

8. NORTH NEW BRIGHTON MEMORIAL HALL AND COMMUNITY CENTRE LANDSCAPE PLAN

General Manager responsible:	General Manager City Environment, DDI 941-8656
Officer responsible:	Transport and Greenspace Manager
Author:	Kim Swarbrick, Parks and Waterways Area Advocate Brent Smith, Capital Projects Team Manager

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to confirm Board approval for the revised and staged North New Brighton War Memorial Hall and Community Centre landscape proposal (**plan attached**).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The recently upgraded North New Brighton Memorial Hall and Community Centre was pronounced open in July 2005. Prior to this (April 2005) the Board approved a landscape development plan for the area between the North New Brighton Memorial Hall and Community Centre and Surf Club. The available funding to implement the landscape plan in the immediate area around the hall was originally only \$40,000. However, all the additions made to that plan as the result of community consultation and wishes expressed for artworks, statues, renovated fountains and increased building costs raised the cost of the overall plan to \$200,000. Subsequently, through the LTCCP process, there has been a refocusing of budgets on core activities, renewals of existing infrastructure and delivering on agreed levels of service. As a result, the Transport and Greenspace Unit does not have the ability to absorb the extra cost of this project in any one year from either its Reserve Development or Foreshore Development budgets. It is therefore envisaged by the Transport and Greenspace Unit that \$100,000 will be spent this financial year to tidy up the immediate area surrounding the building. Implementation of the remaining proposed landscape plan will be staged over the following two years as detailed below.

3. Proposed stages to be implemented:

Stage 1 - Immediate area surrounding the North New Brighton War Memorial Hall and Community Centre (as per the **attached Stage 1 plan**). This work entails site clearance, drainage, footpaths, landscaping, road markings, traffic signs, park furniture, low retaining walls, and water connection.

Stage 2 - From the hall to the North New Brighton Surf Club (as per the **attached Stage 2 plan**). This work entails further site clearance, footpaths, lawns, landscaping, park furniture, and low retaining walls.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

4. There is \$100,000 available in the Transport and Greenspace Unit capital budget for the 2006/07 financial year to implement the landscape upgrade of the immediate area surrounding the North New Brighton War Memorial Hall and Community Centre. An additional \$100,000 will be available from the 2007/08 Transport and Greenspace Unit capital budget to complete the second and final stage next year.
5. Urban Renewal has \$10,000 available this current financial year to install glass artworks featured in the design concept. This work will be implemented in the next two months.
6. The Leaver Fountain is a stone drinking fountain that was erected in 1940 by North Beach Progress League and Friends in recognition of faithful services to the Borough by E.A.M. Leaver JP. The fountain has been removed, cleaned up and re-plumbed at a cost of \$1,879.74 which has come from the fountains, clocks and statues Opex budget. This budget will also cover the cost of: return transport to site, reinstating stone plinth and connecting the fountain estimated at \$1,000. The Stage 1 construction will implement the pipe work to the fountain and concrete plinth. Installation of the Leaver Fountain is to be mid to late November 2006.

BACKGROUND

7. Consultation responses as summarised for original report 6 April 2005 included the following:

What people liked the most:

- Garden plan - replacement and additional plantings.
- Relocation and repair of Leaver fountain.
- Tiled artworks and repositioning of Llew Summers' sculpture.
- Proposed seating.
- General Landscape Design - particularly flow between the two buildings.

What people wanted included/alterd:

- More seating, picnic tables and rubbish bins.
- Trees for shade (suggestions for ngaio and cabbage trees).
- Removal of car park planting plots and Norfolk Island pines.
- Retention of Llew Summers' sculpture.
- Replacing the proposed aggregate surfacing with material of a smoother finish.
- Repainting and upgrading of the area surrounding the surf club rooms.
- That the concept of donator tiles be considered for the Leaver memorial.

OPTIONS

8. There are two possible options:

- (a) Do nothing or status quo. This option is not practical as Transport and Greenspace Unit sees merit in carrying out suggestions put forward by local residents. This option disregards the community feedback and leaves the building surrounds in a messy state.
- (b) Accept the revised and staged North New Brighton War Memorial Hall and Community Centre Landscape Development plan for the hall's immediate surroundings. Plus accept the proposal for Transport and Greenspace Unit to implement the remainder of the proposed landscape plan the following financial year.

PREFERRED OPTION

9. To adopt option (b) and accept the staged landscape development plan. This will tidy the immediate surrounds of the hall in the very near future. This option also allows for the desired landscape plan to be implemented in its entirety over a two year period.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Board approve:

1. Option (b) to adopt the revised and staged landscape plan with the understanding that the remainder of the proposed plan will be implemented as detailed. The entire landscape plan will be implemented and staged over two consecutive years.
2. That a public information leaflet be delivered to all respondents of the initial consultation to inform people of the stages and time frame in order to complete the project. Plus provide a landscape plan illustrating the work to be undertaken in this financial year.