



Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ngāmotu

**New Plymouth
District Council**

Our Pukekura Park

Guiding the next chapter



Discussion Document 2022



What is a Reserve Management Plan?

Reserve Management Plans (RMPs) act as a guide for Council in making both day-to-day and long term decisions about how Council administered reserves are used, managed and developed. RMPs contain Council's overall vision for a reserve (or set of reserves) as well as identifying the objectives, policies, and actions needed.

Why are Reserve Management Plans important?

Most importantly the plans ensure we are using our reserves effectively and that they meet the needs of our community. Council is required to prepare and review RMPs for reserves that it manages or controls under the Reserves Act 1977. This Act also outlines the process for reviewing these plans. RMPs provide for the enjoyment, maintenance, protection, preservation and development (as appropriate) of our community reserves.

Why are we reviewing Pukekura Park's Reserve Management Plan?

Once an RMP is adopted, it is required to be subject to 'continuous review' to address new issues and opportunities for each reserve. The Pukekura Park plan has not been formally reviewed since 2004. Since that time the New Plymouth community and environment have experienced substantial change. Therefore, it is important that the plan is reviewed to reflect current issues, opportunities, and future aspirations for the reserve.

What about other Reserve Management Plans?

Council has begun a review of all of its existing RMPs, and we will also be preparing plans for some reserves that are not currently covered. There are a substantial number of reserves to review, so to ensure that the review of these plans is undertaken with care and to allow for meaningful consultation, the plans will be reviewed over several years.

Why should you get involved?

RMPs tell us how the community wishes to see the District's parks and reserves managed, developed and used, currently and into the future. Community input into the review and preparation process of these plans is essential. We want to hear your views on the plans that are currently being reviewed. Through this process you can guide and shape the future of our Pukekura Park.

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The Park

Pukekura Park has provided public open space in the heart of New Plymouth since 1876. The park has been added to and developed over the years and now comprises around 52 hectares of tranquillity and entertainment for the city's residents and visitors.

As the understanding of, and lessons from, local physical and social environments have developed, so has the park. The park has evolved along with its people to now represent a unique amalgam of historic character, local conditions and contemporary influences. A distinctly Taranaki park, loved by generations of locals who have known no other place of belonging, and admired by visitors from all corners.

Originally managed by a board of trustees, the park was handed over to the then New Plymouth Borough Council in 1929 and the park was administered by a committee of citizens until the mid 1960s.

Over the years the park has steadily increased in size with the addition of Brooklands and the Maranui Gully in the 1930s and a further 2.5ha bought from the Ministry of Education in 2004. Through years of waxing and waning fortunes and a changing city, the park has been a constant in the lives of generations of locals and deservedly celebrated, enjoyed and loved.

Admiration of the park led to Pukekura Park receiving the most votes in deciding which of 56 nationwide landmarks would be placed on the New Zealand version of Monopoly in 2007 – receiving the most votes and garnering the prominent 'Mayfair' spot on the board.

The park has also been granted the prestigious Green Flag Award for the last nine years in a row.

RMP Process

1 Publicly notify intent to develop or review RMP

2 Discussion and input from key stakeholders

3 Consult on Key Issues and Opportunities

4 Prepare draft RMP

5 Publicly notify draft RMP and call for submissions

6 Analyse submissions

7 Council hearing of submissions

8 Approve and implement RMP

What we've
already done

Where we
are now

What comes
next

Park Purpose

Provide a place of relaxation and respite from the built city environment

Cater for public events and entertainment

Enable well-being activities in a convenient and pleasant location

Represent a rich botanical, historical and cultural environment

Be a place of positive social interactions that reinforces community ties and identity

Park Objectives

Character

To retain and enhance existing character areas within the park.

Conservation and Preservation

To protect, enhance and promote items and areas of prominent cultural, botanical, ecological, social and historic value.

Development

To respond to current and future needs with high quality developments while respecting the character and history of the park.

Function and Use

Provide a safe, fit-for-purpose, accessible and pleasant environment encouraging public access to the park; to experience a range of positive experiences in a natural setting.

Management

Protect the physical and social integrity of the park and make sufficient investment to ensure the ongoing presence of the park as a significant visitor destination.

Key Issues

Challenges for the park

While we all regard the park as an amazing place that is well loved by nearly everybody who uses it, there are still some challenges and issues facing the park and how we manage it into the future.

Some of these issues relate to the fact that the park is so popular. Some are a result of the age of the park and sections of its infrastructure. Others have surfaced due to changes over the last 18 years to the surrounding environment, community and expectations.

Through Council's work managing the park, and feedback from stakeholders and users, we have identified some key issues that we consider should be addressed in the new RMP. Some potential approaches have been explored, and we would like community feedback on how you feel about these ideas. We would also like to know if you have your own suggestions for issues within the park that you would like us to consider.

We have categorised these issues into three main areas; People, Place and Purpose to help us understand and explain the problems and potential solutions a bit better.

People

- User Conflict
- Confusing Path Network
- Interaction with Racecourse Reserve

Place

- Water Management
- Park Vegetation
- Development Consistency and Quality
- Meeting Modern Standards

Purpose

- Maximising Potential of Key Features
- Brooklands Zoo
- Suitability for Events



Capybara at Brooklands Zoo

1 User Conflict

With so many people wanting to enjoy the park there are a number of activities which don't always work well together in common spaces. Primarily pedestrians, cycles and vehicles.

2 Complex Path Network

Around 20 kilometres of paths criss-cross the park, leading to a variety of destinations, or even no destination at all. A complex path network with signage that lacks wayfinding clarity makes it hard to easily navigate the park.

3 Maximising Key Features

The park has a number of key features and characteristics which need to be formally identified and supported.

4 Water Management

At times the water quality in the waterways can become compromised. Climate change and increasing extremes of weather also need to be accommodated.

5 Park Vegetation

As park vegetation grows, it naturally matures and eventually dies. Succession planning to retain the botanical variety and historical integrity of the park while providing an aesthetically pleasing and well maintained tree-scape will be critical going forward.

6 Brooklands Zoo Enhancement

Zoos have come a long way since the Jaycees started Brooklands Zoo in the 1960s; and the current zoo doesn't necessarily have a clear purpose, or relate to modern zoo ideas. The increasing conflict between ensuring animal welfare and catering for Brooklands events such as WOMAD and concerts needs to be addressed alongside development of a vision for the future.

7 Development Consistency

As a large park that has been developed over nearly 150 years, the park has seen a lot of different styles and interventions. These don't always sit well together within the park nor have they been subject to consistent oversight.

8 Suitability for Events

Expectations and requirements for sporting and event facilities continue to increase. At times the park does not fit the needs or desires of event holders. Some infrastructure is past its best and needs renewing.

9 Meeting Modern Standards

Due to the age of the park, at times some older developments and features may not meet modern needs, standards, rules or expectations.

10 Interaction with Racecourse

The proposed Tuarikino Community Well-being Hub at Racecourse Reserve will almost certainly impact the way people approach and use the park.

Opportunities

Issue	Opportunity Ideas
User Conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise the number of motor vehicles entering the park in some pedestrian spaces • Make bicycle prohibitions clearer • Provide separate shared transit paths for cycles in a restricted number of locations
Confusing Path Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the path network and outline a range of pathway types • Prepare a wayfinding strategy which implements suitable attractive and clear signage
Maximising Potential of Key Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade Cannon Hill to enhance use • Enhance the Tea House and surrounds • Renew lakeside pathways and provide a sealed and accessible loop incorporating Fillis St/Tea House/Main Lakes • Identify and protect key viewshafts around the park
Water Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seal or consolidate paths next to waterways to reduce gravel and sediment runoff • Upgrade main lake dam and spillway • Aerate still or slow moving water • Create wetlands in appropriate locations to manage stagnant water areas
Park Vegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove plants that are dead, dying, diseased or in decline, and plant suitable species with the best chances of long-term success but that also complement the botanical variety and history of the park
Brooklands Zoo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance the zoo – giving it a clear direction and vision, and ensure this direction is compatible with Brooklands events
Development Consistency and Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a design guide with guidelines for materials, consistency in design and suitable representation of character spaces
Suitability for Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate options and suitability for Bowl of Brooklands to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase capacity to around 20,000 ○ Mitigate cost and performance issues around stage lake ○ Streamline accessibility and venue management infrastructure • Investigate options at the Sportsground to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Replace the compromised Bellringer Pavilion with a facility suitable for park events and first-class sport
Meeting Modern Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certain features need upgrading or renewing to meet contemporary needs such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The dam and spillway ○ Pathway lighting and security ○ Bellringer Pavilion ○ Brooklands and Fillis St entrances ○ Staff operational areas
Interaction with Racecourse Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider options to maximise connectivity with Racecourse Reserve and identify likely locations for development to complement the anticipated increased use of the park from the eastern side

Identifying Character Areas

Pukekura Park encompasses 52 hectares in the heart of the city which has been evolving for over 100 years. Having this expanse of public open space and its associated history allows for, and has led to, a number of distinct character areas arising throughout the park.

These areas have discrete personalities which reflect a number of characteristics of their environment, location, history and use.

Most of these characteristics can be placed on a spectrum, and the combination of these qualities gives an indication of what an area is all about, and what types of management would be best suited for them. The goal is to continue to enhance successful character locations, or identify what may be needed in order to change the character of (relatively) less successful areas.

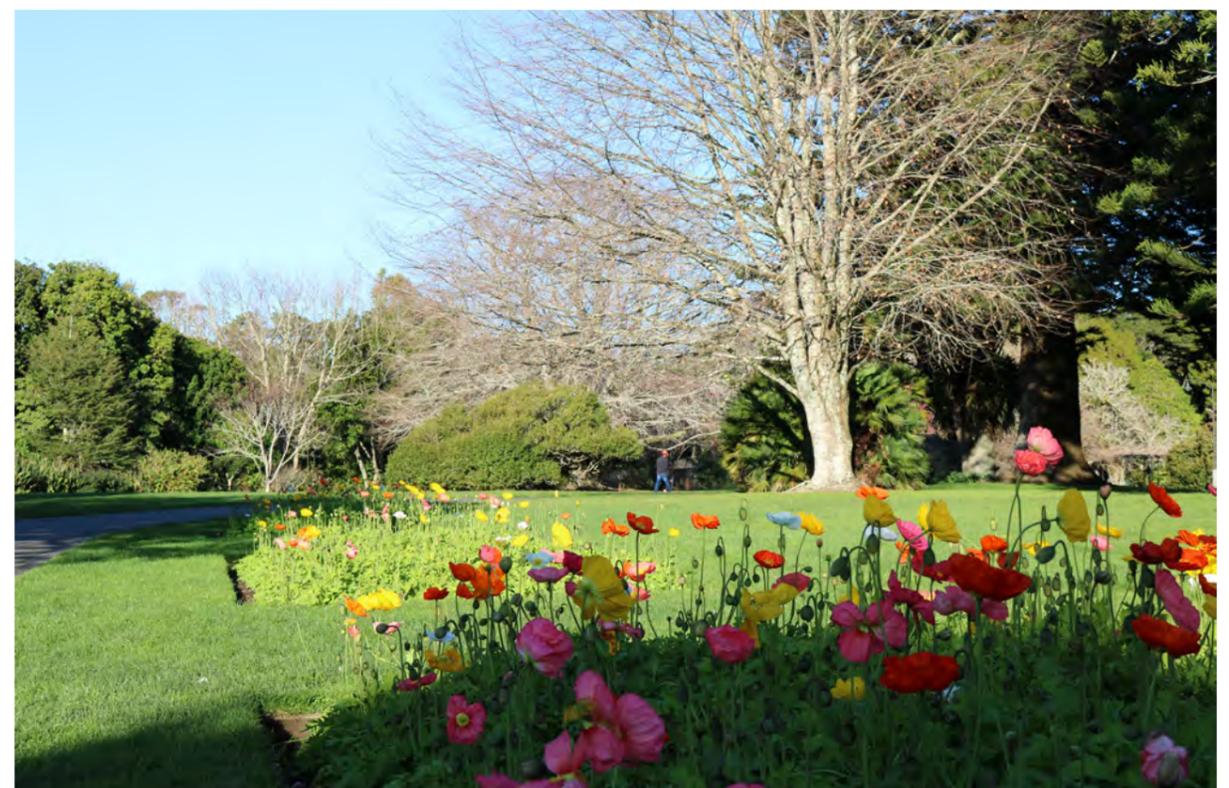
An assessment of these traits has enabled Pukekura Park to be subdivided into a range of distinct character areas, which each have their own management challenges and priorities.

