

ANDERSON PARK

MASTER PLAN 2015



The Anderson Park Master Plan was produced by Chris Freeman from Freeman Environmental Planning for Napier City Council.

ANDERSON PARK

MASTER PLAN 2015

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introduction

Napier City Council is in the process of planning for the design and installation of a 'destination' playground to be developed at Anderson Park at a cost of \$2.5 million.

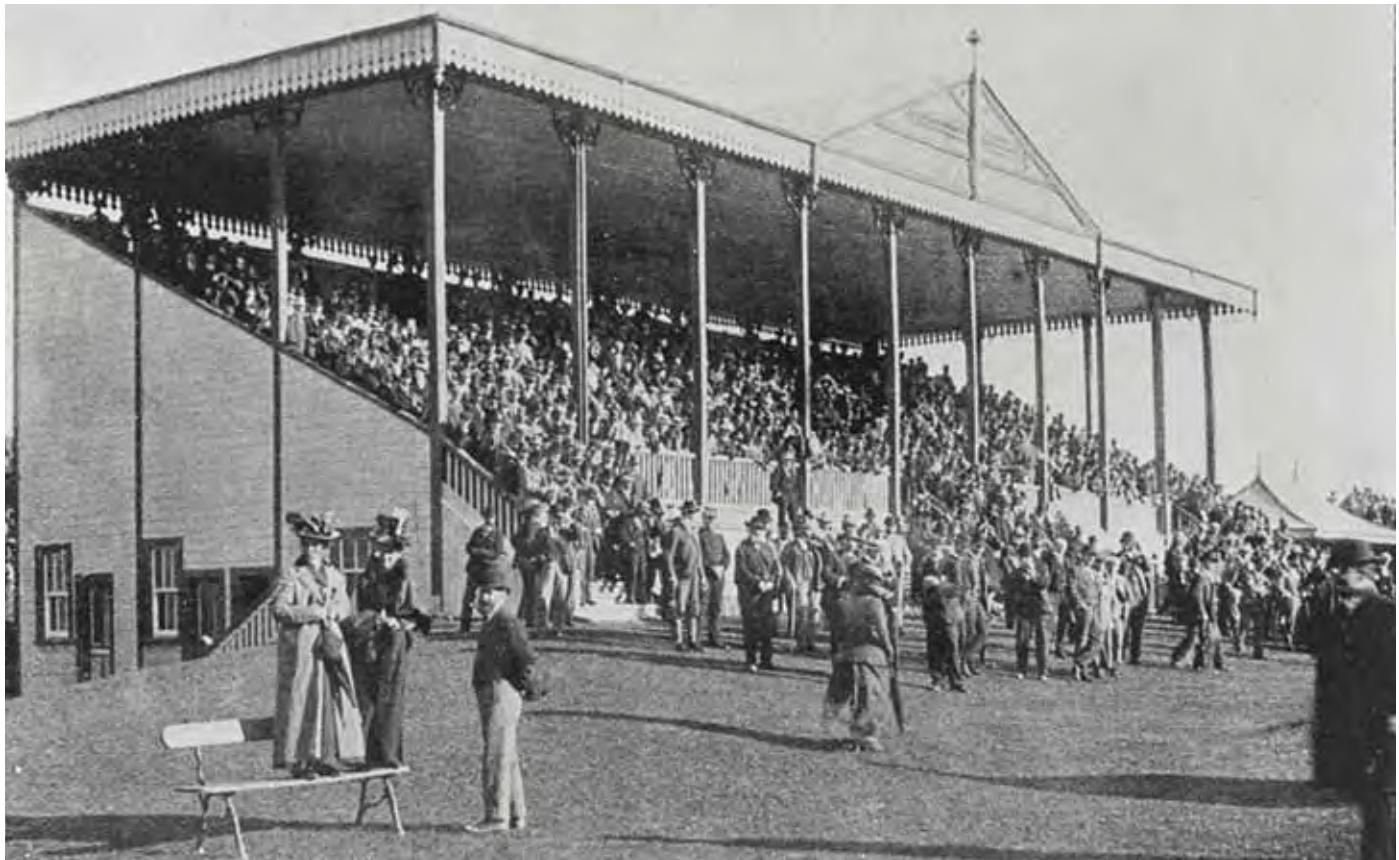
Napier has a heavily utilised playground on Marine Parade that is used by both locals and visitors so it is desirable to develop an additional, unique, playground that connects with suburban communities.

To ensure the playground is not developed in isolation, the wider park is being considered to ensure the destination playground is part of a clear vision for Anderson Park.

The development will include participation and engagement with all existing users but particularly lessees, schools and service clubs who help create a unique set of activities and identity for the park.

