

8. NORTH NEW BRIGHTON WAR MEMORIAL HALL: LANDSCAPE PROPOSAL

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| General Manager responsible: | General Manager City Environment |
| Officer responsible: | Greenspace Manager |
| Author: | Robyn Croucher, Parks & Waterways Area Advocate Burwood/Pegasus, DDI 941-5314 |

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to confirm Board support for the North New Brighton War Memorial Hall (the 'Hall') landscape proposal, following community consultation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Greenspace Unit has \$40,000 available this financial year to upgrade the area of land surrounding the North New Brighton War Memorial Hall. Board members will be aware of the work recently underway to refit and upgrade this community facility. The landscape proposed will compliment the upgrade and enhance the appearance of the general area surrounding the building. It will also create a more fluid connection between the Hall and the North Beach Surf Clubrooms.
3. A preliminary landscape development plan was circulated for public comment in February 2005 to local businesses, the North New Brighton Residents' Association, user groups of the community facility and to residents living opposite the landscaped area. A letter explaining the proposal was also distributed to approximately 350 residents in the wider area, and a noticeboard was positioned onsite for general viewing.
4. The plan suggested:
 - Landscaping the immediate area outside the Hall to define spaces of flow to/from the building in an attractive, pleasant outdoor setting.
 - Installing tiled artworks at nodes surrounding the Hall and leading towards the surf clubrooms. The tiles, along with relocation of the Llew Summers sculpture to a more prominent position, would enhance and add artistic flair to the area.
 - Framing sections of the pathways linking the hall to the surf clubrooms in coastal plants and wooden slat seating.
 - Relocating the memorial stone, and its drinking fountain, nearer to the sea wall.
 - The plan also included spaces set aside for surfboards, piping for shade sails, and enhancement of the existing plantings/lawn area.
5. Feedback from the consultation indicates general support for the upgrade, with respondents happy to hear work is being planned to enhance this area of the foreshore. Most respondents took the time to make helpful suggestions as to the design details - a summary of the suggestions are outlined below:

What people liked the most:

- Garden plan - replacement and additional landscape plantings.
- Relocation and repair of Leaver Memorial.
- Tiled artworks and repositioning of Llew Summers sculpture.
- Proposed seating.
- General landscape design - particularly flow between the two buildings.

What people wanted included/altered:

- More seating, picnic tables and rubbish bins.
- Trees for shade (suggestions for ngaio and cabbage trees).
- Removal of car park planting plots and Norfolk Island Pines.
- Retention of Llew Summers sculpture at its current position.
- Replacing the proposed aggregate surfacing with material of a smoother finish.
- Repainting and upgrading of the area surrounding the Surf Club rooms.
- That the concept of donator tiles be considered for the Leaver memorial.

6. In light of the responses received, project staff propose the following changes be made to the final design:
 - Include an additional picnic table in the lawn area.
 - Plant additional trees for shade and also shelter (from the southerly wind).
 - Design additional seating to extend along the foreshore wall.
 - That the Parks and Waterways Area Advocate consult with the North New Brighton Residents' Association on issues specific to the car park planter beds.
7. The final amended plan will be available at the meeting for Board members information.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

8. \$40,000 has been allocated this 2004/05 financial year to landscape the area surrounding the North New Brighton War Memorial Hall. Additional funding will be made available in 2005/06 to see the project to completion. The proposed landscape plan has been designed accordingly.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve the proposed plan to landscape the area of land surrounding the North New Brighton War Memorial Hall.

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

For discussion.