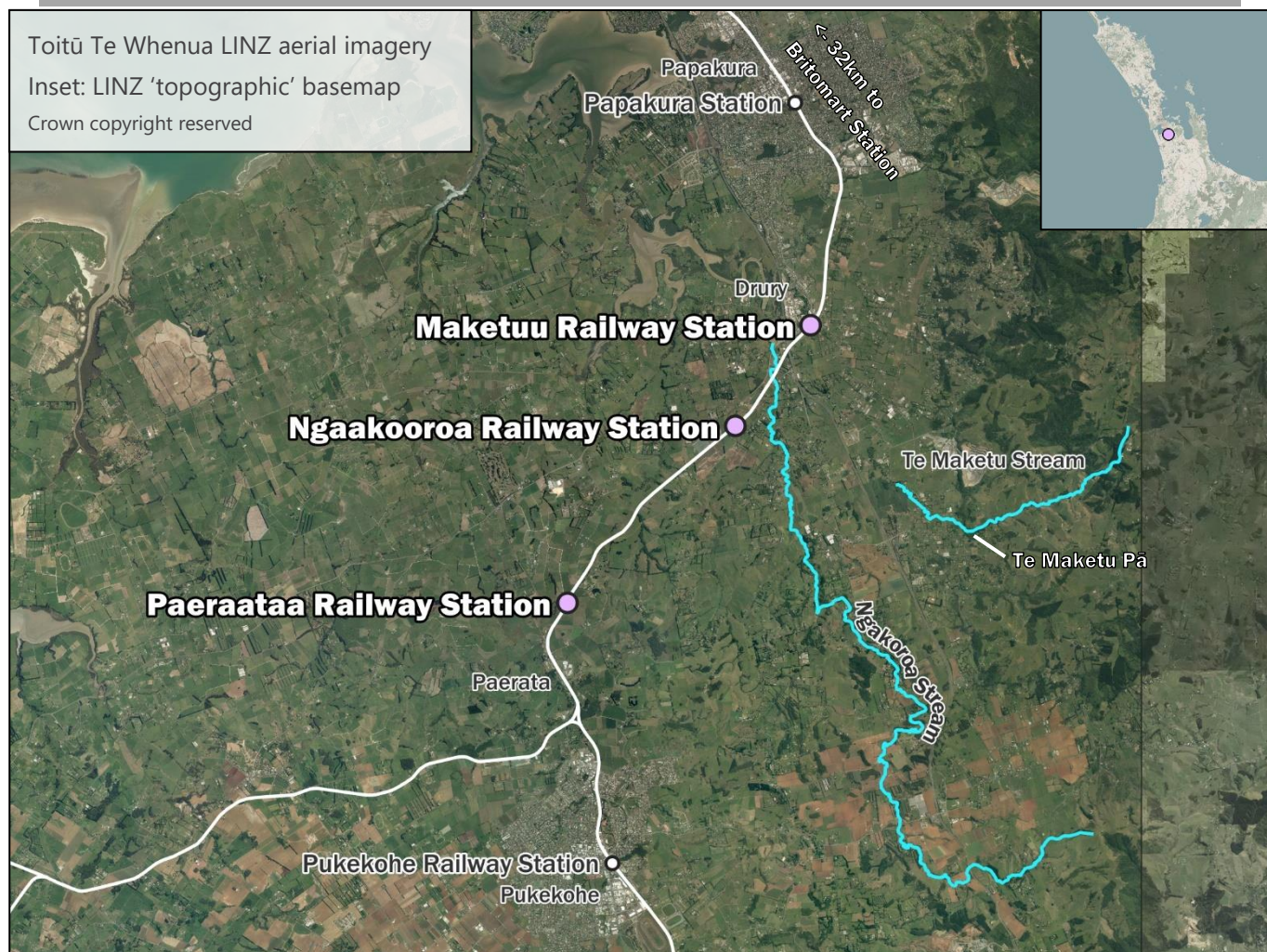


Proposals considered by the Board on 26 July 2022 for Paeraataa Railway Station, Ngaakooroa Railway Station, Maketuu Railway Station

[new names]



Summary

The three proposals from KiwiRail and Auckland Transport are to assign official names to three new railway stations between Paerata and Drury, south of Auckland:

- Paeraataa Railway Station
- Ngaakooroa Railway Station
- Maketuu Railway Station

Construction is scheduled to begin in 2023, with the railway stations intended to service extensive new suburban development and population growth in the area.