Anderson Park is a large, popular, 36ha park in Greenmeadows, Napier. With a well used pathway network, the key attractions are the playground, ponds, model railway and model boats. The park has a good range of mature trees, pathways and wide open green spaces that make it a desirable venue for community events such as concerts, festivals and markets.





history

Anderson Park was the home of the Napier Park Racing Club formed at Greenmeadows in 1886. Racing ceased about 1960 when the Club went to Hastings for their race days. Council acquired this old racecourse site in 1962 and development work commenced in 1966 with the formation of about six acres of waterways.

Tree planting and ground formation work was carried out to improve surface drainage and create features of interest on an otherwise flat site. Irrigation lines have been laid to improve the maintenance capability. A children's play area was developed in conjunction with the Napier Lions Club and car parking facilities provided at key points. The development of this Park was greatly assisted by a bequest of \$40,000 given to the City by the late Haskell Anderson for the purpose of developing this park with particular emphasis on the establishment of as large a selection of trees as possible.

This is the largest single passive recreation park in the City. The establishment in 1980 of combined pedestrian and cycle paths has greatly facilitated the increased use and enjoyment of the Park by the public. Historically, several salt water creeks traversed the Park area prior to 1931 earthquake. The legacy of salt laden soils has had its effect on the pattern of planting development. Part of the waterway system is observed as a wildlife refuge, and on 8 June 1967, the Council resolved to protect the birdlife in the Anderson Park Reserve under Section 1720 of the By-laws.





The Hawke's Bay Model Engineering Society Inc.

recreational use

Anderson Park is already a major recreational area used by people from all parts of Napier and Hawkes Bay. The playground, lakes, trees and walkways are used by people walking every day of the week. While ongoing planting has already occurred more tree and wetland plantings will further enhance an already scenic park and create a regional attraction.

The children's play area is already a great drawcard. The 'Destination' playground development will attract more people who stay longer and create opportunities for both existing and new recreational uses to develop.

The wide-open spaces make the park a very attractive venue for large events such as the kite flying festival, the circus and concerts. These events create unique attractions for Hawkes Bay.



The man made lakes and water areas are a key feature with trees pathways and seats combining to create a scenic landscape.

School parties take advantage of the water eco-systems for botany and biology studies and the park for cross-country running and orienteering activities.



Anderson Park has a unique set of park lessees and users. The model engineering and model boat clubs provide a unique feature on the weekends and the Greendale Tamatea Scout Group and GirlGuiding Taradale provide important opportunities for local children.



The Hawke's Bay Model Engineering Society Inc are planning a wider track and track extensions. New park signs could locate and promote the railway and more seating and shade could be provided for people waiting for a ride.

The Greendale/Tamatea Scout Group and GirlGuiding Taradale have their buildings on York Avenue and are generally well provided for. Line marking and some changes are needed in the carpark to provide for wheelchairs.

The Guides would like to enlarge the parking area on Auckland Road and do some landscape work around the building. The corner would benefit from some more small trees and a footpath on York Avenue. The York Avenue frontage needs to be more inviting and convenient for users as visitor numbers increase with playground development and events. A new pedestrian entrance between the Scouts and Model Engineers will provide better access to the toilets and playground.



The Hawke's Bay Model Marine Club operate motorised watercraft on Saturdays and sailing boats on Sunday on the Middle Lake. The Club would like small changes to the landscape with gates to secure the jetty area for safety reasons. Seats could be placed for viewing.

Pond enlargement and planting banks would enhance the area. Vehicle access to the lake is needed for larger boats and a grass area could be provided for club members. Water for washing boats would also be desirable. Assistance with better signs and information and event planning would help the club run large regattas.





6 acres/2.4 ha of waterways



Existing Childrens Playground



landscape character

The overall character of Anderson Park is one of large deciduous trees or ‘woodland’. Ongoing planting of woodland trees will ensure this sustainable character is retained over time as old trees are replaced.

While trees planted in grass are easy to maintain for the majority of the park, some rougher, unmown woodland areas could be planted with bluebells and daffodils. The woodland character of Anderson Park could be extended to include some feature planting areas with plenty of room in the large park for avenues of trees, groves of large native trees, fruit and nut trees, herbs and flowers.

