

6. LEISURE, PARKS AND WATERWAYS PLAN

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Corporate Plan Output: Leisure Planning	

BACKGROUND

Currently planning for these areas tends to be for a one-year duration, in line with Council's budget process. In addition, units of Council with responsibility for this area (Leisure, Parks and Waterways) plan separately, often without taking existing or planned work of other units into account. The result of this can at times be strategies and plans which are not aligned with each other. This situation also means that Community Board members and staff need to have knowledge of several plans or strategies in order to be able to see the "big picture".

LEISURE, PARKS AND WATERWAYS PLAN

A Leisure, Parks and Waterways Plan will give Community Board members and staff a comprehensive guide to the needs, current and future provision (both Council and external agencies) and financial allocations available for these areas. It will also assist Community Board members to make informed decisions about the allocation of Project and Discretionary funding, by providing a 3 year plan for any Board funding required to ensure residents receive quality recreation/arts programmes and events, parks and sports facilities and waterways and wetlands enhancements.

Areas of study which will be addressed include parks, sportsgrounds, youth facilities such as skateboarding, play equipment, recreation/arts programmes, events and facilities, recreation advice and relevant aspects of the Waterways and Wetlands Natural Asset Management Strategy. Existing research and Board and Council policies and priorities will also be taken into account.

Leisure, Parks and Waterways Plans are currently being prepared in the Fendalton/Waimairi; Burwood/Pegasus and Spreydon/Heathcote areas. Each Community Board has contributed \$5,000 towards the costs of the Plan.

SCOPE OF PLAN

The Plan will provide the following information:

- A profile of the current sport, recreation and arts participation and needs of residents and their preferences for parks, reserves and waterways enhancements and recreation, sports and arts activities.
- Future local demographic and leisure trends.
- Other organisations involved in leisure, parks and waterways activities and their future plans.
- In light of the above information, priorities for Council involvement and delivery in the leisure, parks and waterways areas.
- Council unit planned services and funding available for this area over a 3 year period.
- An indication of any additional Community Board support required for the 3 year period.

FUNDING OF THE PLAN

The cost of the plan preparation is \$15,000. Leisure and Parks and Waterways Units have \$10,000 available and request a contribution from the Board of \$5,000.

Recommendation: That the Leisure Unit be allocated \$5,000 from 2001/2002 Discretionary funds towards a Shirley/Papanui Leisure, Parks and Waterways Plan.

The Community Advocate advised that this request was forwarded to the Board's Project Proposals meeting in March 2001. It was not considered a priority given the Board's limited funds and it was referred for consideration from Discretionary Funds. However, the demand on the Discretionary Funds at this stage of the year mean that again this project cannot be supported.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That this item be deferred for consideration for 2002/2003 Project Funds.