

<b>Officer responsible</b> Parks Manager	<b>Authors</b> Area Parks Officer, Rod Whearty Senior Landscape Architect, Dennis Preston
Corporate Plan Output: N/A	

The purpose of this report is for the Board to identify a park in their area from the short-list provided, to undertake a trial planting of edible fruit and nut trees.

### BACKGROUND

The Council's 'Creativity Team' has come up with a proposal to plant edible fruit and nut trees the city's parks.

A total of \$6,000 has been allocated in the current 1998/99 financial year to provide for plantings within the six Community Board areas including the central city.

Councillors Barbara Stewart and Pat Harrow were given the task of progressing the concept and coming up with a proposal.

### SITE AND PLANT SELECTION

In recent weeks the Parks Unit and City Design staff have met and produced a short-list of suitable sites for each Board area to consider. Staff have also developed a broad list of suitable species which are able to cope with a wide range of conditions. A quantity of these plants have already been ordered owing to the time constraints with this particular project.

Each Board will need to nominate a preferred park and then plants suitable to that particular site will be selected from the list.

Because of Christchurch's unique location and topography a range of plants have been selected which are able to cope with a broad range of conditions ranging from heavy clay to light sandy soils and exposed lowland parks to sheltered frost-free areas on the hills.

### Proposed Short-List of Parks

84 Stanmore Road  
Nicholson Park  
St Leonards Park  
King Park

Beverley Park  
Panorama Road Reserve  
Old School Reserve  
Edmonds Factory Garden

### Proposed Tree Species

Arbutus unedo (Strawberry Tree)  
Castanea sativa (Sweet Chestnut)  
Pinus pinea (Stone Pine)  
Hazel nut  
Malus sp (Crab Apple)  
Quince  
Pecan  
Peach Black Boy

Juglans regia (Walnut)  
Olea europea (Olive)  
Morus nigra (Mulberry)  
Almond  
Medlar  
Fig  
Lemon

## **LONG-TERM AIM**

This concept is a pilot trial to heighten the awareness and demonstrate that our park landscape plantings can have a variety of uses, performing a practical function as well as an aesthetic enhancement role.

Long-term we do not see this as a separate stand-alone project. In the future, opportunities for inclusion of edible species will simply become part of the normal process of landscape design.

**Recommendation:** That the Board identify their preferred park for the planting of edible fruit and nut trees.

**Chairman's  
Recommendation:** For discussion.