Each of these character areas will be managed to maximise their existing traits and to minimise the dilution of their character over time. That is, only activities, features and developments which fit into that space will generally be allowed.

This protects the history of the park as well as making sure we remember what it is about the park that makes it so popular and special in the first place.



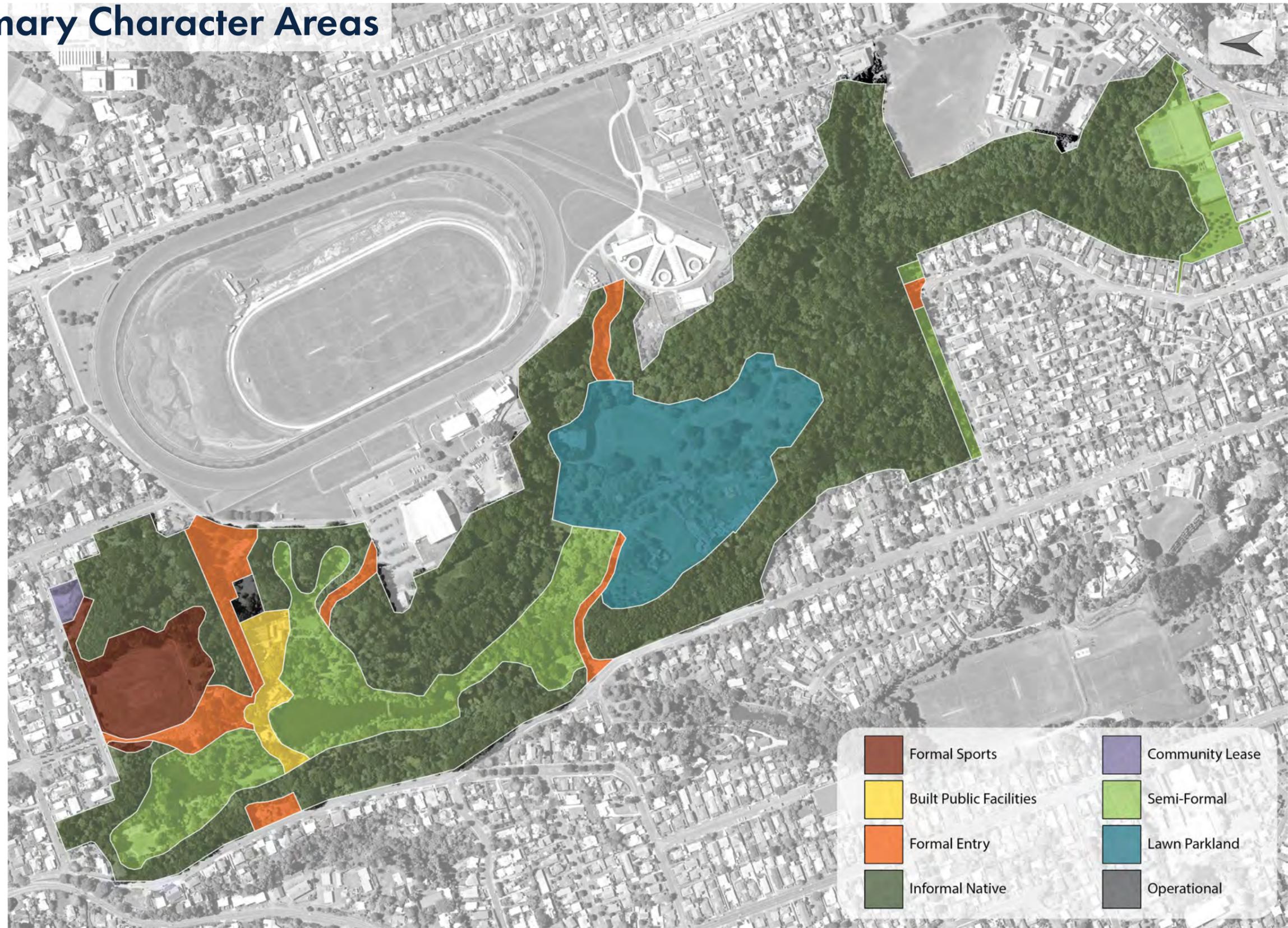
Semi-formal character area example



Lawn parkland character area example

Organising the Park

Primary Character Areas



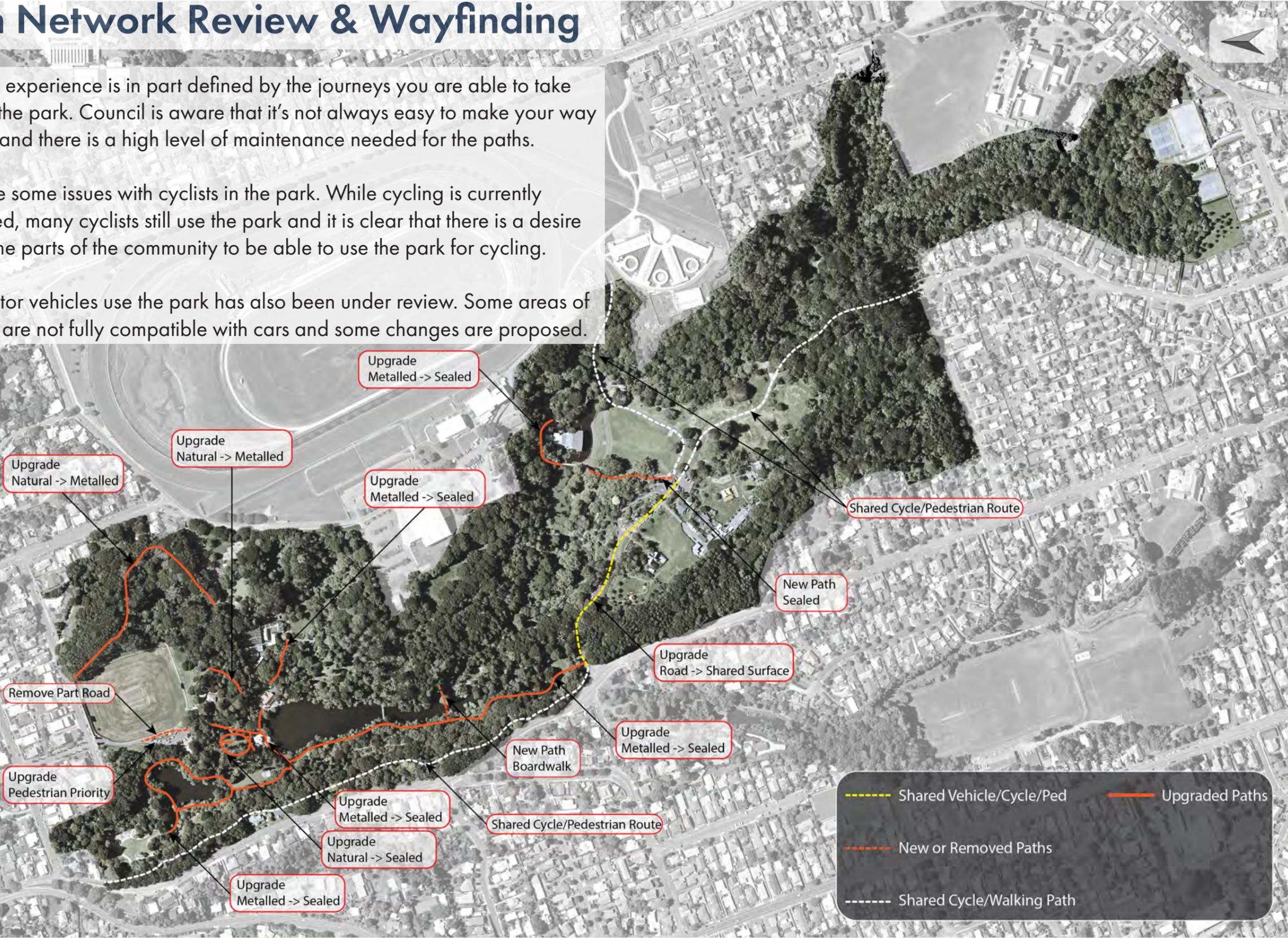
High level character areas plan

Path Network Review & Wayfinding

The park experience is in part defined by the journeys you are able to take through the park. Council is aware that it's not always easy to make your way around, and there is a high level of maintenance needed for the paths.

There are some issues with cyclists in the park. While cycling is currently prohibited, many cyclists still use the park and it is clear that there is a desire from some parts of the community to be able to use the park for cycling.

How motor vehicles use the park has also been under review. Some areas of the park are not fully compatible with cars and some changes are proposed.



Key Opportunities

Path Surfaces

It is proposed that a small number of key pathway surfaces could be changed to improve visitors' experience and accessibility, and to reduce maintenance requirements. More popular paths will gain increased durability. Paths next to the lakes will be upgraded to reduce the amount of gravel and sediment entering the waterways, as this will improve water quality and reduce the amount of dredging needed.

Wayfinding

A wayfinding strategy will be prepared which identifies key routes and proposes a new system of signage which better fits into the park, making it easier to know where you are and where you might like to go.

Cycling

While there is a desire from some people to use the park for recreational cycling, it is not considered that this is a compatible activity within the majority of the park. The predominance of narrow pathways with multiple routes and intersections does not lend itself to safe use of the park by both pedestrians and cyclists. Cyclists would continue to be prohibited from most park areas.

That said, there is an increased impetus for alternative modes of transport, and the likely development of the Tuarikino Community Well-being Hub on Racecourse Reserve may increase the desire for cycle travel across the park. There is a possibility for a shared path commuter route to be created, using some lesser-frequented paths along the edge of the park, Brooklands Park Drive, Bowl roads and the broad flat path to the south of Brooklands. This would be a wide, durable surface designed for transit of both cyclists and pedestrians. This would come in conjunction with bike parking at key locations along the way, such as at the current Bellringer Pavilion site and Brooklands Zoo.

Restrictions on cycle use would be made much clearer and there is likely to be a firmer line taken with people who thereafter continue to refuse to comply with the management plan rules around cycling in the park.



