

3. *Onuku Taipari Domain*

Description

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| Location: | Ngamotu Road, New Plymouth |
| Legal description: | Lot 78, DP 11375 Lot 79 DP 11375 |
| Size: | 3.3099 hectares |
| Reserve Status: | Subject to the Reserves Act 1977 |
| Reserve Classification | Recreation Reserve |



Physical description

Onuku Taipari Domain is a sports park located in Spotswood, New Plymouth. It is bounded by Ngamotu Road and Rangitake Drive. The park contains three sports fields, a children's playground, the Onuku Taipari Hall, and the Moturoa Association Football Club clubrooms and changing facilities. Main access and the parking area is located off Ngamotu Road to the east of the fields. Pedestrian access to the domain is also provided from Rangitake Drive.

The majority of the park is Open Space A Environment Area in the District Plan. These areas are used primarily for organised sports and recreation. Such areas will normally have associated buildings such as clubrooms, changing sheds or toilet facilities. The east of the park where the buildings are located are zoned Open Space B Environment Area which is characterised by those areas that are predominantly focused towards informal recreational pursuits, usually of a more passive nature, such as walking or playing. They are more open, with less built features than the Open Space A Environment Area. The park is surrounded by Residential A.

Tangata whenua interests

Te Atiawa consider that this reserve is at the boundary between the tribal rohe of two iwi: Te Atiawa and Taranaki Iwi. The area is of historic and cultural significance to Ngāti Te Whiti and Nga Mahanga-a-Tairi hapu.

Land status and acquisition history

In 1975, Part Section 62 Block IV Paritutu Survey District (previous title before becoming Lot 78, DP 11375) was obtained by the Crown as a reserve for recreation purposes from Oderings Nurseries (New Plymouth) Limited pursuant to the Reserves and Domains Act 1953. It was classified in 1978 and declared to be administered as a public domain by the Domain Board (now the Council). The underlying title is with the Crown.

Lot 79 DP 11375 was purchased by the Crown from Oderings Nurseries (New Plymouth) Limited in 1951. The land was vested in New Plymouth City Council in 1976. The land was classified as a recreation reserve subject to the Reserves Act 1977 in 1982.

History and cultural values

The Onuku Taipari Domain Management Plan was prepared pursuant to Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 and approved by Council in 1980. The Plan reviewed the existing and potential for development of the park with particular regards to the sports fields, buildings, access, landscape and signposting, childrens play area and public toilets.

Over the years, the fields have been used for a variety of sports including soccer, softball, social volleyball and social cricket, and touch.

There is a waahi tapu pa site identified by the District Plan in the centre of the domain. It is likely this pa site was largely destroyed by development of the park.

Existing improvements

The existing improvements within the reserve include:

Soccer clubrooms/toilet/changing room, playground, rubbish bins, six flood lights, a entrance sign, seats, fences, gates, barriers, pedestrian ramps and a carpark, and Council owned urban hall.

There is a storm water pipe running along the eastern boundary and another at the western boundary of the domain.

Uses and activities

Onuku Taipari Domain has three fields available. The fields are used for both junior and senior soccer and 5-Aside. The reserve is also suitable for other forms of organised and causal recreation.

The following organisations hold leases at Onuku Taipari Domain:

- Taranaki Multiple Sclerosis Society Inc lease part of the Council owned hall known as the former scout office (lease expires 2012)

Parks

Sports Parks Management Plan

New Plymouth District Council

2012

- Moturoa Association Football and Sports Club have a land only lease for their clubroom and changing room facilities (lease renewable every 21 years)

Management objectives and specific policies

- 1) The Onuku Taipari Domain Management Plan 1980 shall be revoked and replaced with this plan.
- 2) The developed areas of this park will be managed as a sports park suitable for formal and informal sport and recreation, and as a connection from Ngamotu Rd to the Herekawe Walkway.
- 3) Future development of Onuku Taipari Domain will be in accordance with the development concept including:
 - i. New goal storage area
 - ii. Removing hill lock next to clubrooms to create a gentle slope towards the playing fields
- 4) A lease will be maintained with the Motorua Football Club for their clubrooms. Any extensions to the footprint of the existing building will be considered on a case by case basis in accordance with General Policies for Council administered reserves.
- 5) The hall on this park will be managed as an urban hall with leases established for parts of the building, ie the former Scout office as appropriate.
- 6) Previous investigation of options to increase the size of the car park concluded that an extension has low feasibility, with only a small number of additional car parks able to be established. For this reason the Council has not included this development in the concept plan.
- 7) Through the Sports Field Demand Analysis Study this park has been identified as having potential for the establishment of a cricket wicket between the existing fields if demand required.
- 8) Consultation will be undertaken with Ngāti Te Whiti and Nga Mahanga-a-Tairi when any change in management of the park or a new development is proposed that is not contemplated in this plan, particularly in regards to the pa site.
- 9) The Council will work with Ngati Te Whiti and Nga Mahanga A Tairi to develop a protocol regarding the management of vegetation on the pa site.