



Appendix B:

Proposed name changes

For public consultation as part of Tātou ki Uta – the draft Coastal Reserves Management Plan.

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Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

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Overview

As part of Tātou ki Uta - the draft Coastal Reserves Management Plan, Wellington City Council (the Council) is proposing eight reserve name changes that aim to reflect the histories, identities, and cultural significance of coastal places. The proposals seek to:

- Reinststate traditional Māori place names
- Correct historical inaccuracies
- Provide meaningful names for currently unnamed areas

Each proposal includes the meaning of the proposed name, the origin or background of the current name, and a rationale for the change.

These proposed names have been assessed against the Council's Naming Policy – *Te Māpihi Maurea*, which provides the framework for naming and renaming open spaces, roads, and public facilities. The policy prioritises names that:

- Recognise sites of importance to mana whenua
- Reflect local cultural identity, geography, and heritage
- Promote the use of appropriate te reo Māori names, particularly where grounded in kōrero tuku iho (oral histories) and pūrākau (traditional narratives)

The proposed name changes are consistent with these principles and support the implementation of *Te Tauihu*, the Council's te reo Māori policy, contributing to the goal of Wellington becoming a te reo Māori capital by 2040.

All proposed name changes are subject to public consultation. This satisfies both the engagement expectations in the Naming Policy and the formal requirements of the Reserves Act 1977 for naming classified reserve land.

Name change proposals

Proposal 1: Shorland Park to Te Mapunga Park

The meaning of the proposed name

Te Mapunga refers to *Te Mapunga kāinga*, a pre-European Māori settlement located in the Island Bay area. The name is also associated with the black shag (kawau), a seabird once commonly seen roosting along this part of the coast. According to the Cultural Values Assessment prepared by Taranaki Whānui, the arrival of Te Mapunga – the bird – heralded a seasonal shift and was seen as a sign of better times to come. The shag's skilled fishing abilities were watched by Māori to help locate fish, indicating an intimate relationship between people and the environment. The name Te Mapunga is therefore both a cultural and ecological reference point.

Meaning of the current name

Shorland Park is named after John O. Shorland, a Wellington City Councillor (1917–1921), who in retirement helped build playground equipment in the area. The name was proposed posthumously in 1950.

Rationale for change

This change was requested by Taranaki Whānui in their Cultural Values Assessment for Tātou ki Uta. It seeks to restore a traditional place name associated with a historic kāinga and reflect the ancestral connection to the area. The proposed name, Te Mapunga, reaffirms mana whenua presence and acknowledges the local ecological and seasonal indicators that guided daily life. While Shorland's contribution is recognised, the proposed name better reflects the site's layered history and enduring Māori identity, supporting Tātou ki Uta objectives of cultural restoration and place-based storytelling.

The site of *Te Māpunga kāinga* is also identified in the Wellington District Plan (SCHED7) as a Site and Area of Significance to Māori, reinforcing the appropriateness of the proposed name.

This proposal is consistent with the Wellington City Council Naming Policy – *Te Māpihi Maurea*, which prioritises:

- Recognising sites of significance to mana whenua
- Supporting the use of appropriate te reo Māori names
- Telling the stories embedded in the landscape



Figure 1: Map of parks proposed to be renamed Te Mapunga Kainga

Proposal 2: Melbourne Road Reserve to Uruhau Reserve

The meaning of the proposed name

Uruhau is the name of a historic pā site in this area. The name may symbolise wind, movement, and life force – with *uru* meaning heat, passion, or traditional performance, and *hau* meaning wind, breath, or vital essence. This is fitting for a prominent and windswept coastal location.

Meaning of the current name

Named after the adjacent street, Melbourne Road.

Rationale for change

This reserve sits on a recorded pā site. Restoring the name *Uruhau* acknowledges Māori occupation and strengthens cultural identity and connection to place, aligning with Tātou ki Uta intent to reflect traditional narratives and whakapapa in the landscape.

The site of *Uruhau Pā* is also identified in the Wellington District Plan (SCHED7) as a Site and Area of Significance to Māori, further supporting the proposed name change.