A Mana Whenua Forum of six iwi gifted the names based on their connection to the wider cultural landscape. Like the City Rail Link names (agenda item 18.6) the physical designs of the stations are planned to reflect the names.

Railway stations are named for the destination they serve, for the benefit of travellers on the trains. So, the Board should consider whether the names are associated with the appropriate destination or feature.

The proposed Ngaakooroa Railway Station is associated to a nearby stream, although it might not be prominent, and it is unclear how well known the name

might be. However, any concerns might be mitigated by time and the way the story of the name is told in the station design.

The proposed Maketuu Railway Station is located at Drury, an existing and well-known locality name. The associated Te Maketu Stream and Te Maketu Historic Reserve (containing Te Maketu Pā) are not nearby nor prominent from the site of the new station. It's unclear what natural association there is, if any. The name Drury is suggested as more appropriately associated with this new railway station. Should the Board consider Maketuu acceptable, it is recommended standardised as Te Maketū, also consider adding [Te] as per the associated official Treaty names. KiwiRail have not advised if there was a particular reason the [Te] was omitted. [Secretariat note: KiwiRail confirmed by email that Te Maketuu was acceptable on 19 July 2022 after this report was sent to the Board]

KiwiRail considers that the proposed names meet their operational needs.

Double vowels have been proposed rather than macrons. The iwi who are kaitiaki in the area, consider the use of double vowels to be part of their identity and want them recognised publicly in signage as the official railway station names.

On 25 May 2022 a virtual hui was held with KiwiRail, the Mana Whenua Forum, Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori (the Māori Language Commission) (TTWh), a Board member, and the Board's expert translator. This hui allowed all parties to fully communicate their perspectives on the use of double vowels or macrons. The hui was mostly in te reo Māori, and a follow-up summary letter (in English) was provided by one of the representatives.

Board member Shane Te Ruki who attended will provide a verbal account at this Board hui.

Broadly, the Mana Whenua Forum disagree with the rationale that te reo Māori is promoted and revitalised through standardisation of its written form. Instead, they consider double vowel spellings to be part of their identity and heritage, and that they better aid learning, pronunciation, identification, etc. The Board was urged to support their aspirations within their own rohe. Discussion focussed on the preservation and promotion of the regional/local mita¹ although both macrons and double vowels (in this use) represent the same pronunciation.

The Board has a statutory role to promote consistent use of standardised orthography. Macrons were formally introduced by TTWh from the 1990s, from which time the Board has upheld its conventions. It is therefore recommended to proceed with amended proposals that use macrons rather than double vowels. This would represent a consistent approach nationally including for rail networks infrastructure.

While the 'Drury Rail Stations' project is at an earlier stage of development compared to the City Rail Link (agenda item 18.6), a media release is suggested, particularly if the Board proceeds with amended proposals.

Some general considerations for railway station names are included in agenda item 18.6, and not repeated in this report.

¹ [Te Aka Māori Dictionary](#): rhythm, intonation, pronunciation and sound of a language, accent, diction, elocution, dialect, register

Secretariat recommendations

At its 26 July 2022 hui the Board resolved the first recommendation.

Recommendation 1	<p>Decline the proposals to assign Paeraataa Railway Station, Ngaakoeroa Railway Station and Maketuu Railway Station as new official railway station names, and</p> <p>Propose to assign Paerātā Railway Station, Ngākōroa Railway Station and Drury Railway Station as new official railway station names, based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- the direct association of Paerātā Railway Station and Drury Railway Station to the populated places they will serve,- naming Ngākōroa Railway Station for a suitable nearby geographic feature, being an appropriate name that recognises connections to the wider original cultural landscape,- concerns the proposed name Maketuu Railway Station, named for the Te Maketu Stream and Te Maketu Historic Reserve, has little apparent relevance to its location, and may be confusing to travellers and tourists,- expert orthographic advice from a TTWh licensed translator,- applying standardised orthography nationwide for consistency in the rail network, ie macrons rather than double vowels as applicable for Māori railway station names, <p>Noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- orthographic inconsistency with the existing associated names, Paerata, Ngakoroa Stream but that these names could be approved/amended to include macrons in the future,- the railway stations do not yet exist,- the location is not fully confirmed for Ngākōroa Railway Station,- the railway stations are intended to serve new urban developments around them, and names for those areas may eventually differ,- the former Drury Railway Station and Paerata Station, in the same general locations as the new proposals, were closed in 1972 and 1982 respectively. <p>and</p> <p>Notify as proposals to assign for three months, and</p> <p>Issue a media release about the proposals.</p>
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Option

