



Pathways to the Breath of Life

# Waahi Tapu & Smokefree Urban Environments



# Waahi Tapu

Traditional Maori culture and values are closely linked to the environment.

Land confers dignity and rank, is the resting place for the dead, a spiritual base for traditional beliefs and a heritage for future generations



- Old pa sites, excavations and middens
- Old burial grounds and caves
- Current cemeteries
- Battlefields
- Sacred rocks, trees or springs
- Water courses, swamps, lakes and their edges
- Ancestral mountains (Tupuna Maunga)



- 2015: A Smoke free and Alcohol Free policy for 14 Tūpuna Maunga in Auckland was asked for by iwi
- March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2015: Unanimous support provided by Mana Whenua Collective (13 iwi and hapuu) , Auckland Council and Crown co-governance partners who lead the Maunga Authority
- The policy recognises and respects the spiritual, cultural and community significance of Tūpuna Maunga.

***“The Tūpuna Maunga are taonga to be cherished and respected. The sight of cigarette butts, discarded bottles and cans is not conducive to the living connection our communities have with these important places.”***



# Other possible smokefree legislation levers

## Local Government Act:

A local authority must, in the course of the decision-making process,—

(a)

seek to identify all reasonably practicable options for the achievement of the objective of a decision; and

(b)

assess the options in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and

(c)

***if a) involves a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water, sites, waahi tapu, valued flora and fauna, and other taonga.***

## Resource Management Act Purpose:

In this Act, *sustainable management* means managing the use, development, and protection of natural and physical resources in a way, or at a rate, which enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being and for their health and safety while—

***The relationship of Maori must be considered in any and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga).***

## Reserves Act:

Need to investigate more

