



# 7 Appendices



## Appendix I

### Outer Green Belt brief timeline

- 1972 ○ The Wellington City Council published "Preserving Wellington's Open Space", proposing an 'Outer Town Belt'. The original vision was as follows.
- Several connector links are required to form a continuous green belt or outer town belt encircling the outer city suburbs from Brooklyn and Karori north to Johnsonville and Churton [Park]. These links will enable the retention of the skyline surrounding the suburbs, the protection of local features such as Mākara High, the formation of a walkway system surrounding the city and possibly in later years, a scenic drive, and a segregation between housing and rural land uses. The outer skyline reserves would then effectively repeat in form and intention the Town Belt, preserved in the original city layout.*
- 1973 ○ North Johnsonville Progressive Association proposed that the Council purchase land from Ōwhiro Bay north to Porirua City for "future extension of the Town Belt".<sup>90</sup>
- 1978 ○ Eight objectives, including:
- Protect bush-clad hillsides, soils, wildlife and open space
  - Preserve land for public recreation
  - Improve and enhance the rural landscape near urban areas
  - Protect the natural features of the landscape as a scenic and recreation amenity, particularly the skyline ridges.
- 1983 & 1985 ○ Acquisition of 'Outer Town Belt' lands endorsed with priority given to the lands behind Otari-Wilton's Bush and Ngaio. Some areas were already in Council ownership, such as Khandallah and Johnsonville Parks, Otari-Wilton's Bush and Johnston Hill.
- 1987 ○ The concept of the 'Outer Town Belt' confirmed, "to provide a continuous open space network on the skyline from Karori to Johnsonville".
- 1992 ○ Restated the aims as:
- Fulfilling the functions of structuring suburban growth
  - Protecting the significant landscape of the skyline behind the suburbs of Karori, Ngaio, Khandallah and Johnsonville
  - Providing a buffer between residential and rural land and ultimately the provision of land for informal recreation, mainly as a skyline walkway.
- Land acquired at Mākara Peak, Wrights Hill, Karori Reservoir (now Zealandia) and Otari-Wilton's Bush.
- 1996 ○ Concept expanded to include the ridges north to Tawa but with a more cautious approach by considering alternatives to outright land purchase. Need flagged for a more comprehensive strategy for protecting important open space, landscapes and ecological values across the city.
- Land acquired on the flanks of Mt Kaukau, on the hilltops above Otari-Wilton's Bush, on Ohariu ridge above Redwood, at Larsen Crescent Bush, and at Old Coach Road.
- 2004 ○ Publication of Wellington's *Outer Green Belt Management Plan*. The 170-page document, complete with detailed maps, provided comprehensive policy, still based on the core concept of a continuous green belt protecting ridgetop landscapes, enhancing native bush and providing public access.
- Land acquired since 2004 includes areas above Otari-Wilton's Bush, adjacent to Karori Park, above Tawa/Linden (Te Ngahere-o-Tawa), and above Churton Park off Ohariu Valley Road.

<sup>90</sup> WCC archives: 00001:1905:50/830 Pt 3, Town Belt (general file), (Deed 188), 1970-1974.

## Appendix II. Policy/Planning Context

### Key Guiding Council Policies and Strategies

#### *Wellington Towards 2040: Smart Capital*

The Council's vision for Wellington focusses on the city's future development over the next 20 years, building on Wellington's current strengths while acknowledging the challenges the city faces now and over the medium to long-term and the changing role of cities. The vision is supported by four community outcomes based on the city's competitive advantage. These are eco-city, connected city, people-centred city and dynamic central city. The Outer Green Belt and other reserves help realise the vision in a number of ways, including protecting green infrastructure, influencing urban form, strengthening environmental resilience, strengthening sense of place and supporting communities in being actively involved in places where people connect with each other.

#### *Long-term plan 2018-2028 and annual plans*

The Long-Term Plan (LTP) sets out the Council's investment priorities over the following 10 years and underpins *Wellington Towards 2040: Smart Capital*. Year-to-year spending on significant projects and programmes outlined in the LTP is allocated under annual plans and the LTP is reviewed every three years, with public feedback, to ensure it remains relevant and accurate. Over the 2018-2028 period, LTP investment in a range of projects and initiatives will be aimed at making Wellington more resilient, vibrant and competitive and ensuring residents continue to enjoy a high quality of life. Five prioritised focus areas are resilience and environment, housing, transport, sustainable growth and arts and culture. Of particular relevance to the Outer Green Belt within these priorities are predator-free projects, eco-friendly community efforts and support for the regional trails framework.