Option 2
{amends
Recommendation 1
in relation to
proposed Maketuu
Railway Station}

~~**Propose** to assign **Te Maketū Railway Station** as a new official railway station name, based on:~~

- ~~—— the name recognising a connection to the wider original cultural landscape,~~
- ~~—— expert orthographic advice from a TTWh licensed translator,~~
- ~~—— applying standardised orthography nationwide for consistency in the rail network, ie macrons rather than double vowels as applicable for Māori railway station names,~~

~~adding 'Te' to 'Maketū' for some consistency with the associated place names,~~

Noting:

- ~~no advice why [Te] was not proposed for Maketuu Railway Station,~~
 - ~~that Te Maketu Stream (without the macron) is official by a Treaty settlement (despite of contrary advice from the Board) and cannot be altered without the consent of Ngāti Tamaoho,~~
 - ~~this proposed railway station name has no apparent direct association with a nearby feature,~~
 - ~~no concerns for confusion based on the distance to the associated features (Te Maketu Stream and Te Maketu Historic Reserve), or whether people currently associate 'Te Maketu' with that area,~~
 - ~~the former Drury Railway Station, in the same general location as this new proposal, was closed in 1972.~~
-

Secretariat assessment and advice

The proposals

The proposals from KiwiRail and Auckland Transport are to assign Paeraataa Railway Station, Ngaakooroa Railway Station and Maketuu Railway Station as the official names for three new railway stations between Paerata and Drury, south of Auckland.

Due to population growth and large greenfield developments, a further 120,000 people are expected to live in the area over the next 30 years.

A Mana Whenua Forum of six south Auckland iwi unanimously decided on and gifted the proposed names. Until their announcement in May 2022, KiwiRail's public communications used the provisional names: Paerata (for the proposed Paeraataa Railway Station), Drury West (for the proposed Ngaakooroa Railway Station) and Drury Central (for the proposed Maketuu Railway Station).

The proposers have provided these meanings/reasons for the choice of the proposed names:

Name	Meanings/reasons
Paeraataa	<i>Keeping the provisional name based on proximity to Paerata (locality), but with double vowels. Named as a conflation of the Māori words "pae", meaning "a ridge or resting place", and "raataa", named for a large rata tree that grew on the ridge on Burt Road, according to local historian Nona Morris.</i>
Ngaakooroa	<i>Chosen due to the proximity to the Ngakoroa Stream. The Ngakoroa catchment includes extensive natural resources, including large waterways, fertile, low lying cultivation areas, and proximity to the resources of the Manukau harbour that would have made the area desirable for Māori settlement.</i>
Maketuu	<i>Gives tribute to the traditional name for the Maketuu stream and the historic name's sake of the ancient Te Maketuu Pā in the area.</i>

The Mana Whenua Forum considers that these names reflect their customary relationships with the whenua (landscape). Two names were proposed in relation to streams, advising they 'are the veins of Papatuanuku, Earth Mother, and the water in them is her lifeblood. Rivers nourish all living beings and link us with our ancestors.

Their use for travel, resources and kai was governed by our principles of tikanga and kaitiakitanga. ie, there are both cultural connections and practical connections as a mode of transport.

Like the other four central Auckland City Rail Link proposals (agenda item 18.6), KiwiRail intends to incorporate the stories/associations of the names into the designs of the railway stations. This design work will not begin until after the statutory naming process is completed.

The Mana Whenua Forum considers that applying culturally appropriate names is an important part of a healing process, as the *'significant cultural landscapes around the stations have been...renamed without consultation, which contributes to a sense of loss and disconnection'*.

The Mana Whenua Forum considers double vowels instead of macrons to be appropriate as it is the preference of iwi who are kaitiaki in the area. Following a hui on 25 May 2022 (refer below under Consultation), a summary letter notes that they have supported others in their use of macrons, but in this area, they seek to educate people regarding the importance to them of the use of double vowels.

Prior to their public announcement, the proposed names were socialised with *'Auckland's Elected Members, relevant Business and Resident Associations, property owners and property developers'*. The proposals include evidence of consultation with Auckland Council, Franklin Local Board and Papakura Local Board.

Some feedback opposing the proposed names for various reasons is included as part of the proposal. Since the announcement, further similar feedback has been received by the Secretariat. These correspondents were advised to make a formal submission if the Board accepts the proposals.

