



Christchurch City Council

RICCARTON/WIGRAM COMMUNITY BOARD

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

**MONDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2007
AT 4.30PM**

**AT SOCKBURN SERVICE CENTRE, BOARDROOM
149 MAIN SOUTH ROAD**

To: Environment Committee

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1. APOLOGIES

2. CORRESPONDENCE

3. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

3.1 MONTCLARE RESERVE PLAYGROUND RENEWAL

Mr Derek Erasmus would like to address the Committee regarding the playground proposal for Montclare Reserve.

4. MONTCLARE RESERVE PLAYGROUND RENEWAL

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

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval to proceed to final design and construction of the Montclare Reserve playground upgrade proposal.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Montclare Reserve is a small local purpose reserve that is designed to meet the needs of the immediate neighbourhood. The existing playground does not comply with playground safety standards and needs to be replaced with new play equipment.
3. In December 2006 a publicity pamphlet was distributed to the local community and stakeholders (refer **Attachment 1**). There was a high degree of community engagement in this project (a 35% response rate), which was largely supportive of the proposal. The summary of consultation issues and project team responses is outlined in **Attachment 2**.
4. The main requests made by submitters were for:
 - (a) Amendments to the choice of play equipment, in particular for retention of the fort and for more challenging equipment.
 - (b) Requests for more seating and another rubbish bin.
5. The initial concept has been amended in response to community feedback and the preferred option is included as **Attachment 3**. This option best satisfies the objectives of the project, has good community support and is consistent with the funding allocated in the Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP). The implementation of this project is scheduled for July 2007.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

7. The funding for the proposed upgrade to Montclare Reserve has been set aside in the LTCCP under "Parks, Open Spaces and Waterways – Local Projects – Playgrounds and Recreational Facilities" (refer page 84 LTCCP).
8. The funds are programmed in the Capital Programme Unit's budget, for construction over the 2006/07 financial year.
9. Specifically:

2006/07	\$4,000	Montclare Reserve (Playground Renewal)
2007/08	\$40,000	Montclare Reserve (Playground Renewal)

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BACKGROUND ON THE MONTCLARE RESERVE PLAYGROUND UPGRADE PROPOSAL

10. Montclare Reserve is a small local park, which is designed to meet the needs of the immediate neighbourhood. The existing playground does not comply with current playground safety standards and needs to be removed. It is not feasible to bring it up to standard. It is proposed to replace and enhance the playground equipment and retain the current location.
11. Preliminary research helped to inform the project objectives, which were to:
 - Remove the existing equipment
 - Provide some new and interesting equipment that meets the local communities needs within the available funds
 - Build playground consistent with NZ Playground Standards
 - Improve accessibility for people with disabilities
 - Provide equipment for young children and, where possible, older children
 - Ensure that the playground is visually appealing.
12. The Project Team developed a concept to meet these objectives, which included the following:
 - Junior slide
 - Double swing set
 - Spica or Double Rocker (community to select preference)
 - Bear Rocker or Junior Skater (community to select preference)
 - Low landscaping and small trees around playground
 - Park bench near playground.
13. In December 2006 a publicity pamphlet was distributed to approximately 130 residences and key stakeholders. This pamphlet included a summary of the concept and an initial concept plan (refer **Attachment 1**), and a feedback form. The project team sought feedback from the community about whether the concept was supported, about a choice of play options, and also sought general comment about the proposal.
14. The consultation received a 35% response rate (45 responses). Community feedback was generally positive. The consultation outcome and project team responses are summarised in **Attachment 2**. Opposition to the proposal was indicated by three submitters, who did not support the removal of the fort, did not consider that the proposal provided challenging equipment for older children, and did not consider the proposal allows enough room for cricket.
15. In terms of the choice of play equipment there was a clear preference for the Double Rocker and Junior Skater.
16. The main requests made by submitters were for:
 - (a) Amendments to the choice of play equipment, in particular for retention of the fort and for more challenging equipment.
 - (b) Request for more seating and another rubbish bin.
17. The project team considered the feedback from consultation and revised the concept plan to include the following:
 - A larger play unit that includes a dual slide (1.5m high), an Abseil Climber and a Tic Tac Toe
 - An additional swing seat for older children
 - A picnic table will be installed adjacent to the playground (instead of the proposed park bench)
 - A reduction of 'small trees' in all plant beds (especially along the boundary).

