



Massey Park Concept Drawings

Spring warms the district

It's time to take a look outside. Papakura's many green open spaces in the district are responding to the warmer temperatures of spring.

The district's parks and reserves provide boundless opportunities for both organised and informal recreation, whether it be a relaxed picnic, a kite-flying afternoon, game of touch or kilikiti, soccer, rugby or netball.

As Papakura grows, provision is being made to ensure the thousands who will come to live here have easy access to recreational areas. New land is being purchased by the Council to provide for sports and recreational needs and plans are being made to enhance major sports facilities in the centre of the district.

Planning for growth and allowing for recreation and sport go hand in hand. In Papakura, this includes a major 40 ha area recently bought at Drury; additions to the sports grounds at McLennan Park; and extending parks in existing residential areas.

Massey Park – developing for the future

New plans for Massey Park aim to develop it as a recreational hub that encourages community participation in sport and develops the park as an "events-ready" facility. This enhances the park's role as the district's premier "charge" ground, a facility where admission can be controlled through admission fees which enables hosting of community events where numbers need to be managed.

The concept plan for the new-look Massey Park has been developed in consultation with key stakeholders. It emphasises stronger links between the sports ground and the aquatic centre, the potential for developing other services in the greater park area, and provision of a multi-purpose building.



In this issue

Get prepared, get through
Do you know what to do?

Celebrate Papakura
Nominations now open

Elections '08
Your chance to meet the candidates and
ask the questions that matter

► Key features of the upgrade are:

- A revised, more open entrance
- Removal of earth banks at the southern end of the park to improve visibility into the park
- Closure of the alleyway on the southern edge of the park
- New “permeable” fencing allowing clear views of the park
- High quality sports turf in the central area

Consultation on the project was carried out with the 2008 Annual Plan and a number of submissions were received with a focus on the detailed planning for the site. Further consultation will be undertaken as the Council moves to develop detailed plans for the governance and design of Massey Park based on the concept plan.

New sports grounds for Drury

Aimed at meeting expected growth in the southern parts of the district, a major land purchase has been negotiated by the Council to allow for future growth in that part of the district.

Bordered on one side by Opaheke Road, the new grounds will complement sports grounds and facilities already present in the district. Provision for equestrian activity is proposed, along with up to 15 sports fields, car parks, and tracks for walking and cycling access

McLennan Park expands

Gifted to the City of Papakura in 1947 by Ewen McLennan, this outdoor recreation area has been extended twice and incorporates the McLennan wetlands, Papakura Football Club, Papakura Cricket Club, sports fields and the Bruce Pulman Park accommodation blocks.

Mapping out plans for an upgrade expected to cost up to \$4.4 million, the Council has prepared a master plan for its future development and use.

The park is about to be extended on its northern edge. Included in the upgrade are additional sports fields in the northern extension, a range of measures to improve access to the park and encourage walking and cycling recreation; pedestrian linkages between the new housing areas and the rest of the district; more parking at the Arimu Road entrance to the park; seats, picnic tables and plantings.

Bruce Pulman Park – major netball development

Plans for the establishment of an indoor netball training and games facility are being advanced rapidly, with the resource consent application under way and funding applications being lodged.

As part of the project working party and one of its funding organisations, Papakura District Council plays a key role in helping make this major sporting facility a reality.

The first stage of the project will develop four covered netball courts with sprung wooden floors. The second stage will create linkages between the indoor courts and the rest of the existing netball facility.

When complete, the indoor courts will feature permanent seating for up to 300 and will accommodate up to 2,800 in temporary seating grouped around one central court for major games.

The facility will be able to operate seven days a week for up to 17 hours a day. Other sports have expressed an interest in using the courts including basketball, “futsal” indoor soccer, volleyball, korfbal, badminton, tennis and soccer.

Council’s financial support is seen as crucial to securing funding for the \$6.5 million project.

Elections ‘08

Ask the candidates: Papakura District Council and the Papakura Courier are pleased to invite the people of the district to a “meet the candidates” evening at the Hawkins Theatre, 13 Ray Small Drive, Monday October 13.

What are the issues that affect us most? How do our political parties propose to deal with the things that concern us as individuals, as members of the community, as volunteers, members of service organisations, parents, employees, businesspeople?

This will be your one opportunity to hear our candidates speak on the issues and to make an informed decision ahead of the general election on November.

So what’s important? Email us with the issues that concern you, and we’ll make sure the questions are asked on the night. You can send your email to info@papakura.govt.nz or to Papakura Courier at edmc@snl.co.nz. Admission is free, doors open at 7.00 pm and there’s a cuppa afterward.

Christmas around the corner

Schools, community groups, sports clubs - Papakura’s popular Christmas Parade is just two months away.

Held on the first weekend in December, the parade is a chance to celebrate the end of another busy year and attracts thousands from all around the district.

It’s time for groups who are keen to enter a float in the parade to start working on their ideas. More information is available from Donna Brooke at Papakura District Council, phone 295 2339.

Celebrate Papakura

Nominations are now open for the first Celebrate Papakura community awards.



Formerly known as the Community Champions awards and presented at the Stevenson Papakura Business Excellence Awards, Celebrate Papakura is now a stand-alone event

that recognises those in the community who make extra effort on behalf of others. Two awards are made: for an individual community champion and for a business.

