

15. BURWOOD/PEGASUS COMMUNITY BOARD 2010/11 DISCRETIONARY RESPONSE FUND - APPLICATION – PEGASUS BAY CHARITABLE TRUST RE THREE-PHASE POWER AT NEW BRIGHTON BEACH PARK/PLAYGROUND

General Manager responsible:	General Manager City Environment Group, DDI 941-8608
Officer responsible:	Transport and Greenspace Manager
Author:	Kim Swarbrick, Consultation Leader (Greenspace)

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek consideration of a funding request from the Pegasus Bay Charitable Trust. Funding is sought from the Burwood/Pegasus Community Boards 2010/11 Discretionary Response Fund to install three-phase power at the New Brighton Playground Beach Park for the Trust's proposed inaugural New Zealand Sandcastle Competition.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The following table shows the organisation seeking the funding, the project name, amount requested and staff amount recommended.

Name of Group	Name of Project	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Pegasus Bay Charitable Trust	Funding application to install 3-phase power at New Brighton in order to hold the sandcastle event	\$5,000	\$0

3. Staff have spent considerable time investigating this funding application and liaison with respective Council Units regarding the asset ownership if this application was to proceed. The staff concerns are around whether or not the Discretionary Response Fund is the best method of funding this capital item.
4. The Christchurch City Council – Guide to Community Funding (available on the Council Website) under the Local Discretionary Response Fund heading states;

“Local applications will be assessed by staff and presented to the relevant Community Board for allocation. Community Board’s can grant funds to any group or person for any purpose, except:

- Legal challenges against Council, Community Boards or Environment Court decisions.*
- Projects or initiatives that change the scope of a Council project.*
- Projects or initiatives that will lead to ongoing operational costs to the Council.”*

Installation of a three-phase power facility would entail ongoing operational costs for the Council and is therefore not a good fit with the funding criteria. However, it should be noted that the project team for the proposed New Brighton Playground Upgrade Project (see paragraph 5) have already identified the need for three-phase power. If installed, the operational costs would therefore have to be met by the Council at that time. The issue of ongoing operational costs, as opposition towards this funding application, is therefore somewhat diminished. This is further lessened by the fact that any power usage by an event organiser could be charged back to the event organiser, where practical.

5. The New Brighton playground and toilet block are programmed to be upgraded in the 2011/12 financial year and there is currently \$1.2 million in the LTCCP for this purpose. Public information leaflets seeking feedback are being prepared for public consultation beginning in February 2011. The playground renewal is scheduled for construction between Easter and Labour Weekend 2012. As mentioned above, the project team are aware that three-phase power is desirable and are already considering options to have this included. Currently, any groups utilising the playground/grass area for events can use the existing single phase power source or if they require three-phase power they have been hiring a generator to provide their power needs.

6. If the playground upgrade project does not contain sufficient funding to cover the provision of three-phase power, and the application for funding from the Discretionary Response Fund is unsuccessful, then application for funding three-phase power would be made to the Council's next Long Term Plan in 2012.
7. The only place three-phase power that can be supplied to the playground beach park is from the transformer across the road fronting Countdown. Should the proposal proceed, this new connection will provide the main point of supply for three-phase power which can be redirected elsewhere on the reserve in the future.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8. At the time of writing this report, the Community Board has \$14,697 remaining available for allocation in its 2010/11 Discretionary Response Fund.
9. Power Jointing Ltd (HV & LV Electrical Reticulation) have provided the Pegasus Bay Charitable Trust with a cost quote estimate of \$14,484.29 to complete installation of three-phase power based on open trenching. Should a high water table present problems then a variation for de-watering of trench work may be required which would increase costs. Whilst seeking \$5,000 from the Council, the Trust has not indicated how they would be covering the remaining cost.
10. Should the Community Board wish to support this application then it is suggested that the Trust confirm the balance of the required funding by 30 January 2011 and that if this cannot be achieved, then the Community Board consider reserving the right to withdraw its funding.

Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2009-19 LTCCP budgets?

11. The recommendation of this report is that the application be declined as it is not eligible for Discretionary Response Fund (page 184 of the LTCCP) support due to it not meeting the scheme criteria.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

12. There are no legal issues to be considered.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2009-19 LTCCP?

13. No, the Sandcastle Competition is a private event.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

14. If the project were to proceed, it would align with the following Council strategies; Strengthening Communities Strategy and Events Strategy.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

15. Not applicable.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board:

- (a) Decline the application from the Pegasus Bay Charitable Trust towards funding the installation of three-phase power at the New Brighton Playground area from the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board's 2010/11 Discretionary Response Fund as the project would, in the short term, lead to ongoing operational costs for the Council.
- (b) That the provision of three-phase power be investigated as part of the New Brighton Playground Upgrade Project in the first instance and that if insufficient funding is available, then alternate funding be sought in the Council's Long Term Plan in 2012.

BACKGROUND

16. The Pegasus Bay Charitable Trust was formed in 2010 with the key focus of establishing New Zealand's first International Sandcastle Competition at New Brighton. The Trust believes that this event will have a wide appeal across all socio-economic groups and communities within Christchurch. The New Zealand International Sandcastle Competition will involve over 12 activities including activities specifically for children, families, general public and Christchurch businesses. The Trust believes it has a social responsibility to make the competition affordable where families of all cultures and backgrounds will have access to participate. Dates of the competition will be the weekend of 5 and 6 March 2011 and will be held in conjunction with the New Zealand Surf Life Saving National Championships to be held at New Brighton Beach. The Trust sought a contribution of \$10,250 from the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board's Discretionary Response Fund in June 2010 towards the costs of establishing the Trust and event costs including co-ordination hours. The application was not supported by the Community Board at that time and funding was declined.
17. The Pegasus Bay Charitable Trust have been liaising closely with New Zealand Surf Life Saving as the Surf Life Saving Nationals will be held immediately after the Sandcastle event. The Dome will be located in the Village Green area from 4 to 13 March 2011 inclusive for the two events. New Zealand Surf Life Saving would also use three-phase power, if available, for their event. The Trust feel that three-phase power would be a valuable asset for the area and would assist future event organisers who use this area throughout the summer period.