

7. RICCARTON/WIGRAM COMMUNITY BOARD INITIATIVES REPORT

General Manager responsible:	General Manager City Environment, DDI 941-8656
Officer responsible:	Transport & Greenspace Manager
Author:	Rod Whearty, Parks and Waterways Area Advocate

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to allow for the Board to consider allocating funding from its 2006/07 Environment Committee Fund for the implementation of three Community Board initiatives outlined in the report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. At its meeting of 25 September 2006 the Environment Committee decided to request advice from staff on the feasibility of implementing the following three Greenspace related Board initiatives.
 - (a) \$5,000 - Daffodil Plantings
 - (b) \$2,000 – Arbor Day Plantings in Schools (Riccarton Wigram area)
 - (c) \$5,000 – BBQ Tables/Park Benches.
3. The City Environment Group is confident that all of the above projects could be implemented within the current financial year if the Board resolves to allocate the indicative funding at this time.
4. The Daffodil planting can be undertaken as part of our routine autumn/winter planting season which normally commences in May. The Transport and Greenspace, Parks Contract Manager could identify suitable high profile sites in the Board's area and arrange for the planting to take place.
5. The Arbor Day Plantings in local schools can be incorporated into an existing programme that the Transport and Greenspace, Regional Parks Team is already operating. Letters are sent out to all schools across the City inviting them to participate in Arbor Day plantings. Participating schools are then sent vouchers for plants from "Trees for Canterbury".
6. The additional funds could simply be divided between the number of participating schools in the Board's area. Some Boards have already been doing this for a number of years and the existing Arbor Day programme has been used successfully to deliver the additional resources in those areas.
7. The City Environment Group's Greenspace Capital Works Programme has an annual BBQ table/seating installation programme. Unfortunately this year's programme has already been completed, however, staff can arrange an installation contract for these tables if the funding is allocated and Board members identify the preferred locations.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

8. There is currently \$33,475 available in the Riccarton Wigram Environment Committee Funds for the current 2006/07 financial year. The City Environment Group supports these Board initiatives and is able to undertake and complete the installation of these projects within the current financial year.
9. There are no other known financial or legal considerations that would prevent these initiatives being implemented, provided the funding is allocated at this time.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

- (a) That the Board agrees to allocate \$12,000 from its 2006/07 Environment Committee Fund to implement the following three Community Board initiative projects:
 - (i) \$5,000 – Daffodil Plantings
 - (ii) \$2,000 – Arbor Day Plantings in Schools
 - (iii) \$5,000 – BBQ Tables/Park Benches.
- (b) That the City Environment Group implements these projects in the 2006/07 financial year as outlined in the report.