

Strategic Assessment – Project

The purpose of this document is to provide a high-level outline of the proposed initiative, describing the need for change, related benefits and how this fits with Auckland Council's strategic outcomes. If the budget holder agrees with the strategic assessment, s/he should sign off approval to move this proposed initiative to the initiate phase. Text in italics is for guidance and should be deleted when no longer required.

Please complete and send the Word copy and signed, scanned pdf to the [Programme Specialist](#)

Investment proposal information			
Initiative Name:	Bushglen Reserve: Prepare a Boardwalk /Walkway Landscape Plan for review and adoption by the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board	Decision making body: <i>[Business unit/ department/CCO, local board, etc.]</i>	Hibiscus and Bays Local Board
Initiative Lead:	Tony Strange, Parks and Places Specialist	Is this a planned initiative or new?	New
Unique ID#		Date:	1/02/2018

Strategic case

Introduction
<p>What does this proposed initiative involve?</p> <p>Result</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The Investigation and Design Team to undertake further investigation on the draft boardwalk/walkway and landscape plan for Bushglen Reserve, Browns Bay, initiated at the request of the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board in 2015/16, and produced by Schafer Design in 2017.</i> <i>Adoption of the plan by the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board to inform future funding opportunities both external and internal to Auckland Council</i> <p>This to include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>assessment of the initiatives as outlined in the draft Bushglen boardwalk/walkway and landscape plan (Shafer Design October 2017), and</i> <i>present draft Bush Glen boardwalk/walkway and landscape plan at a workshop of the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board for adoption in principle</i> <i>formal adoption of the plan at a business meeting of the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board.</i> <i>provide indicative costings of initiatives outlined in the draft Bushglen boardwalk /walkway and landscape plan including consent requirements, to inform consideration of staging works budget allocation in future years.</i> <i>note that any future initiatives will require consultation with adjacent neighbours and mana whenua</i> <p><i>Bush Glen Reserve consists of an ancient Swamp Forest and bog which escaped being turned into farmland by European settlers in the early days. It was formerly known as the Newbegin</i></p>

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Block.

The swamp forest is extremely rare and is the largest of only three stands in the Tamaki Ecological District, and as a result is a site of regional ecological significance. There are three stands of maire in the reserve, totaling 34 trees of significant size with the produce seedling which is indicative of a quality habitat. Swamp astelia is found in association with maire which are also rare in Tamaki District – regional significance also.

There is a good diversity of native species including several good areas of manuka regeneration, providing habitat for lizards.

There is an active volunteer group (Friends of Bushglen) whose mission is to eliminate invasive weed species from the reserve and plant native trees, shrubs and plants where it is appropriate. In the process of their work their goal is not to do damage to the swamp forest. (It is important not to trample on the roots of trees and shrubs). At the same time volunteers need to be able to move around the reserve safely carrying tools, pushing wheel barrows etc.

To assist with this a network of paths and in some places boardwalks need to be developed. This network of paths would not be designed to cater for public access. The public can view the trees from the footpath on Helvetia Drive which is as good as a lookout.

As part of the 15/16 Hibiscus and Bays Volunteer budget underspend it was agreed to re-allocate \$15,000 to undertake a boardwalk/walkway landscape plan for Bushglen Reserve which has now been completed.

Also as part of information gathering Healthy Waters has completed a report, Bushglen Reserve Stream Condition and other associated stormwater activities(see Scott Speed Report attached)

There are also a number of other supporting reports and information attached as part of this strategic assessment.

What is the targeted delivery date / estimated time to deliver this initiative?

TBC

If possible, provide a ballpark figure of delivering this proposed project.

There is no funding allocated for this investigation. This will need to be either provided from staff time or an allocation to fund the investigation will need to be made from the Local Board's LDI OPEX

Is funding sought to build the business case?

Yes, if required, yet to be determined.

Strategic assessment – Outlining the need for investment

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Clearly define the opportunity / problem statement. Why should we invest in this proposed initiative?

- Protect rare swamp maire – Syzygium maire
- Protect Astelia grandis
- Prepare long term plan for development – assists with funding applications
- Improve access – paths and boardwalks
- Improve knowledge of reserve
- Educational resource for local schools and groups
- Improve knowledge of plant environment, rarity of maire – information boards, plant labelling
- Resolve scouring issues – planting or natural solution
- Connect with wider reserve and surrounding area
- Remove weed species
- Replanting with suitable native species
- Recreate historical planting – old kauri land
- Planting days – increase public awareness
- Green link for wildlife
- Restoration of habitat to protect trees and lizards

What are the measurable benefits of implementing this change?

- Protecting of the rare swamp maire – Syzygium maire
- Increased awareness of plant environment, rarity of maire.
- Engagement with and empowerment of local community active within this space.
- Environmental improvements

What would happen if we didn't continue with this proposed initiative?

- Loss of ecologically important environment.
- Disengaged active community and lost opportunity to work with a community on a project that they have shown passion and drive to achieve.

What other similar projects /initiatives / programmes are currently on the go?

There are no other similar project, initiatives and programmes currently taking place within the bays area

Identify the link to strategic outcomes, business and/or asset management plans.

Auckland Plan Outcomes		Our 6 Steps up	
Tick all that apply. ✓			
Belonging and participation	✓	Engage and enable communities	✓
Maori identity and well-being	✓	Quality advice and support for elected members	
Homes and places		Smart and easy for customers	
Transport and access		Value and empower our people	
Environment and cultural heritage	✓	Better value for ratepayers and residents	✓
Opportunity and prosperity		Make the most of our size and scale	

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Describe the strategic linkage in more detail here.

Key stakeholders
 Which stakeholders / communities have been engaged regarding this proposed initiative?

- Friends of Bushglen volunteer group are familiar with the draft plan (Appendix A) and are supportive of the plan.

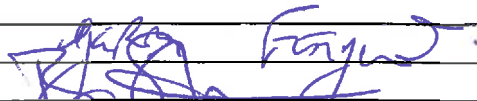
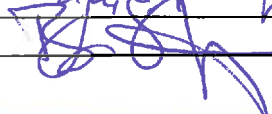
SMEs (Subject Matter Experts)
 Have SME experts been engaged?

Relevant technical reports undertaken by SME experts are attached.

Parks Services Volunteer and Biodiversity Team are supportive of the proposal.

Approval and acceptance

Approval
"This initiative is worthy of further development into the Initiate phase. I agree that the potential benefits identified are realistic, and the required budget to support movement into the Initiate phase of the project is available and approved. The Project Complexity Assessment Tool (PCAT) should be used to identify the rigour required regarding the development of either the Auckland Council Business Case – low, medium or high complexity, which should now be prepared."

Role	Name	Signature
Sponsor		
Business Owner	Mark Maxlow	
Benefit Owner	Gerry Fitzgerald	
Initiative author / lead	Tony Strange	

- Appendices**
- Appendix A -Bushglen Draft Plan –set 06 2017
 - Appendix B - Memo Bushglen-Scott Speed
 - Appendix C - Constraints and Opportunities
 - Appendix D - Bushglen Slaven Report
 - Appendix E - Bushglen Marler Report