



Why is the reservoir being built here?

The need for more water storage in Wellington's CBD area was identified in the 1970s. Following an investigation in the late 1980s into 10 possible sites, a 20 million litre (8 Olympic sized pools) reservoir was built in Macalister Park in 1992.

Further studies in 2002, 2004 and 2011 identified that significant additional reservoir storage capacity was still needed. A long list of ten potential sites was whittled down to four sites for detailed investigation. Because of the need to have a top water level of 92m above sea level (to make sure we can fill it and it provides acceptable pressure), all sites were located within or around the Town Belt.

After considering a range of issues including constructability, economics, and social, environmental, and cultural effects, the Prince of Wales Park was selected as the preferred site for a new reservoir because it:

- is centrally located and close to the CBD and communities of Mount Cook and Newtown
- has minimal cultural impact
- requires minimal disturbance of valued vegetation and impact on sensitive ecological sites
- is close to the bulk water pipes
- has an elevation high enough for water supply purposes
- is accessible and suitable for construction purposes compared to the other options considered
- is not immediately adjacent to residential properties
- requires the least amount of soil to be excavated compared to the other options
- provides the ability to integrate the reservoir into the surrounding landscape with appropriate earthworks and landscape design (including by burying the reservoir).

While the site is the preferred site, it still requires approval under the Town Belt Act 2016 and consents under the Resource Management Act.

1974	1992	2002	2004	2011	2012-13	2016-17	Date TBC
The need for a new reservoir in the CBD was recognised	A 20ML reservoir built in Macalister Park	More sites were investigated to cope for increasing population and emergency storage for the community	Prince of Wales Park identified as one of 10 possible sites	Prince of Wales Park identified as preferred site	Early investigations and design, including preliminary design drawings, cost estimates and landscape design completed	Consultation, resource consenting, detailed design of pipework	Detailed design and construction of reservoir