

## 14. COMMUNITY ADVOCATE'S UPDATE



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Corporate Plan Output: Community Advocacy	

### **Addington Neighbourhood Association**

Discussion on a number of operational matters relating to street signage, parking problems, speed limit signs and dirty pavements. Other topics currently being followed up include Heritage projects, Community Web Page and the need for Neighbourhood Watch groups in Addington.

There was strong support for the suggestion that the mobile library visit Addington. This also has the support of the Addington Business Association. The matter is being followed up by staff.

### **Heritage Week – Reference Group Meeting**

Fifteen representatives of community organisations attended the meeting facilitated by Jennie Hamilton and Paul Collins of Marketus. The purpose of the meeting was to “brainstorm” projects that groups could implement as part of the advertised Heritage Week programme. Sydenham, Addington, Cracroft and Waltham groups agreed to hold events this year.

There were some excellent ideas and much enthusiasm for developing them but recognition that lack of resources made it impractical to meet this years October deadline.

Jennie Hamilton will report.

### **Liveable Streets Workshop**

This was a follow up of the earlier information gathering workshop “All Ears Listening” phase of the Council’s review of traffic calming/living streets strategy. The purpose of the workshop was to evaluate key issues gained from the earlier event.

The concept of “living streets” shifts the emphasis from predominantly engineering solutions in street design to an ideal that streets or living spaces should be designed, or in many cases redesigned, with a priority on living and community interaction. In this model quality of life outcomes and their measurement are foremost.

Key factors include safety and security, economic vitality, sense of community, access to amenities, and healthy environment.

### **People for Places and Spaces**

Penelope Coombes, Managing Director of People for Places and Spaces, the consultant for Liveable Streets, met with the Chairman and the writer to discuss a possible pilot project in Spreydon-Heathcote. This could involve one or more streets or a neighbourhood.

There is already a great deal of information on desired quality of life outcomes which could be developed through broad community consultation into the next Community Plan but with an initial focus on a pilot area.

Ms Coombes is returning to Christchurch in September 2000 when she may be available to speak to Board members. In the meantime I anticipate receiving a project proposal from her which will be distributed at the meeting. Funding options are also being investigated. Members will note the observation in the Council report "Lets Dream a Little – Building a Sustainable Christchurch" (see attached) that Community Boards are uniquely placed to take an holistic community-based view, ensuring Council initiatives are combined synergistically to maximise their triple bottom line benefit.

A "Liveable Streets" project could be an appropriate local contribution towards the desired city-wide outcome, but would require resources to implement. It is recommended therefore that the Board seek Council funding to enable such a project to proceed.

### **Mayor's Tour**

Sites visited were Victoria Park Disabled Walkway, Sign of the Takahe toilet, Thorrlington Shops at Malcolm Avenue/Colombo Street junction, Waltham Pool mural, and Percival Street housing complex.

The Mayor was introduced to Sydenham Business Association representatives and expressed interest in the Colombo Street boulevard concept as a central city/suburbs "connector". This has been endorsed by consultants for the inner city revitalisation project who appear to favour the model of a hub with spokes connecting out to nodes or villages. This recognises that inner city revitalisation can not be implemented in a vacuum; the heart and the suburbs are inter-dependent.

### **Objectives Sub-Committee Meetings**

The final meeting of this Sub-Committee is to be held on 29 August 2000 following which draft objectives for 2002/3 will be reported to the Board for consideration.

### **"The Natural Step" – Community Gardens**

Meeting facilitated by Eric Park, Waste Management Engineer to discuss means of promoting sustainability, the role of community gardens and related initiatives (eg home composting) for achieving this. Some interesting statistics show the extent of compostable waste going to the landfill - 50,000 tonnes per annum (8 truck loads a day) of garden waste and 25,000 tonnes per annum (4 truck loads a day) of kitchen waste.

A need for education and information on waste minimisation is recognised and community based projects have a key role to play.

Possible outcomes for Spreydon-Heathcote to aim at could be a reduction of 50% in compostable waste going to landfill, an increase in the number of community gardens and a measurable increase in home composting.

### **Garden Waste Collection Services**

Launch of the new service which is in line with the aim of reducing the solid waste stream to landfill. Staff have arranged a display of the new green-waste bin at the Service Centre and local promotion of the service.

### **Youth Mental Health Forum**

Freedom Preston-Clark of Cross Over Trust addressed the Forum on communicating with youth, a subject that needs to be understood if the Council's and Board's aim of increasing participation by youth in the governance process is to be achieved.

### **Central City Revitalisation**

Meeting of staff and consultants to discuss means of achieving community input to the project. The consultants have asked to speak to the Community Affairs Committee.

Copies of "Heart of Our City" a supplement on the topic published in the latest edition of "City Scene" have been circulated to members. The supplement has created considerable public interest evidenced by the fact that 400-500 responses to the questionnaire have been received to date. (Please contact the Service Centre if you have not received your copy of "City Scene").

### **St Albans Web - Presentation**

This community internet project is an impressive example of how residents, businesses and community organisations can co-operate in strengthening and giving a sense of place to their neighbourhood. A similar outcome may be achievable through the "E-mail Chat Shop" project soon to begin.

A copy of a Press report is attached.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the information be received.
  2. That the Board seek Council funding for a pilot community-based "Sustainable Christchurch" project combining social, economic and environmental synergies and outcomes.