

15. SPORTS FIELD LIGHTING McCORMACKS BAY RESERVE

Officer responsible Parks Manager	Author John Allen – Team Leader Consents
Corporate Plan Output: Consents, sub output – Leases (9.4.8)	

The purpose of this report is to obtain the support of the Board for the installation of training lights at McCormacks Bay Reserve by the Sumner Rugby Club for winter training (see plan attached).

The Council has delegated this decision to the Parks Manager as follows – *The Parks Manager has power to make decisions on the siting of flood-lights upon sports parks subject to the necessary Resource Consents and consultation with the appropriate Community Board.* 23 October 1996.

HISTORY

For many years the Sumner Rugby Club has had an association with St Leonards Park at Sumner. The clubs changing rooms and social facilities are situated in their pavilion on the south side of the park. The pavilion is jointly owned by the Sumner Rugby and Cricket Clubs. Both clubs have their senior fields located upon St Leonards Park. The Sumner Rugby Club also has old training lights situated around the outside of the rugby field at the park. These lights are old and are in need of replacement, their light output now being below the standard required for rugby night training. This intensive use of St Leonards Park has resulted in overuse problems occurring especially during periods of wet weather causing the main rugby field being closed. There is now an opportunity to address this overuse problem by shifting the rugby training element off the park to the McCormacks Bay sports fields. This has been made possible by the recent shift of the lighted training field for the Bays United Soccer Club from McCormacks Bay Reserve to Barnett Park. These shifts have been fully supported by the Principal Recreation Adviser who is responsible for sports field allocation to the sporting associations. The Sumner Rugby Club has endorsed the opportunity of moving their senior lighted training area from St Leonards Park to McCormacks Bay resulting in this application being made. This coming season the club will have 4 to 6 senior teams that train under lights. The club will have 12 junior teams (under 12 years of age) that will also be training.

Board Members will be aware that the new proposed City Plan allows for further urban development on the Port Hills east of the Ferrymead Bridge, which is likely to result in an increased number of players wishing to play sport in the Sumner area. This proposed move of the lighted training area from St Leonards Park to McCormacks Bay will take playing pressure off St Leonards Park, thereby allowing for an increased number of participants in the sports that use the park without causing the overuse problems presently occurring during periods of wet weather in the winter.

MCCORMACKS BAY SPORTS FIELD DEVELOPMENT

The shifting of the Sumner Rugby Club lighted training area from St Leonards Park to McCormacks Bay will necessitate the addition of a further changing room to the sports pavilion at McCormacks Bay. This was foreseen as being required when the initial pavilion was built in that the shower cubicle for the further changing room was built during the initial construction of the building. It will be necessary for the provision of this room to be brought forward to accommodate the requirements of the players using the lighted training field. The club has indicated that financially they are definitely not in the position to be able to finance the extension to the pavilion, which could cost in the vicinity of \$30 - \$35,000. Officers are presently obtaining more detailed estimates of costs to provide the additional changing room with the view to bring forward its construction. This pavilion will be required to service the sports fields on which will be located one senior rugby training field, one intermediate soccer field, one junior soccer field for winter sport and a cricket wicket for summer sport.

FLOOD LIGHTING LOCATION AND FUNDING

The flood lights will be located along the edge of the shrubbery south of the sports field facing north (see attached plan). As you can see from the plan, the lights will not cause a problem to adjoining neighbours, or other road users in the area, the light spill from the lights at the parks boundary being within City Plan requirements. The towers will be coloured a neutral grey so as to blend with the background sky, the towers being integrated into the landscape with the shrubbery at their base reducing their impact on the environment.

The club has the money required to undertake the project, some of which came from the Lotteries Grant Board, having been obtained from two grants over the preceding two years. The Club is required to have this money spent before the next winter season to fulfil the conditions of the grant.

NEIGHBOURS' CONSENT

The club has obtained all the neighbours' consents to the proposal as required for the resource consent application to fulfill City Plan requirements. The club is in the process of getting approval from the Mount Pleasant Community Centre & Ratepayers Association in which area the McCormacks Bay sports fields are situated.

Recommendation: The Board recommends to the Parks Manager that the application by Sumner Football Club to erect training lights on McCormacks Bay sports fields be approved subject to the following conditions: -

1. The poles to be painted or powder coated in neutral grey colour.
2. All costs associated with this application and resulting development to be paid by the applicant.
3. The construction site is to be kept in a clean and tidy condition at all times.

4. Before construction commences the applicant is to contact the Area Parks Officer at the Linwood Service Centre to ascertain Council requirements during the construction phase of the development. This is to include the obtaining of all service plans (including pop up irrigation and drainage layout) before work commences upon the site.
5. A bond of \$2,000 is to be paid to the Council (Area Parks Officer Linwood Service Centre) before onsite work commences, the bond less any costs incurred by Council is refunded when the work is complete.
6. Council officers are to further investigate the completion of the pavilion at McCormacks Bay Reserve, reporting to Council where necessary.

Chairman's

Recommendation:

1. That recommendations 1 – 6 above be adopted.
2. That the Board consider recommending time limits on the hours that these lights operate.