

25. MILLENNIUM PROJECTS

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The purpose of this report is to provide an update on action regarding two earlier approved projects, and to recommend a further project for the Board's consideration.

BACKGROUND

The Board has a total of \$15,000 available for "millennium projects". Totals of \$10,000 and \$5,000 respectively have been allocated from the Board's 1998/99 and 1999/00 project funding. The \$10,000 original sum was carried forward to the 1999/00 year because of there being no commitment by 30 June 1999.

CURRENT PROJECTS

1. Memorial Avenue Planting

At the 31 August 1999 meeting of the Board the landscape plan for this project (Russley to Orchard Road) was approved for implementation. The Board noted that its contribution of \$5000 was to be supplemented by funding provided by the City Streets Unit.

The Christchurch Beautifying Association and the Christchurch International Airport Company have, of course, been "partners" with the Board in the development of this project.

Planting is planned for Autumn 2000.

2. Commemorative Time Piece – Bishopdale

At the 26 October 1999 meeting of the Board it was resolved "that the millennium time display project at the Bishopdale Shopping Centre proposed by the Bishopdale-Burnside Rotary Club be supported in principle and that, if required, Board funding of up to a maximum of \$5,000 be made available".

In reaching this position the Board noted that a number of design concepts had been tabled during the consideration of funding needs, at the Finance and Planning Committee meeting on 7 October.

The Rotary Club have now adopted their preferred concept and are working through the means of construction, and the balance of funding for the project. The Club is presently discussing the concept with the Bishopdale businesses.

POSSIBLE FURTHER PROJECT

Tree Lighting – St James Church, Harewood Road

The basis for this project, involving the provision of tree lighting on the significant Sequoia at the western end of the Church property, was initially shared with members during the bus tour of inspection on 9 December 1999.

The project has originated from a request received from the Church in August 1999 for consideration in keeping with “the Council’s enthusiasm for commemorating the Millennium”.

The church is 137 years old and is one of the few notable “heritage” landmarks in the Harewood area. Representatives of the Church have held the view that an opportunity exists to create a higher profile gateway for the Harewood district by providing some feature(s) on the site for better definition.

Among the plans considered (by the Church) were:

- Lighting of the tree
- An interpretation board on the Harewood Road frontage on which the historic nature of the church could be detailed (funding available through a bequest)
- Floodlighting of the tower of the church (estimated cost of \$1,200 plus GST.)

In discussion with the Church it was indicated that a preference would probably be given to feature lighting of the notable tree. The Church has indicated that this would be acceptable as they would probably proceed, in any event, with the other two projects.

The intention would be that the lighting principally be available as decorative lighting during the Christmas commemorative period each year, and for other appropriate occasions. The Church has, in fact, also requested the opportunity for the lighting to be available to accompany celebrations planned for Easter 2000.

Discussions have been held with officers from Connetics regarding the supply and installation of the lighting. The company has earlier been engaged to install similar lighting projects for other Community Boards in past years.

The cost has been advised as being \$5,200 (supply and installation) if an order is received prior to March. Increased costs will apply thereafter. Minimal start up/shutdown costs apply, which can be met from the Advocacy Team’s operating budget, and the City Streets Unit customarily pays for the power consumed.

Discussions have been held with the Airport Authority and the Airways Corporation who have advised that the lighting will not be prejudicial to operations at Christchurch Airport.

This project is one that will provide a welcome environment in the north-western corner of the city, and may present the Board with future opportunities for other similar projects in its community.

Recommendation: That the Board allocate the balance of its available “millennium project” funds (\$5000) to the tree lighting project at St James Church, Harewood.

Chairman’s

Recommendation: That the foregoing recommendation be adopted.