Cycle Route Option



Main Fillis St entry current appearance

Key Opportunities

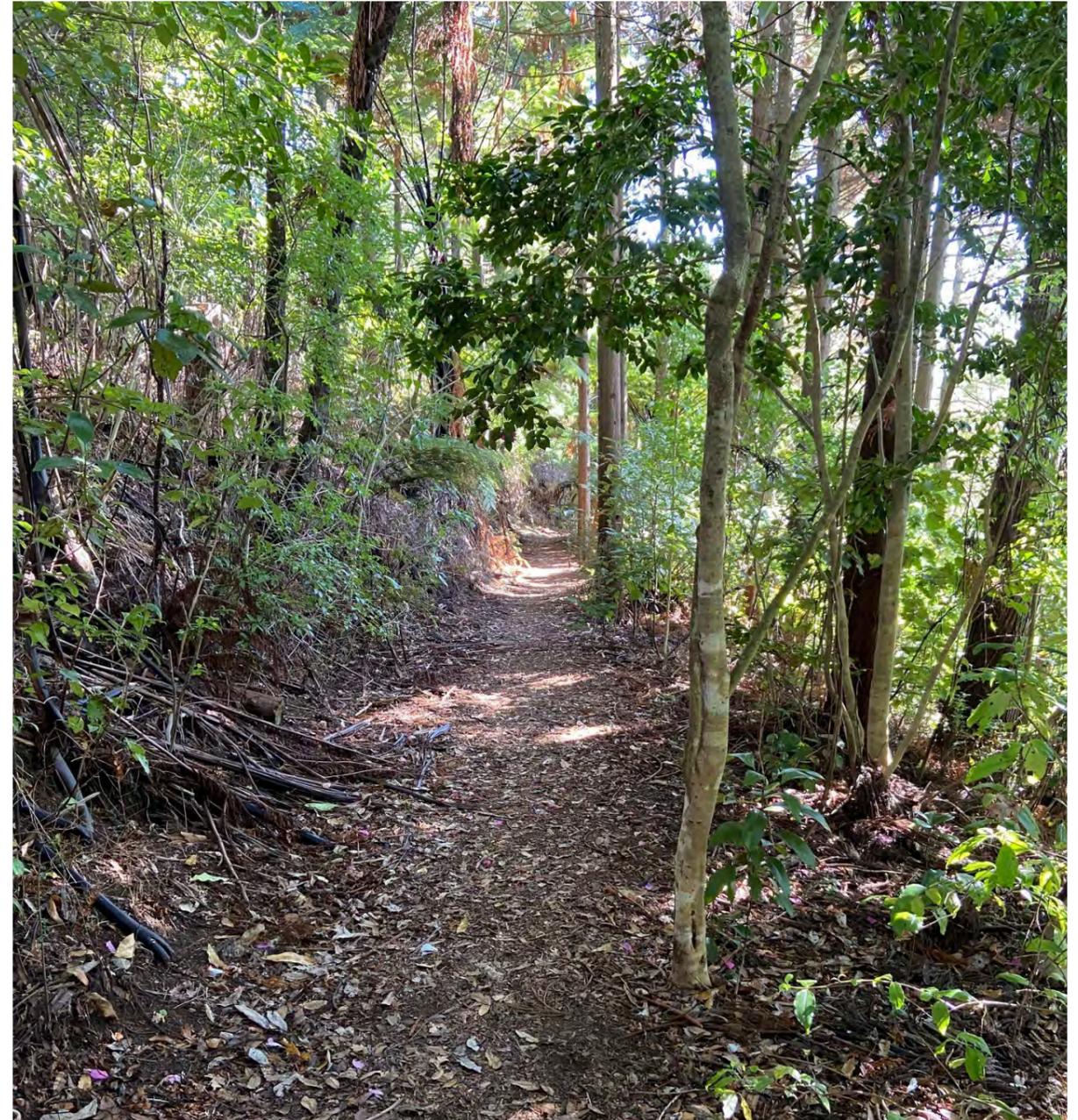
Vehicles

A change to how the park is currently used is a proposal to modify how vehicles access the park at the main Fillis Street entry. With increasing numbers of users, it is not tenable to continue to allow vehicles priority access to the park interior. For many people it also detracts from the beauty and enjoyment of the park. Conflicts between vehicles and other park users are common with pedestrians needing to avoid and move out of the way of cars. The number of carparks being accessed are limited.

With this in mind it is proposed that vehicles are no longer permitted to enter the park from Fillis Street through the main park gates, with disability access for the park and Tea House being provided by a drop-off and pick-up shuttle with the buggy run by the Friends of the Park. As a primary entrance to the park it is felt that it could be better presented than as a carpark.

To offset this, the same number of carparks would be created along Fillis St and disability parks would be instituted at the main gates to the sportsground (50m difference in distance). Only service vehicles for the park, such as those for deliveries, events and operations, would be able to use the entry road.

Brooklands Park Drive would be reformatted as a shared surface, making it more of an equal priority for pedestrians, vehicles and cyclists. Vehicles would still be allowed to enter the road and park next to Brooklands Zoo, but there would be equal rights to the space for walkers and cyclists.



Potential shared cycle route track location

Things to think about:

- Would upgraded path surfaces in key areas make the park easier to get around?
- Should cycles be allowed on shared paths in the park in strictly defined locations?

Key Opportunities

Renew Bellringer Pavilion & Update Fillis St Entrance Areas

In 1892 the first cricket match was played on the grounds, after extensive work filling the existing wetland and creating the terrace seating. In 1918 the first 'pavilion' was constructed as a cottage at the main entry into the park. The cottage sat nestled into the bush and stood for more than 30 years before being demolished to make way for the current pavilion.

The current pavilion, built in the early 1950s, replaced the original cottage to cater for the greater needs of the park and cricket. In 1988 the pavilion was extensively modified and dedicated to Councillor Brian Bellringer in recognition of his services to cricket and the district.

The 1988 alterations have compromised the structural integrity of the building. It has seismic issues, does not meet current building standards and the subfloor at ground level is deteriorating rapidly. There are accessibility and capacity issues and it no longer meets the requirements for first-class cricket.

The old curator's office behind the sports dugout was built in 1952 following a bequest from Mr & Mrs Walter Graham. The adjacent women's dressing room and toilets were constructed separately in 1948. Unfortunately both of these facilities are no longer fit for purpose.

Council has looked at various options over the years but no resolution has ever been reached. With the recent loss of first-class cricket status, and the latest assessment showing the full extent of the pavilion's compromised structure, it is a good time to reassess this whole area of the park.

A working group of council officers and key stakeholders has looked at multiple options for the area and has settled on the following option for public consultation through the management plan.

The proposal introduces a new pavilion incorporating the needs of the park and sportsground users. The pavilion would incorporate:

- New public toilets
- An adaptable, bookable pavilion space for up to 100 people
- Facilities and changing rooms fit for first-class cricket and other sports
- A park information 'kiosk'
- Low-impact design such as water recycling, green roof and insulation
- Accessible options to the second storey and terraces (ramp and lift)

The entrance area to the park through the Sanders Gate up to the new pavilion would incorporate:

- An open plaza area with new planting, furniture and signage
- Upgrades to the western terraces and sportsground fencing
- Upgrades to ground surfaces
- Enhancement of the bank to the west of the gates facing Fillis St
- Ability and infrastructure to host stalls etc. for events such as sports matches and festival of the lights
- Opening up and enhancement of the area occupied by the current pavilion through planting and maximising potential of the stream
- Exclusion of public motor vehicle access through this entrance

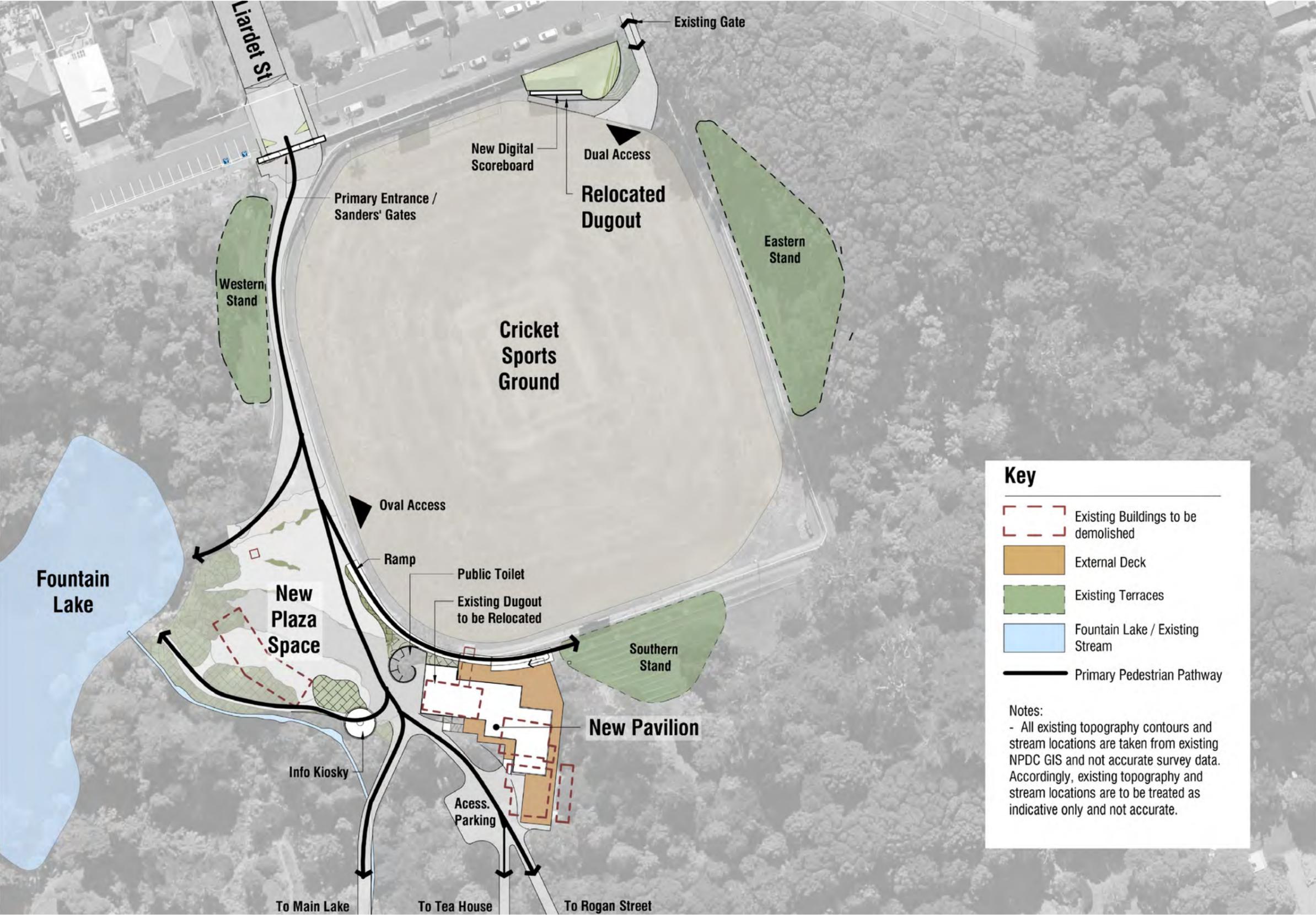
This option would also require building a new dugout. This would be located where the current scoreboard is. The design would be built into the slope and include a new digital scoreboard. Access from this corner would be retained.