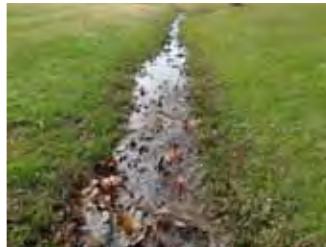
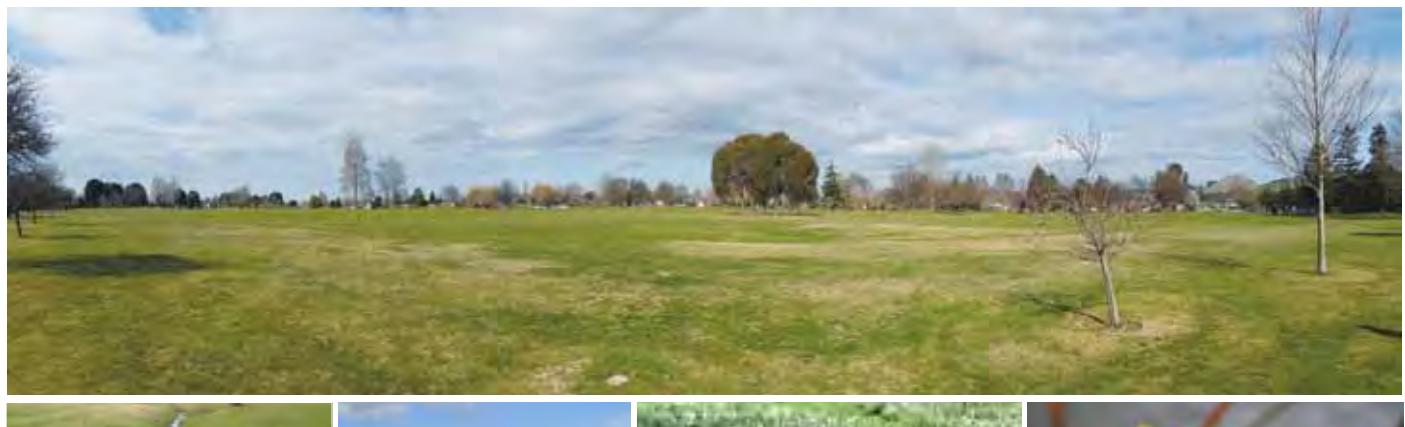


Native podocarp woodland with wetland plants planted along drainage swales



Native groves of trees and waterways will add to the biodiversity of the park. With the ability to educate people about riparian plants and waterway restoration, the ponds and stream provide a great opportunity to recreate native wetland ecology at the heart of the park. Local native biodiversity could be showcased on waterways and wet park areas. Swales could have large native podocarps, “noble natives”, planted in large open groups or groves.

While generally flat Anderson Park has a wide variety of contours up to one metre. This diversity of contours provides interest and opportunities for a variety of planting types from wet to dry. Pond, stream bank and swale excavations can be used as fill in the playground and other park areas.





Gateway feature - up lighting of trees and pond fountain

road frontages

Anderson Park has excellent open, suburban and arterial road frontages. Planted with a wide variety of trees and ongoing planting which has created a sustainable mix of new and mature trees.

The busy Kennedy Road provides extensive views into the park. The open character of the Kennedy Road park frontage is good but there is plenty of room for more trees.

A new avenue of smaller deciduous trees eg. flowering cherry trees could, together with some more large trees, provide both a seasonal feature for motorists and further road screening for park users.



The Taradale Road roundabout has great views over the wildlife lake. A lit fountain and solar lighting of the trees could be considered here creating a "Gateway to Taradale" feature. The Auckland Avenue corner with York Avenue and York Avenue frontage has potential for more street trees and a footpath.





Kennedy Road carpark with new 'Boulevard' walkway with new seats and trees

entrances

The development of new park features will increase visitors and increase their length of stay, making convenient parking and good toilets essential.

The existing toilets are conveniently located and in good condition but lack modern access standards for elderly and disabled people. Renovation of the building could be considered as the location is convenient to the playground. If rebuilding is desirable in the future a more open design slightly closer and facing the Auckland Avenue carpark would be better for user safety.

The seven existing entrance paths could have old signs replaced with all information displayed on a new comprehensive sign with a map of the park. Roadside signs could also be upgraded over time. Car parking areas are good with a range of in park and on street parking options. Kennedy Road is busy and to avoid congestion Auckland Road and York Avenue carparks should be prioritised for development if required in the future.





York and Freyberg Avenues provide access for parking on the park for large events such as Christmas in the Park. New tree planting needs to allow for this occasional function.

Developing the three existing carparks and designating grass areas for event parking will ensure the park can meet increased visitor numbers.

Dog obedience, model engineers and model boats need to drive on the park for convenient access. Designated grass carpark areas could be created for club members.

The three existing carparks could be connected by a new walkway. No matter which carpark is used, access to the playground, toilets and the wider park would be easy and clear for visitors.

The new wide boulevard or avenue style walkway would connect the carparks with the new playground with seats and picnic areas adjacent.

Carpark security will be enhanced by people sitting and walking close to the parking areas.

