

## **Ōhutarangi / Pigeon Mountain Perimeter upgrade Information sheet**

### **Why are changes being made around the perimeter and tihi (summit)?**

The project aims to enhance visitor experience and protect and prevent further damage to archaeological features across the Maunga such as the large areas of exposed shell midden, and to combat erosion by eliminating desire lines.

Protection of these features is achieved through upgrading and formalising of the track network, improving water movement of the tracks and create a new tihi platform.

Entrances ways are being formalised to guide visitors on to the Maunga with new wayfinding signage installed to direct and inform visitors.

Extensive planting is being undertaken across the tihi and the perimeter of the Maunga to enhance the landscape and biodiversity values on the Maunga.

The [Integrated Management Plan](#) (IMP) is the overarching plan to ensure the management of these treasured places is consistent, equal and with Mana Whenua values at the fore. Prior to this each Maunga was managed according to a separate reserve management plan developed by various former legacy councils. In some cases, the plans were unchanged since initial drafting as far back as the early 1980s.

The Plan also fulfilled the Authority's statutory purpose as noted in the Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau Collective Redress Act 2014; that in exercising its powers and carrying out its functions, the Authority must have regard to the spiritual, ancestral, cultural, customary, and historical significance of the maunga to Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau.

The Maunga Authority approved the plans for the upgrade at Hui 88 27 November 2023.

### **Did you consult with the community?**

Ōhutarangi is recorded as an archaeological site R11/38 in the New Zealand Archaeological Association and is scheduled in the Auckland Unitary Plan (AUP) as a Category B Historic Heritage Place (1289) for cultural, archaeological, and geological values.

A resource consent and an Authority from Heritage New Zealand was applied for and granted prior to the works being undertaken. Stakeholder groups who regularly use the Maunga were informed ahead of the works commencing .

### **How much will this cost and where is the funding coming from?**

The cost over the project is not able to be confirmed until completion of the works but the approved total budget is identified in the Tupuna Maunga operational plan.

Reference is the 2025/26 operational plan page 53/54

<https://maunga.nz/assets/Operational-Plan-PDFs/TMA-Operational-Plan-2025-26.pdf>



### **Why is the TMA using helicopters?**

- Given the sensitive nature of the archaeological and geological features and our consent obligations to protect these features, aerial delivery of materials was an appropriate methodology to complete the works.
- There was approximately 160 tonnes of track aggregate, soil and planting materials lifted to the tihi.
- Across Auckland's many local and regional parks where there is no vehicle access, it is a recognised practice to, when necessary, utilise helicopters for the safe and efficient transport of materials.
- It is our proven experience that the cost, and time associated to using physical labour to move large volumes of materials can be comparable to the cost of the safe and swift delivery of materials aerially. It is a highly effective methodology.
- Due to this, we have reduced the number of site injuries to workers who have previously had to carry heavy loads, sometimes over weeks by hand across steep and uneven surfaces sometimes resulting in time off work injuries.

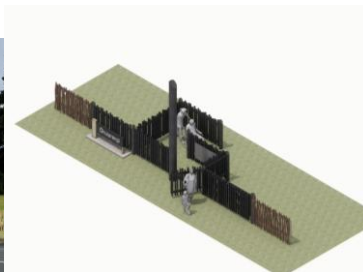
### **What else is changing as part of the upgrades?**

There will be new entranceways and new wayfinding signage installed on the Maunga and the surrounding Wetlands.

### **How long will the work take?**

Work started in April 2025 and will take approximately 7 months and aiming to be completed in November.

### Proposed perimeter improvement works



### Proposed tihi works

