

9. INTEGRATED ARTWORK SIGNAGE FUNDING REQUEST - JANET STEWART RESERVE

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Community Services
Officer responsible:	Community and Recreation Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Board consideration for funding an integrated artwork signage project at the Janet Stewart Reserve Pa Harakeke. A grant of \$4,500 is being requested from Board's 2004/05 Discretionary Funding and the Community Response Fund towards a total project cost of \$10,000. This request is based on \$4,500 coming from Board's Discretionary funding - (\$4,556 currently remains in the 2004/05 fund) and the remaining \$500 coming from the 2004/05 Community Response Fund (Community Development). This will enable the project to commence using Burwood/Pegasus 2004/05 funding and be completed using Shirley/Papanui 2005/06 funding (which has already been secured).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Janet Stewart Reserve is located on the corner of Marshland Road and Lower Styx Road (border boundaries for Shirley/Papanui Ward and Burwood/Pegasus Ward). Christine Heremaia (Styx Project Area Leader, Greenspace Unit) has been instrumental in working alongside interested parties to establish a Pa Harakeke at Janet Stewart Reserve. The harakeke plants were sourced from the Orcheson collection - a Landcare Research Regeneration Project for native plants. The harakeke varieties found at the Pa Harakeke are greatly valued by local Maori weavers. In particular the Korowai Tahī Inc Weaving Group whose Kaupapa (or purpose) is to foster and nurture traditional art practices, ie weaving. The concept of the Pa Harakeke is for weavers, school groups and interested parties to have a place that they can harvest flax from.
3. There is presently high demand for a place to harvest harakeke. However the harakeke plantation is being abused by people who are either not harvesting the flax correctly, or leaving unwanted flax littered throughout the Harakeke. Some plants are being harvested in a manner that is not fitting with the cultural protocols of flax harvesting. In some cases plants have been left in a state that is dangerous for the next group of users.
4. Current users of the Pa Harakeke have approached Council and requested that signage be erected to protect the Pa Harakeke and to promote correct harvesting techniques. Correct techniques will mean less danger to users of the Pa Harakeke, a sustainable resource for future generations, and preservation of the cultural and environmental integrity of this unique site.
5. The signage is to be an integrated artwork incorporating functional signage with art that will complement the site and also have a practical use. The signage is important for the following reasons: it will promote a safer and healthy community, it will encourage cultural and environmental well-being, and it will contribute to the preservation of Tikanga and Kawa (cultural protocol).
6. This project fits with the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board objective of maximising opportunities for residents to participate in learning and leisure activities by identifying opportunities for incorporating art in Council projects and is consistent with Council Arts Policy and Strategy.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

7. The Shirley/Papanui Community Board has allocated \$5,000 towards this project (from 2005/06 Board Project Funding) but this is subject to a funding contribution being made by the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board. This condition has been made due to the fact that the reserve lies within Burwood/Pegasus Community Board boundaries. The reserve used to lie in Shirley/Papanui boundaries but a rezoning of board boundaries has meant it now falls under Burwood/Pegasus jurisdiction.
8. If the full \$5,000 amount is not secured by the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board then an option may be to reduce the level of signage currently planned for Janet Stewart Reserve or to source alternative funding options.
9. The approximate cost of the integrated artwork signage is \$10,000, including installation. A brief for the artwork is currently being written.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Board agree to fund the integrated artwork signage to the value of \$5,000 based on Council officers sighting quotations for the integrated artwork signage.

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

That the abovementioned recommendation be adopted.