

4. ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR RESERVE – MARLEY HILL – SUMMIT ROAD



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Corporate Plan Output: New Assets – Reserve Purchases	

The purpose of this report is to seek the Council's acceptance of the gift of approximately 19.5747 ha of land adjoining Marley Hill from Turning Point 2000, as a millennium project for addition to the Summit Road and Crater Rim Reserves.

BACKGROUND

Turning Point 2000, on behalf of its Port Hills Advisory Group, approached the Council earlier this year to determine if it would accept as a gift approximately 19.5747 ha of land adjoining Marley Hill, which it was seeking to acquire from Freedom TV as a scenic reserve for addition to the Crater Rim Walkway. The land concerned is shown as sections 1, 2 and 3 on the tabled plan S22498/1. It will be noted that the land lies to the north of the Summit Road running from the Sign of the Kiwi to the east with Worsleys Road forming the western boundary.

The property fits within the Crater Rim Native Forest Park part of the Port Hills Regional Park acquisition strategy which was adopted by the Council in April 1999. The property will adjoin to the east both the Sugarloaf Scenic Reserve and the Sign of the Kiwi, while to the south-west it will abut the Hoon Hay Scenic Reserve. Strategically, the property is very important in not only linking the above reserves, but also in creating a virtually continuous park above the Summit Road between Sugarloaf Scenic Reserve and Cooper's Knob, a distance of approximately 5km.

ECOLOGICAL QUALITIES

Of the 19.5747 ha being acquired, approximately two-thirds of the area faces north while the balance has a southerly aspect overlooking Lyttelton Harbour. At present, the bulk of the property is in tussock with some gorse infestation and some small pockets of regenerating bush. The gullies lying to the south of the subject property are progressively regenerating with native species and it is anticipated that ultimately this land will be planted as a management measure to control the gorse and to re-establish the area with native bush.

SCENIC AND RECREATION

This area of the Port Hills offers outstanding scenic qualities in a remote rural setting. Views up the harbour and across the plains are outstanding. The Crater Rim Walkway runs through part of the property, this being the major recreation walking route along this section of the hills.

It should be noted that not all of the property is to be acquired, with Freedom TV retaining an area of 8088m² as depicted on the attached plan on which their aerial and associated equipment are housed. Access to the aerial site is along a four wheel drive vehicle track running off Worsleys Road and shown as section 2 on the plan. As part of the agreement Freedom TV are to retain an easement of right of way over section 2 to facilitate access to the aerial as and when required. It is also intended to fence the boundaries of the aerial site and to screen this with appropriate planting as a means of securing the area and limiting access to it by the general public.

PROPERTY DETAILS

Owners: Freedom TV

Legal Description: Part Lot 1 DP 16075 and being part of the land contained in Certificate of Title 13A/691 containing approximately 19.5747 ha and being more particularly the areas shown as sections 1, 2 and 3 on the tabled plan S22498/1.

Settlement Details: Although the land is to be purchased and gifted to the Council by Turning Point 2000, for the purposes of transfer the property will be acquired directly from Freedom TV Limited by the Council. The only costs to be borne by the Council will be survey and fencing costs and the costs associated with creating the easement of right of way. It is calculated that these costs could be in the vicinity of \$10,000.

Source of Funds: The Council's share of the cost of meeting the survey and legal costs together with the costs of fencing will be funded from the Strategic Reserves Purchase vote for which sufficient funds are held in the 2000/2001 financial year.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the gift of 19.5747 ha from Turning Point 2000 to the Christchurch City Council, as a scenic reserve, be accepted.
 2. That the Council accept, as part of the transaction, the costs of the associated survey, legalisation, easement creation and fencing to secure title to the area.
 3. That the Council resolve, pursuant to section 19 of the Reserves Act 1977, to acquire the land as a scenic reserve.

4. That, pursuant to section 16, the land be classified as a scenic reserve under section 19(1)(b) of the Reserves Act 1977.
5. That, pursuant to section 48 of the Reserves Act 1977, the Council resolve to grant an easement of right of way in favour of Freedom TV Limited over section 2 on the attached plan 22498/1.
6. That Turning Point 2000 be thanked for their kind and generous gift to the City.
7. That an appropriate plaque acknowledging the generosity of Turning Point 2000 be installed on the reserve.