

## 6. AVONHEAD PARK ENHANCEMENT PLAN - UPDATE

<b>Officer responsible</b> Greenspace Unit Manager	<b>Author</b> Jill Gordon, DDI 941-6708
---	--

The purpose of this report is to inform the Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board of the results of public consultation regarding the proposed enhancement of Avonhead Park.

Members will recall the Avonhead Park enhancement plans were tabled at the 11 November 2003 meeting of the Works, Traffic and Environment Committee with the recommendation that the plan be circulated to local residents.

The proposed enhancement plan (**separately circulated** to members) recognises the comprehensive public feedback we received during the initial consultation and information gathering period in August last year. The plan caters for the wide age distribution within current park users. Opportunities are provided for walking and passive recreation as well as recreational facilities for young people in the area and features include:

- Recreational facilities – tennis court, half basketball court and climbing structures
- Extension of wide path networks which can be used by walkers, and cyclists
- Further landscaping and enhancing of the new facilities and park

### COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The proposed enhancement plans were circulated in early February to approximately 650 residents in an area bounded by Chesterfield Mews, Ansonby Street, Apsley Drive and Hawthornden Road to Henridge Place. Eight residents contacted us regarding the proposal.

Several residents were concerned that comprehensive removals of trees along the Russley Road boundary may increase traffic noise. There was also a request to include a volley wall in the tennis court area. All of the residents who contacted us were very complimentary regarding the overall concept for the park.

### PLAN AMENDMENTS

The Greenspace Unit concur with the residents' concerns regarding the removal of trees and will programme removal and replacement of declining or unsafe trees in a staged manner maintaining plantings as a shelter belt and noise buffer.

The Greenspace Unit supports the inclusion of a volley wall in the tennis court area as this will also add to the recreational facilities available in the area.

### FUNDING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Greenspace 5 year capital works programme has the following allocation for Avonhead Park development:

<b>2003/04</b>	<b>\$108,000</b>	<b>from Greenspace Capital Works Programme</b>
	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>from Major Park Tree Replacement Projects</b>
		(for removal and replacements on eastern and southern boundaries)

It is intended to programme the removal and replacement of trees on the western and northern boundaries in stages over a ten year interval on an as-required basis based on safety and standard arboricultural practice. It is anticipated this work will be funded jointly from operational and capital projects budgets as necessary.

It is intended to fund the climbing structures separately using funding set aside from the Community Board.

<b>2003/04</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>from Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board</b>
		<b>for Facilities for Teenagers</b>

### CONCLUSION

The local residents are very enthusiastic to see facilities on their park develop which will provide improved recreational opportunities for the area.

The further enhancement of this park will be a wonderful opportunity to further develop a well utilised community asset.

**Staff**

- Recommendations:**
1. That the Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board approve the proposed amendments to the enhancement plan for Avonhead Park.
  2. That the proposed enhancement plan for Avonhead Park be approved for staged construction/implementation.

**Chairman's**

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