This proposal is consistent with the Wellington City Council Naming Policy – *Te Māpihi Maurea*, which prioritises:

- Recognising sites of significance to mana whenua
- Supporting the use of appropriate te reo Māori names
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Figure 2: Map of park proposed to be renamed Uruhau Reserve

Proposal 3: Unnamed (Worser Bay Lawn inland side) to Kākāriki Hūtia Park

The meaning of the proposed name

Kākāriki Hūtia was the name of a historic pā in this area. The name is tied to an oral tradition recounting a battle in which a chief ate an uncooked parakeet (kākāriki) before going into combat. The story reflects both the leadership and cultural symbolism of the place.

Meaning of the current name

The park itself has no formal name.

Rationale for change

This reserve sits on a known pā site. The proposed name restores a place-based story passed down through generations and directly reflects the area's Māori heritage. It acknowledges cultural identity while correcting the absence of an official name rooted in Māori history.

The pā site of *Kākāriki Hūtia* is listed in the Wellington District Plan (SCHED7) as a Site and Area of Significance to Māori, affirming the appropriateness of restoring this traditional name.

This proposal is consistent with the Wellington City Council Naming Policy – *Te Māpihi Maurea*, which prioritises:

- Recognising sites of significance to mana whenua
- Supporting the use of appropriate te reo Māori names
- Telling the stories embedded in the landscape



Figure 3: Map of park proposed to be renamed Kakariki-Hutia Pā

Proposal 4: Lyall Bay West Escarpment to Waitaha Reserve

The meaning of the proposed name

Waitaha refers to a kāinga (settlement) once located in the Lyall Bay area. While Waitaha is also the name of an early iwi from Te Waipounamu, in this context it references a specific local settlement. Linguistically, *wai* means water and *taha* means side or edge – evoking a place beside the sea.

Meaning of the current name

This area is currently referred to using a geographic descriptor – Lyall Bay West Escarpment.

Rationale for change

Naming the escarpment Waitaha Reserve recognises the cultural and historical connection to Māori occupation of this area. The name helps restore identity, reflects both history and geography, and supports the objectives outlined in *Tātou ki Uta* to ensure ancestral narratives are honoured in naming decisions. This area is also identified in the Wellington District Plan (SCHED7) as a Site and Area of Significance to Māori, associated with the historic kāinga of *Waitaha*.

This proposal is consistent with the Wellington City Council Naming Policy – *Te Māpihi Maurea*, which prioritises:

- Recognising sites of significance to mana whenua
- Supporting the use of appropriate te reo Māori names
- Telling the stories embedded in the landscape



Figure 4: Map of park proposed to be renamed Waitaha Reserve

Proposal 5: View Road Park to Haewai Reserve

The meaning of the proposed name

Haewai refers to a traditional kāinga in the area. The name may derive from *hae* (to part or divide) and *wai* (water), possibly referencing the dividing of waters or a confluence. *Haewai* is also the commonly used te reo name for Houghton Bay.

Meaning of the current name

Named after adjacent View Road. The name *Haewai Reserve* is already widely used.

Rationale for change

This reserve sits near a known kāinga site and is already referred to as *Haewai Reserve* by mana whenua and the community. The proposed change formalises the existing name and affirms the area's Māori heritage and cultural identity, and consistent with Tātou ki Uta direction to restore traditional place names.

Haewai kāinga is also recognised as a Site and Area of Significance to Māori in the Wellington District Plan (SCHED7), reinforcing the rationale for formalising this name.

This proposal is consistent with the Wellington City Council Naming Policy – *Te Māpihi Maurea*, which prioritises:

- Recognising sites of significance to mana whenua
- Supporting the use of appropriate te reo Māori names
- Telling the stories embedded in the landscape



Figure 5: Map of park proposed to be renamed Haewai Reserve

Proposal 6: Te Kopahou Reserve to Te Kapohau Reserve

The meaning of the proposed name

Te Kapohau is believed to be the more accurate traditional name for this area. Based on insights from the mana whenua, *kapo* can mean to catch or snatch, with *hau* refers to wind, breath, or life force. Together, Te Kapohau could be interpreted as “catching the wind” – which may describe the exposed nature of this coastline and the way wind moves dramatically through the landscape. Kapohau may also be the name of an ancestor associated with the area.

Mana whenua have expressed the view that *Te Kopahou* may be a colonial-era transcription error. The correction to *Te Kapohau* helps restore accuracy and meaning, consistent with Taranaki Whānui kōrero tuku iho (oral traditions).