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18. While the consultation indicated that the community would prefer some more challenging play item, one of the objectives of this project was to 'provide equipment for young children and, where possible, older children'. This objective was formed on the basis that the city's small 'pocket parks' are intended to cater for young children that live locally. As children get older and more confident they can travel to more challenging playgrounds.
19. There are a number of playgrounds in this area that cater for older children and have many of the requested facilities. Annandale Park, Avonhead School, Ferrier Park, Ray Blank Park and Upper Riccarton Domain are all within 1km of Montclare Reserve. Rather than duplicate the play equipment in reserves across the city it is considered prudent to focus on younger users in the small local reserves. Notwithstanding this, the project team has amended the concept to include as much challenging play equipment as possible without impinging on the needs of young children.
20. The recommended concept plan is included as **Attachment 3**. The implementation of this project is scheduled for July 2007.

OPTIONS

21. As part of the consultation, the community was provided with options for play equipment (see **Attachment 1**). The project team selected the play items with the greatest number of 'votes' as it was considered that this best reflected community views. These were the Double Rocker and Junior Skater.

PREFERRED OPTION

22. The recommended option best satisfies the objectives of the project and is consistent with feedback received through community consultation, which supports the development of this reserve. The upgraded playground and surrounds will help to foster community cohesion.
23. This option is consistent with the:
 - LTCCP 2006-2016
 - Parks and Open Spaces Activity Management Plan
 - Parks and Waterways Access Policy.
24. This option has primary alignment with the following Community Outcomes:
 - *"We value leisure time and recognise that the arts, sports, and other recreational activities contribute to our economy, identity, health and well being.";* and
 - *"Christchurch has a vibrant centre, attractive neighbourhoods and well-designed transport networks. Our lifestyles and heritage are enhanced by our urban environment."*

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Board approves the landscape plan (LP204901) in **Attachment 3** in order to proceed to detailed design and implementation of the concept for the upgrade of the Montclare Reserve playground.

5. SHOWGATE RESERVE – MINOR WORKS

General Manager responsible:	General Manager City Environment, DDI: 941-8656
Officer responsible:	Transport & Greenspace Unit Manager
Author:	Kirsty Ferguson, Consultation Leader Capital Programme

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to allow the Board to consider an application from the Riccarton Park Residents' Association for funding to carry out landscaping and the installation of vehicle barriers at Showgate Reserve.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. An application has been received from the Riccarton Park Residents' Association for funding of \$5,000 to carry out some minor landscaping and installation of vehicle barriers at Showgate Reserve. This small reserve is approximately 580 square metres in area and located between 8 and 10 Showgate Avenue. The rear boundary of the reserve adjoins the Transpower pylon corridor and Riccarton Park Racecourse.
3. There is currently an issue with vehicles parking in the reserve. This frequently occurs when there are major events at Riccarton Park, such as the Sunday Market. The reserve contains one Transpower transmission pylon and is devoid of any planting, which does not readily indicate its reserve status.
4. The proposal is to carry out some minor landscape planting around the reserve perimeters to soften the fence lines and enhance the reserve. This will include the installation of a post and cable fence along the rear boundary of the reserve to restrict unauthorised vehicle access. A pedestrian access will be provided to maintain existing walking links between the reserve and Riccarton Park Racecourse.
5. Given the small scale and minor nature of the proposed work, the City Environment Group does not propose to carry out wider community consultation in relation to the proposed works. However, staff will contact the two immediate neighbours of the reserve regarding planting along their boundaries. The range of appropriate plant species is somewhat restricted due to the presence of the overhead high voltage transmission lines.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

6. 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 the resident group's initiative and is able to undertake and complete the installation of this project within the current financial year.
7. 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 \$5,000 from its 2006/07 Environment Committee Fund for minor landscaping and vehicle barrier installation at Showgate Reserve.
- (b) That the City Environment Group implements these projects in the 2006/07 financial year as outlined in the report.

