

6. ROSELLA RESERVE WALKWAY REQUEST

General Manager responsible:	General Manager City Environment, DDI 941-8556
Officer responsible:	Michael Aitken, Transport and Greenspace Manager
Author:	Melanie Schauer, Parks and Waterways Area Advocate

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of the following report is to address the Board's request for a report to be written following a request by six of the residents of Ben Nevis Drive to install a standard park pathway through Rosella Reserve. The report contains a recommendation seeking to approve the local residents' request to install a 145 square metre walkway (approximate) around the south western boundary of the park connecting out on to Masham Road.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Board has received a request from six residents within the Ben Nevis area requesting that consideration be given to putting a footpath through Rosella Reserve in order to provide an easy access to the bus stop on Masham Road. There is currently no sealed walkway link through the park. The residents currently walk around the streets or cross the park to Rosella Street to access Masham Road. On 22 May 2006 the Board met on site with the Parks and Waterways Advocate to discuss the residents' request.
3. Rosella Reserve is a passive neighbourhood reserve that has a large area of open green space. There are a few trees around the periphery and a playground near to Rosella Street. Currently the reserve can be accessed from Rosella Street or Ben Nevis Drive.
4. The approximate length of proposed walkway link has been estimated at 145 metres as per the **attached** map of the area. The cost to install this walkway has been estimated at \$45 per square metre of walkway. Thus the total cost of the walkway would be \$6,525.
5. The Board is considering using some of its Environment Committee funding to pay for the installation of the walkway. The works could be implemented as part of the capital programme for walkways for the 2006/07 year.
6. Of the six residents who signed the letter requesting consideration for the walkway, none of them live next door to the reserve near to where the proposed walkway is to be located. The Parks and Waterways Advocate raised this with the resident who sent the request. The letter writer has since visited the neighbours on the Ben Nevis Drive side of the reserve to investigate whether they would give their neighbour consent. They have agreed to do this.
7. If the request for the walkway is approved the community will be informed of the works via a start work notice with an extended period for any feedback or comments to be received. Some of the residents neighbouring the reserve where the proposed walkway is recommended to go have given their neighbour's consent for the walkway.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

8. The Board has indicated that its Environment Committee funds could be utilised to cover the costs of this walkway. There are no Greenspace operational funds available to do this work.

OPTIONS

9. There are two possible options:
 - (a) Do nothing or status quo.
 - (b) Install the 145 square metre walkway around the south western boundary of Rosella Reserve.

PREFERRED OPTION

10. The preferred option is install the 145 square metre walkway around the south western boundary of Rosella reserve as one of the Community Board's environmental enhancement projects for the 2006/07 financial year.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board agrees to allocate \$6,525 from its 2006/07 Environment Committee fund towards the costs of installing 145 square metres of walkway around the south western boundary of Rosella Reserve.