

REVIEW OF RESERVES WAINUIOMATA

- WAINUIOMATA HIGH SCHOOL
- WAINUIOMATA MARAE
- WAINUIOMATA COMMUNITY HOUSE
- KINDERGARTEN
SUN VALLEY
- KINDERGARTEN PARKWAY
- WAINUIOMATA INTERMEDIATE
- KONINI PRIMARY SCHOOL





Arakura Park

This plan was produced by

PAOS 

Prepared by Cheryl Robilliard
NZILA Registered Landscape Architect

PO Box 7469, Newtown, Wellington
Tel: 04 383 8382, Mobile 027 247 7257
E-mail: office@paos.co.nz / www.paos.co.nz

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Contents

Recommendations	2
What we want to achieve	4
Types of reserves	5
Snapshot of Wainuiomata	
Who we are	7
Socio-economic levels	8
Where housing is intensifying	9
Destinations and safe walking and cycling routes through reserves ...	10
Reserve access	12
Reserves suburb by suburb	
Parkway	15
Arakura	18
Fernlea	20
Glendale	22
Homedale	24

Recommendations

1. Create safe routes for walking and cycling

Safe routes for walking and cycling that are well designed and connect to neighbourhoods and reserves will increase the likelihood of people participating in informal recreation and active transport. Drainage reserves with wide, grassed verges such as Black Creek, and Wainuiomata River provide a unique opportunity to develop safe pathways for walking and cycling. These routes are flat and suitable for people wanting either a short or long walk or bike ride. Creating continuous drainage reserve trails would separate bicyclists and walkers from the road network decreasing the likelihood of harmful interactions between motor vehicles and pedestrians.

Suggested actions:

- Construct all-weather paths
- Identify bottlenecks/ chokepoints/ encroachments and barriers to creating a continuous drainage reserve trail network
- Investigate options for establishing a continuous river pathway along Wainuiomata River.

2. Make more of existing reserves

Many existing parks and reserves in Wainuiomata have the potential to provide more and a variety of leisure activities, programmes, and events. Enhancing and providing amenities such as native vegetation and park assets (bench seats, paths, water features, etc.) entices people to explore existing reserves and increases civic pride which helps preserve the quality of amenities and improves the feeling of safety. The level to which the community is involved in the upkeep of

the trails and reserves depends on the level of input they've had in the design of those amenities. Therefore, it is critically important to engage with all stakeholders and include Te Ao Māori early and often.

Play is an essential role for parks and reserves. Increasing the capacity for play opportunities including natural areas for unstructured play is critical to early childhood development.

Suggested actions

- Plant appropriate native vegetation including shrubs, grasses, and trees for optimal amenity effect
- Construct information kiosks with relevant cultural, historic, and environmental information
- Collaborate with recreationists and stakeholders
- Increase amenity and maintenance levels
- Provide more opportunities for both structured and unstructured play, sporting, and other activities
- Include Te Ao Māori in design and amenity decisions.

3. Improve access

Access to Wainuiomata's extensive track network in the surrounding hills can be improved. Track condition and difficulty varies, some entrances are undeveloped and difficult to identify, and lack signage with information regarding their difficulty, travel distances/ time, and connections to other tracks. Increasing the amount of quality Wainuiomata valley floor tracks and improving wayfinding on existing tracks will make accessing tracks in

the hills easier and more appealing for leisure activities and mountain biking.

Paths connecting reserves and neighbourhoods ensures easy access to recreational and leisure activities. Neighbourhood paths can improve local access to key destinations which increases transportation equity and provides safe options for walking.

Suggested actions:

- Explore connection opportunities from Wainuiomata valley floor tracks to existing reserves and paths such as the Wainuiomata Road Shared Pathway
- Improve wayfinding infrastructure on tracks and reserves
- Encourage subdivision design that facilitates connectivity to parks and reserves
- Remove gates and other barriers that currently block access to tracks and reserves.

4. Meet demand for reserve land

Wainuiomata has a changing demographic landscape and an increasing population. While the existing reserve supply is adequate for the current population, there will be need for more reserve land, better connections, and an increased capacity for quality activities, events and programmes.

As residential intensification occurs due to pressures in the housing market, there will be a greater need for quality open space for residents to enjoy. Having a reserve within an 8.5 minute or 400 metre is important for reserve access, especially in areas zoned 'medium

density' where there are higher levels of socio-economic deprivation. More local access to reserves will give greater opportunities for families, children, and the elderly to enjoy the benefits of natural areas.

Suggested actions:

- Improve amenity values in reserves where there are higher levels of socio-economic deprivation
- Create trail connections from denser neighbourhoods to key destinations (supermarkets, public transport, community facilities, etc.)
- Focus reserve provisioning in areas with a lack of reserves (see pages 12-13) and in denser neighbourhoods.



What we want to achieve



The 2016 -2026 Reserves Strategic Directions aims for a reserve within an easy walking distance from most houses, particularly in areas with more intensive housing and mixed use.

An easy walking distance is 400 metres or an 8.5 minutes walk (the time it generally takes an elderly person or young child to walk 400 metres).



Multi-functional and flexible spaces



Safe, accessible spaces for play



Pedestrian and cycle routes through reserves connecting key destinations



Sportsfields and active recreation opportunities



Natural and undirected play opportunities



Areas for picnics and BBQs with picnic tables, drinking fountains, shade and shelter



Programmes and activities to improve health and fitness



Wild places where you can experience the natural world



Signage, information and interpretation



Quality, pleasant, well maintained parks and tracks



Free things to do close to homes and which do not require membership



Opportunities for community to have input into reserve development, facilities and activities

