

## 9. LOCKSLEY AVENUE - WALKWAY 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 landscape plan of Locksley Avenue walkway development.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. At the 18 August 2003 Board meeting, the Greenspace Unit was asked to consider funding a walkway along the riverbank side of Locksley Avenue. The Unit agreed to support the project and as a result allocated funds for construction to begin in the 2003/04 financial year.

A report went before the Board on 1 March 2004, to seek approval for the first stage of Locksley Avenue pathway development to be completed, and the recommendations were adopted. Since then engineers encountered some technical difficulties with planning construction of the initial 300m stretch of pathway. Letters were sent to residents and stakeholders on 28 May 2004 to advise of the problems and that construction had been halted.

Presently, the remaining stretch of pathway design has been completed following consultation, and is ready for Board approval so that construction can be implemented in stages over the next three financial years.

### FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

3. Unit project funds of \$21,974 have been available this year to complete consultation and landscape plan. The pathway formation will be staged as follows:
  - (a) 1<sup>st</sup> Year New Brighton Road to Arnst Place - 409m long, approximate cost \$45,900.
  - (b) 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Arnst Place to McBratneys Road - 616m long, cost \$69,300.
  - (c) 3<sup>rd</sup> Year McBratneys Road to Adjacent Retirement Village - 593m long, cost \$66,700.
4. The total amount of funding required will also include funding for landscape planting. Budgeting to allow for this has been incorporated into the capital works 2006-2009 programme.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board adopt the amended Locksley Avenue Walkway Development Plan.

### CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

That the staff recommendation be adopted.

## **BACKGROUND**

5. A preliminary development plan was circulated to key stakeholders/residents in November 2004 to obtain feedback on its design. Additionally a full copy of the project was mounted on information panels sited at the corner of McBratneys Road and Locksley Avenue, and at the junction of Locksley Avenue and New Brighton Road. The final plan, which is attached to this report, aims to reflect the views of the community and has been redrafted in response to community feedback.

Changes implemented to plan:

- More seats installed, old seats repainted.
- Relocation of proposed trees opposite residents who have requested them to be moved.
- Use of very low lying shrubs with many spaces in between for access to, and better viewing of the river.
- Pathway surveyed for alignment through trees.
- Pathway linkages to existing footpaths.

## **OPTIONS**

6. There are two possible options:
  - (a) Do nothing or status quo. This option is not practical as Greenspace sees merit in carrying out natural enhancement developments. This option disregards the community feedback and input.
  - (b) Accept the Locksley Avenue Walkway Development plan with its changes to the original plan in recognition of residents' feedback.

## **PREFERRED OPTION**

7. To adopt option (b) and accept the Locksley Avenue Walkway Development plan.

## ASSESSMENT OF OPTIONS

	<b>Benefits (current and future)</b>	<b>Costs (current and future)</b>
<b>Social</b>	Increased enjoyment/ better utilisation of public property and increased recreation potential.	Landscape planting and pathway installation costs: 2005/06 = \$45,900, 2006/07 = \$ 69,300, 2007/08 = \$66,700.
<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 impacts 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 65 submissions received, 48 supported the landscape plan. Three did not indicate. 14 did not support the plan. Of these 14 some have been contacted and are now happy with alterations made to plan.

### **Other relevant matters:**