

Second Review of the

RIVERSIDE RESERVES

OPERATIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN

July 2008

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1. OVERVIEW

1.1. Reserves Covered by This Management Plan

The Riverside Reserves Management Plan includes 29 named parks in whole or in part covering an area of just under 82 hectares. Four riverside parks are excluded because they justify their own Management Plans. Pukete Farm Park and St Andrews Golf Course are excluded except for the 20m esplanade strip. Hamilton Gardens and Miropiko Reserve have individual Operative Management Plans whilst Te Hikuwai Reserve is included wholly in Nga Tapuwae O Hotumauea. Street reserves such as those under bridges will be managed in accordance with this Management Plan. The area of riverbank adjacent to the central city that is currently road reserve will be progressively reclassified as esplanade or recreation reserve to conform to the Operative District Plan and the Resource Management Act 1991. Activities on the river are controlled by the Environment Waikato Navigation Safety Bylaw 2002.

Name	Area
Braithwaite Park (Esplanade portion only)	1.2743 ha
Days' Park	8.5161 ha
Dillicar Park	1.0050 ha
Fairfield Esplanade	2.8094 ha
Featherstone Park	7.5717 ha
Ferrybank	2.2989 ha
Graham Island	0.3490 ha
Hamilton Parade	3.0098 ha
Hammond Park	8.4389 ha
Hayes Paddock	3.8520 ha
Jesmond Park	0.8680 ha
Kirikiroa Reserve	1.0776 ha
Matakanohi Reserve	3.3795 ha
Memorial Park	3.4639 ha
Milne Park	1.2899 ha
Munro's Walkway	2.0354 ha
New Memorial Park	3.5786 ha
Parana Park	1.7202 ha
Peacockes Road Esplanade*	0.6724 ha
Pine Beach	1.9620 ha
Pukete Farm Park (Esplanade strip only)	2.9890 ha
Queenwood Esplanade	2.4760 ha
Roose Commerce Park	1.4670 ha
Sandford Park (part)	4.2867 ha
Sonning Esplanade	0.5040 ha
St Andrews Golf Course (Esplanade strip only)	2.9400 ha
Swarbricks Landing	0.6980 ha
Sylvester Esplanade*	0.2710 ha
Yendell Park	7.1200 ha
Total	81.9243 ha

* denotes the name has no formal status and is used for administration purposes only.

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1.2. The River Parkway System

1.2.1. Goal

“To reinforce the role of the Waikato River (and adjacent reserves) as a resource of historic, scenic and recreational interest”.

1.2.2. Discussion

The Waikato River and adjacent riverside reserves are the major landscape feature of Hamilton City and a significant and positive element of the City's identity and image. They have a substantial cultural and aesthetic significance for both Maori and European residents. Pre European settlement of the area and early European settlement from 1863 till 1946 were focused on the river, which provided the major means of transport into and through the district.

The river has always been important as a source of fresh water and as a means of removing the City's waste water and stormwater drainage. However use of the river for transport, recreation, and city image has decreased over the last fifty years. That is not necessarily a permanent trend. The river and its banks now offer some of the most exciting longer term development opportunities within the City:

- In the Central Business District there is the opportunity to create an outstanding city retail centre orientated towards the dramatic, attractive river corridor environment.
- Riverside parks permit public access alongside the river and have the potential to become the backbone to the City's scenic path and cycleway systems linking other parks and gullies to countryside paths.
- The riverside paths are already extensive. They have the potential for some exciting linkages and extensions perhaps as part of a national path running the length of New Zealand.
- The river was a vital resource for pre-European Maori settlement and is centrally entrenched in Maori cultural and tribal identity. This cultural and historic heritage can be given more form and significance.
- Scenic boats tours are a significant tourist attraction and have further potential. There are few cities where people are able to boat within a relatively natural environment through the middle of the City.
- The river itself can provide a promotional theme for the City and physical linkage between some significant regional tourist attractions. Within the City this includes the CBD, Hamilton Gardens, Waikato Museum of Art and History, historic Pa sites, Fieldays, Pukete Farm Park, and other attractive parks.
- The river and riverside parks have the potential to be further developed as a major recreational asset for the City.
- Some small areas of remnant bush on steep isolated riverbanks, that are probably the best remaining examples of original bush within the central Waikato, have been preserved.
- The riversides provide one of the City's most valuable wildlife habitats and a potential wildlife corridor linking to gullies and other parks.
- Water quality in the river is gradually improving and as this trend continues, the riverside parks become more aesthetically attractive for recreational

users.

There are potential changes that might not necessarily be so positive, such as:

- lower and fluctuating river levels that reduce riverbank stability.
- the potential for development on adjacent sites that would compromise the area's natural character, increasing the demand to improve river views with consequent tree removal.

This Management Plan addresses these issues as they affect the management and development of Hamilton's riverside parks, and sets out the concepts that will determine the development and management of the riverside reserves beyond the turn of the century. Mention of specific projects within this Plan does not mean that they will necessarily be resourced by the Hamilton City Council. However projects well supported by the public more likely to be considered favourably in the LTCCP/Annual Planning process.

1.2.3. The Purpose of Key Implementation Areas

Objectives and policies by nature usually need to be both broad and definitive and they can become meaningless if dependent on separate budgetary decisions and the availability of resources. Key Implementation Areas on the other hand are discretionary and are intended to provide:

- (a) An indication of some likely practical outcomes and implications of policy.
- (b) Priorities for the implementation of policy that have been identified by public input. These may be considered in future Annual Plans and Service Delivery Contracts.
- (c) Performance indicators against which progress can be evaluated and which can provide a realistic challenge.
- (d) The basis for the development of objectives, policies and other provisions of the Management Plan for its next period.

The responsibility for implementation lies with the Community Services Group in the first instance but will involve other Council Units and sometimes outside agencies.

1.3. Purpose and Scope

1.3.1. Introduction

To understand this Management Plan it is necessary to be aware of its context in a hierarchy of legislation, planning documents and policy. To a large extent, this hierarchy sets the framework for the plan.

The legislative requirement for management plans to be prepared for reserves is contained in the Reserves Act 1977. Accordingly, it is this legislation which provides the dominant purpose and direction in the Riverside Reserves Management Plan.

However, the Reserves Act is not the only document which assists Council in guiding the protection, use and development of reserves in the City. In developing the Riverside Reserves Management Plan, consideration has been

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given to the provisions contained in the following documents:

Strategic Plan and Agenda 21
Resource Management Act 1991
City of Hamilton Operative and Proposed District Plans
Historic Places Trust Act 1993

1.3.2. Reserves Act 1977

This Act requires all reserves to have a Management Plan. The Act defines the purpose (Section 3), general form and the process of public participation required for Management Plans.

Section 3 of the Reserves Act states the general purpose of the Act as:

- “(a) Providing, for the preservation and management for the benefit and enjoyment of the public, areas of New Zealand possessing:
- (i) Recreational use or potential, whether active or passive; or wildlife; or
 - (ii) Indigenous flora or fauna; or
 - (iii) Environmental and landscape amenity or interest; or
 - (iv) Natural, scenic, historic, cultural, archaeological, biological, geological, scientific, educational, community, or other special features or value;
- (b) Ensuring, as far as possible, the survival of all indigenous species of flora and fauna, both rare and common place, in their natural communities and habitats, and the preservation of representative samples of all classes of natural ecosystems and landscape which in the aggregate originally gave New Zealand its own recognizable character.
- (c) Ensuring, as far as possible, the preservation of access for the public to and along the sea coast, its bays and inlets and offshore islands, lakeshores, and riverbanks, and fostering and promoting the preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment and of the margins of lakes and rivers and the protection of them from unnecessary subdivision and development”.

The Act also requires the classification of all reserves (Part III) to ensure management and development appropriate to each reserve’s principal purpose. Existing and proposed classifications for riverside reserves are summarized in this Management Plan under ‘Site Definition’. The Act provides for:

Recreation Reserves — to provide areas for public recreation, sporting activity and physical welfare but they must also provide protection of the natural environment with an emphasis on the retention of open space and on outdoor recreation activities.

Historic Reserves — to protect places, objects and natural features of historic, archaeological, cultural, educational and other special interest.

Scenic Reserves —to provide further protection of sites with particularly notable flora and fauna.

Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserves — to protect scenic, archaeological,

biological and natural features, provide for soil conservation, while ensuring public access.

The reserves within the Riverside Reserves Management Plan are classified as either Recreation or Local Purpose (Esplanade) Reserves. As set out above, the main purpose of reserves under both these classifications is to protect the natural environment, while providing for public access, outdoor recreation activities and open space. Accordingly, this is the overriding philosophy contained in this Management Plan. This is reflected in objectives and policies relating to riverbank stability, natural character, bird and butterfly populations and vegetation management. The Reserves Act 1977 requires this Operative Management Plan to be reviewed regularly after it becomes operative.

1.3.3. Strategic Plan and Agenda 21

Hamilton's Strategic Plan 2002-2012 embodies a range of goals in six strategic areas, some of which are particularly relevant to the Riverside Reserves Management Plan.

Strategic Area A, Sustaining Hamilton's Environment, has key goals:

"(1) Clean air, water and soil, and an environment free from excessive noise, Healthy ecosystems displaying improved biodiversity, with a strong indigenous component, and
Production of solid and liquid waste (including hazardous substances) is minimised, and disposal is carried out in an environmentally sustainable manner".

Strategic Area B, Growing Hamilton, has a goal:

"(5) A compact city with a well distributed mix of residential, employment and service activities, interconnected through an effective and sustainable transport system".

Area C, Promoting Hamilton, includes the goal:

"(8) Hamilton has a positive internal and external image".

Finally, in Area F, Enjoying our City, is the goal:

"(16) A full range of land, facilities and services is available to meet the community's recreation and leisure needs".

The Strategic Plan is also based squarely on the 27 principles of Agenda 21, which recognize that global issues need to be addressed locally. The Riverside Reserves Management Plan is one of the ways in which Agenda 21 principles can be implemented at a local level. Examples of linkages include protection of biodiversity (Goal 2 in the Strategic Plan, given effect in Section 2.3, Sustaining Riverside Bird Populations in the Riverside Reserves Management Plan), improving water quality (Goals 1 and 4 in the Strategic Plan, Section 2.1 — Sustaining Riverbank Stability in the Riverside Reserves Management Plan) and an effective and sustainable transport system (Goal 5 in the Strategic Plan, Section 4.3 — Riverside paths and Cycleways in the Riverside Reserves Management Plan). These have all influenced the direction of this Management Plan.

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1.3.4. Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA)

The purpose of this Act (Section 5) is to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources, by managing the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources in a way, or at a rate which enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural well-being and for their health and safety, while satisfying the matters set out in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) which are:

- (a) Sustaining the potential of natural and physical resources (excluding minerals) to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations; and
- (b) Safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil and ecosystems; and
- (c) Avoiding, remedying or mitigating any adverse effects of activities on the environment.

Section 6 (Matters of National Importance), Section 7 (Other Matters) and Section 8 (Treaty of Waitangi), set out matters that are complementary to the Purpose of the Reserves Act 1977. Some of these relationships are highlighted below:

The preservation of natural character of ... rivers and their margins ... from inappropriate subdivision, use and development (Section 6 (a) RMA and Section (a) and (c) Reserves Act).

Protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna (Section 6 © RMA and Section 3 (b) Reserves Act).

The maintenance and enhancement of public access to and along rivers, ... (Section 6 (d) RMA and Section 3 (c) Reserves Act).

The relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga (Section 6 (e) RMA).

The maintenance and enhancement of amenity value (Section 7 (c) RMA).

Intrinsic values of ecosystems (Section 7 (d) RMA).

The Waikato River (not the riverside parks) is subject to a claim under the Treaty of Waitangi. This issue is beyond the scope of this Management Plan.

1.3.5. City of Hamilton Transitional District Plan

The Transitional District Plan was prepared under the provisions of the now repealed Town and Country Planning Act 1977 and became operative in 1992. The provisions for reserves in the Transitional Plan are considered to have served the City well. Though the Transitional District Plan is now largely superseded by the Proposed District Plan, most of the objectives in this Management Plan were derived from the goals and objectives of the Transitional Plan and to that extent it is still relevant.

In the Transitional District Plan, riverside reserves were zoned as follows:
REA — Recreational Amenity (provides for public access to the Waikato River, stands of trees, pedestrian paths and cycleways and children's

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play areas).

REN — Recreation Neighbourhood (provides for those activities permitted in the REA zoned and for both active and passive recreational uses with an emphasis on neighbourhood use).

RECR — Recreation City/Regional (provides multi-purpose areas catering for a wide range of recreational uses and serving a city-wide and regional function).

The zoning of the reserves links into their classifications under the Reserves Act 1977. There are two main purposes to the zoning of the reserves in the District Plan:

- (a) They act as a quasi-management plan in the absence of a management plan prepared under the Reserves Act 1977.
- (b) The resource consent process provides for public consultation in the situation where activities or buildings are likely to have adverse effects outside the boundaries of the reserve (e.g. noise, hours of use, height of buildings). This is one of the functions of the Resource Management Act 1991.

1.3.6. Hamilton City Proposed District Plan

The Transitional District Plan has been reviewed under the provisions of the Resource Management Act 1991, and the resulting Proposed District Plan is the dominant document in all areas that are now beyond appeal. Most riverside reserves are zoned Recreation Environment and are also subject to the Environmental Protection Overlay.

Rule 4.8 governs the Recreation Environment Zone. This zone covers parks which have actual or potential environmental value. In addition to this environmental function these parks provide amenity, open space or a buffer between activities, and contribute significantly to the definition of city form. Within this zone there is an emphasis on the protection of conservation values. The zone provides for activities that are generally informal or passive, and includes public access to the Waikato River and stream system and sports fields catering for junior activities. The expected outcome for the zone is that activities and development within the Recreation Environment Zone are undertaken in a manner compatible with the environmental values of the zone and ensure any adverse effects on surrounding residential development (in particular) are avoided, remedied or mitigated.

Rule 2.1, Environmental Protection Overlay, limits development so that it does not adversely affect identified ecological corridors, habitats of flora and fauna and their associated natural and aesthetic values and does not increase exposure to natural hazards.

In addition, Rule 3.4, Activities on the Surface Water, controls the adverse effects of activities and structures on the natural character, water flow, and ecological, cultural and amenity values of the Waikato River.

1.3.7. Other Relevant Documents

The legislation and policy outlined above have set the framework, the

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philosophy and the process for this Management Plan including its policy for the future use, development and maintenance of riverside reserves. The plan also seeks to be compatible with other policy documents as it will in turn influence other policy, by-laws, LTCCP/Annual Plan priorities and service delivery agreements and standards. Three of these other policy documents need special mention.

1.3.8. River Use Control

Activities on the river are controlled by the Environment Waikato Navigation Safety Bylaw 2002. This by-law is administered by Environment Waikato and is available on their web site:

(<http://www.ew.govt.nz/policyandplans/navigation/index.htm>)

or from their offices (P O Box 4010, Hamilton East, Hamilton. Telephone (07) 856 7184 or Fax (07) 856 0551.

1.3.9. Previous Management Plans

Management Plans have previously been prepared for Days Park and Roose Commerce Park in 1983. This Management Plan constitutes a review and replacement of those two Management Plans.

