

7 Public conveniences

Council operates and maintains public conveniences for a number of reasons; they contribute towards strategic outcomes by ensuring the maintenance of public health and well being, and they are guided by the LGA 2002 and Health Act 1956.

In practice many of the conveniences are located along old transport routes and in older shopping areas without malls. Council's Parks and Gardens Business Unit is responsible for the management of public conveniences.

7.1 Community

The community will be Wellington as a whole.

7.2 Standards

Council provisions for public conveniences come from the following documents;

Local Government Act 2002

Health Act 1956

Long Term Council Community Plan

Annual Plan

New Zealand Standard for Public Conveniences (NZS 4241:1999)

Business Plan

District Plan

Public Convenience Policy.

7.3 Existing Services

Public Conveniences comprise a total of 51 buildings across the city from Tawa to Island Bay, Makara to Seatoun (Figure 14). These facilities have been divided into the following categories:

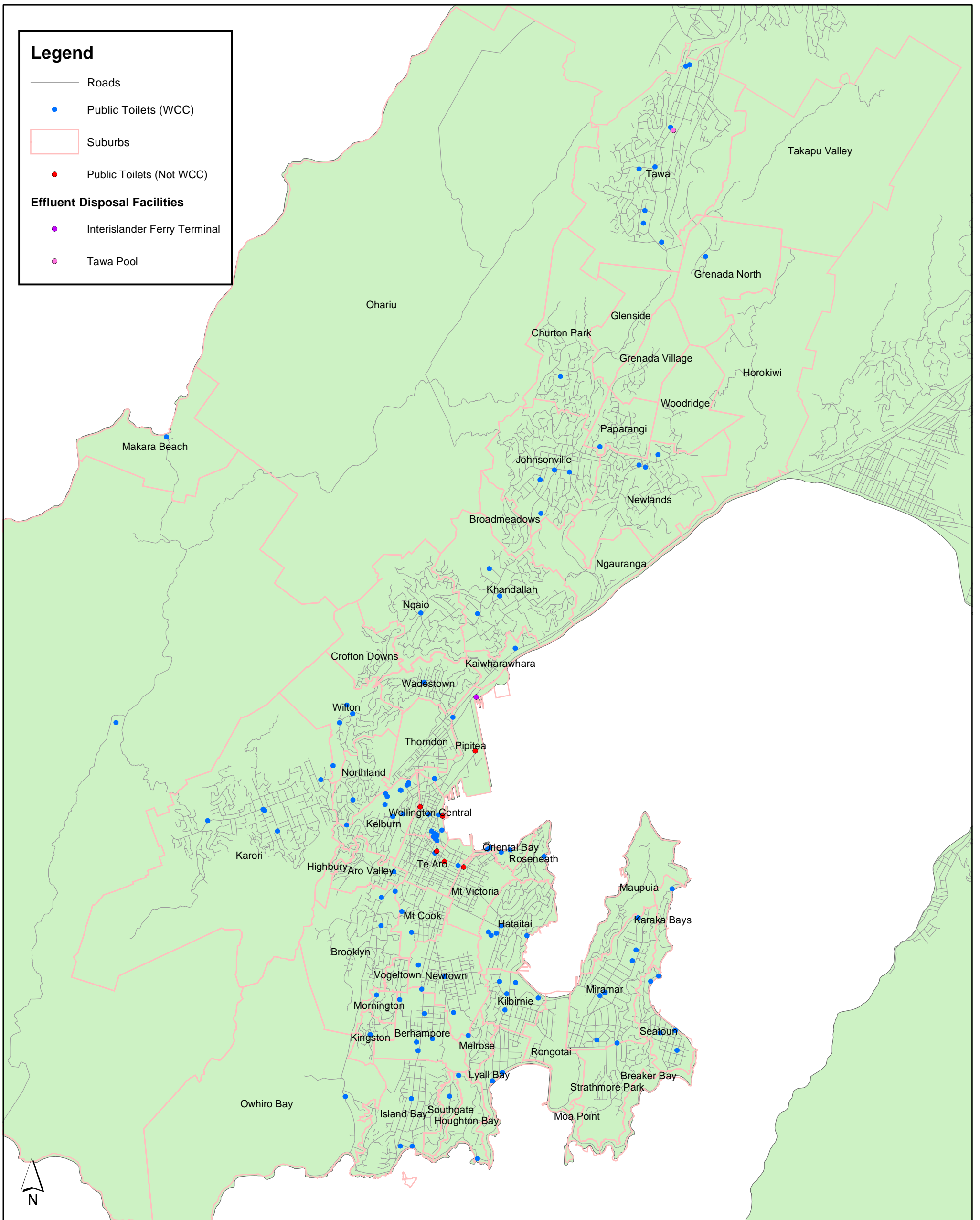
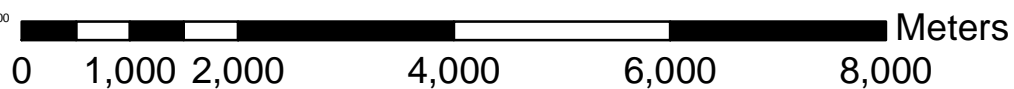


