

## 5. CROSBIE PARK MAJOR TREE REPLACEMENT PLANTING PLAN

<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager City Environment Group DDI 941-8656
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Transport and Greenspace Manager
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### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval of the Major Tree Replacement Planting Plan for Crosbie Park, following consultation with the local community.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Board members will recall that the concept plan for the Major Tree Replacement Planting Programme on Crosbie Park was presented to the Works Traffic and Environment Committee on Monday 23 April 2006, prior to carrying out consultation with the local community.
3. The plan was circulated to approximately 350 residential properties within the general catchment area of Crosbie Park. There was a good response from the local community with a total of 37 individual residents returning the comment form providing feedback on the proposed plan (See **attached** comments). This equates to a 10.5% response rate. Overall the response from the local community was very positive and supportive with 35 respondents (or 94.5 %) expressing support for the proposed plan.
4. A number of respondents commented positively on how the tree removal programme had improved and enhanced the park. There were also a number of appreciative comments relating to the reintroduction of water through the park as a result of the Ilam Stream revitalisation.
5. The proposed plan utilised a broad range of native and exotic plant species, and this aspect was well received and supported by many of the respondents. There was a small number of site specific comments related to planting, which generally fell into one of two areas. The first was from residents whose property bounded the park, and their concerns generally related to potential problems with shade as the trees developed and matured. The second group was from residents who expressed caution about the level of planting around or near the children's playground and toilet.
7. The consultation also identified two other minor matters unrelated to the replanting programme. The first was related to a littering issue and the other was a request for some additional soil around the informal BMX area so that the local children could construct some more jumps. Both of these matters are being attended to as operational items.
8. Maintenance staff have already arranged the delivery of additional soil on site. Our observations confirm that the local children have begun to move and shape the soil to suit their needs. We will continue to monitor the litter issue at this stage to determine if any further action is required in the future.
9. In recognition of the residents' feedback, the Capital Programme Group proposes to make three minor changes to the original plan (see **attached** plan). The proposed changes will address the issues highlighted by the residents in their feedback. Staff have been very conscious of shade related issues and the need to maintain good sightlines and visibility when considering species selection for specific areas within the plan. The changes are listed below.

### Proposed Changes

- (a) Reduce the number of Acer Davidii (Maple) by four and replace them with Prunus Yedoensis (Flowering Cherry) to compliment the existing cherry trees along the Woodbury Street frontage.
  - (b) Replace the Californian Redwood near the basketball court with Pinus pinea being a smaller species in recognition of potential shade issues.
  - (c) Replace the Persian Ironwoods on the eastern boundary with four Kowhais to further mitigate any potential shade issues in this location of the park.
10. The amended plan has undergone an internal peer review based around general CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles and practices, which also included an on-site visit and visual assessment. Staff are confident the proposed plan does not create any issues around park user safety or potential for an unacceptable level of property shading.

11. However, the CPTED audit did identify one or two minor issues with existing vegetation in an area near the tennis courts and the foot bridge crossing Ilam Stream. While they are not significant at this stage, the potential risk factor could increase over time if left unattended. The two matters will be resolved through some minor maintenance pruning and canopy lifting. The work will be attended to in the near future as a routine operational maintenance matter.
12. There are still a few remaining poplar trees to be removed as part of the overall tree removal/replanting programme. These were the lower priority trees in the removal programme and when completed over the next two or three years will see the completion of the tree removal aspect of this project. The removal work will be undertaken within the existing operational budget and the current replanting plan addresses these removals in advance.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

13. The Council funding is being provided from the Transport and Greenspace Capital Programme. Specifically:

2007/08 \$30,000	Crosbie Park – Major Park Tree Replacements
2008/09 \$10,000	Crosbie Park – Major Park Tree Replacements

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

14. Yes. Funding is provided from within the Transport and Greenspace Capital Programme in the 2006-16 LTCCP.

#### **LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

15. There are no legal considerations that would have a direct impact on this proposal.

#### **ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS**

16. **LTCCP 2006-2016  
Parks, Open Spaces and Waterways – Page 123**

Recreation – By offering a range of active and passive recreation and leisure opportunities  
 Health – By providing areas for people to engage in healthy activities

#### **Recreation and Leisure – Page 131**

Recreation – By encouraging more people to participate in leisure, physical and sporting activities

#### **Parks and Open Spaces Activity Management Plan**

#### **ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES**

17. Social Wellbeing and Youth Strategy and Safer Parks Policy

#### **CONSULTATION FULFILMENT**

18. Extensive consultation has been undertaken with the local community via a letterbox drop and comment form resulting in feedback from interested stakeholders (see **attachment**).
19. All respondents have been sent a final reply letter thanking them for their input, including an A3 colour copy of the finalised plan. The letter informed respondents when the plan would be presented to the Fendalton Waimairi Community Board for approval. (see **attachment 4**) Details of the meeting (time, date, venue etc) were also provided so that any interested people could attend or address the Board prior to the decision being made.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Fendalton/Waimairi Works Traffic and Environment Committee approve:

- (a) The Crosbie Park Major Tree Replacement Planting Plan;
- (b) That implementation of the approved Plan be commenced by the Capital Programme Group.