

8. EAST PAPANUI RESIDENTS GROUP

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The purpose of this report is to advise the Board of the outcomes of a public meeting to consider the re-establishment of the East Papanui Residents Group which has been in recess for some years.

BACKGROUND

At the time of the establishment of the Redwood, Casebrook, Northlands and South Papanui Residents Groups, inquiries were received about the formation of a group in what is the East Papanui Residents Group area. Contact details for the group were given at that time.

The East Papanui Residents Group (EPRG) had advised that they had gone into recess due to several factors including a perceived lack of issues by residents and a lack of participation by residents in the running of the group and attendance at meetings.

Recently a deputation of residents from Mary Street came to the Board to advise of traffic issues in Mary Street in particular. The Board in its comments suggested that the issue of the re-establishment of the EPRG be investigated.

At the Board's last meeting City Streets Unit advised of the proposed "cluster" redevelopment of streets in the Grants Road/Proctor Street/Papanui Road along the "Living Streets" concept. This concept relies significantly on residents involvement. The Unit supported either the re-establishment of the EPRG or the establishment of a new group as they see residents groups assisting in the development of this type of project.

ACTION

After discussions with two members of the Executive of the EPRG, a meeting was organised to be held at the Christchurch Adventist School, 15 Grants Road, on Wednesday, 13 June at 7.00pm. A circular was distributed in the Group's area.

Over thirty residents including a representative from the Merivale Precinct Society attended the meeting. The meeting was chaired by Community Board Chairperson Yvonne Palmer who presented an overview of what a Residents Group was and the status accorded it by the Community Board. This was supported by the representative from the Merivale Precinct Society.

A brief summary of the situation relating to the EPRG was given by staff and Leslie Abbott of the EPRG. Following this, open discussion took place. Concerns were expressed about the state of the roads especially in the Proctor St/Grants Road block, the increase and speed of traffic in the area, the difficulty pedestrians were having moving out of the area. Comment was made about the improvement in open spaces and parks eg Rutland Reserve within the area.

After discussions and information sharing the following were resolved by the meeting:

- That the East Papanui Residents Group be re-established.
- That the boundaries of the group be reconfirmed with the exception of those properties in the area bounded by Papanui, Mays, Bretts and Innes Roads. (This area which is in the Fendalton Ward has for some time, including when the EPRG had been operating, been "unofficially" included in the Merivale Precinct Society's area. It is understood that the Society is happy to continue with this arrangement with a view to "formalising" it.)
- Nominations were called for, received and adopted by the meeting for an interim committee of the East Papanui Residents Group. Alison Taylor-Hayhurst accepted the position of Interim Chairperson.

It is considered that those elected to the interim committee are representative of the area.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Board recognise and support the re-establishment of the East Papanui Residents Group.
 2. That the Board approve the new boundaries of the Group, outlined in the map attached, ie. all of the existing area of the East Papanui Residents Group with the exception of those properties in the area bounded by Papanui, Mays, Bretts and Innes Roads.

Chairperson's Recommendation: That the officer's recommendation be adopted.