

8. TREE PLANTING

Officer responsible Parks & Waterways Manager	Author Ann Liggett, DDI 941-5112
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The purpose of this report is to request funding for a proposal to plant trees on the frontage of properties in one street (one in each ward area), where street trees are unable to be planted.

PROPOSAL

A suggestion has been made by a Board member to consider a proposal to plant trees on the frontage of properties in lower socio-economic areas where there are very few trees and where, due to the width of the footpath, it is not possible to have street trees.

A suggested project title is "Greening up our Suburbs" and this could be carried out in partnership with Housing New Zealand and a local nursery.

Local school children could take part in the planting and use could be made of the opportunity to educate the children about their local environment as well as their being involved in a community project.

The project has been discussed with a Parks and Waterways Arborist, who would be prepared to become involved in this project if required.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

It is a known fact that the planting of trees helps in minimising the effects of CO₂ emissions. This will be promoted as part of the programme.

NATURAL + PEOPLE + ECONOMIC STEP ASSESSMENT

#	CONDITION:	Meets condition ✓✓0*	HOW IT HELPS MEET CONDITION:
The Natural Step			
N1	Reduce non-renewable resource use	✓✓	Introducing native trees to areas where there are not any
N2	Eliminate emission of harmful substances	✓	Helps in the reduction of harmful substances/pollution
N3	Protect and restore biodiversity and ecosystems	✓✓	Trees planted to help absorb CO2
N4	People needs met fairly and efficiently	NA	NA - See People Step + Economic Step
The People Step			
P1	Basic needs met	✓	Improve residents environmental experience within their own properties
P2	Full potential developed	✓	Providing learning experience for local school children by being part of the project
P3	Social capital enhanced	✓	Opportunity for people to contribute to the well being of other people
P4	Culture and identity protected	N/A	
P5	Governance and participatory democracy strengthened	✓	Actively encourage the local people to participate in the whole project
The Economic Step			
E1	Effective and efficient use of all resources	✓	Initial costs minimal due to the community involvement, ongoing costs nil as residents will take ownership of their trees
E2	Job rich local economy	N/A	
E3	Financial sustainability	✓	The local community will have ownership of their tree therefore minimising long term operational expenditure

Staff**Recommendation:**

That the Board:

1. Allocate \$5,000 from its 2002/03 Discretionary Funds towards the project, being \$2,500 for each ward; or
2. Allocate \$5,000 from the \$7,000 already allocated for street trees in its 2002/03 Project Funds towards the project, being \$2,500 for each ward.

Chairman's**Recommendation:**

That, as this is a special project, the funds be sourced from the Board's 2002/03 Discretionary Fund.