



## Christchurch City Council

# RICCARTON/WIGRAM COMMUNITY BOARD

## ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

**THURSDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2008**

**AT 5.00PM**

**AT SOCKBURN SERVICE CENTRE**

**IN THE BOARDROOM,  
149 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, CHRISTCHURCH**

**Community Board:** Peter Laloli (Chairperson), Helen Broughton, Jimmy Chen, Beth Dunn, Judy Kirk, Mike Mora and Bob Shearing.

**Community Board Adviser**

Liz Beaven

Telephone: 941-6501

Email: [liz.beaven@ccc.govt.nz](mailto:liz.beaven@ccc.govt.nz)

- PART A - MATTERS REQUIRING A COUNCIL DECISION**
- PART B - REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**
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- 1. APOLOGIES**
- 2. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT**
- 3. CORRESPONDENCE**
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## 5. TOORAK RESERVE TREE REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT PLANTING PROJECT

<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager City Environment, Jane Parfitt, DDI 941 8656
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Transport and Greenspace, Unit Manager
<b>Author:</b>	Ann Campbell, Consultation Leader – Greenspace and Tony Armstrong, Arborist

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to recommend to the Board (via the Committee) to approve a final landscape plan for tree removal and replacement in Toorak Reserve.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Toorak Reserve is a small local reserve located in Toorak Avenue in Avonhead.
3. Following consultation on Ferrier Park, a letter was sent to Consultation Leader, Transport and Greenspace, from the Neighbourhood Support Group in Toorak Street requesting that Toorak Reserve be reviewed. There was concern over shading, extensive litter and safety in this reserve during high winds. (see **Attachment 1**)
4. Fourteen (14) 'specimen' trees have been surveyed and assessed as part of the proposal, along with associated smaller trees and shrubs eg pittosporum, ake ake and kowhai. The predominant species being mature poplar (1), eucalypt (3), robinia (4), ash (2), birch (3) and prunus (1). The stocking rate for the reserve based on this is approximately sixty five (65) trees per hectare, which is a relatively higher than average rate currently recorded for urban parks in Christchurch City.
5. The result of the assessment recommends the removal of eleven (11) trees due to their poor form and/or condition. For instance, there is evidence of decay and structural defects in many of the (eucalypt and robinia) trees which create a health and safety risk for users of the park and neighbouring property owners. Other trees are either in poor condition or are considered inappropriate either due to their species or placement, eg ash and prunus.
6. The replanting plan proposes to replace six (6) trees with new species eg elm, lime and magnolia for diversity whilst retaining some of the remnant tree canopy eg eucalypt (1), robinia (1), ash (1) and birch (1). Supplementary small trees and shrubs are also proposed to complete the landscape plan along with other associated works to improve the entrance.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7. The estimated total cost of the project is \$10,000. The funding from Council is being provided from the Transport and Greenspace Capital Programme:

2007/08      \$10,000      Toorak Reserve

### Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2006-16 LTCCP budgets?

8. Yes. Funding is provided from within the Transport and Greenspace Capital Programme in the 2006-16 LTCCP

### LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

9. All work will be carried out by a Council approved contractor.

### Have you considered the legal implications of the issue under consideration?

10. Yes. As per above.

5 Cont'd

**ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS**

11. LTCCP 2006 -16

Parks, Open Spaces and Waterways – page 123

- Safety – By ensuring our Parks, open spaces and waterways are healthy and safe places.
- Community – By providing welcoming areas for communities to gather and interact.
- Environment – By offering opportunities for people to contribute to projects that improve our city's environment.

**Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2006-16 LTCCP?**

12. Yes, as per above.

**ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES**

13. Social wellbeing

Safer Parks Policy

**Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?**

14. Yes, as per above.

**CONSULTATION FULFILMENT**

15. In June 2008 a publicity pamphlet was distributed to approximately 350 residences and key stakeholders (refer **Attachment 2**). The pamphlet included a summary of the concept, initial concept plans and a feedback form. The project team sought feedback from the community to see whether the proposal was generally supported.

16. The consultation received a 11% response rate (41 responses) and community feedback was generally very positive (refer **Attachment 3**).

- 35 submitters (85%) responded "YES – I support the concept plan".
- 4 submitters (10%) responded "NO – I do not support the concept plan".
- 2 submitters (5%) neither supported or opposed the proposal.

17. The key issues identified by submitters relate to:

- Nine submissions related to maintenance issues including requesting revamps and additions to the playground.
- Six submissions were concerned about the height/denseness and amount of planting. They wanted to maintain open spaces and visibility of the playground and ensuring their properties were not affected by shade and litter.
- Two submissions were requesting more natives be planted.

18. These issues have been addressed or responded to by:

- Two maples will no longer be planted, this will improve the sight lines through to the play ground from Toorak Ave and provide more open space within the reserve.
- An additional Kowhai is to be planted, this will add another native to the mix of plantings.
- The northern Lime will be moved further down into the park, this will ensure neighbouring properties do not receive unwanted shade – this is also a deciduous tree which is replacing two evergreens.

**5 Cont'd**

- All planting will be at least one metre from boundaries (and no closer than existing trees), this will ensure neighbouring properties do not receive unwanted shade and reduce litter.
- As part of this development existing trees will be pruned and lifted to make the canopy higher and allow more sun into the reserve.
- Requests for service have been logged for maintenance issues and those relating to street trees which are not part of this proposal.
- There is not currently budget provision for a playground upgrade. Demographics of this area suggest there is a decrease in both under 5's and under 14 year olds in the area compared with the city average. This particular neighbourhood is well serviced for playgrounds, with Staveley Park, Ferrier Park, Avonhead School, Stewarts Bush and Crosbie Park all being within travelling distance of this location. If such expenditure was to occur in this area for under 5's then Staveley Park, or Crosbie Park would be the preferred options.

19. It is pleasing to note that this small reserve is well used and regarded by neighbouring residents and the local community.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That the Environment Committee recommend to the Board to approve the final landscape plan for Toorak Reserve and proceed with the implementation of the project (see **Attachment 4**).

From Neil Jamison  
61 Toorak Avenue  
Christchurch 8004

To Rod Whearty  
Parks and Waterways Area Advocate  
Christchurch City Council  
Sockburn Service Centre

Date 23rd February 2006

Thanks again for the detailed info re Ferrier Park. It is appreciated.

May I bring the following to your attention:

At a recent meeting of our Neighbourhood Support Groups, residents of Group 4 (9 in number) whose houses are adjacent to the Toorak Reserve, expressed concern in regard to some of the original tree plantings which have now attained considerable size and particularly height, and are now the cause of some despondency.

It would appear the concerns are similar to those which are motivating the changes in the aforementioned Ferrier Park.

Among the concerns mentioned re Toorak Reserve is the extensive shading, particularly during the winter months, extensive litter, and safety in high winds.

It was felt that these concerns may require some attention and consideration. Perhaps it would be propitious if the residents involved and yourselves could meet, maybe in the Reserve (or one of the residences) at a suitable time and date. It would be appreciated.

On behalf of the undersigned -----

*N. Jamison No 61*  
*Betty Hughes No 81*  
*P. C. Cookson No 66*  
*Neil Emery 67*  
*Gladys Fraser 60*  
*John Taylor 65*  
*Barbara Duff 63*  
*M. B. Mylon 65 A*

It is anticipated that this project will be undertaken and completed by the end of September 2008, dependent on weather and contractor availability.



Comments regarding this proposal are invited from local residents. Please return your submission in the reply paid envelope no later than:

Friday 20th June 2008



Ann Campbell  
Consultation Leader – Greenspace  
Capital Development Unit  
Christchurch City Council  
Beckenham Service Centre  
PO Box 12 033  
CHRISTCHURCH  
Phone: 941 5111 or (027) 473 3792  
Email: Ann.Campbell@ccc.govt.nz



HAVE YOUR SAY

To assist us with this tree replacement proposal, the Capital Development Unit would like to determine the views of the local community prior to commencing the proposal. We would appreciate you taking the time to complete the enclosed comment form with any feedback and returning it in the reply paid envelope by **Friday 20th June 2008.**

If you would like any further information or assistance in regard to this project, please do not hesitate to contact either

Ann Campbell  
Consultation Leader – Greenspace  
phone 941 5111 or (027) 473 3792

OR

**Tony Armstrong**  
Arborist  
phone 941 8578 or (027) 279 6398.

# TOORAK RESERVE TREE REPLACEMENT PROPOSAL

Toorak Reserve is a small well established reserve located in Avonhead. This reserve contains play equipment and trees which provide a significant contribution to the general amenity as well as providing some shade and shelter for neighbouring residents and the local community.



