

**GRAEME CAMPBELL, DIRECTOR: STRATEGIC PLANNING,
WAITAKERE CITY COUNCIL**

**Speaking at Motutapu on the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of the enactment of
the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000
– Saturday 27 February 2010**

When people think of Waitakere, they think West – the wild west coast beaches – Whatipu, Karekare, Piha, Te Henga – but one third of the city's coast is in the east, bordering the Waitemata Harbour and the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park.

The city has two longstanding programmes that contribute to the protection of this coast.

1. Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area – protects 27,000 ha of forested ranges and farmed foothills that are the headwaters of the streams that flow east to the Waitemata – Oratia, Opanuku, Swanson, Henderson.
2. Project Twin Streams, a council/volunteer programme of catchment protection, planting, enrichment to improve water quality, reduce flooding, open access \$50 million.

To these two programmes, we have added a third programme to gather together all of the coastal reserves at the head of the Waitemata Harbour and place them under the umbrella of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park.

This necklace of reserves around the head of the harbour provides an almost complete linkage around the coastline, providing public access to the coast and along the coast while also protecting significant historic sites and precincts and sites of significant biodiversity. And now as a matter of policy, all future reserves will be added.

Waitakere City Council is proud of its Hauraki Gulf connections and heritage, and is proud to have received the approval of the Minister of Conservation that these reserves do meet the stringent criteria of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000. We are pleased to make this contribution to the 10th anniversary celebrations of the establishment of the Park and the Act. For Waitakere the inclusion of these reserves in the Park is a meaningful legacy of the hopes and aspirations of the city as we face amalgamation into the new Auckland Council in 2010.

This has been a formal process, including widespread consultation with stakeholders, community boards and iwi. At every step the proposal has met with full and enthusiastic support and understanding. I hope that other councils will follow Waitakere's lead.

So what is this gift?

It consists of 55 reserves. Most of them small. There are 300 parcels of land totalling 200 ha. Refer map.

The gift is a token of Waitakere's connection to the Gulf and its history and communities.

The gift is a **commitment** to work with other councils with DOC, with iwi and communities around the Gulf to protect and better manage the Park.

We are proud to be part of this 10th anniversary commemoration.

At its meeting on 6 August 2009, the Policy and Strategy Committee resolved the following:

“The Policy and Strategy Committee resolved to:

2. *Agree that all the reserves identified in the Waitemata Harbour Reserves Management Plan and the Citywide reserves that border the Waitemata Harbour, Moire Park, Brains Park, McLeod Park, Harbourview – Orangihina, and Luckens Reserve, be included in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park and that the Hauraki Gulf Forum be advised, in writing, accordingly.*
3. *Agree that any new reserves vested with Council adjacent to the Waitemata Harbour be included in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park.”*

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At its meeting on 3 December 2009, the Policy and Strategy Committee resolved the following:

“The Policy and Strategy Committee resolved to:

2. *Agree that to apply to the Minister of Conservation to include the list of Waitemata Harbour Foreshore Reserves as attached to these minutes as pages A185 to A187 and shown on map as attached to these minutes as page A188, be included in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park.*