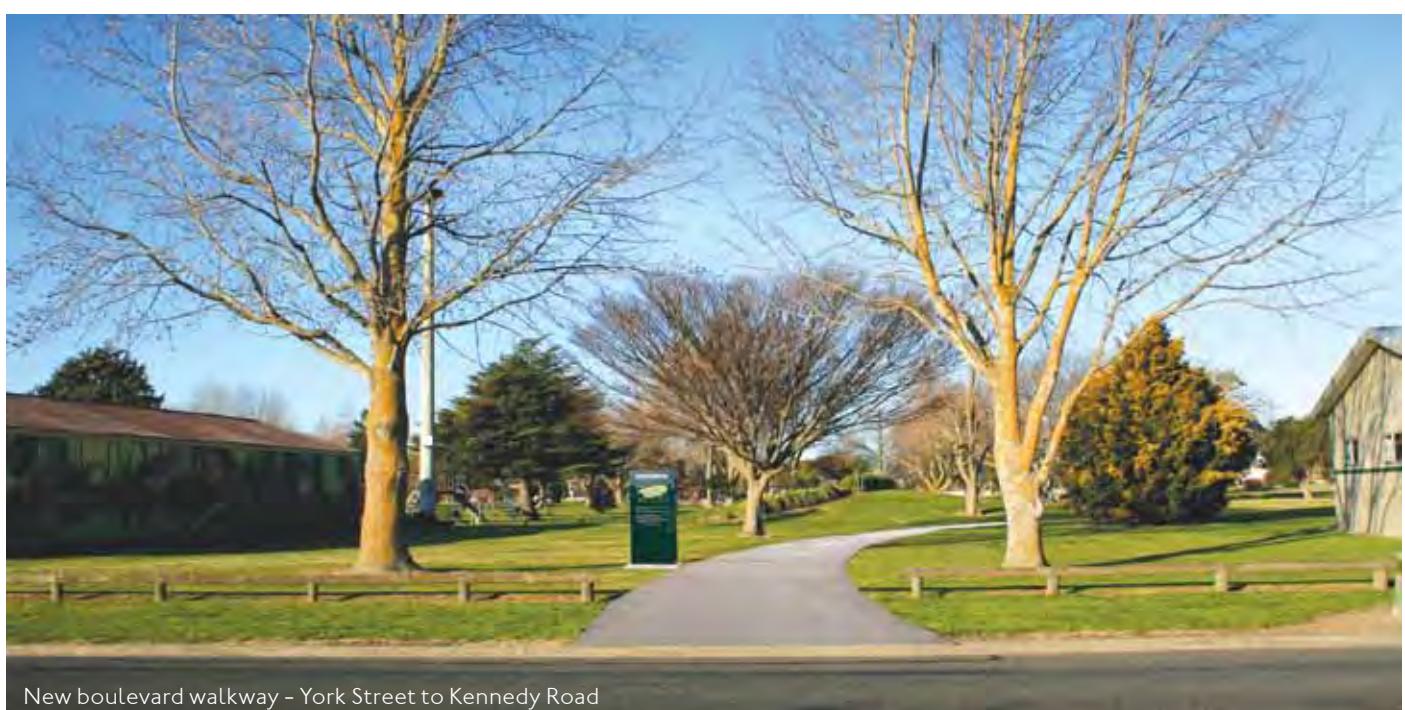
The most important and popular form of recreation for adults is walking. Clear walkways to the playground and well signposted paths with more loop walks will enhance this experience.

Mobile food and coffee venders could service the walkway creating an interesting and vibrant boulevard for visitors.

The Peace Walk and existing paths all work well. The following options exist to enhance the walking network:

- Off street walkway on Freyberg Avenue (dog obedience/agility areas)
- Central park walkway
- Carpark boulevard
- Footpath on York Avenue (Auckland Avenue end)

Cycling has relatively low levels of use. A cycle loop track could be built in the swales and native tree groves off York Avenue.



New boulevard walkway - York Street to Kennedy Road

ANDERSON PARK



Off Road Walkway (Dog Agility)



Railway Track Extension



Double Flying Fox



Adventure Playground



Climbing & Play Nets



Walkway Boulevard

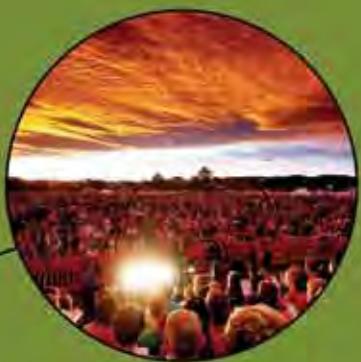


Water Playground & Splashpad



Naturalised Pond

MASTER PLAN



Event Oval & Concert Venue



Native forest trees planted in groups along drainage swales



Plant new avenues of street trees on Kennedy Road and York Avenue



Reduce grass mowing, increase woodland and wetland plant areas



Lands & Waterway

Entrances connected with a walkway

Picnic & BBQ Areas

Multi Use Ball Court



lakes, ponds and stream

Two new bridges are proposed and the two existing bridges could be upgraded over time to larger two way bridges which compliment the new designs. The bridges, wooden landings native and exotic waterway plants etc. are all features of the proposed 'Waterway Garden' between the Middle and Outlet Lakes.

The lake and stream network is a key feature of Anderson Park but water quality is compromised by leaf litter and waterfowl. The 'Wildlife Lake' near Islington Place already has roosting islands and flax which have enhanced its ecological value. Waterway planting will enhance native waterfowl habitat.



