

### 13. STYX ESPLANADE RESERVE

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#### PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to consider the gift of 214 square metres of land for use as esplanade reserve adjoining the Styx River at Crofton Road.

This report is submitted to the Board for its consideration and recommendation to the Council.

#### CONTEXT

The Council has recently acquired land for reserve purposes adjacent to the Styx River near Crofton Road as a result of reserve contribution and a land purchase. This reserve forms part of a much longer Styx River corridor originating at Harewood Road and was discussed by the Board on 8 June 2004.

Investigations into the acquisition of this reserve resulted in staff having discussions with the landowner along the northern boundary of the reserve. The landowner has agreed to gift to the Council a strip of land to be added to the recently acquired Styx Esplanade Reserve in order to allow greater space for a walkway as part of the Styx Source to Sea experience. The **attached** location map refers.

#### DESCRIPTION OF LAND TO BE GIFTED

The 214 square metres of land is approximately 3.5 metres wide and approximately 70 metres long. It is currently zoned rural and used for grazing. Please refer to the map in the attachment for the dimensions of the land block to be gifted and its relationship to the adjoining land areas. The photo below indicates the proximity of the Styx River to this land.



Photo showing the area of land under consideration. The Styx River is located at the base of the trees on the left. The land to be gifted is to the right of the post and wire fence. Distance between the Styx River and the fence is approximately 8 metres

#### COSTS

The Council will pay for survey costs, legal fees and the cost of relocating the fence. These costs are estimated to be approximately \$4,000.

#### CONCLUSION

A walkway extending from the source of the Styx River along its route to the sea is part of the overall long term vision for the Styx. The acceptance of this generous gift of land will allow more room for the development of the walkway in this location and add to peoples overall experience as they follow the rivers course to the sea.

**Staff**

- Recommendations:**
1. That the Board recommend to the Council that it accept this gift of land to be used for the purpose of a Styx Esplanade Reserve on the terms and conditions outlined in the report.
  2. That the Chairperson of the Parks, Gardens and Waterways Committee write a letter of appreciation to the landowner gifting the land.

**Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** That the above recommendations be adopted.