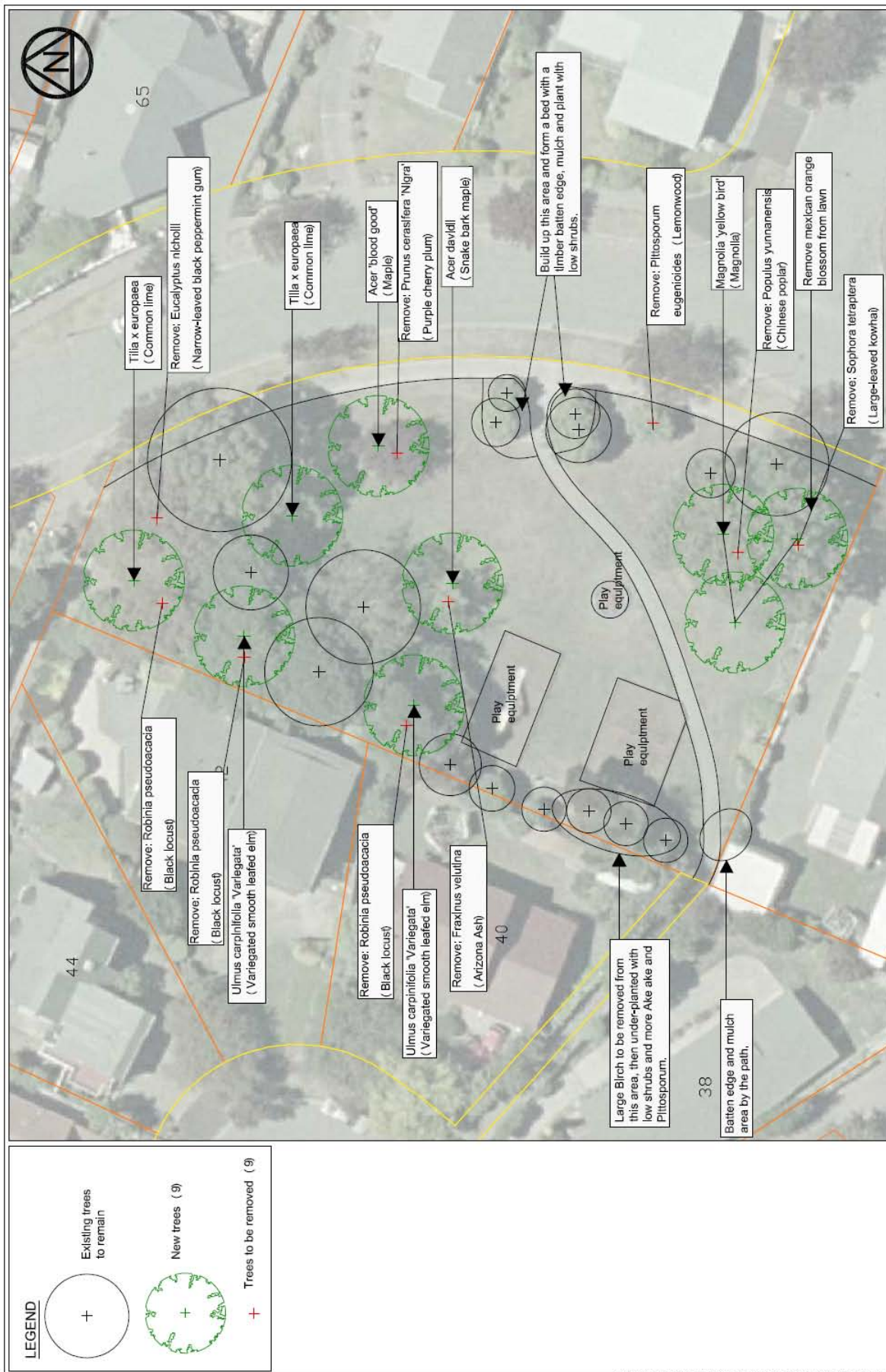
To ensure the ongoing amenity, and safety for park users, there are a number of trees that have been identified for removal due to health, safety and poor form/condition. The attached landscape plan highlights the issues for your perusal. Trees that have been marked for removal are highlighted by red crosses on the plan, replacement trees are marked in green and existing trees contain black crosses.



CHRISTCHURCH



TOORAK PARK - TREE REPLACEMENT 08/09



**TOORAK RESERVE – TREE REPLACEMENT PROPOSAL**

**"Note:** Names and addresses, along with personal identifying information (denoted by [ ]) have been deleted from this document for privacy reasons. This information has been taken into consideration in the analysis of submissions."

REF	YES	NO	COMMENTS	PROJECT TEAM RESPONSE
1.	Y		It would be good if the large leaved Kowhai could be left – good bellbird and grey warbler habitat.	This tree has been identified as a poor specimen and requires removal. Replacement kowhai will be planted in alternative location.
2	Y		Excellent proposal – hope you will keep all existing playground equipment in place	Yes.
3	Y		As I walk around this area regularly it will be very good to see the proposed plan put into place, helping to keep Christchurch the 'Garden City' looking neat and well cared for. Just hope the 'vandals' don't destroy all the good work once its completed, like they have done in some of the other areas/parks etc.	-
4	Y		If the trees need to be removed and are replaced with other more suitable ones then this is fine with us. If it could be passed on to whichever section deals with this – we would love a better fence in the alleyway with the barking dog and if there could be a couple of toys for under 2's like one of those little slides or a self seesaw like on the Yaldhurst Road Park then we could all go to this park more often. We are in [ ] and have a 6 year old and one just under 2 but usually travel further to a park with under 2's toys. We would like to all walk to this park through the alleyways and would do this more with toys for under 2's	Boundary fence will be checked by Contract Manager.  There is not currently budget provision for a playground upgrade. Demographics of this area suggest there is a decrease in both under 5's and under 14 year olds in the area compared with the city average. This particular neighbourhood is well serviced for playgrounds, with Staveley Park, Ferrier Park, Avonhead School, Stewarts Bush and Crosbie Park all being within travelling distance of this location. If such expenditure was to occur in this area for under 5's then Staveley Park, or Crosbie Park would be the preferred options.

REF	YES	NO	COMMENTS	PROJECT TEAM RESPONSE
5	Y		Would you be able to pass on to whom it may concern. That it would be nice to have two baby swings not one. As a lot of us have small children or grandchildren in the area, one baby swing is not enough.	There is not currently budget provision for a playground upgrade. Demographics of this area suggest there is a decrease in both under 5's and under 14 year olds in the area compared with the city average. This particular neighbourhood is well serviced for playgrounds, with Staveley Park, Ferrier Park, Avonhead School, Stewarts Bush and Crosbie Park all being within travelling distance of this location. If such expenditure was to occur in this area for under 5's then Staveley Park, or Crosbie Park would be the preferred options.
6	Y		Splendid plan	
7	Y		The opening up and 'balancing' of the planting will be a great back drop for a <u>newly designed playground</u> ! Any chance that this can take place to enhance the reserve and take it into the next step? Just like your changes will. Keep up the caring work! Toorak deserves it.	There is not currently budget provision for a playground upgrade. Demographics of this area suggest there is a decrease in both under 5's and under 14 year olds in the area compared with the city average. This particular neighbourhood is well serviced for playgrounds, with Staveley Park, Ferrier Park, Avonhead School, Stewarts Bush and Crosbie Park all being within travelling distance of this location. If such expenditure was to occur in this area for under 5's then Staveley Park, or Crosbie Park would be the preferred options.
8	Y			-
9	Y		Looks very good choice of trees. Ferrier Park (Nortons Road) has recently been replanted which looks good apart from the cabbage trees which look really ugly and untidy so I am pleased the Toorak Ave plan does not include cabbage trees and flaxes. Thanks for advising us of the proposal.	-
10	Y			-

REF	YES	NO	COMMENTS	PROJECT TEAM RESPONSE
11	Y		Magnolia 'yellow bird' is probably one of the least robust of all magnolia. My one lost all its top growth following the 2006 snowstorm. The curator of Lincoln University describes it as 'tricky' There is a very large collection of Magnolia at the university. Pittosporum tenuifolium (green varieties) are beginning to succumb to a disease in some areas which kills them. Plant with consideration.	Trees chosen for replacement plantings are selected from CCC nursery stock and special consideration is taken in regards to selection of species for each particular site.
12	Y			-
13	Y			-
14	Y			-
15	Y		The replacement trees seem appropriate to the size and scale of the reserve.	-
16	Y			-
17	Y			-
18	Y		Excellent progress	-
19	Y			-
20	Y		In principle the new tree planting will enhance the reserve and open it up as it has become overgrown. The trees and shrubs around the back boundary of the reserve (backing onto [ ] ) should be maintained more regularly so they look more aesthetically pleasant, and don't overhang unnecessarily on the neighbours.	The replacement planting of 2 of each ake ake and pittosporum will be kept a meter back from fence and regularly maintained.
21	Y		Could add more play equipment for younger children	There is not currently budget provision for a playground upgrade. Demographics of this area suggest there is a decrease in both under 5's and under 14 year olds in the area compared with the city average. This particular neighbourhood is well serviced for playgrounds, with Staveley Park, Ferrier Park, Avonhead School, Stewarts Bush and Crosbie Park all being within travelling distance of this location. If such expenditure was to occur in this area for under 5's then Staveley Park, or Crosbie Park would be the preferred options.

