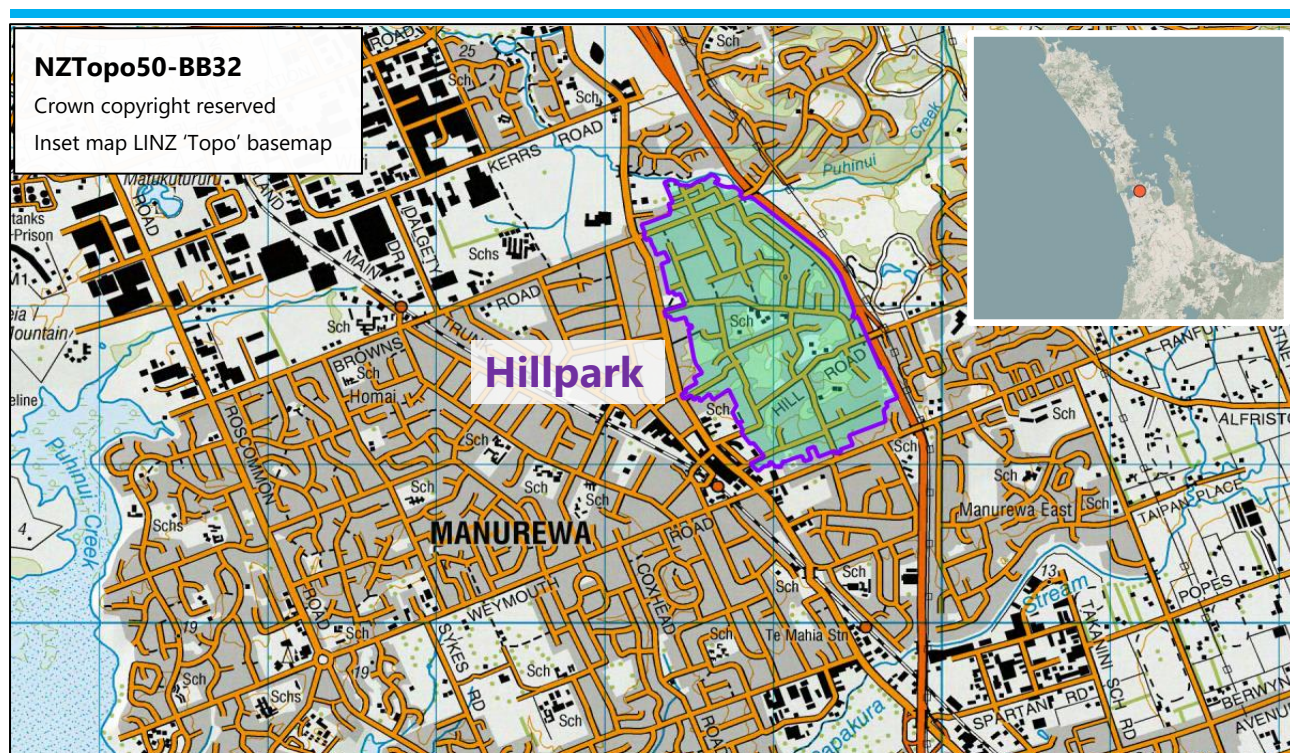


Proposal considered by the NZGB on 27 July 2020 for: Hillpark

[assign a new suburb name]



Summary

The proposal is to officially assign a local use name, **Hillpark**, to a defined suburb in Manurewa, Auckland. The proposal includes support from Manurewa Local Board and residents, including a supporting petition with 367 names. The name has been in use since the 1961 subdivision of the area (59 years), and is in long term use by local institutions, businesses, a school and local government.

The proposal states Hillpark has unique natural and heritage characteristics which help build a suburban identity that should be recognised. The proposal raises concerns about a consistency issue of 'Hill Park' with separate words on [road signs](#), Google Maps, council documents, etc, and that without official recognition 'Hillpark' might be reused elsewhere.

The proposers have provided evidence of consultation with mana whenua, with responses from two groups. Te Ahiwaru Waiohua consider the area to be part of what it would call Puhinui (cf [Puhinui](#), [Puhinui Creek](#)) and Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki do not want to be involved unless a Māori name is proposed. The Secretariat wrote to Te Puni Kōkiri in terms of the *Kaupapa for Māori place names* and other Māori groups whose views were not received. To date, Ngāti Paoa and Waikato-Tainui have responded, endorsing the position of Te Ahiwaru Waiohua.

The proposed boundaries have been developed to avoid overlapping with 'Wiri' and 'Manurewa East' from the Localities dataset. The proposal and the supporting letters demonstrate the confusion caused by this dataset, which FENZ¹ developed for emergency services' purposes. Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) however use this dataset to assign property addresses, which filter into services such as property listings. The names and boundaries are visible in Google Maps. It appears that the public assume that the dataset is an authoritative source of suburb names and boundaries.