1.3.10. "Nga Tapuwae O Hotumauea" — Maori Landmarks on Riverside Reserves Management Plan (2003)

The Riverside Reserves Management Plan is the principal plan for the management of riverside reserves. "Nga Tapuwae O Hotumauea" — Maori Landmarks on Riverside Reserves Management Plan has been prepared to provide further specificity for the management of seventeen historic pa sites located within riverside reserves.

1.3.11. Historic Places Trust Act 1993

The Historic Places Trust Act 1993 overrides any of the provisions of this Management Plan or the Reserves Act 1977, with respect to the protection and preservation of Waahi Tapu and archaeological sites. Users of this management plan should refer to Section 3.1 for policies and Key Implementation Areas relating to consultation with Tangata Whenua prior to carrying out works on a Pa or Waahi Tapu site.

2. CONSERVING THE RIVER ENVIRONMENT

2.1. Sustaining Riverbank Stability

2.1.1. Objective

To protect the riverbanks and side gullies from erosion by preserving existing vegetation.

2.1.2. Policies

- (a) All significant vegetation cover on steep banks will be retained or progressively replaced so as to preserve bank stability. Steep riverbanks that are susceptible to erosion will be planted to stabilize and protect the landform.
- (b) Large trees that are obviously unstable will be removed to avoid them uprooting and creating an erosion hazard.
- (c) Stormwater discharge to the river will be piped directly into the river and, where possible, outlets will be combined and hidden or given a natural appearance. Improvements to existing stormwater discharges will be made to minimize the adverse effects of discharges on riverbank stability.
- (d) Willows encroaching into and unduly restricting the water flow will be replaced with appropriate vegetation or retaining structures.
- (e) Where public education and co-operation fails, legal action will be taken to discourage the unauthorised removal and pruning of trees on reserves.

2.1.3. Discussion

(a) Bank stability

Because much of the riverbank within the City has a reasonable cover of vegetation and has remained stable for some time, river bank stability is almost taken for granted. However considerable extents of the bank have a sandy substrate which is susceptible to slip and erosion. The problem is increased by fluctuating river levels and the likelihood that the river bed will continue to degrade due to the Karapiro dam cutting off sediment supply, and to sand winning further down the river (Morphological Modelling of the Lower Waikato, Barnett Consultants 1994). For this reason the policy of this Management Plan is intended to give a clear priority to bank stability over most other issues. The policy on property acquisition also seeks to include as much steep riverbank area as possible in riverside reserves and to protect its vegetative cover.

A soil and water conservation study by the Waikato Valley Authority in 1976 identified the need for careful management of certain sections of the riverbank within the City. The study identified various zones based on the relationship between erosion potential, bank profile and bank geology. To keep management policy clear and consistent the relevant

recommendations for these zones have been incorporated into the Park Management Zones and the vegetation management strategy in this Management Plan.

Some of the higher river banks near Hamilton Gardens are on a formation called the Walton subgroup, which is very stable. However, most of the other banks are on Hinuera or Taupo pumice alluvium or local alluvium which have a sandy substrate and are highly erodible unless they have a substantial vegetation cover.

Over a longer term it would be more expensive to ignore the erosion problem than to carry out remedial work through regular assessment of potential trouble spots and preventative action. Action will include planting, controlling public access and redirection of drainage outlets. It is desirable that adjoining private landowners of steep riverbanks work with Council to ensure protection of property.

(b) Stormwater

The discharge of stormwater onto a steep river bank is one of the most frequent causes of surface erosion. Stormwater channels or drains from private properties require consent from Hamilton City Council and/or Environment Waikato. Development or filling that intercepts a perched water table also needs careful treatment.

Stormwater outlets into the river should be kept to a minimum to reduce the points of maintenance and their visual impact in a predominantly natural environment. Screening and location can also avoid the pipes becoming prominent, although consideration could be given to disguising some of them as water falls. If the point of discharge is at the mean water level of the river it may minimise the hazard of submerged outfalls to recreational river users.

Variations in river water levels, ground water levels and flooding result in bank instability, particularly on the pumice sediments. Property owners need to be aware of the effects of introducing drainage, or redirecting stormwater. Since the construction of the Karapiro Dam the river bed has been lowered and it may drop another metre in height over the next 50 years. This will increase the general potential for erosion. Dredging of the river bed would increase this problem and dredging was stopped in this section of the river partly for this reason.

(c) River edge stability

River edge stability is important for the stability of higher slopes and for the protection of reserve land from erosion. Willows have been effective in stabilising the river edges since early European settlement, and they provide a valuable habitat for water birds and fish. However while suitable for these purposes they grow into the waterway to obstruct river access, and because they propagate vegetatively, they are hard to control and often block views of the river. Willows are gradually being removed within the City and replaced with trees such as alders. Consideration will also be given to the use of native tree and plant

species. While retaining the river bank and surviving occasional flooding, alders are not as effective in creating habitats for water birds and fish. Willow removal has to be carried out with care to maintain bank stability, to actually kill the willow and to retrieve all branches to prevent downstream propagation. Priorities for willow removal are based on considerations such as availability of resources, path and boat ramp development, ease of access, specific problem areas and the retention of views from riverside reserves.

Clearing river edges requires a Resource Consent from Environment Waikato which sets conditions for vegetation removal and maintaining bank stability.

Stability of some river banks is very finely balanced and in some areas the reserve land has been substantially eroded. Banks on the outside of a bend are subject to a much greater erosion force. Particular care is needed in removing vegetation from those strips and structural retaining may be required. The design and appearance of any retaining will need to acknowledge that the water level is gradually lowering.

Usually a riverside ecotone (the zone between high and low water) is colonised by annual plants that stabilise the bank, hide mud banks at low water and are very productive ecologically. Locally, species do not appear to thrive on the riverbanks because the water level is determined by optimum power generation and frequently varies in height. Further investigation may determine if there are ecotone plants that will survive these extremes. Native carex species, sedges and flaxes may be suitable in providing a sward forming base.

Under the Proposed District Plan the Council has a clear commitment to acquiring esplanade reserve in terms of the Resource Management Act 1991. Accordingly, in the undeveloped areas of the City especially, the Council wishes to work with the existing landowners to begin undertaking the planting of the river edge in appropriate vegetation. It is recognised that the planting of the riparian margins could impact on the current activities presently being carried out by landowners. Therefore consultation with landowners and assistance with riparian management will be necessary.

2.1.4. Key Implementation Areas

(For an explanation of the purpose and scope of 'Key Implementation Areas' see page 3)

- (a) A resource assessment of riverbank stability should be undertaken within 2 years to identify park areas of greatest risk and recommend how susceptible areas could be treated.
- (b) Maintaining a cover of vegetation and avoiding erosion on steep riverbanks including the implementation of replanting programmes without causing erosion hazards over the next five years.
- (c) Continued removal of willows without any consequent erosion of banks.
- (d) Increasing the awareness of residents adjacent to the river so that there are no instances of tree clearing on steep banks that may result in

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- substantial erosion.
- (e) Working with landowners outside the built up City areas to plant a riparian strip alongside the river.
- (f) Investigation of ecotone plant species that can survive substantial and frequent changes in water level.
- (g) Working with landowners whose stormwater discharge is adversely affecting riverbank stability to improve the design of the discharge or consider alternatives to the existing discharge (e.g. combine with an existing approved discharge).

2.2. Natural Character and Historic Features

2.2.1. Objectives

- (a) To preserve and enhance the natural character and amenity of the riverside reserves
- (b) To protect the natural environment of the river corridor from damage caused by excessive commercial development and use
- (c) To contribute towards the establishment of a visually significant tree framework through Hamilton that will add to the City's character and identity
- (d) To conserve all objects, trees and landforms of historic significance on riverside reserves.

2.2.2. Policies

- (a) *Further park development including building and planting will be sensitive to the riverbank character and have a minimal intrusion into the natural setting.*
- (b) *Any further building on the riverside reserves will only be considered where it is necessary to enhance public enjoyment of the riverside environment.*
- (c) *Views of the river from roads adjoining the riverbank will be preserved and enhanced where compatible with other objectives of this Management Plan.*
- (d) *The environmental impact of commercial and industrial activities and car parks on and alongside the riverside parks will be minimised through screening.*
- (e) *Priority will be given to preserving and planting trees along the top portions of the riverbank where practical to create a treed skyline as viewed from the river.*
- (f) *Preserve or enhance the amenity of reserves by incorporating traffic noise reduction measures adjacent to and within the reserve in a manner that does not unduly conflict with other objectives and policies of this Management Plan.*

2.2.3. Discussion

As the Waikato River flows through Hamilton City, its surrounding banks generally have a natural and distinctive character and a strong tree framework that will be retained. The Resource Management Act 1991, the Reserves Act 1977 and the Operative and Proposed District Plans have all established the preservation of the natural riverbank character as an important goal. The

following are important elements of that special character that need protection and enhancement.

(a) Skyline Trees

A skyline of trees can give areas within the river corridor space a more natural character even when views of buildings intrude at a lower level. The trees frame the scene and soften any view within it. These skyline trees are those that are often seen from surrounding areas of the City, so that they may also be important for urban form. They increase general awareness of the river as a natural feature of the City. The skyline trees are usually located along the top portions of the riverbanks. Where these are on private land, subdivision, redevelopment, infill housing and commercial development can lead to their loss. It is therefore important that where practical the tops of prominent riverbanks are acquired as reserve land and significant planting established, maintained and protected.

(b) Views into the River Corridor

The cliché that 'the river is Hamilton's best kept secret' reflects the limited opportunities to see and gain access to the river corridor from adjacent roads. This does not mean that the river should be lined with roads and transport systems which would intrude into the area's natural character. However views from roads should be preserved and protected and opportunities sought to maximise views of the river corridor vegetation and river from existing and future roads. Existing points on reserves where people can view the river from a parked car should be developed and eventually more carparks with river views provided where this can be achieved without compromising the natural character.

Key roadside views that need special protection include those from the bridges, across Yendell Park from Cobham Drive, across Ferrybank and Roose Commerce Park from Grantham Street, across Days' Park, Swarbrick's Landing and the Golf Course from River Road, from Pukete Road, Ann Street, Hamilton Parade, Hayes Paddock and from River Road near Whitiara Bridge.

(c) Enhancing the Riverside's Special Character

While most riverside reserve areas look reasonably natural, that 'natural' character does vary and what may be appropriate in one situation is not in another. The ideal situation is to have visual continuity and an overall Hamilton riverbank character with local variation and special character areas to create interest. Overall continuity is proposed through the use of environmentally beneficial vegetation on all the steeper banks, with native vegetation being established on Waahi Tapu sites. While species will be chosen appropriate to the soil type and the proposed level of maintenance, planting themes should be used throughout the river pathway. Tawa, Kahikatea, Karaka, Titoki, Nikau, Miro, Totara, Kowhai, Rata, tree ferns, Pohutukawa, Alder, Eucalyptus, Taxodium, Liquidamber, Nyssa and Gleditsia will be typical species. In some

instances, riverbank planting themes may be reflected in adjacent street tree planting to give depth to the wildlife corridor. Where appropriate, planting will screen private properties from the river paths.

The following is a broad identification of the principal riverside planting themes. Within these themes there will be variations to take account of factors other than planting themes. Such factors will include the need to plant species tolerant of flooding and/or which protect riverbanks from erosion, species that provide colour (either through flowers or foliage) and/or strong form to provide interest and variation, species that encourage bird life and butterfly populations, and species that protect the natural environment.

Northern City boundary to Church Road

Development will change this area but the existing rural character should be maintained within the Pukete Farm Park and be reflected on the eastern riverbank and Featherstone Park. Eucalyptus, Poplar and Plane trees should be complemented with native planting on the steeper banks.

Church Road to Northern boundary of St Andrews Golf Course

Through most of this area the reserves have a narrow suburban character with alder trees. Lawn areas that sweep down to the river particularly at Braithwaite Park and Alandale should be left reasonably open to contrast with the steep gully and riverbanks covered in native vegetation.

Northern boundary of St Andrews Golf Course to Awatere Avenue

This area is already dominated by the steep bush clad banks contrasting with the open parkland of St Andrews Golf Course, with its framework of large exotic evergreens, and Days' Park with its large exotic deciduous trees. Long views across both these open parklands should be maintained and enhanced. In Matakanohi Reserve, plantings will be used that enhance the views of the river from the street and reserve.

Awatere Avenue to London Street

Within this section the reserve is narrow and confined by steep banks and residential sections with much of the important planting on private land. Theme species on the lower flat are Alder and Swamp Cypress.

London Street to Victoria Street

This area is dominated by the steep banks and established deciduous trees that should be retained as the theme. More specimen exotic conifers should be introduced to emphasise a strong vertical element with native vegetation used as a lower canopy and ground cover on steep banks.

Victoria Bridge to Cobham Bridge

This area is dominated by open lawns and native planting on the steeper banks. Kauri has already been introduced as a theme in New Memorial Park and Eucalyptus and Totara are dominant within Yendell Park.

Cobham Bridge to Glenview Club

This section is dominated by a range of exotic deciduous trees. The southern bank provides a backdrop to Hamilton Gardens.

Glenview Club to Southern Boundary

Steep riverbanks and the Riverlea Gully will be covered in native vegetation. The open farmland on the south western bank is mostly in private ownership, but there is an opportunity to retain a rural theme with large evergreen exotics.

(d) Limits on Development

While it is important to preserve the natural river environment, some facilities are required to enhance visitor enjoyment of the reserves. Any form of structural development such as a café or rowing club will only be considered where its use enhances public enjoyment of the riverside environment. The criteria for consideration of proposed developments are covered in the Reserves Act 1977, Operative and Proposed District Plans and 'Riverside Recreation Zones' later in this Management Plan. In terms of the visual impact on the natural river environment, consideration should be given to the following:

- Any facility on riverside parks will be sited and designed to have a minimal impact on the natural riverside setting. This includes aspects such as provision of services, vehicle access, choice of colour schemes and protection of views.
- There will be no commercial developments on Waahi Tapu sites, the War Memorial Parks (Memorial Park and New Memorial Park) and on other narrow reserves shown as 'Natural Riverbank Areas'.
- Because of the width of most riverside reserves, off street parking is generally impractical. Two exceptions are Braithwaite and Featherstone Parks.
- The design of all riverside buildings must be sensitive to the character of that section of the riverbank. This may include using forms, materials, period styles or colours similar to those of existing buildings.
- The ability of the reserve to accommodate the proposed development, taking into account factors such as the size, contour, accessibility and existing level of development of the reserve.

(e) Avoiding 'Eyesores'

The river corridor is increasingly recognised as a tourist asset for the City so that more effort will be directed to encouraging better keeping of reserve land and private property adjacent to the river. Rubbish should not be dumped over the riverbanks. Garden rubbish is unsightly and when it covers and kills vegetation on steep banks it increases the potential for erosion. Household rubbish encourages rodents. Where garden rubbish tips or the rear side of fences or service areas are seen from the river or riverside reserves they will generally be screened with planting. Where broken concrete has been used for retaining banks on the river edge it will either be screened or restacked neatly. The use of broken concrete or road rubble for retaining banks has been

discontinued. In future, bank stability will be achieved either by planting of vegetation or the construction of retaining walls, the installation of gabions (cylinders of wire mesh or similar filled with stones or metal) or other engineering techniques.

