

12. **RICCARTON/WIGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE  
REPORT OF 13 AUGUST 2002**

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The purpose of this report is to advise the outcomes of the Environmental Committee meeting held on Tuesday 13 August 2002.

The meeting was attended by Neville Bennett, Paddy Austin, Ken Cummings, and Mike Mora.

Bob Shearing, Tony Gemmill, Lois Anderson, Gary Harrow, Val Carter, Sally Buck and Barbara Stewart were also in attendance.

Apologies were received from Lesley Keast, Sonia Gill, Oscar Alpers, Lynda Carter, Sue Wells and Phil Clearwater.

**1. ESPLANADE RESERVES, WATERWAY SETBACKS**

Matt Bonis (City Planner) spoke in detail of the purpose of waterway setbacks and esplanade reserves.

The waterway setback rule is to avoid, remedy and mitigate adverse effects of land use activity, including building, filling and excavation along the waterway margins. The rule is to ensure that people don't build their dwellings (or associated activities) in a place that is likely to get flooded; or push flood waters into someone else's property; would cause visual problems to adjacent properties; and provide an area of 'ecology' in that people can use the space for tree and garden plantings. The setback area remains in private ownership.

Esplanade Reserves are provided by the Act as something a territorial authority should require to be set aside when any small (less than 4 hectares) allotment is created next to rivers and streams. Such reserves are to be created to provide access, conservation values and recreation alongside water margins.

Both types of regulation (waterway setbacks and esplanade reserves) have significant benefits for the environment and the community of Christchurch, although in terms of esplanade reserves the transition from private to public space requires careful management and maintenance.

**2. ECAN, PROPOSED CANTERBURY NATURAL RESOURCES REGIONAL PLAN  
CHAPTER 3, "AIR QUALITY"**

Terry Moody (Environmental Health Policy Leader) briefed members on what Council was currently doing towards the reduction of air pollution in Christchurch in the winter months particularly. Discussion took place on other ways Council could be involved in the overall reduction in air pollution.

**3. CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS**

Jenny Ridgen (Environmental Scientist, CCC Policy Directorate) presented a slide show on the local impacts of climate change; what we can expect in Canterbury and possible responses. (The information has been circulated to members under separate cover). This information will be available on a Christchurch City Council web site in the future.

**4. NORTHERN PEGASUS BAY COAST  
DRAFT VEHICLE ACCESS STRATEGY**

The submission of the Christchurch City Council on the Northern Pegasus Bay Coast Draft Vehicle Access Strategy was tabled.

Key points in the submission are:

"The Council -

1. Supports the strategy but does not wish to comment on specific access provisions as it considers that discussion on appropriate access provisions for specific beaches beyond the City is predominantly the role of others.

2. Supports unified signage and educational projects for the Pegasus Bay Coast Care concept.
3. Supports the proposed management measures, including a ranger service. Supports a unified approach to addressing vehicle access issues along the whole of Pegasus Bay in conjunction with Environment Canterbury, Waimakariri District Council, Hurunui District Council and the Department of Conservation.
4. Supports the investigation of alternative areas, away from the coast and other sensitive ecosystems, for recreational use by drivers of 4 WD vehicles, motorbikes and other similar vehicles. This should be done in partnership with user groups, Environment Canterbury, Waimakariri District Council, Hurunui District Council and the Department of Conservation, as applicable.”

The Committee recommendation is listed under clause 6 of this report.

**5. NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 10 September 2002

**6. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

That the Riccarton/Wigram Environmental Committee support the Christchurch City Council's submission on the Northern Pegasus Bay Coast Draft Vehicle Access Strategy.

**Chairpersons**

- Recommendations:**
1. That the report be received.
  2. That the Committee's recommendation be adopted.