The proposals varyingly use 'Railway Station' (in the cover letter), 'Rail Station' (on the proposal forms), and 'Station'. Having advised standardising as 'Railway Station' with KiwiRail, the proposal is treated as being proposed with the generic term 'Railway Station'.

KiwiRail has kept its stakeholders and the public aware of the Board's requirements, including information on its website and media releases, and distribution of an infopack on the statutory process.²

Names shown on maps

A prior Drury Railway Station was immediately southwest of the proposed Maketuu Railway Station and named on official maps. It closed on 21/5/1972.³

A prior Paerata Station was approximately 1.2km south-southwest of the proposed Paeraataa Railway Station and named on official maps. It closed on 1/10/1982.⁴

Location of the features, generic terms, and geographic feature types

The proposed names are for three new railway stations between Paerata and Drury, south of Auckland. Construction of the railway stations is anticipated to begin in 2023. Acquisition of the required land adjoining the North Island Main Trunk is underway for two stations. For Ngaakoora Railway Station, KiwiRail has

² <https://www.kiwirail.co.nz/what-we-do/projects/amp/drury-rail-stations/> - last accessed 29 June 2022

³ Juliet Scoble (2010), [Names & Opening & Closing Dates of Railway Stations in New Zealand 1863 to 2010](#), Rail Heritage Trust of New Zealand – last accessed 29 June 2022.

⁴ Ibid

advised its exact location is not finalised, but note the risk the station would move is very low.

Maketuu Railway Station will be at the south of Drury (locality). The locations of Paeraataa Railway Station and Ngaakooroa Railway Station were determined to best service an anticipated future urban/suburban catchment.⁵

'Railway Station' is an appropriate generic term and is consistent with other official railway station names. It would also be consistent with the recommendations under agenda item 18.6.

New Zealand
Gazetteer,
associated names
and duplication

The proposed names would be unique as railway station names, whether using double vowels or macrons. There are some associated place names for Maketuu and Paeraataa, and all three names are partially duplicated in the Gazetteer.

Maketuu

The name is associated with both [Te Maketu Stream](#) (official Treaty name) which is 3.6km to the south-southeast of where the station will be built, and [Te Maketu Historic Reserve](#) (official) is 4.8km to the south-southeast.

It is not known why the name of the railway station is proposed as just Maketuu, not Te Maketuu. **[Secretariat note: confirmation from KiwiRail that [Te] Maketuu Railway Station would be acceptable to the Mana Whenua Forum was tabled at the Board's 26 July 2022 hui].**

There are several partial duplications of Te Maketu or Maketu in Te Ika-a-Māui, the closest being [Maketu Pa](#) at Kawhia Harbour, and [Maketu](#) (locality), [Maketu Estuary](#), and [Maketu Wildlife Management Reserve](#) southeast of Tauranga.

Ngaakoorua

The name is associated with [Ngakoroa Stream](#) (official), which passes under the North Island Main Trunk approximately 1.2km to the northeast and flows northward to Drury Creek. The name is partially duplicated by [Ngakoroa Stream](#), north-northwest of Gisborne.

Paeraataa

The name is associated with [Paerata](#) (locality, unofficial recorded) to the south of the proposed railway station. Paerata Bluff is a local use name for [Te Māunu a Tū Bluff](#) (official Treaty name), which is 1.2km to the east.

There are several duplications of Paerata across the country, the closest being [Paerata Stream](#) (unofficial) and [Paerata Government Purpose Wildlife Reserve](#), between Dargaville and Whangārei.

Research, history
and references to
the features

From limited research, Paeraataa and Ngaakooroa with double vowels do not appear to be well established, eg on the Auckland Council website, or historically in newspapers, in books. [Te] Maketuu (and Te Maketū) are used, eg Te Maketū on Auckland Council's website⁶ or Te Maketuu for Papakura Local Board,⁷ but Te Maketu remains more common. Ngakoroa Stream and Te Maketu Stream are official names and are required to be used in official documents.

⁵ http://supportinggrowth.govt.nz/assets/supporting-growth/docs/South-Auckland/Rail/Rail-Detailed-Business-Case_Redacted.pdf - last accessed 4 July 2022

⁶ <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/arts-culture-heritage/heritage-walks-places/Pages/te-maketu-walk.aspx> - last accessed 5 July 2022

⁷ <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/about-auckland-council/how-auckland-council-works/local-boards/all-local-boards/papakura-local-board/Pages/papakura-plans-agreements-reports.aspx> - last accessed 5 July 2022

Graham in *Māori Auckland* records that the name Te Maketu (for the pā) related to when Noia avenged a prior attack by Ngāti Pāoa⁸, the name referring to the waka Kahumauroa being lifted on rollers for a raid on Tuahu in Wairoa (Survey District, hill at BB33 922805⁹). As the proposal quotes from *Māori Auckland* for the other names but omits this, it may be that mana whenua do not endorse this meaning.