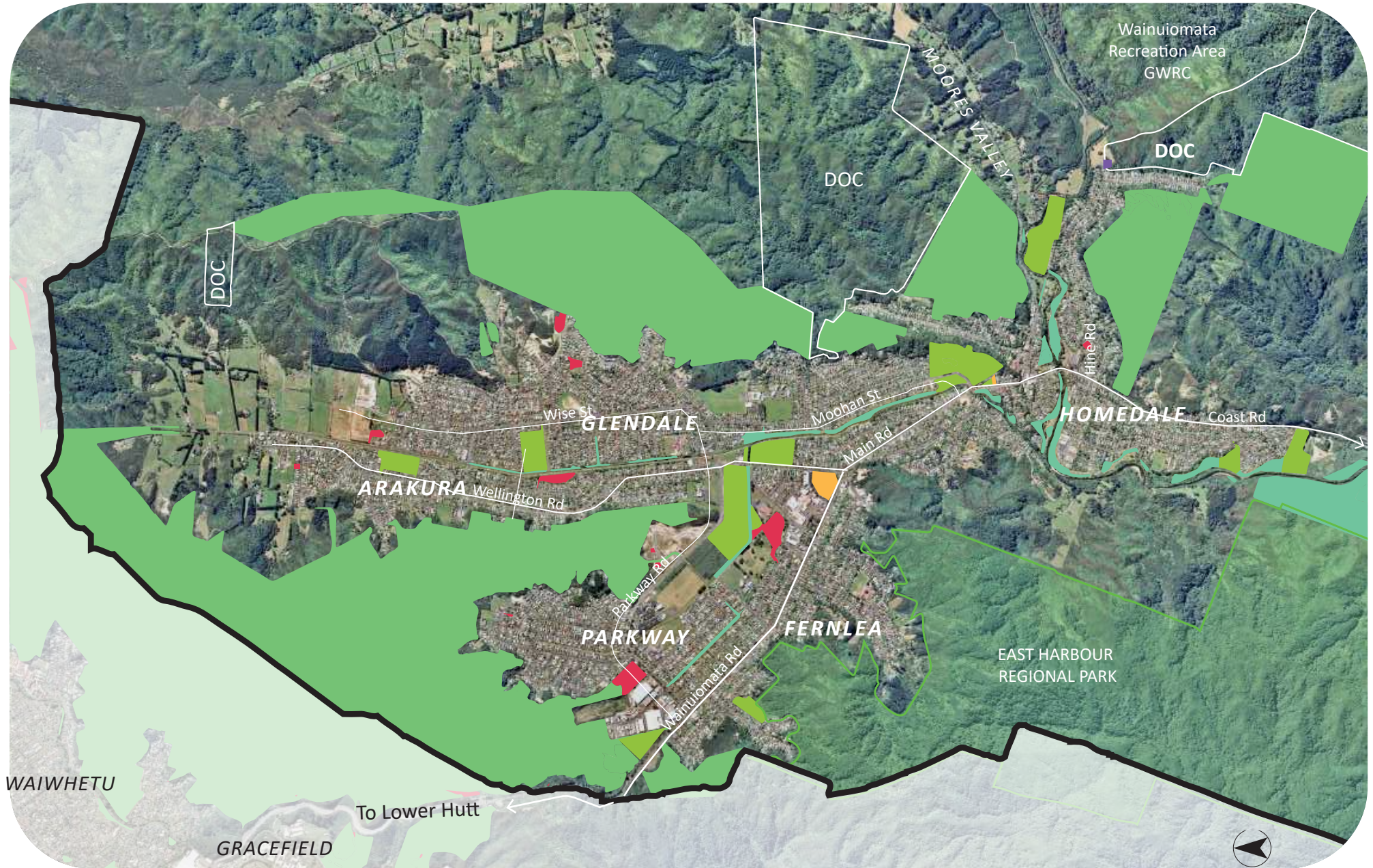


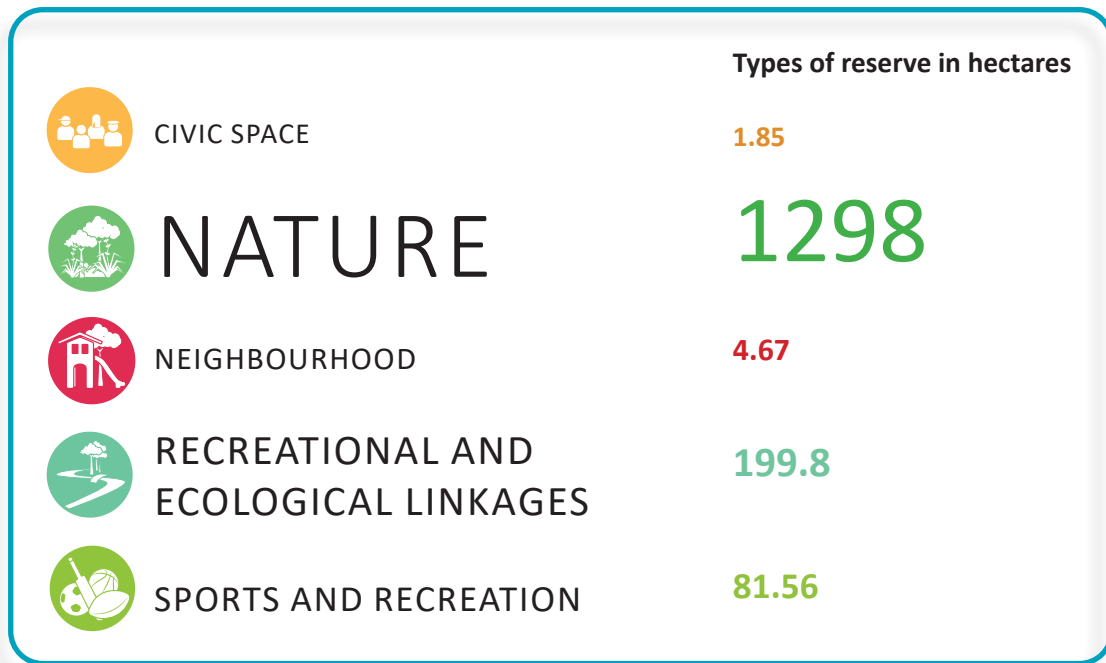
Neighbourhood reserves with large trees to compensate for smaller private open space and where neighbours can 'bump into each other'



Spaces for large and small groups

Types of reserves in Wainuiomata





92.49 hectares of Council reserve land on the valley floor

11.67 hectares of land along Black Creek

598.48 hectares of vegetation covered Council owned reserves on the hills surrounding the urban valley floors

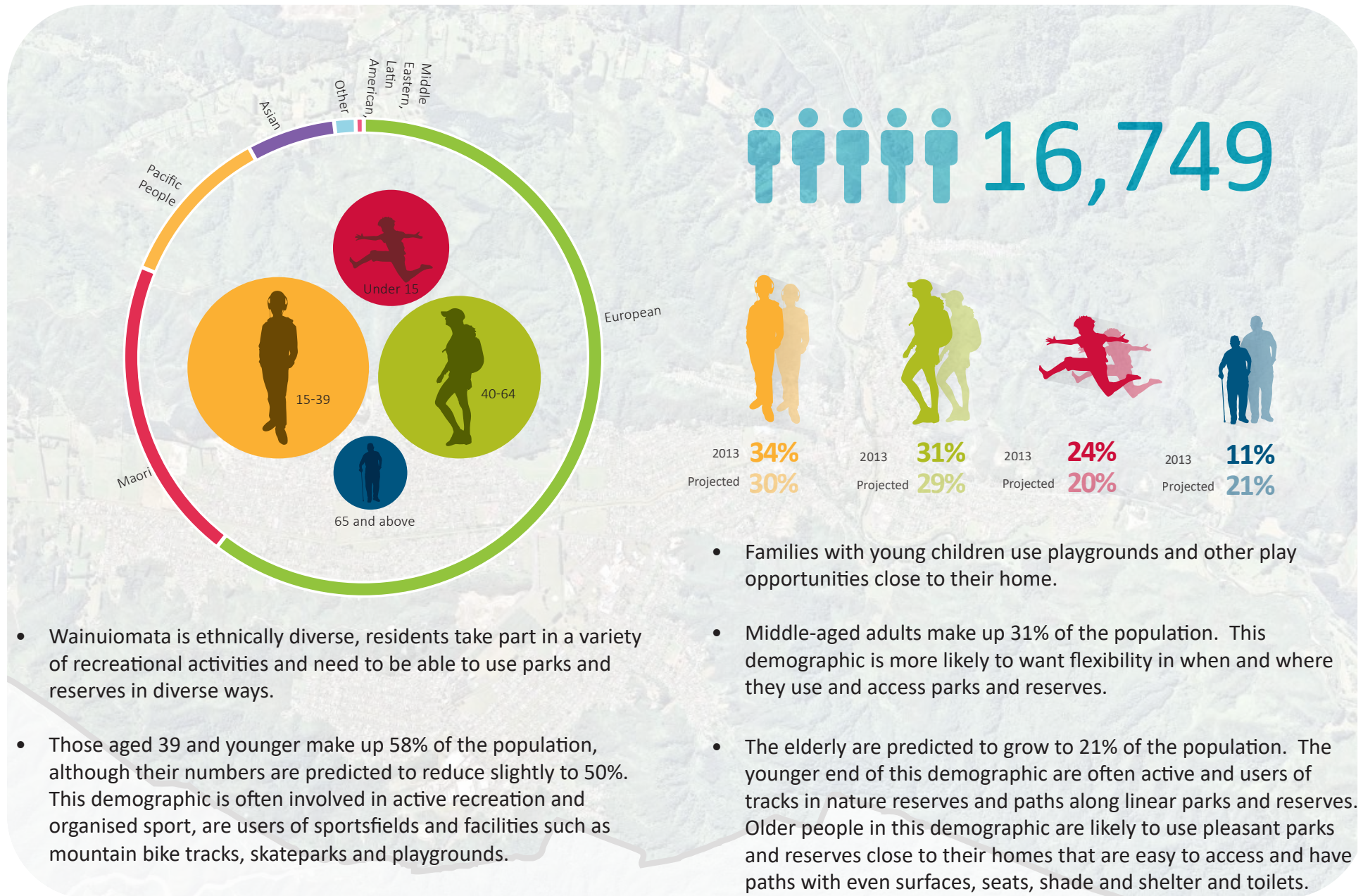
698.75 hectares of HCC owned and GWRC managed land on the hills of East Harbour Regional Park

- **Nature reserves** in the hills around Wainuiomata protect the natural environment and its intrinsic values, have tracks for recreational access and opportunities to experience the natural world.
- **Civic space** in Queen Street Reserve is the 'green' heart of Wainuiomata and provides a place for civic, social and community events, gatherings, meetings, relaxation and enjoyment in the town centre.
- **Neighbourhood reserves** for casual recreation, play, whānau, social and community activities are especially important in areas where housing is intensifying.

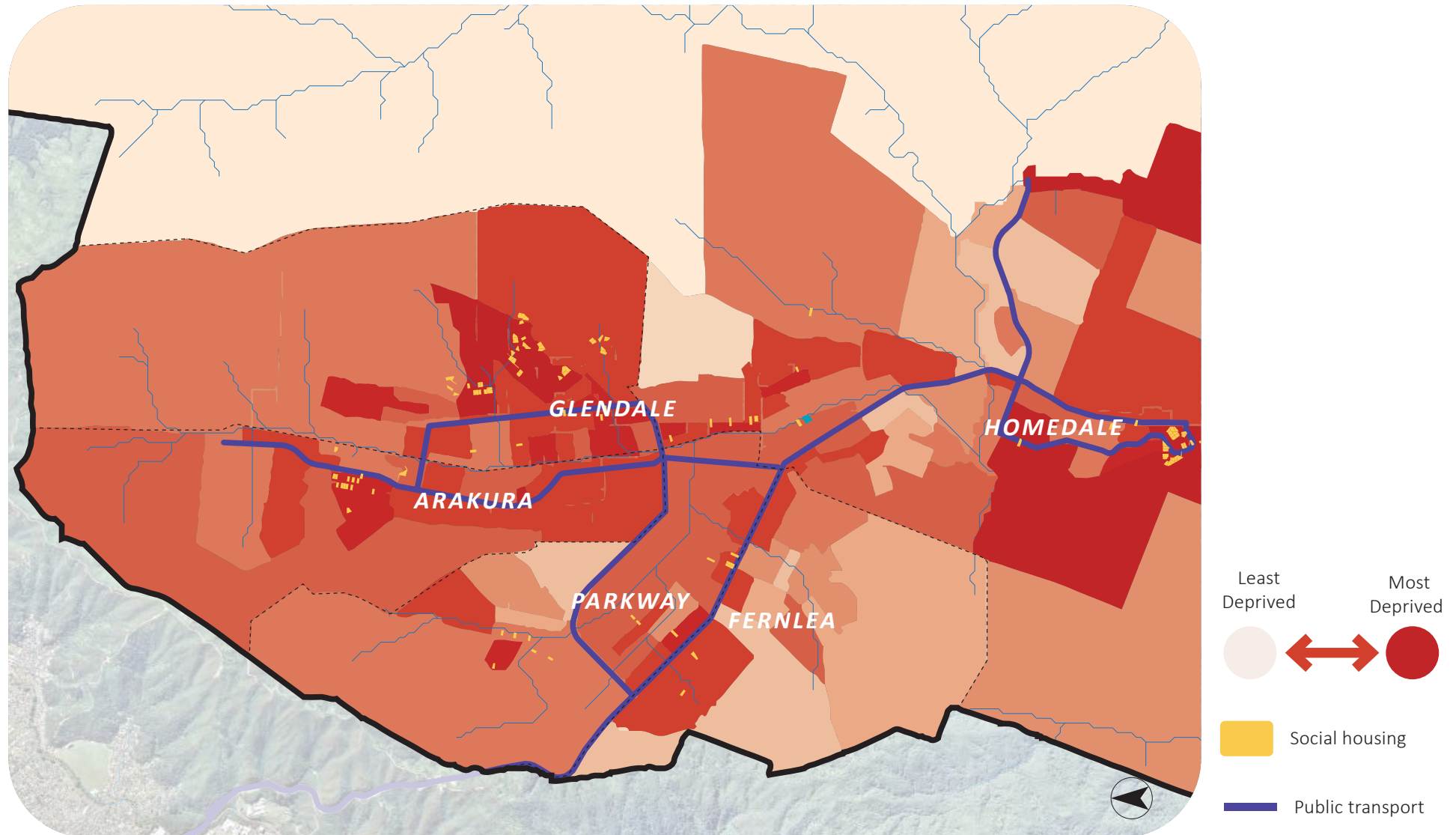
- **Sports and recreation** are parks that usually have buildings for equipment, changing rooms and club activities, and can be used for casual recreation when sportsfields are not booked for games or training.
- **Recreational and ecological linkages** along the margins of drainage reserves, Black Creek and Wainuiomata River provide for walking and cycling, wildlife corridors and access to waterways.