To mitigate loss of parking, it is proposed that the end of Fillis St could become a laneway with 90 degree parking in order to retain the same number of carparks.

Things to think about:

- Does the sportsground need to meet first-class cricket standards?
- Do we need a sports pavilion, and if so should it be a new one?
- Should the Fillis St area be upgraded?
- Do we need parking in the middle of the park?

Key Opportunities



Fillis St entrance and pavilion concept layout

Key Opportunities



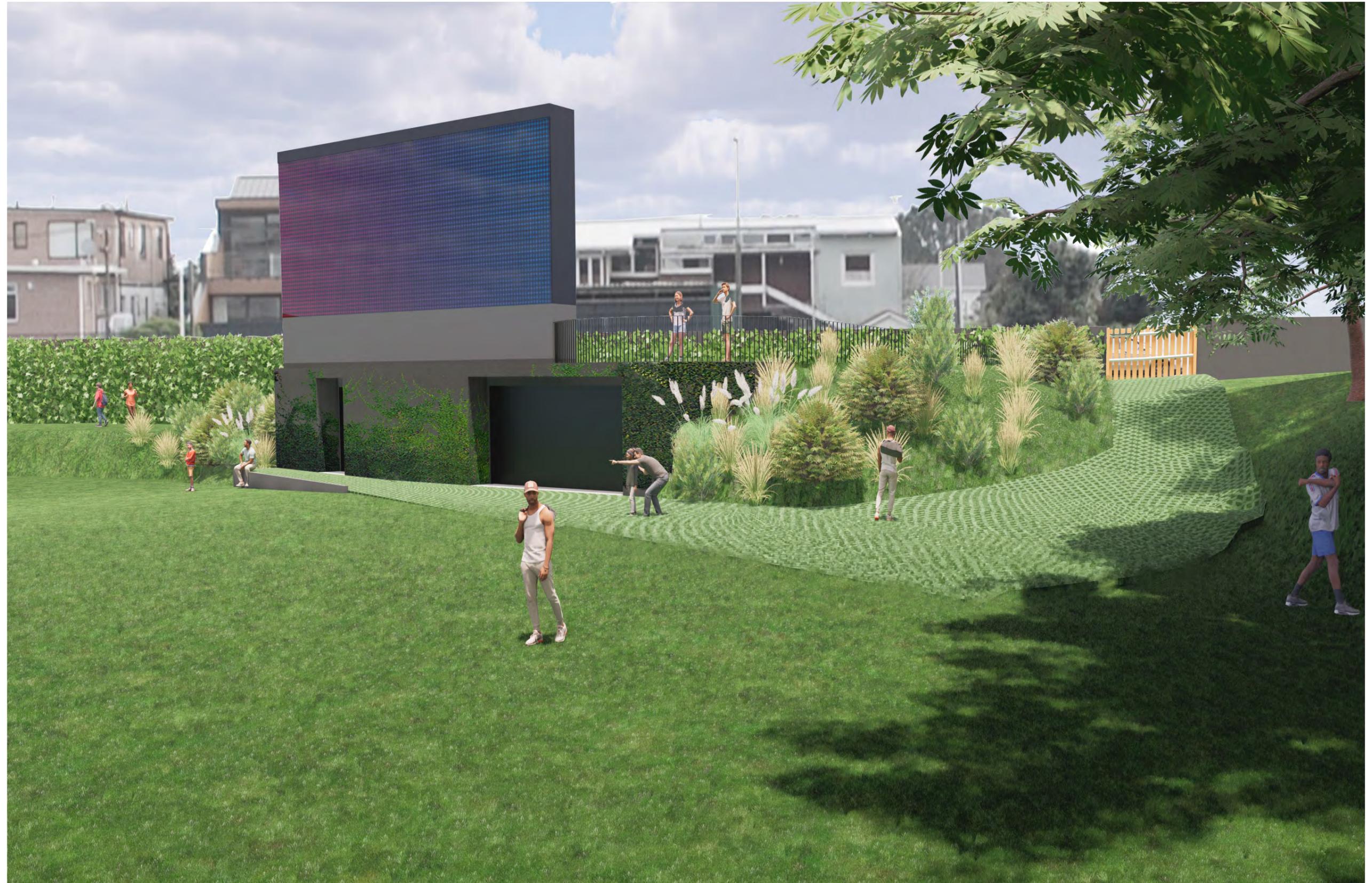
Pavilion concept visual simulation

Key Opportunities



Pavilion concept visual simulation

Key Opportunities



Dugout and scoreboard digital model

Key Opportunities



Simulation of current pavilion site with building removed and enhanced entry plaza

Key Opportunities

Bowl of Brooklands Review

The Brooklands area of Pukekura Park became part of the wider park in 1934. Development of what was to become the Bowl of Brooklands was first mooted in 1954, and physical work started in 1957. Further modifications to the area have occurred over time, with a major remodeling project occurring in 2001.

As one of New Zealand's premier large event venues the Bowl has seen many great performances, with the most notable likely being in 1968 when The Seekers played before 37,000 people over three nights (that number being greater than the New Plymouth population of the time). Recently acts such as Six60 and L.A.B. have also played before large and enthusiastic audiences.



Split Enz at the Bowl 1983

While the Bowl has done its best to keep up as a modern venue capable of hosting top level performers, there are some drawbacks to the venue which may be considered detrimental for some performers. The primary aspects of concern are the overall capacity and the lake in front of the stage.

The lake can cause health and safety concerns as well as separating the performers from the audience. The current solution is to erect a temporary stage over the lake. This takes the audience closer to the performance and provides a temporary capacity increase, but comes at great cost to Council.

The current maximum capacity for the Bowl is around 15,000. In today's event environment, most larger acts prefer to perform at venues with a minimum capacity of 20,000. At times this means that New Plymouth will miss out on performers who may otherwise have likely held concerts at the venue.

To test what updated facilities may look like for the park, we have investigated options to increase the Bowl capacity, and to provide a more cost-effective solution for the lake staging while retaining the essential character of the Bowl.

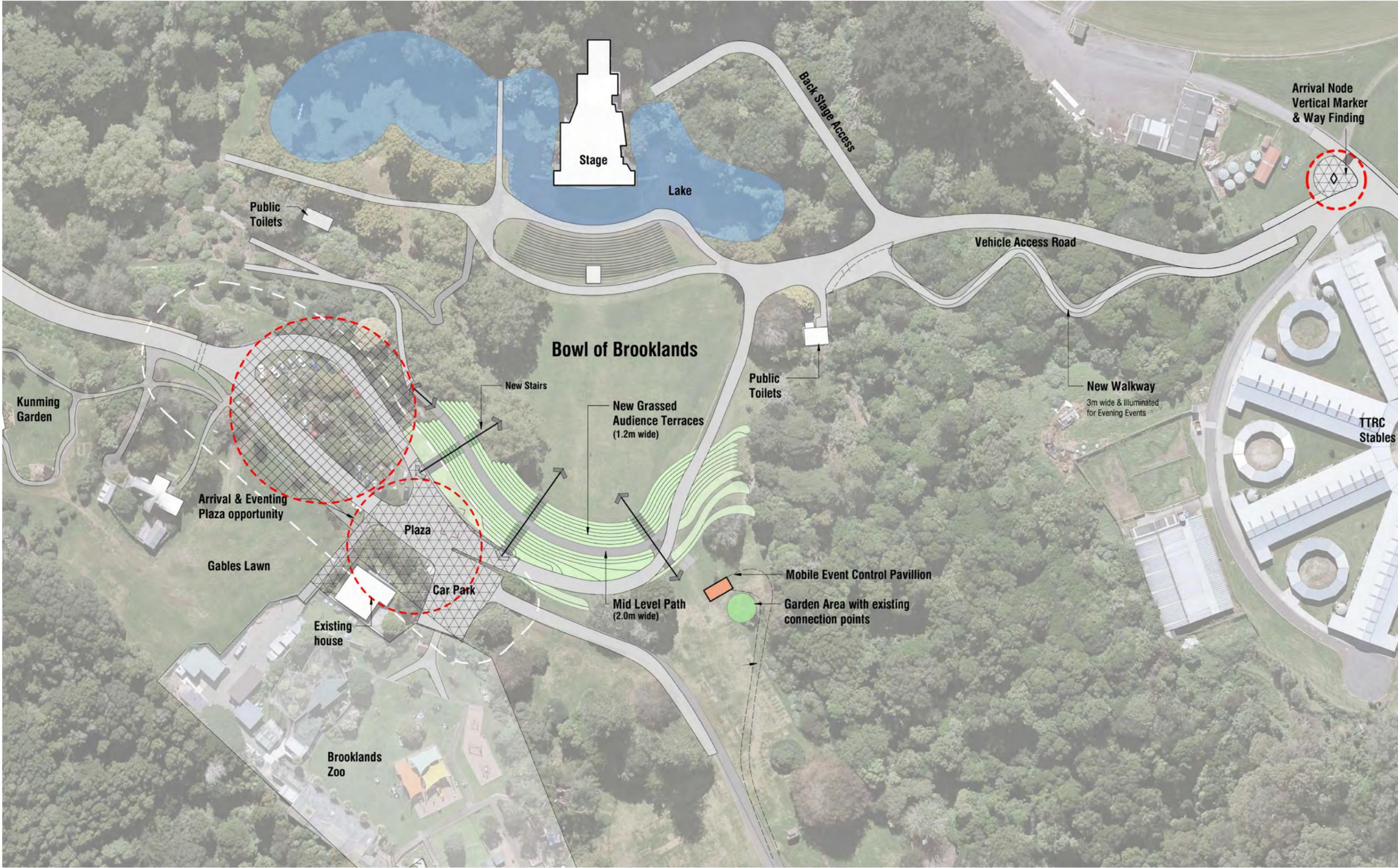
There is a balance between providing a facility which meets the needs of contemporary events, while still retaining everything that makes the Bowl such a special venue for performers and audiences alike, such as the amphitheatre landscape and natural park setting. The primary changes proposed are:

- A small expansion of the stage and a reinforced lake edge to facilitate installation of prefabricated staging panels during events
- Grassed terracing on the steeper parts of the amphitheatre, which are currently difficult to occupy
- Setting aside a platform area at the top of the bowl for a temporary caravan for security and event oversight services

Things to think about:

- Should we increase the Bowl's capacity to attract more acts?
- Would wide terracing on the slopes fit the site and make for a better audience experience?