Buildings on leased riverside reserve sites will be painted in colours appropriate to the location. Where power or telephone lines and poles can be seen from the river or where they intrude on significant river views, efforts should be made to have overhead wires laid underground. No further development of car parks will be considered on reserves if the cars will clearly be seen from the river unless the visual impact of the car park to those outside the riverside reserve can be softened through the use of landscaping and planting.

The Operative and Proposed District Plans permit advertising signage within leased buildings on the riverside reserves. Short term external promotional signage is permitted from twenty-one days before an event till one day after an event. Small low maintenance plaques recognising sponsorship are permitted.

(f) Preserving Objects of Historic Significance

Hamilton's pa sites are the most significant historic feature on the riverside reserves. They are protected in the Operative and Proposed District Plans and by legislation. Reference is made to these in the 'Tangata Whenua' section of this Management Plan. A Reserves Act (1977) Management Plan has been prepared for Miropiko Reserve, containing the most significant site and a further seventeen historic pa sites (on riverside reserves) have been included in "Nga Tapuwae O Hotumauea" — Maori Landmarks on Riverside Reserves Management Plan.

Physical evidence of early Maori occupation has not survived well and neither have the remains of early European occupation. The more accessible central city riverbanks near Ferrybank were the focus of early European settlement. They are very significant sites in the history of Hamilton's development yet little remains from that period. The exotic trees planted along the central riverbanks last century are worth retaining in their own right but they are doubly important because they are the most significant historic feature of early European settlement remaining on the riverside reserves. Little else of historic significance remains within the reserves except for the 'Rangiriri', and various concrete structures such as the former Union Bridge foundation.

Alongside the reserves there are several grand old houses built prior to 1940. These are already a major feature from the river and will probably increase in significance and appeal with time.

2.2.4. Key Implementation Areas

- (a) Removal of garden rubbish tips seen from the river.
- (b) Protection and further planting of skyline trees along the tops of the riverbanks.

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- (c) Undertaking planting programmes that enhance the defined planting themes of each area (Enhancing the Special Character).
- (d) Retaining and enhancing views of the river from adjacent streets.
- (e) All new development is sensitive to the special character of the river environment.
- (f) Undergrounding overhead power or telegraph poles prominent from the river when the opportunity arises.

2.3. Sustaining Riverside Bird Populations

2.3.1. Objective

To sustain a diverse bird and butterfly population along Hamilton's riverbanks.

2.3.2. Policies

- (a) *Vegetation will be introduced along the riverbanks to provide a year round food source and habitat for birds, particularly native birds.*
- (b) *Appropriate vegetation will be maintained on the river edge (ecotone) that will enhance the habitat for insect populations, water birds and fish.*
- (c) *Council will work with riverside residents and community groups to encourage birdlife and control predators and pests.*

2.3.3. Discussion

(a) Wildlife Habitat

Conservation of native bird species requires the conservation of suitable habitats. These habitats collectively must provide the essential requirements of food, shelter, and nesting sites and must be large enough to ensure the populations of resident birds are viable. Wildlife habitats are valuable components of any urban environment and particularly so when located alongside water bodies where insects breed on and over the water surface. For this reason the river corridor is potentially the most valuable native bird habitat in the City. It can provide a good 'wildlife corridor' encouraging bird dispersal throughout the City and linking to gullies, other parks and institutional grounds.

(b) Control of Predators and Competition

Wildlife areas require careful maintenance and control after initial establishment. This entails the control of predators, such as wild cats, mustelids, rats and magpies. Rodents which compete with birds for seeds and possums that destroy the vegetation must be controlled.

The control of possums is very important in maintaining vegetation for riverbank stability. These controls will most effectively be done with the support and involvement of local residents using traps and target-specific poison bait. Feral and domestic cats and uncontrolled dogs are more of a disturbance to most birds than are humans. Such animals may need to be discouraged from selected bird habitats within reserves and education of dog and cat owners of the need to control access of their

pets within the reserves should be undertaken. A community programme of predator and pest control will be developed and managed having regard to the Regional Pest Management Strategy prepared by Environment Waikato.

(c) Community Involvement

The river corridor can continue to provide a rewarding natural habitat for the City and with management its value can be enhanced. This situation provides an opportunity for Hamiltonians to lead by example. Council cannot create wildlife areas and attract native birds through By-laws and policies or the planting of native flora alone. It can only be achieved with ongoing community support and involvement, particularly from adjacent residents and key groups such as 'Tui 2000'.

It is suggested that where riverside residents agree and are supportive, pilot programmes be established extending beyond the reserves to include privately owned riverbanks. Programmes for planting, pest control, monitoring and recovery programmes could be carried out in consultation with the Department of Conservation, expertise in the community, and local schools. Successful pilot schemes may link up or inspire a programme for the whole river corridor and adjacent gully areas. Sponsorship through Council and other institutions could encourage further community support and involvement.

(d) Butterflies

Planting has been undertaken by community groups along different sections of the riverbank to encourage a range of butterflies onto the river. The butterflies are already a feature of the educational river trips held for school classes. The bush area just north of Ann Street was noted in the past to be one of those unusual places where Monarch Butterflies over winter and for this reason any tree removal in the area, particularly of Kanuka, will be limited.

2.3.4. Key Implementation Areas

- (a) The trial of at least one community programme that involves predator and pest control and scientific monitoring.
- (b) Undertaking a substantial planting programme over the next 5 years that will enhance bird habitat and provide a continuous food source.
- (c) Encouraging more native birds. Specific encouragement of Tui, as an indicator native bird species, along the river corridor.

2.4. Vegetation Management

2.4.1. Objectives

- (a) To protect and enhance the riverbank by encouraging shrub and tree planting, particularly native varieties
- (b) To preserve and extend a continuous and cohesive tree framework along the river corridor.

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2.4.2. Policies

- (a) *All remnant native bush will be retained and its long term viability and integrity preserved.*
- (b) *Where neighbours request the removal of vegetation, consideration will be given to the greater public benefit and trees will not be removed solely to open up views from a private residence.*
- (c) *The riverbanks will be planted in a manner that minimises the resources required for long term maintenance.*
- (d) *Community organisations, and interested parties will be encouraged to assist with the establishment of vegetation on riverside parks.*

2.4.3. Discussion

(a) Preserving Remnant Bush Areas

Alongside the river there are several small remnant native bush areas, usually on steep isolated banks. Some of these are recognised as among the best preserved native bush remnants with the Waikato Basin (P J de Lange 1994). Stands on the cliffs opposite Hammond Park, south of Days' Park, and between Ann Street and St Andrews Golf Course contain good specimens although they are mixed with exotic species. However, the most significant sites are in Hammond Park (between Malcolm Street and Balfour Crescent), Echo Bank (below the Hamilton East Cemetery), and a bush area on the eastern bank south of the Mangaonua Stream. These sites contain at least 240 species, (P J de Lange) some of which are rare and possibly provide the last remaining original Waikato seed source. The protection and maintenance of the long term viability of these valuable areas is in accordance with Hamilton's environmental strategies and is required through the Resource Management Act 1991 Part ii Section 6 (c).

Specific actions that will be taken to protect the best bush areas on reserve land include the following:

- Clearing of invasive weeds and eventually all exotic plant species within the remnant bush areas. This needs to be carried out carefully to avoid opening up the bush canopy, which may expose and dry up sensitive areas.
- Additional planting within these areas should be with appropriate local species, preferably propagated from existing plants. These original species would also provide an ideal seed source for further native planting along the river banks.
- Increased monitoring by Council and local residents to minimise risk from fire, goats, possums and vandalism.
- Restricting public access and avoiding disturbance of the present water table. In some instances a boardwalk may allow controlled access while protecting the environment.
- Assistance (possibly the supply of appropriate plant material) could be given to land owners whose properties include valuable bush, and who are clearly intending to preserve its integrity (e.g. by covenant).

Some of the valuable riverside bush is located on private property and while most of the present owners are sensitive to its value, the long term

protection of these areas is probably best achieved through either voluntary covenants or its acquisition as reserve land, or through the use of education programmes that provide the options for preserving vegetation. About half of Hammond Bush is located on the river side of private sections and if this could become reserve with restricted access to the higher areas then the whole bush would be protected as a viable unit. The bush south of Mangaonua Stream is outside the area of this Management Plan but should be recognised as a link in the regional wildlife corridor.

(b) Removal of Plants

There has always been a tension between the management of trees as a very important element in the riverbank landscape and the wish of adjacent residents to have views of the river. Under Section 42 of the Reserves Act 1977, trees or bush on any Recreation or Local Purpose Reserve will not be cut or destroyed except in accordance with a permit granted under Section 42. As the administering authority, the Hamilton City Council must be satisfied that removal is necessary for "the proper management or maintenance of the reserve, for the management or preservation of other trees or bush, in the interests of the safety of properties adjoining the reserve or that the cutting is necessary to harvest trees planted for revenue producing purposes" (Guide to the Reserves Act 1977 and Amendments, Department of Conservation 1990).

Where trees are to be removed for the reasons mentioned, the Act requires Council not to proceed until the work can be carried out in a manner which will have minimal impact on the reserve and until provision is made for replacement planting and restoration. In all cases, replanting that is consistent with the Management Plan will be undertaken.

Some of the implications of this are that vegetation may be removed where:

- it is noxious vegetation such as privet or willow or is generally recognised as being of little value and is to be replaced with a species consistent with the strategies of this Management Plan; it needs to be thinned to permit successional replanting; it is unstable and would cause an erosion problem if it fell; Council considers that it is causing or may create an excessive nuisance or danger as defined by the Property Law Act 1952; is dead, diseased or dangerous and needs removal to allow replanting.
- Vegetation will not be removed where:
- it maintains riverbank stability; it provides a tree skyline from the river; it is healthy and enhances the appeal and character of the reserve for residents and park visitors; it is of historical, cultural or ecological significance.

The Council will apply the criteria outlined in Section 42 of the Reserves Act 1977 giving consideration to the greater public benefit alongside the benefits or disadvantages to a particular land owner. In considering a request for the removal or pruning of trees. Council shall take into account primarily the relevant statutory provisions (including the

Reserves Act 1977, Resource Management Act 1991, Property Law Act 1952 and District Plan provisions) and any other matters relevant to the request or proposal (e.g. the successional nature of the vegetation, its function in promoting a vegetative corridor). The protection and enhancement of views from private property will be a secondary consideration.

The Property Law Act 1952 Section 129 (c) provides neighbours with the option of applying to the District Court to have a tree removed or trimmed.

There have been instances in the past where a person has cut down, topped, poisoned or substantially damaged a tree on reserve land without permission in order to create views from their property. In some instances the preferred option is to carry out pruning consistent with sound arboricultural practices to open up views of the river where this is warranted. The last option is to remove the trees. However it is an offence under the Local Government Act 1974, Section 694(2)(a) to damage trees on park land. Section 695 indicates liability for the amount of destruction or damages or cost of reinstatement. It is possible that an offender may be ordered to pay Council the value of the tree estimated in accordance with a recognised valuation system. The District Plan recognises the RNZIH (Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture) System which values some individual registered trees on Hamilton's riverbanks up to \$100,000.

(c) Weed Control

While much of the vegetation alongside the river would be considered weeds in a private garden, on the riverbank it often fulfils an important role in maintaining bank stability. Problems associated with any particular weed may be outweighed by the disadvantages of a more invasive replacement weed species or bank stability. Management of vegetation on the riverbanks will need to acknowledge this together with the limited resources available to maintain a more ornamental style of planting. An annual Hamilton City Council (HCC) Weed Control Programme for parks is prepared with Environment Waikato in accordance with the provisions of the Biosecurity Act 1993 and the Waikato Regional Pest Management Strategy. The Annual Weed Control Programme sets priority 1, 2 and 3 weeds within the City and lists classifications for noxious plants to ensure that limited resources are used to best effect.

The following criteria are intended as a guide to management of riverside vegetation including the question of what a weed is in different situations.

Steep banks — Weeds identified as priority 1 in the HCC Annual Weed Control Programme will be removed. Priority 1 presently includes Old Man's Beard, African feather grass, Bathurst burr, and Wild ginger. Clearing of other species will only be undertaken after careful assessment of the effect on riverbank stability. Preference will be given to controlled successional replacement planting. Sensitive control

methods such as painting stumps with weed killer may be needed rather than general spraying or root disturbance.

Other riverside land — Weeds will be removed in accordance with the current HCC Plant Pest Management Programme which addresses the Environment Waikato Pest Management Strategy.

Native Bush — On riverbanks that are covered in quality native bush, original or planted, any exotic species will be considered a weed. One of the reasons that most new planting on steep banks will be native species is their ability to self seed and regenerate. Priority will be given to the removal of weeds such as Tradescantia sp. (Wandering Willie) that discourage this regeneration process in established bush.

Garden Areas — For higher quality ornamental garden areas such as Memorial Park, the definition of weed will be similar to that for any well maintained private garden.

(d) Landscape Management Plans

As a method of co-ordinating long term management and planning of the riverside reserves, and addressing the concerns of riverside residents, it is suggested that landscape management plans be prepared and implemented. These plans will be prepared in consultation with the community and other interested parties. The work will be done in stages, eventually covering the whole river corridor within the city. Initially staff have been requested to prepare a landscape management plan for Hammond Park, Roose Commerce Park, and from Pukete Bridge including Braithwaite Park to Pukete Farm Park; reporting back to Council detailing actions and costs before developing any further plans.

The plans will be prepared according to the following guidelines:

- balancing public good against perceived private benefit,
- recognising that some properties may obtain improved views but that views will always be subject to change over time,
- compliance with statutory requirements (the purpose of the reserve under the Reserves Act 1977 and the Resource Management Act 1991),
- taking account of the physical constraints of the environment (e.g. planting needed to protect unstable banks),
- compliance with the policies of this management plan (e.g. increasing desirable wildlife in the river corridor),
- compliance with other policy documents (e.g. the District Plan),
- consideration of the management of vegetation in the whole river corridor within the City boundary rather than considering areas in isolation.

2.4.4. Key Implementation Areas

- (a) Propagation programme to preserve original provenance stock for further riverbank planting.
- (b) Appropriate planting to protect and preserve the integrity of remnant bush.
- (c) Consideration of land acquisition to protect the best remnant bush on the riverbanks.

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- (d) Control of *Tradescantia* sp. within significant remnant bush areas and establishment of replacement vegetation.
- (e) Removal of all weeds along the riverbanks defined in the HCC Programme.
- (f) The maintenance and replanting of reserve areas where willows have been cleared to prevent their re-growth.
- (g) Removal of vegetation where it is adversely impacting on the river paths e.g. public safety or usability.
- (h) Trial the preparation of Landscape Management Plans covering portions of the river bank in the vicinity of Hammond Bush, Roose Commerce Park, and Delamare Esplanade/Braithwaite Park to Pukete Pa site.

3. CULTURAL VALUES

3.1. Tangata Whenua

3.1.1. Objective

To provide for Maori cultural, spiritual and social values and practices

3.1.2. Policies

- (a) Where an unnamed reserve includes any part of an historic pa site, that reserve will be named after that Pa. Both European and Te Reo Maori names will be used in signage and in this Management Plan.
- (b) Where practical, consideration will be given to extending riverside reserve land to include pa and urupa (burial sites) and sites with important historic associations, to protect and conserve them.
- (c) Where practical, the principal historic pa sites will be emphasised and enhanced consistent with “Nga Tapuwae O Hotumauea” — Maori Landmarks on Riverside Reserves Management Plan (2003), and in a manner which avoids any modification or damage. Methods will include on site interpretation, such as carved interpretation of the history of the site with artistic themes depicting local Maori traditions or recording the Tangata Whenua associated with the site.
- (d) Park development will be sensitive to waahi tapu and sites where there is physical evidence of urupa (burial sites). Koiwi (human remains) may be retained on reserves. Where development of sites adjacent to riverside reserves requires the relocation of Koiwi, consideration may be given to these being relocated onto the adjacent reserve and appropriately memorialised.
- (e) All significant decisions related to known pa and waahi tapu sites will be made in consultation with representatives nominated by the appropriate Tangata Whenua.