With the recent announcement of the new Stevenson Business Excellence Programme, which shifts the business awards to a two-year programme, the Celebrate Papakura awards will now be held every alternate year, providing the district with a premier end of year celebration in the business programme's "off" year.

Nominations close 22 October. The 2008 Celebrate Papakura awards will be presented on Saturday 14 November during a gala dinner at Belsaas Estate in Ardmore.

Nominations for the awards can be made at Papakura District Council, 35 Coles Crescent, Papakura 2110. Ticket sales will be advertised closer to the time of the award dinner.



Check that pool fence

Spring is the perfect time to check pools and fences are safe.

Under the Fencing of Swimming Pools Act pools must be fenced to restrict unsupervised access to the pool and the immediate area by young children. The under-fives are most at risk from insecure pools – drownings in that age group increased by 55 per cent between 2006 and 2007. More than half of all home pool drownings happen in pools that do not comply with the law.

Papakura District Council has an ongoing programme of pool inspections to ensure the district's 1075 residential swimming pools are safe. The inspections also cover swimming and spa pools that have been removed from properties. The programme aims to inspect one third of all pools every year so that all pools are inspected on a three year cycle.

Get prepared, get through

Papakura has been spared the more damaging effects of extreme weather in the past winter, but local Civil Defence authorities say this is no reason for complacency.

Power outages, landslides and localised flooding have disrupted life in many parts of Auckland.



Papakura Civil Defence Officer Kelvin McMinn

Though tidal waves are unlikely to ever affect the Papakura district directly, the Kiwi passion for coastal recreation means it's worth knowing what to do if there's an alert while you're at the beach.

New Zealand has been steadily improving its awareness and preparation for such events, learning from the aftermath of the deadly wave that lashed coastal areas of Asia on Boxing Day in 2004. National sign systems have been developed, and tsunami awareness signs are being installed in coastal areas throughout New Zealand

As part of this preparation, Papakura District Council at its offices at 35 Coles Crescent has copies of the Civil Defence "what to do" brochure available.

As the country emerges from one of the wettest, wildest winters on record, businesses and members of the community are also being reminded of ways they can keep themselves safe. Power outages are disruptive enough in the home, but worse when they also affect your business or place of work. Business continuity planning helps businesses deal with these situations and return to operation as quickly as possible afterward. "Lifeline" businesses and services such as hospitals, local government, Police and the Fire Service all have continuity plans in place and in many cases have emergency generator power available to cope if the main power supply fails.

Having a "get through" kit at home can likewise help families and individuals cope: drinking water, food, a battery powered radio, dry bedding and a small gas stove are a good start.

More information about how to survive a range of emergency and disaster situations including a family plan with checklist of things to keep for emergencies is available at the Ministry of Civil Defence's multi-lingual web site, www.getthru.govt.nz

Work Programme update

This column sets out Papakura District Council's major roading, stormwater and other work - recently completed, in progress and planned. A regular feature of District News, it helps keep the residents of Papakura up to date with what the Council is doing.

Roading

Work completed in August and September 2008

- Annual road re-marking
- Footpath renewals – 500 metres
- Replaced 16 stolen rubbish bins
- Replaced more than 100 road signs

Work in progress

- Pre-seal repairs at various roads before reseals
- Hot mix work at Ariki Place (cul-de-sac “turning head”), Crestlands Place (cul-de-sac head), Inca Place (cul-de-sac head), Orion Street (at the bend) and Waiari Road (two cul-de-sac heads)

Work programmed for October and November 2008

- Footpath renewals – 450 metres
- Slip repairs on Hunua Road, Ponga Road, Ardmore Quarry and Coalmine Road
- Interim road marking on arterial roads
- Remedial seal repairs on Boundary Road, Hunua Road and Clevedon Road
- Hot mix and chip seal surfacing at various roads

Parks and Recreation

Work completed in August and September

- Drainage work at Village Green
- Temporary building on Smiths Reserve
- Installation of diffusers at Massey Park Aquatic Centre and removal of old air ducts
- Renewal of Massey Park Aquatics Centre steam room and stairs to hydroslide
- Massey Park Aquatics Centre plant equipment

Work in progress

- Upgrades at Don Street housing for the elderly
- Removal of exotic self seeded trees on Pukekiwiriki Pa
- Massey Park Aquatic Centre outdoor pool repairs
- Amenity block renewals
- Massey Park Athletics track repairs and cleaning

- Street tree planting on Walter Stevens Drive
- Sports field renovations
- Relocation of field 4 at McLennan Park

Work planned for October and November

- Kirks' Bush Track renewals
- Hawkins Theatre renewals
- Art Gallery internal renewals
- Control of Liquor in Public Places signage
- Elizabeth Campbell Centre renewals
- Planning for playground renewals – Ray Small Park, Tironui Reserve, Drury Domain
- Smiths Reserve Sports Facility upgrade

Stormwater

Work completed August and September

- Repair of pipe blockages and breakages Great South Road, Settlement Road
- Stormwater drain clearing and outlet structure improvement Takanini School Road

Stormwater work planned for October, November and December

- Wood Street and Railway Street West upgrades
- Dominion Road/Settlement Road, Chichester Drive, Tironui and Flanagan Roads

Photo Gallery

100 years of steam



On 6-8 August 2008, a century after the first train traversed the entire length of the North Island main trunk line, that historic journey was re-enacted. A modern-day Parliamentary Special train travelled from Wellington to Auckland, making a stop at Papakura (above) on the way.