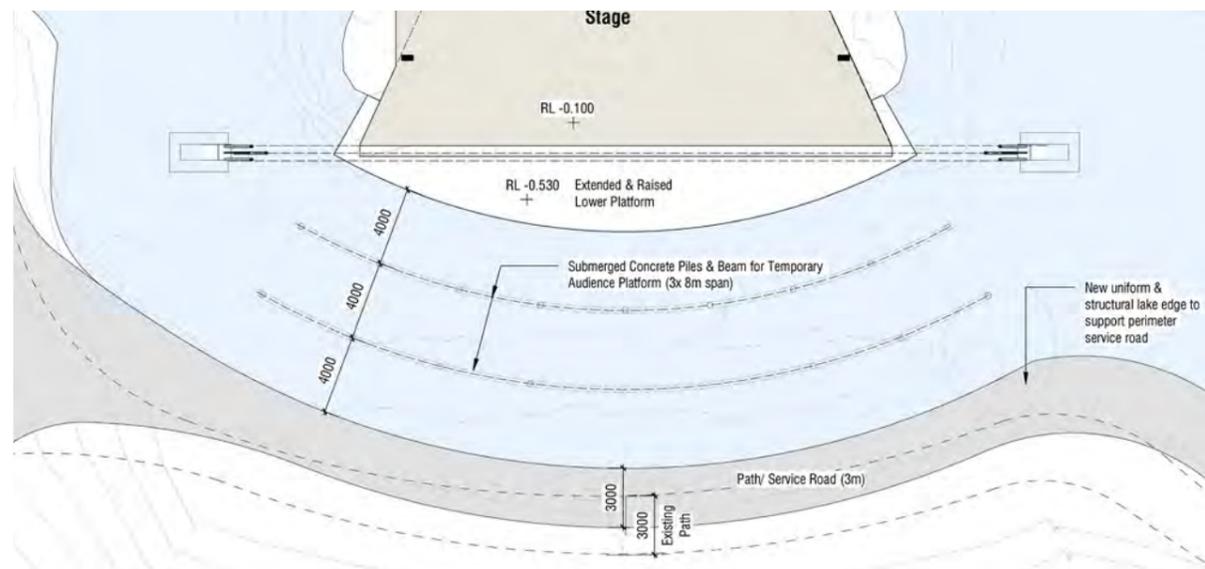
Key Opportunities



Key Opportunities

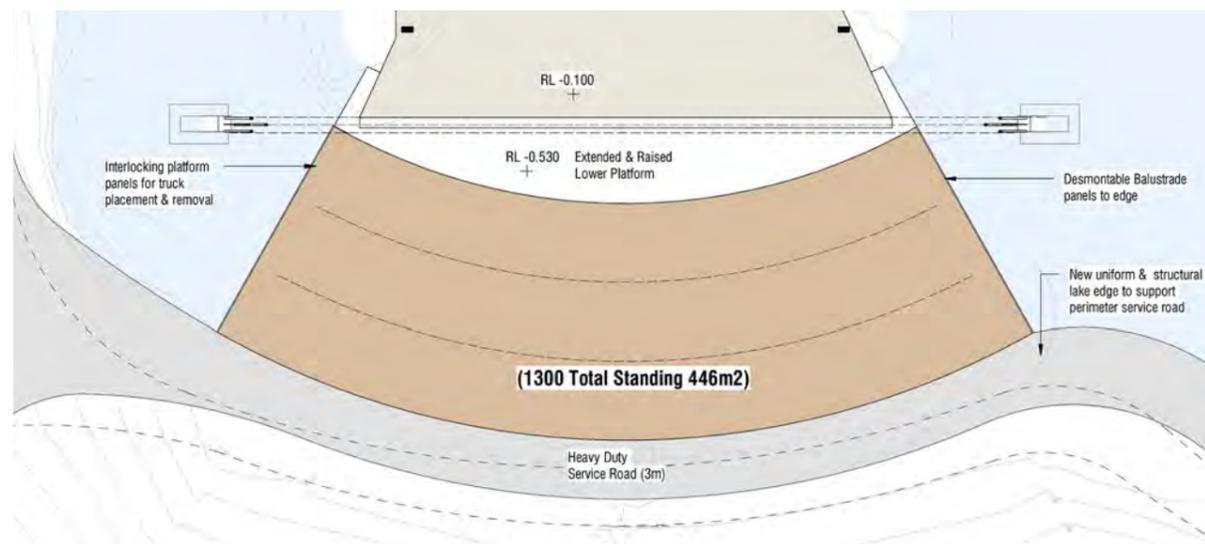
Brooklands Stage Flexibility

The existing lake will remain as a feature in front of the Bowl stage, and modular, temporary stage panels would only be installed as required for specific events that request them. A temporary stage provides more flexibility for acts that need this type of audience experience and interaction.



Scenario 1: Park

Modular flexible stage concept plan everyday appearance



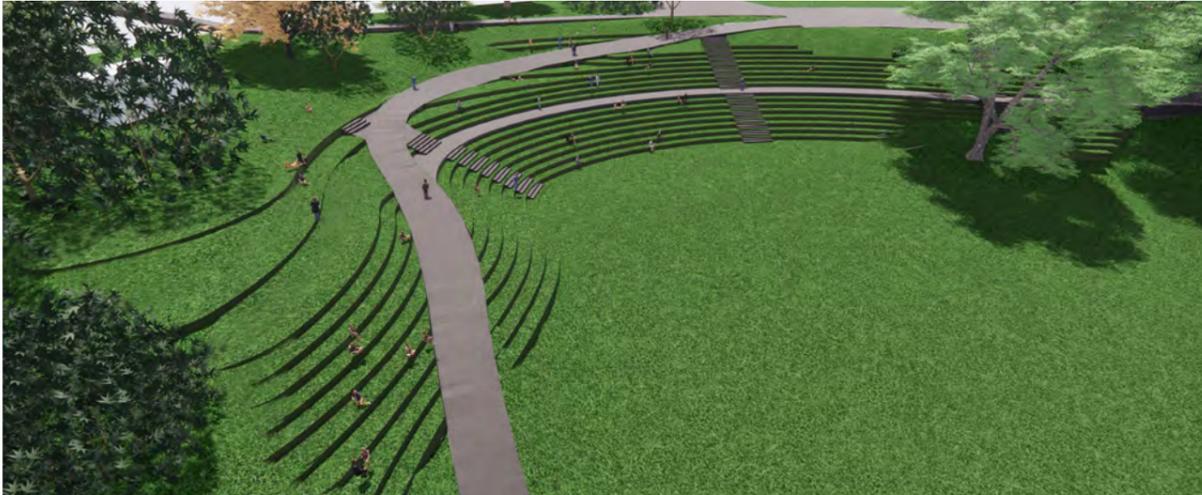
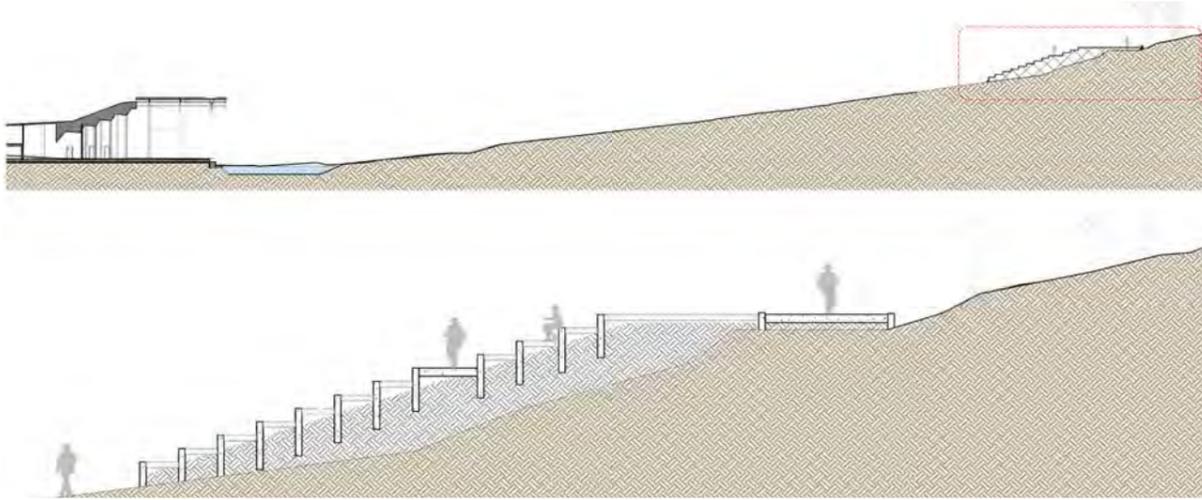
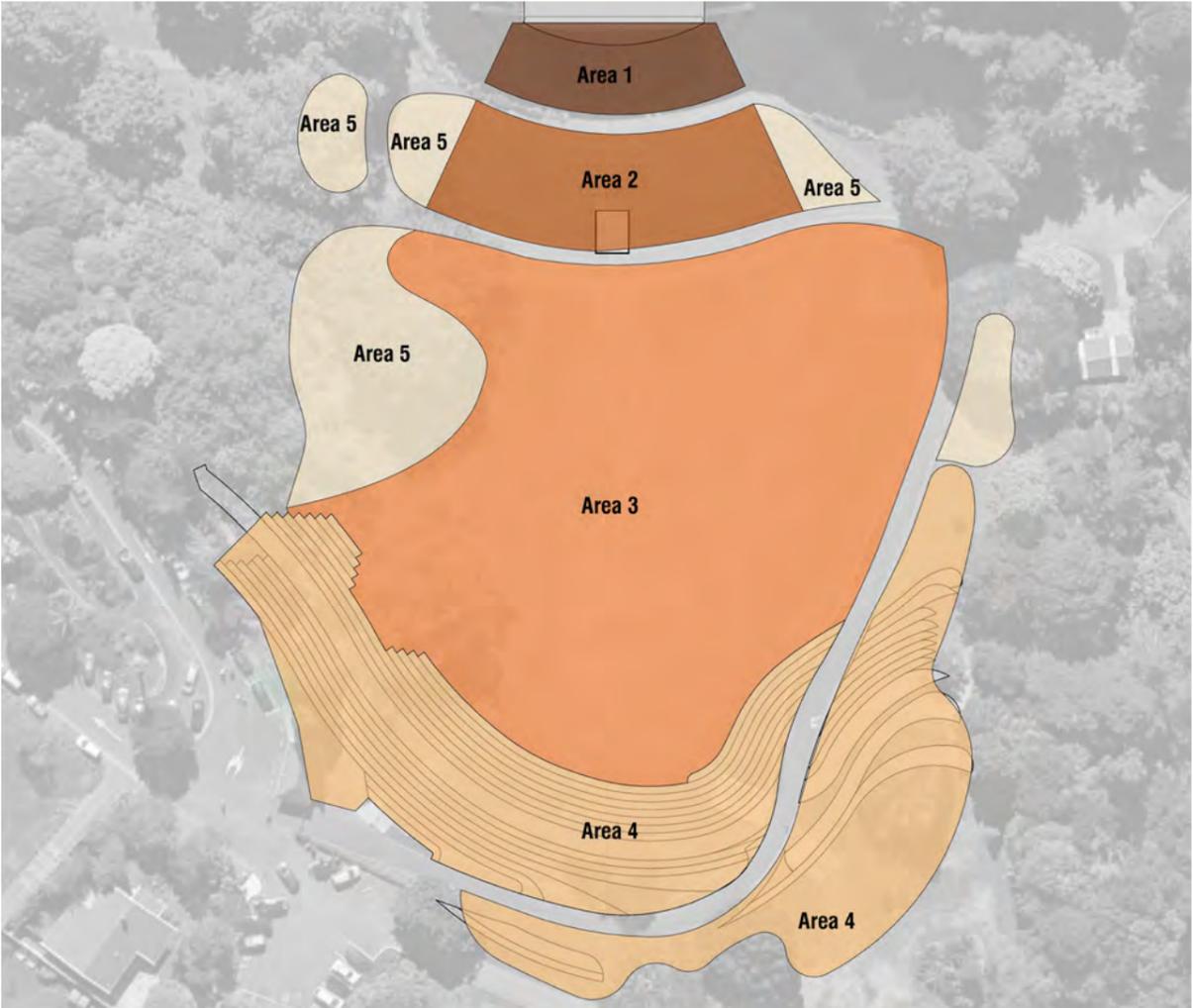
Scenario 2: Concert

Modular flexible stage concept plan with temporary panels installed



Modular temporary stage concept digital models

Brooklands Terracing Capacity



Area	Proposed Capacity	Existing Capacity
1	1,210	1,080
2	1,190	1,052
3	11,116	9,300
4	5,080	1,790
5	980	1,786
Total	19,576	15,008

Terraces concept plan and estimated capacity

Terraces concept section and digital models

Key Opportunities

Brooklands Entry Area

The entrance to Brooklands has a tendency to become very congested at times. The roading layout is also unsuitable for larger vehicles such as buses and delivery vehicles.

