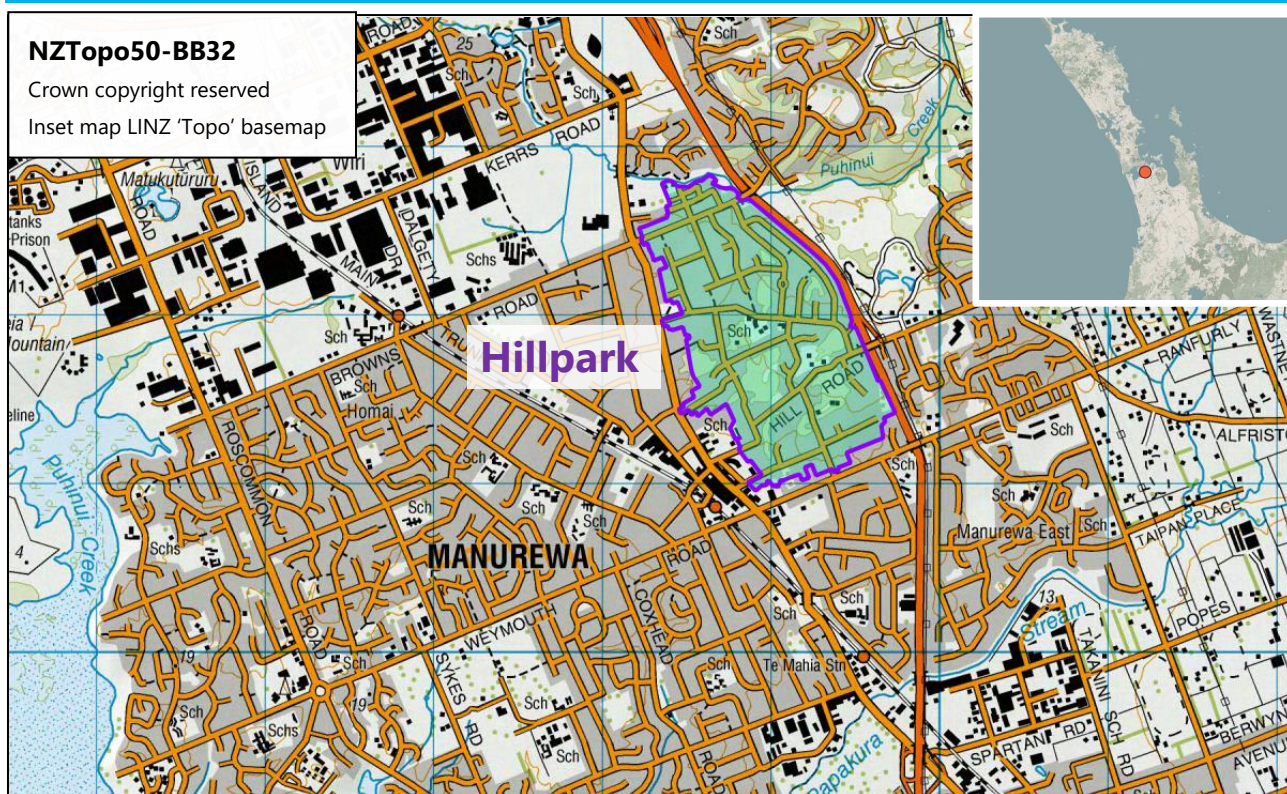


Submissions for Hillpark

[assign a new suburb name]

Considered by the Board on 20 April 2021



Summary

At its 27 July 2020 hui the Board accepted a proposal to assign **Hillpark**, a name in long term local use, as an official suburb name, and to define its extent.

During the notification period from 9 September 2020 to 9 November 2020 the Board received **85 submissions supporting** and **14 submissions objecting** to the proposal.

The supporting submissions generally reaffirmed the reasons provided by the proposers, with emphasis on the distinct character and heritage values of the area and long-term use of the name. The reasons are categorised and ordered by frequency under the 'Summary of supporting submissions' heading. Few supporting submissions commented on the proposed extent.

The objecting submissions can be divided into those objecting to the name Hillpark (**two**) and those supporting the name but objecting to the proposed extent (**twelve**).

The objections to assigning Hillpark officially as a suburb name gave these reasons:

- Officially naming/'separating' Hillpark from Manurewa is a classist/racist exercise,
- The proposal report for Hillpark is biased towards the name Hillpark, and does not provide objective information on other options,
- The proposal does not make the case for maintaining the current name Manurewa and its boundaries,
- 'LINZ' appears to have failed to consider the name Puhinui, a breach of Crown Treaty obligations,

The twelve submissions objecting to the proposed extent gave these reasons:

- It is greater than the historic core of Hillpark,
- It should extend to the south of Puhinui Creek to include the 'Totara Meadows' development,

- It is confusing and should be a more 'natural' and obvious area, defined by physical boundaries,
- Concern for zoning for Hillpark school.

