

# Making Connections–Parks Strategy

The city's parks are important as places offering easy access to outdoor activities, habitats for plants and animals, and as heritage sites. Parks are also valued for their landscape, visual benefits and as places where people can experience cultural and spiritual refreshment.

Council's parks strategy "Making Connections" reinforces these values and ensures that Manukau will have a rich legacy of parks for future generations to enjoy. Making connections is about:

- making physical connections (connecting the city's natural landscapes)
- making cultural connections (linking communities and culture through recreation)
- people making connection with their natural environment.

The restoration of natural and cultural landscapes features strongly in the strategy, particularly the restoration of riparian corridors. Manukau's extensive and varied coastline is also a central component of the strategy with an emphasis on the potential of the restored Manukau Harbour.

Making Connections has taken Tomorrow's Manukau as its reference point and gives life to the City's aspirations in the context of its parks. The Manukau of tomorrow will have a rich legacy of parks for future generations to enjoy and which will contribute significantly to the City's environmental health, community cohesion and economic strength.

The vision of the city's parks is one of an abundance of high quality spaces for recreation and sport, and a city criss-crossed by a network of safe walking and cycling routes which also support a thriving urban wildlife and improved water quality. The predominantly urban communities have easy access to an extensive coastline and to more remote destinations of native bush or countryside experiences.

**Discover our parks and make a connection with our natural environment.**