NB Types of reserves outlined here are based on Aotearoa Recreation (formerly NZ Recreation Association) park categories

Snapshot of Wainuiomata- Who we are

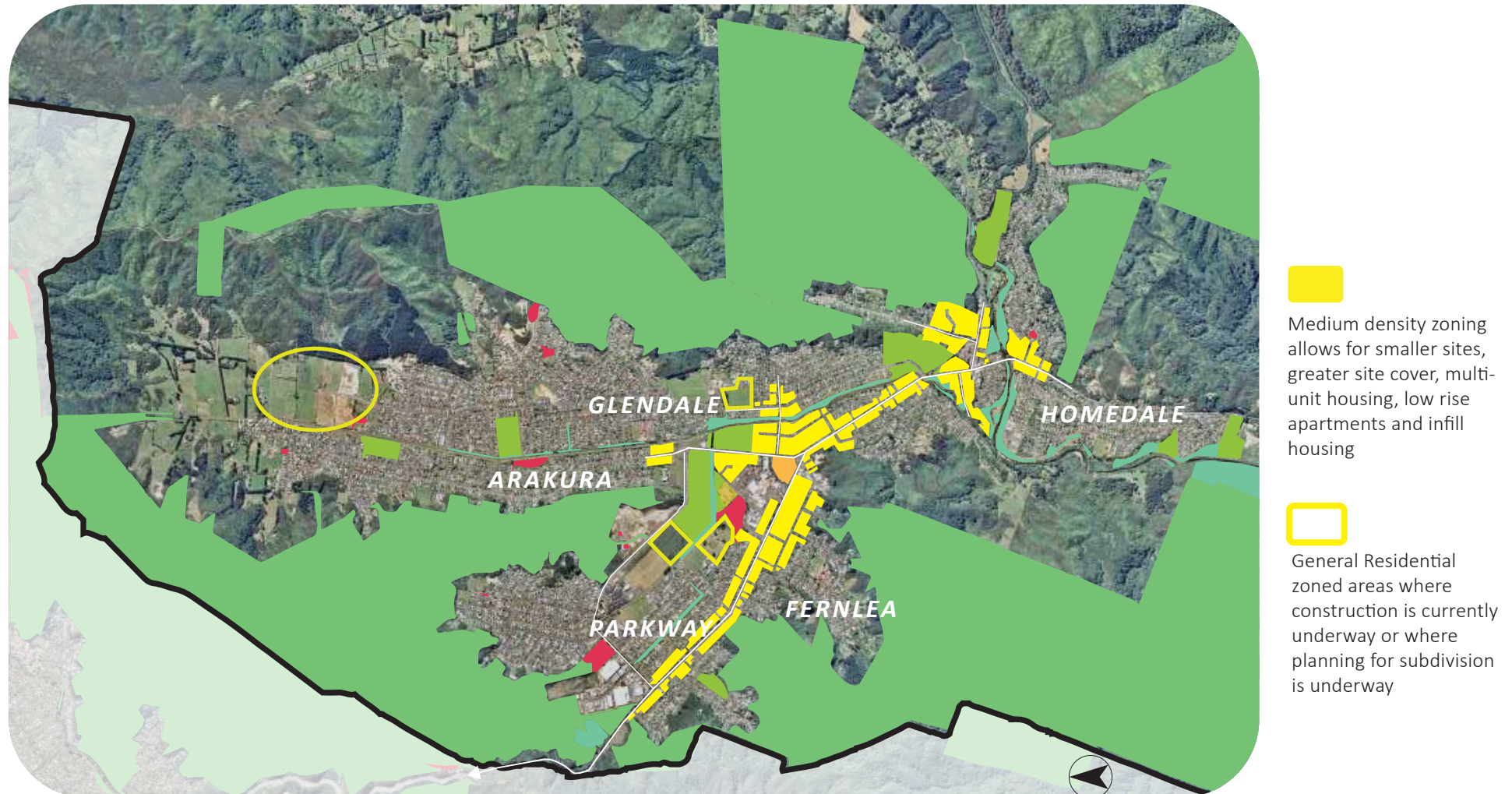


Socio-economic levels, social housing, bus routes



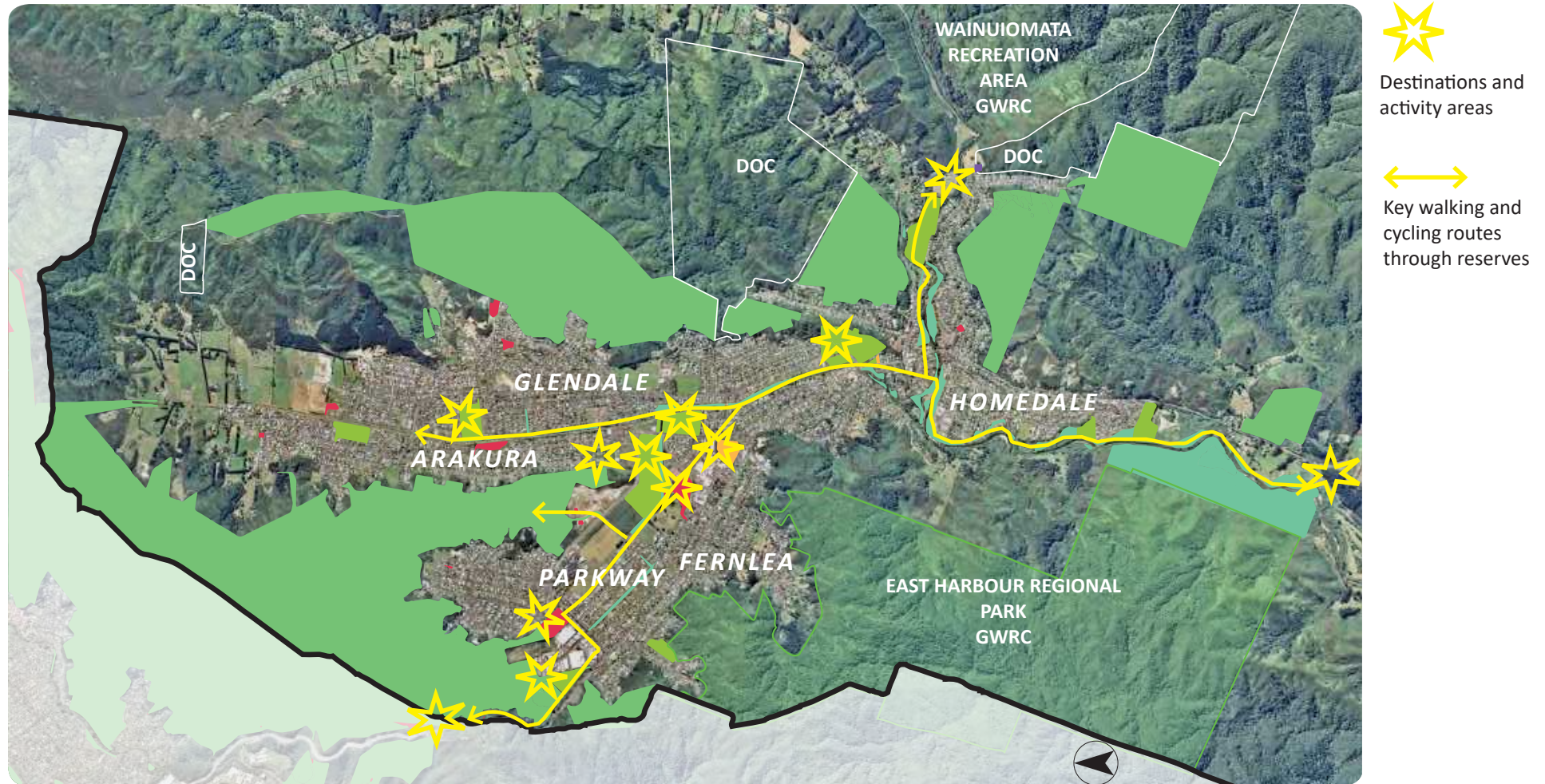
- People in more deprived areas have fewer transport options and are more likely to access parks, reserves and natural areas close to their homes and look for activities that are free to participate in. A recommendation is to improve access to parks and reserves in these areas and prioritise reserve development to provide a variety of experiences.
- People in less deprived areas have wider transport options and are more flexible in where and when they take part in recreation and access natural areas.

