

## 10. PORRITT PARK CAR PARKING PROJECT

<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager Community Services, DDI 941-8554
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Sports Services Manager
<b>Author:</b>	Simon Battrick, Sports Liaison Adviser

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Board on the Porritt Park Car Parking Project and to seek final sign off for the project.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Porritt Park Car Parking Project provides more car parks for both hockey and river users while also providing significant landscape enhancements to the overall area between Kerrs Reach and Hockey Lane and the river adjacent to Avonside Drive.
3. This report provides information on the Porritt Park Car Parking Project after further consultation with the local community and user groups to provide the best option to maximise the amount of car parking within this area and to ensure the enhancement of the green space in the area.
4. The report also outlines the proposed removal of one mature tree within the area proposed on the Neighbourhood Improvements Plan (see **Attachment 1**) plus the removal or relocation of another seven smaller trees to allow uninterrupted flow of vehicle movement within the car park and to ensure that the maximum number of car parks are able to be situated which will in turn reduce parking on Avonside Drive.
5. The proposal also allows easier access for Christ's College Rowing to move their boats in and out of their building and into the car park area adjacent to the Arawa Canoe Club.
6. Sign off for the plan and the tree removal is sought from the Board.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7. This project has been estimated at \$230,000 for completion. There is currently \$230,000 in the 2006/07 budget for completion of this project. The documentation for tender has been prepared and is waiting approval from the Board before submitting to tender for construction.

### Do the recommendations of this report align with 2006-16 LTCCP budgets?

8. Yes, budget allocation has been completed and approved.

### LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

9. Resource consent has been granted for the stormwater discharge from the car park into the Avon River by ECAN Consent: CRC071697 To Discharge Contaminants to Water.

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

10. Yes. Resource consent for stormwater discharge is required and has been approved.

### ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

11. The recommendations contained within this report align with the LTCCP and Activity Management Plans.

### ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

12. The recommendations contained within this report align with existing Council strategies.

### CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

13. Consultation has been completed with the Avon River users and Canterbury Hockey regarding the project and associated impacts.

## **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Board:

- (a) Approve the Neighbourhood Improvements Plan of the Porritt Park Car Park Project for construction.
- (b) Approve the removal and/or relocation of the trees noted and approve the additional plantings indicated on the Neighbourhood Improvements Plan to enable the project to be submitted for tender and construction to begin in May 2007.

## **BACKGROUND**

14. In recent years there has been a significant increase in the number of users of the Kerrs Reach water sports area and following the completion of the second artificial turf at Porritt Park has resulted in increased complaints from public and users of these areas in relation to car parking. There have been additional car parks added to the Kerrs Reach area over the past few years and Canterbury Hockey replaced car parks which they lost when adding the second turf. The total number of car parks no longer meets the requirements for the number of people regularly using both facilities. Canterbury Hockey also used on regular occasions the grassed area in between the Porritt Park and Kerrs Reach entrance for overflow car parking which resulted in this area suffering damage to the grass surface in winter months.
15. In March 2005, there were four concept plans for car parking presented to a Council Seminar all of which encroached on the park area currently used for overflow parking. These concepts were rejected in favour of utilising the grassed area within the hockey leased area to provide the extra parks - shifting the focus of parking away from the current entrance and using the Kerrs Reach entrance. This provides dual benefit for hockey as well as rowing, having the least impact on the grassed areas and enabling the removal of the sealed access road between the two entranceways.
16. In a report to the Board on 21 June 2006 a new landscape plan was presented and approved pending consultation with user groups. This has since been completed with complete support from the user groups of the area ie Christ's College Rowing and Arawa Canoe Club. Further refinements to the plan have necessitated the removal of one mature tree and the relocation/removal of another seven smaller and less significant trees to maximise the number of car parks (maximum 114) and to enhance the surrounding environs (see **Attachment 2**). It is intended to also provide additional plantings in the area to assist the revitalisation of this environ.
17. It is anticipated that construction would take place over a similar time period as the Avon River Safety Project. Discussions will be held with contractors to minimise disruption to all park and river users at the time of construction.

## **THE OBJECTIVES**

18. To increase the number of car parks for Avon River users, community groups and individuals and Canterbury Hockey Association and clubs.
19. To enhance the landscape surrounding Porritt Park/Avon River through additional plantings.
20. Reduces car parking congestion for residents along Avonside Drive.

## **THE OPTIONS**

21. See **attachment 1**: Porritt Park Car Park: Neighbourhood Improvements Plan.

## **THE PREFERRED OPTION**

22. Porritt Park Car Park: Neighbourhood Improvements Plan.

## ASSESSMENT OF OPTIONS

### The Preferred Option

23. That the Board approve the Porritt Park Car Parking Project.

	<b>Benefits (current and future)</b>	<b>Costs (current and future)</b>
<b>Social</b>	Increased usage of the park and associated river bank by user groups and by the community.	
<b>Cultural</b>	N/A	
<b>Environmental</b>	Improvement of landscape and removal of a tree affecting the health and development of more desirable plants and negatively interfering with the original design of the park.	
<b>Economic</b>	Decreases costs long term with landscaping of Porritt Park.	Project Budget \$230,000.
<b>Extent to which community outcomes are achieved:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provides improved level of service for community groups using Council facilities.</li><li>• Reduces car parking congestion for residents along Avonside Drive.</li><li>• Fulfilment of LTCCP community outcomes:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- A city of people who value and protect the natural environment.</li><li>- A city for recreation, fun and creativity.</li><li>- An attractive and well-designed city.</li></ul></li></ul> <b>Impact on the Council's capacity and responsibilities:</b> <p>Nil. Continuation of service and delivery of capital programme.</p> <b>Effects on Maori:</b> <p>Nil.</p> <b>Consistency with existing Council policies:</b> <p>Supports the 2006/16 LTCCP and 2006/07 Annual Plan.</p> <b>Views and preferences of persons affected or likely to have an interest:</b> <p>Canterbury Hockey Association and Avon River user groups support the project.</p> <b>Other relevant matters:</b> <p>Nil.</p>		

## Maintain the Status Quo

24. That the Board not approve the Porritt Park Car Parking Project.

	<b>Benefits (current and future)</b>	<b>Costs (current and future)</b>
<b>Social</b>	Status quo for users of the Avon River area and Canterbury Hockey.	Lower level of service provided.
<b>Cultural</b>	Nil.	Nil.
<b>Environmental</b>	No increased benefit.	May cost more to complete if undertaken in future.
<b>Economic</b>	Saving of \$225,00 capital expenditure.	May cost more to complete if undertaken in future.
<b>Extent to which community outcomes are achieved:</b>  Non-fulfilment of LTCCP outcomes.  <b>Impact on the Council's capacity and responsibilities:</b>  Nil.  <b>Effects on Maori:</b>  Nil.  <b>Consistency with existing Council policies:</b>  Supports the 2006/16 LTCCP and 2006/07 Annual Plan.  <b>Views and preferences of persons affected or likely to have an interest:</b>  Avonside Drive residents, Canterbury Hockey and Avon River users would be extremely disappointed at lack of car parking made available.  <b>Other relevant matters:</b>  Nil.		