#### *Wellington Urban Growth Plan - urban development and transport strategy: 2014-2043*

This urban development and transport strategy is used to plan for expected growth in Wellington's population to around 250,000 by 2043. Its purpose is to guide Council's decisions relating to urban growth planning, transport, land use, housing and infrastructure. Key

outcomes are to achieve a compact, liveable and resilient city set in nature. Of particular relevance to the Outer Green Belt is the emphasis on protecting the natural environment from the impacts of development and to ensure a liveable and attractive city and the need to contain future development within the existing urban limits. Specifically, it sets an objective of completing the Outer Green Belt, completing the Skyline Walkway and developing Wellington as a premier mountain biking destination.

#### *Our Capital Spaces - an open spaces and recreation framework for Wellington: 2013-2023*

Part of the Our Living City programme, initiatives come under four outcomes - (i) getting everyone active and healthy (good signage and information, accessibility); (ii) protecting our birds, nature, streams and landscapes; (iii) contributing to Wellington's outstanding quality of life (education attractions, world-class walking and biking destination, regional and national events); and (iv) doing it together (community gardens and restoration projects, shared sports management, schools). Of particular relevance to the Outer Green Belt are site-specific actions and, more generally, the need to provide good signage and information so people know what's available to them - a focus on short accessible walking and biking tracks and joining up tracks between suburbs, the need to cater for older people, a focus on healthy ecosystems and contact with nature and community partnership in caring for open spaces.

#### *Our Natural Capital - Wellington's indigenous biodiversity strategy and action plan 2015*

*Our Natural Capital*, Wellington's biodiversity and action plan, is about Wellington's indigenous biodiversity - the species that occur or occurred naturally in Wellington. The main aim is to protect and restore indigenous biodiversity so it is thriving once more. Strategic outcomes include no further loss or reduction in locally indigenous species or ecologically significant areas; reintroduction of lost species, original ecosystems well-represented and self-sustaining and well connected habitats. Additional outcomes are focused on people - connecting people to nature, fostering their knowledge and sense of

kaitiakitanga, fostering enthusiasm for abundant nature, and taking leadership in managing and researching indigenous biodiversity in an urban context. Many of the objectives and actions in *Our Natural Capital* are relevant to the Outer Green Belt with its large area containing much of the city's important biodiversity.

#### ***Wellington Resilience Strategy 2017***

The strategy is a blueprint to help Wellingtonians to prepare for, respond to and recover from major disruptions such as earthquakes and the effects of climate change. The stated vision is 'As Wellington moves and changes, everyone here will survive and thrive'. Three goals support this vision - that people are connected, empowered and feel part of a community, that decision-making is integrated and well informed and that homes, the natural and the built environment are healthy and robust. The Outer Green Belt has a role to play in providing places and activities for people to connect, sustaining a healthy environment and providing resources and places of sanctuary in emergencies.

#### ***Low Carbon Capital Plan (2016)***

The plan identifies three pillars for climate change action for Wellington:

1. Greening Wellington's growth
2. Changing the way we move
3. Leading by example, in particular, through a carbon management policy and forestry.

#### ***Te Atakura First to Zero, Wellington's Blueprint for a Zero Carbon Capital, 2019***

The blueprint confirms the Council's commitment to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions in Wellington by 2050, with significant reduction by 2030. It outlines seven 'big moves', or action areas, for a zero carbon capital. Two of these moves are of particular relevance to the Outer Green Belt.

1. The need to keep urban development compact, even as the population grows. The Outer Green Belt plays a role in this by delineating an edge to contain urban development.
2. The need to protect and enhance the domain of Tāne (the forests) that support recreational activity and biodiversity and provide ecosystem services. The Outer Green Belt is specifically named in the blueprint for its role in providing for this need. The OGB supports a significant amount of outdoor

recreational opportunity, and a large proportion of the city's biodiversity and current carbon storage forest areas (see 3.5, 3.2 and 3.7).

#### ***Wellington Heritage Policy (2010)***

The strategy is based upon ideas that Wellington's historic features, sites and places are a finite resource and are important in shaping what makes Wellington unique. It outlines objectives and actions based on the following goals:

**Recognition** - Wellington's heritage is recognised as contributing to our understanding of our cultural diversity and awareness of sense of place

**Protection, conservation and use** - Wellington's unique character is enhanced by the protection, conservation and use of its heritage

**Sustainable economic use** - Wellington's heritage is acknowledged as contributing to a vibrant economy.

### **Regulatory and Governance Framework**

#### ***The Reserves Act***

The *Outer Green Belt Management Plan* (OGBMP) has been prepared under the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977 ("the Act"). Management plans outline the Council's intentions for the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection, and preservation of its parks and reserves. The aim of this legislation is to ensure that reserve management and development is based on sound principles, and that there are adequate controls for the purpose of the reserve. Section 41 of the Act sets out the purpose and procedure for preparing a management plan. It also requires that management plans are kept under continuous review to adapt to changing circumstances or in accordance with increased knowledge. The OGBMP is an omnibus plan (covering more than one reserve) that applies to the land shown on the maps and schedules for each management sector (Part 5). Council approval of activities in reserves under the Reserves Act takes the form of Land Owner Approval. These "land owner" powers can take the form of permits, leases, licences and easements and may require public notification. Rules for use and development are outlined in Part 6.

