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Corporate Plan Output: Public Accountability - Community Activities 3.1 text 23	

The purpose of this report is to recommend that the Board allocate \$350 from its 1999/2000 Discretionary Fund to the first birthday celebrations of Farnley Reserve.

On 25 September 1998, Farnley Reserve was officially opened. This proved to be a very popular community event, with local residents, retailers and community groups all being involved. Some entertainment and performers were provided to add atmosphere. Farnley Reserve is unique in that it was developed as a partnership between the Water Services Unit and Soroptimists International (Christchurch Branch), and also features native plantings in combination with a permanent art work.

Since the official opening Farnley Reserve has been recognised internationally, by the Soroptimist International Conference in Finland, as an outstanding “enhancement of a local environment, including a permanent artwork.” The Water Services Unit are about to begin Stage 2 of the redevelopment of the Reserve, which includes placing a more visible and appropriate sign in the vicinity of Broskelly’s Bar. All these factors considered, retailers and local representatives are keen to stage a first birthday celebration for Farnley Reserve on Saturday 25 September, 10.30am to 1.30pm.

The \$350 requested would be used to hire a children’s entertainer, and local community groups will be invited to run stalls, sausage sizzles etc. It may also be possible to have Canadian Canoes available for public use on the river.

This project meets the following Board Objectives and Performance Indicators:

- 8 To promote social cohesion in the Spreydon-Heathcote community.
- 8.1 Support neighbourhood strengthening initiatives such as the provision of and participation in community events, and the activities of residents groups and community cottages.
- 8.2 Promote economic well-being of the community by support for small businesses.
- 8.4 Identify, liaise with and support individuals and groups who serve and build the community.

**Recommendation:** That the Board allocate \$350 from its 1999/2000 Discretionary Fund towards the first birthday celebration of Farnley Reserve.