REF	YES	NO	COMMENTS	PROJECT TEAM RESPONSE
22	Y		<p>Choice of replacement trees excellent though there will be some complaints about leaf litter. Not from us!</p> <p>Play equipment is well maintained and well-used. But we have some reservations about dense shrubs and tree plantings near these playing areas.</p> <p>Is it necessary to have any plantings where the path across the reserve joins Toorak Ave?? It is a small reserve and it is important to create an illusion of space. A small garden area detracts, if anything from the park landscape effect, we feel. – a fussy addition.</p> <p>Next job – the street trees are showing signs of age and are a shabby version of their former selves. Replace with fewer trees and those leafier and greener? But do keep deciduous varieties which work well as shade in summer and sunlit in winter.</p>	<p>The two maple trees will no longer be planted. This will improve the sight lines through to the play ground from Toorak Ave. The small garden area is only going to be ground cover to ensure sight lines are maintained and will assist to conserve soil and the timber batten edge will stop overflow of soil onto the path.</p> <p>Request for service logged reference 90820738.</p>
23	Y			
24		N	<p>We do not support the removal of large trees from our neighbourhood parks. It appears to us that the removal of nine trees is excessive.</p> <p>We need tall and large trees to attract and keep the birds in the area - particularly when local residents remove tall trees from their properties as happens increasingly.</p> <p>Where do the birds go? Why replace large birch trees with low shrubs, more Ake Ake and Pittosporum? Why remove Ash, Eucalyptus and Elm trees . We end up with blandness rather than variety.</p>	<p>The large poplar is a health and safety concern and is an inappropriate specimen for small parks. Other trees identified for removal are defective eg. robina and gums. The new plantings will add diversity and variety while maintaining balance in size and canopy.</p>
25	Y			-
26		N	Far too many trees and shrubs in the park. Let the sun shine in.	<p>The new layout of the park will not differ greatly from what is existing and as part of this development existing trees will be pruned and lifted to make the canopy higher and allow more sun into the reserve.</p>
27	Y		Design and layout very welcome. Replacement trees selected very thoughtfully very good choice of specimens.	-

REF	YES	NO	COMMENTS	PROJECT TEAM RESPONSE
28	Y		Note: we would hope there will be consideration re the new plantings for trees that won't overhang the roofs and fences of those of us whose properties boundary with the reserve.	The choice of new planting has been carefully considered and new planting will be set back from the boundary.
29	Y		I would like to congratulate you on such an in depth findings of our park. I live [ ] therefore, its very important to me. 1 concern is the biggest gum tree nearest the street that's the one I would like to see gone. Looking forward to our new look Park!	The gum tree will remain as there is no arboriculture reason to remove it. However during as part of this project the tree will have its canopy lifted and defective branches removed.
30	Y		As I live [ ] park any changes effect me more than most people. I am in agreement with most of the new concept and the sooner some of these hideous large trees are cut down the better. I have tried several times during the 40 years I've lived here to have something done. However I am at a loss to understand why the large gum tree growing right by the front footpath is not to be removed the roots are affecting the footpath, the branches hang over the footpath in places which used to be illegal I am sure with a strong nor west or southerly other branches would break. This north eastern end of the park hardly gets any sunlight from May to September. I am asking please if this tree can be removed. I know trees are necessary in a park but do they have to be so large as they outgrow their beauty . People only sit nearer the play area I am also concerned about the height of the lime trees to be planted and also the number of trees in such a small area. Leaves from the trees don't only fall in the autumn. I am cleaning and sweeping leaves all year round and we are very seldom see the council leaf sweeper in this area. Prefer a more open area where we can see the children rather than lots of trees and bushes where predators can lurk.	<p>The gum tree will remain as there is no arboriculture reason to remove it. However during as part of this project the tree will have its canopy lifted and defective branches removed.</p> <p>The two proposed maple trees will no longer be planted giving the park clearer sightlines through to the play equipment and more open space.</p> <p>The lime tree at the northern end of the reserve will be planted further into park than identified on the original plan.</p>
31	Y		Removal of Chinese Poplar will provide more winter sun for the street.	-

REF	YES	NO	COMMENTS	PROJECT TEAM RESPONSE
32		N	I work at [ ] we have been trying to get the council to remove a dangerous big oak tree for years and still we are not allowed. All you want is to apparently visibly please people so I don't think you have good cause to remove trees either!!! I would be interested in discussing this to find a solution for all.	Council arborist actioning this submission.
33	Y		Whilst I think the proposals are sound I think they would be better if some of the replacements were evergreen natives as it would reduce the leaf fall in the autumn. I must commend council for requesting residents for views before undertaking the changes.	This plan is providing a variety and balance of deciduous trees which will let in light during winter months.
34			As a resident of [ ] who was directly affected (noise and braking then speed up) by CCC installing speed humps I suggest that the people who are close residents of the park be listened to first. Peripheral residents, like me, are not affected and therefore not likely to have direct opinion – only 'greenies' etc not directly affected will have these <u>'Consult the close residents'</u> They are the people who need to be consulted not others who are blocks away!!!!	-
35	Y			-
36	Y		[ ] has been a lovely area to reside in. The Toorak Reserve was very popular with our children and now the grandchildren look forward to the replacement of some trees and the new look reserve will be a great place for future generations to enjoy. Thankyou.	-
37	Y		As a neighbour of the [ ], who back onto the reserve. They are away overseas but due back early July. I am sure they will be very interested in this proposal also. We will ask them to contact you upon their return. Another matter not connect to the reserve by very much a problem at [ ] is the enormous tree outside our property. We have had people look at it and take photos about a year ago but no action. Beside the leaf problem we now have our drive being affected by the roots. We would appreciate your attention to this problem also.	Request for service logged reference 90820796.

REF	YES	NO	COMMENTS	PROJECT TEAM RESPONSE
38		N	<p>I have no issue with the trees being removed from the park. In fact I am very pleased to see that the overly tall Chinese poplar which provides considerable unwanted shade to our property making our house colder and more in need of additional heating while providing no shade to park users. I am naturally concerned about the heights that the trees selected to be planted reach and having looked up this information on the internet I am not reassured. In addition the tree 'yellow bird' magnolias will provide little not practical shade for park users but given the height they grow to and their positioning on the southern side of the park will provide unwanted shade to park neighbours. In addition the canary yellow flowers will clash with the purple foliage of trees lining the street. It is unfortunate that time has not been taken to consider the uses of the park and that a long overdue revamp of the play equipment and are not being undertaken at the same time. Unfortunately the proposed tree placements also raise concerns regarding the safety and security of children playing in the park. Trees which obscure the view of the park may encourage undesirable behaviour which cannot easily be seen by neighbours. There seems an inordinate number of trees in the park (I realise the replacement trees are in a 1:1 ration with removed trees) and their positioning (proposed) is such that would prevent games of cricket etc. There are increasing numbers of children in the area, both in Toorak Ave itself and the streets in the immediate area, this should be a park that caters for them as well as providing areas for neighbourhood picnics and bbqs. Please reconsider the placement and number of replacement trees in particular please remember that neighbours to the south of the park do not want any additional shade on their properties.</p>	<p>The choice of new planting has been carefully considered and new planting will be set back from the boundary. The two maple trees will no longer be planted, this will improve the sight lines through to the play ground from Toorak Ave and provide more open space within the reserve. The small garden area is only going to be ground cover to ensure sight lines are maintained. As part of this development existing trees will be pruned and lifted to make the canopy higher and allow more sun into the reserve.</p>



