2. ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR CYCLEWAY/WALKWAY PORT HILLS ROAD

Officer responsible	Author
Water Services Manager	Bill Morgan, DDI 941-8581

The purpose of this report is to consider the purchase of part of a property adjoining Tunnel Road on which to establish a walkway/cycleway.

BACKGROUND

As part of an overall scheme for the enhancement of the Avoca Stream coupled with the naturalisation of the Scruttons Road Drain it is proposed to create a cycleway and pedestrian link adjoining Tunnel Road between Horotane Valley Road and Port Hills Road. In terms of the overall drainage scheme for the Avoca Valley it is proposed to establish a number of ponding basins for detention purposes prior to the discharge of the water into the Estuary. Currently negotiations are in hand to acquire land on the property adjoining Mary Duncan Park on which to establish a large pond, which will become an attractive feature of the area and form a wildlife habitat. The pond will service both the Avoca Stream and the Scruttons Road Drain which as indicated is to be naturalised with appropriate landscaping as well as providing the proposed pedestrian and cycleway link which is not currently provided on Tunnel Road. At this point Tunnel Road is narrow and carries large traffic numbers with the result that there is a safety issue for both pedestrians and cyclists. To provide the linkage it is necessary to acquire two parcels of land as depicted on the attached plan 24659/2. This report is confirming the details of the acquisition of Section 2 on the plan containing approximately 974 m².

PROPERTY DETAILS

The property to be acquired lies to the southern side of Tunnel Road in close proximity to the Lyttelton turnoff and overbridge. The area forms part of a property currently utilised for horticultural purposes containing a large glasshouse structure. The total property contains an area of $9567m^2$ which is zoned Rural 7 under the Proposed City Plan with the current uses being permitted activities. The area to be acquired is a narrow strip having a 4.4 metre width at the north western end and 5.3 metres at the south eastern end. The area passes very close to the glasshouse and as such it is intended to provide appropriate fencing, not only to screen the area but also to prevent any damage or breakages to the glasshouse.

VALUATION

To determine the value of the land the Council engaged the services of Ford Baker, Registered Public Valuers, the details of which are included in the Public Excluded Section of this report.

SOURCE OF FUNDS

Waterways and Wetlands Protection – Port Hills.

Recommendation:

- That the Council resolve to acquire Section 2 on Plan 24659/2 containing 974m² (subject to survey) on the terms and conditions contained in the Public Excluded Section of this report as a Local Purpose (Accessway) Reserve pursuant to Section 23 of the Reserves Act 1977.
- 2. That the Council resolve pursuant to Section 16(2)(A) to classify the land as a Local Purpose (Accessway) Reserve pursuant to Section 23 of the Reserves Act 1977.