

## 8. STYX LIVING LABORATORY TRUST: SUMMER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME FUNDING APPLICATION

<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager, City Environment
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Unit Manager, Transport & Greenspace
<b>Author:</b>	M Hay, DDI 941-5410

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval to an application for funding by the Styx Living Laboratory Trust for its Summer Scholarship Programme.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Funding is being sought to provide an opportunity for a student to gain hands on research experience with the community while conducting research into the Styx Catchment. This would be a 10 week scholarship over the 2006/07 summer period, which is to be undertaken in partnership with Lincoln University.
3. The Scholarship programme was instigated in 2005 and has provided baseline data leading to a better understanding of the Styx River Catchment which, in turn, has improved the quality of management decisions.
4. The expected outcomes of the project are as follows:
  - (a) Establishing baseline information about a newly restored waterway adjacent to Radcliffe Road.
  - (b) Establishing baseline information about Lepidoptera at Styx Mill Conservation Reserve and assess sources of mosquito infestation (if any) at Styx Mill Conservation Reserve.
  - (c) Student will acquire research experience.
  - (d) Fulfilling the vision of the community entrusted to the Styx Living Laboratory Trust to make the Styx River Catchment a place for learning and research.

### FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

5. The total cost of this project is \$7,000 and \$3,000 has been sought from Lincoln University. The remaining \$4,000 is sought from the Shirley/Papanui Community Board.
6. The Shirley/Papanui Community Board made the following Notice of Motion at its 3 May 2006 meeting:

*"The Board **resolved** that \$4,000 be set aside from its 2006/07 Discretionary Fund towards a joint venture scholarship with Styx Living Laboratory to enable a summer student to undertake a study of aquatic invertebrate."*

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board allocate \$4,000 from its 2006/07 Discretionary Fund to the Styx Living Laboratory Trust for its Summer Scholarship Programme.

### CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

That the staff recommendation be adopted.

## **OPTIONS**

7. There were three options considered for the funding application:
  - (a) Full funding. The total cost of the project is \$7,000 and just over half of this is sought from the Shirley/Papanui Community Board. The application has provided a copy of the report from the recipient of the 2005 Summer Scholarship winner, which has been produced to a professional standard.
  - (b) Partial Funding. The Community Board, through the above Notice of Motion, has indicated that the full \$4,000 is available for this project. This money is needed to provide the scholarship and related costs.
  - (c) No Funding. The Styx Living Laboratory Trust was formed to achieve Vision 3 of Council's *Vision 2000-2040 – The Styx*, that the Styx develops into a Living Laboratory.

## **PREFERRED OPTION**

8. The preferred option, (a) full funding of \$4,000 to the Styx Living Laboratory Trust for their Summer Scholarship Programme.