These objections are responded to by the Secretariat below and are not considered to outweigh the original reasons why the Board accepted the proposal, which have been reiterated through a strong response in the supporting submissions.

The Board also requested the Secretariat to engage with mana whenua on potentially approving recorded names Puhinui Creek and Puhinui (locality), to give greater recognition to the name. No responses were received to the request.

On 4 March 2021, FENZ¹'s Localities Dataset added a new 'Hillpark' locality, compromising the Board's ongoing statutory process because the extent differs and is likely to cause further confusion around the definition of official suburbs.

Secretariat recommendation

At its hui on 20 April 2021 the Board resolved this recommendation

Consider all submissions on the proposal to assign **Hillpark** as a new official suburb name, with a defined extent, and their reasons,

and

Reject the 14 objecting submissions based on the reasons given not outweighing the reasons for originally accepting the proposal, being:

- long term local use of the name (now 60 years),
- evidence of support from the local community,
- support from Manurewa Local Board,
- giving effect to the Board's strategic goal to officially name and define suburbs,
- advice that the community agreed (prior to the Board's notification) by consensus to the boundaries,

noting:

- further evidence of community support in the supporting submissions since the Board's notification,
- relatively few objections to the proposed extent,
- school zoning is unrelated to officially naming and defining suburbs,
- Puhinui is already the name of a populated locality nearby,
- the Board has engaged with mana whenua about making recorded names Puhinui (locality) and Puhinui Creek official,

and

Confirm the Board's earlier decision to accept the proposal to assign **Hillpark** as a new official suburb name, with the original defined extent,

and

Report the Board's decision to the Minister for Land Information,

and

Request the Minister for Land Information to make the final determination on the proposal

and

Request FENZ's Localities Committee to correct the extent of Hillpark in its dataset in line with the extent determined through the statutory process, subject to gazettal of the Minister's final decision.

¹ FENZ - Fire and Emergency New Zealand

Background

Board minutes 27
July 2020 [abridged]

Discussion

The NZGB agreed that as the proposers had undertaken suitable consultation with iwi it would reduce the public consultation period to two months. The NZGB noted that mana whenua are advised of a proposal one month prior to the start of public consultation.

Further discussion

The NZGB noted that Te Ahiwaru Waiohua advised that it considers Hillpark to be part of the area it calls Puhinui, and that Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki indicated that it does not want to be involved unless a Māori name is proposed. The NZGB noted Manurewa Local Board supports Hillpark and the name is commonly known in Auckland. The NZGB noted that there is another layer of views to be considered and agreed that the Secretariat should engage with mana whenua groups in the area to discuss the opportunity to make Puhinui (locality) and Puhinui Creek official place names, noting that the NZGB warmly encourages dialogue.

Notification

Advice to mana whenua of public notification and request on Puhinui names

On 5 August 2020, the Secretariat advised these groups of the Board's decision to proceed with the proposal for Hillpark suburb, and that public consultation for two months would begin on 9 September 2020:

Te Ahiwaru Waiohua	Ngāti Pāoa
Te Kawerau a Maki	Ngāti Whanaunga
Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki	Ngāti Maru
Ngāti Tamaoho	Ngāti Tamatera
Te Ākitai Waiohua	Waikato-Tainui
Ngāti Te Ata Waiohua	Pūkaki Marae

The Secretariat also requested feedback on the Board's suggestion to make the recorded names Puhinui (locality) and Puhinui Creek official, to give greater recognition to the original Māori name Puhinui.

No responses or submissions were received.

Advice to MPs

On 9 September 2020, the Secretariat advised the Members of Parliament (MPs) for Manurewa, Tāmaki Makaurau, and all adjacent electorates that the proposal for Hillpark suburb would be notified from 9 September 2020 to 9 November 2020.

As the notification period coincided with the New Zealand general election on 17 October 2020, advice to MP's was based on 2017 electorate boundaries. Takanini, the new electorate created for the 2020 election, is immediately adjacent to the proposed Hillpark. As a new electorate there was no MP at the start of consultation.

Public notification including social media

The Board advertised the proposal:

- in the [New Zealand Gazette](#),
- in the [New Zealand Herald](#), [Sunday Star Times](#), and [Manukau Courier](#),
- on the LINZ² [Consultation](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)™ pages,
- on the New Zealand Government's [Consultation](#) page.

An advertisement was submitted to Te Puni Kōkiri's [events calendar Rauika](#), on 9 September 2020, but it was not published.

