### 7. FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE- REPORT OF 18 MAY 1999

RR 9996

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The purpose of this report is to submit the **following** report and recommendations from the Committee.

The Committee reconvened on 24 May 1999 to formulate a proposed submission on the Council's draft 1999 Plan, a copy of which **follows** the report.

## Report of a meeting held on Tuesday 18 May 1999 at 12.00 noon in the Meeting Room, Fendalton Service Centre.

PRESENT: Yiyi Ku (Chairperson), Sally Buck, Val Carter,

Keith Nuttall, Mike Wall

**ALSO PRESENT:** Barbara Stewart

#### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Pat Harrow and Ron Wright.

## 2. PROJECT FUNDING - UPDATE

Submitted for information was a report detailing progress on the expenditure of the Board's 1998/99 project funds of \$250,000.

Also mentioned were several projects where carry-forwards into the 1999/2000 year would be appropriate.

### **Recommendations:** 1. That the information be received.

- 2. That the sum of \$5,000 for use toward the Memorial Avenue planting project be confirmed but be held in the meantime pending further information and costings related to the finally adopted proposal.
- 3. That appropriate carrying forward of the 1998/99 allocation in 2. above be arranged if there is to be no expenditure programmed for the present financial year.
- 4. That the sum of \$25,000 for the Jellie Park Skatepark facility and \$30,000 for the Merivale Concept Plan be carried forward to 1999/00.

## 3. DISCRETIONARY FUNDING – UPDATE

As with clause 2 above, the Committee was advised of progress in respect of the Board's discretionary funded projects for the 1998/1999 year. Projects for possible carry-forward into 1999/2000 were also highlighted.

The Committee was advised that \$1,738 still remained available for allocation and consideration was given to possible projects.

### **Recommendations:** 1. That the information be received.

- 2. That the remaining balance of the Board's 1998/99 discretionary funds be allocated as follows:
  - \$1,000 Wairakei School (Learning Support Centre and Training Facility)
  - \$738 Asian Youth Working Party (Information booklet)
- 3. That carry forward arrangements for the projects (Limited Service Volunteer Scheme, Vege. Gardens etc) be arranged if these funds cannot be committed prior to the end of the year.

## 4. BUSH SOCIETY AND ARBOR DAY FUNDING REQUESTS

#### (a) BUSH SOCIETY

Further to the presentation made to the May Board meeting, members were supportive of a \$1,000 payment being made to the Society for the provision of 10 cubic meters of potting mix for use by schools and community groups in the Board's area.

## (b) ARBOR DAY

General support was indicated for the request from the Environmental Policy and Planning and Parks Units for funding of \$2,000 to provide for trees for Arbor Day plantings in school grounds.

As decided by the Board, such funding is to be used towards exotic trees only.

Members also indicated support for the fruit and nut trees proposal as well as the Arthur Grayburn millennium initiative involving tree planting in schools.

**Recommendation:** That \$3,000 from the Board's 1999/2000 discretionary

budget be allocated as follows:

\$1,000

• \$2,000 Arbor Day exotic plantings in school

grounds

**Bush Society** 

## 5. "PARTNERSHIP" WITH AVONHEAD ROTARY CLUB

Further to the approach made by the Avonhead Rotary Club to offer up to \$20,000 for a project(s) within the Board's area, the following projects were identified for consideration by the Rotary Club and response back to the Board.

- International Year of Older Persons 1999 (eg a hosted event)
- Community Creches (or After School Programmes)
- Wairakei School (Learning Support Centre and Training Facility) top-up funding
- Bryndwr Projects (ex Bryndwr Research)
- Bishopdale Computer Club (based at the Bishopdale Community Centre)
- Street Furniture (ie seats in public places)
- Avonhead House/Environmental Awards
- Community Van
- Asian Youth Project (implementation of outcomes)
- Elmwood School auditorium landscaping and further support to the Elmwood Visual Resource Centre

It was **agreed** that the above projects be conveyed to the Avonhead Rotary Club for consideration and response back to the Board at its meeting on 1 June.

#### 6. INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF OLDER PERSONS

As mentioned in clause 5 above, the Committee was supportive of the idea that elderly residents would appreciate and benefit from more seating being provided in public areas.

It was also **agreed** that other ideas and suggestions be invited from the likes of Age Concern and Probus Clubs and that these responses be reported back to the Board.

## 7. ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH – FUNDING SUPPORT

The Community Advocate tabled a report identifying a possible funding source to assist the Church in the form of bridging finance from the \$12,000 currently set aside for carpark improvements at the Fendalton Library/Fendalton School. The need for the church to possibly also have to pay professional fees towards the project was identified and it was noted that this could be met by way of a grant from the Board.

Matters relating to the term of any bridging finance and the interest rate to be applied would need to be discussed further with the Church.

## **Recommendation:**

That subject to acceptance by the Fendalton School, the sum of \$12,000 be made available to St Stephen's Church as bridging finance (terms to be decided) to enable the completion of their carpark and access improvements and further that the payment of a grant for professional fees of up to \$3,000 from the Board's 1999/2000 discretionary funds, be endorsed if required.

## 8. SUBMISSION TO COUNCIL'S DRAFT 1999 PLAN

Due to time constraints and the just received copy of the draft Plan, it was **agreed** that the Committee re-convene on Monday 24 May 1999 at 12 noon to formulate a Board submission on the Council's draft 1999 Plan.