REF	YES	NO	COMMENTS	PROJECT TEAM RESPONSE
39	Y		Sorry I hope I'm not too late in sending this in! The plan looks great. I often bike through from Camberwell Place. I'd be interested in helping with planting when needed. Will you be repainting the children's play equipment as well? Also I'm interested in knowing what your low shrubs will be? Thanks for the info. Kathleen.	<p>There is not currently budget provision for a playground upgrade. Demographics of this area suggest there is a decrease in both under 5's and under 14 year olds in the area compared with the city average. This particular neighbourhood is well serviced for playgrounds, with Staveley Park, Ferrier Park, Avonhead School, Stewarts Bush and Crosbie Park all being within travelling distance of this location. If such expenditure was to occur in this area for under 5's then Staveley Park, or Crosbie Park would be the preferred options.</p> <p>The low shrubs will be up to ½ meter natives yet to be selected.</p>
40			<p>Letter:</p> <p>The proposed tree replacement proposal for Toorak Park was an item on the agenda of this months meeting of Neighbourhood Support coordinators. The group, on behalf of the residents in the area, wish to bring some concerns to your attention. Primarily we are concerned with the safety of users of the park and we have issues with the number of trees on the northern side of the park. In particular we are concerned at the reduced visibility of the park from the street that would result from adopting the proposal as it stands. Naturally we are concerned that groupings of trees such as this create a "forest-like" feel and provide hiding places for unsavoury characters in an area children naturally gravitate to.</p>	<p>The choice of new planting has been carefully considered and new planting will be set back from the boundary. There will be 8 trees replacing 9. The two maple trees will no longer be planted, this will improve the sight lines through to the play ground from Toorak Ave and provide more open space within the reserve. The small garden area is only going to be ground cover to ensure sight lines are maintained. As part of this development existing trees will be pruned and lifted to make the canopy higher and allow more sun into the reserve.</p> <p>There is not currently budget provision for a playground upgrade. Demographics of this area suggest there is a decrease in both under 5's and under 14 year olds in the area compared with the city average. This particular neighbourhood is well serviced for playgrounds, with Staveley Park, Ferrier Park, Avonhead School, Stewarts Bush and Crosbie Park all being within travelling distance of this location. If such expenditure was to occur in this area for under 5's then Staveley Park, or Crosbie Park would be the preferred options.</p>

REF	YES	NO	COMMENTS	PROJECT TEAM RESPONSE
			<p>The group also felt it was disappointing that any replantings were not being planned in conjunction with a revamp of the play equipment and park in general. We were advised by a long time resident that the play equipment has not been updated since the park was established. It would therefore be appropriate for the entire park to be looked at when deciding on tree replacement selection, position and quantities. The group would like to see the entire park enhanced. This upgrade should include the children's play area, additional seating and community areas which could be used for playing ball games, neighbourhood bbqs and picnics etc.</p> <p>We have many families in the immediate area with school age children as well as several more elderly residents and we would like to have the park upgraded so it is able to be fully used and enjoyed by the community in the area. The group consensus was such that although nine trees are being removed, it does not necessarily follow that the same number of trees are replanted. There was unanimous approval of the removal of the large Chinese Poplar as a result of the shade it currently gives of the road and neighbouring properties. We would like to be kept informed of any changes proposed for the Toorak Park.</p>	
Total = 40	Yes = 34	No = 4		

## TOORAK RESERVE TREE REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT PLANTING PROJECT Consultation Summary

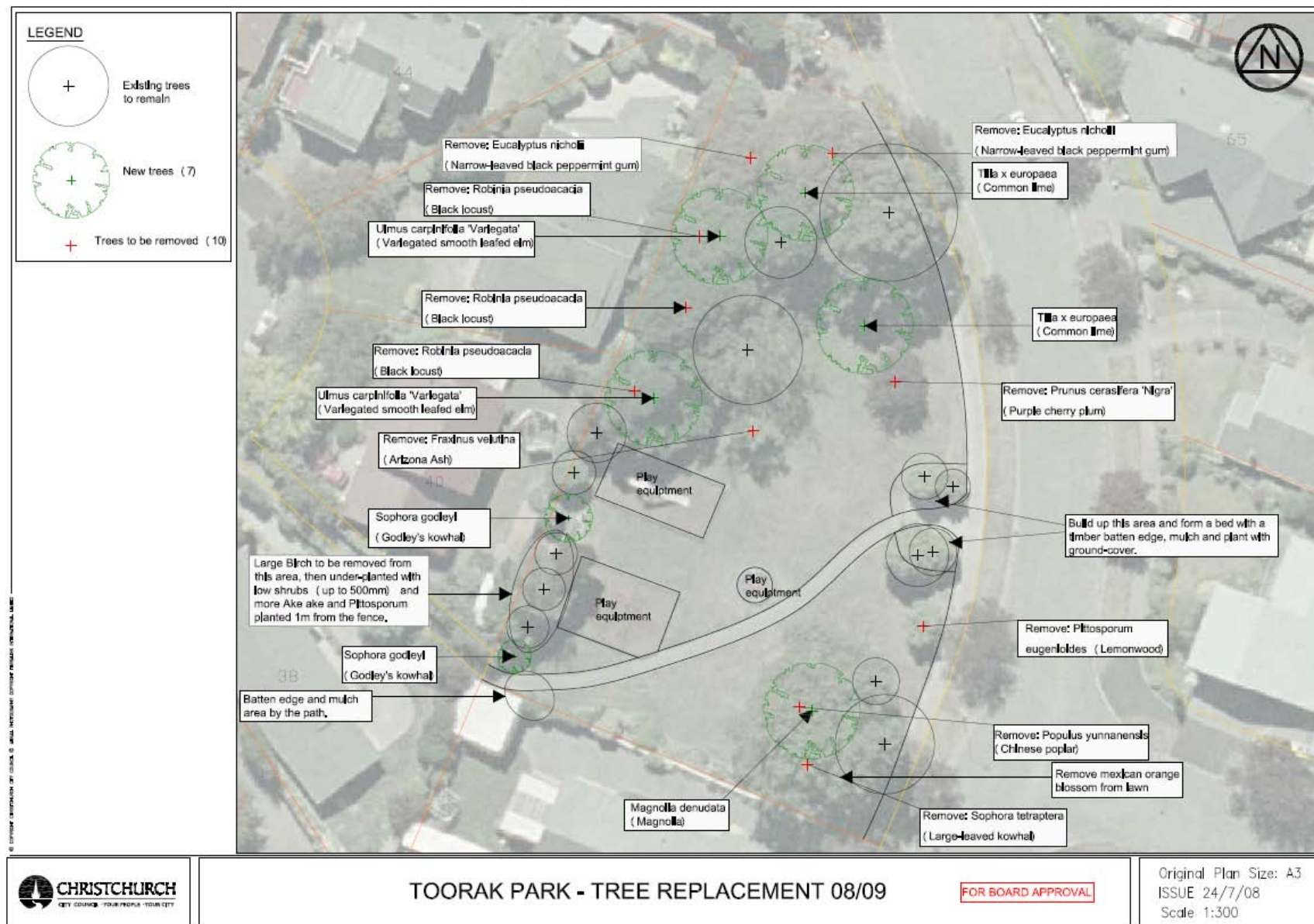
The consultation on this project was carried out in June 2008 and received 40 submissions (11% response rate) from 350 pamphlets distributed.

Submitters were asked to respond to a concept plan for a tree removal and replacement planting project in Toorak Reserve.

Landscape Proposals	Number Responses	of Percentage
<i>Yes – I support the proposed concept plan</i>	34	85%
<i>No – I do not support the proposed concept plan</i>	4	10%
<i>Position not indicated</i>	2	5%

While these figures indicate strong support for the project in general, the following issues were also identified:

- 9 submissions related to maintenance issues including requesting revamps and additions to the playground.
- 6 submissions were concerned about the height/denseness and amount of planting. They wanted to maintain open spaces and visibility of the playground and ensure their properties were not affected by shade and litter.
- 2 submissions were requesting more natives be planted.



**6. WIGRAM VILLAGE GREEN PLAYGROUND DEVELOPMENT**

<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager, City Environment, Jane Parfitt DDI 941 8608
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Transport and Greenspace, Manager, Alan Beuzenberg
<b>Author:</b>	Kim Swarbrick, Consultation Leader - Greenspace

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is for the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board (via this Committee) to approve the final plan for the Wigram Village Green Playground Development (refer **Attachment 1**) and to proceed to detailed design and construction.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

2. Wigram Village Green is located on Corsair Drive in Wigram, next door to the Harvard Community Lounge in Wigram.
3. There is currently no play equipment within this reserve and members of the community have requested a need for play equipment.
4. The project objectives are:
  - (a) To locate a suitable site on Wigram Village Green to develop the playground.
  - (b) Provide and design interesting play equipment that promotes physical activity, and challenges the physical and mental abilities of children from the age of two to twelve.
  - (c) To consider the needs of the local community and the constraints of the available funds.
  - (d) Provide a safe and accessible playground.
  - (e) Integrate the playground into the site with appropriate landscaping.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5. The estimated total cost of the project is \$80,000. There is \$80,000 funding available from the City Environment Groups Capital Programme:

2009/10      \$80,000      Wigram Village Green Playground

**Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2006-16 LTCCP budgets?**

6. Yes. Funding is being provided from within the Capital Programme in the 2006-16 LTCCP.

**LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

7. All work will be carried out by a Council approved contractor.

**Have you considered the legal implications of the issue under consideration?**

8. Yes, as per above.

## 6. Cont'd

### ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

9. LTCCP 2006-16

Parks, Open Spaces and Waterways – page 123

- Community – By providing welcoming areas for communities to gather and interact.
- Governance – By involving people in decision-making about parks, open spaces and waterways.
- Health – By providing areas for people to engage in healthy activities.