3.1.3. Discussion

(a) Introduction

The descendants of Wairere have inhabited the Waikato River Valley for over 500 years and in contrast to other New Zealand tribes they have been described as a river people. This is not just because the river was historically of economic importance but because the river and its banks were and still are central to their sense of tribal and individual identity. Hamilton City encompasses an important section of the Waikato River and includes some waahi tapu sites of cultural and spiritual significance particularly for the Ngati Wairere, Ngati Koura and Ngati Haua descendants (Source: Report for HCC on significant riverside sites by Des Tatana Kahotea, University of Waikato, June 1990).

The 1863 land confiscation or Raupatu separated Ngati Wairere and other Iwi and Hapu from their ancestral landscape and one consequence is that much knowledge of ancestral relationships with the riverside areas has been lost. However, some riverside waahi tapu sites have been

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identified including pa sites, and ancestral urupa (burial sites). These sites have protection through the Operative and Proposed District Plans, and the 'Heritage Protection Authority' of the Resource Management Act 1991.

(b) Preserving the Names

It is proposed that where a significant, named pa site is wholly or partly situated on an otherwise unnamed reserve then that area of reserve should take on the name of the pa to preserve its association in a manner that will be permanent and prominent.

The riverside reserve in River Road, Flagstaff will be called 'Te Hikuwai Reserve' after the prominent pa in the area. One of the most significant pa sites, Kirikiriroa is not adjacent to a large reserve. However it is proposed that all riverside reserve land from Ferrybank to London Street and including Hamilton Parade be called 'Kirikiriroa Reserve'. This would include the property referred to as Dr Rogers' property since it marks the northern boundary of the Pa site.

Where features or names of reserves have both a European and Maori name both names should be used. This will enable the European and Maori historical connections to be identified by the public.

(c) Protection of Sites

From time to time Council is able to acquire riverside land through acquisition and reserve contribution from subdivision and development. One of the criteria in setting priorities for reserve acquisition is the preservation of archaeological sites and sites with important Maori associations. The purpose of such acquisition is to protect the sites from destruction and inappropriate development, to permit public access, and to provide the opportunity for appropriate on site interpretation and identification. Land acquisition of such sites will only be undertaken with the support of the Tangata Whenua. Development and use of historic sites will be further controlled through the park management zoning in this Management Plan and its inclusion in "Nga Tapuwae O Hotumauea" — Maori Landmarks on Riverside Reserves Management Plan. Generally, significant archaeological sites are located within the 'Natural Parkland Areas'.

(d) Appropriate Development

Where possible indigenous planting will be introduced to waahi tapu sites. In some instances, specific species may be significant to a particular site such as Miro trees to Miropiko Reserve.

Consideration will be given to emphasising significant pa sites in a manner that is sensitive both to their cultural status and to the general park environment. Miropiko is subject to its own management plan (Miropiko Reserve Management Plan 2001). Maori landmarks on riverside reserves, including Pa, Papakainga, and Urupa are included in "Nga Tapuwae O Hotumauea" — Maori Landmarks on Riverside

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Reserves Management Plan, 2003. Key implementation areas identified in this management plan include appropriate indigenous planting, interpretative panels (recording the Tangata Whenua and traditions associated with the site), and commemorative works such as Pou.

Carved interpretation that can be seen from the river could be introduced at each of the significant pa sites so that they look down from the prominent banks onto the riverboats and river paths. At present the wild natural riverbanks present an unfamiliar view of the City from the river. If these carvings were a feature of this natural landscape seen from the river they would provide a unique, ancient and powerful cultural perspective of the City. This concept is developed in more detail in "Nga Tapuwae O Hotumauea" — Maori Landmarks on Riverside Reserves Management Plan, 2003.

'Waikato taniwharau,
he piko, he taniwha,
he piko, he taniwha'.

3.1.4. Key Implementation Areas

- (a) Identification, commemoration, preservation and development of significant sites consistent with "Nga Tapuwae O Hotumauea" — Maori Landmarks on Riverside Reserves (2003).
- (b) Formalising and signposting the historic pa site names for the relevant reserves and introducing bilingual signs when new signs are placed on riverside reserves and when existing signs are replaced.
- (c) Making substantial progress on the introduction of appropriate indigenous vegetation on significant historic site.
- (d) Ongoing consultation to promote awareness of waahi tapu and to identify further significant sites that may be preserved through the implementation and review of "Nga Tapuwae O Hotumauea" — Maori Landmarks on Riverside Reserves Management Plan.

4. PUBLIC ACCESS

4.1. Promoting Safe Use

4.1.1. Objectives

- (a) To further promote awareness of Hamilton's riverbank parks.
- (b) To minimise conflicts between park users and promote public safety.

4.1.2. Policies

- (a) *The recreational, scenic, biological, historic and cultural attractions of the riverbank parks will be promoted.*
- (b) *Council will endeavour to involve communities local to riverside parks in improving park security.*
- (c) *Park lighting will only be provided where the public are to be encouraged to use a facility night*
- (d) *A personal safety audit of the riverside paths will be carried out in terms of the Council's adopted procedures.*

4.1.3. Discussion

(a) Park Promotion

There have been various proposals to use the river as a theme for tourist promotion in the region. Apart from its scenic charm it links features such as Fieldays, pa sites, Hamilton Gardens, Waikato Museum of Art and History and the City centre. River transport is available from Ngaruawahia to Cambridge stopping at various riverside attractions on the way. City paths alongside the river are amongst the best in the region and need to be better promoted as a visitor attraction.

There is also increased interest in use of the river as an education resource. One boat operator currently specialises in educational trips for schools concentrating on the natural sciences. Various interpretative pamphlets for the river have been suggested, covering bird life, vegetation, significant pre-European sites, butterflies and river history. In the past specialist boat tours have visited private riverside gardens and the six riverside golf courses.

A continued trend to use the river for City promotion and image will increase the importance of the presentation and standards of maintenance of the presentation and standards of maintenance of riverside parks, particularly from the river. Any increased demand for the development of further facilities along the riverbank will result in the City facing difficult decisions to reconcile support for the visitor industry with the maintenance of the natural charm of its riverbanks.

(b) Park Security

A threat to the potential for Hamilton's riverbanks becoming a popular recreational and visitor attraction is a perception that they are unsafe.

There is therefore a strong link between promotion and perceptions of personal safety. Council staff and other agencies work together to address various problems which may be experienced on the riverside parks.

The control of unreasonably noisy activities on parks is addressed through the District Plan Rule 6.3.1 and Noise Control Act 1982 administered by Council's Regulatory Group, usually in response to neighbours' complaints.

Irresponsible and dangerous behaviour in craft on the river is discouraged through the Environment Waikato Navigation Safety By-law 2002, administered by Environment Waikato.

In instances where the law is being broken, such as acts of vandalism, the Police may be involved.

It has been suggested that Park Rangers should be employed to discourage unwelcome behaviour through their presence and random monitoring. The presence of Rangers would reduce damage to vegetation, vandalism, intimidation of other park users and to some extent increase security of adjacent properties.

While the issue of personal safety on the river walks reflects a wider social problem, there are some park management initiatives that could help. It is desirable to develop as many linkages to adjacent streets and open spaces as possible. Where practical, dense planting needs to be avoided close to river walks. The Council has adopted a procedure for personal safety audits of public open spaces and the riverside paths will be audited in terms of this procedure.

It is not practical for Police or Rangers to continually patrol all riverside parks. The most effective means for Council and Police to become informed about undesirable behaviour is the involvement of local residents as an extension of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. A large proportion of the riverside parkland is located close to adjacent residents.

The 'Safe Cities' philosophy adopted at Manukau City and Christchurch City suggests that park lighting should only be provided where the public are to be encouraged to use a path or a particular facility after dark. Otherwise it is better not to light parks and encourage their use after dark as it may give a false sense of security.

The principal use areas in parks will be lit at least to the standard for parks required by NZS6701:1983, Code of Practice for Road Lighting. There is also the opportunity for decorative lighting, temporary lighting of attractions, sound and light shows and lighting of evening concerts where the numbers attending the event may justify it.

- (c) Dog walking is a popular river path activity but one that has the potential to be a nuisance to other park users. Braithwaite and Days' Parks are designated dog exercise areas (i.e. dogs can be exercised off a leash provided they remain under the owner's control) and dogs are

forbidden on Parana and Memorial Parks, in the enclosed area at Hamilton Gardens, or close to children's playgrounds. Otherwise dogs are permitted anywhere in the riverside reserves provided they are kept on a leash. Owners are encouraged to pick up dog faeces and place them (in plastic bags) in rubbish bins. To that end it is important that bins be placed at convenient intervals. For more detail on this issue see the Council publication "A Dog's Life: Good Dog Owner Guide".

4.1.4. Key Implementation Areas

- (a) Investigation of the value of employing Park Rangers to patrol the riverbanks and Hamilton Gardens.
- (b) Adequate lighting installed for access to riverside facilities such as the Waipa Delta Jetty, and Ferrybank Lounge.
- (c) Ensure adequately spaced and located rubbish bins throughout the Riverside Paths network.

4.2. Access to the River

4.2.1. Objective

To maximise public access to the Waikato River

4.2.2. Policies

- (a) *Facilities will be maintained and developed to support water-based sports and leisure, to provide access to and launch craft into the river.*
- (b) *Swimming will not be encouraged in the river, no swimming facilities will be provided and swimming will be discouraged near boat ramps and water ski areas.*
- (c) *There will be no leases within 20 metres of the river edge.*
- (d) *Access and parking requirements for people with disabilities will be incorporated into the design of access to the river.*
- (e) *Access to the river will be controlled and may be restricted where access could result in:*
 - *danger to members of the public,*
 - *damage or destruction to vegetation or areas that are fragile or easily susceptible to damage (e.g. remnant bush, steep or unstable banks).*
 - *damage to historic pa sites identified in Section 3.0 Tangata Whenua and in "Nga Tapuwae o Hotumauea" — Maori Landmarks on Riverside Reserves Management Plan, 2003.*

4.2.3. Discussion

- (a) Launching into the River

While swimming in the river can be done practically anywhere, the local coroner has recommended against it on the grounds of safety and has requested that Council erect signs to discourage swimming. No special facilities will be provided for swimming in the river and it will be actively discouraged near boat ramps and in areas where water skiing is permitted. Water skiing is prohibited between Pukete Footbridge and

the Mangaonua Stream.

The beaches at Wellington Street and Days' Park are popular for family activities, launching and landing canoes and rafts, and as a destination for boat trippers. This popularity could be reflected in improvements to the presentation of these areas and to adjacent facilities.

Craft such as canoes, inner tubes and rafts can be launched and retrieved from several sites. The Hamilton Canoe Club operates from Wellington Street Beach and various Rowing Clubs from Roose Commerce Park, Ferrybank and Days' Park, where open rigging areas will be retained alongside the river.

Boat launching ramps are located at Roose Commerce Park and at Pukete Farm Park. The latter may eventually need facilities such as toilets. There are few other potential launching sites within the City because of the need for low banks, deep water, minimal current and space for adjacent parking. However, a possible site has been identified on the low flats opposite the Mangaonua Stream.

Activities on the Waikato River are controlled by Policy 3.3 and Rule 3.4 of the proposed District Plan (Activities on the Surface of Water). The objective of the policy is to ensure that the ecological, cultural and amenity values of waterways are not adversely affected by surface water activities.

(b) Jetties

Structures in the river such as jetties are needed for public access to boats and to allow people to enjoy the river environment from a different aspect. Jetties are used to fish from, but for safety reasons swimming near them is not encouraged. Environment Waikato processes all resource consent applications for all structures in the river. The river itself, (bed and surface) is not included within the boundaries of this Management Plan.

Most structures on riverside reserves adjoining the river (i.e. within the boundaries of this Management Plan) will be public facilities, but in some cases private structures may be approved where they are in accordance with the Management Plan and relevant District Plan rules. Where the private structure is permanent, a long term occupancy licence is considered to be the appropriate mechanism to provide for such structures. An occupancy licence does not necessarily give exclusive rights of access to the private individual (i.e. public access will be provided). Leases will only be considered in those situations where the occupier needs exclusive rights over a defined area for a long period. The reasons for needing exclusive rights will usually be that the lessee has committed a substantial amount of money to the construction of the structure, and that access to the public is not appropriate.

In the case of structures such as wharfs and jetties, which are partly in the river and partly on the adjoining reserve, approvals from both Environment Waikato and Hamilton City Council will be required.

Waipa Delta Ltd has been granted a lease, that expires in 2004, to operate from Memorial Park. This is a special case and under normal circumstances commercial development would not be considered on either of the War Memorial Parks. The possibility of a marina to moor larger boats has been mentioned for consideration. A marina is unlikely to be funded by Council and would need to be developed as a commercial enterprise. Given the planning process, zoning of the river and lead time involved this issue could be considered at the time of Management Plan review or whenever an application is received.

(c) Access to the River

There are points where people can view the river from a parked car. These points include Pukete Road, Swarbrick's Landing, Ann Street, Hamilton Parade, Roose Commerce Park, Wellington Street Beach and Malcolm Street. Views from these parking areas should be preserved and eventually more carparks with river views provided, possibly at Featherstone Park, in the Peacocke Road area, and opposite the bush south of the Mangaonua Stream.

Major points of access to the Waikato River have previously been proposed at the steep banks opposite Garden Place and the Waikato Museum of Art and History, and a pedestrian bridge has been proposed at some point opposite the CBD. If these projects reach fruition then care will be needed to maintain bank stability and preserve path access.

Leases will need to avoid being closer than 20 metres from the river edge to preserve public access and because in many parts this land is Esplanade Reserve.

4.2.4. Key Implementation Areas

- (a) Enhancement of the popular beach areas at Days' Park and Wellington Street Beach.
- (b) Increased signage to direct people to riverside paths and to direct riverside path users to adjacent streets and nearby public toilets, plus the placement of warning signs along the river advising of the health and safety risks of swimming in the river, particularly in known "black spots" and areas where it is known that people do swim.
- (c) Ongoing replacement of willow on riverside parks, including the Pine Beach — Fairfield Bridge section.
- (d) Inclusion of parking spaces for persons with disabilities in association with points where either views of the river can be obtained from the carpark and/or access to the path system can be achieved.
- (e) Implementation of an active education and public awareness programme on river safety, recreational opportunities and safe recreational use of the Waikato River and riverside reserves.

4.3 Riverside Paths and Cycleways

4.3.1 Objectives

- (a) To achieve where possible a continuous public path/cycleway along the

- riverbanks within the City boundary as part of the City's path system.
- (b) To achieve a pleasant and safe path/cycleway system, where possible linking reserves, open spaces, community uses, shopping centres, and emphasising the natural features of the river, gullies and areas of natural beauty.
- (c) To require provision for paths/cycleways in the City's new areas at the time of subdivision.
- (d) To upgrade the riverside paths as practicable to provide for both walking and cycling, supporting safe sharing through appropriate design elements, signage and education programmes.

