



Report 05.177
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Committee Landcare
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Name for signature walk and cycle way in Belmont Regional Park

1. Purpose

To recommend a name for a feature walk and cycle way in Belmont Regional Park.

2. Significance of Decision

The matters in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Introduction

Parks & Forests would like to name, mark and promote a 22km walk and cycle way through Belmont Regional Park. The route runs from the Dry Creek entrance to Cornish Street via the Boulder Hill peneplain fields, the Belmont magazines, Round Knob, Cannons Head, Belmont Trig and the Korokoro Valley. Thus it will take in many of the key features of the park.

The entire length of the route lies on land managed by Greater Wellington or on walkway easements that will not be affected by the sale of Waitangirua Farm. It runs on already marked walking and cycling tracks, but they are not yet linked or given any particular name.

4. Why promote this as one track?

The main attractions of this route are it is a “traverse” of our largest regional park, the great views and variety of terrain involved. It is easy to reach at both ends of the track which is readily accessible by public transport. It should be both a very popular mountain bike ride and day walk for the region.

As noted above there are many geological, historical and ecological points of interest along the way, all of which lend themselves well to interpretation. Local Maori believe that this route will have been well used from very early

days of human habitation in the region as it would have bypassed the Hutt River floodplain and given good views over the surrounding valleys.

5. Finding a name

The Regional Parks Network Management Plan requires GW to consult appropriately with the community, interest groups and tangata whenua before naming parks or features within them. Names should reflect local history and heritage, relevant natural or physical features, and Maori names associated with the area.

The following was the process for generating ideas for names:

- asking the community for their ideas via a press release, public notices (in the DomPost and the Hutt News), with backup information on our website
- Presentations to the Friends of Belmont Regional Park and the Friends of Maara Roa.

All names were received by the deadline of 30 April and discussed with local Maori on 5 May. The Council Chairperson and the local Maori representatives agreed on one of the names submitted, and that Maori would supply a complementary Maori name that would reflect another dimension of the track.

6. And we think we have a winner...

The winning name submitted by the community was *Korokoro-Haywards Traverse*. This reflects the physical nature of the track and includes landmarks important to Maori and well known to people in the region.

Local Maori believe the Maori name underpinning the track should be *Puke Ariki*. The area known as *Puke Ariki* refers to the Korokoro area and the people associated with it, who are the people of Te Tatau O Te Po, the oldest marae in the region. *Puke Ariki* is a name brought to the Hutt from Taranaki. It is a significant name meaning the place of leaders.

Therefore a combination of these names seems appropriate and so we would like to adopt the name ***Puke Ariki/ Haywards Korokoro Traverse*** for the track, noting several points:

- The LINZ Topographical Authority guidelines suggest placing the Maori name first, followed by a forward slash and the complementary name.
- It is easier to reach the central “plateau” of Belmont Regional Park via the Dry Creek entrance near the Haywards Hill road, than via the Cornish St (Korokoro) entrance. We would like to reverse the order of the two names as we will encourage people to start at Dry Creek.

- Eventually we would like this name to appear on topographical maps. Hyphens may be confused with geographical features and LINZ avoids their use if at all possible.
- We expect that some shortened version would emerge through common usage.

7. Communications

The ranger will be signposting the track with specially developed markers to ensure people can find their way from end to end.

The track name will be featured in new information signs for Belmont Regional Park, the new park brochure and updated walking brochure, and on our website. It is likely that next summer's Regional Outdoors Programme will include a day walk of the traverse track.

We will also apply to the LINZ Topographical Authority to register the name so that the track appears on future topographical maps.

8. Recommendation

That the Committee:

1. *Note the contents of the report.*
2. *Adopt the name Puke Ariki/ Haywards Korokoro Traverse for the signature walk and cycle way in Belmont Regional Park.*

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