10. Parks and Open Spaces Activity Management Plan

**Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2006-16 LTCCP?**

11. Yes, as per above.

### ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

12. Social Wellbeing  
Safer Parks Policy  
Parks Access Policy

**Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?**

13. Yes, as per above.

### CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

14. In June 2008 a publicity pamphlet was distributed to approximately 430 residences and key stakeholders (see **Attachment 2**). This pamphlet included a summary of the concept, initial concept plans and a feedback form. The project team sought feedback from the community to see whether the proposal was generally supported.

15. The consultation received 61 responses and community feedback was extremely positive (refer **Attachment 3**).

- 57 submitters (93.5%) responded "YES – I support the concept plan"
- 4 submitters (6.5%) responded "NO – I do not support the concept plan"

16. Many respondents took the opportunity to make comments on the plan. The Project Team considered the feedback from consultation and revised the concept plan in the following way:

- (a) Sites for two rubbish bins have been identified and if the need becomes evident these will be installed at a later date.
- (b) An additional standard park bench has been added to the plan. The original plan identified eight feature seats to be included. However, residents requested seating with back support to be included for elderly people.
- (c) The possibility of adding a drinking fountain is being researched by the project team and the site is identified on the plan. This inclusion will depend on funding availability.

**6. Cont'd**

- (d) Council aims to promote natural play elements in parks to inspire children's imagination. It was unfortunately apparent in the feedback received that some respondents did not understand this concept with their requests for traditional play elements. The project team has discussed this feedback and stand by the originally proposed design. This design integrates well with existing structures on the site. To provide traditional play equipment in every park would result in duplication of play grounds the same at every site. Therefore staff have not altered the play elements in this instance.
- 17. The amended plan is included (see **Attachment 1**). This plan best satisfies the objectives of the Wigram Village Green Playground Development and has a good degree of community support. A copy of the final plan will be circulated to residents and stakeholder groups prior to the construction date. Implementation of the plan is scheduled to begin April 2009.
- 18. A number of suggestions and comments were made that did not relate to the Wigram Village Green Playground Development. Where appropriate these comments regarding: traffic calming, recreation facilities, and car parking, have been passed on to relevant units within Council.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That the Environment Committee recommend to the Board to approve the final plan for the Wigram Village Green Playground Development and proceed to detailed design and construction (see **attachment 1**).



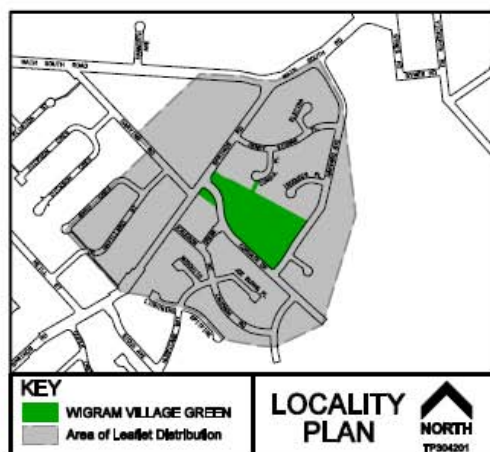




**TIMELINE**

Once consultation has been completed and any necessary alterations to the proposed plan finalised, approval will be sought from the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board to proceed to detailed design and construction.

It is anticipated that construction on this project will be undertaken and completed by September 2009, dependent on contractor availability.

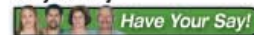
**PLEASE HAVE YOUR SAY**

Your input will mean that the Wigram Village Green playground development project fulfils community aspirations and provides an additional play area for children to enjoy.

Comments regarding this proposal are invited from local residents. Please return your submission in the reply paid envelope no later than:

**Friday 11th July 2008**

It's your City



[www.ccc.govt.nz/haveyoursay](http://www.ccc.govt.nz/haveyoursay)

**HAVE YOUR SAY**

Wigram Village Green is located on Corsair Drive in Wigram, next door to the Harvard Community Lounge (see locality plan overleaf). The reserve currently does not contain a playground. There have been a number of requests from residents to provide some play equipment and funding has now been set aside for this.

To assist us with the proposed development, the Capital Development Unit would like to determine the views of the local community prior to commencing detailed design and construction. We would appreciate you taking the time to complete the enclosed comment form with any feedback and returning it in the reply paid envelope by Friday 11 July 2008.

If you would like any further information or assistance in regard to this project, please do not hesitate to contact either

Kim Swarbrick  
Consultation Leader – Greenspace,  
phone 941 5314

OR

Kevin Williams  
Capital Project Leader  
phone 941 8697.

**WIGRAM VILLAGE GREEN  
PLAYGROUND DEVELOPMENT**

The Transport and Greenspace Unit has funding available in the 2009/10 financial year to complete a playground development on Wigram Village Green.

**Project Objectives**

- To locate a suitable site on Wigram Village Green to develop the playground.
- Provide and design interesting play equipment that promotes physical activity, and challenges the physical and mental abilities of children from the age of two to twelve.
- To consider the needs of the local community and the constraints of the available funds.
- Provide a safe and accessible playground.
- Integrate the playground into the site with appropriate landscaping.

**Key features of the proposed plan include:**

- Installation of a watchtower style fort, this includes association landscaping to meet the playground standards
- New keyhole basketball area
- Proposed new climbing structures which cater for a wide age group of children
- Spinner play item and banister sliding poles
- New pathways linking play elements and connecting with street frontage and car park
- New contouring and landscaping to compliment the design and to "soften" the existing environment

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## WIGRAM VILLAGE GREEN PLAYGROUND DEVELOPMENT FEEDBACK FORM - June & July 2008

No.	Comments on the Proposal	Yes	No	Consultation Leader Comments
1	More playground for children.	✓		Currently there is no playground on site. The project aim is to provide play facilities for a broad range of children from approximately 3-15 years old.
2	Native trees would be good.	✓		Tree species listed is "indicative". Field Maple or similar deciduous trees are indicated for their appropriateness to the area and in keeping with existing tree species. The low level tussocks may be native species.
3		✓		No Action Required
4		✓		No Action Required
5	I would like to see the 3 trees beside Corsair Drive removed from the plan to make the area open & discourage vandalism. For the same reason some lighting would be desirable.	✓		The three trees beside Corsair Drive will have significant views underneath their canopy as they are large trunk forming trees. It is not council policy to place lights in parks as lighting encourages vandalism and unwanted behaviour. Vandalism is not site specific and happens in any park at any time. Little can be done to prevent it.
6	It appears to be a well conceived plan worthy of support. Any seating (eg; park benches) to be included for elderly grandparents to enjoy the time with the young?	✓		8 feature seats are proposed. Project team have requested inclusion of a standard park bench for the elderly.
7	I strong support!	✓		No Action Required
8	1) Where are the tennis courts? 2) Aviation seats show a japanese zero & a eurofighter typhoon - wholly in appropriate. Use form RNZAF aircraft that were formally stationed here eg; Mustang, Iroquois, Sioux and Airtrainer etc. Do some research, contact wigram museum.	✓		Indicative plane pictures only. Actual aircraft will be consulted on with Wigram Museum. Tennis courts are outside of the scope for this project.
9		✓		No Action Required
10		✓		No Action Required



No.	Comments on the Proposal	Yes	No	Consultation Leader Comments
11	The suggested play equipment seems a little sparse & male orientated. Will there be any sheltered areas?	✓		Planting of trees is to provide wind shelter. Playground design incorporates natural play elements and are not gender specific. CCC are looking at promoting natural play elements to inspire children's imagination. Traditional play equipment is repeated in nearly every play area and children soon grow bored with every play area the same. This concept is not well understood by the public.
12		✓		No Action Required
13	The only concern is the 18 deciduous trees as the leaves from existing trees (eg; chestnut) take a lot of cleaning up and the council don't clean greets etc. Asian collect the chestnuts and leave the casings everywhere. We are really over planted with trees in the wigram area.	✓		Tree species listed is "indicative". Field Maple or similar deciduous trees are indicated for their appropriateness to the area, their tolerance to the soil conditions (very stony) and in keeping with existing tree species. The low level tussocks may be native species.
14		✓		No Action Required
15	I think it looks great. I like the native planting.	✓		No Action Required
16	This looks brilliant. We have a 4 1/2 and 2 1/2 year old and it is the only thing missing from the area.	✓		No Action Required
17		✓		No Action Required
18	This looks absolutely fantastic.	✓		No Action Required
19	Finally! Some more equipment like that pictured in the top left photo where you are showing the log retaining/play wall would be good.	✓		Lots of natural play elements are already incorporated into the design including a rock climbing wall. Plus traditional swings, spica, and basketball are provided for. CCC are looking at promoting natural play elements to inspire children's imagination. Traditional play equipment is repeated in nearly every play area and children soon grow bored with every play area the same. This concept is not well understood by the public.
20		✓		No Action Required
21		✓		No Action Required
22	No comments thanks. Pleased.	✓		No Action Required