### *The Resource Management Act and allied plans*

#### **Wellington City District Plan**

The *Wellington City District Plan* is the Council's principal regulatory document setting out objectives, policies, methods and rules for managing the city environment, land uses and associated activities. It is prepared in accordance with the Resource Management Act 1991. The rules allow the Council to exercise control over the type of building and activity that occurs, and this control is exercised by way of the resource consent process. In reserves, depending on the nature and scale of a development (for instance, a building, major track development and so on), it is likely that approval for any given activity will need to be given by the Council (as land owner) and through Resource Consent (as regulatory authority). Building consents and compliance with the Wellington Consolidated Bylaw 2008 may also be required. In the district plan, the Outer Green Belt reserves are generally zoned Open Space B (Natural Environment) or Conservation, though a number of land parcels have Outer Residential, Heritage Area, Open Space A or Residential zonings. The zonings are listed in the land schedules in Part 5 of this plan. Much of the Outer Green Belt also comes within the ridgelines and hilltops overlay in the district plan where provisions to avoid visually obtrusive development apply.

#### **Regional Policy Statement (RPS)**

The RPS is developed and administered by the Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC). The RPS is a mandatory requirement under the RMA and sets out the key issues for the region and objectives and policies for managing these issues. Regional and district plans must give effect to the RPS.

Key objectives of the Wellington RPS relate to air quality, the coastal environment, freshwater management, indigenous ecosystems, landscapes, regional urban form and an efficient regional transport network.

#### **Proposed Natural Resources Regional Plan (PNRRP)**

The PNRRP gives effect to the regional policy statement. It contains specific rules relating to soil conservation, biodiversity, the quality and quantity of water, air quality and the coast.

The district plan must not be inconsistent with the PNRRP.

### **Other Guiding Plans and Programmes**

#### *Wellington Regional Trails for the Future - a strategic framework for trails in the Wellington Region, 2017*

This is a collaboration between territorial authorities, the regional council and Department of Conservation in the Wellington region to develop the trail network so that the region is recognised as a world-class destination for trail-based outdoor experiences. The framework sets out various co-ordinated initiatives around such things as information/marketing, establishing a community engagement forum, trail development and guidelines on design standards and shared trail use. A hierarchy of outstanding 'signature trails', significant 'regional trails' and everyday community-use 'local trails' are identified. Of particular relevance to the Outer Green Belt is the identification of Mākara Peak Mountain Bike Park and the Skyline Track as Signature Trails, and the Polhill Reserve - Brooklyn wind turbine - Te Kopahou area and the Northern Walkway (part of which is in the Outer Green Belt) as Regional Trails.

#### *Open Space Access Plan 2016*

The Council's strategic vision to strengthen and improve the access network in Wellington's open spaces is by providing opportunities for recreation and tourism, ensuring tracks provide for a range of user interests, skills, abilities and fitness levels within each geographic area of the city, achieving a primary network between major destination points in Wellington and adjoining districts, linked with an equitable distribution of secondary and local track networks and recreational facilities, and providing a network that enables more residents to safely enjoy the open spaces while enhancing the natural environment. The vision and principles are generally relevant to the Outer Green Belt because it is an important part of the overall open space access network. Also, among the area-specific initiatives are a number that apply within the Outer Green Belt.

#### *Our Living City, 2013*

A project designed to improve Wellington's quality of life by strengthening urban-nature connections and building economic opportunities from a healthy environment. The programme's three goals are aimed at ensuring Wellington's 'natural capital' is protected and enjoyed in the ways that land (including

open space) is used, managed and developed, transforming towards a green economy, thereby reducing environmental impacts and opening up new opportunities and leading communities and partners to participate in the green economy. These goals touch on many aspects of managing the Outer Green Belt, ranging from the way its open space is managed to playing a part in the Two Million Trees project, aimed at planting two million native trees in Wellington by 2020.

