

5. CHARLESTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

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The purpose of this report is to inform the Board that the Charleston Neighbourhood Plan has been awarded the Nancy Northcroft Planning Award, part of the 2002 Australia-New Zealand Awards for Planning Excellence from the New Zealand Planning Institute. The award was given for planning related consultation and public involvement in developing the Plan.

NANCY NORTHCROFT PLANNING AWARD

The Nancy Northcroft Planning Award was awarded by the New Zealand Planning Institute at the Institute Conference in Wellington in April 2002. The award is given in recognition of projects involving planning-related consultation and public involvement. The award included a certificate and trophy, and is given only 'from time to time'.

CHARLESTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Neighbourhood Plan started in September 2000 with the Council urban design team co-ordinating a team which included the area traffic engineer, the parks and waterways area advocate, parks and waterways planner, community recreation advisor, arts adviser and community advocate. This team worked with the local residents association and the wider community to develop the plan. From this beginning, wider involvement with the community was actioned: contacting the Charleston Neighbourhood Association committee; sending out a newsletter, holding public meetings to discuss feedback and potential solutions; a display day and consultation with businesses. Following all of this work, a draft plan was presented to the Community Board and relevant Council committees after which the plan was released for public comment.

To facilitate feedback, the document was made available for viewing at several locations and after some amendments the final Neighbourhood Plan was published in September 2001. Since that time the focus has been on implementing the initiatives and ideas contained in the Plan.

The Neighbourhood Plan has two parts. The first provides a catalogue of ideas of how the Neighbourhood Plan can be implemented. These can be adapted to suit a particular location or specific outcome. The second provides a map of Charleston that shows the proposals for different parts of the suburb, some of which have been or are being implemented, while others will be completed over the next six years. The plan includes urban renewal techniques such as giving support to community based initiatives; landscaping/architectural/design assistance to owners of older houses; upgrading and enhancement of open spaces; traffic calming; upgrading of footpaths; kerbs, grass berms and undergrounding overhead services.

CONCLUSION

The Charleston Neighbourhood Plan demonstrates a planning-related consultation and public involvement and the sustainable management of the area. As quoted by the New Zealand Planning Institute judging panel, "it is a worthy recipient of the Nancy Northcroft Planning Award".

Recommendation: That the information be received.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received and the Board record its congratulations to the team.