



ACTIVE RESERVE ZONE - POLICY

AR2.1 Introduction

By providing Active Reserve land in the urban areas throughout the Ruapehu District, Council aims to achieve two important functions. Firstly, it helps mitigate the effects of urbanisation by contributing greenscape amenity to urban areas and, secondly, it helps provide the District's communities with a full range of recreational activities and opportunities.

There is a general expectation that Active Reserve land is freely available for recreational use. Conflict can arise when the expectations of residents and other land users adjoining Active Reserve land regarding the use of that land are different from the actual recreation uses of that land. This conflict can be increased when uses such as the provision of clubrooms, evening training, and events with large attendances are involved. While such uses help meet the recreational needs of the community, they have potential adverse effects on the amenity values of the surrounding environment.

It is therefore necessary that controls are put in place to ensure that any use of the Active Reserve land throughout the District does not affect adjoining areas. Controls on development aim to protect the environmental, open space and amenity functions of the park and adjoining areas (particularly surrounding residential development).

AR2.2 Issue

- (a) The ongoing development of identified active reserves for the recreational needs of the community throughout the District can adversely affect adjoining land uses (particularly residential).

AR2.2.1 Objective

- (a) To ensure that identified active reserves throughout the District can be developed to serve the recreational needs of the community and be easily accessed by everyone in the community while ensuring that effects from activities and facilities on active reserves are compatible with the nature of the surrounding environment.

AR2.2.2 Policy

- (a) Require developers to contribute land on subdivision and/or development to enable the ongoing acquisition and development of reserve land throughout the District.
- (b) Enable identified active recreation land to be utilised for the development and operation of a range of facilities and activities serving the District, taking account of the scale of the activities and their likely effects on the amenity and quality of the environment of the reserve land and adjoining and adjacent sites.

AR2.2.3 Explanation of Policies

The above policies aim to encourage developers carrying out large scale subdivisions, to contribute to open space in residential areas, particularly where there is limited green space available within close proximity to the development. It also encourages the use of Active Reserve land that will contribute to the health and wellbeing of the community while ensuring that any associated adverse effects are kept to a minimum.