Enjoyment of the waterway could be enhanced with two new bridges, wooden jetties and seating. Punting has been suggested and could be a feature if the stream is deepened, widened and bridges raised. Opportunities exist to enhance the water quality and scenic values with waterway edge planting.





Native wetland sedges and shrubs will stop waves eroding existing grass pond edges, reduce mowing and importantly stop leaf litter blowing into the water.

The increased biodiversity of the waterways will enhance this unique feature of Anderson Park.

Low growing water plants with occasional shade trees will keep the landscape safe and open.

Exotic aquatic plants such as water lilies could also be used in the stream between the playground areas. Unusual and interesting plantings would create a feature between the new bridges and new ponds.

Dredging to deepen and cool parts of the ponds and waterway could be investigated. Planting suitable areas of northern banks is also desirable to provide shade to cool the water and shelter for water fowl and fish.

The 'Waterway Garden' concept will have educational value with a full range of water loving plants on display.

Low areas of the park are drained with swales which provide an opportunity to plant native trees. Totara can be planted on dry areas and Kahikatea in wet areas. A variety of large native trees could be planted in groups or groves – creating a stronger native tree feature in the park.



New bridge connecting Water Playground and Adventure Playground



Anderson Park's existing exotic woodland character could be extended to include a full range of native trees and waterway plants that adds educational and scenic value. New and exciting play nets, towers and water play pieces will create opportunities for adventure and create a popular "Destination Playground"





destination playground

Destination Playgrounds are large playgrounds aimed at families and provide an opportunity for a “day out”. They are designed to promote family interaction with diverse play opportunities for children, teenagers and adults.

Napier has a heavily utilised playground on Marine Parade that is used by both local residents and visitors. An additional, unique playground that serves suburban communities is proposed at Anderson Park.

The use of landscape with trees, interesting terrain, towers, slides and flying foxes will invoke a sense of adventure and provide a great interactive, social, atmosphere. Seats, BBQs and picnic areas will be provided around the playground so parents or caregivers can relax as they keep an eye on their children. Specialised equipment and landscape features which cater for disabled children should also be considered.

The playground area could be extended over and include the scenic waterway. New bridges extending over the waterway will provide more convenient access to the wider park. Fruit and nut trees, flowers and herb gardens will create interest and education.

The large oval area further west could have an artificial cricket wicket and goal posts for informal ball games needing a large area.

The open west side of Anderson Park gives plenty of scope to build new attractions. This area provides room for a mound or hill to be built together with rock features, towers, slides and flying foxes.





A custom or bespoke designed playground would allow Anderson Park to have its own character. Tui Glen Reserve in Auckland has recently built a popular “destination playground” which is designed to compliment the mature tree reserve. Anderson Park’s scale and tree character is similar.

Tui Glen’s vision was to design and install a playground with a ‘tree-top’ theme to reflect the natural landscape of mature trees and the heritage of the reserve. Tui Glen’s playground is a good example of the sort of play pieces desirable to compliment the existing playground at Anderson Park.

Play pieces such as towers and an eagle’s nest were specifically chosen to elevate users to eye level with the tree tops. Installed slides and flying foxes also took advantage of the existing contours with the new playground offering outdoor recreation for the whole family and a physical challenge.

NEW PLAY PIECES COULD INCLUDE:

Pyramid Towers - With stunning height and spectacular look, these towers draw adults and children into the tree tops (For all ages).

Basket Swing - Sit, stand or kneel, alone or with others, this swing opens a wealth of possibilities (For all ages).

