

**7. RICCARTON/WIGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
REPORT OF 22 NOVEMBER 1999 MEETING**

RR 11142

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Corporate Plan Output: Riccarton/Wigram Community Board Vol 1, 3.1 text 6	

The purpose of this report is to submit the outcomes of the Environmental Committee meeting held on Monday 22 November 1999.

The meeting was attended by Alison Wilkie (Chairperson), Mary Corbett, Neville Bennett, Mike Mora and David Buist (for clause 1 only).

In attendance were Anne Cosson (Area Parks Officer), Craig Taylor (Arboriculturist), Martin Maguire (Community Advocate) and Roger Cave (Community Secretary).

1. STREETSCAPE SITES

Over recent meetings the Committee has been discussing various street sites which could be suitable for street enhancement, ie planting of (appropriate species) trees onto the carriageway or road reserve.

The Board has set aside \$10,000 project funds (1999/00) for street enhancement; this fund also covers any work done by way of welcome signs (see clause 4).

The Committee has sought costings for two streets; these were received and discussed.

The Committee **agreed** to support Peverel Street (Wainui to Euston) and Springs Road (Gibson to Halswell Junction), subject to concept plans and Board funds being available.

Also supported was a proposal for replanting the median through Hornby, again being subject to plans and costing information.

Arising from a resident of Picton Avenue's letter, the current street landscaping there will be reviewed; a proposal to put trees back into Picton Avenue will also be pursued.

2. POPLAR TREES, FOREMANS ROAD / LESLIE PARK

The Area Parks Officer (Anne Cosson) sought a recommendation on the possible removal of some of the poplar trees from the Foremans Road frontage of Leslie Park. The Board's recommendation would then be forwarded to the (Council's) Parks and Recreation Committee for its decision.

Over the past few years the Parks Unit has received ongoing complaints about the Poplar trees. The complaints have been about the volume of leaves, problems with shading and generally the health of the trees.

The Parks Unit has assessed the trees and reports that approximately half of the trees are in poor health and of poor form. As a number of the trees need to be removed for health and safety reasons, it is considered timely to consider the long term plan of the Foremans Road frontage to the park.

It is considered that the best option long term would be to remove the poplar trees and replace them with a more suitable species, planted in positions which will allow the trees to grow to maturity without adversely affecting each other's form and health. One option would be to remove the trees in two stages, giving the new trees a time to become established. A second option would be to remove all of the poplar trees and landscape the Foremans Road frontage in one operation.

A letterbox drop was sent in early October asking residents to consider the two options and seeking their comments.

We received 44 submissions.

Thirty-eight households supported option 1, which was for all the Poplar trees to be removed and replaced with smaller deciduous trees and shrub borders. Seven households supported option 2, that the trees with poor form and health are removed at this time and replaced with smaller deciduous trees.

There are four residential properties facing the poplar trees, three households support the trees remaining and one household supports the removal. The adjacent neighbours support the removal of the trees.

The trees do offer a visual softening to the area. The poplars also offer some protection for residents, as a windbreak and also preventing residents from looking straight through the park to Main South Road. The trees may also reduce the sound of the traffic.

Recommendation: That option two, being the removal of four Lombardi poplar trees, along with those identified trees which are in poor health, is accepted at this time and replacement with smaller deciduous trees is carried out in the autumn. Staged removal of the remaining trees would be carried out at a later date once the replacements become established.

3. **LESLIE PARK CARPARKING UPGRADE**

The Area Parks Officer (Anne Cosson) reported on the proposal to construct a new parking area at Leslie Park, on the corner of Foremans Road.

The Parks Unit has funds set aside in the current financial year's budget for the work to be undertaken.

The Parks Unit and City Streets Unit have a concept plan which will formalise the existing current informal parking currently being experienced; the realignment with Foremans Road will assist in addressing some traffic-related issues also.

The Committee was supportive of the proposal.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the new carpark area at Leslie Park be developed as per the plan.
 2. That new kerbing for the area between the new car park and where the kerbing stops on Foremans Road be considered as a submission to the annual plan.
 3. That the sealing of the metal road shoulder area that runs down the Halswell Junction Road side of the Leslie Park be considered as a submission to the annual plan.

4. WELCOME SIGNS

Various sites on major roads leading into the city have been considered for some form of “welcome signs”.

Funds were available from the street enhancement project fund allocation.

Subject to some additional wording (“Welcome to...”) the Committee endorsed the plans for the four sites:

Springs Road	Cost \$3,300
SH 75/Halswell	\$3,300
Shands Road	\$1,600
Buchanans Road	\$1,500

The Springs Road site will, if possible, be tied in with the street enhancement works (as reported in clause 1).

The suggestion that the Buchanans Road site be identified as Hei Hei *and* Broomfield would be pursued.

The SH 75/Halswell site would be referred to the local residents association who first brought this topic to the Committee.

- Recommendation;** That the Board approves, in principle, the placing of ‘welcome signs’ at the four identified sites, with the cost of \$9,700 being funded from the street enhancement project funds.

5. CAMPERVAN EFFLUENT DUMP POINT SITE

The Council, through finance being approved in the 1999/00 Annual Plan, has been investigating three dump point sites at the northern, eastern and southern boundaries to the city.

The three sites (Belfast, Sabys Road and Templeton) have now been abandoned; the sites were located near/within residential areas.

The City Streets Unit has now identified a site in the industrial zone at Canterbury Street (off Main South Road), Hornby.

There was discussion on the promoted site as well as a previously investigated site at a motor camp situated on the state highway in Templeton township.

It was noted that the Board's recommendation will be passed on to the City Services Committee, who meet on Tuesday 30 November to decide on the site for the dump point.

Recommendation; That City Streets Unit be asked to review both campervan effluent dump point sites (Canterbury Street and the motor camp on the Main South Road, Templeton) with respect to cost effectiveness and the reasons why the Canterbury Street site is preferred.

6. **OPEN PIT CONTROLS AND COMPLIANCE –
CANTERBURY REGIONAL COUNCIL**

Over recent months the Community Board, through this Committee, has expressed concerns with the control and compliance rules in place for privately-owned open pits in the Wigram ward.

An invitation for the Canterbury Regional Council to meet with this Committee had been acknowledged; however the Canterbury Regional Council had sought more time while the matters (raised by the Committee) were still subject to enforcement intervention.

The Committee will, however, pursue an early date for this meeting.

Chairperson's

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5. That the Board approves, in principle, the placing of 'welcome signs' at the four identified sites, with the cost of \$9,700 being funded from the street enhancement project funds.
6. That the City Streets Unit be asked to review both campervan effluent dump point sites (Canterbury Street and the motor camp on the Main South Road, Templeton) with respect to cost effectiveness and the reasons why the Canterbury Street site is preferred.