#### ***Dog Policy (2016)***

The Dog Control Act 1996 requires the Council to develop a policy on dog control. The Council's Dog Policy is to make sure dog owners meet their obligations under the Act, make sure dogs are well cared for and Wellingtonians are able to enjoy owning dogs, prevent dogs causing any danger to the public, wildlife and natural habitats, actively promote responsible dog ownership and provide for the reasonable exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners. The Dog Policy is relevant to the Outer Green Belt reserves because the reserves are popular for dog walking, including some designated off-leash dog exercise areas. Requirements for keeping dogs under control are particularly relevant, given the potential for conflict between dogs and other recreational users, and between dogs and wildlife.

#### ***Leases Policy for community and recreation groups (2012)***

The Council leases land and/or buildings at a subsidised rental to a wide range of community and recreation groups. The Leases Policy sets out the Council's role in leasing Council-owned land and/or buildings to community and recreation groups and provides guidance on granting and managing those leases in collaboration with groups. Section 5 of the policy notes that management plans such as this one and Council strategies will be used to decide what activity or structure can be permitted on an area of land. Most of the Outer Green Belt is scenic reserve and the suitability of leases and associated activities will need to be assessed under the Reserves Act, as well as the policies in this plan. In the Outer Green Belt there are few instances of these types of lease.

#### ***Other Reserve Management Plans***

Nine management plans, including this one, cover all of the reserves across the city. Together, the reserves form a network of open spaces and recreation opportunities. The different management plans are intended to cluster the reserves into common types or areas and provide for management specific to those areas and/or consistently across the entire network. The plans in addition to this plan are the Suburban Reserves Management Plan 2015, Zealandia, Living with Nature 2016, Botanic Gardens of Wellington Management Plan 2014, Wellington Town Belt Management Plan 2017, Oruaiti Reserve Management Plan 2011, Northern Reserves Management Plan 2008, Glover Park Management Plan 2005 and the South Coast Management Plan 2002. All other inner city parks come within the Wellington Central City Framework 2010.

#### ***Wellington Play Spaces Policy (2017)***

This policy provides strategic direction and guidelines for providing and managing play spaces in Wellington, including guiding principles, a planned network of play spaces and guidance on different types of play space. The Outer Green Belt has some sites suitable for local playgrounds and provides plentiful opportunities for free play in the natural environment.

#### ***Whaitua Catchment Management***

The Greater Wellington Regional Council's programme to implement the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management is based upon Whaitua (designated space or catchment) Committees. The objective is to maintain or improve overall water quality, to achieve at least minimum freshwater standards. The Wellington City Council territory is within the Wellington Harbour and Hutt Valley Whaitua Catchment. A whaitua committee will be established and will be responsible for decisions on the future of land and water management in the Whaitua, including a Whaitua Implementation Programme, using a range of integrated tools, policies and strategies.

# Appendix III. Photo Montages – the Outer Green Belt in 2004 and 2018

## 2004



WEST SIDE OF OUTER GREEN BELT - View from Ohariu Valley western hills looking northeast.