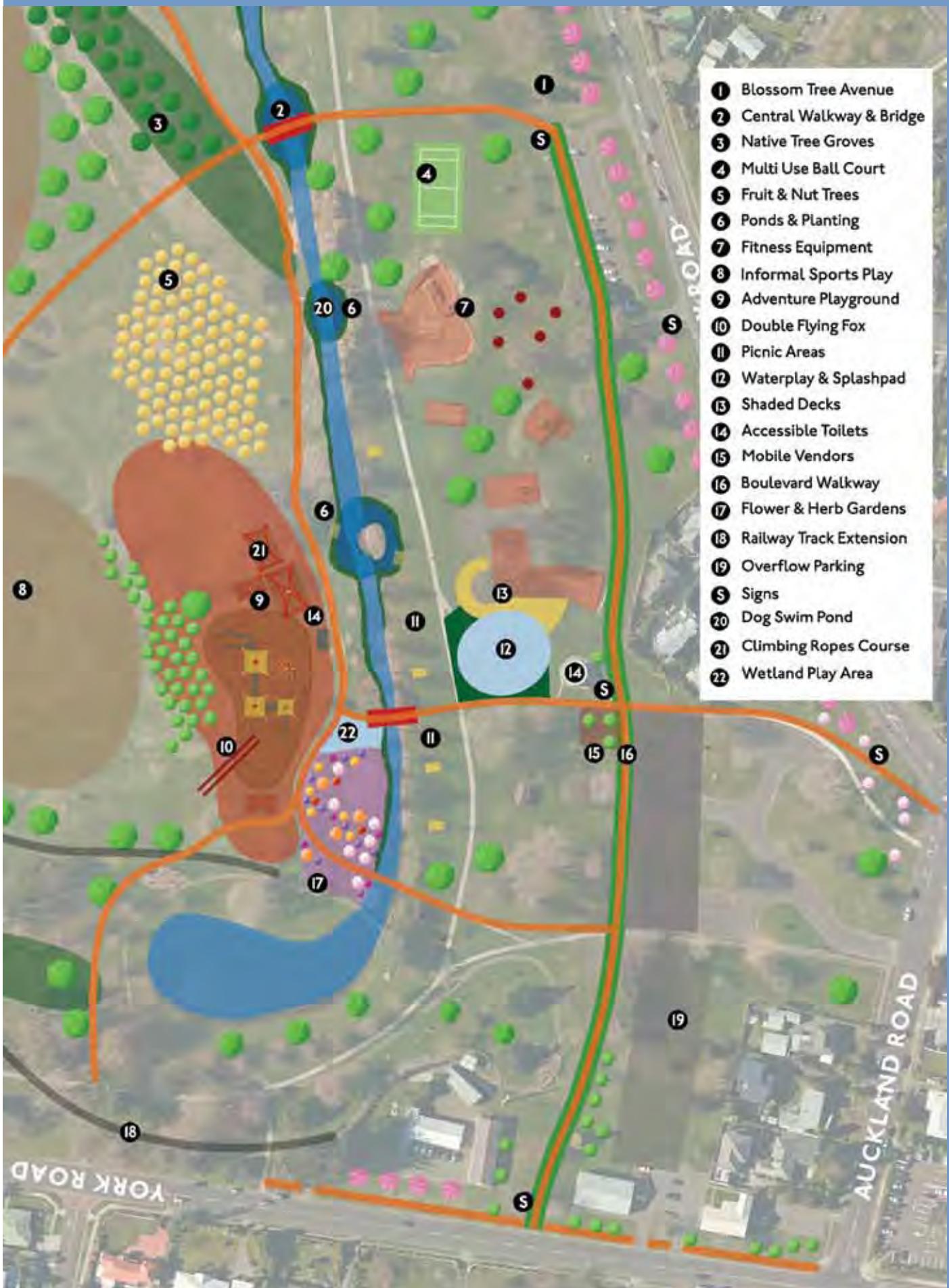
Eagles Nest - Everyone wants to be like a bird. Climb high into the sky and relax in one of many nests (6+ years).

Dual Flying Fox - Zoom through the air and race like the wind. Challenge your buddies to race on dual flying foxes (For all ages).

Tree Hut - A house in the air where you can climb inside and play, and then take one of the very fast exits to escape (For 3 – 11 years).



ANDERSON PARK



DESTINATION PLAYGROUND PLAN





The opportunity should still be taken to create a unique character for Anderson Park's playground. Historic, (model engineers) natural themes should be considered to create an overall character and identity for Anderson Park playground.

The area between the toilets, the stream and the existing playground is ideal for a fresh water splash pad and water play area.

A "Water Playground" would also be created in the sunny area west of the toilets. Surrounded by large shade trees this space could have a range of water 'splash play' for summer days and water 'play' features for year round fun. Taradale is not close to the beach so for hot days and evenings Anderson Park could provide a cool, fun, alternative to the beach.



Water play pieces used all year round, together with "wet" or splash pad play pieces for summer are proposed.

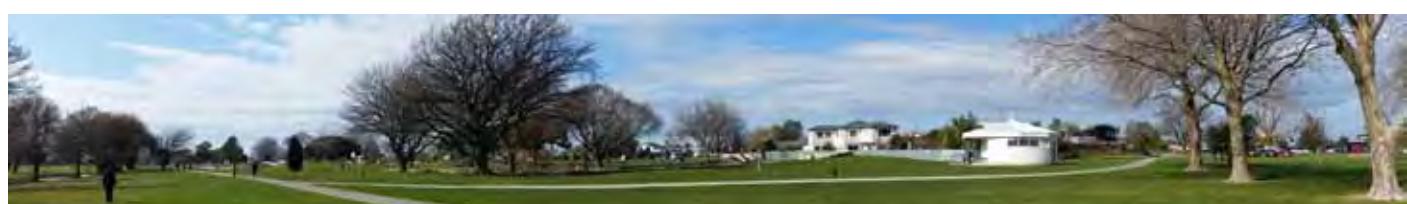
Water play pieces encourage creative and social childrens play. The water playground will use clean mains water which will drain into to a play channel then flow down to the stream. This element will compliment the existing lake and stream features.

play developments will extend the park's attractions and provide visitors with many play options enough to be a destination for a day.

