

9. ARANUI COMMUNITY RENEWAL PARKS UPDATE

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The purpose of this report is to update the Board on progress with park developments within the Aranui Community Renewal area.

CONTEXT

Farnborough Reserve landscaping, Carisbrooke Reserve playground renewal, and Wainoni Park toilets and recreation facilities are on this year's capital budget. The concept plan for Wainoni Park was approved by the Board in March 2002.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The plans for current work in Farnborough Reserve, Carisbrooke Reserve, and Wainoni Park are attached. All three parks are within the Aranui Community Renewal area and have had input from the local community through the community renewal process.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSAL

Farnborough Reserve

Based on a 1998 landscape plan for Farnborough Reserve (attached), some basic framework planting is to be initiated this year. The planting framework (attached) allows for future development of play and sports areas which will require consultation with the local community as the surrounding residential area develops. Linkages to the Woolston/Burwood expressway and Knights Drain wetland area have also been provided for.

Coastal bush and specimen trees have been selected to provide shelter from the prevailing north easterly winds and support the ecological enhancement of the Knights Drain retention basin. Post and cable fencing along the street boundaries is also to be installed for improved safety to prevent children running out on to the road.

Carisbrooke Reserve

A consultation event was held on site with local residents in February. The resulting design plan (attached) reflects the community desires with the following key design ideas:

- Re-site all retained play equipment to one large area.
- Provide 150 metres of sealed cycle/skate/scoot circuit with opportunities for painted ball sport and junior games lines.
- Retain existing grassed mounds.
- Provide basketball hoop and backboard.
- Provide new seating.
- New tree and shrub planting including possible street trees.
- Possibly construct kerb extensions and slow zones or single lane at each entry to Ventnor Crescent to slow vehicle traffic (more discussion required with the City Streets Unit).
- Possible new play items if funding allows.

Preparation work has already begun on site and the playground is expected to be resited and upgraded by the end of June. Path sealing will occur when ground conditions are more suitable in the spring.

Wainoni Park

The playground was relocated from behind the Hampshire Street shops and upgraded and landscaped at its new site on Hampshire Street in 2002. Local residents helped to plant the area in July 2002. The first stage of a skate path was added in January this year. Feedback on the new play area has been extremely positive.

Funding is available in 2003/04 to complete the first stage of the play area and to begin the second stage which will cater for older children.

The new toilets and changing rooms will adjoin the southern end of the Wainoni/Aranui Family Centre (see attached plan). They will be built over two financial years. Limited funding is available in this year's capital budget and it is anticipated that the additional funding required will be sourced through savings in the building and equipment upgrade budget. Construction will begin once resource consent is granted. The old pavilion will remain until the irrigation controls can be relocated. Parks and Waterways staff are working with the Property Unit on lighting and landscaping around the Family Centre.

Discussions are underway between Turangawaewae Trust and City Care with a view to the Trust taking on some of the maintenance of local parks. This would contribute to one of the renewal goals of enhancing employment opportunities for local people. The Trust would be subcontracted to City Care.

RESULTS OF CONSULTATION

Consultation for Farnborough Reserve will occur when capital funding becomes available for recreation facilities in the park. Only a limited number of residents currently live in the area as the residential development is not yet complete. The basic concept plan has been presented through the Aranui Community Renewal process so that the partners are aware of possible future developments.

A successful consultation event was held in Carisbrooke Reserve where direct input to the development plan was received from local residents. Residents were very supportive of grouping play equipment together, creating better open space for ball games, adding hard surfacing and a basketball hoop, seating, trees and shrub gardens. Their concerns regarding traffic hazards were taken into consideration and are to be worked through with the City Streets Unit.

Short and long term plans for Wainoni Park have been extensively promoted through the Aranui Community Renewal process and received good feedback at the AFFIRM Day. People are enthused by the developments that have occurred so far and are anxious to ensure that future stages are implemented. There is high demand for new public toilets in the park that are user friendly and visible.

Staff

- Recommendations:**
1. That the information be received.
 2. That the Board approve the plans for Carisbrooke Reserve and the Wainoni Park toilets and changing rooms.

Chairperson's

- Recommendations:**
1. That the abovementioned recommendations be adopted.
 2. That a further report be prepared on the security of the toilets and changing rooms.