

10. PROPOSED UPGRADE TO THE WAIMEA/HUNTER TERRACE RIVER BANK AREA

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Corporate Plan Output: Customer Services 9.4 funding text 7	

The purpose of this report is to inform the Board of consultation carried out to date, regarding the proposed upgrade of the Waimea/Hunter Terrace river bank area.

The Parks Unit and Water Services Unit have funding available this financial year to upgrade the river bank area in Waimea/Hunter Terrace. Council officers have decided to start work at Colombo Street and work towards Malcolm Avenue.

Consultation To Date

A letter was sent to all residents along both sides of the river from Colombo Street to Malcolm Avenue. The letter asked for general comments on the area, and asked how the residents would like to see the river bank area developed in the future. At this stage no landscape plan was included for comment. Twenty seven households responded.

A summary of submissions is attached. The number reflects how many residents made the same comment, the reference number is the number the submission was given when it was processed.

The submissions have been divided into the following categories:

- 1. Steep banks and river access**
Most households wanted some type of river access.
- 2. Native planting/trees and grass**
Overall comments reflected a mix of planting to include exotic and native planting, which reflects the Parks Unit's Safer Parks planting policy.
- 3. BMX track**
General comments were to retain the area, but would like access issues resolved. The BMX track is within the Water Services yard adjoining the Beckenham Service Centre where a small area has been developed into a BMX track for local residents. This track was established by the Heathcote County Council.

Council officers will be meeting on site before the next Board meeting to discuss some of the issues raised, and how best to alleviate the present problems. Officers will report back on this issue at the Board meeting.

The proposed new service centre/library may also have some impact on this area.
- 4. Track/path**
Most households wanted the path to follow on from the Thorrington School "Donkey Track", and see the path as a safety issue.
- 5. Rubbish bins/seats**
Fifteen households wanted more bins, with ten wanting more seats. The new landscape plan which will be drawn up in the future will reflect where these seats and bins might go.
- 6. Carpark adjacent to Cashmere Club**
All except one submitter wanted the area closed and returned to riverbank.
- 7. Traffic issues**
There were many issues raised by residents concerning traffic problems in the area, mainly "hoons" at night. Officers from the Parks Unit, City Streets and Water Services Unit have discussed some of these issues.

The proposed development of the new service centre/library will have a major impact on some of the concerns raised by residents. Twelve residents have suggested speed humps, and another seven have suggested a cul-de-sac be created.

Officers believe that more consultation needs to occur over traffic issues in conjunction with the proposed new service centre/library.

8. Other comments

See attached summary

At present a draft landscape plan is being drawn up to reflect submissions on the future development.

- Recommendation:**
1. That a draft landscape plan be drawn, and distributed to the wider Beckenham loop area for comment.
 2. That the Board receive an update on the BMX track area.
 3. That, if a decision by Council is made to consult further on the issue of a new service centre/library at Beckenham, local residents be consulted concerning traffic issues.