6. WIGRAM COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Community Services, DDI: 941-8534
Officer responsible:	Community Support Unit Manager
Author:	Clare Quirke, Community Engagement Adviser

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to enable the Board to consider a request for funding from the Wigram Park Community Association for the construction and installation of a community notice board.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Council has received a letter from the Wigram Park Community Association, dated 29 January 2007, requesting that a notice board be installed in their area. The notice board would be used to display items of interest to the community. The committee of the association discussed and endorsed the benefits of, and desire for, such a community asset. The Committee felt that a notice board would be a positive way to foster 'neighbourliness' within the community and to help to keep the community informed of local issues and events.
3. The Committee has suggested that the notice board could be placed unobtrusively outside the Harvard Community Lounge. It would be a freestanding notice board, with two lockable sides which would allow the Wigram Park Community Association to use one side, and Wigram Residents' Association to be offered the use of other side.
4. The Community Support Unit have agreed to take responsibility for any ongoing maintenance of the notice board should the Board decide to allocate funding as the Unit currently maintains the Harvard Community Lounge.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

5. City Care has advised that the construction of the notice board will cost \$1,770 plus GST. The notice board could be funded from the Board's available 2006/07 Environment Committee Fund.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board:

- (a) Considers the application for funding for the notice board at the Harvard Community Lounge.
- (b) Funds the cost of the notice board from its available 2006/07 Environment Committee Fund.

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.

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- (a) \$5,000 - Daffodil Plantings
 - (b) \$2,000 – Arbor Day Plantings in Schools (Riccanton 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 Riccanton 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.

8. ALLOCATION OF 2006/07 ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE FUNDS – COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUES

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Regulation & Democracy Services, DDI: 941-8549
Officer responsible:	Secretariat Manager
Author:	Emma Davison, Community Board Secretary

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Board with information regarding the cost of purchasing and installing commemorative plaques in acknowledgement of the Board's contribution to community projects.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. At its meeting of 10 October 2006 the Board resolved "to request advice from staff on the feasibility of funding \$1,000 for commemorative plaques from its available 2006/07 Environment Committee Funds." These plaques could be placed on or near "visible" projects funded by the Board, for example play equipment, park benches, trees planted.
3. A quotation received for a standard stone commemorative plaque or tablet, 150x100 cm in size, which is cast in bronze, is \$275 + GST. This quotation has been received from Decra Art Ltd, Monumental Masons, who are based in Sydenham, and are regularly used as a provider by the Council. Other sizes and costs are as follows:

200 x 150 cm	\$375+ GST
200 x 200 cm	\$395+ GST
300 x 200 cm	\$450+ GST
4. This price includes inscription but any logos etc would be additional along with the installation cost of approximately \$175-\$225 + GST per plaque.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

5. Financial considerations are addressed in paragraphs 3 and 4 above.
6. Allocation of funding for plaques would not be inconsistent with Council policy or practice.
7. All work would be carried out by a Council approved contractor.

OPTIONS

8. There are two possible options:
 - (a) The Board could allocate a specified amount from its 2006/07 Environment Committee Fund for the cost of purchasing commemorative plaques and associated installation costs. Due to the expense of each plaque, the Board may wish to allocate an amount larger than the \$1,000 previously indicated for this purpose.
 - (b) The Board could fund the cost of purchasing a commemorative plaque and associated installation costs on a case by case basis, for appropriate projects as and when they arise. The advantage of this option is that the wording of each plaque could be tailored specifically to what has been funded. For example, if a number of trees in a park have been funded, one plaque could say "Trees donated by the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board".

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

For discussion.

9. ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE FUNDS UPDATE

Attached is a schedule with up-to-date information on the 2006/07 Environment Committee Fund (this excludes all financial recommendations contained within the agenda).

10. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Members will have an opportunity to provide updates/raise current issues relevant to the Committee.