Where housing is intensifying



- In parts of Wainuiomata zoned for Medium Density housing, reserves and access to open space for recreation, social interaction and natural environments become important as private open space becomes smaller. Development of reserves in these areas, access to reserves and connecting walk and cycleways through reserves to key destinations is recommended.
- In areas zoned General Residential where residential development is occurring, demand for parks and reserves, access to them and safe, walking and cycling connections are also likely to grow.

Destinations and safe walking and cycling routes through reserves



- Typical destinations include parks, reserves and other recreational facilities, the town centre, civic facilities, schools and entrances to trails through natural areas.
- Wainuiomata has routes through reserves that are safe for pedestrians and cyclists and connect most key destinations. These routes encourage physical activity and reduce dependence on cars.
- However, many routes through reserves require all-weather paths, signage, trail network information and removal of locked gates and barriers.
- Access to safe routes is also blocked in places by subdivision and road design, and by encroachments onto connecting walkways. Some sections along Wainuiomata River are in private ownership.

Examples of barriers to safe walking and cycling connections through reserves

Grimbsy Grove Reserve
Locked gate from Upper
Fitzherbert Road



Mary Crowther Park
Stiles to Black Creek limit
access



Locked gate at the end
of Upper Fitzherbert
Road



Kaponga Street
Walking track to
Spoon Hill unsigned



Norfolk Street
Locked gate to Black
Creek



Wellington Road
encroachment



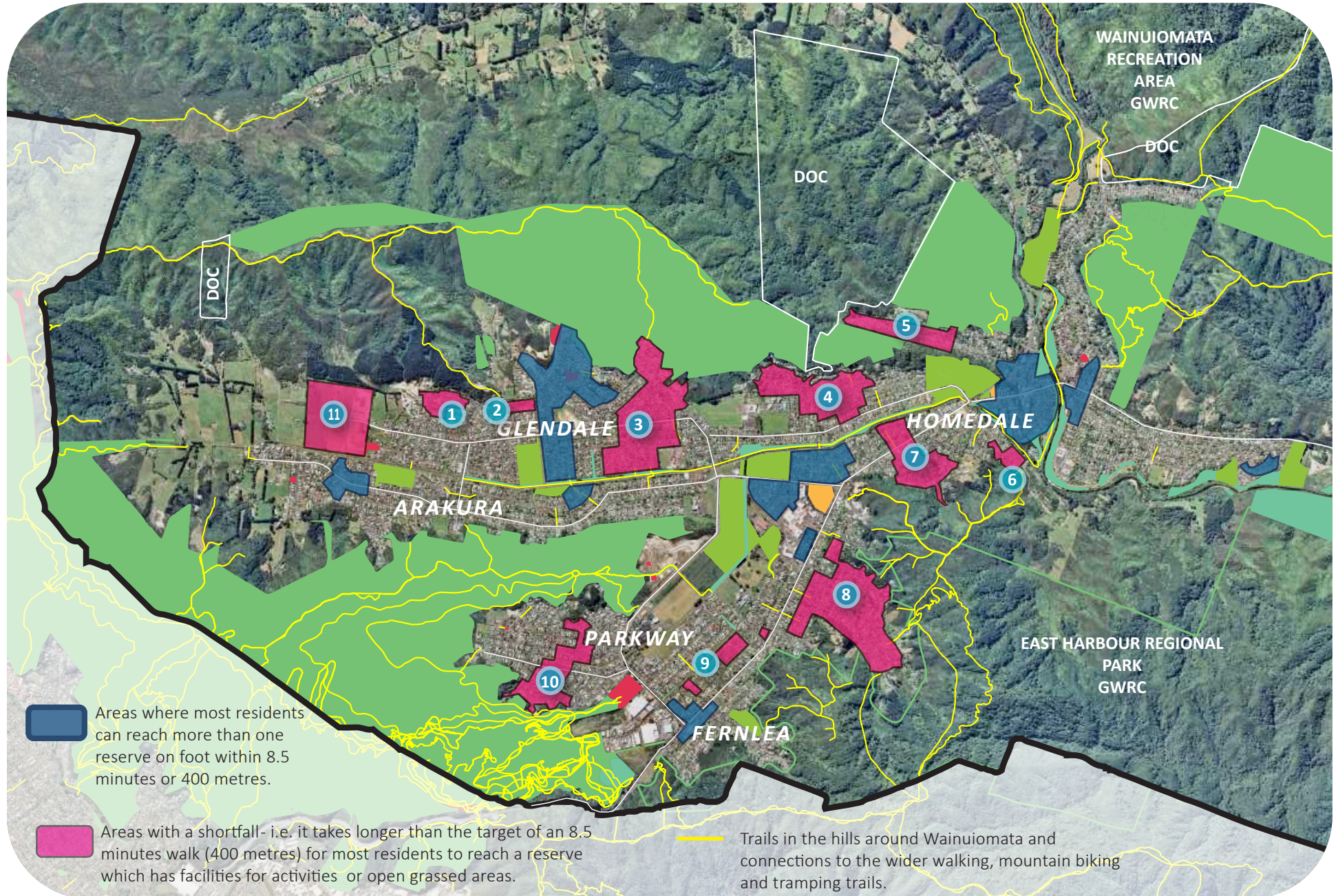
Track entrance from
Arakura School is
difficult to identify



Opportunities:

- Improve access with all-weather paths along Black Creek and along Wainuiomata River and remove locked gates
- Identify key entrances to nature reserves and the wider hill trail network
- Improve tracks and their entrances
- Add signage and information to identify tracks and encourage use
- Identify encroachments that block connecting accessways to Black Creek from residential areas in Glendale, Parkway and Arakura. This will help to improve the safe walking and cycling network.

Reserve access



1.

An area at the eastern edge of the valley floor (Concord and Belgrave Streets, Berkeley and Trelawney Roads). The hills behind this area are in private hands and reserves with play equipment or options for sport and recreation are more than the target 400 metres away.

2.

This small area at Dewsbury Grove has access to hill country to the east. The cul de sac blocks access to the drainage reserve with potential for an off street connection to Mary Crowther Park.

3.

The ends of four of the seven cul de sacs off Frederick Street have no connecting walkways to Black Creek. The gate to Black Creek accessway at the end of Dunn Street is locked. Residents have access to the hill track network from Castlereas Street.

Parts of this area falls within an area with some socio-economic deprivation.

4.

An area between Isobel Grove, McKillop Street and Moohan Street. Parts of this area fall within an area with some socio-economic deprivation.

5.

Residents in Hair Street have access to nature reserves but not to a more developed reserve. There is opportunity for a connecting track leading to William Jones Park.

6.

A track at the end of Stanley Street leads into the regional park. William Jones Park is more than the target of a 400 metres walk to a developed reserve.

7.

An area between Hyde Street and McGowan Road. The closest reserves are Queen Street Reserve to the north and William Jones Park to the south, which is over the target of a 400 metres walk. Parts of this area nearest to Main Road fall within an area zoned for Medium Density development.

8.

The closest neighbourhood reserve is Hugh Sinclair Park, on the other side of busy Wainuiomata Road. Fernlea School is within the area and provides opportunity for open space and play outside of school hours.

9.

Residents in these Medium Density zoned areas cannot reach a reserve within the 400 metres/8.5 minutes walk.

10.

The residential area on both sides of Mohaka Street between Kerepihi Grove and Mataura Grove. Properties at the ends of streets block access to tracks in the Eastern Hills.

11.

This area is under development and although next to Grimsby Grove Reserve, subdivision design provides no access to this undeveloped neighbourhood reserve.

Wainuiomata is surrounded by nature reserves, but some residential areas on the valley floor lack access to the track network in these reserves. In some instances, subdivision has favoured cul de sacs and properties at the end of streets block connections (areas 2, 3, 10 and in Arakura). This could be avoided in future through subdivision design that ensures access to nature reserves is retained.

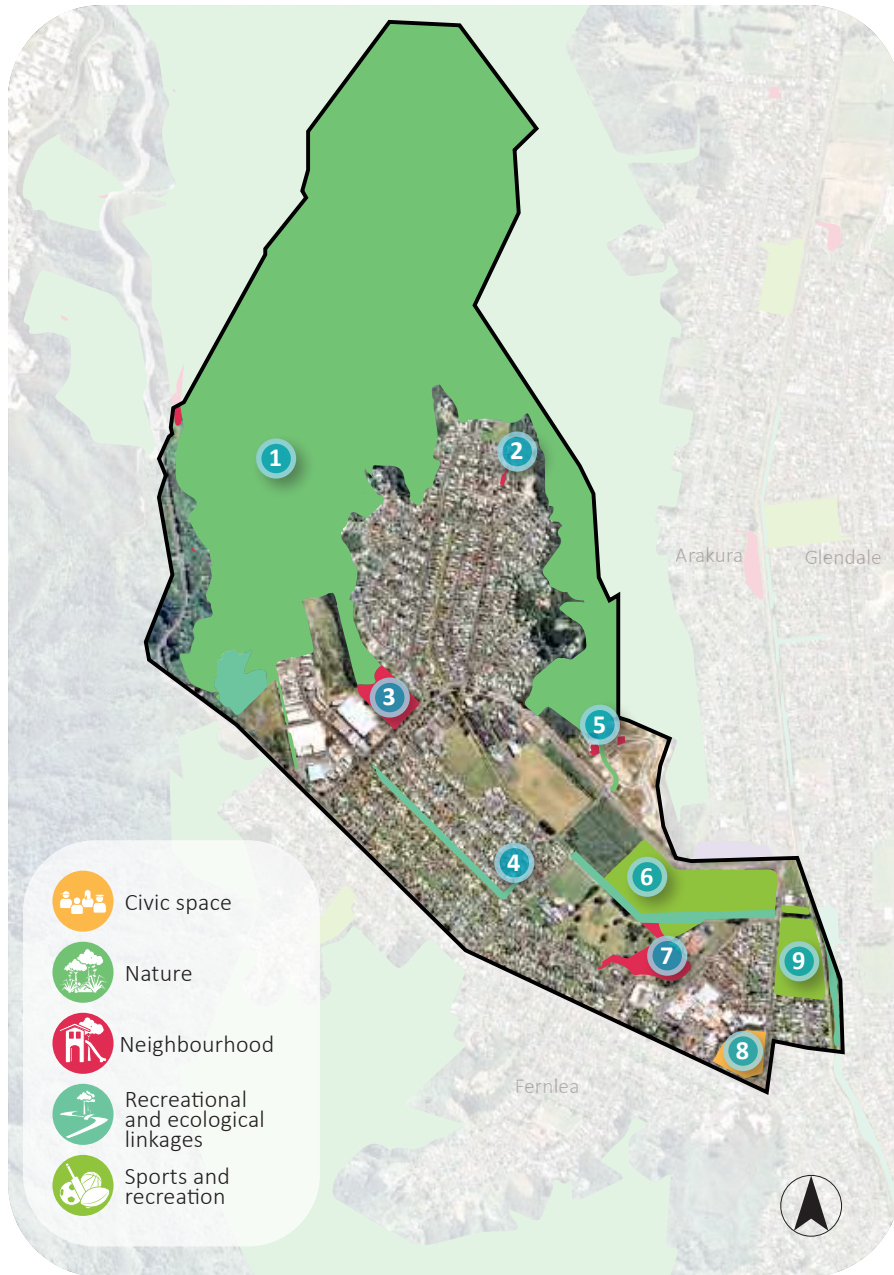
In some areas, people are able to reach one or more reserve within the target 400 metres. One of these is an area in Glendale with some socio-economic deprivation which has access to Antrim Crescent Reserve and Mary Crowther Park. Another is an area near central Wainuiomata where subdivision is occurring, a new retirement complex is under construction and which is zoned for residential intensification.

