

#### 4. HEREFORD STREET RESERVE: PROPOSED MINI HALF COURT AREA

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##### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to advise the Board of the results of consultation with the community regarding the proposed mini half court area in Hereford Street Reserve.

##### BACKGROUND

In 2002 a study was made of the Linwood, Woolston, Bromley and Phillipstown areas which identified a variety of improvements which could be made so that the recreational needs of young people could be enhanced. One of the areas identified was the Hereford Street Reserve, where currently there is a strip of astro-turf which was once used as a cricket pitch.

The study conclusions recommended that this area of astro-turf would serve the needs of young people better if it was converted and slightly extended to provide a mini half court area with a hoop and backboard for basketball and netball.

The Board allocated \$6000 from project funding which is now being held within the Greenspace Unit capital works budget.

##### DISCUSSION

A consultation letter and submission form were distributed to neighbouring residents in December 2003. From the distribution of seventy-nine (79) letters, ten (10) submissions were received.

An analysis of the submissions is as follows:

- 7 – in support of the mini half court
- 1 – concerned about encouraging young people to congregate at the reserve
- 2 – concerned about having a hard surface area within the reserve.

The Greenspace Area Advocate has discussed the issue of hard surfacing with the two submitters and both agreed that the mini half court size area would not preclude other recreation opportunities.

The submitter concerned about the congregating of young people, after discussion, maintained his view.

Reserves are provided to serve the needs of wide sections of our community and as such should provide for recreation opportunities for young people as well as other age groups.

##### CONCLUSION

The majority of submitters have supported the proposed mini half court so it is proposed that the half court be constructed.

##### Staff

**Recommendation:** That the proposed mini half court area at Hereford Street Reserve be constructed within the current financial year.

##### Chairperson's

**Recommendation:** That the information be received.