With vehicles able to access the area immediately in front of the zoo entrance there is also the potential for conflict and accidents between pedestrians and vehicles. With the large number of children that visit the zoo, the chances of a serious incident occurring increase dramatically.

One proposal is to remove cars from the area directly in front of the zoo and turn this space into a welcoming entry plaza, where visitors can pause and congregate before heading off into other areas of the park, and a comfortable spot where people can rest or wait for friends and family.



Brooklands, Newton King House 1890

This option would require a redesign of the main carparking area and road which goes around the central, lozenge-shaped garden. The design would seek to slightly increase the number of carparks, improve the ability for all types of vehicles to move through the space, and make parking opportunities clearer for people to remove the need to park on grassed areas during normal use.

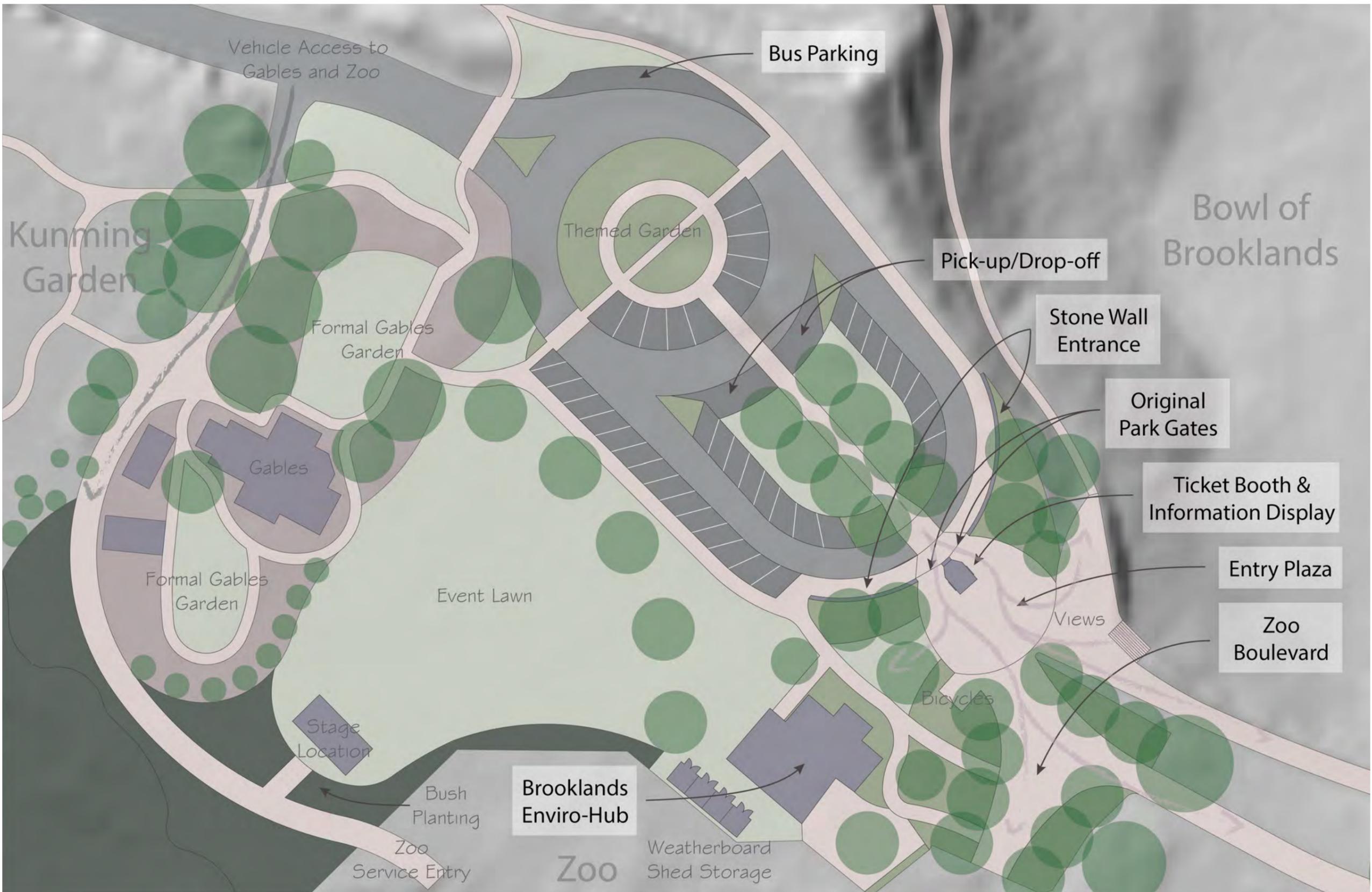
There is an opportunity to extend the perennial and rose garden around the Gables, creating a new lawn area and providing a scenic vegetated backdrop to the large grassed event space. There would be improved connectivity to the proposed Enviro-Hub and relocation of the service entry for the zoo, alongside pathways to connect these spaces and make more use of this part of the Park.

It is hoped that these changes will provide an improved overall experience, and a better presented entrance to this main park entry point. It would encourage people to gradually transition from car driving mode to park enjoyment mode in a relaxed manner. It should also make the look and experience of the entrances to the zoo, Bowl and wider Brooklands parkscape much more enjoyable.

Things to think about:

- Should we improve the look and usability of Brooklands entry?
- Would further gardens and pathway connections enhance the space and way people use the lawn area?

Key Opportunities



Brooklands entry plaza and parking concept

Key Opportunities

Brooklands Enviro-Hub

Over the years Council has received a number of requests to support a centre promoting sustainability and the environment, which could be available for community groups to use.

There are a large number of groups (approximately 40 to date) that have expressed interest, and it appears that this type of facility has the potential to be very well used and provide a number of community benefits.

One proposal is repurposing the old curator's house next to Brooklands Zoo. This would open up a part of the park currently not used for public benefit, and may present opportunities for people to further engage with the park and environment.

A trial is to be implemented for the remainder of 2022 - coinciding with the beginning of the management plan consultation period. During this time we will be trying out a soft launch to see how the concept works, and to gather information on how the community responds to this activity in this location.

The surrounding gardens will be thinned to allow public access to the grounds and promote interaction with the building.



Old curator's house at Brooklands

The proposed outcomes for the space include:

- An inclusive place which acts as a catalyst for local groups and individuals to carry out and learn about appreciating, enhancing and protecting the local environment
- A space where people in community environmental groups can operate and concentrate on their main goals without worrying about securing and maintaining a physical facility to work from
- A hub for working together, sharing resources and learning from each other. Building upon each other's strengths to build a stronger local environment
- A visible, accessible location to engage with people; showcasing achievable, everyday interventions which make a positive contribution to the local environment
- A positive space promoting a future where people can live sustainably as part of a healthy, flourishing local ecosystem
- Encouraging and helping everybody to learn about their local environment and contribute to a sustainable future

The space could also be used for event-related management at the Bowl and other Council-related activities, reducing the number of caravans on site during events. The proposed Enviro-Hub will connect with and complement the educational activities that occur at Brooklands Zoo.

Things to think about:

- Is the park the right spot for a community Enviro-Hub?
- Is this a good use for the old curator's house?

Key Opportunities



Brooklands Enviro-Hub concept layout

Key Opportunities

Prioritising Viewshafts

One of the key experiences when visiting the park is enjoying the vistas within the park and towards the mountain. It is important that these viewshafts are identified, and that we are able to ensure that they stay open for everyone to enjoy. This means that developments within viewshafts will need to be considerate of the view, and that vegetation encroaching on the viewshafts may be trimmed or removed to retain the views.



Things to think about:

- Are park views important and should they be protected?

Proposed priority viewshafts plan

Tea House Plaza Upgrades

The Tea House and central plaza area, including the rotunda, fountain and Cannon Hill is an important and popular park location. It is a 'pivot point' for visitors, being a welcoming pause point which leads off to a number of other locations.

Most people visiting the park will at least pass through this area, and most likely pause to take in the surrounds, views and refreshments. Given the location's importance to the park experience, we want to see if there are opportunities to enhance the area while retaining the essential character of this space.

We have considered what added experiences we can provide, upgrades to existing facilities which would be fitting, and other enhancements to improve the appearance and management of the area. There are three main features in this area: the Tea House and surrounds, the dock, and Cannon Hill.

There are also some changes planned for the dam and lake overflow. These are more related to water management (although they will impact this space), and are covered in more detail in the Water Management section.



Central Plaza with Tea House and Cannon Hill

Cannon Hill

- Upgrade hill paths to make them durable, welcoming and obvious
- Create terraced areas, seating and look-out spots on top of the hill
- Change some vegetation to be more natural and fitting

Tea House & Surrounds

- Create an all-weather dining option by building a period style conservatory onto the north side of the building
- Expand the building to create more storage and kitchen space
- Open up the tea house surrounds and create another seating area
- Remove the existing public toilets and incorporate them into the expanded tea house footprint with external access
- Expand the deck under the trees and install lake-facing seating
- Update the ground surface treatments