In other areas, tracks in nature reserves can be accessed, but more developed reserves are over the target of a 400 metres walk (areas 2, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 10).

Reserves suburb by suburb



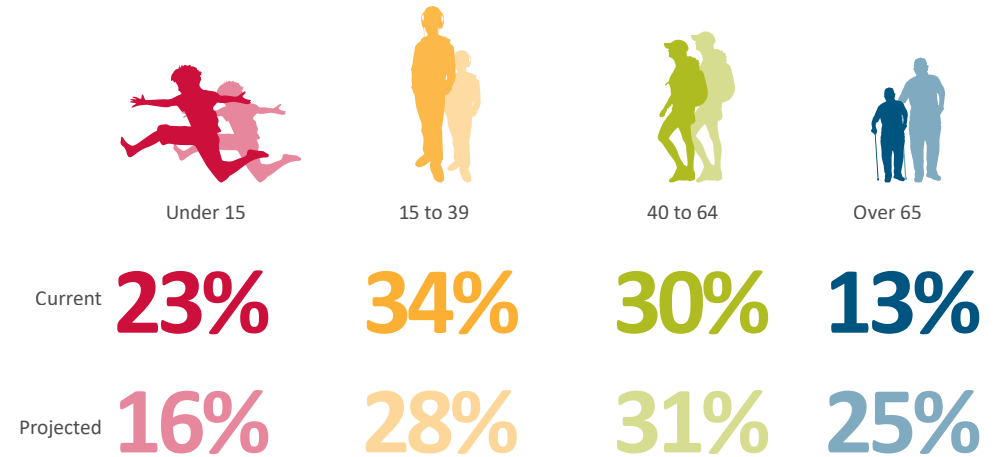
Parkway



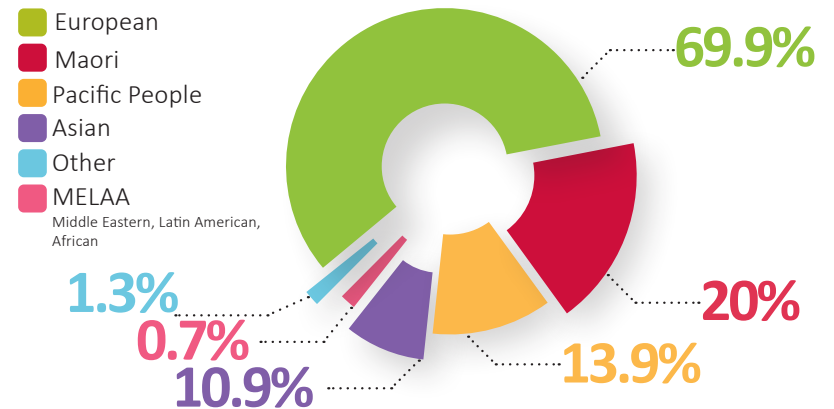
Population

3,138 

Projected demographic changes



Ethnic breakdown



NB Some people belong to more than one ethnic group. As a result percentages do not add up to 100

Parkway Reserves

1. Spoon Hill

This natural area is accessed from Parkway Playground through indigenous forest to the ECNZ Track and the mountain bike trail network.

Signage and track information would make the entrance from Parkway Playground more obvious.

2. Sun Valley Grove Reserve

This very small reserve in a cul de sac has a swing, tree, seat and path. It serves the local community and connects Sun Valley Way and Rakaia Grove.

Refreshing the play equipment from time to time would be an opportunity to involve the neighbourhood.

3. Parkway Family Playground

A good example of a successful neighbourhood reserve. It has activities for a range of ages, is a pleasant environment with play equipment, open green space and opportunities to explore and play in the natural environment with the neighbouring bush area and small wetland and boardwalk. It is visible, accessible and well maintained with a BBQ and picnic tables and mature trees for shade and shelter.

4. Karamu Crescent Reserve

Grass verges along a waterway from Parkway Road are options for pedestrians and connect neighbourhoods. They can be used to access Wainuiomata College, Wainuiomata Intermediate School and Konini Primary School through reserves as well as for recreational walking and dog walking. The drainage reserve that runs parallel to Konini and Totara Streets connects to the Totara/Karamu Walkway.

Bridges at both ends of Konini Reserve, and access through locked gates on Konini Street would allow for connections

through reserves. An all-weather path from the town centre through Parkway along drainage reserves would connect to the Wainuiomata Road shared path.

5. Parkway Rise

These two small undeveloped reserves were set aside as part of subdivision. Both have street frontages. Once across Parkway Road, a path connects to the route through reserves between the town centre and schools.

The reserves provide an opportunity for development as neighbourhood reserves for the local Parkway Rise community which is separated from other actively managed reserves by busy Parkway Road.

6. Frederick-Wise Park

Multi purpose sportsfields in a central location and site of the proposed Wainuiomata recreation hub. The park has new subdivisions on two sides and a retirement village on the third. Black Creek runs along the park's western boundary.

Off-road parking is provided from Parkway Road. A foot bridge across Black Creek links the sportsfields and clubrooms to the BMX track, Hugh Sinclair Park and The Strand. Trees along Parkway Road and the park's western boundary provide some shelter.

7. Hugh Sinclair Park

A pleasant reserve next to The Strand in the town centre with playgrounds for different age groups, skatepark, amenity planting and seating. Specimen trees provide shade and shelter.

This reserve is used for informal recreation, play and whānau based activities as well as social and community activities in the town centre. It is in an area where intensification is occurring and next to a new subdivision and a retirement village under development.

8. Queen Street Reserve

Central green space, 'heart' of Wainuiomata and important for way finding and point of reference with three of the town's main roads leading to the park. The park has pleasant open grassed areas, large specimen trees, the library, war memorial and community centre. Features have been developed along the park's Queen Street boundary as an outcome of the Wainuiomata Development Plan.

An issue is the disconnect between the reserve, Queen Street, The Strand and Hugh Sinclair Park. The town centre development is an opportunity to address this, along with continued implementation of the Wainuiomata Development Plan. The main roads on three sides of the reserve (Fitzherbert, Main and Wainuiomata Roads) make safe access for pedestrians and cyclists from neighbouring Medium Density zoned residential areas difficult. An opportunity is further development of the park as the green 'heart' for civic events and improve connections with surrounding residential areas.

9. Bryan Heath Park

This centrally located and visually prominent sports ground has club rooms, training lights with vehicle access and carparking off Fitzherbert Road. A pedestrian bridge across Black Creek connects the Moohan Street area with the park and the town centre.

Residential development along Moohan Street will bring more people to this part of Glendale and the park is likely to be an important short cut for pedestrians and cyclists to the town centre.