However, the proposers advise that the boundaries they have submitted were agreed by consensus at a public meeting. Should the NZGB accept the proposal, public consultation would allow anyone excluded from the past consultation and who identifies with 'Hillpark', to voice any concerns about the proposed boundary.

¹ **FENZ** – Fire and Emergency New Zealand. A Localities Committee manages the dataset, and includes NZ Fire, NZ Police, LINZ, NZ Post, and Local government.

Secretariat recommendation

At its 27 July 2020 hui the NZGB resolved this recommendation, changing the period of public notification from three months to two months.

Accept the proposal to **assign Hillpark** (suburb) as official based on:

- long term local use of the name (59 years),
- evidence of support from the local community, including letters detailing their association with the name,
- support from Manurewa Local Board,
- giving effect to the NZGB's Strategic goal to officially name and define all suburbs and localities, noting the ongoing work towards a business case for suburb and locality names (Agenda item 19),
- the community having 'agreed by consensus' to the boundaries, noting that the northwest boundary runs through the middle of a structure with separate addresses accessed from the roads either side,
- notwithstanding some mana whenua advice that from their perspective the area is part of Puhinui, the name for a locality and creek close by,

and

Notify as a proposal to assign for ~~three~~two months,

and

Release a media statement about this proposal and the NZGB's decision.

Secretariat assessment and advice

The proposal

The proposers, who represent the Hillpark Residents Association, seek to assign Hillpark as the official name of a suburb at Manurewa, Auckland. The proposal has the support of Manurewa Local Board and many residents, whose letters of support are included, along with a 367 name supporting petition.

The proposers advise that Hillpark originated from the 1961 subdivision advertised as 'Hillpark Estate'. This was derived from 'The Hill', a homestead build in 1910 and rebuilt in 1925, and in reference to the stands of regenerated native forest that were retained as parks. The proposers and various publications state the 'forest' defines the character of Hillpark. This was recognised by 'Special Character Area Overlay' in the Auckland Unitary Plan in 2018², which the Hillpark Residents Association lobbied for.

Other reasons provided for officially naming and defining Hillpark include:

- confusion about why the older and more distinct Hillpark is not 'officially recognised' or 'on the map', whereas newer developments are [see 'Addressing implications' heading below],
- concern that a lack of formal/official recognition of Hillpark leaves the name open for reuse elsewhere. The proposers specifically note the 2016 proposal to the NZGB to assign Wesley to a development north of Pukekohe and to discontinue Wesley for the suburb in Mount Roskill,
- to build the suburb's profile by encouraging recognition of its 'unique heritage and natural features',
- to build community pride and local identity,

² 15.1.8.3 , [Special Character Schedule, Statements and Maps](#) – last accessed 22 June 2020

- to resolve the use of 'Hill Park' vs 'Hillpark', as residents consider Hill Park to be incorrect, but it appears to be becoming more frequently used.

Names shown on maps

The Hill [homestead] is named on the large scale NZMS 2A Manurewa map of 1945. The NZMS 17 and NZMS 271 street maps name Hillpark School but Hillpark is not named.

Some maps post-dating the Hillpark subdivision name Manurewa cartographically across the area of this proposed Hillpark, suggesting that the development was considered part of Manurewa.

Map	Date/s	Name
MISCA(D)130 Sketch of the Auckland and Waikato Districts	186~	<i>Unnamed</i>
NZMS 16 Manurewa	1928	<i>Unnamed</i>
NZMS 13 NAK77 1 st -3 rd eds	1932, 1951, 1952	<i>Unnamed</i>
NZMS 2A Manurewa	1945	The Hill [homestead]
NZMS 17 Auckland South	1960 1965, 1969	<i>Unnamed</i> Hillpark school
NZMS 1 N42 1 st -4 th eds	1946, 1962 1971, 1978	<i>Unnamed</i> Manurewa
NZMS 271 Manukau South	1976-1992	<i>Unnamed</i> Hillpark school
NZMS 260 1 st -4 th eds	1981, 1994 1998, 2004 2006	<i>Unnamed</i>
NZTopo50-BB31 1.04	2016	<i>Unnamed</i>

Geographic feature type, and location and extent of the feature

Hillpark is a suburban area northeast of the urban centre of Manurewa, Auckland. The proposed area is fully within the jurisdiction of Manurewa Local Board, who list 'Hill Park' as a suburb on its website³. The proposal meets the definition of a suburb in the NZGB Act 2008, being identifiable, urban in character, with facilities such as those for education, transport, and shopping.

The proposed boundaries, agreed at a community meeting on 13 June 2019, are generally bounded by SH 1 to the east, Puhinui Creek to the north, Great South Road to the west, and Alfriston Road to the south.

