

2. AUBURN RESERVE MAJOR TREE REPLACEMENT PLAN

General Manager responsible:	General Manager City Environment, DDI 941-8656
Officer responsible:	Michael Aitken, Transport and Greenspace Manager
Author:	Melanie Schauer, Parks and Waterways Area Advocate

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval of the major tree replacement planting plan for Auburn Reserve following consultation with the local community.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Board members will recall that the concept plan for the replacement planting of Auburn Reserve was presented to the Environment Committee on 26 June 2006, prior to the City Environment Capital Works Unit carrying out consultation with the local community.
3. The plan was distributed to approximately 160 residential properties around the park in June 2006. There was an average response from the local community, with a total of 36 people returning the comment form providing feedback on the proposed plan within the set time frame.
4. Overall we received a positive response from the feedback indicating a good level of support for the proposed plan (see attached consultation analysis). As a result of the consultation, the City Environment Capital Works Unit proposes the following changes to the original plan (see attached plan).
5. The proposed changes are as follows:
 - (a) Removal of the following species from plant list A: Cotoneaster, scarlet oak, swamp cypress, lime.
 - (b) Inclusion of the following tree species to plant list A: Ginko, Hazelnut, chestnut, Magnolia, Fastigiata Oak.
 - (c) Inclusion of the following tree species to plant list B: New Zealand Beech.
 - (d) Addition of the tree removal time line.
 - (e) Removal of the proposed tree bordering number 34 Auburn Avenue.
 - (f) Removal of proposed tree near to the radio tower.
 - (g) Repositioning of the tree in front of the radio tower to the centre of the western native garden.
 - (h) Enlargement of the eastern native garden to include more plant species that attract birds.
6. All respondents who included their name and postal address on the feedback form have been sent a final reply letter thanking them for their input, including an A3 colour copy of the finalised plan. The letter informed respondents that the plan would be presented to the Riccarton/Wigram Environment Committee for its recommendation to the Board. Details of the meeting (Time, date, venue) were also provided so that any interested people could attend.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

7. The local community has been previously advised of the removals, and recently consulted with regard to the replacement planting proposal. None of the trees have been removed yet.
8. The current 2006/07 City Environment Capital Works Programme has funding available for the tree removal. It is anticipated that replanting will occur next autumn 2007.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Board:

- (a) approves the attached Auburn Reserve Major Tree Replacement Planting Plan, and
- (b) that the Greenspace Unit commence the implementation programme during the next planting season (May – September 2007).