

Parks and Reserves

Overview

The Parks and Reserves division is responsible for managing the city parks, reserves and public gardens, for now and the future, to:

- meet the recreational needs of the public, including sports groups and all other park users
- provide an attractive open space environment
- provide a selected range of top quality attractions for locals and visitors to Upper Hutt.

Council is involved in this area in order to provide a safe, pleasant, attractive and protected environment for all age groups to enjoy.

Key attractions include Trentham Memorial Park, Maidstone Park and Harcourt Park. In addition, a network of smaller parks throughout the city provide space for organised sport and casual recreation, as well as bush cover and walking tracks.

The Hutt River area, a popular space for informal recreation, is under the control of the Greater Wellington Regional Council. Upper Hutt City Council maintains parts of the riverside, including Moonshine Park, on behalf of the Regional Council.

The council holds a total area of 577ha as parks and reserves. This comprises 34ha of sports fields amounting to 84 sports fields in total (35 for summer sports and 49 for winter sports), 3 regional and 33 neighbourhood playgrounds and 20km of walking and cycling tracks. 220ha of council land is bush covered, of which 12.7ha is fenced for conservation purposes. Public gardens include 5.2ha on road reserves and 5.9ha on parks and reserves. Council owns and maintains 25 public toilets throughout the city.

Proposed projects:

Maidstone Park development plan (\$3,869,000)

\$2.769million has been allocated by Upper Hutt City Council with the remaining contribution of \$1.1million from external funding. The \$2.769 million is to be sourced from the sale of surplus land, the 2009-10 general surplus, the Hillary Commissions Fund, the Reserve Fund contribution and possibly some loan funding.

This year will see the commencement of stage one and two of the Maidstone Park development plan for use by schools, clubs and the wider community. Stage one will involve the development of a full-size artificial hockey turf and car parking. Stage two will be the development of an artificial rugby/soccer turf and a practice turf, a car park and storage shed.

Ongoing revegetation of Maidstone Park

Work will continue on the eradication of unwanted pine trees in the park in order to encourage the regeneration of native trees and shrubs. \$38,000 has been allocated for this work to be carried out in 2011/12.

Parks and Reserves work programme (continued funding)

Other ongoing projects include large specimen tree planting in selected parks and reserves, the native forest management programme and monitoring the native bush. In addition to the maintenance of street trees, reserves and public gardens; planting and mowing reserves, weed control, bush regeneration and graffiti removal. Sports ground and public toilet

Parks and Reserves

maintenance; and development of new, and maintenance of, existing playgrounds and play equipment will also take place.

Level of service objectives and performance measures

Objective

Council will provide parks and reserves that meet community needs for recreation and leisure activities.

1. Satisfaction

Indicator	
Performance Measure	Community satisfaction with the way that parks and reserves meet the survey respondents recreational needs
Target 2011-12	95 percent of respondents are satisfied or very satisfied ¹

Objective

Council will provide, maintain and upgrade a selected range of parks, reserves and facilities as regional leisure attractions.

2. Safety

Indicator	
Performance Measure	Playground equipment meets playground safety standards (currently NZS 5828 Playground Equipment and Surfacing)
Target 2011-12	All playground equipment meets current safety standards

Objective

Council will maintain and improve on the environmental quality of its parks and reserves.

3. Native bush cover

Indicator	
Performance Measure	To monitor the indigenous biological diversity in our significant natural areas through the use of five minute bird counts. The results are to be analysed and incorporated in the Regional Native Bird Monitoring Report prepared by the Greater Wellington Regional Council
Target 2011-12	Maintain and/or improve the abundance versus diversity of bird life (per hectare) compared with the 2006/07 benchmark and the regional average ²

Parks and Reserves

Objective

Increasingly Council will enhance the appearance of Upper Hutt through attractive and well placed gardens.

4. Gardens

Indicator	
Performance Measure	Community satisfaction with the city's public gardens
Target 2011-12	95 percent of respondents are satisfied or very satisfied ¹

5. Works

Indicator	
Performance Measure	Completion of capital works
Target 2011-12	Works completed within budget and by 30 June each year (Refer to Work Programme)

¹Annual Community Group Survey

²Greater Wellington Regional Council Native Bird Monitoring Report

Parks and Reserves

Works programme	Forecast LTCCP Year 3 2011-12 (\$000)	Forecast Annual Plan Year 3 2011-12 (\$000)	Forecast Variation Year 3 2011-12 (\$000)	Source of Funding 2011-12
Asset management				
Toilets	90	85	(5)	Special Fund - Reserve Fund Contribution
Amenities replacement	80	82	2	Special Fund - Reserve Fund Contribution
New roading seal	20	19	(1)	Special Fund - Reserve Fund Contribution
Renewal roading resealing	52	52	0	Special Fund - Reserve Fund Contribution
Play equipment	72	68	(4)	Special Fund - Reserve Fund Contribution
Capital Works				
Sealing of Hutt River trail	130	0	(130)	Special Fund - Reserve Fund Contribution
Revegetation of Maidstone Park	38	38	0	Special Fund - Reserve Fund Contribution
Large tree planting	7	7	0	Special Fund - Reserve Fund Contribution
Upper Hutt hockey turf	652	3,869	3,217	Special Fund - Reserve Fund Contribution, Civic Amenities Fund, Loan Funding and External Funding
Total capital works expenditure	1,141	4,220	3,079	
Other primary projects (new and ongoing)				
Large trees in reserves	20	20	0	Rates
Native forest management programme	5	5	0	Special Fund - Reserve Fund
Monitoring native bush	4	3	(1)	Special Fund - Reserve Fund
Total Parks and Reserves works programme	1,170	4,248	3,078	

Parks and Reserves

Cost of service statement	Forecast Annual Plan Year 2 2010-11 (\$ 000)	Forecast LTCCP Year 3 2011-12 (\$ 000)	Forecast Annual Plan Year 3 2011-12 (\$ 000)	Forecast Variation Year 3 2011-12 (\$ 000)
Operating statement				
General rates	2,154	2,358	2,182	(176)
Operating income	111	105	1,230	1,125
Total operating revenue	2,265	2,463	3,412	949
Operating costs	2,363	2,573	2,555	(18)
Interest	15	11	167	156
Depreciation	428	303	377	74
Total operating costs	2,806	2,887	3,099	212
Operating surplus/(deficit)	(541)	(424)	313	737
Capital and reserves funding statement				
Capital expenditure	679	1,141	4,220	3,079
Loans repayments	15	15	19	4
Operating (surplus)/ deficit	541	424	(313)	(737)
Transfer to funds	0	0	0	0
Total funding required	1,235	1,580	3,926	2,346
Funding from non-cash expenses	527	413	478	65
Loans raised	0	0	1,950	1,950
Transfer from funds	708	1,167	1,498	331
Transfer from funds applied	1,235	1,580	3,926	2,346