

25. GRANT ARMSTRONG AND AVONHEAD PARKS - PROVISION OF SEATS

<b>Officer responsible</b> Parks and Waterways Manager	<b>Author</b> Gary Harrow, PAWAA, DDI 3722708
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The purpose of this report is to request that the Board consider funding park seats in Grant Armstrong and Avonhead Parks.

**BACKGROUND**

A number of requests have recently been made by Community Board members and residents, most recently Mr George Issac of Wilton Crescent and Mr Cor Moolenaar and Mr Hoyle who live near Avonhead Park, for the provision of seats in these parks.

**GRANT ARMSTRONG PARK**

Members will be aware this park’s neighbour is Isleworth School with which the Board has a strong relationship in that the landscaping of the joint boundary has been developed over the years in consultation with the Board and Council officers.

The reserve is very basic, with no built facilities and serves as an open recreation area. There are no seats there at present. Two have been requested.

**AVONHEAD PARK**

There are 3 existing seats and one other due to be installed soon as part of the Chesterfield Mews entrance development.

What is requested here are 3 extra seats, one each near the northern and southern boundaries and another between the club facilities and the carpark. The positions for these extra seats are for people to use while waiting for others at the facilities and so that they have sheltered seats to choose from at different times of the day.

**FUNDING OPTIONS**

The Parks and Waterways Unit has funding available for one seat in Avonhead Park as previously mentioned and usually has funding set aside for such equipment, except that this year, the fund has already been allocated. With 15 seats city-wide, we are getting 2 for Avonhead Cemetery. These were requested some time ago.

The options are to wait until next financial year when I hope to have 3 seats allocated to the area, or, as I have been requested, to apply for funding from the Board.

Seats, installed, cost approx. \$700 each.

**Recommendation:** That the Board fund 5 seats at a total cost of \$3,500 (excl GST).

**Community Advocate’s Recommendation:** That the Board either fund/part fund from the 2001/02 Discretionary Fund balance of \$14,950, or consider for allocation during the 2002/03 Project Funding allocation process.