

5. DRAFT SUBMISSION ON FINANCIAL PLAN AND PROGRAMME 2003 EDITION

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Corporate Plan Output: Public Accountability	

The following is the draft submission as forwarded on 30 May 2002. Any amendments will need to be advised immediately after the meeting.

MORRISON AVENUE

As far back as 1994/95 the Shirley/Papanui Community Board identified a need for a small neighbourhood park in the Morrison Avenue area. This area has many Housing New Zealand homes with families with young children. The Parks unit agreed that there was a need for a park and that it was a Neighbourhood Park priority. Over the years the Board and Parks unit staff have discussed this need and visited the area to look at possible sections for sale. It has been agreed that the Council should be actively seeking the purchase of two sections. In September 1995 the Board was advised that the cost would be approximately \$260,000 and that a total of \$2.2m had been allocated over the five years for strategic reserve purchase. Unfortunately to date no action has been taken to purchase properties in Morrison Avenue, despite acknowledgement by both the Area Parks Advocate and Senior Parks and Waterways Planner that this should be a priority. Concern now is that the Council regularly approves the purchase of new reserves, and many other opportunity purchases, the Strategic Reserve Purchase plan or priority list does not appear to have any status, if new projects keep coming in over those already on the plan.

It is noted that this project now has a Parks and Waterways Unit Priority 3 whereas for a number of years the Board believed it was a Unit Priority 1. The Board acknowledges that it is difficult to fairly prioritise parks needs throughout the city, however on the current priority list the Priority 1 items mainly relate to new subdivisions (Richmond Hill, Clare Park) or committed payments on land recently purchased.

This has been the issue for a number of years; while Morrison Avenue is seen as urgent new purchases keep pushing it out, and it has now been deleted off the programme. The need is now for those families with young children living in this area with mainly Housing NZ properties. This park is seen as a social need to enhance this community. The young children and parents have nowhere within safe walking distance to play and engaged in outdoor activity and exercise in a safe and healthy environment.

This will remain the case as long as large property purchases in new subdivisions, etc keep jumping the queue.

The Board strongly requests that the Budget Review Committee reviews the prioritisation of both the Parks and Waterways priority lists and substitute one or other project for a small neighbourhood park in Morrison Avenue.

ST ALBANS COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE - CARPARKING

The St. Albans Community Resource Centre Management Committee has identified a future need for car parking for the Resource Centre. This item was forwarded to the Property Unit for consideration as part of the Project Proposals process for the 2002/03 planning year. The Property Unit response was a request for information relating to use of the centre to back up the need for car parking. The St. Albans Community Facilitator prepared a detailed report on usage, and the current car parking problems. The Property Unit has advised that there is no funding available in the present Un-specified Community Facility budget and suggest the Board make a submission to the Annual Plan Working Party requesting that budget provision be included in the 2002/03 budget.

One of the main reasons for urgency at this time is that there is an adjoining property which could be offered for sale in the near future, and this may not always be the case. The Government Evaluation. on the property is \$114,000, plus car parking development, possibly \$40,000. The area is 506m². This would allow for approximately 18-20 car parks.

Total costs include:

Purchase price say	\$125,000
Legal Costs	\$5,000
Car park/site works, etc	\$60,000
Total	<u>\$190,000</u>

Resource consents and landscaping would be necessary. It is possible that the site could be purchased now to guarantee the site, while the other works could be undertaken in future financial years.

Supporting information regarding use of the facility will be attached to the submission.

ST ALBANS EDUCARE PRESCHOOL

The Board supports the funding of \$350,000 for a replacement building for this facility. In approving this the Council suggested that the building be located on currently owned Council property. The Board is working with Property staff and the Preschool to identify possible options, however there is concern that should it not be possible to obtain a Council owned site, then further funding needs to be provided for land purchase.

Recommendation: That the above draft submission be confirmed.

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