

## 9. CUFFS RESERVE PLAYGROUND DEVELOPMENT



<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager City Environment
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Greenspace Manager
<b>Author:</b>	Kim Swarbrick, Parks and Waterways Area Advocate, DDI 941-5314

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to confirm Board support for the plan of Cuffs Reserve Playground following community consultation.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Cuffs Reserve is a small neighbourhood park that is widely used by the local community for ball sports. It currently has no play equipment. Records show many inquiries have been made since 1999 requesting play equipment. The Mayor's Office received a request from children in the Cuffs Road, Ontario Place, Niagara Street neighbourhood for a playground in their area. The nearest playgrounds to the area are in Bromley Park which requires them to cross Pages Road or Avon Park and this means crossing Wainoni Road.
3. On 1 March 1999 the Board accepted the proposal for a playground to be installed subject to appropriate fencing. Transport and City Streets Unit have now inserted a bollard and cable fence extending around the entire circumference of the reserve. The Greenspace Unit has \$35,900 available on the capital works programme this financial year for the provision of playground installation.
4. A preliminary development plan was circulated to key stakeholders in November 2005 to obtain feedback on its design. The final plan, which is attached to this report, aims to reflect the views of the community and has been refined in response to community feedback.

### FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

5. There is \$35,900 available in the Greenspace 2005/06 financial year to implement the playground. Whilst this is not a significant amount, obtaining the play equipment recently removed from Spencer Park has made the provision of Cuffs playground achievable. \$4,000 will go towards painting and renovating the existing play equipment before installation.
6. Whilst Cuffs Reserve is a roading reserve it is managed by the Greenspace Unit and I have checked with Richard Bailey (Amenity Maintenance team leader) to ascertain any legal requirements associated with it being roading reserve, of which there were none outside of standard playground in parks legal responsibilities.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve option (b) to accept the Cuffs Reserve Playground Development Plan.

### CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATIONS

That the abovementioned recommendation be adopted.

**BACKGROUND**

7. A public information leaflet seeking responses on the preliminary plan was distributed to residents and key stakeholder groups in November 2005. Residents were asked to indicate their acceptance/non-acceptance of the plan and were given the option to comment. In total, 84 response forms have been received from the 300 consultation packages delivered.

96% accept the proposed plan (81)  
 4% do not accept the proposed plan (3)

8. A number of suggestions and comments were made that have been considered and where appropriate integrated into the design.

9. A copy of the final plan will be circulated to residents and stakeholder groups prior to the construction date.

**OPTIONS**

10. There are two possible options:

- (a) Do nothing or status quo. This option is not practical as Greenspace sees merit in carrying out suggestions put forward by local residents. This option disregards the community feedback and input.
- (b) Accept the Cuffs Playground Development Plan with its minor changes to the original plan in recognition of residents' feedback.

**PREFERRED OPTION**

11. To adopt option (b) and accept the Cuffs Playground Development Plan.

**ASSESSMENT OF OPTIONS**

	<b>Benefits (current and future)</b>	<b>Costs (current and future)</b>
<b>Social</b>	Mitigate risks to public and property.	Landscape planting and playground installation \$35,900.
<b>Cultural</b>	No benefits identified.	No costs identified.
<b>Environmental</b>	Improved reserve facility for community. Additional native planting will enhance opportunities for bird life.	
<b>Economic</b>	No positive or negative economic impact for the community identified.	

**Extent to which community outcomes are achieved:**  
 Primary alignment with community outcome: *"Our City's natural resources, biodiversity, landscapes, and ecosystem integrity are protected and enhanced"*.  
 Also contributes to *"Our City's infrastructure and environment are managed effectively, are responsive to changing needs and focus on long-term sustainability"*.

**Impact on Council's capacity and responsibilities:**  
 No impact on Council's capacity and responsibilities have been identified.

**Effects on Maori:**  
 No effects on Maori identified.

**Consistency with existing Council policies:**  
 Consistent with the Environmental Policy and specifically: *"Open Spaces and Planting - The Council will manage and maintain the open spaces of the City in ways that enhance amenity, avoid adverse effects and minimise maintenance requirements"*.  
*"To acknowledge and promote the "Garden City" identity of the City by protecting, maintaining, and extending planting which complements this image"*.

**Views and preferences of persons affected or likely to have an interest:**  
 From 84 submissions received, 81 supported the landscape plan.

**Other relevant matters:**