No.	Comments on the Proposal	Yes	No	Consultation Leader Comments
23	No comments thanks. Pleased.	✓		No Action Required
24	I realise that this is only a concept plan & so may not necessarily show all the little details. However, I don't see any rubbish bins, nor a drinking fountain for the kids. As a suggestion what about incorporating a BBQ (gas) & a couple of BBQ style tables & chairs for the adults of the community - fostering community spirit & kids aren't the only ones who need play on their lives.	✓		At this stage no rubbish bin is planned as it's not just installation costs but an ongoing cost of \$1000 per year to empty. If it becomes apparent that a rubbish bin is necessary it will be installed later. A drinking fountain is being considered by the project team as to whether funds allow for it. Again a drinking fountain can be installed at any time should the need arise.
25	Tussock - oh, no, not another tussock area. After a couple of year that becomes such a collection area of rubbish. Rocks - not a good idea near a play area. Rockwall - no, no, this is a children's play area. Keep it simple. Basketball - or netball practise area good idea. Watch tower - good idea. Climbing structure - good idea. Swings - good idea. Slides - good idea. Question --- are there toilet facilities nearby? Agrees by ticking with reservations.	✓		CCC are looking at promoting natural play elements to inspire children's imagination. Traditional play equipment is repeated in nearly every play area and children soon grow bored with every play area the same. This concept is not well understood by the public. Yes toilets are available at the gym who are very supportive of this development.
26	It's a dream come true! We'd be happy with any kind of playground although I do have a personal issue with some modern playgrounds that push scenic beauty over the functional activity of the playground itself. This proposal doesn't seem to cover the activities within the fort but if it is quite standard and/or similar to the play-fort portrayed in the first photo ('typical log retaining/play wall') that would be great!	✓		CCC are looking at promoting natural play elements to inspire children's imagination. Traditional play equipment is repeated in nearly every play area and children soon grow bored with every play area the same. This concept is not well understood by the public.
27		✓		No Action Required
28	Please ensure wheelchair access to and onto childrens playground. New soft fill similar to that used at the Burwood Park would be appreciated.	✓		Play area will be wheelchair accessible
29	Hopefully this will have sufficient lighting for security purposes.	✓		No Action Required
30	Fantastic, just what the area needs.	✓		No Action Required
31	It would be good to have some more play equipment included. What equipment that is proposed in this plan seems very sparse.	✓		CCC are looking at promoting natural play elements to inspire children's imagination. Traditional play equipment is repeated in nearly every play area and children soon grow bored with every play area the same. This concept is not well understood by the public.

No.	Comments on the Proposal	Yes	No	Consultation Leader Comments
32	Good looking plans. Look forward to using it.	✓		No Action Required
33	Looks awesome! Two questions,suggestions: 1) Age range specified is 2-12. Any chance of having a traditional slide included? My 3yr old would struggle with the proposed banister slide and it would give something that his younger sister could be occupied on while he plays. 2) Is there fencing proposed, I couldn't tell on the plan. I understand that you want it to fit with the existing environment, but being close to such a busy road and the sport centre carpark, some 'im.....' to a child running out would be great.	✓		CCC are looking at promoting natural play elements to inspire children's imagination. Traditional play equipment is repeated in nearly every play area and children soon grow bored with every play area the same. This concept is not well understood by the public. No policy for fencing play areas. CCC like play areas to be visible and encourage children to go in and play on activities.
34	Seating? There needs to be adequate seating for parents/families to maybe sit and watch or have lunch comfortably. You have some but....more. Shade - is there any in summer?	✓		8 feature seats are proposed plus one standard park bench for the elderly. Shade will be well accommodated for as the indicative species of trees are large maples or similar variety.
35		✓		No Action Required
36		✓		No Action Required
37	My comments are parking in the area. Concerned about the amount of traffic Springs Road/Corsair Drive corner. Lights will be required for safer access, to this playground.	✓		Car parking is outside of the scope of this project. It is Council policy to not light parks as this encourages loitering and vandalism.
38	1) Will attract youth groups to hang out, in particular after hours ie during the night. This will result in graffiti, fighting, drinking alcohol and more burglaries. 2) Youth gangs with intimate younger kids who wish to play there. 3) Extra noise during day and night. 4) Extra rubbish being dumped. 4) Vandalising local residential homes, due to the graffiti, rubbish etc.		✓	It is council policy to not place lights in parks to deter loitering and reduce vandalism or unwanted behaviour. Vandalism is not site specific and happens in any park at any time. Little can be done to prevent it. It is not envisaged that local homes would be targeted for vandalism as result of a child's play area being provided for.
39	Like the basketball area. Aggregate area needs to be very firm in the ground. Don't like the climbing poles in the tussocks. Very hard to maintain mulch in this area. Not keen on the watchtower style fort. Looks like a great place to 'hide' and get up to 'no good'. eg; breaking glass etc. Hard to tell from plan, but seems to be an entrapment area. Hard to tell how big it is. Perhaps use more rocks or bolders and link path back down for bikes, scooters. Like seats, spica, clatter bridge, rock wall and bannister slide.	✓		CCC are looking at promoting natural play elements to inspire children's imagination. Traditional play equipment is repeated in nearly every play area and children soon grow bored with every play area the same. This concept is not well understood by the public. There is nowhere to hide on the watchtower fort. You can not get under it and it's completely open.

No.	Comments on the Proposal	Yes	No	Consultation Leader Comments
40	I think this is a good idea but I'm not sure about the Bannister slide and how it works. What about a standard slide for small kids? The playground is tucked away a bit so I wonder about kids playing there not being seen from the road.	✓		CCC are looking at promoting natural play elements to inspire children's imagination. Traditional play equipment is repeated in nearly every play area and children soon grow bored with every play area the same. This concept is not well understood by the public. The proposed trees will have significant views underneath their canopy as they are large trunk forming trees. There is plenty of passive surveillance into the play area.
41	This is an absolute waste of tax payers money. There are very few children living in the local area and a play area like this will attract the wrong people to the area to 'hang out'. Why doesn't council provide more car parking for the community hall and the gymnasium so residents are able to drive along Corsair Drive without dodging parked cars. A set of traffic lights at the intersection of Springs Road and Corsair Drive or Springs Road and Sioux Avenue would be money well spent. How about improving the footpaths around the Wigram Estate - some like Joe Burns Place are shocking.		✓	Adding Community Centre parking / traffic lights / footpaths are outside of the scope of this project. Although City Streets have been notified of the request for traffic lights. This project is a playground development and as such there is only enough funding to cover some playground equipment.
42	Use evergreen tree. No dogs within the tree boundary.	✓		Council Dog Bylaws apply to this area. Tree species listed is "indicative". Field Maple or similar deciduous trees are indicated for their appropriateness to the area, their tolerance to the soil conditions (very stony) and in keeping with existing tree species.
43	<u>Reservations:</u> Location. 1) Would prefer built in a area more useable to local residence, not obscured behind buildings or shrubbery. If this is to be the site, swap the basketball area to the play area, again better visibility of the younger children at play. 2) Consideration be given to the future traffic volumes of Corsair Drive as the area being further developed in the future. <u>Suggestion:</u> More towards the Harwood Ave and Corsair Drive with consideration to #2 above and being more central to the present & future populations. <u>Landscapeing:</u> Prefer trees only suitable for providing suitable summer sun shade in conjunction with a suitable wind barrier against the easterly wind. Any streets that are used, kept to a minimum and not in clusters to keep the playing area as visible as possible to the residential population. Could a pergola roof shelter be considered for providing sun shade over the playing area? Sun sail?	✓		Playground location relates to the Gym and recreation area. Access and visibility are both very good. Tree species listed is "indicative". Field Maple or similar deciduous trees are indicated for their appropriateness to the area, their tolerance to the soil conditions (very stony) and in keeping with existing tree species. They are very large trees providing ample summer shade when mature. Funding does not permit the inclusion of pergola's and shade sails.
44	The proposal plan looks great as it is a huge area that can be used affectively by all residents.	✓		No Action Required
45	We think this is a great idea. Thank you to the Planners!	✓		No Action Required