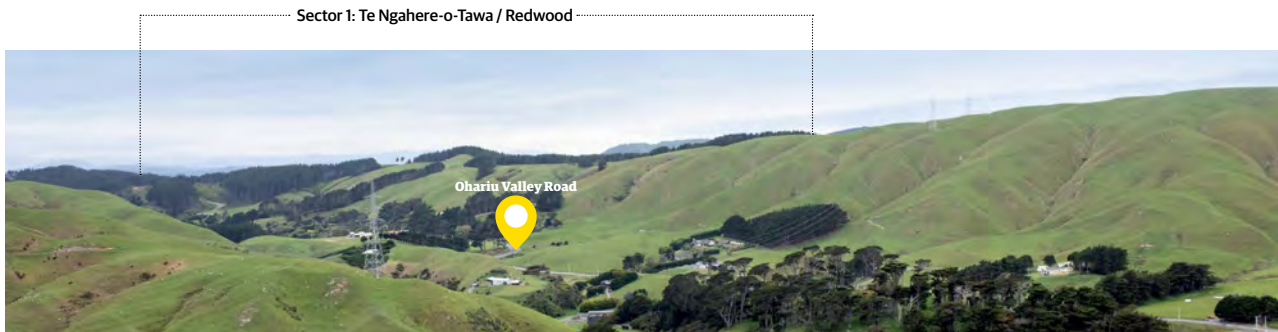
Fig.1.1  
View Location 1



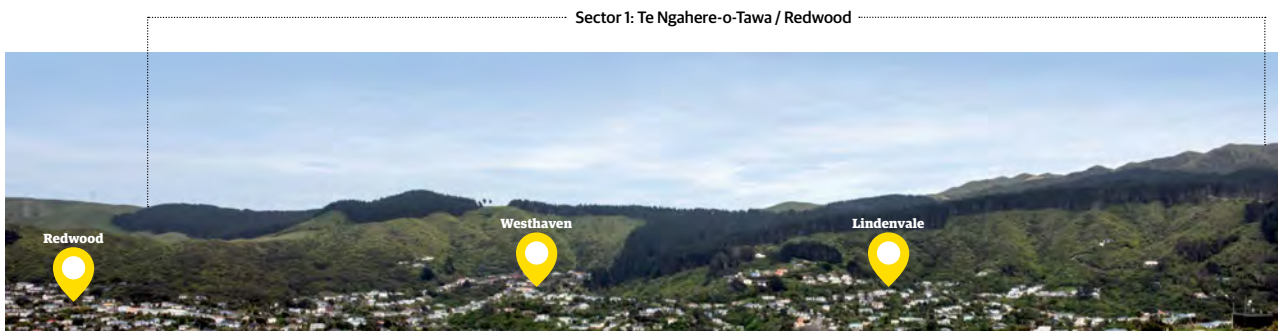
EAST SIDE OF OUTER GREEN BELT — View from Bing Lucas Drive, Greenacres looking west

Fig.1.2  
View Location 2

## 2018



West side of Outer Green Belt - View from Ohariu Valley western hills looking northeast.



East side of Outer Green Belt - View from Bing Lucas Drive, Greenacres looking west.



**2004**



WEST SIDE OF OUTER GREEN BELT - View from Ohariu Valley western hills looking east.

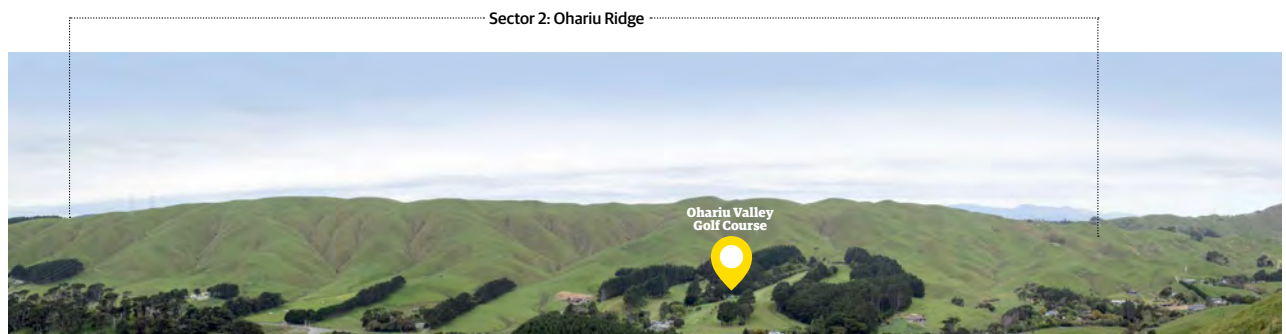
Fig.2.1  
View Location 1



EAST SIDE OF OUTER GREEN BELT - View from Stebbings Valley eastern hills looking west.

Fig.2.2  
View Location 3

**2018**



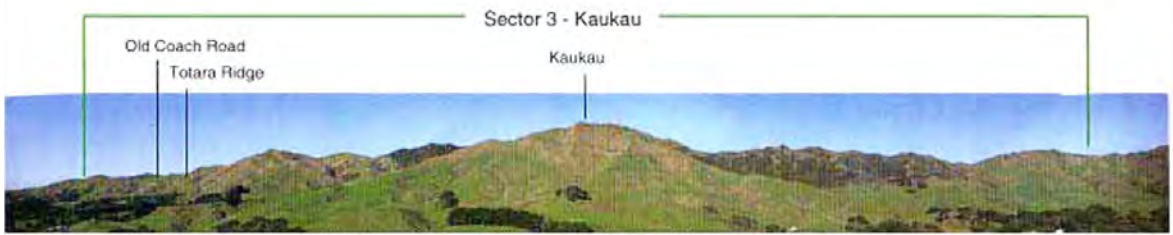
West side of Outer Green Belt - View from Ohariu Valley western hills looking east.



East side of Outer Green Belt - View from Stebbings Valley eastern hills looking west.