Parkway has an older population than other parts of Wainuiomata and like all of Wainuiomata is ethnically diverse:

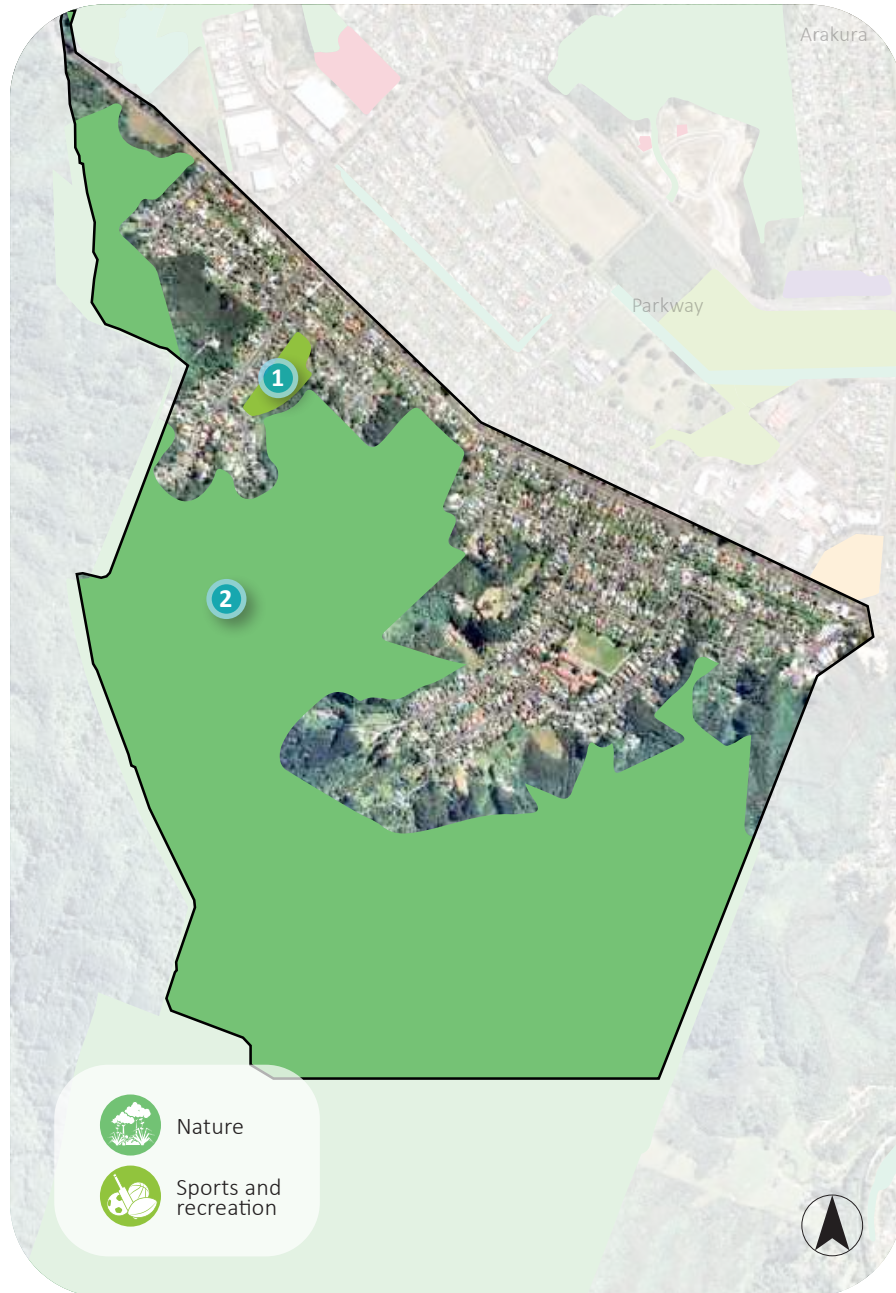
- The suburb contains a number of key Wainuiomata destinations including the town centre, the town's largest park with sportsfields, the mountain bike park and the marae. A dog exercise park is under development
- Residential development is occurring in Parkway Rise and on the valley floor
- Areas zoned for more intense residential development along Wainuiomata Road and near the town centre
- A retirement complex in the town centre is under development
- The residential area in northern Parkway on both sides of Mohaka Street between Kerepihi Grove and Mataura Grove lack access to a neighbourhood reserve within the 400 metres target. Properties at the ends of streets block access to tracks in the Eastern Hills. Track access from Kaponga Street has no signage.

Opportunities:

1. An all-weather trail along drainage reserves that link with the Wainuiomata Road shared path, Parkway Road and schools for a safe connection through reserves to the town centre.
2. Improved access to the hills and nature reserves with accessible, welcoming trail entrances, signage and information. For example at the top of Mohaka Street and Kaponga Street in northern Parkway and in Parkway Rise.
3. Retention and development of the green 'heart' of the civic centre at Queen Street Reserve in tandem with town centre development.
4. Development of Parkway Rise reserves as neighbourhood reserves.



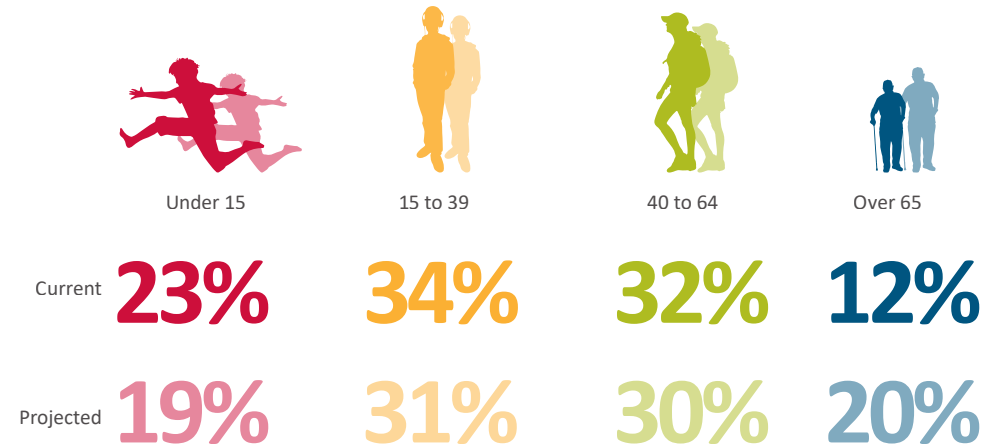
Fernlea



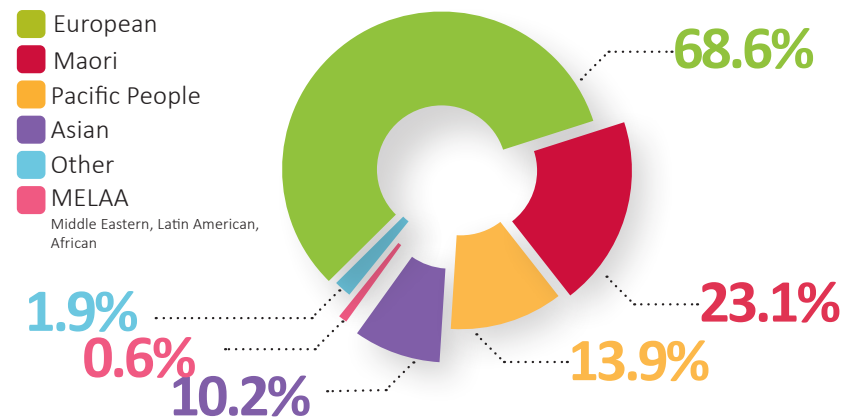
Population

1,974 

Projected demographic changes



Ethnic breakdown



NB Some people belong to more than one ethnic group. As a result percentages do not add up to 100

Fernlea Reserves

1. Karaka Park

Reserve with an open grassed area with a boundary onto East Harbour Regional Park and a playground with play equipment on Karaka Street. The park is the only reserve suitable for informal and organised recreational activities in Fernlea. As well as the Karaka Street frontage, the park is also accessed from Northcote Street via a locked gate. Archery is a regular organised recreation activity at the park.

There is no track connection from Karaka Park into East Harbour Regional Park.

2. East Harbour Regional Park

Several tracks lead into the regional park's trail network from Fernlea.

The trail starting at the top of Kowhai Street has signage with information on the trail network. Other track entrances from Fernlea are not signed or are not well signed.

Fernlea is separated from reserves in Parkway by busy Wainuiomata Road. Numbers of younger residents (under 39) and older residents are balanced in Fernlea, and the suburb is ethnically diverse:

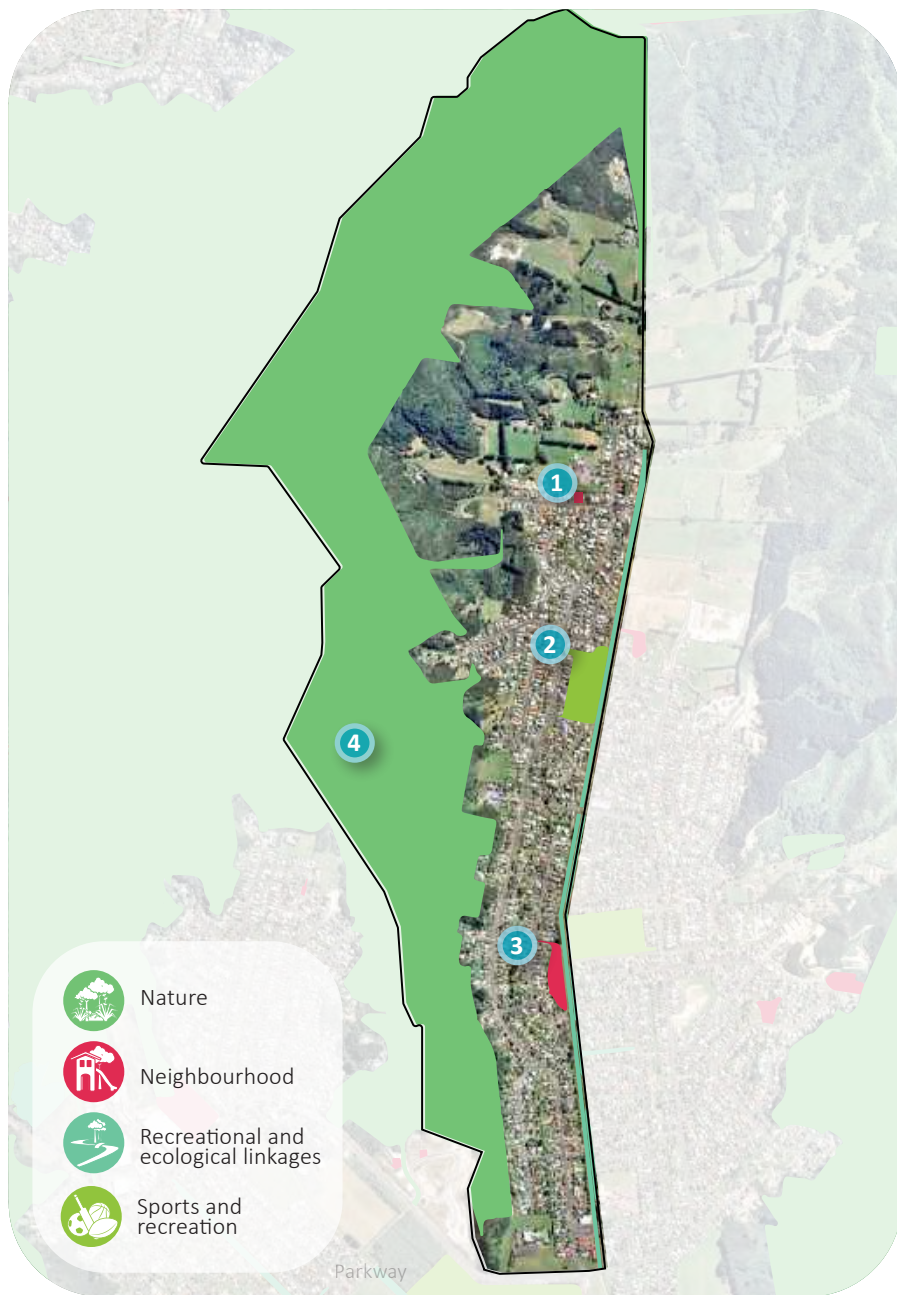
- There is only one developed reserve (Karaka Park), but residents may have use of Fernlea School play areas outside of school hours
- Areas along Wainuiomata Road are zoned Medium Density and residential intensification may occur
- The regional park can be accessed from many parts of the suburb. Only the track entrance from Kowhai Street has signage and information.

