



Open Space and Recreation Zones Chapter 38

Open Space and Recreation Zones are a new addition to the Proposed District Plan to better manage our parks and reserves and the associated activities.

The new zones will apply to parks and reserves and other land such as community halls, civic spaces, golf courses and cemeteries that are Council owned or managed.

THE EXISTING SITUATION:

Currently, these areas are managed through the use of designations and the underlying zoning (usually the Rural or Low Density Residential Zone). The designation process works well for large scale projects but not for smaller projects such as new parks furniture, toilet blocks or general maintenance.

The designation process is also not available to external parties or commercial operators wishing to locate their activities in parks and reserves, meaning they are usually required to get resource consent based on the underlying zoning rules.

WHAT'S BEING PROPOSED:

The new zones and associated rules and objectives are considered a better way to manage the parks and reserves and activities that are expected to locate within them.

The new chapter will also better manage the effects of commercial operators on other recreation activities.

Five zones (including three sub-zones) will be used to manage activities on land zoned Open Space and Recreation within the District, these are:

- Nature Conservation Zone
- Informal Recreation Zone
- Active Sports and Recreation Zone
- Civic Spaces Zone
- Community Purpose Zone (which includes three sub-zones to manage cemeteries, golf and camping activities.)

Nature Conservation Zone

The *Nature Conservation Zone* primarily applies to open space and recreation areas that border lakes and rivers, or are recognised for their natural, ecological, and landscape values. It provides for informal recreation and access to the District's unique landscapes.

These areas offer diverse recreation opportunities such as biking, walking and water activities, together with providing connections with nature.

To protect the values of the Nature Conservation Zone, recreation activities and development are limited in scale and intensity. Infrastructure, buildings, structures, and activities provided for within this zone relate specifically to conservation, recreation, and visitor information.

Informal Recreation Zone

The *Informal Recreation Zone* applies to open space and recreation areas that are easily accessible for anyone living or staying in the immediate area or within easy walking distance.

It provides a basic informal recreation experience, including play opportunities (such as flat, kick-around space) and areas for respite and relaxation. It is also intended to provide physical links to other areas (such as cycle ways or pedestrian access ways).

The Informal Recreation Zone includes both small local parks and neighbourhood reserves, through to large open areas fronting the District's lakes. It also includes small reserves that provide visual relief from the built environment.

The Informal Recreation Zone accommodates a number of facilities, including public toilets, children's playgrounds, public barbeques, public art, car parks, tracks and general park furniture.

A specific Informal Recreation sub zone has also been identified at Ben Lomond to recognise and manage commercial and informal recreation activities in the Ben Lomond Recreation Reserve.

Active Sport and Recreation Zone

The *Active Sport and Recreation Zone* includes larger parks and reserves that are primarily used for organised sport and events, usually with associated buildings and structures. The zone primarily applies to open space that is easily accessible, used for indoor and outdoor organised sports, active recreation and community activities.

Civic Spaces Zone

The *Civic Spaces Zone* provides for public activities such as markets, events and community gatherings. Civic spaces contribute to the character of centres and urban areas and provide opportunities for informal recreation and social interaction, supporting local character and sense of identity.

Community Purposes Zone

The *Community Purposes Zone* applies to open space areas that play a significant community function, including libraries, halls and recreation centres. It also includes sub zones to provide specifically for cemeteries, golf courses, campgrounds and areas that have a significant passive recreation function that are not otherwise provided for in other zones (such as the Queenstown Gardens). Community buildings and associated activities are also generally provided within the Community Purposes Zone.



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into more
detail?

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resources are available
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proposed-district-plan](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/proposed-district-plan)