

4. PURCHASE OF RESERVE – AWATEA STREAM (OPEN AND PUBLIC EXCLUDED)

This report was referred to the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board for its comment and recommendation to the Council.

The purpose of this report was to consider the acquisition of a parcel of land adjoining Awatea Stream.

BACKGROUND

Awatea Stream flows between Gibson Drive and Wilmers Road and forms the north eastern boundary to Warren Park. As part of its waterway enhancement programme the Water Services Unit recently completed the enhancement of this stream along the Park's north eastern boundary and with the agreement of the private property owners is extending the enhancement between the Park boundary and Gibson Drive.

In order to protect the stream and its environment, agreement has been reached with some of the owners to undertake an enhancement programme whereby the stream bed and banks were fenced and the stream tidied and planted with appropriate native species. To protect the work it is intended to secure conservation covenants or easements over the areas in question.

In the case of the property at 17 Oakley Crescent, because the additional land has become a burden to the owner she would prefer to sell the area to the Council in order that it would be attached to the adjoining reserve.

In order to determine the land's value the services of Ford Baker, registered public valuers, were engaged on the Council's behalf. Agreement has been entered into with the owner to acquire the area concerned.

SOURCE OF FUNDS

The purchase would be funded from the Water Services Unit's Waterway and Enhancement Fund with sufficient funds being available in the 2000/01 financial year.

After discussion the Board **decided** that the Environmental Committee meet with Bill Morgan, Property Services Officer to discuss this matter further.