

21. CAMBRIDGE GREEN RESERVE

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Corporate Plan Output: Parks Plans and Policy Statements	

The purpose of this report is to update the Board on the landscape plan and recent consultation for Cambridge Green Reserve.

BACKGROUND

In 2000 the Board named the triangular piece of land at the Barbadoes/Salisbury Street intersection Cambridge Green Reserve. After an extended period of consultation the plan is ready for implementation.

FEATURES OF THE DESIGN

Comment received from consultation clearly supported the idea of water flowing through the reserve. This concept was developed as part of the former Waterways and Wetlands team's desire to "daylight" an existing drain that runs down Salisbury Street to the Avon River. It highlights the existence of a waterway which has excellent flow and which is presently hidden under the road, only becoming apparent where it spills into the Avon River from an historic brick barrel outfall. The opened brick barrel structure set amongst riparian waterway planting will be a feature of the reserve. Access to the water will be provided from the main part of the reserve.

A significant feature of the reserve will be the presence of four pou pou which will be carved by George Edwards, a respected local carver. It is likely that these will be installed over time, once the development works of the site have been completed.

A sitting area with mounding and planting as a buffer to Barbadoes Street traffic will be formed within the reserve. Liaison with cycleway planning staff has resulted in a wide path skirting the edge of the reserve rather than running through it. It was seen as undesirable to have the shared path separating the reserve from the riverbank.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

This concept is supported by the Avon Loop Planning Association, the Moa Neighbourhood Committee, Victoria Neighbourhood Group and the Civic Trust. In particular, time has been spent with a management committee of runanga set up specifically for this project. Iwi regard this site as extremely significant due to its relationship with the Avon River and Tautahi's Pa.

In addition to this, the development of the reserve is seen as a calming of the waters and the healing of grievances felt by local Maori ever since an important waterway was piped and pushed underground by municipal engineers many years ago.

It is anticipated that before any work starts a ceremony will take place on the land. A further meeting with ALPA on 22 November 2001 will highlight more recent development of the ideas illustrated in the original concept, which they supported in principle.

Park and Waterways staff feel that before Christmas, a morning tea could be held bringing local residents, business groups, the Runanga Working Party, staff and community board members together as away of forging relationships in the area. It is suggested that the Hagley/Ferrymead Advocacy Team could organise this, with a welcome provided by the Board chair.

IMPLEMENTATION

The Parks and Waterways Unit has \$120,000 in 2001/02 to carry out the proposal. Work is likely to begin in April 2002. (A plan will be available at the meeting).

CONCLUSION

The landscape plan for Cambridge Green Reserve has been endorsed by local residents groups and runanga. It is intended that the reserve will be fully developed by the end of 2001/02 financial year.

Recommendation: 1. That the information be received.

2. That a morning tea be arranged by the Advocacy Team to formally initiate the development of the site.