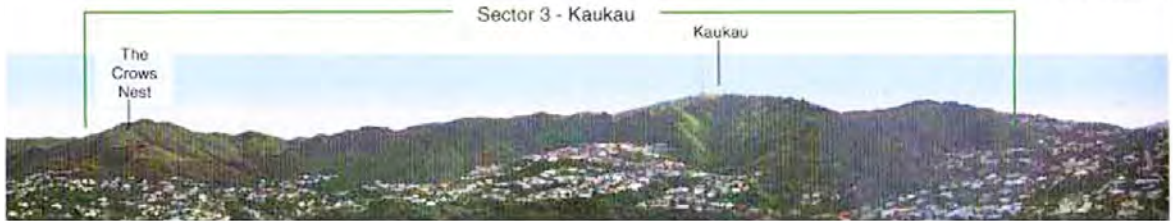


2004



WEST SIDE OF OUTER GREEN BELT - View from Ohariu Valley western hills looking east.

Fig.3.1  
View Location 4



EAST SIDE OF OUTER GREEN BELT - View from Odell's Reserve, Ngaio looking northwest.

Fig.3.2  
View Location 5



EAST SIDE OF OUTER GREEN BELT - View from Blackrock Road, Newlands looking west - northwest.

Fig.3.3  
View Location 15

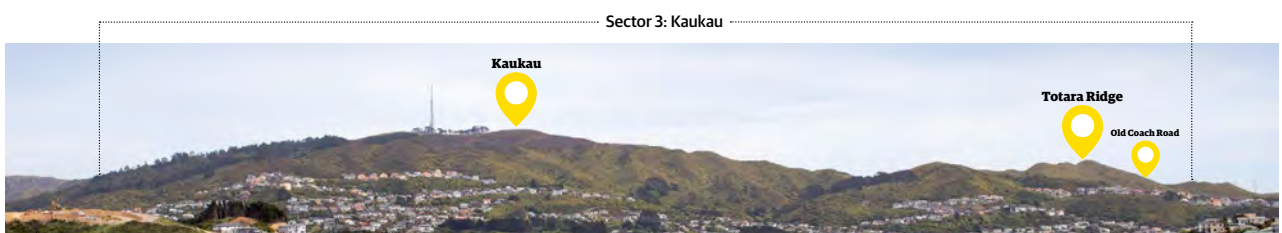
2018



West side of Outer Green Belt - View from Ohariu Valley western hills looking east.



East side of Outer Green Belt - View from Odell's Reserve, Ngaio looking northwest.



East side of Outer Green Belt - View from Blackrock Road, Newlands looking west - northwest.

**2004**



WEST SIDE OF OUTER GREEN BELT — View from British Peak looking northeast to southeast.

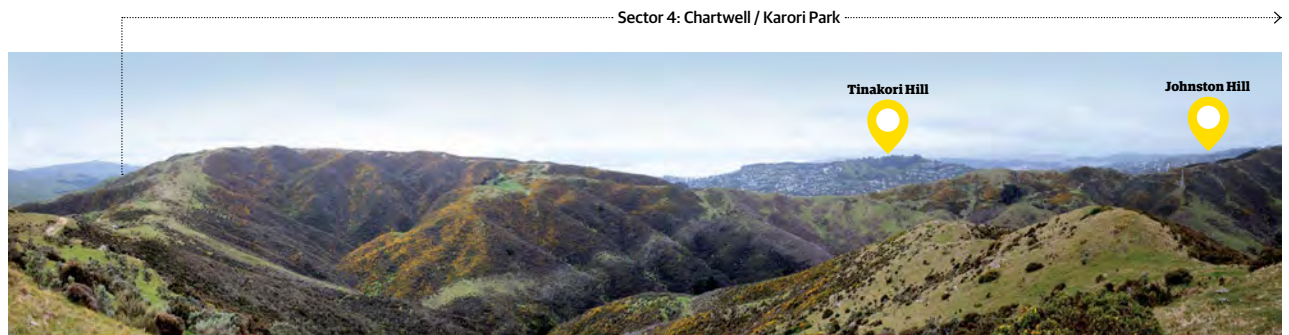
Fig. 4.1  
View Location 6



EAST SIDE OF OUTER GREEN BELT — View from Town Belt (Tinakori Hill) looking northwest.

Fig. 4.2  
View Location 7

**2018**



West side of Outer Green Belt - View from British Peak looking northeast to southeast.



East side of Outer Green Belt - View from Town Belt (Tinakori Hill) looking northwest.



2004



NORTH SIDE OF GREEN BELT - View from hills east of Makara village looking south.

Fig.5.1 View Location 8



WEST SIDE OF GREEN BELT - View from South Makara Road looking east.

Fig.5.2 View Location 9



EAST SIDE OF GREEN BELT - View from Wrights Hill looking west & north.

Fig.5.3 View Location 10

2018



North side of Green Belt - View from hills east of Makara village looking south.