Picnic tables under shade trees along the stream on both sides with two new bridges providing lots of access points over the stream but also valuable walking route options.



Waterway planting with jetties for access to the water's edge can replace mown grass banks and new small ponds with a fountain could be created as a focal point along the stream between the new bridges.





Fitness equipment could be located close to the skate park and Kennedy's Road carpark. This location provides convenient access for both teens using the skate and ball courts but also adults with children in the playground.

Dog walking and agility could be targeted around the northern park perimeter and event areas.

While not technically part of the playground the parks pathways are a key feature.

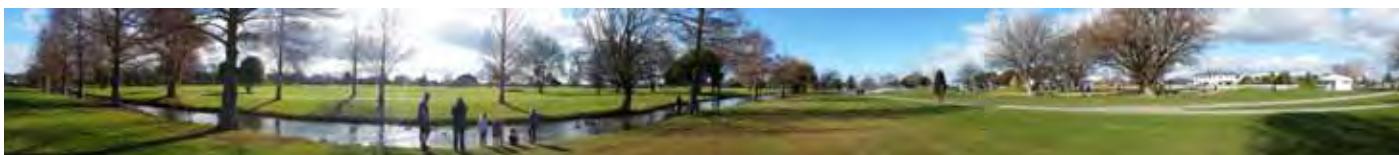
The 36ha park has a good circular walkway with connections to the carparks and surrounding roads. Additional connections are proposed to extend the existing network and be more legible and provide visitors with more walking opportunities.

The Peace Walk will be enhanced with a new off road section along Freyberg Street.

A new central walkway will compliment the existing Peace Walk, providing access to the large open quiet area in the centre of the park, with great views to the hills and also better access to the event and sport ovals.

A new wide "Boulevard" walkway with seating, information and picnic areas will connect the York Ave, Auckland Road and Kennedy Road carparks to the playground and toilets.

Two new bridges will provide direct access for Kennedy Road and Auckland Road entrances to the feature waterway and the wider park.



ANDERSON PARK PLANTING LIST

LARGE NATIVE CANOPY TREES

(planted in groups or groves)

- Totara
- Kahikatea
- Miro
- Matai
- Black Beech
- Puriri
- Kauri
- Rimu

LARGE EXOTIC CANOPY TREES

- Liquidamber
- Corumbia ficifolia
- Eucalyptus leucoxylon
- Sequoia
- Walnut
- Liquidamber
- Oaks sp.
- Acer sp.
- Copper Beech
- Plane
- Paulownia
- Cedar sp.
- Liriodendron
- Lime

FRUIT & NUT TREES

- Chestnut
- Peach
- Nectarine
- Cherry
- Plum
- Avocado
- Apples
- Hazel nut
- Feijoa
- Pear
- Olive
- Citrus sp.

RIPARIAN & UNDERSTORY SPECIES

- Hen and Chicken Fern
- Carex secta
- Carex virgate
- Baumea sp
- Kiokio
- Meryta
- Mamaku
- Ponga
- Wheki
- Nikau
- Karamu
- Flax sp



MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

NO.	ACTION	YEARS
1	Build “Boulevard” walkway from Kennedy Road Carpark to Auckland Road carpark to York Avenue.	1 -2
2	Design and build Water Play and Splash Pad playground.	1 -2
3	Design and build Adventure Playground and connect to Water playground with a new bridge and pathway. Include picnic tables and seats.	1 -2
4	Plant Fruit & Nut Orchard and Herb & Flower Gardens.	1 -10
5	Excavate and widen stream between the playgrounds, plant banks with native and exotic water loving plants and jettys.	2 - 3
6	Build a central walkway from the Auckland Road carpark to the corner of York Avenue and Freyberg Avenue.	2 - 3
7	Plant new native and exotic trees throughout Anderson Park in groups or groves of similar large trees. Create a mix of tree ages to ensure long term replacement trees are growing. Plant an avenue of cherry trees on Kennedy Road.	1 - 10
8	Riparian native plants on streams, and trees in catchment areas planted to retain water, reduce runoff speed and sediment pollution.	1 - 10
9	Provide nine new information signs at the reserve entrances. Signs to include map and information on clubs and recreation features.	2 - 3
10	Provide a range of new reserve furniture within the reserves (6 bench and 8 backed seats, 4 picnic tables and 3 drinking fountains).	2 - 3
11	Develop fitness equipment area and multi use ball court.	3 - 5
12	Develop informal sports field.	3 - 5
13	Work with scouts, guides, model engineers and model boat clubs to assist the efficient operation of there areas.	1 - 10
14	Work with existing events and promote Anderson Park as a venue for outdoor entertainment, food venders and markets.	1 - 10





ANDERSON PARK MASTER PLAN



Off Road Walkway (Dog Agility)