Manurewa urban centre and Manurewa Central School are excluded at the southwest. On the west and south sides, the boundaries are defined to a property parcel level based on road access. The northwest boundary in one point runs through the middle of a structure with separate addresses accessed from the roads either side.

The proposers advise that some boundary inclusions and exclusions are based on addresses being 'already part of Manurewa East and Wiri'. The proposers appear to

³ <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/about-auckland-council/how-auckland-council-works/local-boards/all-local-boards/manurewa-local-board/Pages/about-manurewa.aspx> - last accessed 18 June 2020

be accounting for the addressing boundaries of 'Wiri' and 'Manurewa East' in the Localities dataset, which LINZ also uses to assign property addresses. They are unlikely to be aware they are not authoritative suburb boundaries. The NZGB approved Manurewa, Manurewa East and Wiri as official suburb names in 2019 through its orthographic standardisation project, but they do not have defined boundaries for them.

New Zealand Gazetteer, associative place names, duplication,

Hillpark suburb is not recorded in the Gazetteer and there are no associated place names. There are no full or partial duplications of Hillpark in New Zealand, although McKenzies of Limestone Hill Park Scenic Reserve is 132km to the north-northwest. Park Hill is the name of a hill and locality in Otago. There should be no concerns about confusion with these similar but not duplicated names. 'Hill' and 'Park' are common parts of suburb and locality names. 115 are recorded in the Gazetteer including several in Auckland, eg Red Hill 8km south-southeast of this proposal.

Other associated names

A school, kindergarten, facilities, and businesses in the area use the name Hillpark.

Research, history and references to the feature

Auckland Council Libraries' *Kura* has photographs of 'The Hill'⁴, the summer residence of the Nathan family built in 1910 and destroyed by fire in 1923. Details of the history of the subsequent permanent residence built in 1925, a heritage feature in the area, are available from Auckland Council.⁵

In 2017 Te Ākitai Waiohua gifted the name 'Pukepuke' (*lit.* hilly) to David Nathan Park, which encompasses the building above. The name refers to Ihaka Takaanini's [of Te Ākitai Waiohua] description of Papakura Block in 1842 and to 'The Hill' homestead.⁶

Auckland Council's 2050 Plan does not identify any specific Māori archaeological sites in the area.⁷

StatsNZ currently define two statistical areas 'Hillpark North' and 'Hillpark South', which cover a similar area to the proposed boundaries. The combined 2018 population was 5676.⁸ These areas are defined and named for StatsNZ's operational purposes and should not be interpreted as suburb boundaries. In previous years a single 'Hillpark' statistical area was used.

Consultation with iwi

The proposers have provided evidence of having written to these Māori groups requesting views on the proposal, with a four month deadline for responses:

Te Ahiwaru Waiohua

Ngāti Paoa

Te Kawerau a Maki

Ngāti Whanaunga

⁴ <https://kura.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/digital/collection/photos/id/39363> - last accessed 17 June 2020

⁵ Manurewa Local Board – [David Nathan Park management plan 2018](#) - last accessed 17 June 2020.

⁶ <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/arts-culture-heritage/arts/art-centres-galleries-theatres/nathan-homestead/docsnathanhomestead1/nathan-homestead-term-programme.pdf> - last accessed 18 June 2020

⁷ Auckland Council 2050 Plan, [The hapū and iwi of Tāmaki Makaurau, Map 4 Māori Identity & Wellbeing - Tangata Whenua](#) – last accessed 17 June 2020

⁸ 2018 Census Place Summaries: [Hillpark North](#), [Hillpark South](#); definitions in [Statistical Areas 2](#) layer, StatsNZ – last accessed 22 June 2020

Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki

Ngāti Maru

Ngāti Tamaoho

Ngāti Tamaterā

Te Ākitai Waiohū

Waikato-Tainui

Ngāti Te Ata Waiohū

Te Ahiwaru Waiohū – Makaurau Marae Māori Trust advised that its name for the area is Puhinui. [Puhinui](#) as used on current maps is a locality 3.5km northwest of the proposed Hillpark. [Puhinui Creek](#) also flows out of Totara Park at the northeast to form Hillpark's northeast boundary, then flows through Wiri (suburb) to a tidal creek into Manukau Harbour.

Ngāi Tai ki Tamaki Tribal Trust advised it wouldn't get involved unless a Māori name was proposed, which it would prefer.

The Secretariat wrote to Te Puni Kōkiri (TPK) requesting assistance in terms of the *Kaupapa for Māori place names* on consulting with those Māori groups whose views had not been received by the proposer. As no response was received from TPK, the Secretariat wrote to those Māori groups and the nearby Pūkaki marae on 26 June 2020. Ngāti Paoa and Waikato-Tainui both responded endorsing the position of Te Ahiwaru Waiohū, and an acknowledgement email was received from Te Kawarau a Maki.

