGATI WHAKAUE GIFTED PROTOCOL MEETING

FATAL ACCIDENT AT KUIRUA PARK ON 26 DECEMBER 2010

Report prepared by: Eric Haycock, Parks Assets and Planning Manager
Report approved by: Nico Claassen, Group Manager Infrastructure Services

1. **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to present / update Pukeroa Oruawhata Trust on actions taken immediately after the tragic death of a child falling into a thermal pool at Kuirau Park on 26 December 2010.

2. **RECOMMENDATION 4**

- 2.1 **THAT THE REPORT "FATAL ACCIDENT AT KUIRAU PARK ON 26 DECEMBER 2010" BE RECEIVED AND THE CONTENTS NOTED;**
- 2.2 **THAT THE TRUST TAKE NOTICE OF INTERIM MEASURES BEING PUT IN PLACE MINIMISING THE RISK OF A SIMILAR ACCIDENT FROM HAPPENING WHILST AWAITING THE FINDINGS OF THE POLICE AND CORONER'S REPORT ON THE INCIDENT;**
- 2.3 **THAT THE TRUST TAKE NOTE OF THE FACT THAT PERMANENT ADDITIONAL FENCING WAS ERECTED AT THE GEOTHERMAL POOL SURROUNDED BY THE STONE WALL WHERE THE ACCIDENT TOOK PLACE; AND**
- 2.4 **THAT A FOLLOW-UP REPORT BE PRESENTED TO THE TRUST WHEN THE OUTCOMES OF THE CORONER'S AND POLICE REPORTS ARE AVAILABLE INDICATING WHAT PERMANENT MEASURES ARE TO BE IMPLEMENTED MINIMISING THE RISK OF A RE-OCCURANCE OF THE UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT.**

3. **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

A ten year old child sustained serious burns that subsequently led to his death after accidentally falling into the only stone-fenced thermal pool at Kuirau Park on 26 December 2010.

4. **BACKGROUND**

Approximately 250,000 people visit Kuirau Park on an annual basis. The Boxing Day tragedy was the only child fatality ever recorded at Kuirau Park.

Due to the fact that the park is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Rotorua, with thousands of people visiting the interesting but potentially dangerous thermal attraction every year, special care has been taken over the years in an attempt to minimise the risk of an unfortunate accident as has recently taken place. Towards this end, Council, over the years, has erected 4,681 linear meters of 1.2m high 'thermal fencing', increased the height of stonewall fencing, and erected numerous warning signs in an attempt to

make visitors aware of the dangers of thermal areas. The task of ensuring a 100% safe environment for visitors to the park is not an easy one as there are approximately 188 springs at the park varying from cold to just below boiling point. Temperatures of the spring in which the accident took place for example average 71.4°C in the mud and 74.8°C in the water. There are no general rules/regulations other than to ensure springs are well-fenced, that adequate signage is provided, and that the public feel safe when viewing geothermal features. Natural features like pools, streams, lakes etc. are exempted from the Fencing of Pools Act 1987. Council, however, always seeks to comply with the requirements of the Building Act 2004 for "*Barriers in areas likely to be frequented by children under 6 of age*". The thermal pool with the stone wall where the accident took place is prone to fluctuating water levels. The wall was built many years ago to prevent flooding of the area. The Kuirau Park gardens are maintained by two full time groundskeepers. Daily inspections are done as part of the general upkeep. Any issues of concern relating to fences are logged and actioned by Council's maintenance service contractor, Castlecorp.

Regardless of the fact that measures are in place to minimise the risk of accidents, officials are currently conducting investigations into further safety measures to reduce risks of a re-occurrence of a tragedy. These investigations revolve around the possibility of: raising fences without obstructing views; increasing distances from danger zones; considering double-fencing; and/or installing more warning signs in more languages, etc.

As an interim measure, temporary 1.8m high fencing has been erected around the pool where the accident occurred, that was later replaced with a permanent wooden fence, and 60 additional warning signs have been installed throughout the park.

The outcomes of Council investigations supported by the Police and Coroner's independent investigations will be used as guidelines determining permanent actions to be taken preventing similar incidents in future.

5. **APPENDICES**

Attachment 1 - Site of recent incident at Kuirau Park



01-28-05



PUKEROA ORUAWHATA
T R U S T

5 October 2010

Mayor Kevin Winters
C/- Rotorua District Council
Private Bag RO3029
ROTORUA

Received P

8 Oct 2010
Rotorua District Council
Customer Centre

RE: RDC PROTOCOL

At the RDC Protocol meeting on Monday 4 October 2010, reference was made through Mr Harris to the timing of promulgation of the minutes of the Protocol meeting and that these should have been provided earlier. On reviewing the records, it is clear that Council provided these minutes on a timely and efficient basis and the earlier receipt of the minutes had been overlooked by the trustees.

The trustees unreservedly apologise for their error and any offence that might have been taken by councillors and staff. Please convey this apology to your Committee administrator, Carol Peden, whom the trustees acknowledge has been very efficient in providing the minutes and agendas.

Yours faithfully


Murray Patchell
SECRETARY

Email: murray@hultonpatchell.co.nz
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