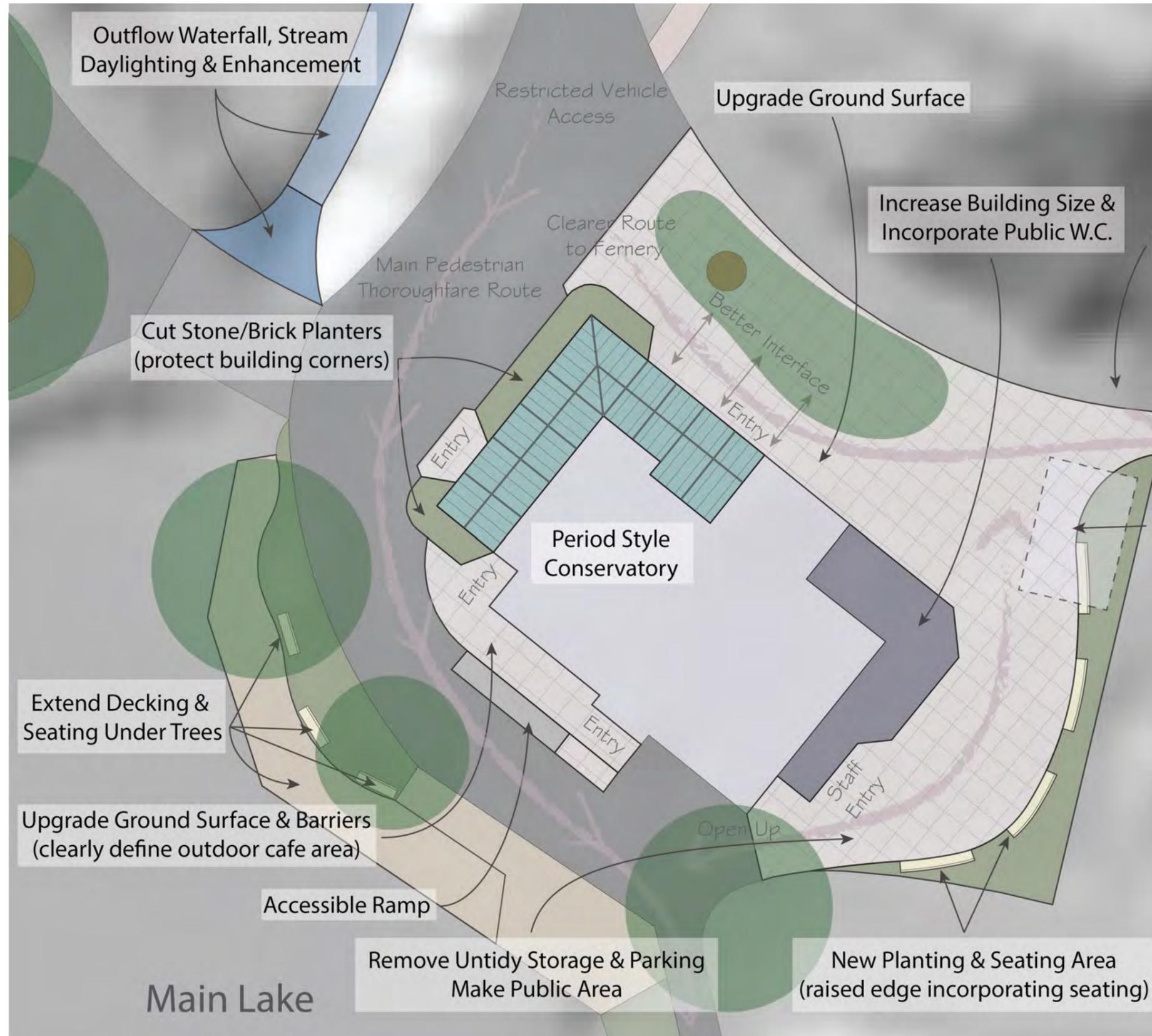
Dock

- Upgrade the existing garden bed edging on either side of the dock
- Widen the dock slightly to make it more secure and welcoming to get down to the water's edge
- Create a small seating area by the dock, at water level, to provide a different experience and viewpoint of the lake and surrounds

Things to think about:

- Should Cannon Hill be more of a feature in the park?
- Would it work to have more Tea House space and seating options?
- Would you like to more easily get to lake level?
- Should more seating options look over the lake here?

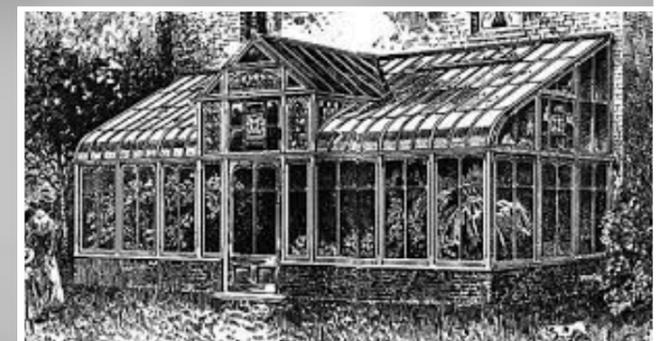
Key Opportunities



Remove Mobility Park



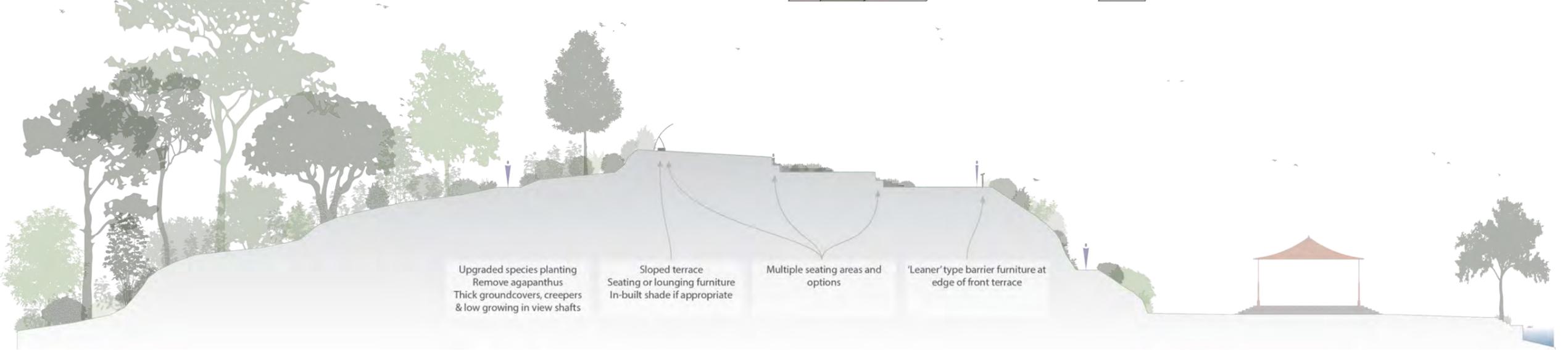
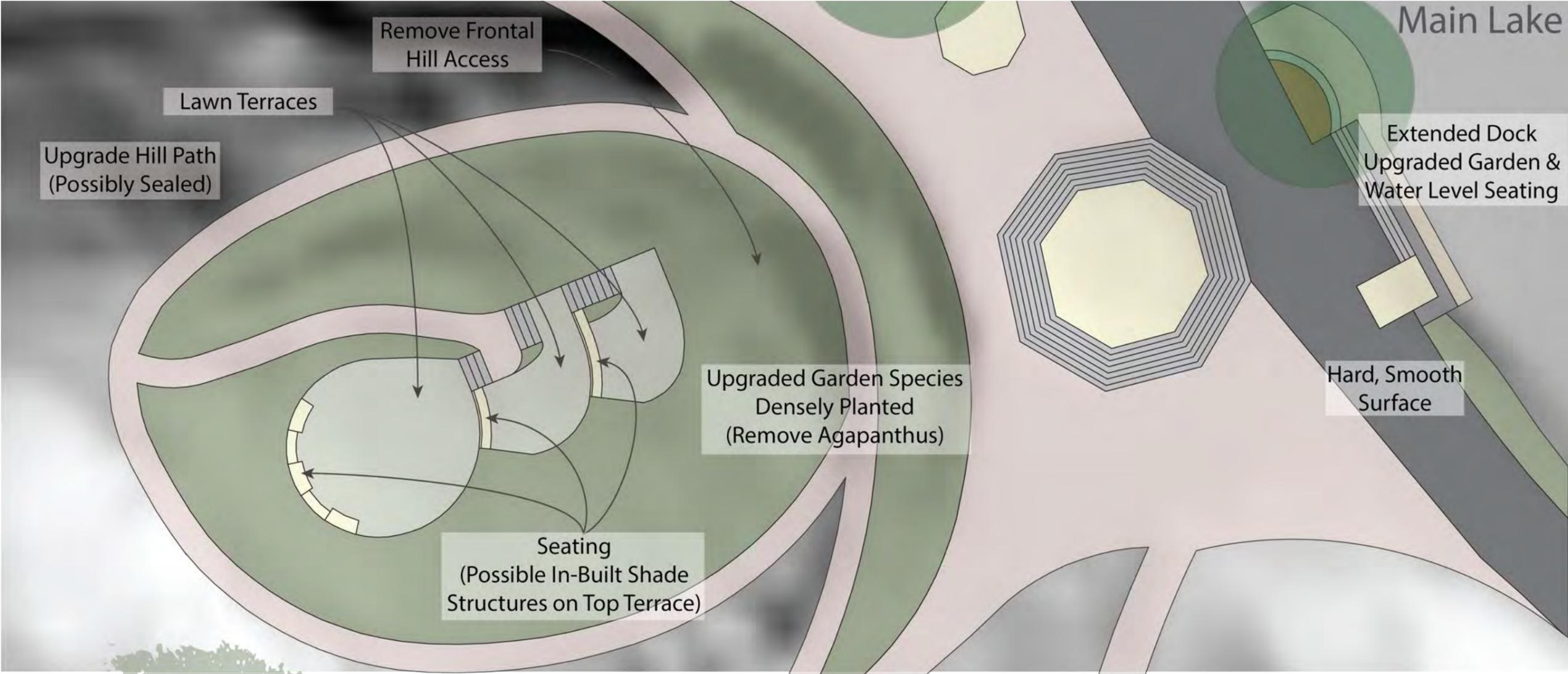
Remove W.C.



Example look and feel for Conservatory

Tea House and surrounds concept plan

Key Opportunities



Cannon Hill concept plan and section

Key Opportunities

Zoo Enhancement

Zoos have come a long way since the Jaycees started Brooklands Zoo in the 1960s, and the current zoo needs a refreshed purpose. As our community and wider society have changed, so have many people's outlooks on the purpose of zoos and how they fit into a modern world.

Our zoo staff do amazing work caring for the animals in the zoo and providing them the best opportunities they can, however they are still only able to work within the constraints of the existing zoo environment. The increasing conflict between animal welfare and Brooklands events needs to be addressed. Activities such as WOMAD, concerts, and people trying to access events by climbing through the zoo all add stress to the lives of many of the animals living at the zoo, as well as staff responsible for their welfare.

In addition zoo opportunities need to be integrated with the proposed new native birds wildlife rehabilitation and education facility on recently purchased Council land in Inglewood. This partnership with the East Taranaki Environment Trust will help inform the proposed zoo vision and enhancements.

We understand that the zoo is well-loved and patronised by many people. We intend to keep the zoo where it is and ensure that it continues to provide a valuable community service while enabling the animals to live their best lives.

To this end there is an opportunity to review what the vision of the zoo is in the wider park and community context, and to better meet modern zoo education and conservation outcomes. It is proposed to review the zoo design and the species makeup to maximise animal welfare, and provide an even better visitor experience. This may mean that some adjustment of the species displayed is needed to fit with new habitat, welfare and education outcomes.

A draft concept plan is currently in development with the help of zoo industry professionals and will be part of a concurrent but separate consultation process.

Early opportunities identified include:

- Theming the park habitats around relevant local environments
- Having more social/group species in the zoo
- Engaging more with the surrounding park environment
- Improving the entrance, activity, shelter and wayfinding experience
- Improving habitats to reduce stress on the animals and improve the interaction possibilities between animals and visitors



Free-flight enclosure at Brooklands Zoo

Things to think about:

- Is the current zoo appropriately focused?
- What changes would make the zoo more relevant and a better fit within the park?

Water Body Improvements

Water plays a key role in making Pukekura Park a green paradise. Without the water which flows through the park there would be no lakes, nor would there be the lush vegetation which frames the spaces people enjoy.