If the NZGB proceeds with notifying this Hillpark suburb proposal, then all iwi groups will have further opportunity to engage with the process and make a submission.

Consultation with others

Manurewa Local Board's minutes indicate that it would seek the views of Auckland Council; however, they have not been received as part of the proposal. If the NZGB accepts the proposal Auckland Council will be advised of the proposal and the consultation period.

Relevant policies from the NZGB's [Frameworks](#) v.10

Suburbs and Localities: The Board will require formal definition of the spatial extent of localities and suburbs from the relevant territorial authority. Through the public notification process, other agencies or individuals can influence final determinations, and any possible conflicts can be identified.

An end goal is for the jurisdiction of every Council to be divided into a nationally consistent set of suburbs and localities with officially recognised names and boundaries that are used as common descriptors of address and location. See item 21 that reports on this initiative.

Addressing implications

The proposers and those submitting letters of support are concerned newer developments are 'on the map' and 'officially recognised' whereas the older Hillpark is not, ie: *'It is noted that adjacent localities such as "Totara Heights" and "The Gardens" with smaller and similar populations have their names recognised as separate suburbs'.*

Concerns or issues for emergency services

However, the names referred to are not recorded on authoritative LINZ maps nor are they official suburb names. They do not have official boundaries. Most of the names are areas from FENZ's Localities dataset, an operational product emergency services use to ensure call-outs are dispatched within a uniquely named 'locality'.⁹

⁹ <http://www.linz.govt.nz/about-linz/our-location-strategy/geospatial-data-themes-and-datasets/administrative-boundaries-theme/nz-localities-suburbs-dataset> - last accessed 12 September 2017

LINZ uses the data to assign property addresses, so they appear in property listings, and the boundaries are visible in Google Earth. They are a source of much confusion as the public assumes that they are official and perhaps recognised or assigned by the NZGB.

The Localities dataset is amended from time to time to account for the NZGB's decisions, but it has not directly adopted official boundaries determined by proposers and tested through the public process. When the NZGB assigned Wesley (suburb) as an official name in 2019, the Localities dataset was amended to add a Wesley locality. However, the boundaries were changed to better meet the operational purpose of the dataset. The amended boundaries cross Auckland Local Board boundaries, which was a minor point of contention during the Wesley proposal.

The proposers appear to have mostly recreated the exterior boundaries of 'Manurewa', with minor differences, and to exclude Hillpark from it. An implication for addressing is that in the Localities dataset Manurewa has a non-contiguous 'island' on the east side of SH 1. This would be further isolated should the dataset be amended to account for Hillpark and would probably need attention, and perhaps a new name. There is no name on maps or officially assigned for that area.

Officially naming and defining Hillpark could have other flow on effects for addressing and emergency services due to the numerous unofficial developer names in the vicinity, some of which are recognised in the Localities dataset. The proposers have excluded a small subdivision at the northwest from the definition of Hillpark. This was advertised as 'Totara Meadows'¹⁰, has a [sign at its entrance](#), and was completed in 2015. A second development 'Totara Heights' is immediately across SH 1 to the northeast of the proposal, and is recognised as an address because of its use in the Localities dataset. The name is used on the same road sign naming 'Hill Park'. Both Totara names presumably refer to the nearby greenspace Totara Park, and there is a third developer name also 'Totara Park' further to the east, used in the Localities dataset but not on maps or in the Gazetteer.

The proposed boundaries of Hillpark would be a wedge between the first two 'Totara' subdivisions by extending over Oram Road to include properties south of Puhinui Creek. If there is not already confusion from three Totara developments, this might create further confusion and be undesirable for addressing. A diagram of the area with the proposed Hillpark, Localities dataset boundaries and 'Totara Meadows' is in the Supporting information.

The proposers' concern that 'Hillpark' or something similar might be reused if not officially recognised is valid, noting issues like multiple developments named 'Totara' in the immediate vicinity and the two Wesley proposals.

Media

Radio NZ published an article on the proposal 24 January 2019 on the proposers' intention to make their proposal to the NZGB.¹¹ Further media attention is possible. If the NZGB proceeds with this Hillpark suburb proposals, a media release from the NZGB is recommended in order to reach as wide an audience as possible.

Supporting information

¹⁰ <https://www.cba-design.co.nz/portfolio/great-south-rd-development/> - last accessed 22 June 2020

¹¹ Rowan Quinn, [Auckland community Hill Park aiming to get officially named](#), *Radio New Zealand*, 24 January 2019

1. Proposal for Hillpark – 24 May 2020
2. Topo50 map with proposed Hillpark and Localities Dataset boundaries