

'TDC Reserves Review '

An important read for residents of Mapua & Districts.

The Council administers 156 parks, reserves and open space areas within Moutere-Waimea Ward. Not all of these are formally protected as reserves under the Reserves Act 1977 (the Act) and there are 40 parcels of land that are not formally classified under the Act, instead are classified as fee simple land lots, 7 of which are located in and around Mapua. (Higgs Reserve - where the Mapua Gateway Sculpture is located, LEH Baigent Memorial Reserve at Kina Peninsula, Mapua Waterfront Park, Tahi Street Esplanade, Ngaio Tree Reserve at Mapua Wharf, 2 x Seaton Valley Reserve between 29 - 53, & Stafford Drive Drain Walkway. Fee simple land lots, even though managed by TDC are not secured as reserve and could be at risk of being disposed of in the future by TDC.

TDC is currently reviewing the classifications of all reserves in the Waimea/Moutere Ward (WMW), meaning all 206 parcels of land currently being managed by TDC's Parks & Reserves department are up for review. The process of classifying reserves is prescribed by Section 16 of the Reserves Act 1977. In addition, Sections 119 and 120 relate to notification and submissions.

Reserves range from small neighbourhood parks through to sportsgrounds and large, multi-use spaces for playing, picnicking and camping. They include places like **Aranui Park**, Hoddy Estuary Park, Lord Rutherford Memorial and Faulkners Bush. They also include esplanade reserves alongside rivers and the Waimea Inlet, along with recreation reserves at Ngatimoti, Dovedale, Upper Kina Beach, McKee (Ruby Bay), Grossi Point, Waimea West, Brightwater, Iti, Lee Valley and other locations within the WMW.

What's already classified and/or not included in this review? For more information about the proposals go to TDC's website below:

https://www.tasman.govt.nz/my-council/public-consultation/current-consultations/proposals-to-classify-reserves-in-moutere-waimea-ward/

A reserve classification determines the primary purpose of the reserve and identifies the types of activities that are approved for any given reserve. Some classifications offer more protection for trees and the natural habitat within a reserve. Below is an explanation of what each Reserve classification means:

CLASSIFICATION	PURPOSE
Scenic Reserve A (Natural s.19(1) (a))	Area of land (or land and water) possessing significant qualities of scenic interest or beauty or significant features or landscapes.
Scenic Reserve B (Modified s.19(1)(b))	A suitable area of land (or land and water) which by development and the introduction of flora, whether indigenous or exotic, will become of significant scenic interest or beauty.
Historic Reserve	An area of land (or land and water) possessing places, objects and natural features as are of historic, archaeological, cultural, educational and other special interest.
Recreation Reserve	An area of land (or land and water) possessing open space, and outdoor recreational values especially suitable for recreation and sporting activities and the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public, and for the protection of the natural environment and beauty of the countryside, including recreational tracks in the countryside.
Local Purpose Reserve	An area of land (or land and water) suitable for a specified local educational or community purpose which does not duplicate any other reserve purpose.
Esplanade Reserve	A fixed linear area of riverbank, lakeshore or seashore of at least three metres or greater width (usually 20m) either in a natural or modified state available primarily for conservation and public access.

Within the Ruby Coast (Mapua/Ruby Bay/Tasman) most reserves appear to be already classified correctly and therefore no change is seen as being necessary.

- McKee Domain Recreation Reserve
- Mapua Recreation Reserve Recreation Reserve (Mapua Domain)
- Kina Beach Recreation Reserve.

There is a possibility areas of land that are *fee simple* and not classified under the Reserve Act above could become a Reserve under the Reserves Act if there is a community desire. However, to achieve this, residents need to make this desires known to TDC by making a submission stating which land lots it desires to be managed as a Reserve under the Reserves Act.

There are other reserves that are currently classified as **Recreation Reserve** that MDCA do not believe should fall or are desired to fall within the category of Recreational Reserve and **should be re-classified** as **Scenic Reserve** (B) so as to offer a greater level of protection to the native trees that have been planted by and as a voluntary community initiated over many years.

These areas are:

- A) **Aranui Park** was donated to the people of New Zealand by Bernard & Dorothy Wells back in 1977 as a wilderness area for wandering and peaceful contemplation. The restoration project has been ongoing for the past ten years as a joint venture with Mapua School, its students, and The Friends of Mapua Wetlands.
- B) **Dominion Flats** restoration project that has been going for 6 years with huge community input every Tuesday morning by a loyal gathering of local residents. This project is in its infancy yet already has seen amazing tree growth and now is experiencing rapid growth in the wild life. The area has a maze of linking pathways with picnic tables to enjoy the ambience of being among the trees.

MDCA's public meeting on the 14th December will be discussing how MDCA will proceed with its Reserve Review submission. You are welcome to attend - 7p, Bill Marris Room, Mapua Hall.

If you feel the fee simple reserve areas should be controlled under the Reserves Act, and either Aranui Park and/or Dominion Flats should have greater protection of the trees being restored, then please have your say and make your view count by following the information below.

How can residents have their say?

The TDC wants to know your views on the proposed classification of these existing reserves. You are invited to submit on the proposals via

- TDC online submission database
- email anna.gerraty@tasman.govt.nz
- post send your comments to Anna Gerraty, Tasman District Council, 189 Queen Street, Private Bag 4, Richmond, 7050

Timeline:

DATE	TASK
20 November 2020	Open for submissions
15 March 2021	Deadline for submissions
Mid-March 2021	Council staff collate submissions and prepare report
23 March 2021	Hearing Panel holds hearing and deliberations
20 May 2021	Council meeting to decide on proposals
Late May 2021	Notice submitted to NZ Gazette for publication