

## Attachment B Summary of submissions

### Groups

We had individual submissions from 9 different groups and of 75 individual responses to the questionnaire.

Themes from group submissions included:

- Place greater emphasis on protecting the unique wilderness area; ecology is a priority. Survey work and restoration/ecological/weed plans are needed. Gorse, climbing asparagus and pampus need to be controlled before developing any tracks.
- Ensure infrastructure is subservient to the natural environment; too many structures, signage and safety fencing would have a negative impact on the environment. Keep to a minimum and low-key. Ensure tracks are not over engineered.
- There should not be any bike tracks
- Ensure kauri are protected from kauri dieback
- Manage the fire risk, don't put tracks through areas of gorse
- Restore and maintain an area of the herb field
- Concern about car parking, particularly on Piha Rd
- Prohibit dogs
- Questions were raised about why the concept plan was developed before including this area into the framework of the Regional Parks Management Plan and whether the Concept Plan is consistent with the Regional Parks Management Plan and the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Act.

Below is a summary of the individual responses to the questionnaire:

- 78% of respondents to the questionnaire live at Piha.
- 86% agreed with developing tracks linking the Hillary Trail between the Mercer Bay Loop Track and Tasman Lookout Track, 8% disagreed and 6% didn't know/neutral
- 79% agreed with developing a loop track incorporating Lovett Stream and the Tennis Courts, 17% disagreed and 4% didn't know/neutral
- 56% agreed with the position of the viewing locations shown in the draft concept plan, 22% disagreed and 22% didn't know/neutral
- 63% support on-going maintenance of the Herb field, 28% do not support on-going maintenance and 9% didn't know/neutral
- 52% preferred option 2 as a location for a boardwalk, 28% preferred option 1 and 20% felt there should not be any boardwalks

There were some clear themes that came through on the feedback;

- Ecological values; regeneration/planting, pest and weed control are important
- The wilderness feel of the area should be retained. Keep signage and infrastructure to a minimum and don't over-engineer tracks and safety barriers to ensure minimal visual impact on the landscape
- There is concern about potential car parking issues
- The fire risk needs to be reduced where possible
- There are differing opinions on whether formed tracks and boardwalks are a good idea or not. Some felt that formed tracks/boardwalks would keep people from creating informal tracks while others thought the visual and environmental impacts would be too great.

## Individuals

We had a total of 75 individual responses to the questionnaire and 6 separate group submissions. 78% of respondents to the questionnaire live at Piha

The following results and themes are from the questionnaires only, feedback from group submissions will be considered separately as they include more detailed information.

- 86% agreed with developing tracks linking the Hillary Trail between the Mercer Bay Loop Track and Tasman Lookout Track, 8% disagreed and 5% didn't know/neutral
- 79% agreed with developing a loop track incorporating Lovett Stream and the Tennis Courts, 17% disagreed and 4% didn't know/neutral
- 57% agreed with the position of the viewing locations shown in the draft concept plan, 22% disagreed and 22% didn't know/neutral
- 63% support on-going maintenance of the Herb field, 28% do not support on-going maintenance and 9% didn't know/neutral
- 52% preferred option 2 as a location for a boardwalk, 28% preferred option 1 and 20% felt there should not be any boardwalks

There were some clear themes that came through on the feedback;

- Ecological values; regeneration/planting, pest and weed control are important.
- The wilderness feel of the area should be retained. Keep signage and infrastructure to a minimum and don't over-engineer tracks and safety barriers to ensure minimal visual impact on the landscape.
- There is concern about potential car parking issues
- The fire risk needs to be reduced where possible
- There are differing opinions on whether formed tracks and boardwalks are a good idea or not. Some felt that formed tracks/boardwalks would keep people from creating informal tracks while others thought the visual and environmental impacts would be too great.