4.3.2 Policies

- (a) *For management purposes, existing river paths will be split into two categories (See concept plans, 5.1-5.6):*
 - (i) *Category 1 — Shared Use: route is suitable for shared use. While some sections comply with shared use standards and normal levels of care are required, other sections do not fully comply and extra care by users is required. All sections will include appropriate design elements and signage that encourages use with consideration of the safety of other users.*
 - (ii) *Category 2 - Footpath: route does not comply with shared use standards at all. Cycling will be prohibited on these sections.*
- (b) *Priority will be given to the development where possible of a countryside to countryside riverside walking and cycling route linking to other park and gully path/cycleway systems and eventually connecting to river walks that extend beyond the City boundary and to the developing Te Araroa walkway system.*
- (c) *Subject to practicability and consent variation where necessary, existing riverside paths will be upgraded to shared use standard, including attention to access points such as from the bridges,. All existing shared use routes will be subject to further consideration at the detailed design stage with the intention of maximising the length developed to shared use standard.*
- (d) *New paths will be developed to shared use standard unless impracticable. Concept Plans 5.1 — 5.6 show the existing and proposed network, and indicate those sections of the riverside routes which will be footpath. Wherever steps are constructed in a walkway system, they will include a cycling ramp where practicable.*
- (e) *Paths will not be constructed until there is public access at either end of the section being developed.*
- (f) *Riverside paths will be designed and constructed in a way that minimises impacts on adjacent residents and existing wildlife habitats and prevents aggravation of riverbank instability.*
- (g) *Riverside paths will be designed and constructed in a way that will not encroach upon the historic pa sites identified in the "Nga Tapuwae O Hotumauea — Maori Landmarks on Riverside Reserves Management Plan".*
- (h) *Where physically possible, riverside paths and access points will be made accessible for people with disabilities and people who have restricted access (e.g. elderly, people with push chairs).*
- (i) *New playgrounds will not be located within 10 metres of paths nor will paths be constructed within 10 metres of a playground unless in either case adequate grade or fence separation is provided.*

PUBLIC ACCESS

- (j) *Vehicle and motorcycle access on the river paths will be prohibited except for park and utility maintenance (Note: This does not apply to bicycles on nominated cycle routes).*
- (k) *Signage will be installed to reflect the categories set out in a) above. Safe use of shared use routes will be encouraged by signage, design elements and the promotion of responsible use by pedestrians and cyclists through education and awareness programmes. Signage prohibiting cycling on footpaths will be installed.*
- (l) *In addition to the usage signs outlined above, access, directional, informational and interpretive signage will be developed and placed on the riverside paths where appropriate, including on path logos at selected points.*

4.3.3 Discussion

(a) Riverside Paths

It should be noted that in terms of the Resource Management Act 1991 Section 229(b) or (c), all riverside reserve land may potentially be developed for public access. The District Plan includes a strategy for a countryside to countryside riverside path that could eventually run from the City's northern boundary along the western riverbank through the City centre to Cobham Bridge and then on either bank to the City's southern boundary. A walkway from North Cape to Bluff, called Te Araroa (the long path) is currently under development and Hamilton City's routes alongside the Waikato River will be incorporated within that pathway as appropriate.

On the western side of the river the paths run from Braithwaite Park in the north to Peacockes Road in the south. On the eastern side of the river there are several sections of path, with the longest running from Parana Park in the north to Hamilton Gardens in the south. While the topography on the eastern side is more challenging, several new sections of route are planned including some on the road.

From Hamilton Gardens and Peacockes Road to the City's southern boundary the path could be located on either or both riverbanks. A path on the western bank could lead to Nukuhau Pa and the Fieldays site and would run alongside a future city growth cell, though a street located detour may be needed around the City's Water Treatment Station. If built prior to urban subdivision, most of the path would need to be built on private land. The developing route on the eastern bank will include the attraction of Hammond Park bush with some road links. Though the reserve is continuous there are topographical barriers to the full length being developed within the reserve. The issue is addressed in the Mangaonua Walkway Feasibility Report in terms of practicability and will be considered through the Long Term Council Community Plan process in terms of priority.

Within the Riverside Reserves Management Plan priorities for riverside path development are covered under 'Development Priorities and Programmes'. Existing and proposed riverside paths and linkages to the gully systems are shown on the Concept Plans 5.1-5.6.

Standards for path development will depend on the circumstances. Adjacent to new residential subdivisions, new paths may take the form of a benched access way with a free draining surface that provides vehicle access for parks maintenance. Where resources permit, all principal river paths should have a paved surface that reduces maintenance and safety problems. The paving material used will be determined at the design stage for each section of path, taking account of the such factors as the nature of the terrain, the need to protect trees and plants in the vicinity, and the costs and benefits of the various options. Where possible paths should be flush with the adjacent ground.

On steep slopes drainage will need to be controlled and piped to the river. The slope of the principal riverside path should be no greater than 1 in 12 unless totally impracticable, and then only for distances of less than 9 metres. Steps should only be built if ramped access is impossible. Where possible a cycle wheeling ramp will be provided to one side of any steps to permit cyclists to wheel their bicycles past the steps. Wherever possible paths will have a minimum paved width of 2.5 metres with a flat run off of .25 metres on either side or 3 metres paved width where no run off is possible.

A hand rail will be provided between the path and steep drops where necessary. Its design will take account of local conditions and the Austroads Part 14 Guidelines.

Whenever possible paths should be sufficiently high to avoid being flooded more than twice a year. Dense shrub planting should be avoided near the principal paths where such a requirement will not conflict with other management objectives such as preserving remnant bush.

A riverside Pony Trail from the Pukete Equestrian Centre may be considered within the Pukete Farm Park, possibly as part of an equestrian circuit. For the safety and comfort of pedestrians and cyclists it will need to be separated from the main riverside path with some form of barrier or by distance. Horses are not permitted on other parks because they can intimidate other park users, damage turf and increase maintenance. The riverside path from River Road across the Pukete Footbridge to Braithwaite Park and Totara Drive provides a means of access to the Pukete Equestrian Centre for horse clubs located in the north east of the City.

(b) Access to the River Parks

It is desirable that there are as many access points as possible to the riverside path. As many of the access points and paths as possible should be accessible to people in wheelchairs and people with prams. Realistically, not all access points to the riverside paths can easily meet accessibility standards because of the steep banks. However, where possible the path grade should be no steeper than 1 in 12.

Access paths and the main riverside path provide access for park and utility maintenance vehicles. The use of the riverside paths by vehicles for other purposes is avoided, wherever possible, because it becomes difficult to control access and ensure the safety of people and property.

(c) Cycling

The 'Parks, Domains and Reserves By-law 2007' states:

"No person shall operate a bicycle on any route identified:

- (a) in the operative management plan or plans applicable to that park where the route is identified as a footpath; and
- (b) by the placement and maintenance of the appropriate No Cycling signs or markings."

Accordingly this Management Plan provides for shared use of the other riverside paths subject to erection of warning signs. However, it should be noted that where cycling is prohibited on footpaths the roading network may well be preferable for faster cyclists and commuters to provide the necessary linkage. In any event signs at such locations will advise that cycling is prohibited.

The issue is complicated by a variety of site conditions and public attitudes towards cycling on parks. Existing riverside paths range from those in wide, open parks suitable for cycleways to narrow, winding and steep paths where cycling is potentially unsafe for pedestrians and impractical for most cyclists. There have been problems associated with a minority of cyclists whose speed and behaviour frightens and endangers other park users, particularly children and elderly people. Some pedestrians have exacerbated the situation by occupying the whole width of the path and, at times, refusing to give cyclists the right of way. The Matakano Reserve section of path has been designed for pedestrians only, due to the short sight lines, tight corners and narrow width of the path. The careless use by some cyclists of portions of the path system that have been built specifically for pedestrians has led to a reduction in the amenity values of the path for pedestrians. It is proposed to address this problem by introducing a combination of design elements, signposting and education. Off road cyclists using the riverside parks have been responsible in some areas for environmental damage to steep banks and to sensitive native vegetation.

The plan now permits cycling on shared use routes subject to conditions, and prohibits cycling on footpaths. Existing and proposed paths which fall into each category are identified in plans 5.1-5.6. These plans are based on best current knowledge but the boundaries between different categories may be adjusted slightly at the time of detailed design and construction.

With appropriate design elements, signage and education safe use of shared use routes can be encouraged. Upgrade of some shared use routes is desirable but can occur over time and be resourced through the usual planning processes. Upgrading other shared use sections is not economically feasible as they present major practical difficulties or would require an unacceptable degree of environmental damage. Upgrading these sections may be restricted to design elements and signage. New

paths will be built to shared use standard unless impracticable; ultimately all paths will provide the best possible shared use standard or be footpath. Use of routes will have to be carefully monitored particularly, those footpath sections where cycling is prohibited.

Resources should be made available for increased monitoring. Park Rangers have been suggested to discourage dangerous, destructive and annoying behaviour along the riverbanks and to discourage motorcyclists or mountain bikers who damage sensitive riverbanks.

It is essential that cycling, particularly mountain biking, on the steep riverbanks is strongly discouraged through site design, signage, park rangers and the provision of alternative routes. The importance of retaining riverbank vegetation for bank stability is stressed in this Management Plan.

Shared use paths should be at least 3 metres wide where no run off is available or 2.5 m wide with .25 m runoff either side on flat terrain and should have a slope no steeper than 1 in 20 except for short sections. The 'AUSTROADS Guide to Traffic Engineering Practice, Part 14' and the Hamilton City Development Manual, July 2000 will provide a guideline for shared use path design on the river parks.

Some sections of walkway were built under resource consents subject to conditions. It may be necessary to seek a consent variation for some upgrades.

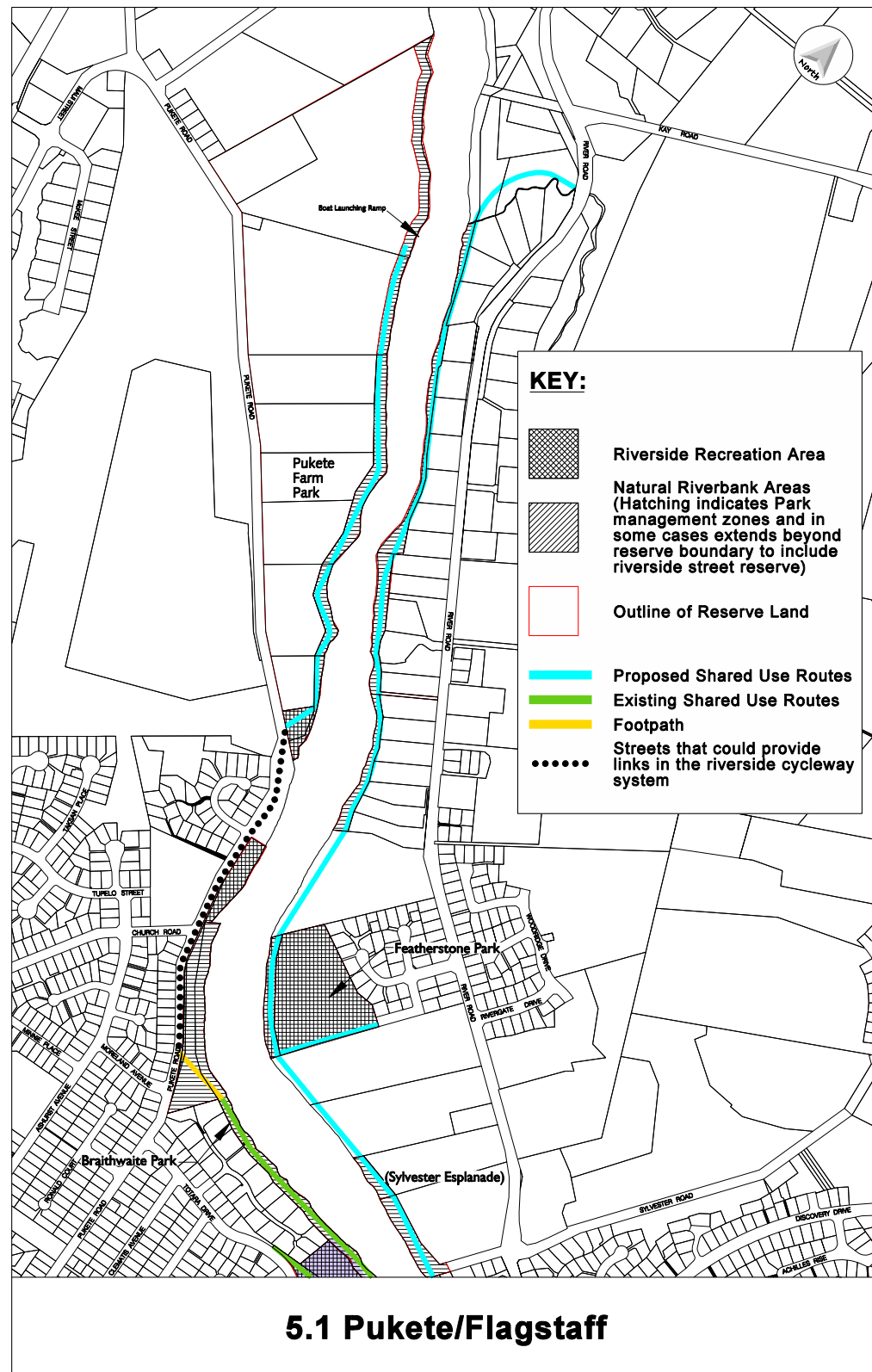
Further facilities to support cycling should include cycle racks at key destinations.

