

Summary of services provided in the 2006/07 Annual Plan

Annual programme achievements 2006/07

1. Bridges

Our carpenters inspected all park structures during the year. All new or replaced structures met resource consent and Building Act regulations. A full engineering inspection was completed for all structures in Belmont Regional Park.

- Farm Creek Bridge handrails were replaced in Kaitoke Regional Park;
- A bridge over Korokoro Stream was completed at Belmont Regional Park

2. Buildings

Buildings were maintained and serviced to the standard required. Ongoing maintenance was carried out on all rangers' houses;

- Landscape and planting work was carried out around the toilets at Queen Elizabeth Park;
- The Rangers office moved from Queen Elizabeth Park to Belmont Regional Park
- Building painting was carried out to design standards as required;
- A new concrete pad was poured at the large facilities building in Kaitoke Campground to alleviate mud issues.

3. Utilities and Sanitary

Toilets and water supply systems were regularly serviced throughout the year. Contractors cleaned toilets at Queen Elizabeth Park, Belmont Regional Park and Kaitoke Regional Park to required standards. Staff serviced toilets at the other parks and recreation areas. Park Rangers, and occasionally contractors, collected and removed rubbish.

Water treatment was undertaken at all parks to water drinking standards. Issues regarding frequency of testing to conform to NZ drinking water standards have been resolved. Septic tanks were emptied and water pipes were replaced as required.

- Soap dispensers for hand washing were installed in Eastern Sector park toilets.
- A new water treatment unit was purchased for the Kaitoke Rangers house.
- A new septic tank system was installed servicing the large facility building in the campground at Kaitoke

4. Grounds

Regular grass mowing was undertaken at all parks to required standards and the landscape team undertook tree planting, landscaping and spraying during the year. Some of the tasks undertaken were:

- Amenity gardens were maintained;
- New trees were planted and redundant ones removed;
- Streams were kept clear of debris;
- Landscaping/seeding/fertilising was carried out;
- Tree surgery was carried out – as required;
- Weed spraying was completed;
- Road edges were tidied and vegetation cut back.
- Gardens were mulched;
- Riparian planting was undertaken at Queen Elizabeth Park;
- Arbor Day plantings were undertaken at Queen Elizabeth Park and Battle Hill;
- Bank protection work was completed to footbridge abutments on the Wainuiomata River.
- Rangers liaised with consents staff and achieved 100% compliance for issued consents.

5. Facilities

All signage, park furniture, gates, bollards and barriers were maintained during the year to required standards. Some of the tasks undertaken were:

- New picnic tables and seats were built and installed;
- New track markers, bollards and horse gates were installed;
- Vehicle barriers were placed at the underpass in Kaitoke;
- Picnic tables were water-blasted and repaired as required.
- New mountain bike map boards were placed in East Harbour Regional Park along with barriers on tracks where biking is not permitted.

6. Tracks

Maintenance staff carried out patching and repairs, regular vegetation cutbacks, mowing and weed eating throughout the track network as required. Some of the tasks undertaken were:

- Tracks were re-metalled at East Harbour and Queen Elizabeth Park;
- Surfaces were repaired on all tracks;
- Directional signs were updated and renewed as required;
- Gorse was sprayed and vegetation cut back;
- Culverts were cleared on all tracks;
- A new loop track was created at East Harbour Regional Park to remedy two short no return tracks;
- The North to South ridge route in East Harbour Regional Park was opened up;

- The Tana Umaga track was built in Wainuiomata Recreation Area;
- Sections of the Hutt River Trail were re-metalled.

7. Land Management

Culvert and drainage maintenance was carried out. Boggy areas were targeted to improve access during wet periods and reduce pasture damage by stock. Fences were maintained throughout the parks to required standards.

- Fences in grazing areas at Battle Hill and Queen Elizabeth Park were upgraded;
- New boundary fences were installed by Transit NZ at Poplar Avenue and State Highway 1 at Queen Elizabeth Park and at State Highway 2, Te Marua, Kaitoke Regional Park;
- Ongoing pest plant removal was carried out at Te Marua bush remnants, the campground and Farm Creek area of Kaitoke Regional Park;
- New tracks and the wetland walk were extended at Queen Elizabeth Park.

8. Roading

All roads and access ways were maintained to a safe and serviceable standard throughout the year. Roadside water tables were cleared and culverts re-opened and replaced as required. Potholes were repaired, bollards installed or repaired, and unsealed roads graded as required.

Road and traffic signage generally meets Transit NZ standards and remains in good condition. We are reviewing speed restriction and bridge loading signs across the park network to achieve consistency and full compliance with Transit guidelines. All relevant work on the Rimutaka Rail Trail was granted consent by the Historic Places Trust.

Metalling, rehabilitation and ongoing maintenance of roads in the Akatarawa and Pakuratahi Forests was completed in line with the staged maintenance programme.

One of the entrances to the Te Marua Treatment Plant was sealed and basecourse material was laid at the Hutt River access point and carpark at Te Marua.