

SHIRLEY/PAPANUI COMMUNITY BOARD ANNUAL SUBMISSION

The Board appreciates the opportunity to present a submission to the Council's draft Annual Plan for 2005/06 and wishes to be heard in support of this submission.

1. AUDIT OF ALL TOILETS

The Board submits that part of the Council's city wide strategy in terms of reviewing the provision of public toilets in the city that they should be reviewed in terms of accessibility for those with physical disabilities as well as being audited in terms of the Safer Christchurch Crime Prevention through Environmental Design.

The Board submits that the Council approve and fund a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Audit be done on all public toilets in the city as a matter of implementing a part of the Safer Canterbury, Creating Safer Communities strategy.

That Horner Street public toilets do not meet disability standards. They show their age and the toilet block design does not fit comfortably with the redevelopment of the Memorial Reserve (for fallen servicemen of Papanui) in which the block sits. The development is a partnership of the RSA and the Board. The interiors of block are frequently hit by taggers. Requests have been received from the public to have them upgraded so as to provide toilet facilities for the disabled. These toilets are the first available from town the only ones on the left hand side from Belfast.

Property Assets Management Team's response to a request in early 2004 from the Board was to have the toilets in their 10 yr programme. This Board see the upgrade as having a high priority and that the Council approve the replacement/upgrade of the toilet in this years Annual Plan.

2. ORANA WILDLIFE PARK (Page 38)

The Board continues to support this facility as a significant educational and leisure asset to the city, as well as a major tourist attraction. The park is unique in that it is not a Council owned facility like the Wellington and Auckland zoos which receive Council operational funding grants of \$1.12 and \$1.5 million respectively.

In 2003/2004 the Park received a grant of \$175,000 from the Council. A Deloitte's review in 2002 recommended that this level of funding be increased to \$225,000 per year and in 2004/2005 the Council increased their contribution to \$200,000. The Board would submit that this level of funding be increased to the level recommended by Deloitte's in 2002 and sourced from the social initiatives budget.

3. LOCAL PROJECTS AND IMPROVEMENTS

The Board recently identified a number of issues it wishes to address during the current term. These include such matters as roading and road safety improvements, new footpaths, remedying localised flooding problems, city plan related issues, eg gated communities, consultation issues.

The Board appreciates that it can make a contribution to resolving some of these issues in the form of allocating its own project funding, however would prefer to work in partnership with business units through the implementation and consultation phases of their work programmes.

The Board is especially keen to be involved in assisting in the prioritising of specific projects including any ongoing funding support that may assist, particularly as it impacts at a local level. The Board seeks the endorsement of the Council for this approach to be taken.

4. FUNDING FOR NEW FOOTPATH

The Board would like to thank the Council for actioning their submission made by them in 2004/05 for a new footpath on Cavendish Road. They would also like to commend the Council and its staff for actioning a recent Board's request for a new path outside Oruhia School. Both of these requests were made to the Board by concerned residents and teachers, in terms of safety issues.

For any new development proposals the Board submits that both sides of the street should have footpaths as it is not safe for residents to walk on the road.

The Board notes with concern that once again there is no specific funding allocated for new footpaths in the draft annual plan under its capital works programme. This needs to be provided for as a line item in the budget for new footpaths in this year and succeeding years.

5. CLEANLINESS OF STREETS/LITTER

The Board is still concerned to note the lowering of standards in respect of the cleanliness of city streets and open space areas.

Targeted initiatives last year for the central city along with anti litter education programmes are endorsed, however the Board submits that more attention now needs to be given to suburban locations to ensure that the communities expectations over the cleanliness of streets and litter collection measures are effective.

The Board also seeks a higher level of enforcement of the Litter Act provisions and any associated Council by-laws.

6. ROAD SAFETY (Pages 38 & 84)

The Board notes that funding for road safety promotion has been reduced from \$623,000 to \$425,000, which amounts to a 32% funding decrease.

On page 84 (Streets and Transport) significant funding has seemingly been cut completely for minor safety projects, road safety at schools, safe routes to schools and pedestrian safety initiatives/crossing facilities.

