

3. APPLICATION TO THE BOARD'S DISCRETIONARY RESPONSE FUND 2009/10 – KENDAL PRIMARY SCHOOL- CYCLE TRACK

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Community Services, DDI 941-8607
Officer responsible:	Unit Manager, Recreation and Sports
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to submit a request for funding from the Kendal Primary School to the Board's 2009/10 Discretionary Response Fund.
2. There is currently \$24,764 remaining in the Discretionary Response Fund.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3. Kendal Primary School are proposing to build a 550 metre cycle track around the perimeter of the school's playing fields, including a 50 metre section of the adjacent Council reserve. The total cost of this project is \$18,000. The school is requesting a contribution towards this cost.
4. The purpose of the cycle track will be to provide a safe, traffic-free environment for students to develop bike skills and confidence and to instil in students the habit of using a healthy and environmental friendly form of transport. In addition to building the cycle track, the school intends to continue fundraising in order to purchase a set of bikes so that all students will have the opportunity to use the track and develop bike skills.
5. The proposed cycle track would be available for community use and will also provide a commuter pathway across the school grounds for the large number of intermediate and secondary school students who currently ride through the school grounds.
6. Kendal Primary School, in conjunction with the Council's Road Safety Team, are in the process of developing a School Travel Plan. Travel plans are a way to promote and encourage sustainable travel choices among pupils, parents and staff for their journeys to and from school.

The purpose of the Kendal School Travel Plan is to:

- Improve the safety of children's travel to and from school
 - Encourage and support Kendal School families to reduce the use of cars
 - Lessen congestion at the school gate
 - Improve the health and learning ability of children (by encouraging them to be more physically active)
 - Reduce energy use and pollution of the environment.
7. A recent survey of school families confirmed that while the majority of students were driven to and from school, there was a clear desire by both parents and children to be able to use more active forms of transport. The main reason children are not using active transport is parental concerns about safety. Learning to ride a bike well before venturing on the road will be one strategy to address safety issues. Students would also participate in the Cycle Safe programme offered by the Road Safety Team.
 8. The proposed cycle track would be professionally designed and constructed using a hard wearing, all weather surface similar to that used at the McLeans Island mountain bike track. The track will be wide enough to allow safe passing and include challenges such as bridges, see-saws, slalom and pump hills.
 9. This report is being submitted to the Discretionary Response Fund as it does not meet the criteria for the Strengthening Communities Fund and the planned work falls outside the dates of this fund.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. The school is actively seeking sponsorship from service clubs and local businesses and will commence work on the project once the required amount of funding has been secured. The target date for this is August 2010. However, should they not manage to reach the funding target the school will consider reducing the length of the track, thereby reducing the project costs.
11. The school intends to engage a firm of civil engineers to design and supervise construction of the track and have indicated a willingness to take responsibility for all future maintenance including the 50 metre section on the adjacent Kendal Reserve.
12. Staff recommend that any funds granted towards this project be subject to Transport and Greenspace Unit approval of the site and construction plans and also subject to Kendal School raising the balance of funds required to complete the project.

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

13. Community Board's Strengthening Communities Fund and Discretionary Response Fund.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

14. There are no legal implications in regard to this project.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

15. Aligns with page 170 LTCCP.

Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2006-16 LTCCP?

16. As above.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

17. Project aligns with the Strengthening Communities Strategy, Christchurch Road Safety Strategy, Physical Recreation and Sports Strategy and Community Board objectives.

Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

18. As above.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

19. No external consultation has been undertaken as yet on this project. Discussions are to take place with the Transport and Greenspace Unit to identify any notification or consultation requirements regarding the section of the track on the Kendal Reserve.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Community Services Committee recommend that the Board allocate \$10,000 from its 2009/10 Discretionary Response Fund to the Kendal Primary School towards the cost of building a cycle track subject to (a) Council's Transport and Greenspace Unit approval of the site and construction plans; and (b) Kendal School raising the balance of funds required to complete the project.