Meaning of the current name

Te Kopahou is an existing Māori name widely used for the reserve, but likely based on an incorrect or altered transcription.

Rationale for change

Restoring the correct spelling and interpretation of *Te Kapohau* reflects mana whenua knowledge and respects the cultural narratives embedded in the landscape. This correction honours the intent of traditional naming and supports Tātou ki Uta objective to align official place names with accurate Māori heritage and language, as advised in the Cultural Values Assessment.

This proposal is consistent with the Wellington City Council Naming Policy – *Te Māpihi Maurea*, which prioritises:

- Recognising sites of significance to mana whenua
- Supporting the use of appropriate te reo Māori names
- Telling the stories embedded in the landscape



Figure 6: Map of park proposed to be renamed Te Kapohau Reserve

Proposal 7: Overtoun Park to Karaka Onehunga Park

The meaning of the proposed name

Karaka Onehunga was the original Māori name for this area, recorded by Elsdon Best. *Karaka* refers to the native karaka tree, and *Onehunga* generally means sandy foreshore – together translating as “place of the karaka trees on the sandy foreshore.” Karaka groves were important sources of kai and cultural significance.

Meaning of the current name

Overtoun was the name early settler James Coutts Crawford gave to his 19th-century estate, referencing his Scottish hometown. The name was used on early maps of Karaka Bay as ‘Overton’.

Rationale for change

The proposed name recognises the cultural landscape shaped by karaka groves. While the settler history is acknowledged, the restored name reflects deep Māori place identity and aligns with draft Tātou ki Uta objectives to prioritise indigenous place names and histories. This karaka grove area is also listed in the Wellington District Plan (SCHED7) as a Site and Area of Significance to Māori, supporting the proposal to reinstate its original name.

This proposal is consistent with the Wellington City Council Naming Policy – *Te Māpihi Maurea*, which prioritises:

- Recognising sites of significance to mana whenua
- Supporting the use of appropriate te reo Māori names
- Telling the stories embedded in the landscape

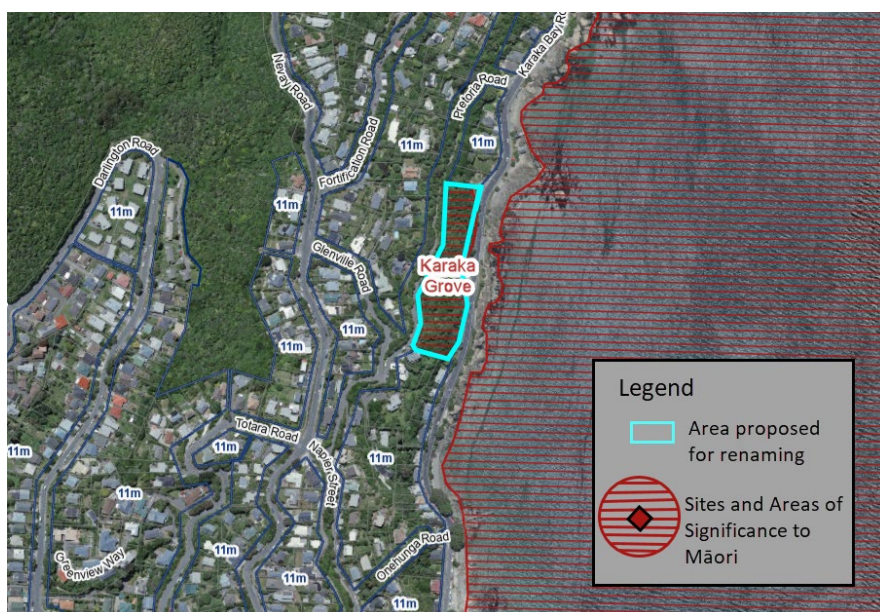


Figure 7: Map of park proposed to be renamed Karaka Onehunga Park

Proposal 8: Lyall Bay Esplanade Reserves to Hue te Para park

The meaning of the proposed name

Hue te Para is the traditional Māori name for Lyall Bay. It can be interpreted as “the ripe gourd” (*hue* = gourd, *te* = the, *para* = ripe or matured). Gourds were cultivated for use as containers, instruments, and food. The name may reference the physical shape of the bay – resembling a gourd between headlands – and symbolises seasonal abundance and mahinga kai practices.

