

## 16. SUNNYSIDE RESERVES LAND ACQUISITION

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The purpose of this report is to recommend that a subcommittee of the Parks and Recreation Committee be set up to consider the issues pertaining to the proposed acquisitions of land through subdivision of the former Sunnyside Hospital site.

### LOCATION

The proposed subdivision is located within the south-eastern portion of the ex-Sunnyside Hospital site, situated between Annex Road and Sylvan Street north of Lincoln Road. A site plan will be available at the meeting.

### PROPOSED SUBDIVISION

A subdivision has been proposed for the former Sunnyside Hospital land, which contains a large number (over 100) of notable and significant trees.

As is customary with subdivisions of this type, officers have discussed with the developer the acquisition of a major reserve by way of reserves contribution through subdivision.

The first priority (which offers the best form of protection) is the acquisition through reserves contribution of the largest body of trees to be contained within the 12,000m<sup>2</sup> reserve.

It has also been suggested that further trees be protected by way of acquisition. This would form an extension to the main reserve (which will also contain a form of drainage swale on Annex Road), and a pocket park.

A further suggestion is the retention of the former heritage administration building within a garden area opposite the main reserve.

The proposal therefore has four components:

1. Acquisition of the main reserve to protect the largest group of trees by way of reserve contribution.
2. A small extension to the reserve to be purchased to offset reserve contribution credits and allow an additional area for a drainage swale.
3. The purchase of a pocket park to protect a small group of notable trees which, owing to the size of the lots, would require removal in order for houses to be built.
4. The preservation of the historic administration building adjacent to the proposed reserve.

The Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Committee requested that the matter be deferred until the May meeting, so that a comprehensive report would be available.

However, the developer has a commitment to other parties and is anxious to proceed without further delay. To progress the matter, it is suggested that a subcommittee be formed to consider the proposal in greater detail, and to report to the May meeting of the Committee on both the reserve and heritage building issues.

**Recommendation:** That a subcommittee of the Parks and Recreation Committee be appointed to investigate the issues in detail and to bring a recommendation to the May meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee.

**Deputy Chairman's Recommendation:** That the above recommendation be adopted.