No.	Comments on the Proposal	Yes	No	Consultation Leader Comments
46	Will be of great benefit to the community.	✓		No Action Required
47	Being a parent of 2 small children (boys) any play area would be fantastic. Having one right in our backyard is even better. I welcome the proposal and hope for a speedy delivery.	✓		No Action Required
48	Use evergreen trees (native). No dogs within the tree boundary around the proposed playground.	✓		Council Dog Bylaws apply to this area. Tree species listed is "indicative". Field Maple or similar deciduous trees are indicated for their appropriateness to the area, their tolerance to the soil conditions (very stony) and in keeping with existing tree species.
49	Great idea. Look forward to our grandchildren in the area being able to use it. Excellent for young families living in this area also.	✓		No Action Required
50	Really happy with this plan as I've been expecting to have a playground in the area. Hopefully the Council will have the 'go ahead' with this project. Thank you!	✓		No Action Required
51		✓		No Action Required
52	I think your plan to upgrade the Wigram Green area looks great and has been needed in the area ever since the housing has been built there are a lot of young families and grandparents. My two children have grown up late teens but I also have an 11yr old and I showed him your plan and asked for this input also and he said a skate boarding park alot of things for young but not for teenagers. He said the basketball hoops would be good also. Coin BBQ just a suggestion. Looking forward to seeing the changes at the part it is a lovely area to walk through. We've been here 5yrs and look forward to the update. The plantings could be around the park it is a well used area I see alot of people playing ball, older people practicing golf swings the gymnastics club use it to run around and warm it up. People training there dogs. It's a lovely walk through the tree's on the way home or going to outings etc.	✓		Skateboarding is outside the scope of this project. The basketball area has been included with teenagers in mind. Unfortunately it's not a high enough usage area (like a destination park) to consider installation of BBQ's.
53	Yes, we are very excited at this imaginative plan for our area, not just for scenic enhancement, but for positive encouragement for local families to have financially-free enjoyment with their children - this can only be good for families to have recreation & leisure together and hopefully may do something to stop break-ups of families due to financial stresses and promote family togetherness. Also facilitate lovely young mums meeting others and making friends at the playground. Well done all.	✓		No Action Required
54	Will be a great value to the community.	✓		No Action Required

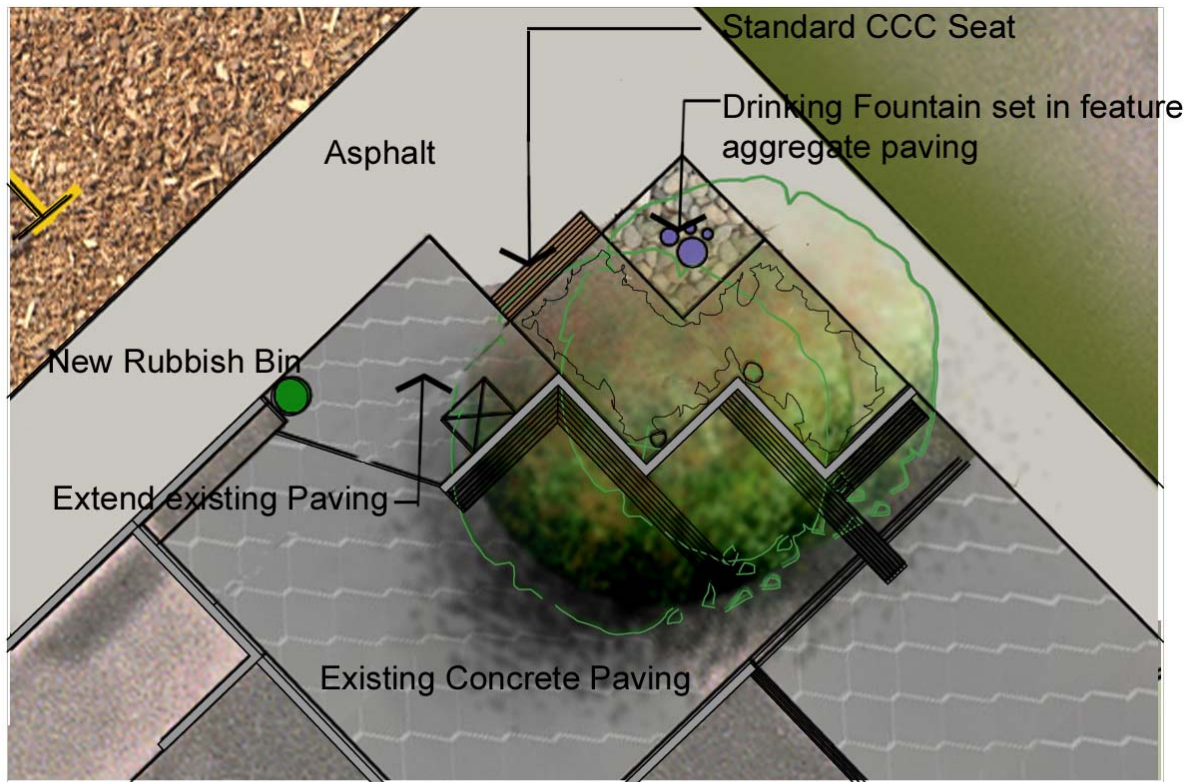


No.	Comments on the Proposal	Yes	No	Consultation Leader Comments
55	We like the landscape concept very much and in fact that the strawberry trees do remain. We do worry a little that the added attractions to the area will create extra interest from those who 'party' in that area and spread graffiti. Another concern is the speed from some cars in that area, which becomes congested when functions are on at both recreation centre and Harvard Lounge. The new attraction will bring in more traffic? Would you consider a 'slow bump' between Spring Road entry and the Lounge?	✓		Streets and traffic management is outside of the scope of the project. Have passed the request on to City Streets Unit. It is Council policy to not place lights in parks to deter loitering and reduce vandalism or unwanted behaviour. Vandalism is not site specific and can happen in any park at any time.
56		✓		No Action Required
57	My only concerns are with regards to security for users and vandalism making the area unsightly. Will the area be open 24/7? I like the concept. Well done.	✓		It is council policy to not place lights in parks to deter loitering and reduce vandalism or unwanted behaviour. Vandalism is not site specific and can happen in any park at any time. We are not able to shut the park.
58	Two sons, 11 and 9 yrs old said: They thought it was boring and of little interest to them. They would have liked more equipment similar to the new fort etc at Delamain Reserve in Hei Hei.		✓	This play development aims to have elements for all ages. Whilst the boys may not use the elements aimed at very young children they can still use the basketball area and/or swings.
59	Would like to state that whilst not totally opposed to the play area we feel that more space definitely needs to be made for car parking. Cars are parked all over the area clogging up the roads making them very dangerous. The park itself is already enjoyed by many people and we feel that it isn't necessary to do anything more to it as there is a playground across the street at the school. We hope that whoever is in charge of this project does take notice of not only our opposition but also the opposition of our neighbours to this project.		✓	Request for a playground installation has been received from local area residents. Car parking is outside of the scope of this project. The Gym intends to extend in the future and create more parking.
60	Net needed for basketball hoop. Drinking fountain next to the basketball court. Benches and chairs needed around the field/park for those who need rest. May not be a good idea for a rounded shape basketball court.	✓		Drinking fountain will be considered by project team if funding allows for it. 8 feature seats and one park bench style seat are to be provided for as part of the playground development. Seating in the adjacent park is outside of the scope of this project. Round shaped basket ball courts are becoming very popular.
61	Love the layout and landscaping. Will the swing set have one baby/toddler seat? Where is the play equipment for younger children? Surely there is enough need in the area for something more for under 6 year olds. There is plenty of room to extend the barked area. Thank you. This has been a long time coming!	✓		The spica is popular with little children. CCC are looking at promoting natural play elements to inspire children's imagination. Nearly all of these activities are for the younger age group. A toddler will soon grow into some of these. <b>Late response received 28 July 08. Project closed 11th July 08.</b>

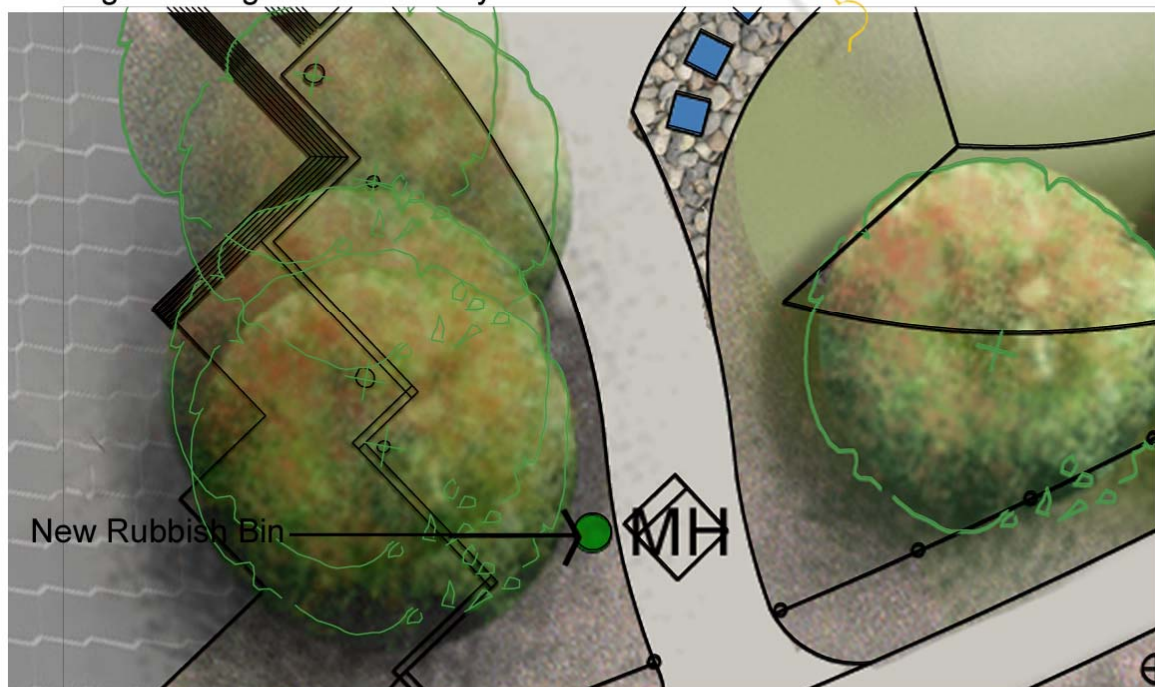
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34

