

12 August 2015

John Edgar
Chair person
Karekare Residents and Ratepayers
Email: jedgar@iconz.co.nz

Dear John,

As you are aware over the past year/s we have worked with yourself, Gary Taylor from EDS and representatives of the Karekare Surf Lifesaving Club to identify improved access options to the club and beach.

The installation of the bridge across the Karekare Stream prior to Christmas 2014 and subsequent work on the track accessing the surf club have improved that access. Although there were issues around aspects of some of that work, access was improved through the summer months.

With water levels higher again through this winter we are aware that access is currently compromised. We are planning to progress the longer term solution of the all-weather and tide vehicular access to the surf club that we have been discussing for some time. This has been allowed for in the council's 10-year budget and is forecast for 2015/16.

Karekare was identified in the Regional Parks Management Plan 2010 as an area to be managed as a beach destination, picnicking area and tramping track access point. Although we have informally had picnic tables in the Pohutukawa Glade and beside the main car park for many years these were moveable and have been shifted around. To provide better facility for picnicking we are planning to install four picnic tables in the vicinity of the car park, two of which are designed to enable disability access.

We are also hoping to make the access to the beach on the southern side of the stream more easily identifiable for people to access the beach along the south bank of the stream. This will mean realigning the start of that track to make it more easily seen from the car park. (Refer sketch map attached).

Along with that work we will be maintaining the vegetation around the car park and tracks, improving signage so people can find their way more easily and undertaking track repairs such as filling holes where needed.

You will be aware of the signage and two rabbit bait stations we have located in Pohutukawa Glade recently. The bait stations were installed to reduce the rabbit population which was severely damaging native vegetation at the start of the glade. The bait we use in those stations is Pindone which is dangerous to dogs so we encourage dog owners to keep their dogs on a lead which is required by the bylaws.

If you have any questions please feel free to give me a call on 09-817-0082.

Kind regards



Stephen Bell
Principal Ranger - Regional Parks West
Auckland Council