

4. ARANUI COMMUNITY RENEWAL

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The purpose of this report is to seek the Committee's approval for the proposed process for development of Wainoni Park.

CONTEXT (PROCESS AND FINANCIAL) OF REPORT

Funding has been allocated to the Aranui Community and to "Aranui Community Renewal" by the Community Board on a yearly basis and by the Council for a three year period. The Community Board funds approximately 15 community groups or activities and the Community Co-ordinator position. Council funding (allocated through the 2001/02 Annual Plan round) provides for coordination of capital works delivery, assistance with capacity building in the community and to "projects" as they arise.

The partnership (City Council, Housing New Zealand Corporation and the Aranui Community) reports to a Steering Group comprising two Councillors, Chair of the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board, representatives of the Community Committee and the Chief Executive Officer of Housing NZ Corporation.

As well as reporting to that Steering Group, progress will be reported to the Community Board and to the Community Plans Special Committee. This report is the commencement of regular reports to the Committee.

BACKGROUND

The aim of Aranui Community Renewal is to "enhance Aranui as a good place to live".

The project aims to improve:

- The physical environment in the area, including parks, streets and other amenities;
- Social opportunities and the social environment, including enhancing community pride and capacity, strengthening connections between individuals, business and community groups, and encouraging better services to the area;
- Economic opportunities, including providing employment and work experience;
- The quality and mix of (HNZ) rental housing and the delivery of housing management

The project has developed from a partnership between Housing New Zealand and Christchurch City Council (promoted and supported by the Community Services Committee Housing Working Party) formalised in late 2000, and is now a 3-way partnership including the Aranui community.

HNZ have partnered with the Council and see the advantages in partnering with other agencies to ensure the investment they are proposing to make in housing is appropriately related to other initiatives to improve overall community wellbeing, including health, education, employment and crime prevention. There is a desire to demonstrate a successful community renewal approach that can be applied elsewhere in Christchurch and New Zealand.

The project therefore involves co-ordination and collaboration across central government agencies, the Council, residents, community organisations and private sector agencies. The key role that the Council can play is as a catalyst in ensuring effective co-ordination and collaboration occurs:

1. In the process of engaging with and building capacity in the community.
2. In integrating the delivery of social services by responsible government agencies and local organisations to address underlying problems.
3. In integrating delivery of planned Council and Housing New Zealand capital works in close co-operation with the community.
4. In completing through 2002 a detailed community renewal strategy which establishes priorities for action and appropriate requests for future Council resource commitment.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE LAST YEAR

Community Hui, 150 plus attendees. The Aranui Community Renewal Committee formed as the community forum representing Aranui people in the partnership.	28 March 2001
Community Consultation Co-ordinator (George Watson) appointed to temporary contract	17 April 2001
George moves into the Marlow Road 'Aranui Community and Housing Information Centre'. Community volunteers, associated with the Community Committee, are helping with reception duties.	7 May 2001
HNZC Tenancy Managers based at the Information Centre mornings only at this stage.	28 May 2001
The Aranui Community Renewal committee adopted a more formal structure with Rob Davidson as chairperson and Maude Boyd as secretary.	19 June 2001
Independent researcher leads a widespread consultation process involving local people and organisations.	July 2001- August 2001
First community based maintenance contract (Grounds Maintenance) was established with Turangawaewae Trust	July 2001
Publication of the first community renewal newsletter to the residents of Aranui	July 2001
The official opening of the Aranui Community Housing and Information Centre by Lianne Dalziel, MP for Christchurch East.	3 August 2001
Draft Community Needs Analysis Report resulting from the community consultation delivered. To be extended by output from the Aranui Youth Forum.	31 August 2001
Volunteer Group, led by Des Everett, commenced Saturday morning street clean-up in the shopping area	August 2001
The Aranui Youth Forum, involving 60 youth, was held.	14 September 2001
Launch of the nation wide Community Renewal Programme in Aranui, by the Minister of Housing. Demolition of 12 two-storey multi-units in Portsmouth Street started, employing 6 local people for 4 weeks.	19 October 2001
Youth Forum report delivered	30 October 2001
Initial community consultation completed	30 October 2001
Wainoni Park design group met at Family Centre to further develop ideas, facilitated by CCC Parks and Waterways Unit.	November 2001
Community Committee prepared a draft MOU including all three parties.	November 2001
First Community Design Workshop held for Portsmouth Street Redevelopment	November 2001
Portsmouth Street demolition completed	30 November 2001
The Wainoni Park design group met twice in the month under CCC facilitation	November 2001
Incorporating output from the above workshops CCC Urban design Team produced a draft plan for re-development of Wainoni Park	November 2001
Rachael Fonotia, the CCC funded Community Co-ordinator, began working from the Information Centre.	10 December 2001
Demolition of 5-11 Aldershot Street commenced, employing two local people.	04 December 2001
5-11 Aldershot Street demolition completed	21 December 2001
Pilot Holiday Programme operated in conjunction with local youth organisations, funded by CCC.	January 2002
Formalised agreement with CCC for vacant site at 5-11 Aldershot Street to be maintained as part of Wainoni Park while longer term plans for the park are developed.	January 2002
Full time staffing of Housing and Information Centre by HNZC Tenancy Managers	4 February 2002
Volunteer Training being set up through Supergrans, first classes to be held 15 April 2002	February 2002
Aranui Trades Academy students start work experience on HNZC exterior painting contracts in Aranui.	5 February 2002
Pilot "Healthier Living Workshop" run by Aranui Village Mission, attracting 21 participants	March 2002
Complaints Register set-up at Marlow Road for Community Constables information and follow-up	March 2002
Joint HNZC/CCC funding approval for Supergrans Learning Centre	March 2002

