

## 12. CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL'S MAJOR GRANTS FUNDING ALLOCATION

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Corporate Plan Output: Metropolitan Community Funding 6.1.8	

The purpose of this report is to provide information for the Board to make a funding support recommendation to the City Council's Major Grants Fund for the construction of a School/Community Hall at the Aranui Primary School.

This school/community hall project has the potential of meeting all the priorities of the Council's Social Wellbeing Policy

At the Board's 20 November 2000 meeting, Major Grants funding support recommendations were approved for a new church/community hall and youth centre facilities at the Bassett Street Burwood Christian Centre, the construction of a multi-use youth centre at the Shortland Street City East Church and extensions to the school/community hall at the Windsor Primary School.

### BACKGROUND

The School has no purpose hall facility. It presently uses two old classrooms converted into one open space as a "hall" area. Such a lack of hall facilities has severely limited the school's and local community's educational, cultural, social and recreational development and participation for many years.

The proposed 21.8m x 25.2m hall will provide opportunities for indoor sports and recreation, music and theatre productions, cultural group activities, school assemblies, after school programmes, public and community meetings and events.

Proposed facilities include a 18m x 20m main hall area with a stage area and two changing rooms; toilets; two storage rooms; a kitchen with a servery area and a foyer. Total construction cost has been estimated at \$379,000.

The School is a Decile 1A primary school and has a 2000 year school roll of 338 pupils aged between five and thirteen. Of the pupils, 45% are Maori and 25% are Pacific Islanders.

The 1996 Census shows Aranui with:

- 29.1% of its population are aged under 14 years (Christchurch City 19.4%).
- 19.6% of its population are Maori (6.9%).
- 10.6% of its population are Pacific people (1.9%).
- 37.3% of families are sole parented (18%).
- 52.0% of the population aged 15+ have no formal qualifications (30.1%).
- 16.7% unemployment (7.6%).
- a median annual family income of \$25,691 (\$38,947).
- 50.9% of the population aged 15+ were receiving income support (38.0%).

### COMMENTS

The school community has already raised \$35,000 towards the cost of the project and has confirmed funding support of \$164,000 from the Ministry of Education and \$50,000 from the Community Trust. The Board of Trustees has also lodged an application with the NZ Lottery Grants Board.

Community information gathered so far by the Aranui Community Renewal Project is identifying the need for more things for young people to do, a drop in centre for children, a centre for youth activities, educational programmes, more children's holiday programmes, an artistic place, and parenting courses.

It is confidently predicted that this community project will play a major role in assisting the Aranui community meet the needs identified above. It is believed that the project will play a very significant role in improving the cultural, social and economic opportunities of the Aranui community as identified through the priorities of the City Council's Social Wellbeing Policy. Such priorities include:

- Reducing disparities between groups.
- Reducing multi disadvantage.
- Supporting the community infrastructure, which provides opportunities to participate in the life of the community and have a sense of belonging and identity.
- Reducing barriers to access of services and resources.
- Maximising children's and young people's opportunities for full development.
- Ensuring resources are fairly distributed between citizens, communities, regions and sectors.
- Being responsive to the needs and aspirations of all cultural groups.

Though there are six other community facilities available for community hire within one kilometre of the School, the Board of Trustees has received strong support from local community groups stating that they will use the Hall. Such community use of the Hall has been indicated by Te Ropu Tamahine, the Aranui Activity Centre, Eastern Suburbs Rugby League, the Christchurch Samoan Advisory Council, the Pacific Islands Diabetes Committee and Otautahi Maori Wardens.

- Recommendations:**
1. That the Board recommend that the City Council's Major Grants Fund consider a grant request from the Aranui Primary School for the construction of a School/Community Hall.
  2. That the Board consider ranking the four capital work projects being referred to the Major Grants Fund in a priority order of:  
Aranui Primary School.  
Burwood Christian Centre.  
City East Church.  
Windsor Primary School.

- Chairperson's Recommendations:**
1. That recommendation 1 be adopted.
  2. That the Board discuss putting a priority order on the applications to the Major Grants Fund.