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The purpose of this report is to gain approval from the board for the concept of the Crimson Trail.

**INTRODUCTION**

In September 1998 the Parks Unit received a proposal from the Sumner Ferrymead Foundation to plant a “Crimson Trail” of Pohutakawa Trees both on the roadside and inside private properties from the Ferrymead bridge to Taylors Mistake. The proposal was to fund the planting through both private and public sponsorship as well as public donations.

The Sumner Ferrymead Foundation is a community trust established in 1993 with objectives to provide funding and resources for improvements to the environment, welfare, special needs and educational organisations in the area.

**DISCUSSION**

Following on from the Sumner Ferrymead Foundation’s request a concept plan has been prepared by City Design identifying possible sites for planting and estimated costs.

There has been comment in the media on the proposal and the Sumner Ferrymead Foundation has received some negative feedback from residents who believed the proposal was to plant a continuous line of pohutakawas principally along the McCormacks Bay causeway.

It should be noted that the concept plan does not support the planting of pohutakawas along the McCormacks Bay causeway but instead identifies sites for group plantings. This is in keeping with the McCormacks Bay Management Plan, which identified the need for planting while maintaining important views from and across the reserve.

The Sumner Ferrymead Foundation has a copy of the concept plan and is very supportive of the sites identified for planting. To date the foundation has sold one hundred pohutakawas to residents in the area for planting on private property this shows that the planting of pohutakawas in this area has significant public support.

It is recommended that the area from the Ferrymead Bridge to McCormacks Bay is left until a decision has been made on the new Ferrymead Bridge therefore the area at the eastern end of McCormacks Bay is the preferred starting point for planting at this stage. City Streets Unit have been consulted and support planting in this area.

The first stage of the proposal would be to plant approximately thirty trees at a cost of between three and six thousand dollars depending on the ground conditions at the specific sites.

It is envisaged that funding for this project would be sourced through the Sumner Ferrymead Foundations sponsorship and donations, the Parks Units street tree planting budget and a contribution from the Hagley Ferrymead Community Board.

Approval is sought from the board to enable this project to proceed and move to the next stage of seeking community views from all interested parties.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the proposal from the Sumner Ferrymead Foundation to initiate a 'Crimson Trail' of Pohutakawas planted at locations to be identified from the Ferrymead bridge to Taylors Mistake be accepted by the board subject to public consultation on the individual sites.
  2. That the Hagley Ferrymead Community Board consider allocating \$1000 from its discretionary fund towards this project in the 1999/2000 budget.

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