

8. INTEGRATED ARTWORK SIGNAGE FUNDING REQUEST

General Manager responsible:	General Manager, Community Services
Officer responsible	Lesley Symington, Community and Recreation Unit Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek final Board ratification for funding an integrated artwork signage project at the Janet Stewart Reserve Pa Harakeke. A grant of \$5,000 is being requested from the Board's 2005/2006 Discretionary Funding towards a total project cost of \$10,000.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Janet Stewart Reserve is located on the corner of Marshlands Road and Lower Styx Road (border boundaries for Shirley/Papanui Ward and Burwood/Pegasus Ward). Christine Heremaia (Styx Project Area Leader, Greenspace Unit) has been instrumental in working alongside interested parties to establish a Pa Harakeke at Janet Stewart Reserve. The harakeke plants were sourced from the Orcheson collection - a Landcare Research Regeneration Project for native plants. The harakeke varieties found at the Pa Harakeke are greatly valued by local Maori weavers, in particular the Korowai Tahī Inc. Weaving Group whose Kaupapa (or purpose) is to foster and nurture traditional art practices, ie : weaving. The concept of the Pa Harakeke is for weavers, school groups and interested parties to have a place that they can harvest flax from.
3. There is presently high demand for a place to harvest harakeke. However the harakeke plantation is being abused by people who are either not harvesting the flax correctly, or leaving unwanted flax littered throughout the Harakeke. Some plants are being harvested in a manner that is not fitting with the cultural protocols of flax harvesting. In some cases plants have been left in a state that is dangerous for the next group of users.
4. Current users of the Pa Harakeke have approached Council and requested that signage be erected to protect the Pa Harakeke and to promote correct harvesting techniques. Correct techniques will mean less danger to users of the Pa Harakeke, a sustainable resource for future generations, and preservation of the cultural and environmental integrity of this unique site.
5. The signage is to be an integrated artwork containing practical information, artistic values, and will be complimentary to the site. The signage is important for the following reasons : it will promote a safer and healthy community, it will encourage cultural and environmental well-being, and it will contribute to the preservation of Tikanga and Kawa (cultural protocol).
6. This project fits with the following Shirley/Papanui Community Board objectives:
 - Encourage participation of children, youth, aged, Maori, other ethnic groups, people with disabilities, by promoting and supporting community based recreation and education and support programmes
 - Resource and promote specific social and cultural initiatives within the community, including heritage projectsThis project is also consistent with Council Arts Policy and Strategy.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

7. The Shirley/Papanui Community Board discussed at its 2005/2006 Project Funds allocation meeting on 30 March 2005 to consider allocate \$5,000 towards this project, subject to the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board allocating the same amount of funding.
8. The Burwood/Pegasus Community Board allocated \$5,000 towards this project (from 2004/2005 Board Discretionary Funding) at it's 1 June 2005 meeting. Hence this report recommends an allocation of \$5,000 towards this project from a Shirley/Papanui Community Board 2005/2006 Discretionary Funds.
9. The approximate cost of the integrated artwork signage is (\$10,000), including installation. A brief for the artwork is currently being written.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Board:

Allocate \$5,000 from its 2005/2006 Discretionary Funds towards an integrated artwork signage project at the Janet Stewart Reserve Pa Harakeke.

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the staff recommendation be adopted.
2. That the design of the integrated artwork include an acknowledgement of the financial contribution made by the Shirley/Papanui and Burwood/Pegasus Community Boards.