

7. **RICCARTON/WIGRAM FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT OF 15 MAY 2000 MEETING**

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Roger Cave, Community Secretary
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 Finance and Policy Committee meeting held on Monday 15 May 2000.

The meeting was attended by Ishwar Ganda (Chairperson), Mary Corbett, Alison Wilkie, Paddy Austin, Neville Bennett, Bob Shearing, Helen Broughton, Mike Mora, and David Buist.

1999/2000 BOARD PROJECT AND DISCRETIONARY FUND REVIEW

Members were in receipt of a schedule of Board approvals made against these funds.

Identified surplus funds, available for redistribution, would be the subject of a separate report to the 31 May meeting of the Community Board.

DRAFT 2000 ANNUAL PLAN

The Board had granted “power to act” to this Committee to make a submission to the draft Annual Plan.

(a) Increased (Board) Allocation Proposal

Included into the Council’s Draft Annual Plan is a proposal to increase the Community Board funding by \$50,000.

Of this increased allocation \$10,000 may be retained for unbudgeted expenditure (ie discretionary funds) during the financial year; \$40,000 was now required to be committed to “...the funding the community worker position with community based organisations...”

Members gave consideration to a schedule of possible community-based projects.

There was some concern expressed that these (project) funds were “tagged”.

Exercising its “power to act”, the Committee **resolved** that the increased (project) allocation of \$40,000 would be put to “Youth Initiatives Fund”.

The Committee also **resolved** that the additional discretionary allocation be put to “Community Business Partnership Initiatives Fund”, \$15,000 (being \$10,000 from the increased allocation, and \$5,000 from its 2000/01 balance).

(b) **Submission to the Draft Annual Plan 2000**

The Committee resolved that the following items/issues be included into the submission:

- Need for library in Riccarton (to include computer and homework facilities)
- Cycleways – need for increased priority and funding in the Capital Works Programme
- Annex Road / Magdela Place improvements
- Increase funding for undergrounding of services
- Heritage buildings protection and retention
- Riccarton Bush Trust support for reinstatement of Capital Works Grant
- Riccarton Road Deans Avenue round-a-bout to be brought back into the Capital Works Programme
- Hornby Pool Complex – Sockburn Pool: Where is this review at?
- Strategic review of all civic facilities
- Hornby housing project purchase of land at Goulding/Main South Road corner
- Blenheim Road deviation and questioning funds allocated for Andersons Road
- Advancement of Mona Vale carpark and Newnham Terrace curb and channel, also Jones Road and Kyle Park toilets
- Support for Halswell Domain development and Halswell Quarry development
- Need to complete Wycola development as opposed to sporadic improvements as listed
- Acknowledging Trading Enterprise incomes:
Additional Community Board funding (but with tag in respect of access to Pink Page process)
Community employment initiatives
Establishment of an Environmental Centre
- Broomfield Common for elderly persons' housing

1999/2000 BOARD PROJECT AND DISCRETIONARY FUND UPDATE

1. Current

As noted in paragraph 1, above, the following schedule identifies surplus funds available for redistribution from these funds:

	\$ Available
Christmas Tree Lights	1,200
Project “2000”	15,000
(This fund was set up by the previous Board to assist in any millennium project, and is still uncommitted).	
Cultural Festival Event	4,000
(This was scheduled for 8.4.00, but was cancelled due to inclement weather; the organising committee incurred cost of \$6,000).	
Available:	20,200

2. Requests

(a) Riccarton Teahouse Commitment

Noted elsewhere on the order paper is the Community Advocate’s request for funds to assist in a conservation plan at Riccarton Racecourse, in the sum of \$5,000.

(b) New Request – Fijian Social Services Trust

A **new** request has been received seeking financial assistance to the **Fijian Social Services Trust**, in the sum of \$3,753.00.

In 1997 the Canterbury Fiji Social Services Trust set up a pilot after school tutoring programme for students who were struggling with Maths, English and Science at School Certificate level. This programme was funded by the Lottery Board for a period of 12 months and was based at 40 Hillary Crescent. Ten children originally attended the classes which by the end of the period had dropped to eight. The remaining eight students passed all the subjects they were tutored in.

At the beginning of 1998 the programme moved to Riccarton High School and was attended by 12 students, ten of whom were needing assistance at the sixth form level. Sixty per cent of these passed their subjects. It was noted in the evaluation that attendance was irregular due to the lack of transport available to ensure that the students returned safely back to their homes. The two students who sat School Certificate were successful. When Lottery Board funding ran out in May 1998 the Community Board ensured the continuance of the programme with a grant of \$2,000. In 1999 the programme recommenced with ten students covering Form Three, Four, Five and Six. The standard and skills of the students attending the tutoring programme, showed a great improvement. Unfortunately three students did not complete the course, again due to lack of available transport.

The majority (95%) of the students who have attended the above programmes have come from Hillary Crescent, Suva Street and Roche Avenue. Staff at the Community Centre (40 Hillary Crescent) approached local families to gauge interest. The programmes were offered free of charge as are most of the services provided by the Fiji Social Services Trust.

Despite the success of this programme over the last three years it could not recommence in 2000 because of the lack of funding. Lottery Board no longer assist in this area and other sources of funding have not been found.

The Fiji Social Services Trust wishes to continue with the Out of School Teenage Tutoring Programme in 2000. A budget shortfall of \$3,753.00 needs to be found in order for this successful programme to continue.

The number of students per tutoring class will be five to seven but this could increase to ten with the availability of a new van. Lack of transport as previously mentioned has been a key factor identified with irregular attendance.

Students will be selected from the local community.

Refer to comments from students and parents who have been involved with the programme in the past and budget sheet (both circulated separately).

(c) **Summary**

The Finance & Policy Committee, refer clause 2a, above, put the increased allocation of \$40,000 to “Youth Initiatives Fund”.

In that debate mention was made to the assisting of other sectors of the community (aged, etc). Perhaps the **balance** of the surplus funds could be put to Community Initiatives Fund (being added to the \$15,000 approved from 2000/01 Project Funds); application will then be sought to carry these funds over into 2000/01.

Recommendation: That the Board receive the surplus funds, and give consideration to the new request from the Fijian Social Services Trust, with the balance of surplus funds going to Community Initiatives Fund.

Chairperson’s

Recommendation: That the Officer’s recommendation be adopted.