Board archives

In 1958 the New Zealand Geological Survey requested a ruling from the Board on the spelling 'Ngakorua', which had appeared in some publications.¹⁰ In 1960 the Board confirmed Ngakoroa Stream and notified it as an official place name.¹¹

Consultation with mana whenua

A Mana Whenua Forum of six iwi unanimously gifted the proposed names:

Ngāti Tamaoho	Ngāti Te Ata Waiohua	Te Ākitai Waiohua
Ngā Tai Ki Tāmaki	Ngāti Maru	Ngāti Whānaunga

Ngāti Pāoa, Ngāti Tamaterā, and Waikato-Tainui, who are shown in [Te Kāhui Māngai](#) as having an interest in the area, have not provided their views on the proposals.

Virtual hui 25 May 2022

On 25 May 2022 a virtual hui hosted by KiwiRail was attended by representatives of the Mana Whenua Forum (nine people), TTWh represented by the Board observer, Board member Shane Te Ruki, the Board's Secretariat and the Board's orthographic expert. The hui was an open platform for discussion of the proposals, particularly the use of double vowels versus macrons, prior to the proposals being submitted to the Board.

Discussion was primarily in te reo Māori.

The Secretary provided an overview of the statutory framework in the NZGB Act 2008, and the Board's role in upholding standardised orthography from a national perspective. This includes taking advice on standardised orthography from TTWh. However, all proposals are considered on a case-by-case basis, including if proposed with double vowels instead of macrons.

TTWh and the Board's orthographic expert emphasised the importance of preserving and promoting standardised te reo Māori. Standardising the written form is considered to be key to enabling and making it easier for current and future generations to learn and revitalise the language.

The Mana Whenua Forum strongly disagreed with standardisation, for example:

- standardisation of the written form is a loss of their identity and homogenisation of culture,
- they want their children to not be penalised in schools and to learn written te reo Māori in their regional form,
- they consider that there is no evidence that consistency/standardisation supports identification to emergency services,

⁸ D.R Simmons, *Māori Auckland, including the Maori place names of Auckland, collected by George Graham*, Auckland: Bush Press

⁹ <https://nzetc.victoria.ac.nz/tm/scholarly/tei-BIM973Whea.html> - last accessed 4 July 2022

¹⁰ Board Correspondence XXXIII f.18-22; Board Minutes 25/07/1959, p.2, name no. 23/59

¹¹ *NZ Gazette* 1960 (7) p.139

- double vowels in their experience, better aid pronunciation, particularly for those unfamiliar with te reo Māori,

In further discussion, the name Drury was considered representative of colonisation and exclusion of Māori from ancestral interests in the area. Grievances were aired about the Board's past decisions, particularly the spelling of Takanini Railway Station.

See Supporting information for a follow up letter in English which summarises the views of the Mana Whenua Forum.

Shane Te Ruki will provide a verbal summary at the Board's hui.

Advice on orthography¹²

A TTWh licensed translator has confirmed that Maketū, Ngākōroa, and Paerātā would be correct in terms of TTWh's orthographic conventions, ie, with macrons rather than double vowels. The [conventions](#) provide for double vowels to be used in certain circumstances, such as for compound and reduplicated words - section 7 refers.

A challenge with using double vowels is understanding the word – whether it is a composite made up of several words with their own literal meanings or whether the double vowel is just signalling a long vowel sound for pronunciation and therefore a different meaning of the full word.

Relevant section from the [NZGB Act 2008](#)

[Section 3](#) The purposes of this Act are to (c)...achieve a co-ordinated and standardised approach to official geographic names.

[Section 4](#) Interpretation: geographic feature and feature mean (b) a railway or railway station.

[Section 8](#) Extent of Board's jurisdiction (1) The Board has jurisdiction to exercise its powers and to carry out its functions and duties under this Act or any other enactment in relation to geographic feature.

The proposers are aware railway station names are officially determined by the statutory process in the NZGB Act 2008, noting the Board or Minister for Land Information could determine as official different names than those proposed.

[Section 10](#) Principal functions of Board (1) The principal functions of the Board, in relation to any geographic feature within its jurisdiction, are to (e) investigate and determine the position or extent of the geographic feature.