4.3.4 Key Implementation Areas

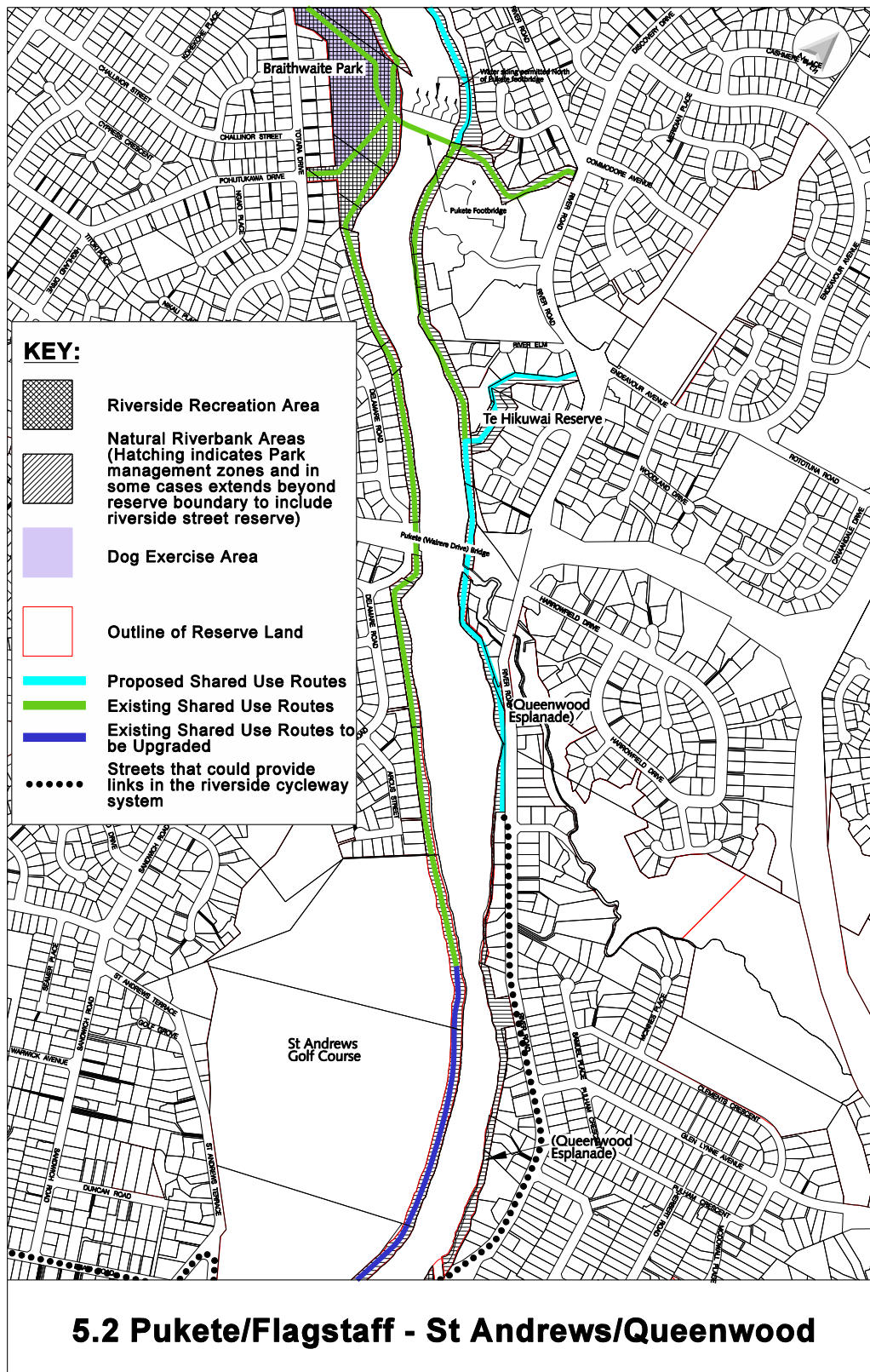
- (a) Development of a path linkage between Hamilton Gardens and Hammond Park.
- (b) Further correction work undertaken on the central riverside path and access to the riverside path from parking areas to meet the gradient requirements for accessibility by persons with physical disabilities.
- (c) Retention of existing provision of parking for the disabled in association with access points to the riverside paths and development of such parking at other access points (e.g. Fairfield Esplanade).
- (d) Upgrading of paths to shared use standard where possible. Installation of related signage and implementation of an educational and promotional campaign.
- (e) Identification of key cycling destinations and provision of cycle racks there.
- (f) Development and promotion of an interpretive trail linking historic pa sites along the river.

5. CONCEPT PLANS

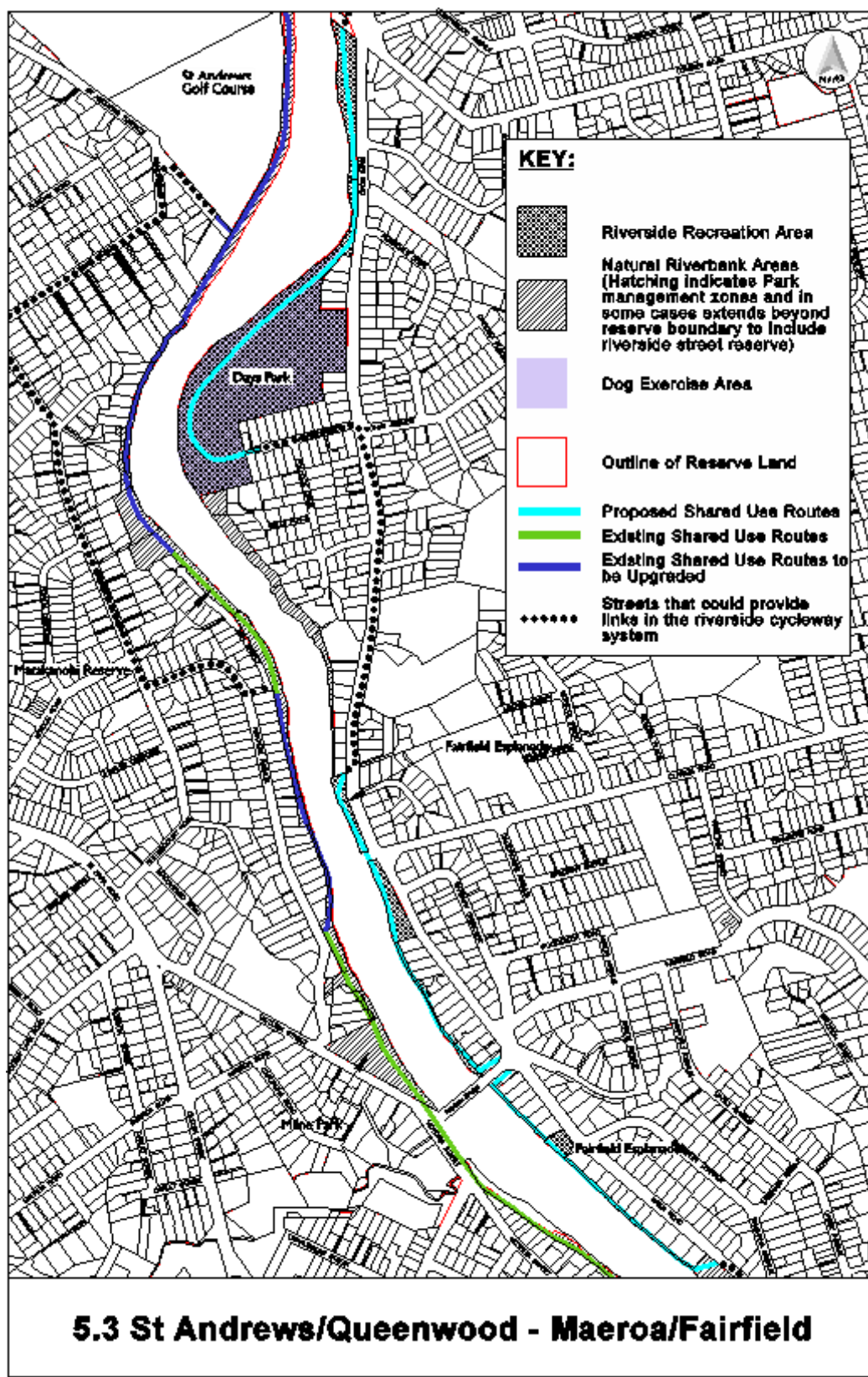
5.1. Pukete/Flagstaff — Existing and Proposed Paths and Use Categories



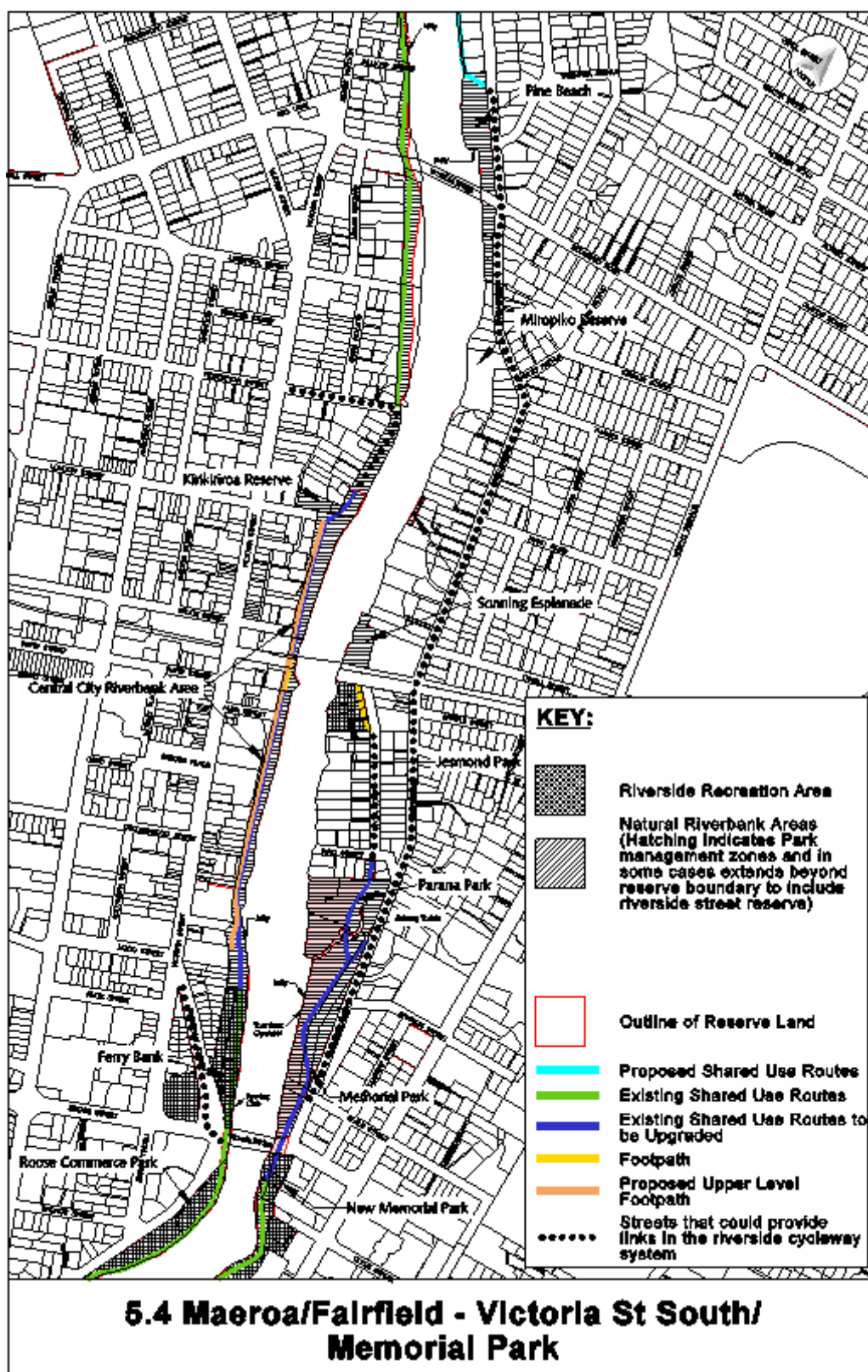
5.2. Pukete/Flagstaff — St Andrews/Queenwood — Existing and Proposed Paths and Use Categories



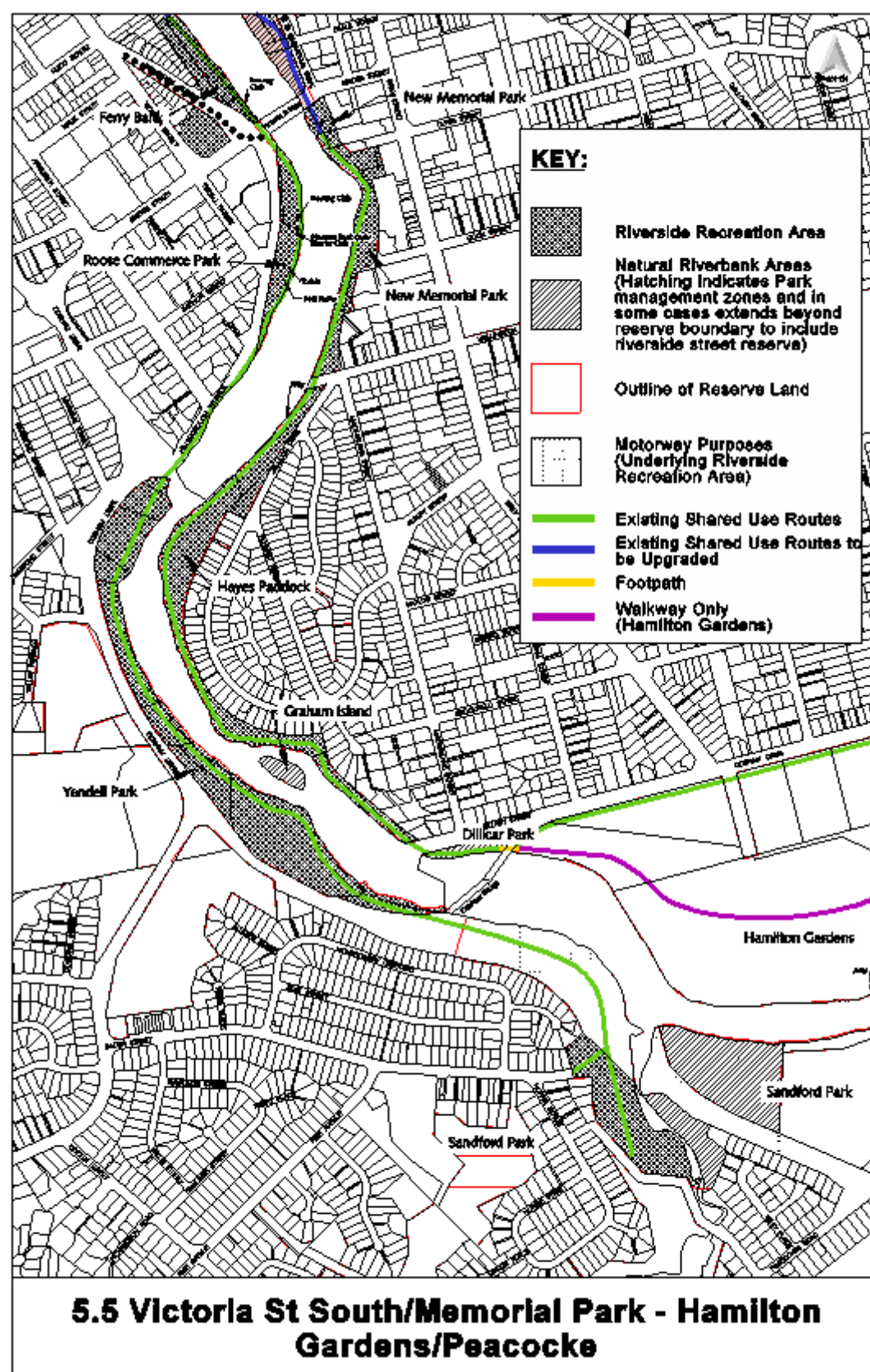
5.3. St Andrews/Queenwood — Maeroa/Fairfield — Existing and Proposed Paths and Use Categories