Figure 7. Public Toilets

1:70,000



DATA STATEMENT

Property boundaries
Land Information NZ
Licence WN0853547/2
Crown Copyright reserved
Accuracy in urban areas: +/-1m
Accuracy in rural areas: +/-30m

Other data has been
compiled from a
variety of sources and
its accuracy may vary

Topographic data:
Wellington City Council
WCC copyright reserved
Accuracy: +/- 30cm

Any contours displayed
are only approximate
and must not be used for
detailed engineering design

Colour Orthophotography 1:500
flown Feb 2002 owned by
Terralink International Ltd and
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Public Conveniences

- 12 Central City
- 14 Beach
- 9 on Parks Estate
- 20 Suburban Shopping Centres
- 2 Marinas

All public conveniences are provided free of charge and most (with the exception of those only accessible by sports groups using the sports ground) are easily accessible for people with disabilities, parents with children and all residents and visitors to Wellington.

Public conveniences on private property assist in protecting public health and reduce the need for Council owned public conveniences. Accordingly privately owned, but accessible public conveniences have been considered. Appendix 5 outlines the current assets register of all (Council and non-Council) public conveniences across Wellington, including location, gender catered for, opening hours and number of available pans and urinals.



In all public conveniences the water available for washing hands is potable. Wastewater is discharged into the wastewater system. There is no requirement for additional treatment. The public conveniences at Makara beach are owned and maintained by Council but are not connected to the reticulated system and wastewater is disposed to a septic tank which is emptied by sump truck.

All Council public conveniences are:

- Robust with impact, weather and graffiti resistant finishes that can be easily cleaned.
- Light and bright with well ventilated interiors. For example, using skylights, vandal proof electric lighting and open construction.
- Non-slip floor surfaces, evenly sloped to assist cleaning/drainage.

Ngaio public conveniences

- Accessible with cubicles and doors a suitable size (preferably lever handles or push open doors rather than ball handles) to allow access for people with disabilities and adults with prams and children.
- Highly visible with entrances facing active spaces.
- Low-level landscaping along exterior walls considered providing a buffer against graffiti. Murals should also be considered on external surfaces.
- Aesthetically pleasing with high quality exterior design or painting to suit the local environment.

Effluent Disposal Facilities

Council has a truck and camper van effluent disposal point adjacent to Tawa Swimming Pool, Davies Street and a second located at the bottom of Ngauranga gorge, near the Interislander Ferry Terminal. Effluent is discharged directly into the wastewater system.



7.4 Issues

There have been seasonal issues around the south coast public conveniences which are mostly closed over the winter. Council is looking to raise the service level and have all facilities open all year.

The only risks to human health, known of, are the usual risks associated with human effluent. Other risks include incidence of drug users' needles and violent or difficult members of the public who frequent these places.

7.5 The Present Situation

About four in ten residents (43%) are satisfied with the availability of public conveniences in Wellington and 49% with the standard of public conveniences. There has been a significant decrease in the proportion satisfied with both availability and standard since February 2004.

ANZ public conveniences, Featherston Street