

1. STYX RIVER ESPLANADE – GIFT OF LAND

Officer responsible
Greenspace Manager

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The purpose of this report is to consider the gift of 214 square metres of land for use as esplanade reserve adjoining the Styx River at Crofton Road.

This report is submitted to the Council for consideration with support from the Board.

CONTEXT

The Council has recently acquired land for reserve purposes adjacent to the Styx River near Crofton Road as a result of reserve contribution and a land purchase. This reserve forms part of a much longer Styx River corridor originating at Harewood Road and was discussed by the Board on 8 June 2004.

Investigations into the acquisition of this reserve resulted in staff having discussions with the landowner along the northern boundary of the reserve. The landowner has agreed to gift to the Council a strip of land to be added to the recently acquired Styx Esplanade Reserve in order to allow greater space for a walkway as part of the Styx Source to Sea experience.

DESCRIPTION OF LAND TO BE GIFTED

The 214 square metres of land is approximately 3.5 metres wide and approximately 70 metres long. It is currently zoned rural and used for grazing.

COSTS

The Council would pay for survey costs, legal fees and the cost of relocating the fence. These costs are estimated to be approximately \$4,000.

CONCLUSION

A walkway extending from the source of the Styx River along its route to the sea is part of the overall long term vision for the Styx. The acceptance of this generous gift of land will allow more room for the development of the walkway in this location and add to the overall experience of walkers as they follow the river's course to the sea.

Board

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Council accept the gift of land to be used for the purpose of a Styx Esplanade Reserve on the terms and conditions outlined in the report.
 2. That the Chairperson of the Parks, Gardens and Waterways Committee write a letter of appreciation to the landowner gifting the land.
 3. That the Board's thanks and gratitude for the gift of the land also be conveyed to the landowner.
 4. That staff arrange appropriate recognition on the site to mark the circumstances relating to the gift.