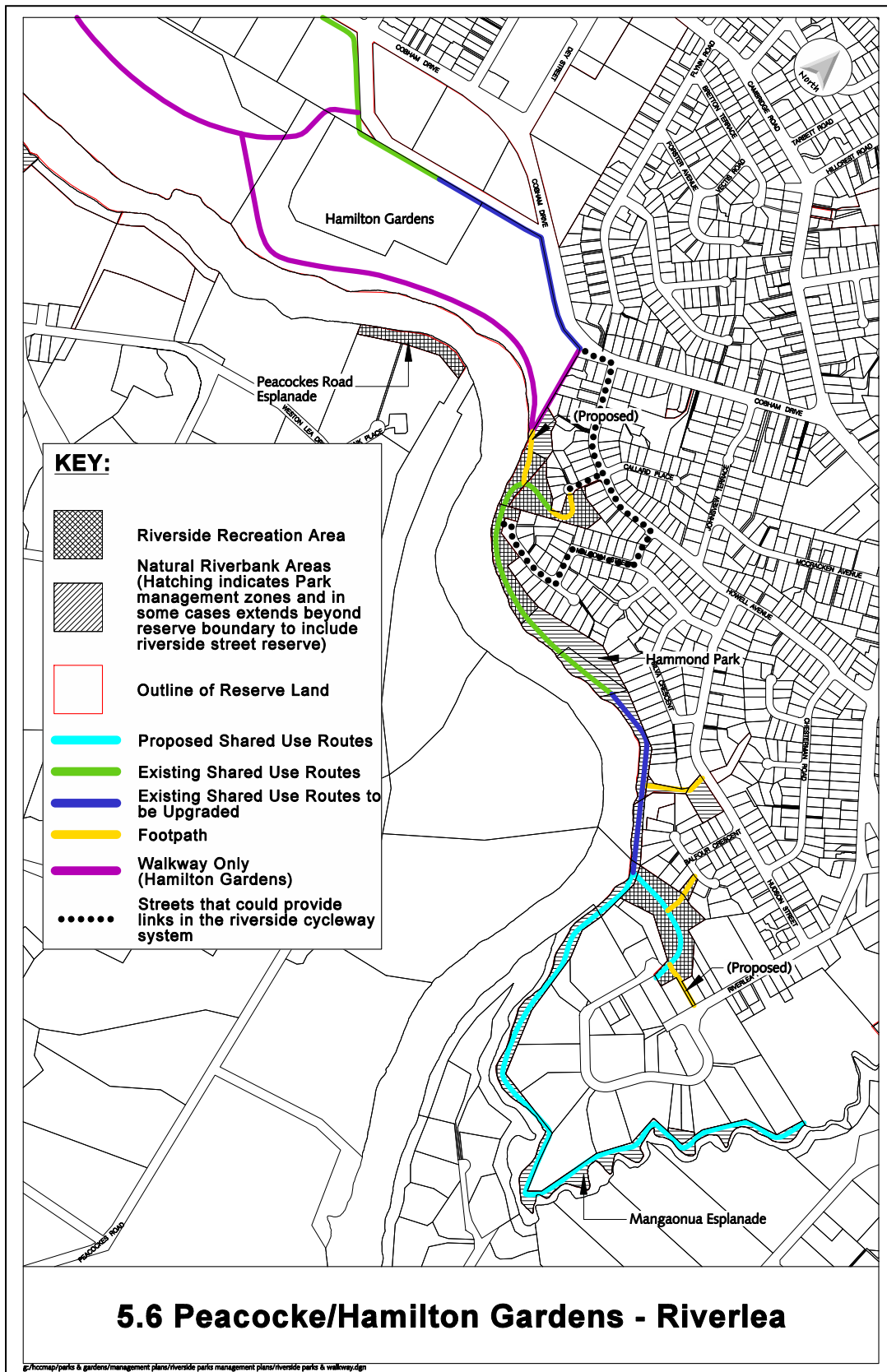
5.4. Maeroa/Fairfield — Victoria Street South/Memorial Park — Existing and Proposed Paths and Use Categories



5.5. Victoria Street South/Memorial Park — Peacocke/Hamilton Gardens — Existing and Proposed Paths and Use Categories



5.6. Peacocke/Hamilton Gardens — Riverlea — Existing Paths and Use



6. PARK MANAGEMENT ZONES

6.1. Introduction

6.1.1. Objective

- (a) To define and manage different areas of the Riverside Parks system according to their character and site constraints.

6.1.2. Park Management Zones

The Park Management zones shown on these maps and outlined in the following pages recognise that different areas within a park system will require different management techniques and policies. They can also accommodate different levels of use and development. Three park management zones have evolved from a site analysis: Natural Riverbank Areas, Riverside Recreation Areas, and Central City Riverbank Areas.

The method of site analysis used to determine the extent of park management zones was a parametric analysis based on the site constraints of riverbank stability, statutory planning restrictions, protection of vegetation and sensitive sites, and a Matrices analysis of the use/development potential for various areas.

6.2. Natural Riverbank Areas

6.2.1. Objective

To protect sensitive or unstable sections of the riverbanks from inappropriate use or development, and to preserve sites of historic, archaeological, biological or cultural significance.

6.2.2. Policies

- (a) *There will be no long term leases within Natural Riverbank Areas. Permission to hold organised events on these areas will be considered in terms of the potential for environmental damage.*
- (b) *Park users will be encouraged to remain on defined paths where vegetation or unstable banks need protection.*

6.2.3. Discussion

(a) Restricted Use

Sections shown as 'Natural Riverbank Areas' should have limited development, confined to paths, cycleways, boardwalks and bridges, seating, shelters, and planting. This zone includes:

- all land restricted in its development by being classified as 'Local Purpose Esplanade Reserve',
- banks with a susceptibility for erosion or slip unless it has a continuous cover of vegetation. (This is based on an analysis of bank profile, vegetation cover, and underlying bank geology.

PARK MANAGEMENT ZONES

Further bank assessment is eventually desirable based on more detailed hydrological and geological data),

- steep banks unsuitable for most development and use,
- waahi tapu, urupa or archaeological sites,
- areas of remnant native bush or particular biological value e.g. Hammond bush,
- a narrow width of reserve leaving little space for development and usually indicating a close proximity to neighbouring residents.

Within the areas defined as 'Natural Riverbank Areas', there will be no long term leases for recreational or commercial facilities. Some short term events may be permitted such as fun runs or an organised picnic where they would not be expected to damage the site. Where there is not a defined path, public access will be discouraged because of the sensitive nature of the sites.

6.2.4. Key Implementation Area

Further development is sensitive to the site constraints of Natural Riverbank Areas.

6.3. Riverside Recreation Areas

6.3.1. Objective

To manage activities and development that will enhance public use and enjoyment of the river parkway system without substantially compromising the natural environment.

6.3.2. Policies

- (a) *Council will only grant further leases for recreational or commercial riverside activities that:*
- (i) *are necessary to enable the public to obtain the benefit and enjoyment of the riverside reserve or for the convenience of people using the reserve,*
 - (ii) *will provide a means of achieving the objectives for the reserve where it is not practical for Council to provide the facility,*
 - (iii) *will be compatible with other park uses and do not impede public access or cause undue maintenance problems,*
 - (iv) *will not cause inappropriate visual or audible intrusion to the natural park environment, or detract from the conservation values,*
 - (v) *will meet a demonstrated demand and do not duplicate other park facilities in the vicinity,*
 - (vi) *that can be accommodated in terms of access, parking, services, support facilities and future expansion and are not subject to flooding,*
 - (vii) *that cannot realistically be located on another less sensitive riverside site or on privately owned riverside property.*
- (b) *All organised events, and short term concessions within this zone will require permission or a licence in terms of the Reserves Act 1977. In*

granting permission for activities within this zone, consideration will be given to all other potential impacts on the park environment and on other park users and lease holders.

6.3.3. Discussion

(a) Leases and Licences

In the first instance all leases and developments will need to comply with the following:

- Requirements of the Reserves Act 1977
- The Reserves Act Guide, Department of Conservation, Section 7, Leases, Licences and Easements Over Vested Reserves
- Provisions covering the relevant zone in the Operative and Proposed District Plans. (These specify activity status, assessment criteria and development standards appropriate for each park).

All leases and lease renewals must be publicly advertised for public submissions in a process defined in the Reserves Act 1977. Leases on riverside parks will need to recognise the primary environmental, cultural and public access objectives identified in the Resource Management Act 1991 and in this Management Plan. For example the potential route for a future riverside path should not be blocked. Under normal circumstances leases will be for the building site area only.

Leases in Riverside Reserves as at June 2003 were:

- Days Park
St Paul's Collegiate School Rowing Club, expires 31-Dec-22
- Ferrybank
Hamilton Amateur Swimming Club Incorporated, expires 30-Jun-04
Hamilton Rowing Club Incorporated, expires 31-Dec-21
- Hayes Paddock
Hamilton Canoe Club Inc, expired 30-Jun-01
- Memorial Park
Waipa Delta Limited, expires 31-Oct-05
- Roose Commerce Park
Hamilton Harrier Club, expires 31-Dec-22
Waikato Boating and Sportfishing Club Incorporated, expires 31-Mar-21
Waikato Rowing Club Inc, expires 30-Apr-10
River Promotions Limited (operating as WET-as), expires 01-Dec-04
Nga Tai Whakarongo Whanau Hoe Waka Inc., expires 01-Jan-08
- St Andrews Golf Course
Hamilton Golf Club Inc, expires 31-Mar-14
- Yendell Park
Hamilton Skills Centre, expires 30-Jun-12

It is likely that these leases will be renewed providing the conditions of this Management Plan and the Reserves Act 1977 are being met.

PARK MANAGEMENT ZONES

(b) Building and Structures

Limitations on leases and the designs for buildings are covered in District Plan Provisions, the Building Code and the environmental criteria in this Management Plan specified under 'Conserving the Natural Character'. Some buildings and structures are required to enhance public use of passive riverside areas, such as; shelters for people using the river walks, park maintenance sheds, caretakers houses and public toilets.

There are seven public toilets within a reasonable distance of the riverside parks and these should be better signposted from the riverside path. Future consideration should be given to providing toilets near the boat ramps at Pukete Farm Park, at Hammond Park near Malcolm Street and near the Days' Park beach, where public use can be very heavy, particularly in summer. Construction of a toilet at Matakanohi Reserve is planned in the near future.

Standard operating procedures ensure that structures such as play equipment, foot bridges, decks and the fitness trail have regular maintenance and safety inspections.

(c) Play Equipment

Parana Park was gifted to the City by George Parr and Anne MacPherson in terms of the Parana Park Empowerment Act 1958, for either a children's convalescent home or a playground, the latter option being taken. The play equipment was upgraded by the Hamilton Playgrounds Trust specifically for young children. Play equipment is also located at Hayes Paddock, Wellington Street Beach and Hammond Park.

There will always be a demand for more play equipment in most areas of the City. The current priority is to upgrade existing equipment to meet the safety standards in NZS5828:1986. Priorities for locating new equipment are based on local demographics, distribution and community interest. Most of the riverside parks are unlikely to be given a high priority because they are not surrounded by residential development with young families and they are often regarded as not particularly safe sites for children to play. However, some sections of the riverside reserves do function as neighbourhood parks (e.g. Hammond Park beside Geoffrey Place) and play equipment could be located near facilities where families tend to spend some time, such as the beaches.

6.3.4. Key Implementation Areas

- (a) Review of existing leases at the time of renewal in terms of the criteria in the Operative Management Plan.
- (b) Construction of public toilets at Matakanohi Reserve, Hammond Park and in the vicinity of Days' Park.

PARK MANAGEMENT ZONES

6.4. Central City Riverbank Areas

6.4.1. Objectives

- (a) To develop a strong visual and physical link between the Central Business District and the river.
- (b) To encourage development of a promenade, level with Victoria Street, between London Street and the Waikato Museum in Grantham Street.

6.4.2. Policies

- (a) *In order to protect future riverbank linkages, Council will provide leadership by acquiring steep riverbanks and at least 3 metres along the top of the riverbank and vesting them as 'Local Purpose Reserve, Esplanade'.*
- (b) *All Reserve Contributions from subdivisions and developments adjoining the existing reserve in the block bounded by the river, Victoria Street, London Street and Bridge Street will be taken in the form of land rather than cash.*
- (c) *Steep riverbanks within the Central Riverbank Area will generally have the same restrictions on use and development as the Natural Parkland Areas.*

6.4.3. Discussion

- (a) The Promenade Concept

The Proposed District Plan (Rule 4.3.3 c) provides for a continuous promenade in the Central Area between Claudelands Bridge and Marlborough Place. The promenade is to be generally along the top of the riverbank at a minimum width of 3 m and a maximum grade of 1:12. The promenade is detailed in Appendices 4.3-II and 4.3-III. Rule 6.5.3 provides that land to support the promenade concept will be taken on the sub-division of any land in that location.

Rules 4.3.5 d) and g) require that controlled activities in the vicinity of the riverbank in the city centre shall be designed to encourage pedestrian access and facilitate use and enjoyment of the promenade. Rule 4.3.6 c) requires that discretionary activities be assessed against their impact on the riverbank environment and the extent to which they effect a suitable transition between built and natural environments. .

The Management Plan will be consistent with the outcome of the Proposed District Plan. Any further consequential changes required to the Management Plan will be made at the time of its next review.

- (b) Extension of Reserve Land

If the concept of improved riverbank linkage in the District Plan is to be achieved, Council will need to provide leadership by declaring all Council land on the steep banks and the flat 3m strip behind the top edge of the bank as reserve. These areas on both public and private property should also be given a Recreation Environment zoning to support the concept in the District Plan and permit a public accessway along the top edge of the riverbank at least 3m wide. Both of these initiatives are further

supported by the following important considerations:

- The steep banks in this area have a sandy substrate and would normally fall within the 'Natural Parkland Area'. Where the vegetation cover is not maintained there is a high likelihood of erosion that could easily interrupt the path linkage, and at worst cause extensive property damage. The area at the top of the bank is also important to give some allowance for erosion and to control stormwater runoff.
- Trees along the top of the bank that can be seen from further back toward Victoria Street need protection. Further trees should be planted along the top edge of the bank to reinforce this visual linkage.
- The 3m strip will help protect waahi tapu sites along the tops of the bank in this zone.
- The concept in the District Plan, Open Space in the CBD report 1980 (adopted 1981), and the Urban Design Strategy — Hamilton's Heart 1990 is not being protected and the opportunity for visual and physical linkage to the river may soon be compromised. By zoning and acquiring the banks and promenade strip as recreation or esplanade reserve this concept can be protected from development that will not enhance linkage to the river.

6.4.4. Key Implementation Areas

- (a) All vacant steep riverbanks and a 3 metre strip along the top of the riverbank are zoned as Recreation Environment in the Hamilton District Plan.
- (b) Every opportunity is taken to acquire land on the steep riverbanks and along the 3 metre strip along the top of the riverbank for esplanade reserve.

7. DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

7.1. Property Acquisition

7.1.1. Objectives

- (a) To acquire reserve land adjacent to the river to support the requirements of the Resource Management Act 1991 and this Management Plan and to increase riverside recreational opportunities.
- (b) To acquire additional reserve land at the time of subdivision or development in accordance with the Resource Management Act 1991 and by land purchase in special circumstances.
- (c) To identify future expansion of the path system and where possible, acquire land for that purpose as reserve at the time of subdivision.

7.1.2. Policy

- (a) *Generally a maximum reserve contribution will be required from all subdivisions adjacent to the river.*

7.1.3. Discussion

- (a) Requirements for Land Acquisition

Wherever possible an esplanade reserve with a minimum width of 20 metres alongside the river and all tributaries to the river over 3m wide will be acquired at the time of subdivision or development as required by the Resource Management Act 1991 (Sections 77, 229, 230, 232, 233, 236, 237), the Resource Management Amendment Act 1993 No. 63 (Section 226), and the Proposed District Plan, Objective 3.1.1 and Rule 6.6.

Rule 6.6 of the Proposed District Plan states that where subdivisions adjoin water bodies and particularly the Waikato River esplanade reserves must be set aside to protect the natural and physical environment, preserve any significant cultural or heritage features and facilitate reasonable public access.