The Board does not support such a large reduction in these programmes as road safety continues to be an important and recurring issue in the Shirley/Papanui community particularly around schools.

7. SAFER CANTERBURY

The Board commends the Council in its leadership in the development of this strategy in partnership with other agencies.

Alongside Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, the Board would whole heartedly support the inclusion of these principles in all planning, development, renewal of parks, public amenities, roadways, and cycleways projects.

The Board would also submit that the Council allocate funding to have crime prevention safety audit undertaken for all the Councils' parks and open space areas.

8. COMMUNITY BOARD DISCRETIONARY FUNDING

The Council allocates to the Community Board's \$390,000 to be used under its Discretionary Funding Policy.

The Council has approved the Community Board local outcomes, objectives in terms of the Strategic Outcomes and believes that within this framework the funding that is provided on the basis of population per area and currently allocated to the Community Development Fund should also become part of this funding pool as it relates to development within their areas. This would increase this level to \$430,000 per Community Board and not be an extra cost to the ratepayers.

In addition the Board seeks a further \$50,000 for recreational projects specifically in their area. This will require extra funding from Council.

9. OSCAR PROGRAMMES (Pages 98, 101, 102)

The Council currently supports this programme at a Metropolitan level. The amount for 2005/06 is not identifiable in the draft Annual Plan. Despite this our Board has been asked and has actively supported local OSCAR programmes in its area for the past six years through its project funding. Currently \$85, 625 is expected to be expended from all Community Boards project funding, under this Draft Annual Plan.

The Board would like to submit that the Council increase its support to the OSCAR programmes at a metropolitan level and advocate to central government through MSD for further funding of the OSCAR programmes.

10. TE PAPANUI TRUST (Page 97, 98)

The Board appreciates the Council's action of setting aside and carrying forward \$250,000 for the establishment of a youth facility in their area by Te Papanui Trust.

A sizeable proportion of the population in our area live on low incomes, coupled with high rents, many local families and older people struggle to meet basic needs. This facility will provide a much needed venue for low cost/no cost social activities and youth focused events in the community for this group.

The Board has continued to actively support this Trust and has provided operational funding for them, within this year's project funding.

11. WET WATER/COMMUNITY FACILITY (Page 38, 40)

The Board is aware of a need for a Community facility in the North Western part of the City. There is no Community facility in Papanui, Redwood or Belfast. The Board has been working with partners over the past few years to have a wet and dry facility in the North West area.

For the past 10 years the Board has been making submissions to Council for this facility, initially a “dry” facility to be included in the Capital Works Budget. About three years ago \$8 million was “ear marked” for 2004/05 for a new facility in the city and the Board put in a bid for that money. In the 2003/04 Budget this money was set aside for the maintenance and upgrading of existing facilities.

The Board submits that once the consultation process in terms of the aquatic facilities strategy, in particular the smaller pools is completed and if the recommendation is made to close Papanui Pool, then a new pool facility in the Papanui area is becoming more urgent.

Concerns have also been raised and still current about the increasing operating cost of other suburban pools including those in Belfast and Edgware.

It is considered that site of the present Papanui pool is limited in its scope for providing a new facility for various reasons, including lack of size and close proximity to residential properties, so as to include the range of features now expected in a modern pool complex. With the limited land available in Papanui the Board considers that Council should be looking now for a suitable site for a future development.

The Board submits that the Council makes a commitment to providing a community facility, with a pool in the Papanui area within the next three years.

12. PURCHASE OF LAND FOR THE STYX PROJECT (Page 81)

The Board is concerned that no capital funding has been set aside to purchase land in the future for the Styx project. This would, in the Boards opinion, hinder the good work and progress that has been made to date on this project. It is suggested that some of the funding currently allocated to the Flat Water facility in the Draft Annual Plan which is not going to be implemented be redirected to this project.