Opportunities:

1. Residential intensification may increase along Wainuiomata Road with a corresponding need for a neighbourhood reserve.
2. Improve entrances to the regional park with signage and information on trails.



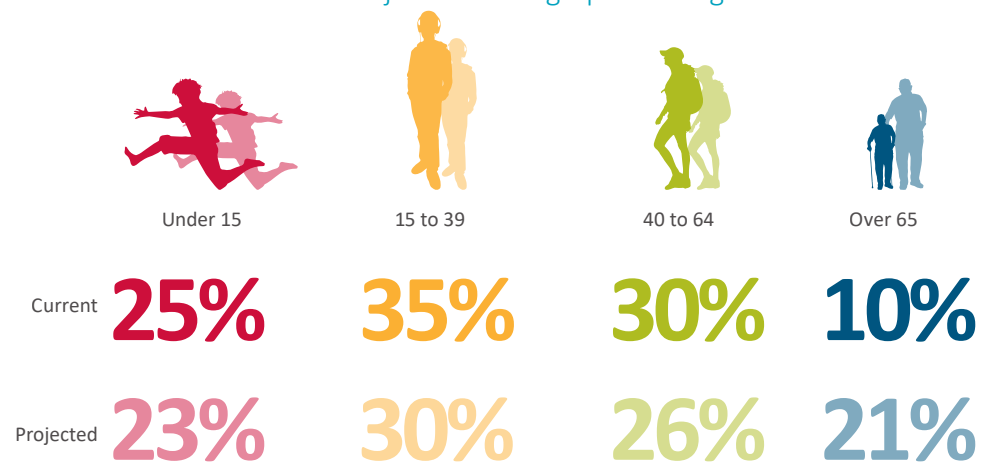
Arakura



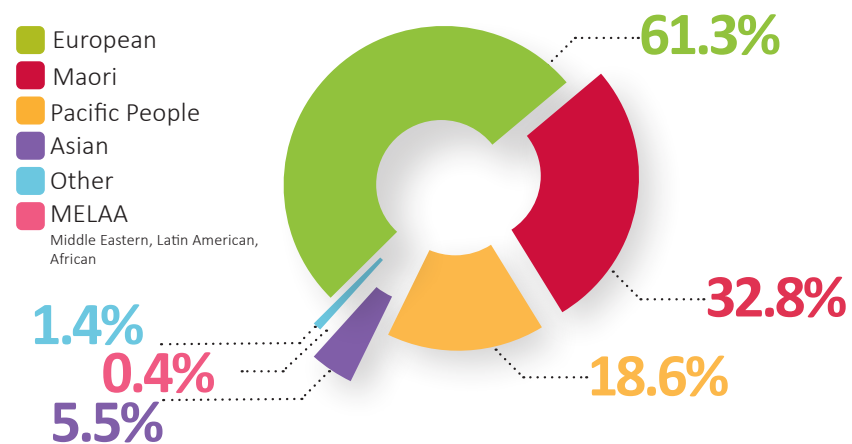
Population

2,445 

Projected demographic changes



Ethnic breakdown



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Arakura Reserves

1. Stockdale Street Reserve

Small neighbourhood reserve with street frontage, play equipment in an area where residential development is occurring, a grassed open area and trees that when mature will provide shade and shelter.

2. Arakura Park

Open grassed sportsfield which until recently was used for junior sport. The park is currently not needed for organised sport but has capacity if required. The park is on the Arakura bus route with a bus stop outside the Wellington Road entrance. This entrance has play equipment and a large specimen tree provides shelter and shade. A vehicle entrance from Matthews Road leads to a small on site carpark. Pedestrians can access the park from Halifax Street and from Upper Fitzherbert Road via a bridge over Black Creek. Trees along Black Creek have been damaged at their base from mowing and this has compromised their development.

3. Westminster Road Reserve

A pleasant grassed area along Black Creek opposite Mary Crowther Park and between properties on Westminster Road and Black Creek. The open undulating field has access from Westminster Road

Arakura has more young people than other parts of Wainuiomata, is ethnically diverse, has a reasonable supply of reserves but access to nature reserves could do with improvement:

- Two reserves have play equipment and one is an undeveloped neighbourhood reserve
- Arakura Park is not currently used for organised sport but has facilities for casual recreation
- Potential to develop access to trails in the hills for recreation and experience of the natural environment by improving access and adding signage and trail network information
- Potential to improve connectivity utilising the corridor along Black Creek
- Bridges across Black Creek connect Arakura and northern parts of Glendale
- Subdivision is occurring in northern parts of Arakura and Glendale.

and while it has no street frontage it is overlooked by neighbouring properties and is open to Mary Crowther Park and Black Creek.

4. Eastern Hills

Access from Arakura to the Eastern Hills and the ECNZ track and firebreak offers trails ranging from short bush walks to longer tramps. Existing entrances from Arakura are:

- Next to Arakura School - the track entrance is accessed through two high gates and is not obvious. The gates are for school security and a planned internal gate will secure the school, opening opportunity to improve this entrance to the Eastern Hills track network.
- The track entrance from the top of Enfield Street is not obvious and has no signage or information.

5. Black Creek

Black Creek runs along the valley floor and connects Arakura with the town centre. The wide grass verge along the creek means it is less usable in wet weather. Locked gates limit access.

Opportunities:

1. All-weather trail along Black Creek for a safe connection to the town centre to encourage physical activity (and reduce car use).
2. Improved connectivity with an all-weather path with seating through Arakura Park to the Black Creek trail, existing bridge to Upper Fitzherbert Road and the eastern side of the valley floor.
3. Improved access to the hills and nature reserves with accessible, welcoming trail entrances and signage and information.
4. Add value and amenity to reserves with tree planting using species that have multiple values e.g. along Black Creek in Arakura Park and in Westminster Road Reserve.
5. Engagement with local people and organisations and a variety of community programmes could widen use of Arakura Park and Westminster Road Reserve, make more of existing reserves and extend reserve values, play and recreational opportunities.

Glendale



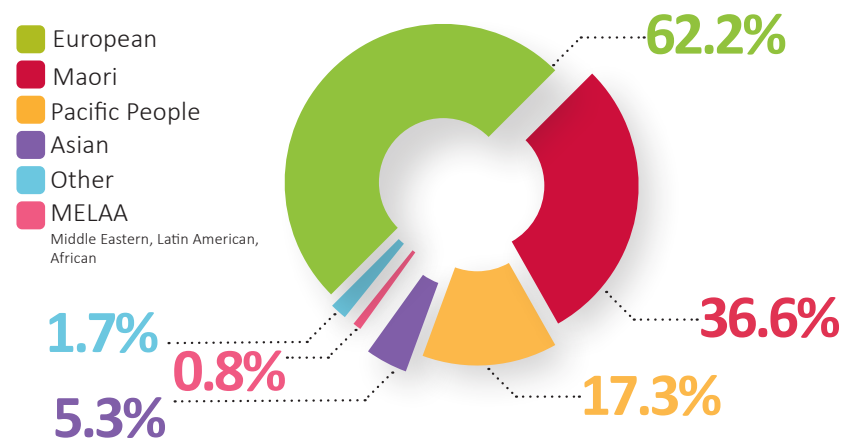
Population

3,804 

Projected demographic changes



Ethnic breakdown



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As a result percentages do not add up to 100

Glendale Reserves

1. Wainuiomata Eastern Hills

Access to the Eastern Hills and the ECNZ track and firebreak from the end of Upper Fitzherbert Road is closed and the gate locked.

2. Grimsby Grove Reserve

Open grassed undeveloped area with wide street frontage on Grimsby Grove and a second entrance from Upper Fitzherbert Road. The reserve has specimen trees and a drain on its northern boundary where residential subdivisions are under development. A fence and locked maintenance gate restricts access from Upper Fitzherbert Road. Subdivision design and the drain on the reserve's northern boundary reduces access to the reserve.

