

14. HORSESHOE LAKE RESERVE ENHANCEMENT UPDATE

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Corporate Plan Output: Parks Plans and Policy Statements	

The purpose of this report is to update the Board on progress with the management planning for Horseshoe Lake Reserve and the proposed development works at the New Brighton Road entrance.

BACKGROUND

Board members will be aware that the management plan for Horseshoe Lake Reserve was prepared in 1982. With continuing public interest in the reserve, particularly from school and community groups, it is timely to review the management plan and provide direction for the future landscape development and management of the reserve. The Board has set aside \$5000 for the preparation of up-to-date management and development advice for the reserve.

COMMUNITY INPUT INTO THE LANDSCAPE PLAN

Local landscape architect, Wayne Rimmer, has prepared a draft landscape development plan (will be circulated separately) for Horseshoe Lake Reserve which is due to be circulated within the local area and to interested schools and community groups. Mr Rimmer has described his brief as having “to balance a range of recreational requirements with the drainage, cultural and ecological values and demands of a significant wetland located within an urban environment”.

Preliminary consultation has been carried out and comment was received from the community by way of the following:

April 1999 - Letter to eight interest groups sent out. Responses were received from Fish and Game, Forest and Bird, Runanga Liaison Officer and the Horseshoe Lake Residents' Association.

October 1999 - Approximately 700 questionnaires sent out to residents to establish issues, aspirations etc for entire reserve to help with an updating the management and development of the reserve. 75 people responded.

25 November 1999 - On site meeting and walk-about with Horseshoe Lake Residents Association to discuss new planting areas and various other issues.

March 2000 - Draft plan sent to eight interest groups, Board members and Water Services and City Streets staff for comment.

Following comments from Board members at this meeting the plan will be revised, if necessary, and sent out to the wider public for comment in May 2000.

This “plan of action” will identify areas of the reserve that could be enhanced and managed better. It will also direct community groups and staff in the on-going planting of the reserve. Final comment will be received through further publicity of the landscape plan. It will then be refined in line with any comments received.

Key suggestions are:

- Creation of a number of “Friends of the Reserve” groups under the HLRA umbrella
- Use of artists to enhance reserve themes in seats, signage, sculpture, bridges etc
- Removal of the horse lease areas and fencing on Horseshoe Lake Road but retaining the paddocks within the interior part of the reserve
- Resite dog park to southern end of paddocks, create active recreation area and new car park in open paddocks on Horseshoe Lake Road
- Improvement of Old No.2 Drain in conjunction with Water Services Unit
- Upgrade existing and develop new paths and bridges to improve walking linkages
- Creation of three islands within the waterway to improve bird habitat
- Slowing of Broomfield Terrace and provision of car parking to service both Horseshoe Lake Reserve and Burwood Park
- Enhancement of native vegetation through new plantings in identified areas together with the control and management of willows, alders and noxious weeds.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Parks Unit has composed a development programme, which will clearly define where work should be carried out over the next fifteen years. Budgets that exist over the next five years are as follows:

	<i>2000/01</i>	<i>2001/02</i>	<i>2002/03</i>	<i>2003/04</i>	<i>2004/05</i>
Woodlots Replacements	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Revegetation Projects	\$3,000	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Track Development		\$8,500	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Interpretation	\$8,000				
Total	\$16,000	\$28,500	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000

Funding from other sources such as Lotteries Grants may be sought to enable all works to be completed. An application for \$180 000 has already been made to the Community Trust for new boardwalks and improving tracks within the reserve.

NEW BRIGHTON ROAD ENTRANCE

At the same time the Parks Unit has been advancing the development of the recently acquired section at New Brighton Road. On 14 April 1999 Parks staff together with Wayne Rimmer met with Horseshoe Lake Residents Association to discuss the proposals for the new entrance and some suggestions were made which have been incorporated into the landscape plan for this particular area (also attached). Construction of the car park and bank works will begin in mid-May as the Parks Unit has allocated \$51 000 this financial year to carry out the works and a contract has been let. The remaining work, which is mainly planting, will be funded by the Water Services Unit in 2000/2001.

- Recommendations:**
1. That the Board support the landscape development plan.
 2. That the landscape plan be circulated for comments by local residents.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the aforementioned recommendations be adopted.