Railway Track Extension



Double Flying Fox



Adventure Playground



Climbing & Play Nets



Event Oval & Concert Venue



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Plant new avenues of street trees on Kennedy Road and York Avenue



Reduce grass mowing, increase woodland and wetland plant areas



Walkway Boulevard



Water Playground & Splashpad



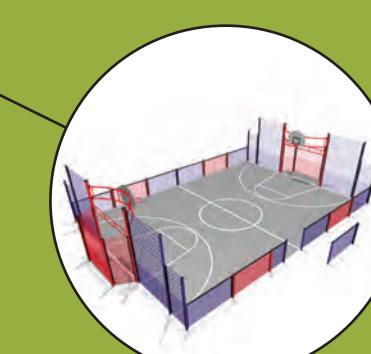
Naturalised Ponds & Waterway



Entrances connected with a walkway

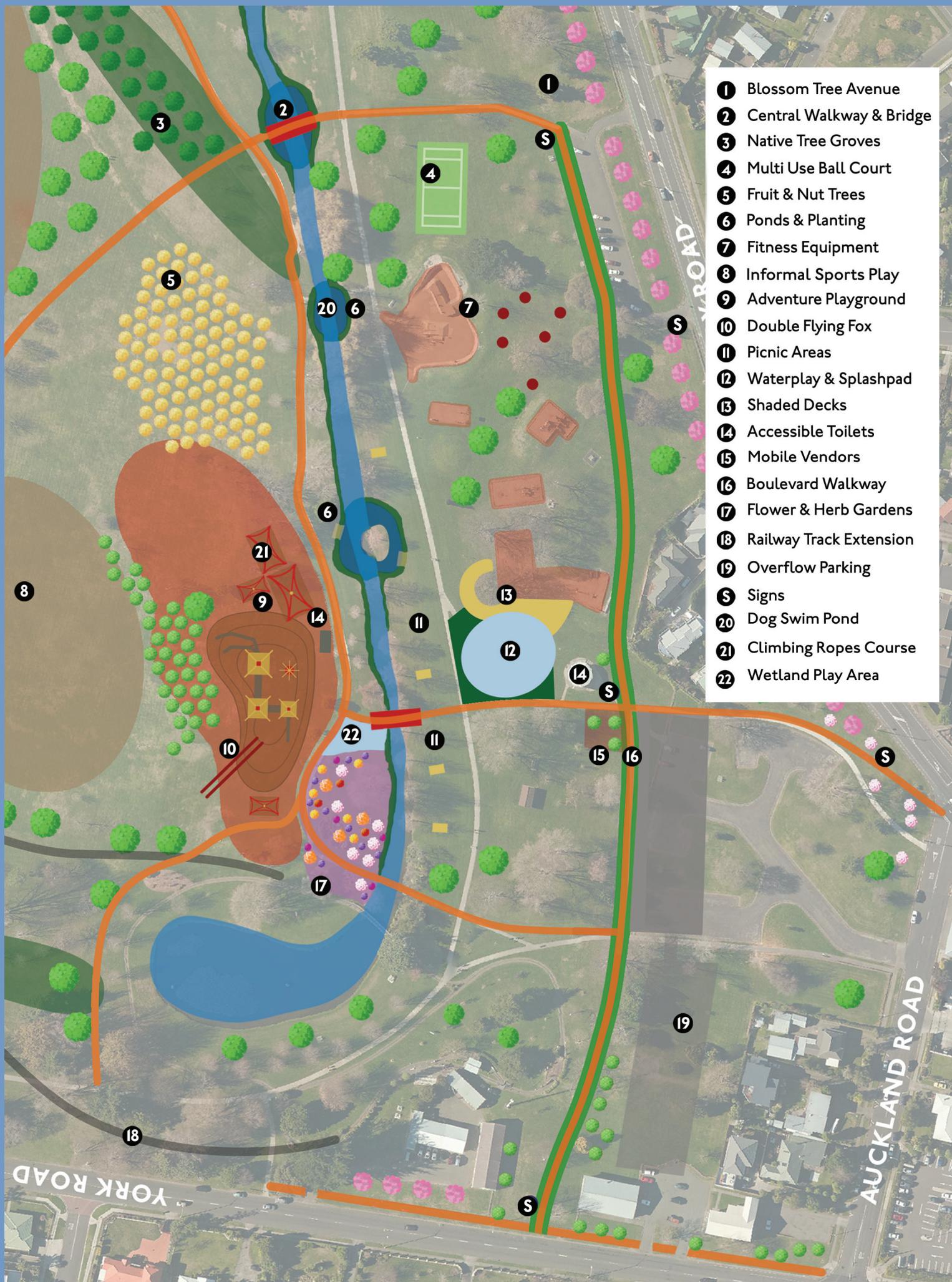


Picnic & BBQ Areas



Multi Use Ball Court

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DESTINATION PLAYGROUND PLAN