3. Mary Crowther Park

Sportsfield with two entrances off Wise Street (one with a small carpark) and a pedestrian entrance from Donnelley Drive. Play equipment accessed from Wise Street is not visible from the street. The sportsfield is used for winter rugby training with lights, changing sheds, toilets and a container for equipment. The boundary along Black Creek is fenced with four stiles for access.

4. Pencarrow Bush

The Scenic Reserve is accessed from Pencarrow Crescent.

5. Antrim Crescent Reserve

Pleasant reserve with street frontage on Antrim Crescent and access from Wicklow and Bunratty

Groves. A grassed area with land form, play equipment, seating and a paved path with lighting.

6. Tipperary Grove Reserve

This undeveloped neighbourhood reserve slopes up from Tipperary Grove to steep, bush clad reserve land. The reserve was the site of clubrooms which have since been demolished, although the concrete building platform and driveway remains. The reserve is grassed with fruit trees along the reserve's eastern boundary. A subdivision is under development to the north of the reserve.

7. Glendale Bush

A large natural reserve and back drop to the town centre with a formalised track connection from Castlereagh Street.

Glendale has more children and young people than other parts of Wainuiomata and is ethnically diverse. Residential development is occurring and some parts are zoned for more intensive residential development:

- Glendale has some areas where residents are unable to access a reserve within the recommended 8.5 minutes or 400 metres walk
- Hills to the east of northern Glendale are largely in private ownership and publicly inaccessible from the valley floor. Improving connectivity across the valley floor to trails in the Eastern Hills and developing entrances and trails in Glendale Bush would improve access to nature reserve
- Subdivision and Medium Density zoned areas may bring need for development of Grimsby Grove Reserve as a neighbourhood reserve.

Opportunities:

1. All-weather trail along Black Creek for a safe connection to the town centre and removal of locked gates.
2. Access to the Eastern Hills for walkers and mountain bikers from the northern end of Upper Fitzherbert Road with trail information.
3. Track development into the nature reserve from Tipperary Grove Reserve.
4. Assessment of the reserve values of Tipperary Grove Reserve in order to come to a decision on its development and future as reserve land.
5. Development of Grimsby Grove Reserve as a neighbourhood reserve.
6. Improved access to Glendale Bush with accessible, welcoming trail entrances, signage and information.
7. An all-weather path from Wise Street along the northern or southern boundary of Mary Crowther Park to connect to the proposed Black Creek trail, and replace the stile with an unlocked gate for all ability access.

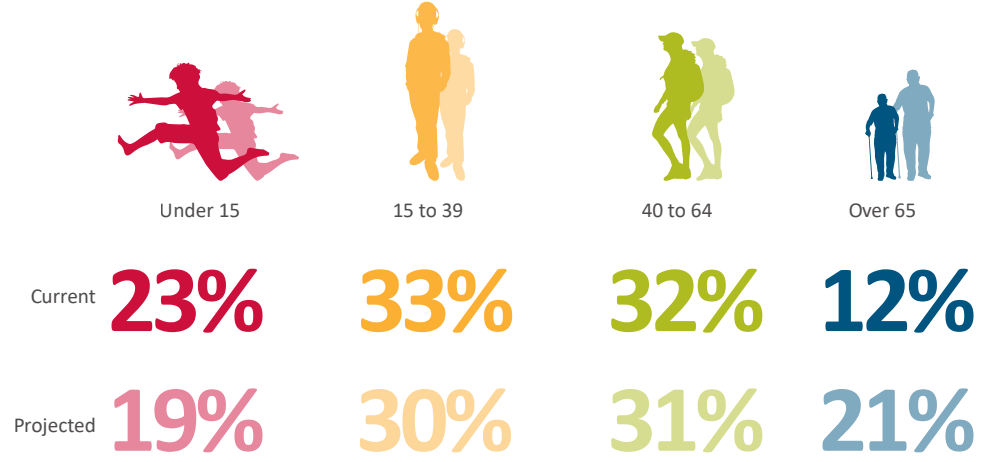
Homedale



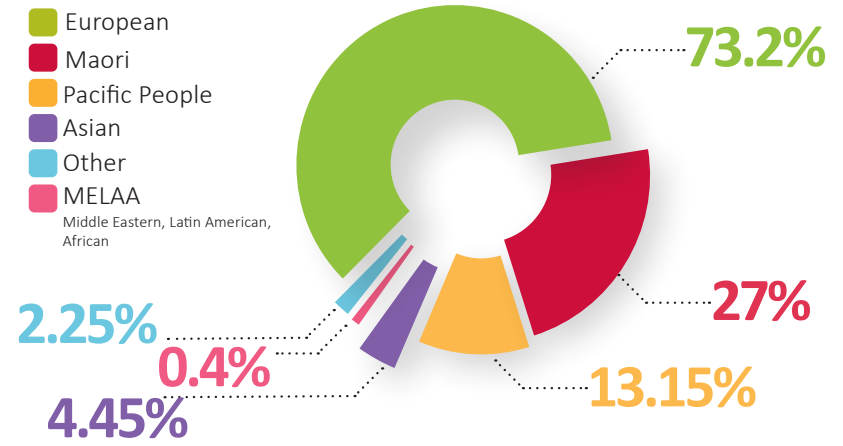
Population

5,391

Projected demographic changes



Ethnic breakdown



NB Some people belong to more than one ethnic group. As a result percentages do not add up to 100

Homedale Reserves

1. William Jones Park

Sportsfields and home to Wainuiomata Rugby with changing rooms and carparks off Moohan street. The swimming pool was built through community funding initiatives and is a popular recreation facility.

A grassed, treed area with squash clubrooms on Main Road, mini golf and garden beds in front of the swimming pool. Potential for reinstatement of a path through native bush behind the swimming pool connecting residents on Hair Street to the park.

The William Jones extension sportsfield on Moohan Street is currently not required for sport.

2. Wainuiomata Bowling Club

Bowling greens and carpark off Moohan Street.

3. Moores Valley Bush

Walking tracks that connect the valley floor to Glendale Bush are accessed from Gawler Grove via the reservoir.

4. Richard Prouse Park

A pleasant setting for activities on sportsfields with large mature trees and Wainuiomata River in an area identified for medium density residential development. Opportunities for casual recreation with river swimming holes and connections to Poole Crescent Reserve and GWRC, DOC and Council nature reserves. The park has access from Hine Road with carparking.

5. Garden of Remembrance

A garden area for ash interment located at the end of Hine Road with track connections to nature reserves, Richard Prouse Park and Wainuiomata River.

6. Sunny Grove Reserve

Scenic reserve with walking track accessed from Sunny Grove. A locked gate, lack of signage and track information does not encourage general public access.

7. Harry Todd Recreation Reserve

Tramping tracks in the reserve are accessed from Hine Road and Willis Grove although the entrances are not immediately obvious. The tracks pass through beech forest, ferns and regenerating native bush with views of Wainuiomata and Moores Valley from a lookout.

8. Homedale Reserve

Neighbourhood reserve located on the corner of Poole Crescent and Homedale Road. It has a community garden with trees and provides a neighbourhood focus in an area zoned for Medium Density Housing.

9. Poole Crescent Reserve

This reserve along Wainuiomata River is a pleasant area with large trees and open grassed area and is a connection for pedestrians and cyclists to Richard Prouse Park from Main Road and Poole Crescent. It forms part of the Wainuiomata River pathway which continues along the river to Rotary Park.

10. Rotary Park

A meandering track that follows Black Creek to its confluence with the Wainuiomata River and a wide, open grassed area with a small timber bridge and track along the Wainuiomata River.

11. Burden Avenue Reserve, Faulke Avenue Reserve, Wood Street Reserve

These reserves are a flood buffer between Wainuiomata River and residential areas in south Homedale. They are linear open grassed areas with vegetation along the river bank and accessed from neighbouring streets. A number of the accessways restrict access due to locked gates. The river walkway is not continuous due to a section of privately-owned land.

12. Leonard Wood Park

Accessed from Willow Grove and Wood Street with an open grassed area and vegetation along the banks of the Wainuiomata River. The reserve forms part of the Wainuiomata River walkway.

13. Ngaturi Park

Contiguous with Leonard Wood along Wainuiomata River, the park's sportsfield is currently not used for organised sport. A small playground at the end of Ngaturi Grove is difficult to access for anyone with a push chair, wheel chair or bike due to measures used to keep vehicles out of the park.

14. East Harbour Regional Park

On the western side of Wainuiomata River and not accessible from Homedale.

15. Wainuiomata Landfill

Accessed from Coast Road and currently not open to the public due to its former role as a landfill.

16. Wainuiomata Scenic Reserve

Accessed from the top of Hair Street.

Homedale has slightly more people aged 40 and over than younger people and is ethnically diverse:

- Homedale has a good supply and variety of types of reserves
- The area zoned for Medium Density in northern Homedale has parks for sport and recreation, a neighbourhood reserve with community gardens, access along Wainuiomata River, and entrances to tracks and trails on HCC, GWRC and DoC lands
- Southern Homedale has access to reserves along Wainuiomata River. Open grassed areas are currently not needed for organised sport but have potential for sportsfield reinstatement if the need arises. Continuous access along Wainuiomata River is interrupted by privately-owned land. Access from some neighbouring streets is controlled by locked gates. A path with an all-weather surface that follows the river would allow access along the river in all seasons.

Opportunities:

1. Signage and trail information at track entrances to nature reserves in northern Homedale.
2. Reinstate a path through the reserve on Hair Street for access to Williams Jones Park.
3. Potential need for a neighbourhood reserve in the area zoned for intensification along the western side of Main Street.
4. Potential for a continuous Wainuiomata River walk and cycleway with an all-weather surface, river access, information and easements over private land or land acquisition.
5. Encourage reserve use by replacing locked gates to reserves along Wainuiomata River with entrances that allow access and welcome users.



References

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