

Puketāpapa Drinking Fountain Provision Assessment 2018

Background:

In recent years an increased importance has been placed on community health and wellbeing, with the issue of obesity attracting particular interest. Access to unhealthy sugary drinks has been shown to have contributed to the rise of obesity. As a result, the Ministry of Health strongly encourages the consumption of water over sugary drinks. This is reflected in their National Healthy Food and Drink Policy 2018.

The Auckland Council has a role to play to increase the availability of drinking water in public open spaces. While a proposed level of service for drinking fountains in public open spaces is in development, there is currently no guidance as to where and why drinking fountains should be considered for installation in parks and open spaces.

In FY18/19 the Puketāpapa Local Board funded a provision assessment focusing on drinking fountains found within public open space in their local board area.

The aim of this provision assessment is to identify where drinking fountains are currently installed across parks and open spaces, and suggest possible locations for additional drinking fountains to create a robust network across Puketāpapa.

Any improvements to the drinking fountain network within Puketāpapa will help to result in:

- Improved access to tap water in public open spaces.
- Behavioural change to reduce consumption of sugary drinks.
- Better physical and oral health and reduced levels of obesity.
- Less plastic waste and improved environmental health.

Improvement to the drinking fountain network aligns with the infrastructure strategy of the Wai Auckland initiative. This is a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Health, Auckland DHB's, Auckland Council, and Healthy Auckland Together (21 other key stakeholders and organisations within Auckland). This initiative aims to displace sugary drinks through improving accessibility to potable water and via education and community engagement.

This will involve working across the whole system, including urban planning, water infrastructure, policy, beverage supply and retail, community, health, education, and sport to make water the easy and first choice of beverage.

The delivery of a robust network of drinking fountains across Puketāpapa will help to reduce the impact of sugary drinks in the local community, and in combination with other programmes such as Wai Auckland, will help to turn the tide on obesity in Auckland.

Current State:

Currently there are ten drinking fountains within the local board area, mapped on the following page. These are located at:

- Walmsley Park (new)
- Underwood Reserve (new)
- Mt Roskill War Memorial Park x2
- Fearon Park
- Turners Reserve
- Keith Hay Park x2
- Lynfield Reserve
- Taylors Bay Reserve

Drinking fountains located just over the border in other Local Board areas are also likely serving Puketāpapa residents. These are located at:

- Ōwairaka Park (Albert-Eden)
- Sandringham Reserve (Albert-Eden)
- Taumanu Reserve (Maungakiekie Tamaki)
- Cornwall Park (Maungakiekie Tamaki)
- Valonia Reserve (Whau)

There is a distinct lack of drinking fountain facilities in the east and south of the local board area.

Creating a Robust Network:

To build on the existing network of drinking fountains, you must consider principles of where a drinking fountain would be considered a beneficial service to park users.

Parks Services staff considered relevant literature around the provision of drinking fountains, and the needs of park users to produce a list of principles to identify appropriate locations for new drinking fountain installations.

The principles used for this assessment are as outlined below:

- The park is used for organised or informal sporting / active recreation purposes.
- The park is on an active transport / walking route or identified in greenways plan.
- The park is used as a community gathering or picnic space.
- There is a significant playground or play space at the park.
- The park supports large events.
- There are no drinking fountains nearby (such as at businesses or schools).
- The park concept plan indicates a drinking fountain.

Long term Provision:

New drinking fountains were recommended for the following twenty sites, listed in no particular order, and also shown on a map on the following page:

Location	Rationale		Location	Rationale
Arthur Faulkner Reserve	Active Recreation/Sports		Hillsborough Cemetery	Community/Picnic Space
Dominion Road	Transport/Walking Community/Picnic Space		Molley Green Reserve	Community/Picnic Space
Harold Long Reserve	Play		Waikowhai Park	Transport/Walking Play
Big King - Te Tatua o Riukiuta	Transport/Walking		Manukau Domain	Transport/Walking
Quarry Sports Field	Active Recreation/Sports		Lynfield Cove Reserve	Transport/Walking
Three Kings Reserve	Active Recreation/Sports Community/Picnic Space		Margaret Griffen Park	Active Recreation/Sports Play
Monte Cecilia	Community/Picnic Space Play		Maioro Overbridge	Transport/Walking
Seymour Park	Active Recreation/Sports		Puketāpapa	Transport/Walking Community/Picnic Space
West Reserve	Play		Keith Hay Overbridge	Transport/Walking Active Recreation/Sports
Hillsborough Park	Active Recreation/Sports		Hillsborough Road	Transport/Walking

Proposed Long Term Drinking Fountain Provision Puketāpapa Local Board



Prioritisation:

The twenty sites suggested for new drinking fountains within Puketāpapa have been prioritised on the following page to provide a suggested order for future delivery. Sites were classed as either high priority for delivery in the short term, medium priority or low priority for delivery in the long term.