What may be less well-known is that most of the current waterways and lakes in the park are man-made. The lakes are formed by a series of dams across the original streams which flowed through the area. The park is based on a series of gullies, and much of the stormwater from surrounding neighbourhoods finds its way into the park. This runoff contains sediment, and also picks up a lot of gravel from the paths throughout the park.

The particles which end up in the lakes eventually have to be dredged to maintain sufficient depth to keep the lakes healthy. Shallow lakes with contaminants from stormwater tend to breed algae, weeds and bacteria in their waters as well. Reducing contamination and sediment, increasing oxygen in the waters and planting suitable vegetation for different areas can all help to improve waterway health, and reduce ongoing maintenance needs.

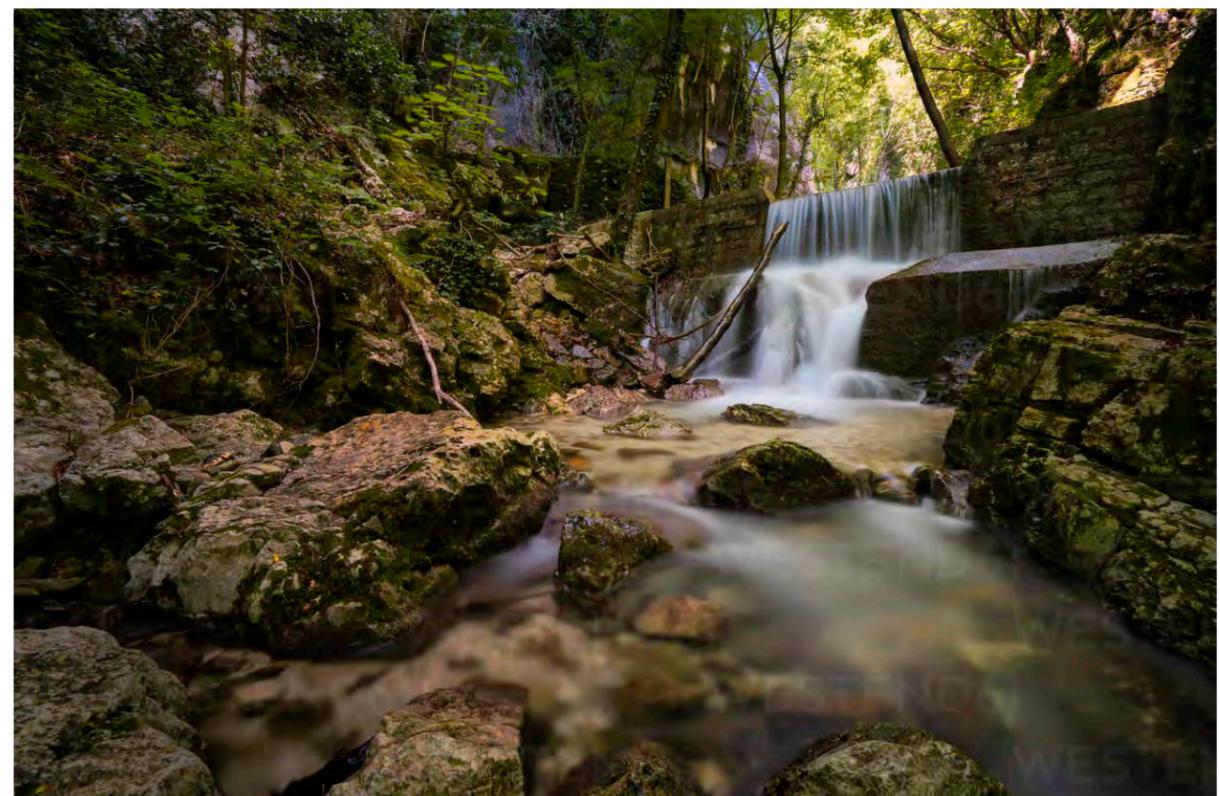
Another aspect of the environment and society affecting the waterways is climate change and safety standards. The engineering standards required for the dams is now greater than they were when they were built. In addition the increasing frequency and intensity of adverse weather events means that the lakes need to cope with higher peaks of water flow than ever before. In order to meet these requirements, the main dam in particular needs some modifications to improve its integrity.

Plans are being developed for the following work:

- Aeration of the Lily Lake outflow
- Wetland planting in stagnant areas of the Main and Fountain lakes
- Upgrades to the Main Lake outflow to cater for higher flows
- Construction of a spillway for the Main Lake
- Improving the stream area between the Main and Fountain lakes



Flooding at the water wheel



Example look and feel for lake overflow opportunity

Key Opportunities

Staff Operational Area

Currently, operational equipment and working areas for park staff are spread throughout the park. There is no easily accessible location for materials delivery, or a single, dedicated space for staff operational activities and equipment storage.

To alleviate these difficulties and consolidate equipment and activities into a single, accessible location, it is proposed to upgrade and expand the staff operational area beside the Band Building at the end of Rogan St. This would also include storage areas for the Friends of Pukekura Park's electric buggy, mobility scooters and Festival of Lights equipment.



Ground staff at the sportsground

Things to think about:

- Is a single, larger operational depot a better fit for the park than multiple smaller locations?
- Is this the right spot for an operational depot?

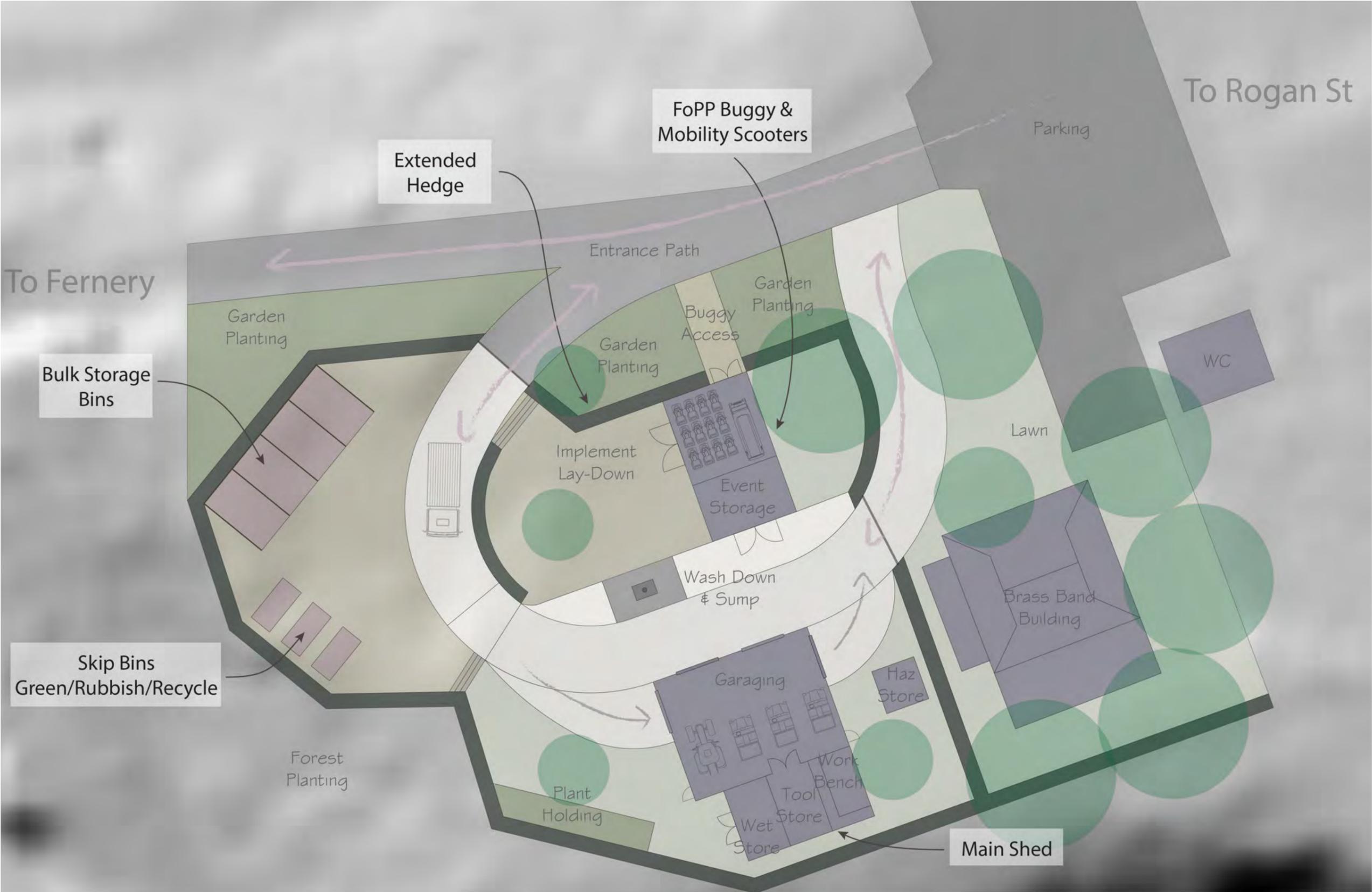
This would enable:

- Easier access for deliveries
- Secure storage of supplies, hazardous materials, tools and machinery
- Green waste and rubbish storage and pick-up
- Bulk material bays
- Maintenance and charging areas for tools and equipment
- Secure, accessible location for FoPP electric buggy and mobility scooters
- Drying area for wet-weather gear
- Wash-down area for machinery



Parks staff tending plants

Key Opportunities



Operations depot concept plan

Your Thoughts?



Questions to Consider

Does the park need a pavilion by the sportsground? What should it try to achieve?

Do we need to make the Fillis St entrance more appealing and create a better experience here?

Should we change how we allow vehicles to use the park?

Should we continue to prohibit bicycles from the park?

Does it make sense to provide a dedicated route for cyclists to transit through the park without getting into conflict with other users?

Does an Enviro-Hub fit into the purpose of the park and is Brooklands a good location?

Would upgrading some paths, making it easier to find your way around and identifying short loop walks be good for the park?

How important are the views around the park?

Would the central plaza containing the Tea House benefit from an upgrade?

What is most special about the park? What should we be seeking to protect and retain, and what should we be looking at changing?

How much should we do to cater for the Bowl of Brooklands as an event space?

Would you like to see the zoo enhanced with improved educational playground and animal habitats?



How to Get Involved

Online

Give us your feedback online.

Just complete the submission form at
npdc.govt.nz/OurPukekuraPark



On Paper

Fill in a paper form or write your thoughts down and send feedback to us at:

Pukekura Park RMP
Reply Paid DX
DX Box NP90081
New Plymouth

or email it to:
submissions@npdc.govt.nz



In Person

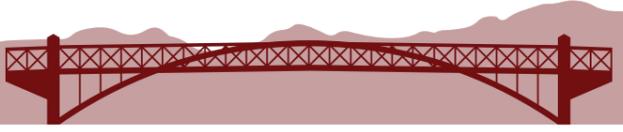
COVID-19 and weather permitting, we will be out and about in the park.



**Submissions close at
2pm Friday, 19 August**

Like to find out more?

More information is available online at npdc.govt.nz/OurPukekuraPark



Festival of Lights

PUKEKURA PARK

New Plymouth District Council
Pukekura Park
Reserve Management Plan Discussion Document
2022



Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ngāmotu

**New Plymouth
District Council**