

12. CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purchase of this report is to advise the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board of the estimated cost for Christmas lighting displays on the tree at Church Corner and on the Redwood tree in St Mary's Church yard near Halswell Domain, and for placement of a lighting effect at Upper Riccarton Library as discussed by the Community Services Committee at its meeting of 26 July 2006.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Tony Walker, Manager of Connetics Lighting Division has investigated the options identified by the Riccarton/Wigram Community Services Committee.
3. Funding allocated for Christmas decorations/lighting is insufficient to enable any of the three identified options to be completed but work could commence on the options for installation in future years.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

4. The Riccarton/Wigram Community Board has \$5,000 available in its 2006/07 budget for Christmas decorations.
5. Additional funding for Christmas decorations may be available from the Board's discretionary funds. The balance of these funds is approximately \$53,000.

BACKGROUND ON CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

6. Tony Walker, Manager of Connetics Lighting Division, met with Committee members on 14 July 2006 and presented a report of options for Christmas lighting.
7. At its meeting on 26 July 2006 the Committee agreed that Lesley Keast continue to liaise with Tony Walker regarding a Christmas lighting display on the tree at Church Corner and on the Redwood tree in St Mary's Church yard near Halswell Domain and for placement of a lighting effect on the "memorial wreath at the Upper Riccarton library". The Committee recommended to the Board that staff provide a report investigating the installation of up-lights for the Church Corner tree.
8. Discussions have been held with Tony Walker regarding these options and these are discussed below.

Church Corner:

9. The recommended option for the tree at Church Corner is to use three up-lights rather than to use bud-lights spread throughout the tree. These up-lights would be available to be used throughout the year with coloured filters placed over the lights during the Christmas season.
10. The tree is protected under the City Plan and any work within 10 m of it is subject to obtaining a resource consent and the conditions of that consent.
11. The tree is on private property owned by the Anglican Church and permission will need to be obtained from the church for the up-lighting work.
12. The estimate for the up-lighting is a one-off cost with continuing relatively minor maintenance costs extra.

St Mary's Church:

13. The recommended option for the sequoia Redwood tree within the grounds of St Mary's Church is to use a festoon of low voltage mixed colour lights. These would remain in the tree throughout the year and be lit during the Christmas season.
14. The tree is protected under the City Plan and any work within 10 m of it is subject to obtaining a resource consent and the conditions of that consent.
15. The tree is on private property owned by the church and permission will need to be obtained from the church for the work.
16. The estimate for the lighting is a one-off cost with continuing maintenance costs extra.

Upper Riccarton Library:

17. Tony Walker had understood that the option to be considered was a wreath decoration on the front of the new Upper Riccarton Library. It appears that the intention may have been to investigate a lighting effect on the memorial wreath at the Upper Riccarton War Memorial Library. To date this option has not been investigated.
18. Considering the new Upper Riccarton Library, an option for a "Sky Line" type of decoration for the front of the library may be considered. An example of this type of decoration is shown below. These are normally placed across roadways.



19. This type of decoration is approximately 8 m long and 1 m high. This option would require an engineering check of the structure to assess the practicality of mounting the display on it and a check on the availability of adequate power supply.

ESTIMATED COSTS

20. Costs for the three options are estimated below:

Location	Estimate	Comment
Church Corner	\$14,000	Protected tree requiring resource consent to be obtained. Church permission to be obtained
St Mary's Church, Halswell Domain	\$14,000	Protected tree requiring resource consent to be obtained. Church permission to be obtained
Upper Riccarton Library	\$8,000	Allows an estimated cost of \$4,000 for investigation and installation

Note: The first two options cannot be completed for this Christmas season because of the consent processes required.

OPTIONS

21. The available budget of \$5,000 (allocated from the Board's 2006/07 Project Funds) is insufficient to allow any of the three options considered to be actioned.
22. The available budget could be allocated to pursue installation of one or more of these options in future years.
23. Additional funds could be allocated from the Board's 2006/07 Discretionary Funds to permit planning work to commence.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board advise which options should be pursued for installation in future years.