Meaning of the current name

These esplanade reserves do not currently have a formal collective name. They are commonly referred to as the Lyall Bay Esplanade Reserve but are increasingly known as *Hue te Para* through community use.

Rationale for change

This name restores the traditional name for the bay, reinforcing cultural heritage and the deep historical relationship between mana whenua and the coast. The name aligns with Tātou ki Uta goals and reflects kai gathering traditions and ecological identity. *Hue te Para* is also recorded in the District Plan (SCHED7) as a Site and Area of Significance to Māori.

This proposal is consistent with the Wellington City Council Naming Policy – *Te Māpihi Maurea*, which prioritises:

- Recognising sites of significance to mana whenua
- Supporting the use of appropriate te reo Māori names
- Telling the stories embedded in the landscape

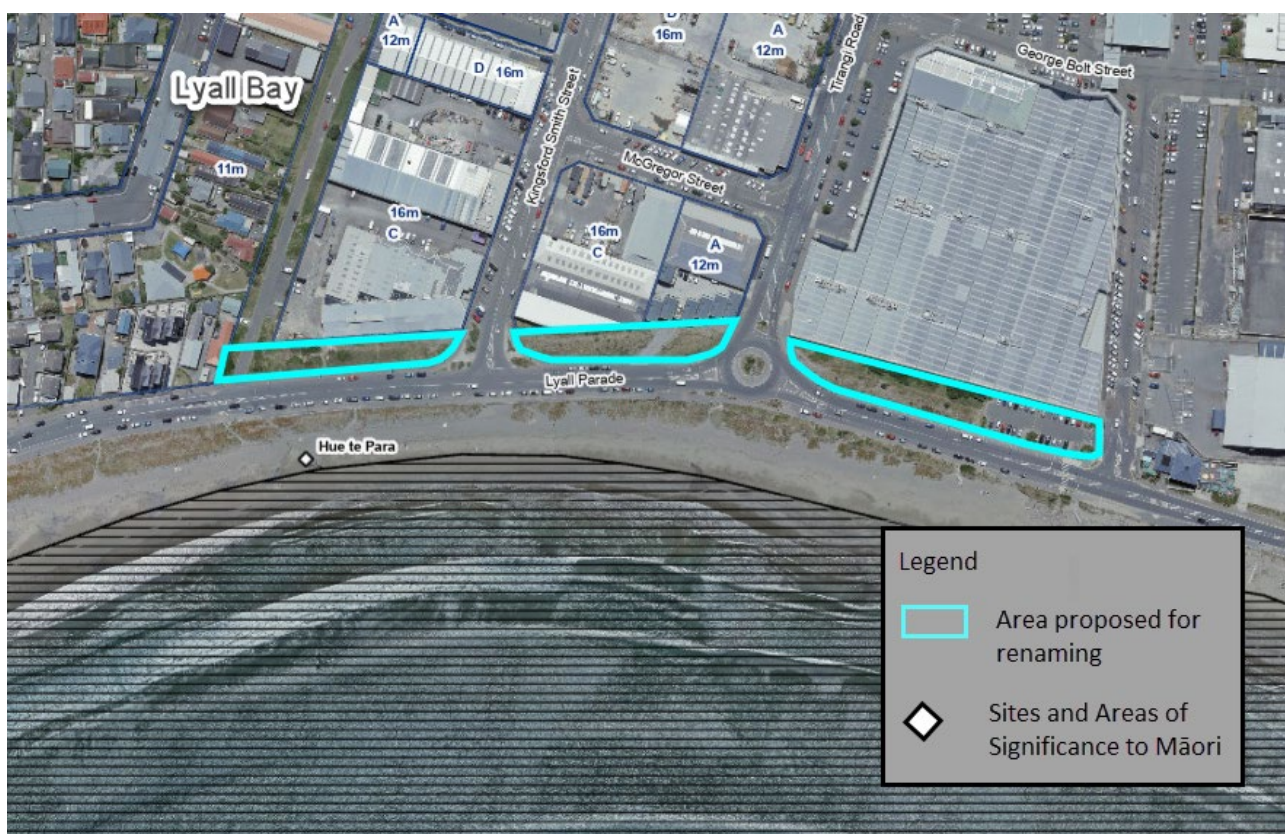


Figure 8: Map of area proposed to be renamed Hue te Para park