West side of Green Belt - View from South Makara Road looking east.



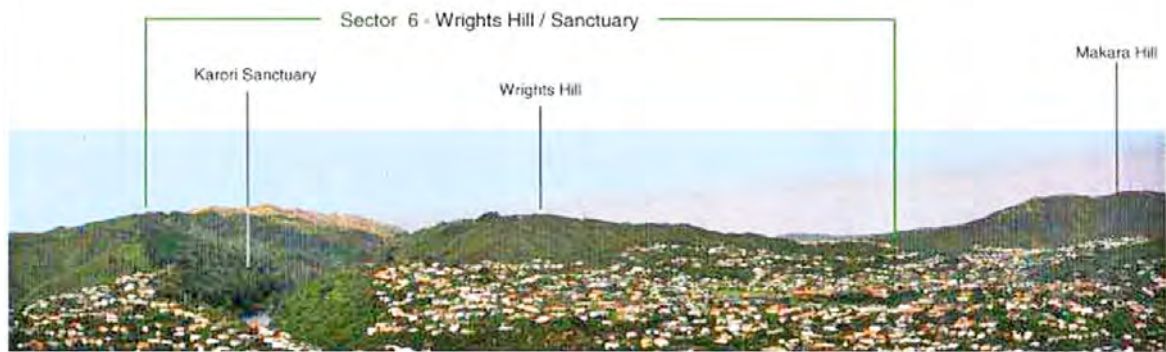
East side of Green Belt - View from Wrights Hill looking west & north.

**2004**



SOUTH SIDE OF OUTER GREEN BELT - View from northern end of Long Gully looking north.

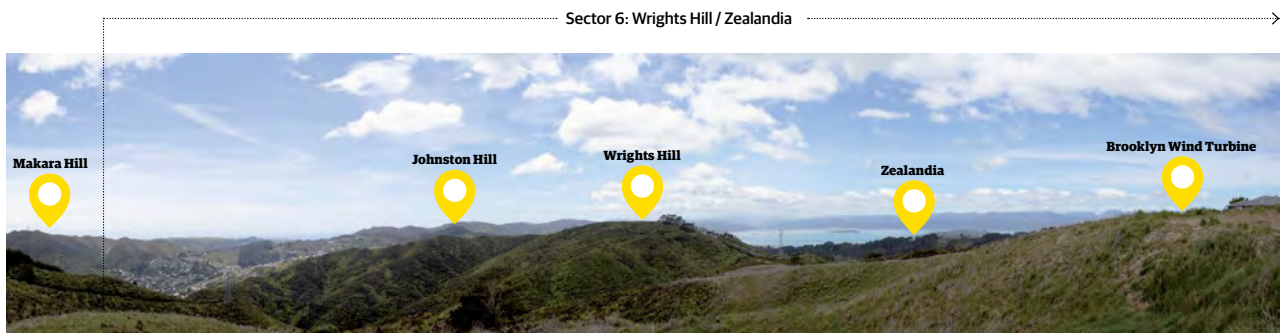
Fig.6.1  
View Location 11



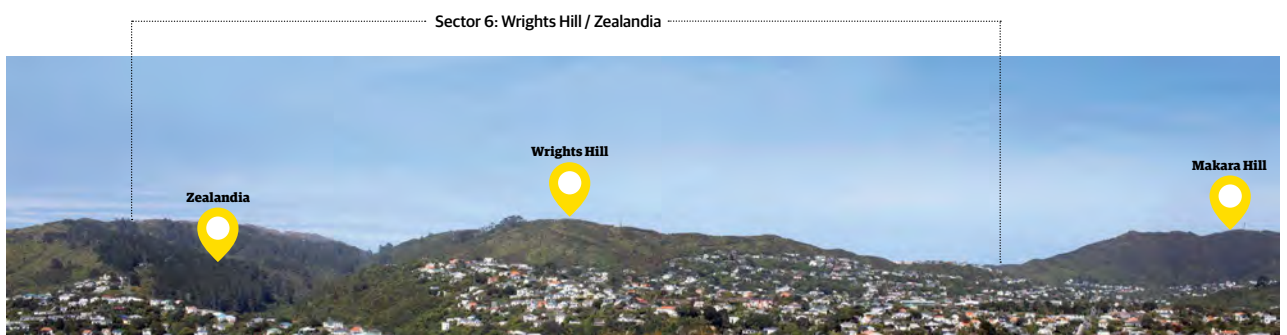
NORTH SIDE OF OUTER GREEN BELT - View from Stellan Memorial Park, Northland looking southwest.