² LINZ - Land Information New Zealand

Media

The Board released a media advisory on 9 September 2020 in te reo Māori and English which was also [posted on the LINZ website](#). It was syndicated by [Scoop.co.nz](#) and [Voxy.co.nz](#) on the same day and also reproduced by the [New Zealand Herald](#).

On 13 September Radio New Zealand published an article on the proposal including comment from the proposers.³

FENZ Localities Dataset

Issues with the FENZ's Localities Dataset are a driver for the proposal as the proposed Hillpark was within the 'Manurewa' locality. This means 'Manurewa' is used in LINZ property addressing and reproduced by Google Maps and other re-users of map data. On 4 March 2021, FENZ's Localities Committee amended the Localities Dataset to create a 'Hillpark' suburb, despite the Board's ongoing statutory process. This action may undermine confidence in the statutory process and is likely to cause further confusion. The extent differs to that consulted on by the Board (affecting 16 addresses and there being other differences). A comparison of the differences is in the Supporting information.

While LINZ property addressing data uses FENZ's Localities Dataset, LINZ addresses in the area have not changed from 'Manurewa' to 'Hillpark' as at the writing of this report. Updates to addressing are typically made weekly, so may have changed by the 20 April 2021 hui.

Should Hillpark be assigned as an official suburb name FENZ's Localities Committee will be requested to comply with Hillpark's official extent determined through the statutory process.

In September 2020 LINZ published the FENZ Localities Dataset on the LINZ Data Service under a CC BY 4.0 licence⁴. Now that the data is publicly available and re-useable, the number of proposals and enquiries to the Board relating to suburb extents due to confusion may increase.

Submissions

Overview

During the notification period from 9 September 2020 to 9 November 2020 the Board received **85 supporting submissions** and **14 submissions objecting** to the proposal. All submissions are categorised by theme, and the objections are responded to below by the Secretariat. Full copies of all submissions are in the supporting information.

Location of submitters

This table provides the location of submitters based on volunteered information. Those only stating they live in 'Auckland' may also be residents in the proposed Hillpark or other adjacent areas. Other than one unknown submission, all are local submissions.

	Hillpark and adjacent (Totara Meadows, Wiri, Manurewa, The Gardens)	'Auckland' or other areas of Auckland	Unknown
Support	58	26	1
Object	13	1	
Total	71	27	1

Information on the location of the submitters is collected to inform on the level local community engagement. It does not indicate that they have a greater influence on the outcome of the proposals.

Issues

Of the online submissions, one ticking 'I object' was clearly in support of the proposal. Two ticking 'I support' are counted as objections as they seek changes to the extent.

³ [Manurewa suburb Hillpark may soon become official](#) *Radio New Zealand*, 13 September 2020 – last accessed 26 February 2021

⁴ <https://data.linz.govt.nz/layer/104830-fire-and-emergency-nz-localities/> - last accessed 26 February 2021

Two further supporting submissions expressed a different understanding or dissatisfaction with the proposed extent but have not been counted as objections based on consideration of the rest of the content of those submissions.

Ten supporting submissions and two objecting submissions use 'Hill Park' in their submissions rather than Hillpark. While this demonstrates some local use of Hill Park rather than Hillpark, only two of these submissions commented on the difference of Hillpark vs Hill Park and their preference. For this report, the ten submissions are not treated as making an alternative proposal for Hill Park (two words).

The summary spreadsheet in the Supporting information highlights these submissions which the Secretariat has interpreted, for the Board's consideration.

Summary of the 85 supporting submissions

The 85 submitters provided these reasons for their support, ordered by frequency of appearance:

Reason categorised and summarised	#
Long term use of Hillpark, one of the earliest parts of Manurewa, well established	34
Hillpark has distinct character through natural/heritage/architectural values	34
Common/local use of the name, wide support	26
The name is associated with local identity, there is community pride, official recognition will help build these values	19
Long term residence in Hillpark	15
There are associated names (roads, school, businesses, signage)	15
The proposal will distinguish Hillpark from Manurewa	11
To resolve confusion due to lack of official recognition, surprised it is not official	9
Reference to real estate, Hillpark already used on rates, other billing	9
The name is appropriate, connects to the area	7
Hillpark is a distinct/'natural' geographic area	6
To resolve addressing issues	5
Hillpark is a good place to raise children	5
Support (no other reasons so technically does not count as a valid submission)	2
Hillpark meets the Board's legal definition of 'suburb' in the NZGB Act 2008	1
Resolve Hillpark vs Hill Park	1