The meeting concluded at 1.50 pm.

## Chairman's

Recommendation: That the report be received and the recommendations therein be

adopted.

**DRAFT** 

#### FENDALTON/WAIMAIRI COMMUNITY BOARD

#### **SUBMISSION**

#### $\mathbf{ON}$

## DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 1999 EDITION

#### INTRODUCTION

Having considered the draft Council Plan for 1999, the Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board makes the following submission

The Board wishes to be heard in support of its submission.

## 1. RATE INCREASE (Page 6)

While the Board is supportive of the Council's programme for "moving ahead" it remains concerned that there is a programme for moderate rate increases over the years ahead.

Of equal concern to the Board is the fact that Council has been the recipient of a very large capital repatriation and to be proposing rate increases averaging 1.96% does not seem compatible with the substantial wind-fall to be received.

The Board is also concerned at increases affecting the rural sector although it is acknowledged that recent revaluations have contributed, to some degree, to these increases.

Submission:

The Board acknowledges that the Council must continue with its programme of improvements throughout the city but is concerned that an average rate increase of 1.96% is proposed.

The Board would contend instead that the Council's programme be amended so that the projected rate increase for 1999/2000 is at a level of 1.00% maximum only.

# 2. CAPITAL REPATRIATION (Page 8)

The Board has noted that a further \$81 million is to be received from the Council's trading subsidiaries, and that certain action is proposed in recognition of this financial benefit.

The Board has also noted that \$40 million is be allocated to a debt repayment reserve and the Board is highly supportive of this particular move.

The Board does not however support the remaining sum (\$41 million) being earmarked for an economic development reserve to fund major initiatives for the benefit of the regional economy.

The Board would rather request that the Council consider the allocation of this fund for the benefit of the city ratepayers and that options for such spending include a means for keeping the rates increase lower than proposed, and for some initiatives related to tourism.

Submission: That the \$40 million allocation to a debt repayment

reserve be endorsed but that the balance of \$41 million be allocated in a manner better benefiting the city's

ratepayers.

## 3. STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY ACTION PLANS (Page 22)

The Board wishes to offer support for the Council's initiative in developing a series of Strengthening Community Action Plans throughout the city. The core group established by the Board is currently making pleasing progress in developing a series of actions for eventual recommendation to the Board.

As this proposal is intended to improve peoples sense of belonging to and being part of the community, and to support communities to identify and achieve their own aims, the Board wishes to offer its full endorsement for the Council's initiative.

**Submission:** That the Council's programme for developing a series of

Strengthening Community Action Plans be supported and the allocation of \$140,000 for this initiative be endorsed.

## 4. NEW INITIATIVES OPERATING (ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES) (Page 22 )

The Board is concerned to note that a cost of \$75,000 has been allocated for the cost of relocating Area Development Teams from the 'A' suburban service centres to Civic Offices.

Of particular concern is the immediate and long-standing loss of customer service provided in the suburban locations, and the general removal of specialist planning and building information and advice services to the community in particular.

Submission:

That any ongoing programming providing for the relocation of the Area Development Teams at least provide for appropriate staffing levels to remain in suburban locations with a view to continuing to provide community support and to respond to requests for advice and information relating to planning and building matters.

## 5. CITY STREETS PROGRAMME – SEAL EXTENSION – MINERS ROAD (Page 73)

For some time there have been requests from the rural community to complete the sealing of rural roads, and the Board has submitted previously on behalf of the Miners Road project to complete such works.

The Board would seek the Council's approval in advancing the Miners Road seal extension from 2002/03 to 2001/02. To achieve this the Board has identified the unspecified sum of \$50,000 in this category, in 2001/02, which could be used to fund the Miners Road work.

Submission: That the Miners Road seal extension be advanced in the

capital programme from 2002/03 to 2001/02.

## 6. HIGHWAY 2000 PLANTING PROJECT (Page 85)

Over recent months the Board has been progressively working through options for developing an improved (aesthetically) approach to Christchurch International Airport along Memorial Avenue between Russley Road and the Airport entry. To this end discussions are continuing with representatives of the Christchurch International Airport and the Christchurch Beautifying Association.

The Board has noted that the Council has provided some funding associated with the Highway 2000 Planting Project on State Highway One and accordingly wishes to request the Council to give a priority to highway planting in Russley Road in the areas adjacent to the Memorial Avenue/Russley Road roundabout to match the Board's initiative with its Memorial Avenue planting.

Submission: That the Council programme for the Highway 2000

Planting Project be supported and that a funding priority be given to the highway planting adjacent to the

Memorial Avenue/Russley Road roundabout.

## 7. RING ROADS (WESTERN LEG ie WAIMAIRI ROAD ETC)

The Board has, for a number of years, had real concerns as to the adequacy of the western leg of the Council's ring road system particularly in the Greers Road, Grahams Road and Waimairi Road sections.

A particular worry has been the very rapid growth in traffic volumes on the generally upgraded residential roads. Matters of traffic density, , the configuration of the roads, and issues regarding the dangerous traffic situations adjacent to Westburn School in particular have convinced the Board that it is time that a very early review be done to consider better options for accommodating the now large traffic volumes.

Submission:

That the Council undertake an early review in consideration of alternative options to the use of the existing western leg of the Council's ring road system.