

4. ARANUI COMMUNITY RENEWAL PROJECT

Officer responsible Project Manager	Author Ian McKenzie, Project Management Team Leader DDI 941-8286
---	--

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Community Plans Special Committee on progress with Aranui Community Renewal.

BACKGROUND

The last report to the Committee was to the 4 December 2002 meeting. At that meeting a table of work completed in recent months and details of the three major work groups (Facilities and services for Family, Youth and Children; Employment and Training; Health) were presented.

PROGRESS/ACTIVITIES

Since the December meeting the following events have been held:

On 6 December 2002 Housing New Zealand opened 5 new units in Portsmouth Street and they were available to the new tenants on 7 December

AFFIRM – Aranui Family Festival was held on 7 December

A 13 minute video featuring the housing and AFFIRM has been produced (funded by Housing New Zealand Corporation) and will be available for viewing at the Committee meeting.

A “Working Together” workshop was held on 28 January, attended by the Community Renewal partnership (Aranui Community Trust, City Councillors and Staff, Community Board Chair, Housing New Zealand and Dept of Child Youth and Family). The workshop was facilitated by Carl Pascoe of Creative Consultancy Network Ltd. This workshop has enabled the participants to discuss past events, clarify roles and move forward with the evolution of community renewal now that the Community Trust is established.

A further facilitated meeting was held on 7 February to work on priorities from the workshop. The priorities accommodation needs for the Community Renewal Partners and best method of supporting/directing the Community Co-ordinator.

A community workshop was held on 11 February to discuss improvements to Carisbrooke reserve. Approximately 100 children and adults took the opportunity to voice their opinions. The designers guided people through the plan and asked for comment, while youth workers from Get Real gave away sausages from the BBQ. Many issues were raised, including increased traffic problems since the closure of Carisbrooke Street onto the Expressway, fencing of properties and fencing of the park. Work on the reserve is due to commence within a month. There will be further opportunities to engage the community, including planting days and the painting of games on the asphalt.

The bi-monthly community meeting was held on 5 February at the Aranui Wainoni Family Centre.

Reports were presented on AFFIRM (including the video); the 3 work groups; Parks and Streets:

Parks

First stage of the skate path in Wainoni Park is finished. More input from skateboarders will be sought before starting the second stage.

Construction of the new toilets and changing rooms is due to start in May.

Discussions are under way between City Care and Turangawaewae to try and subcontract some of the park maintenance.

Lighting needs around the community center will be assessed in the week of 10 February

Carisbrooke playground consultation event with local residents planned

A planting plan is being prepared for Farnborough Reserve

Streets

Hampshire Street funding (\$100,000) is in the 2003/04 financial year. City Streets Capital Programme Team will commence work in the very near future on the consultation and scheme development process.

The likely impacts on the area from the closure of Eureka and Carisbrook Streets and the likely change in movement patterns of heavy vehicles, especially on Bexley Road are being researched. A report is expected by end of March 2003.

Due to the cost increase for school speed zone development (it has doubled between the trial sites and this year's projects) there is no funding available in the 2002/03 year for a school speed zone in Aranui. The school speed zone was dependent upon an investigation and report back to various committees. The City Streets Unit will be conducting a broader evaluation of the need for school speed zones and will consider the Aranui area as part of the investigation process for future funding.

Funding for the Aranui School "bubble" has been brought into 2003/04. The detailed planning for the project will start in January.

The status of lighting in the Aranui area has been assessed. The lighting in Hampshire St, as with the rest of the area, is of a standard consistent with the majority of the city's residential streets. The exception is the area in front of the shops where there is a higher standard.

The City Streets Unit has yet to conduct a survey of the condition of the area's footpaths, but will do so shortly, and take any necessary remedial action.

The community has been asked to provide as much information as possible about as to the location of flooding, the depth/extent of it, and when it typically happens in the Aranui area so that this matter may be corrected

Health Services

Activities have included the production of a one page health services providers directory specific to Aranui and the participation of a number of health providers and advisors at the AFFIRM day on 7 December 2002.

Transitional programme for primary school children

A group has met over a period of 8 months to resolve the community-raised issue - "primary aged children on the streets of Aranui in school time". A vast amount has been learned about children and schooling in the community and how the various agencies and schools work when problems arise. The frankness and co-operation of the various agencies that have contributed to this group is acknowledged, along with the effort to develop a transitional programme. The size of the problem is still not quantified however, and it has been agreed to change the group's approach to resolving this issue. It has become clear that rather than setting up a separate transitional classroom it will be better to support existing mechanisms aimed at keeping children at school. The Ministry of Education & Project Pegasus (New Brighton Police) are to facilitate the next meeting, to which front line community workers from community and government agencies, including schools, in the area will be invited. The Ministry of Education has also outlined new initiatives that are about to be implemented in conjunction with other agencies, aimed at ensuring that 'no student under 12 years old is out of school'. This includes resourcing for early intervention in the schools and is particularly relevant to east Christchurch schools.

Employment and Training

Following the success of the Aranui "Independence Days" activities held in September 2002 it was proposed that an employment and training resource be established in Aranui. Discussions on this with Work and Income NZ have resulted in funding of a full time position (until the end of June 2003) working from a facility in Aranui and hence easily accessed by people from the community.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

An adult literacy course (10 hours per week) commenced on 10 February at Supergrans. The course has been developed in conjunction with Hagley Learning Centre.

The quarterly Aranui Community Renewal Steering Group meeting will be held on 28 February.

The Department of Children and Young Persons has invited members of the Aranui Community Trust, a City Councillor and Council staff member to attend the Stronger Community Action Fund workshop on 31 March and 1 April 2003 in Auckland. The department will fund participants from the Community Trust. The workshop is for participants in the 9 SCAF projects so that experiences with developing funding processes and Community Action Plans can be shared.

Staff

Recommendation: That the information be received.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the information be received and that Councillor Chrissie Williams and an appropriate staff member represent the Council at the Stronger Community Action Fund workshop in Auckland on 31 March and 1 April 2003.