The proposers have already decided on the railway stations' locations through extensive planning, resource consents, etc. The Board's role is to determine the most appropriate name at this stage, although as the features do not yet exist physically, a final position will need to be confirmed.

[Standard for New Zealand place names](#) criteria

1.1 Acceptable names (a) The NZGB encourages the restoration of original Māori place names.

The proposal refers to restoring original Māori place names to heal people's disconnections from the cultural landscape. However, the associated names, Te

¹² The conventions and rules of how to write a language

Maketu Stream and Ngakoroa Stream are already recognised in their official names and Paerata is recognised as the unofficial recorded name of a nearby locality (notwithstanding possible changes to orthography).

1.3 Undesirable names and other considerations (c) ...associated names with different generic terms are allowed.

The three names are associated with existing place names in the area, notwithstanding the inconsistent orthography.

1.5 Orthographic standards (b) The correct use of macrons, hyphens, etc on Māori place names is dependent on expert advice from a licensed translator. The orthographic conventions of Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori (the Māori Language Commission) should be followed. However, advice from relevant hapū or iwi associated with the name will be taken into account.

In terms of the orthographic conventions set by TTWh¹³, the three proposed names should have macrons not double vowels.

The iwi associated with the names consider that use of double vowels is part of how their dialect is written and their identity.

Concerns or issues for emergency services

In its proposal KiwiRail states that it has considered the names are suitable from an operational safety perspective.

At its hui in 2011 the Board considered that railway station names should relate to the populated places they service or other well-known features nearby for the purposes of emergency identification and responses¹⁴. In practice, nearly all railway stations are named either for the town, suburb, locality they serve, or the street they are located at. There are some named for associated geographic features.

Paeraataa Railway Station would meet the Board's prior considerations. However, the inconsistent orthography may be confusing. While the station will be outside of the current urban area of Paerata, future development and population growth is anticipated. A development to the north is marketed as Paerata Rise¹⁵ and will be several times larger than the existing Paerata locality.

Ngakoroa Stream flows near the proposed Ngaakoora Railway Station, though is relatively small. The relationship of the proposed railway station name to the area might not be obvious to travellers and tourists. The nearest existing locality name is [Runciman](#).

The proposed railway station would also serve the future anticipated suburban catchment. These future suburbs/localities may come to be known by different names (whether or not they are proposed to the Board).

The proposed Maketuu Railway Station is at the south of [Drury](#) (locality). The associated Te Maketu Stream is relatively distant, having joined Hingaia Stream 3.6km to the southeast. Hingaia Stream then flows by the proposed railway station to Drury Creek. The proposed name Maketuu Railway Station may

¹³ <https://www.reomaori.co.nz/orthography> - last accessed 5 July 2022

¹⁴ Board hui 29 April 2011 regarding Tāmaki Railway Station

¹⁵ Wesley was initially proposed to the Board in 2017 but withdrawn due to controversy. A proposal for Paerata Rise was not resubmitted.

therefore be confusing to travellers, ie, that the station for Drury isn't called Drury, and more so if people already associate the name 'Te Maketu' strongly with another area to the southeast.

While Hingaia Stream is very close, 'Hingaia' may have been excluded as there is an [existing locality name](#) Hingaia 4.5km to the north-northwest, which would be confusing.

For communication with emergency services the intended pronunciation of the names would be the same whether with macrons or double vowels. However, those accustomed to standardised te reo Māori might infer the names are compound words and pronounce them differently.

Media

KiwiRail announced the proposed names in a press release on 20 May 2022.¹⁶ The Drury Rail Stations upgrade is a significant infrastructure project affecting many people south of Auckland, so there has been regular media coverage. Further media attention on the railway station names is likely, particularly if the Board modifies the proposed names. Therefore, a press release is recommended.

Supporting information

1. Proposals for Paeraataa Railway Station, Ngaakoora Railway Station and Maketuu Railway Station – 31 May 2022
2. Media articles to date
3. Additional public correspondence forwarded by KiwiRail or received directly, ie, objections
4. Secretariat notes prepared for hui on 25 May 2022
5. Correspondence with TTWh – 2022-05-27
6. Letter to the Board from Mana Whenua Forum – 14 June 2022
7. Orthographic advice – 1 June 2022
8. **Tabled advice from KiwiRail re: [Te] Maketuu – 19 July 2022**

¹⁶ [New South Auckland Station Names Announced](#), Scoop, 20 May 2022 - last accessed 4 June 2022