

6.5 Cook Street Reserve

Description

Location:	Entry points from both Cook Street and Bank Street
Legal description:	Lots 22 DP 9062, Lot 255 DP 9030, Lot 7 DP 6627
Size:	3.56 ha
Reserve status:	Reserve



Physical description

The western part of the reserve, which is developed as a play area, is predominately flat with a gentle slope to the rear. Entrances to this part of the reserves exist off Bank and Cook Streets. The remaining areas of the reserve are undulating, undeveloped and act as stormwater catchments.

Tangata whenua interests

This reserve is within the tribal rohe of Te Atiawa Iwi. The area is of historic and cultural significance to Ngati Te Whiti.

Land status and history

Lot 22 DP 9062 and Lot 255 DP 9030 were originally held by the crown for state housing purposes. In 1964 the Minister of Lands set the land apart as reserve for recreation purposes and pursuant to the Reserves and Domains Act 1953 vested the reserve in the New Plymouth City Council for that purpose. In 1981 the land was gazetted recreation reserve subject to the Reserves Act 1977.

Lot 7 DP 6627 – this land was vested in the council upon subdivision in 1949. In 1982 the land was classified recreation reserve subject to the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977.

Existing improvements

A playground exists as well as a basketball hoop in the western part of the reserve. Entry points with appropriate barriers are located on both Cook Street and Bank Street.

Uses and activities

This western portion of this reserve a pleasant open, grassy area with a playground. As well as child's play the area is suitable for picnics and large enough for casual recreational activities. The south-eastern section of the reserve, as well as a portion on the opposite side of Bank Street is currently fenced and grazed.

Classification

Recreation

Management objectives and specific policies

- In the short to medium term any improvements will be limited to the existing developed area of the reserve as outlined in stage one of the development concept.
- In the short to medium term the management of this reserve will continue to involve grazing of the undeveloped portion of the reserve until such time as funding is available to implement stage 2 and 3 of the development concept.
- A long term development concept for this reserve includes linkages between the local streets and other pieces of land which make up this reserve as well as enhancement of ecological values.
- Areas have been identified in the development concept plan that may be suitable for fruit trees or community gardens.
- Proposals for the establishment of community gardens will be assessed on a case by case basis against relevant council policies.
- Housing New Zealand proposed to undertake a Neighbourhood Improvement Programme in the Marfell area. The New Plymouth District Council and Housing New Zealand are currently working in partnership to develop a master plan for the area, which will articulate the best urban design solution for the locality. In developing the master plan it is proposed that multiple entrances to the Bank St/Discovery Place area will be investigated, including option through the reserve land. The master plan will also look ways of making the reserve areas safer, as well as the appropriate mix of social, affordable and private housing. Implementation of a master plan may require land swaps with housing New Zealand to achieve the best outcome for the community.
- The council will continue to work with housing New Zealand. Any land swap proposals will follow a Reserves Act process including public notification.

Visual Resource Key

Landscape/Spatial Features

- Land Parcel
- Wetland
- Mown Open Space
- Entry Points

Vegetation

- Existing Trees/Vegetation
- Proposed Trees/Vegetation
- Proposed Fruit/Nut Trees
- Proposed Native Planting

Structures

- Pedestrian Entry Sign
- Existing Picnic Table
- Proposed Seat
- Existing Play Equipment
- Existing Concrete Pathway
- Proposed Pathway
- Existing Timber Barrier



Landscape Context Key

Landscape Features

- Stream

Spatial Features

- Reserve Land
- Surrounding Open Space/Reserves/Sports Fields

