

3. WYCOLA PARK REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

General Manager responsible:	General Manager, City Environment Group
Officer responsible:	Greenspace Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to request \$10,000 from the 2004/05 Environment Committee Funds to undertake amenity landscape planting at Wycola Park which will complete the approved redevelopment plan within the current financial year.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Board members will recall approving the redevelopment plan for Wycola Park. The Greenspace Unit has been progressively implementing the plan over the last 2 years.
3. The first year saw the removal of the old wooden skateboard ramp and construction of a pathway connection on the eastern side of the park. This year's work involved construction of the pathway on the western side of the park (completed) and the installation of a basketball court. A contract for the construction of the basketball court has been let and the work will be completed by the end of May 2005.
4. The plan also provided for additional landscape enhancement to complement and build on the existing plantings within the park. There is some landscape planting planned as part of this year's autumn planting programme. However the remaining funds are not sufficient to allow completion of all the planting in the current financial year.
5. Allocation of the requested funds (\$10,000) will allow all the landscape planting to be undertaken. This will complete all the work covered in the redevelopment plan within the current financial year.
6. The only area on the park remaining to be redeveloped is the area immediately around the Hei Hei Community Centre and skateboard area. This area was left out of the original redevelopment plan as it was unknown at that time what impact the Hei Hei Community Centre upgrade would have on that particular area of the park.
7. Now that the full extent of the work at Hei Hei Community Centre is known, the Greenspace Unit will undertake design work on this small remaining area of the park in the 2005/06 financial year. The proposed design work will focus on opportunities for integrating the Community Centre into the park environment.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

8. The Riccarton/Wigram Environment Committee has \$20,250 remaining in its 2004/05 fund which is currently unallocated to any projects or proposals. Allocating the \$10,000 as requested would still leave a balance of \$10,250 for the Committee to consider other possible projects in the current financial year.
9. The \$10,000 will be used to prepare and install shrub borders in various locations around the park boundary and adjacent to the new basketball court once it is constructed. Individual trees will be planted at specific points adjacent to the new pathways to create a tree-lined avenue effect once established. Because of the nature of the soils in Wycola Park more than 50% of the cost will be in the planting bed preparation to ensure that there is a suitable growing medium for the plants to establish in.

OPTIONS

9. There are three possible options:
 - (a) Do not allocate any funds. Result is that the limited planting as programmed will still occur but not enough to complete the plan in the current financial year.
 - (b) Allocate a lesser amount. Result is that some additional planting over and above that already programmed will take place, but it will still be insufficient to complete the plan in the current financial year.

- (c) Allocate \$10,000 as requested. The redevelopment plan, agreed by the local community, will be completed within the current financial year.

PREFERRED OPTION

10. The preferred option is option (c). This would allow all the work proposed in the current plan to be completed this financial year.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Riccarton/Wigram Environment Committee approve option (c) as outlined above.

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

That the staff's recommendation be adopted.