This is achieved by setting aside a local purpose reserve for esplanade purposes of not less than 20m, or sufficient to increase the reserve to 20 metres. If the reserve is to be other than 20 metres in width, the Council has to consider whether the changed requirement will satisfy the purposes of the Resource Management Act.

In particular, the Council has to be satisfied that there is adequate public access to any river, lake or stream and their margins to enable the public to meet any social, recreational or cultural needs, that the natural environments of flora and fauna, and wildlife habitats in, on or surrounding the river, lake or stream, are not adversely affected, that any significant archaeological/historical sites, as well as those sites of significant value to the Tangata Whenua are adequately preserved and protected from encroaching development, that continuity of public access is maintained, that any adverse impacts on water quality are adequately mitigated, that the banks of the river, can be adequately and

efficiently maintained, and that any natural hazard to adjoining properties is minimised.

If a reduction in width is contemplated, the Council also has to be satisfied that the location of existing substantial buildings erected prior to 24 July 1993 makes the full 20m width impracticable and that the topography dictates a practical boundary less than 20m. It may also consider widening the reserve elsewhere in compensation and whether other measures such as covenants, restrictions, or road access will achieve the desired result.

(b) Further Priorities for Land Acquisition

This Management Plan has identified the following criteria for discretionary and more specific reserve acquisition.

- Wherever possible, steep riverbanks, particularly those with an unstable structure, should be managed in public ownership as reserve and a continuous cover of appropriate vegetation maintained to preserve stability.
- Land acquisition for reserve is proposed in the Central City to preserve bank stability and the opportunity to improve pedestrian and visual linkage to the river (details for this are covered under 'Central City Riverbank Areas').
- Consideration should be given to the acquisition of private land to ensure the long term preservation of valuable areas of remnant bush.
- It is desirable that other reserves, particularly gully reserves, connect to the river parkway system so that they provide a central linkage to the City's path system and other wildlife corridors have continuity.
- Land along the top of the riverbank ridges may be acquired to ensure the preservation of skyline trees or to permit skyline trees to be planted.
- Land may be acquired to preserve waahi tapu sites.
- Several old riverside structures have been lost in the last 20 years and institutions or community organisations may possibly consider purchasing land to preserve old riverside buildings or scenic features such as a grand old riverside house and its gardens.
- The acquisition of land or existing buildings may be considered for the development of facilities that support riverside recreational or educational activities in order to avoid building on a riverside reserve.
- Council has proposed that more land be acquired for community use and possibly open space in the block defined by Grantham Street, Bridge Street and Victoria Street and between Victoria Street and the Cathedral Hill. It is proposed that this area will become an historic and entertainment precinct complemented by open space linkage to the river.
- It is desirable that riverside flood plains are included in riverside reserves.

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(c) New Reserves

Current planning proposals in the north-east suggest some extension to Featherstone Park. This park was gifted to the City in 1992 by Mrs Gardner and Mrs Brinkworth in memory of their father. It is proposed that this park be developed as a passive riverside area but with the potential for open playing areas, a boat ramp (if a suitable site can be identified) and associated carpark. Another medium sized riverside park is proposed between the hill opposite Hammond Park and the old Glencoe Landing. Such a reserve may also be suitable for another boat ramp.

Much of the land opposite Hamilton Gardens is currently owned by Transit New Zealand. It is desirable that any part of this land not required for roading be acquired as reserve land to retain linkage to the Sandford Park gully system, permit public riverside access, to provide a riverside neighbourhood park, provide a buffer between the arterial route and residential areas, to enhance a city entrance, and to retain and extend the extensive planting on these banks that forms an attractive backdrop to Hamilton Gardens.

7.1.4. Key Implementation Areas

- (a) The acquisition of riverside reserve at the time of any adjacent subdivision that is adequate to meet the objectives of this Management Plan.
- (b) Reserve extended to protect linkage opportunities between the CBD and riverbank, to safeguard public riverside access and to conserve riverbank stability.

7.2. Development Priorities and Programme

7.2.1 Objectives

- (a) To identify projects which have a high priority in terms of the District Plan and Operative Riverside Reserves Management Plan and to allocate resources to achieve these.
- (b) To require paths in the development of new areas of the City fringe to be established at the time of subdivision.

7.2.2 Discussion

(a) Priorities for Planting

The following criteria are intended as a guide in determining the priorities for the implementation of the objectives and policies of 'Vegetation Management':

- Planting to retain long term riverbank stability and planting to stabilise recent ground disturbance
- Protection and enhancement of existing significant vegetation
- Successional planting for long term continuity of the planting framework
- Planting in association with reserve and path development

DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

- Removal of willows and species that encroach into the river course and replacement with species that achieve bank stability but do not restrict water flow
- Planting that can reduce longer term maintenance requirements
- Identification of waahi tapu sites with appropriate indigenous vegetation
- Planting where there is strong support and involvement from community groups or residents including planting on privately owned riverbanks that are steep or can be seen from the river and adjacent reserves
- Planting before urban development so that property owners have a clear indication of reserve development
- Enhancement of the wildlife habitat of the river corridor and improvements to habitat continuity as a wildlife corridor
- Introduction of theme species for the enhancement of the landscape character as defined under 'Conserving Natural Character'.

(b) Path Development

In the past Hamilton's riverside path development has been strongly supported through successive Government subsidised labour schemes complemented by Council-provided supervision and funding. The rate of development has depended on the support of both. Future development will give priority to sections of path that:

- require redevelopment because of health and safety concerns e.g. where the surface is uneven
- are likely to be well utilised, that link existing substantial sections of riverside path or provide a circuit around riverside paths and bridges
- contribute to development of the countryside to countryside linkage (particularly if the Te Araroa concept is implemented by neighbouring Councils)
- improve access to riverside paths and linkages to other path systems such as gully paths
- improve access for people with disabilities to and along the path including parking for disabled in association with access points
- improve access for maintenance vehicles such as those required for maintenance of planted banks and drainage facilities
- require development and drainage improvements to avoid potential problems of bank erosion.
- require upgrading to become part of a cycleway system, particularly where shared use standards are achievable
- reduce problems associated with neighbouring properties e.g. structures and planting to protect pedestrians from golf balls.

At the time this reviewed plan was adopted a Walkway/Cycleway Strategy for Hamilton was in the latter stages of development. It will place the riverside path developments envisaged in the reviewed Riverside Reserves Management Plan in the context of paths elsewhere in the city, and set priorities accordingly.

Other riverside development may be associated with path development. Particularly important is the need for more seating and, in Hamilton's

DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

changeable climate, occasional shelters for path users.

(c) Other Development

Aside from planting and path development programmes, this Management Plan has identified a high priority for a number of specific projects.

- **Public Toilets** — Toilets are needed to cater for an increased use of the Days' Park beach and events at Swarbricks Landing. A toilet would permit more use to be made of these city parks.
- **Stability Assessment** — In areas of obvious bank instability or erosion, a detailed geological and hydrological assessment should be undertaken prior to development.
- **Wildlife Pilot Programmes** — Community partnership programmes to encourage birdlife could involve planting for food and habitat, pest control, bird recovery programmes, and monitoring to assess the progress of these initiatives.
- **Appropriate Identification of significant Pa sites** — On site recognition and interpretation of waahi tapu sites and their associated Tangata Whenua (refer to "Nga Tapuwae O Hotumauea — Maori Landmarks on Riverside Reserves Management Plan").
- **Riverside Cycleway** — Development and signage associated with the riverside cycleways.
- **Signage** — More signage directing people to the riverside paths and more signage along the riverside paths to direct people to facilities such as public toilets.
- **Seating and shelters** — to be provided at convenient locations, avoiding creating congregation points which will have excessive effects on neighbours.
- **Water flow improvements** — A continuing programme to control willow in selected areas and replant with preferred species.
- **Maintenance of Existing Facilities** — A continuing programme of maintenance and enhancement of existing facilities, particularly those with high profile and use.

(d) Criteria to assist with determining priorities

There are competing objectives, policies and priorities within this Management Plan. It is very unlikely that there will be sufficient money, time and other resources available before its review to implement all of the Plan's proposed developments. The following criteria can be used as guidelines to setting priorities for the various projects.

Reserves Act 1977

The degree to which the development furthers the purpose of the Reserves Act as described in Section 3.

Achievability

Can the objective of the development be easily and practically achieved within a defined time period.

Spin off/flow on effects

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Will the development contribute significantly to the achievement of other stated objectives and developments within this Management Plan.

Absolute and relative value of the resource

How valuable is the resource, what are the costs of losing that resource and what are the chances that once the resource is lost, it can be recovered or replaced at a future date (e.g. areas of remnant native bush are an important resource to be protected for future generations of New Zealanders, and cannot be easily restored or reconstituted).

Threats to the resource

What is the likely threat of damage or destruction, and is that damage or destruction irretrievable (e.g. removal or loss of significant vegetation and/or land).

(e) Review and Monitoring

In the same manner as Council is monitoring and reviewing its performance in other areas of its activities (e.g. Annual Plan, Strategic Plan, District Plan) this Management Plan also needs to measure its performance.

Performance will be reported and assessed through a number of processes, including the Annual Plan Reports, and the Annual Residents Survey. In addition, this Management Plan will be reviewed. This is the time at which a complete audit of the achievement of objectives, policies and key implementation areas can be carried out. The audit would be used to develop the first comprehensive review of the Riverside Reserves Management Plan.

7.2.3 Strategic Directions

The overall direction of this Management Plan is specified in the objectives. However the more immediate development priorities for Key Implementation Areas can be summarised by the following analysis of strategic directions.

(a) Resource Management

- (i) Riverbank stability retained through careful management of riverbank vegetation.
- (ii) Various steps are taken to maintain and improve the natural visual character of the river parkway system particularly through the retention and planting of trees.
- (iii) Enhancement of the river parks as a wildlife habitat through community involvement.
- (iv) The integrity of areas of remnant native bush preserved.
- (v) Sensitive riverbank environments protected through park management zones that control development and maintenance.

7.2.4 Tangata Whenua

Greater emphasis and recognition given to sites of cultural significance to Maori.

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7.2.5 Public Access

- (a) Development of a countryside to countryside path.
- (b) Continued improvement of public access to the river.

7.2.6 Recreation

- (a) Managed development of further facilities that support public enjoyment of the riverside parks and have a positive impact on the natural riverbank environment.
- (b) On going enhancement of popular riverside areas such as beaches.
- (c) Designating certain riverside paths or cycleways and altering the design where necessary, particularly where pedestrian amenity values are being degraded through use of the riverside path by cyclists.
- (d) The future acquisition of future riverside parks suitable for boat launching facilities in the future north-east and south-west suburbs of the City.

7.2.7 Central City

- (a) Reserve extended to protect linkage opportunities between the CBD and riverbank, to safeguard public riverside access and to conserve riverbank stability.

8. SITE DEFINITION

8.1. Objective

To give all riverside parks names adopted by the Council by resolution, except for some minor reserves that are to eventually become part of future parks.

To change redundant Street Reserve that has an underlying 'Recreation' zoning in the District Plan to Esplanade Reserve, as resources permit.

8.1.1. Discussion

8.1.2. Boundary Definition

All boundary fencing will conform to Council's Fencing Policy (2002) which defines Council obligations in terms of the 1978 Fencing Act. Where private structural development has encroached onto reserve land Council will usually request the property owner to remove it at the owner's expense.

Where private riverside land owners wish to create a barrier between their property and the riverside path Council will work with them to find a mutually acceptable, aesthetic and practical solution. If the private land owner wishes to alter the levels on their property they are required to build retaining walls, which in some instances could provide an effective barrier between private land and a riverside path.

8.1.3. Park Names

At the front of this Management Plan there is a list of parks included in this Plan. All of these are formally adopted names except for Peacockes Road Esplanade and Sylvester Esplanade, which should remain administrative names until they become part of larger reserve areas. The extent of each park is defined under the section — Legal Descriptions.

8.1.4. Key to Site Definition Chart

Name	Code
Matakanohi Reserve	AN
Braithwaite Park	BR
Days' Park	DA
Dillicar Park	DI
Kirikiroa Reserve	DR
Fairfield Esplanade	FA
Ferrybank	FE
Featherstone Park	FT
Graham Island	GI
Hamilton Parade	HA
Hayes Paddock	HY
Jesmond Park	JE
Mangaonua Esplanade	MA
Memorial Park	ME
Milne Park	MI
Munro's Path	MW

SITE DEFINITION

Name	Code
New Memorial Park	NE
Parana Park	PA
Peacockes Road Esplanade	PE
Pine Beach	PI
Pukete Farm Park	PU
(Esplanade strip only)	
Queenwood Esplanade	QU
Roose Commerce Park	RO
Sandford Park (part)	SA
Sonning Esplanade	SO
St Andrews Golf Course	ST
(Esplanade strip only)	
Swarbricks Landing	SW
Sylvester Esplanade	SP
Yendell Park	YE

8.1.5. Classifications

A report regarding site definition, classification of reserve land and properties of Riverside Reserves Management Plan was prepared separately.

9. ENQUIRIES AND REFERENCES

9.1. Enquiries

This Reviewed Management Plan has been prepared under the Reserves Act 1977, which requires that it be reviewed as circumstances warrant. If you would like further information about the plan or have suggestions for its next review, please write to:

The General Manager, Community Services,
Hamilton City Council,
Private Bag 3010,
Hamilton

Alternatively you can phone the Parks and Gardens Unit on (07) 838 6649 or visit them on the 4th floor of the Hamilton City Council Offices in Worley Place, Hamilton.

9.2. References

9.2.1. General

The Reserves Act 1977
Resource Management Act 1991
Resource Management Amendment Act 1993
Hamilton City Council Operative District Plan, First Review 1989
Hamilton City Council Proposed District Plan, November 2001, References Version
HCC Assets Group, Standard Operating Procedure for 'Professional/Technical Advisory Services — Management Plans CPM2-1.7
New directions in Management Planning — Australian Journal of Leisure and Recreation, vol. 4 No. 2

9.2.2. History

Astride The River, P J Gibbons, 1977
Tainui, L J Kelly, 1949

9.2.3. Resource Management

Floristics and Microclimate of Hammond Bush, A Hamilton Basin Forest Remnant, P J de Lange, DOC 1994
Indigenous Flora of the 'dry' Kahikatea Forest Remnants of the South eastern Hamilton Basin, P J de Lange 1990
Water and Soil Conservation Management Report, Waikato River Banks — Hamilton City, Waikato Valley Authority, October 1976
Morphological Model of the Lower Waikato River, Barnett Consultants, commissioned by Environment Waikato, Winstone Aggregates, 1994

9.2.4. Tangata Whenua

NZ Archaeological Association site record forms

ENQUIRIES AND REFERENCES

Waahi Tapu, HCC Report, Des Tatana Kahotea, University of Waikato, 1990
Nga Tapuwae O Hotumauea — Maori Landmarks on Riverside Reserves
Operative Management Plan, 2003
Miropiko Reserve Operative Management Plan, April 2001
Checklist of Archaeological Sites in Hamilton City, Waikato Museum of Art and
History, 1983

9.2.5. Park Management

Hamilton City Council By-laws, 1992-1986
Hamilton Gardens Operative Management Plan (Second Review, 1999)
Pukete Farm Park Development Plan, HCC
Gully Reserves Operative Management Plan, 2001