13. WATERWAYS AND WETLANDS RESTORATION (Page 81)

The Board is concerned to note that no funds have been allocated to this project in the draft annual plan. Under the LTCCP \$2.582 million had been set aside and this figure has been reduced to nil. The Board would like to know why this has happened as this was part of the Council's long term sustainable management of the city's waterways which are used for land drainage, wildlife habitat and to enhance the city's garden image.

14. DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN FORMAT

There should be a section at the back in terms of Community Boards.

That the Community Board members and Councillors should be profiled in this section so that the public can identify with the members.

In terms of the Council's Draft Annual Plan it is submitted that all Community Boards outcomes objectives and performance measures should also be included in this part of the plan. These then link in clearly with the project funding allocations and would make it easier for the public and/or ratepayers to align them to.

The Council has already approved them and they link into the strategic directions and overall community outcomes profiled at the beginning of the plan.

The other issue is that in terms of community support for individuals and groups \$3.677 million, grants for community projects and activities \$4.213 million they should be itemised as the \$2.34 million Community Board Funding has been on pages 98-105.

15. WATERWAYS CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAFER PARKS POLICY

The Board asks that sufficient funds be set-aside in the Greenspace budget for further “naturalising” of waterways as well as the maintenance of existing naturalised streams. Continual maintenance is required to prevent overgrowing as is occurring in Erica Reserve and Regents Park Reserve and the Papanui Stream walkway (a relatively new reserve) to a degree that it is considered that these parks would no longer meet the Council’s Safer Parks Policy. There is also a concern that pathways are becoming overgrown to such an extent that they are no longer readily accessible by the disabled.

The Board submits that sufficient money be provided in the 2005/06 budget to allow for further naturalisation of streams and especially to ensure sufficient funds for their ongoing maintenance. The Board sees this as meeting the LTCCP “Community Outcomes” of “A Sustainable, Natural Environment”, “Healthy and Active People”, “A Safe City”, “A Sustainable, Natural Environment”, and “A Liveable City”.

16. THAT BUDGET PROVISION IS MADE FOR THE INVESTIGATION INTO THE LOSS OF BASE FLOW IN THE UPPER KAPUTONE STREAM.

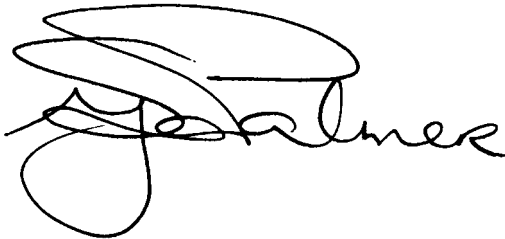
The Board is concerned about the loss of flow in the Kaputone Stream west of the Main North Road. There has been no spring-fed base flow since mid 2003. The Council staff carried out investigations to better understand the effects of urbanisation on surface and groundwater flows. The results of this investigation was presented to the Shirley/Papanui Community Board on 23 June 2004.

A report identified several possible reasons/factors for the loss in flow but stated that without extensive monitoring over a sustained period and the development of various models, no definite cause or causes could be determined. This report led to the Council allocating \$30,000 to continue further investigations.

In March – April 2005 a survey of the Upper Kaputone Stream was carried out. The survey has identified that there is a significant sediment build-up in the Kaputone Stream channel within Englefield Reserve.

There is \$17,000 left from the allocated \$30,000 budget. This money will be spent towards mitigation measures adopted by ECAN, CCC and the residents. In addition, to this money further funding in order of \$30,000 - \$40,000 will be required. Please note that this funding is an estimate for one of the mitigation measures. If another mitigation measure is adopted then this funding may not be sufficient.

The Board submits to Council that between \$30,000 - \$40, 000 be provided in the 2005/06 Budget to investigate the causes for the loss of base flow in the upper Kaputone Stream. The Board sees this as meeting the LTCCP Community Outcomes of “A Sustainable, Natural Environment”, “A Liveable City”.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yvonne Palmer'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the name.

Yvonne Palmer
CHAIRPERSON
SHIRLEY/PAPANUI COMMUNITY BOARD

18 May 2005