

10. PLAYGROUND DEVELOPMENT - DE LANGE RESERVE

General Manager responsible:	General Manager, City Environment, DDI 941 8608
Officer responsible:	Unit Manager Transport and Greenspace
Author:	Tara Smith, Consultation Leader, Transport and Greenspace

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Committee's recommendation to the Board to the proposed plan for the De Lange Reserve Playground as shown in **Attachment 1LP328902 Issue 1**.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. De Lange Reserve is a small local park located in Hornby. The park is bounded by De Lange Street, Dufek Crescent and Jasmine Place. Access into this park can be made by using the existing pathways from either of these streets.
3. There is currently no play equipment within this park and requests for play equipment in this park have been made via the Long Term Christchurch City Plan (LTCCP) process. In response to this, funding has been set aside for this project in the 2010/11 financial year.
4. The project objectives for this playground development were to:
 - (a) Provide and design interesting play equipment that promotes physical activity, and challenges the physical and mental abilities of children from the age of five to ten.
 - (b) To consider the needs of the local community and the constraints of the available funds.
 - (c) Provide a safe and accessible playground.
 - (d) Integrate the playground into the site with appropriate landscaping.
 - (e) Locate the playground to link in with the pathways into the reserve.
 - (f) Locate the playground without using up excess open space, to ensure space is retained to cater for informal ball games or cricket.
5. The project team developed a concept plan to meet these objectives, which included the following:
 - (a) Installation of a park bench or picnic table.
 - (b) Construction of a raised timber edge around the play area.
 - (c) New shrubbery borders.
 - (d) Construction of balance and stepping posts.
 - (e) Removal of two trees due to poor condition.
 - (f) Planting of seven new trees.
 - (g) Installation of cushioned soft fall under the play area.
 - (h) Installation of either a slide OR a nest (public feedback to dictate which item).
 - (i) Installation of a nest swing.
 - (j) Installation of a spinner.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6. Funding for the project is provided in the 2009-19 LTCCP, Neighbourhood Parks Renewal and Replacements, page 141.
7. Current estimates indicate there is sufficient funding in the current budget to complete the proposed development.

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

8. Yes, as above.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

9. All work will be carried out by a Council approved contractor.
10. The Community Board have delegated authority to approve the final plan.
11. No other legal considerations have been identified.

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

12. Yes, as per above.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

13. LTCCP 2009-19
Parks, Open Spaces and Waterways – page 117
 - (a) Safety – by ensuring that our parks, open spaces and waterways are healthy and safe places.
 - (b) Governance – by involving people in decision-making about parks, open spaces and waterways.
 - (c) Recreation – by offering a range of recreational opportunities in parks, open spaces and waterways.

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

14. Yes, as per above.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

15. Social Wellbeing Policy – The Council is committed to enhancing the social wellbeing of its citizens and the community.
16. Strengthening Communities Policy – Strong communities give people a sense of belonging and encourage them to take part in social, cultural, economic and political life.
17. Crime Prevention through Environment Designs – the project is following CPTED guidelines.

Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

18. Yes, as per above.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

19. On 22 February 2010 the draft concept plan for the playground development was presented to the Riccarton/Wigram Transport and Greenspace Committee prior to consultation. The Committee members present were supportive of the draft plan going out for public consultation.

20. In April 2010 a publicity pamphlet was distributed to approximately 250 residences and key stakeholders. This pamphlet included a summary of the concept, initial concept plans and a feedback form. The project team sought feedback from the community to find out whether the proposal was generally supported and asked submitters to make a choice of play equipment between a slide and a nest.
21. The consultation received a 15 per cent response rate (38 responses) and community feedback was positive.
 - 29 submitters (76 per cent) responded "YES – I/We support the playground development."
 - Five submitters (13 per cent) responded "I/We have mixed views about the playground development."
 - Three submitters (eight per cent) responded "NO – I/We do not support the playground development."
 - One submitter (three per cent) did not indicate a preference.
 - 21 submitters (55 per cent) supported the installation of a slide.
 - 13 submitters (34 per cent) supported the installation of a nest.
 - Four submitters (11 per cent) did not indicate a preference of play equipment.
 - One submitter indicated they would like both pieces of play equipment.
22. The key issues identified by the submitters relate to:
 - (a) The location of the playground within the reserve being too close to some residential properties.
 - (b) Submitters requested the installation of a rugby post, soccer net or netball hoop.
 - (c) More seating was requested.
 - (d) Swings were requested.
 - (e) A request was made for painted hopscotch on the asphalt.
23. The raised issues have been resolved by:
 - (a) The location of the playground has been moved further within the reserve to increase the distance from those submitters who did not want the playground placed too close to their house.
 - (b) The park is not of sufficient size to include a rugby post or soccer net, but staff have included a netball hoop within the revised plan.
 - (c) A picnic table has been included on the plan instead of a bench seat as it will then provide seating for six people instead of three people. The timber edge around the play equipment will also provide for some informal seating for supervisors.
 - (d) Junior swings have been included in the revised plan.
24. All those who submitted on De Lange Reserve Playground Development received an interim reply letter, which acknowledged the submission had been received and that it would be considered, once the consultation period had closed.

25. All submitters were also sent a final reply letter that outlined the outcome of the consultation and the recommended concept plan. The letter informed the submitters that a report would be presented to the Riccarton/Wigram Transport and Greenspace Committee first who would then provide a recommendation to the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board on whether the plan would be approved. Details of both meetings were also provided so that any interested residents could attend or address the Board prior to the decision being made.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee recommends to the Board to approve the proposed plan for the De Lange Reserve Playground as shown in Attachment 1 **LP328902, Issue 1**.