

APPENDICES MINUTES

**Horowhenua Lake Domain Board
Meeting**

Thursday, 30 October 2025

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6.4 Domain Development Plan

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DRAFT LAKE DOMAIN (MUAŪPOKO PARK) DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2024 - 2034

PURPOSE

The purpose of this plan is to outline the moemoeā the Lake Domain Board have of one of the areas of which they are the kaitiaki of, which is [number of acres] acres on CT [check certificate of title number 165/241] being [legal description]

The plan will highlight the goals the Board wishes to achieve over the next 10 years for Muaūpoko Park in the hopes of creating a environment which reflects the physical, environmental and cultural context of the parks location, enables manaakitanga and whanaungatanga to occur, and is one that Muaūpoko iwi, hapū and whānau and the wider community can enjoy and are proud of. This plan will look at the actions required to meet these goals and the management of the Lake Domain in the Board's role of Kaitiaki.

THE AREA

Offering great views over Lake Horowhenua, Muaūpoko Park is a landscaped area of parkland on the Eastern side of Lake Horowhenua (traditional name Punahau), which, in recent years, has fallen into disrepair.

Lake Horowhenua is a lake of prime importance to Muaūpoko within their tribal rohe. It is a shallow dune aeolian lake, one of the many coastal aeolian dune lakes typical of the region. It has a single outlet to the sea, the Hokio (traditional name Hokioi) Stream. The owners of the lake and the traditional owners of Muaūpoko Park lands are of Muaūpoko iwi.

Lake Horowhenua was traditionally surrounded by a podocarp forest (ngahere) as the centre of a rich wetland ecosystem system. A large variety of bird life visits the lake. Birds of particular significance to Muaūpoko include the kawai and kotuku, as well as the extinct Hokioi.

No power boats are allowed on the lake, and the lake is currently not suitable for swimming. Dogs are currently allowed in designated Agility/Obedience Club areas.

Muaūpoko Park has previously been maintained by Horowhenua District Council under the direction of the Lake Domain Board. Vehicle access cannot be guaranteed. The park can be entered by foot from the Queen St, Levin entrance.

Following the lifting of a rāhui, Muaūpoko Park remains closed to the public due to health and safety issues.

NGĀ MOEMOEĀ

- Muaūpoko Park is a safe space for Muaūpoko iwi, hapū and whānau and the wider community to enjoy all aged (stepping through) based recreational activities, whakawhanaungatanga and opportunity to interact with the wairua and mauri of Punahau.
- Muaūpoko Park is a park that reflects the natural biodiversity and ecology of the Lake surrounds
- Muaūpoko Park is an educational area for whānau whānui to learn9 from.
- Base-core is the health of the lake.

THE PLAN

Short Term until 1 October 2025

- Clean-up effort to mow learns, weed and pick up and remove rubbish
- Put in a gate at the entrance to the park
- Get a security installed for the front of the park, at the entrance
- Remove building (consulting with Lake Trustees & Council)
- Undertake Park Health and Safety Review
- Ongoing maintenance of open spaces.

Medium Term until 2029

- Ongoing maintenance of amenities and open spaces
- Address Health and Safety concerns – and consider approach to remedy
- Park design –
Approach Architecture or Design Schools to find out availability of School of Architecture students to visit Muaūpoko Park with a view towards designing a new Muaūpoko natural park design concept to incorporate planting, seating, bbqs, public toilet facilities, community kai gardens, loading ramps for water based activities including waka ama, recreation (ie basketball hoops) (the list is not exhaustive) stepped through all age based activities and a playground which reflects the cultural significance of the Muaūpoko for consultation with Muaūpoko and community
- Updated bilingual signage
- Bollards around large grassed area facing lake front
- Park development – stage 1 (New playground area including public toilet facilities)
- Progress and agree kaitiakitanga of Muaūpoko park - who cares for the park and amenities
- Address stormwater drain issues in conjunction with a wider conversation around the Lake
- Discuss appropriateness/fit of dog agility training continuing in the park
- Obtain External Funding & Support.

Long Term until 2034

- Ongoing park development – stage 2 & Stage 3.

Examples of Natural Parks and Playgrounds