Fig.6.2  
View Location 12

**2018**



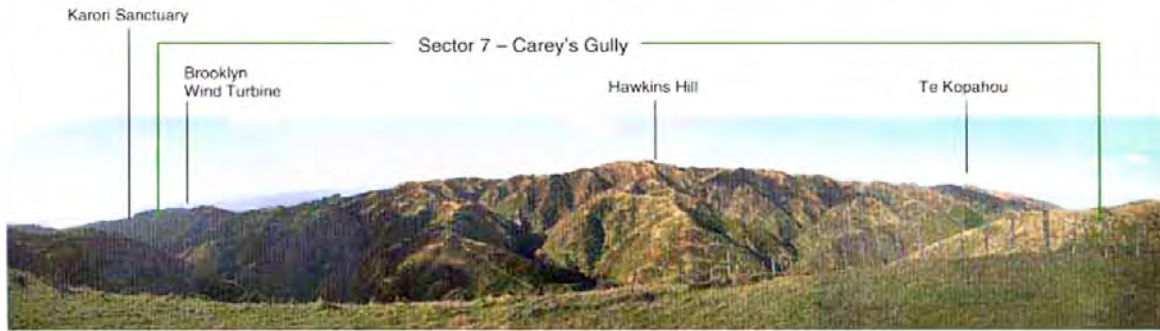
South side of Outer Green Belt - View from northern end of Long Gully looking north.



North side of Outer Green Belt - View from Stellan Memorial Park, Northland looking southwest.

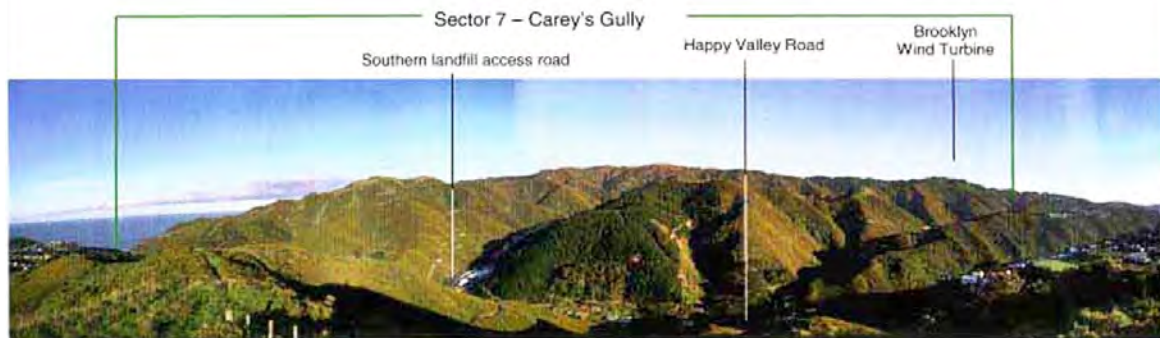


**2004**



WEST SIDE OF GREEN BELT - View from western hill of Long Gully looking east.

Fig.7.1  
View Location 13



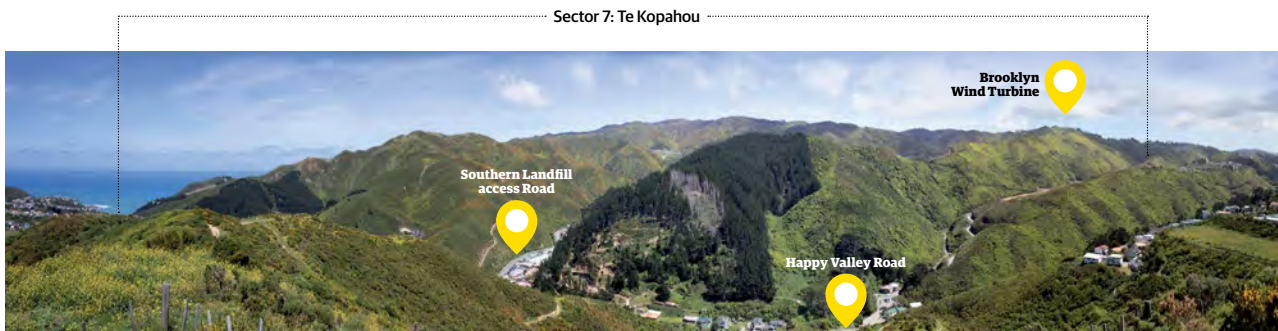
EAST SIDE OF GREEN BELT - View from Tawatawa ridge, City to Sea Walkway looking west.

Fig.7.2  
View Location 14

**2018**



West side of Outer Green Belt - View from western end of Long Gully looking east.



East side of Green Belt - View from Tawatawa ridge, City to Sea Walkway looking west.