

## 9. PURAU BAY FORESHORE LANDSCAPING

<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager City Environment, Jane Parfitt, DDI 941-8608
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Transport & Greenspace Manager, Michael Aitken
<b>Author:</b>	Consultation Leader – Greenspace, Ann Liggett

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is for the Community Board to approve the final landscape plan (**refer Attachment 1**) for Purau Bay Foreshore Landscaping following community consultation.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The area of Purau Bay foreshore forming the landscape concept for this report is located on the first area of grassed foreshore (road reserve) at the entrance to Purau Bay.
3. This area of land is zoned legal road, with the foreshore area's purpose being road reserve.
4. Ongoing community concerns over a number of years in relation to vehicle damage to the reserve, vandalism to picnic tables and foreshore erosion led to a landscape enhancement project being carried out by the Purau Bay Residents Association.
5. Discussions were held with previous Council staff approximately 12 months ago, and an agreement reached on design and then funding was provided by the Community Board to undertake the enhancement project.
6. Although consultation and discussions were held over a number of years at the Residents Association meetings, no consultation was carried out with the wider community, including absentee landowners.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7. The funding for the completion of the landscape enhancement project has been set aside in the Coastal Enhancement budget for 2007/08 with initial cost estimates being approximately \$1,000.

### Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2006-16 LTCCP budgets?

8. As per above.

### LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

9. All work will be carried out by a Council approved contractor.

### Have you considered the legal implications of the issue under consideration?

10. As per above.

### ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

11. LTCCP: Parks, Open Spaces and Waterways – Page 123

Environment – By offering opportunities for people to contribute to projects that improve our city's environment.

### Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2006-16 LTCCP?

12. As per above.

## ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

13. Parks Access Policy  
Older Adults  
Open Space Strategy

### Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

14. As per above

## CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

15. In June 2007, following concerns raised by members of the local community regarding landscape enhancement work which had taken place, a letter was sent to all residents of Purau Bay (including absentee landowners) with two proposed options to enable to landscape project to be completed while addressing concerns which had been raised by the wider community. The summary of consultation, including comments has previously been circulated to Board members.
16. There was a high degree of community engagement in this project (approx 63% response rate) which were largely supportive of the project while also giving their preferred option.
17. From the feedback received the following figures outline the option preferred:
  - Option A 22
  - Option B 25
  - Neither Option 2
  - Existing line of rocks to remain 2
  - Remove all rocks 3
18. The above figures indicate support for the project in general with both options being just as supported as the other with several submitters indicating support for the status quo or for the removal of the rocks altogether.
19. Development work had started when concerns were raised with the Council by members of the local community regarding the placement of the rocks which extended along the full length of this piece of road reserve. The main issues raised were:
  - Restriction of access to the beach for recreational users of small dinghies and yachts
  - Inability to manoeuvre a vehicle and trailer
  - Restriction to parking, especially at the west end of the bay and the hazard this has caused with getting back on to the road
  - Restriction of access to the beach for the elderly and disabled
  - Formalises an area of the bay which was natural
  - Spoils the look of what was an open area
20. A site meeting was held with members of the community, representatives of the Residents Association, and Council staff where it was decided to look at several options while building on what work had already taken place, but also to address some of the wider concerns raised.
21. Following consultation, staff have proposed a final option which is now being presented to the Community Board for approval. The layout of the rocks is more in keeping with the general flow of what has already been developed, and encompassing three of the four picnic tables. A number of submissions requested that one picnic table be available to drive a vehicle to.
22. To address concerns raised both prior to and during consultation in relation to foreshore erosion, Council Coastal Area Head Ranger advises as follows:

“The main area of concern would be in relation to vehicles accessing the foreshore to launch boats. In doing this they cross relatively low and narrow but still fragile “dune” area between the grassed “reserve” and the firm sand of the seabed. The concern is that tracking and erosion has occurred that creates a low ‘cut’ in the dune crest and allows flooding at high tide times.

To mitigate this impact two options exist. Firstly a compacted clay pad of about 15-20cm depth could be laid through the dune crest area or secondly a wooden vehicular sand ladder could be installed. A sand ladder is like a flexible timber board walk but linked with chains or cable to allow it to flow over the land form but rigid enough to prevent vehicles cutting into the dune profile and allowing subsequent erosion. These two options also clearly identify where vehicular access is encouraged and reduces the likelihood of 'ad-hoc' vehicle crossings."

23. This issue will be monitored and appropriate action taken as required in the near future.
24. Support has been obtained from Environment Canterbury for this proposal (written confirmation will be tabled at the Board meeting).
25. Acknowledgement must be made of the work and good intention behind the work that has been undertaken to date by the Purau Residents Association. While there are members of the community who would like to see the area remain untouched, a lot of discussion and thought has gone into how to address ongoing issues with this area of land and to come up with a solution that is complimentary to the surrounding environment. Through this consultation process the wider community are now aware of the reasons behind the work which has taken place and as advised earlier in this report, there is support for the project to be completed.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Lyttelton/Mt Herbert Community Board approve the final landscape plan for Purau Bay Foreshore Landscape Enhancement.