

## 17. PAPANUI STREAM RESTORATION (HALLIWELL AVE TO GRANTS ROAD)

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The purpose of this report is to inform Board members of progress to date on stream restoration and upcoming community involvement in the project, including streamside planting.

### BACKGROUND

Papanui Stream begins near Main North Road, bubbling up as a series of springs at Halliwell Avenue down to Grants Road, on to Dudley Creek and eventually the Avon River. Many years ago when this area was settled, drainage occurred using timber-lined box channelling and the natural streams were confined to these straight channels to improve drainage.

The Council has now entered an exciting new phase of stream restoration and has removed the timber, regraded the streambanks, meandered the waterway and included rock and boulders in the stream to improve the diversity of habitat. Banks have been created that imitate the original stream's natural state. Large rocks placed in the stream have created still and fast moving water areas (pools and riffles) which are important for stream-life including invertebrates and fish.

This stretch of the Papanui Stream has good water flow all year round, an important factor when selecting waterways to restore. It runs through to Erica Reserve, which was restored by the Council five years ago. Until recently, there was no public access along this 330 metre stretch of waterway and surrounding houses had built fences to block the old drain from view.

Construction was completed at the end of May this year including a 2.2 metre wide path for pedestrians and cyclists. Planting of the site is scheduled for October. Community involvement is an important aspect of this project and an opportunity to involve the public is now being planned with a planting day on Sunday, 6 October 2002.

### GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of the project is to restore the natural qualities of the stream, and to recreate an area suitable for re-introductions of native fish and plant species- and to ultimately create a Biodiversity Reserve for the stream.

The objectives are to:

- Restore Papanui Drain to a natural waterway.
- Enhance the appearance of Papanui Stream and contribute neighbourhood identity.
- Re-establish native plant communities and create terrestrial and aquatic habitats.
- Provide a safe pathway as well as opportunities for passive recreation along the corridor.
- Contribute to the community's understanding and enjoyment of ecological and natural heritage values.
- Provide a sustainable waterway for future generations.
- Meet both local and neighbourhood land drainage requirements.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The next phase of the project will have a focus on community involvement. Plans are underway for on site information, giving details about the stream, choice and placement of planting, details on establishment of stream plants (macrophytes) and the way the stream colonises with invertebrates, as well as future introductions of native fish species such as kokopu, koura and galaxid species.

### BOARD MEMBERS INVITATION

The Board are invited to join the local community in streamside planting on Sunday 6 October between 11.00 am and 12.30 pm followed by a barbecue lunch.

## SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA

#	CONDITION:	Meets condition ✓✓-*	HOW IT HELPS MEET CONDITION:
<b>The Natural Step</b>			
N1	Reduce non-renewable resource use	✓	Recreation along the stream promotes well being.
N2	Eliminate emission of harmful substances	✓	No harmful emissions or waste in this project.
N3	Protect and restore biodiversity and ecosystems	✓✓	Creating a "Biodiversity Reserve" is a first for Christchurch and possibly New Zealand.
N4	People needs met fairly and efficiently	✓✓	Access along the waterway is available to all.
<b>The People Step</b>			
P1	Basic needs met	✓	A fundamental need for people to recreate is met
P2	Full potential developed	✓✓	Peoples' full potential may be met from the wide variety of community involvement in this project.
P3	Social capital enhanced	✓✓	Community engagement is an important aspect of this project- and it is possible a stream care group may be set up in time.
P4	Culture and identity protected	✓✓	There is good potential to increase the identity of this stream and the cultural values associated with it.
P5	Governance and participatory democracy strengthened	✓	Governance is addressed in this project and potential for participation by the local community is high.
<b>The Economic Step</b>			
E1	Effective and efficient use of all resources	✓✓	Wide benefits to be gained in restoring the stream and creating access alongside it.
E2	Job rich local economy		
E3	Financial sustainability	✓	Opportunities for local community with this project.

### Staff

**Recommendations:** That the information be received.

### Chairperson's

**Recommendation:** That the officer's recommendation be adopted and that members note the planting date of 6 October at 11.00 am.