PLANNED ACTIONS (FOR NEXT THREE MONTHS)

Planning underway for second Hui on 16 April	March 2002
Third Community Renewal newsletter to be published	March 2002
Prioritised "Key Findings" from the Community Needs Analysis, ready for April Hui	March 2002
Planning for Wainoni Park redevelopment and consultation	March – June 2002
Design for HNZC replacement Portsmouth St houses confirmed	April 2002

Project Implementation plan (2002) completed	April 2002
Wainoni Park play equipment relocated, new recreation facility commenced	May 2002
Steering Group meeting held	May 2002

Planning for Hui and Engagement of Other Agencies

The April Hui is being held to:

- Report back to the community on achievements in the last 12 months.
- Look ahead to the next 12 months.
- Confirm the priority issues (“key findings” from the needs analysis report) to be dealt with in Aranui.
- Establish interest groups to take action on these issues.

Through the Council’s Youth and Children’s Advocates it is intended, prior to the Hui, to brief management of agencies that are involved in Aranui so that these agencies may be better prepared to assist the community with action on the priority issues.

Wainoni Park Redevelopment:

Current Work:

Capital works to be implemented this year involve relocating and upgrading the existing play equipment from behind the Hampshire Street shops to the southwest corner of Wainoni Park on the Hampshire Street frontage. Youth recreation facilities, including a flying fox, climbing, skating and biking features are incorporated into the park design adjacent to the children’s play equipment.

The new recreation area will be landscaped with mounding, rocks, planting and seating to create an adventure play area that caters for a wide range of ages.

The Wainoni Park Design Group (facilitated by Parks and Waterways staff) has participated in five workshops to help prepare the concept plan, which incorporated input from the wider community.

Funding is available in the 2002/03 financial year to replace the existing toilet block. It is proposed that new public toilets be built adjoining the Wainoni/Aranui Family Centre.

Future Work:

In the longer term, picnic and barbecue facilities, an events area, a quiet garden area, new hard courts, improved car parking and landscaping, as well as ways of enhancing the Family Centre are proposed. Ongoing discussion is occurring with Housing New Zealand Corporation and local residents to determine long term plans for treatment of the boundaries of the park to develop a more visible and safer park. Concept plans for several options have been prepared in conjunction with the Community Design Group and were publicised at the community day in the park last December.

Although long-term plans for the park are still to be confirmed, the short-term plans have been designed to fit with possible long-term scenarios.

The process to be followed with these longer-term plans for the boundaries of the park is outlined below.

Process

April 02	1.	Advise Community Board, Standing Committees, HNZA and Community Committee of this proposed process.
May-June 02	2.	Contact directly affected landowners and tenants.
July 02	3.	Carry out consultation with City Council staff, including Policy Directorate.
July 02	4.	Report through Council process for approval of concept with preliminary costs, requesting approval to proceed to next stage. Seek confirmation of HNZA approval/commitment to funding.
August-Nov 02	5.	Detail scope of redevelopment, obtain engineering survey, accurate cost estimates, develop funding options, possible staging.
Nov-Dec 02	6.	Report to Parks, Gardens & Waterways Committee (ready for Annual Plan early 2003).
Once funding is approved	7.	Consultation with surrounding residents, businesses & organisations.
	8.	Implementation – property purchase, legal matters, construction.

Recommendation: That the proposed process for development of Wainoni Park boundaries be approved.

Chairman's Recommendation: For discussion.