Summary of the 14 objecting submissions with Secretariat comments

Name	The proposal is discriminatory, racist, segregating areas based on ethnicity and socio-economic status and this view has been voiced during meetings and on social media (1)
	<p>The Board considered several reasons to proceed with the proposal, particularly long-term use of the name and evidence of strong community support for the name, including from the Manurewa Local Board.</p>
	<p>The submission process was open for two months to provide the opportunity for any concerns to be expressed. The views in this submission are not widely shared by other submissions received.</p>
	Proposal report is unbalanced toward the proposers, did not provide for the option of another name. The proposal had 'insufficient objective information' for the community to understand their options (1)
	<p>The Secretariat report to the Board for its July 2020 hui was based on the content of the proposal and assessed against the Board's standards.</p>
	<p>The submission process (section 17(b) NZGB Act 2008) provides for objecting submitters to '<i>set out an alternative proposal</i>'. No alternative proposals were received.</p>
	The proposal does not make the case for maintaining the current name Manurewa and its boundaries (1)
	<p>This objection considers the proposal to be a change of name. However, while Manurewa is an official name, it has no official defined boundary. The proposal is to make official a suburb name that has been in long term local use for a defined area of Manurewa and which has a high level of community support.</p>
	LINZ does not appear to have explored the use of Puhinui further with Te Ahiwaru Waiohua, so the proposal is a failure of Treaty of Waitangi obligations
	<p>The Board is New Zealand's naming authority, being an independent statutory board (ie, LINZ is not the decision-maker, however LINZ provides administrative support to the Board). At its 27 July 2020 hui the Board considered giving recognition to the name Puhinui by making Puhinui (locality) and Puhinui Creek official and telling their stories. The Board has contacted mana whenua about this. No responses have been received yet.</p>
	<p>Puhinui is the existing recorded name for a populated place 3.5km to the northwest, therefore the Board would not consider assigning an identical name to avoid confusion. However, further dialogue with mana whenua is underway to understand the relationship of the original name Puhinui to the wider area. The extent of Puhinui (locality) is something the Board would be keen to consider separately to this proposal.</p>
Extent	Only the original core area has the 'special character' associated with the name, the proposal extent is real estate creep using the name to sell houses (1)
	<p>The Board considered the 'character' associated with the suburb name Hillpark as a reason for accepting the proposal, so this objection has merit. However, current use of the name within the community, including by services and facilities, may outweigh this as the use of names can change over time.</p>
	The proposed extent excludes 'Totara Meadows', properties on Great South Road (5)
	<p>At its 27 July 2020 hui the Board noted the 'Totara Meadows' development did not form part of the proposed extent, in the context of multiple 'Totara' names being in the immediate vicinity – Totara Meadows, Totara Park, and Totara</p>

Heights. The proposed boundaries of Hillpark would be a wedge between the Totara names (noting they are neither official nor recorded names).

The proposers noted properties bordering Great South Road were excluded as they were considered to be part of central Manurewa.

However, there might be advantages for identification purposes having a more obvious boundary (ie to Puhinui Creek and Great South Road).

Proposed boundaries are too complicated, not clearly defined (2)

More 'natural' physical boundaries for suburbs may be desirable as they would be considered unlikely to change over time and may also be easier for identification purposes on the ground.

However, the proposers clearly defined their reasons for the proposed boundaries, and the method of defining by road access should also be enduring. Road layout in an established area is unlikely to change frequently.

The proposers advised boundaries were confirmed in consultation with the community and the Manurewa Local Board. The boundaries were provided for consideration as part of this consultation process.

Objections based on school zoning (5)

Four submissions (supporting and objecting) were concerned about zoning access to the Hillpark [primary] School.⁵ These appear to have been prompted by the close of submissions on the tri-annual school decile review on 21 September 2020⁶. Most of these are from residents of 'Totara Meadows' outside of the proposed boundaries. Four further objections received are very similar, though did not explicitly mention school zones.

Acknowledging peoples' concern for access to schooling for their children, the assigning of official suburb names does not have a bearing on school zones, which relate to managing school numbers. An officially named suburb may have multiple schools and zones within or crossing its extent – or no zoned schools at all.

The proposed extent of Hillpark has little in common with the zone of Hillpark School.

Supporting information

1. Proposal report – 2020-07-24
2. Map used for consultation, showing the boundary being proposed.
3. Summary spreadsheet adapted from Qualtrics online submission spreadsheet
4. Online submissions spreadsheet (84 supporting, 7 objecting)
5. Copies of direct objecting submissions not received online (7)
6. Copies of direct supporting submissions not received online (1)
7. Comparison of new Localities Dataset 'Hillpark' to proposed Hillpark

⁵ <https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/find-school/school/profile?school=1312&district=7619®ion=2> – last accessed February 2020

⁶ <https://www.education.govt.nz/school/funding-and-financials/resourcing/operational-funding/review-of-deciles/#DecileReview> – last accessed 1 March 2021