The principles used for prioritisation are outlined below:

- In order to ensure equitable investment across the local board area and help work towards a robust network of drinking fountains, installations in areas lacking drinking fountain provision were given the highest priority.
- The types of activities occurring in each location were also used to prioritise sites for delivery. Sites providing active recreation and sport were given the highest priority as this activity results in the greatest need for access to potable water. This was followed by active transport / walking. Finally, sites which provided community or play value were given a lower weighting.
- The cost of a drinking fountain installation can vary widely dependant on a number of factors. Most importantly however is the access to potable water. Sites which had access to existing water lines (e.g. near toilets or buildings) were given a higher priority given they will more affordable and thus provide more immediate benefits to the network.
- Locations in parks with existing concept plans which refer to possible drinking fountain installations were given priority, given there is some existing level of community expectation. Those sites with active or planned projects as part of the community facilities work programme were also prioritised, given there may be opportunity to include drinking fountains in the scope of each project.
- Locations in parks with higher usage were prioritised over smaller parks. The addition of a drinking fountain will positively impact a larger number of people in these sites.

Next Steps:

In order to deliver a robust network of drinking fountains throughout the Puketāpapa Local Board area, the Local Board should consider funding an ongoing programme of delivery, focusing initially on high priority sites before moving down the list over time.

The rough cost of a single installation will vary dependent on model, design, drainage, water connection, meterage ect. It is estimated that the average installation costs between \$5500-\$6500, or higher if access to water on site is limited.

The final in-park location and design of installed drinking fountains should take into account considerations such as drainage requirements, user needs (people & dogs), cultural impacts (distance from toilet) and level of use (determines model).

Prioritised List of Drinking Fountains:

Priority	Location	Rationale	Comments
High	Margaret Griffen Park	Popular sports park, with high levels of activation on the upper fields and at the playground and leased facilities. Poor current provision in area.	Drinking fountain to be identified in concept plan. Access to existing water lines at toilet and leased buildings. Consider two installations at either end of park. Could be included in Freedom Camping project.
High	Three Kings Reserve	This site is very well used, including the courts, sports fields and community facilities. Poor current provision in area.	Location near courts and fields. Potential for a second installation near library. Access to existing water lines available. Consider future Town Centre Plan.
High	Waikowhai Park	This is a well used park with playground and is a key stopping point on the Waikowhai Walkway. Poor current provision in area.	Drinking fountain identified in concept plan. Access to existing water lines near toilet available. Could be included in existing projects happening within the park.
High	Monte Cecilia	This is a destination park and an important space for the community. Long term ambition for significant playground.	Access to existing water lines near toilet and buildings. Already identified in park and playground concept plans.
High	Lynfield Cove Reserve	This well used site includes a playground and is the start of the Waikowhai Walkway.	Access to existing water lines near toilet.
High	Molley Green Reserve	A popular neighbourhood park, with users staying for an extended time. Includes basketball and a playground.	Access to water could be a limiting factor. If this results in significant price increase and difficulty, then fountain could be a long term installation with a future toilet.
Medium	Arthur Faulkner Reserve	There is a small tennis club and public tennis courts at the reserve however this is not a significant park for the area.	Drinking fountain identified in concept plan, and existing projects planned for park. Access to water through leased buildings.
Medium	Harold Long Reserve	This is a significant new play space for the area and has expected high use.	Stage 3 works is forecast for FY19/20. Could be included in existing project. Access to water lines through leased building.
Medium	Seymour Park	Smaller sized sports park.	Access to existing water lines near toilet.
Medium	Hillsborough Park	Smaller sized sports park.	Access to existing water lines near toilet.
Medium	Big King - Te Tatuā o Riukiuta	Very well used site by dog walkers. Access to existing water lines by toilet.	Managed by Tupuna Maunga Authority. Would require their approval. Await management plan for the site.
Medium	Puketāpapa	This is a popular destination, and also includes the SH20 Cycleway running through the site.	Managed by Tupuna Maunga Authority. Would require their approval. Await management plan for the site.
Medium	Keith Hay Overbridge	A key intersection along the SH20 Cycleway. Would also serve children from nearby schools and sport users.	Access to water could be a limiting factor.
Medium	Quarry Sports Field	New sports park to serve a brand new community. Access to existing water lines.	Potential to be included in existing sports field establishment project. Project a few years away.
Medium	West Reserve	A popular neighbourhood park, with users staying for an extended time.	Possible access to water through leased play centre building. Park is also in consideration for a new public toilet in the long term.
Low	Hillsborough Road	A key intersection along the SH20 Cycleway. Will require collaboration with AT and NZTA.	Access to water could be a limiting factor.
Low	Maioro Overbridge	A key intersection along the SH20 Cycleway. Will require collaboration with AT and NZTA.	Access to water could be a limiting factor.
Low	Hillsborough Cemetery	Not used for active recreation. A connector to the Waikowhai Walkway. Not highly used currently.	Drinking fountain to be identified in concept plan. Access to existing water lines.
Low	Dominion Road	This is a town centre and also a hub for public transport. Presence of a toilet would make installation easier.	Upgrade to transport interchange several years away. Should consider shifting of the toilet (and a drinking fountain) to a better location.
Low	Manukau Domain	This park is a stopping point along the Waikowhai Walkway, however is currently not well developed.	Consider drinking fountain alongside further development of park. No access to water currently.