No.	Comments on the Proposal	Yes	No	Consultation Leader Comments
62	Seating and eating area. If a bbq area was included families would be able to have picnics in the park. A time for family and friend get together. Don't forget rubbish bins.	✓		<b>Late response received 1 August 08. Missed out on inclusion for report writing. Project closed 11th July 08. Updates will still be sent out.</b>
	Yes support plan	57		
	Do not support plan		4	
	Didn't indicate or ticked both			
	Total responses = 61 + 1 that missed report submission			



Seating/ Drinking Fountain - Play Area Scale 1:100



Rubbish Bin Position - Youth Area Scale 1:100

### Wigram Playground - Seating /Drinking Fountain Positions

Drawing: PSD-03  
Date: 07-08-08  
Revision: 0  
Scale: 1:100@ A4



## 7. SMOKEFREE PLAYGROUNDS PROJECT TRIAL RESULTS AND FUTURE POLICY DEVELOPMENT

<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager City Environment Jane Parfitt, DDI 941 8608
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Transport and Greenspace Unit Manager
<b>Author:</b>	Richard Holland, Planning and Investigations Team Manager

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to present the Board (via this Committee) the results of the three playgrounds smokefree trial and to request that the Council support the future implementation of more smokefree playgrounds/parks within the Riccarton/Wigram ward by supporting a city wide policy.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Following a presentation by representatives of Smokefree Canterbury, the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board on 4 February 2008 approved a three month trial of three smokefree playgrounds in Hornby (Wycola, Branston and Helmore Park playgrounds). Research into the community's acceptability of smokefree playgrounds and parks was to be reported back to the Board to further inform the Board for any future implementation. This was approved by Council with the following resolution;
  - (a) That the Council give approval to Smokefree Canterbury to undertake a three month trial at Wycola, Branston and Helmore Park playgrounds in Hornby to gauge community support for, and identify issues for, smoke free playgrounds, and that in the trial the playgrounds used as controls be Carmen Reserve and Waitohi (Davidson Crescent) playgrounds.
  - (b) That an analysis of the trial be reported back to the Council to consider whether or not the initiative is to be continued and/or considered for possible introduction in other playgrounds
3. Smokefree Canterbury is a network of over 20 agencies committed to reducing tobacco related harm in the community. Smokefree playgrounds is an initiative championed by Smokefree Canterbury, focussed on reducing the uptake and effects of smoking on young people and children. The project was funded by Partnership Health PHO with the research, administration and project management being undertaken by representatives of Smokefree Canterbury.
4. The primary reason for the introduction of smokefree outdoor areas is to provide positive role modelling, especially for young people and children. Role modelling of family/whanau is a powerful predictor of adolescent smoking. Since children mirror what they see, smokefree playgrounds is thought to provide positive role modelling resulting in fewer young people taking up smoking. It is not about "banning" smoking or "demonising" smokers.
5. Similar initiatives have been and are being implemented around New Zealand by other Territorial Land Authorities (TLA's) including Upper Hutt, South Taranaki, Queenstown Lakes, Ashburton, Invercargill and South Wairarapa.
6. The trial was carried out March – July 2008. A total of 26 signs with the slogan "BE A SMOKEFREE ROLE MODEL" were installed at each playground.(4 post and 22 placards). Other publicity was gained through the local media, national television ("Campbell Live") and World Smoke Free Day at Wycola Park on 31 May 2008.
7. A survey, designed to assess the community's attitudes, behaviours and acceptability of smokefree playgrounds was organised by Smokefree Canterbury and undertaken by public health professionals at Wycola Park and a few at Hagley Park. A total of 148 people were surveyed and the data entered for analysis.

7 Cont'd

64% were female and 36% male  
40% were aged between 35 - 44 years  
25% Maori  
21% current smokers

8. The main two questions asked whether people found Smokefree Playgrounds and Smokefree Parks acceptable or unacceptable. Several questions assessed their understanding of the trial – their awareness of the trial, how they found out, what they thought was the main reason for the trial (options provided) and what they thought was the main reason that children start to smoke (options provided).
9. Several questions asked them to strongly agree or strongly disagree (sliding scale) on statements – Smokefree playgrounds was an infringement of smokers rights, Smokefree playgrounds would have no influence on whether children take up smoking, Smokefree playgrounds will need enforcement.
10. Questions were posed around what signage they preferred (3 options shown to them) Other questions were statistical – age, gender, current smoker, ex smoker (quitter), ethnicity

Key results indicate that:

- Over 90% of those surveyed thought that the introduction of smokefree playgrounds in Christchurch was acceptable.
  - Almost 75% of those surveyed thought that the introduction of smokefree parks in Christchurch was acceptable.
  - Over 60% of those surveyed thought that the main reason for the trial was to set a good example (role modelling) to young people.
  - Nearly 60% of those surveyed strongly disagreed that smokefree playgrounds was an infringement of smokers rights.
  - Almost 45% of those surveyed agreed that smokefree playgrounds will need enforcement.
  - There was no significant difference in the results from smokers vs non smokers and those who answered surveys at a trial playground vs other playgrounds.
  - There was a good mixture of ages, gender and ethnic backgrounds from those who participated in the survey.
11. As part of the survey, the public was also asked their view of three different smokefree playground signs. Interestingly, the most popular option was Option 3 with cartoon graphics and not the sign that was installed as part of the trial (Option 1).
  12. The survey sample was a small number (148) of people from the local community. Only one local park Wycola was surveyed plus some surveys on Hagley Park which was outside the study area. Overall, the results indicate that there is an overwhelming acceptability by those surveyed for smokefree playgrounds and parks within the Hornby area. The results also indicate that there is a good understanding of the rationale for the project. Although there seems a belief that the project may require enforcement, it is acknowledged that this is not practicable nor in keeping of the spirit of the proposal and Council would not have the resources to police such a provision if it was included in a bylaw. It is to the best of Smokefree Canterbury's knowledge that no other Council has elected to implement smokefree parks and playgrounds by enforcement.
  13. The Community Board through the Council will need to decide if it now wishes to implement the programme by developing a policy for the whole Community Board area and if this includes playgrounds or total parks or a selection of parks. Council will need to endorse this approach and invite other Community Boards to consider the proposal. The survey sample undertaken is very small, in order for Council to consider implementing this policy development of smokefree playgrounds or total parks a wider survey by an independent provider will need to be undertaken.

## 7 Cont'd

14. It is proposed that three scenarios be considered if smokefree environments are to be considered across the city. These are 1. high profile parks such as all sports parks (102), 2. all playgrounds (326), all parks (953). The support of the sporting associations and codes would be needed if sports parks were to become smokefree.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

15. There are three options available for the implementation of smokefree parks and playgrounds policy development. Option 1 is to make all high profile sports parks city wide Smokefree. Option 2 is to make all 326 playgrounds Smokefree. Option 3 is to make all 953 parks (including playgrounds) smokefree. Smokefree Canterbury supports these options, although Option 3 is more preferable given feedback from the community survey and current work by Smokefree Canterbury to encourage smokefree environments. Option 1 is also more practicable to implement in terms of a communication plan and signage on site. Option 2 is a way of gaining community support for all children's facilities city wide.
16. Costs to supply and install placards, fixed directly to playground wooden surrounds by 4 x 8g zinc screws, \$48.41 each plus GST and 4 per playground, and supply and install posts and signs, includes the following: pre fix signage to post using 2 Galvanized coach bolts, excavate hole, place post with heel attached to secure the post in place, \$173.80 plus GST with 2 per playground.
17. The costs involved in rolling out these options city wide are the design, manufacture and installation of signage and promotion of the project. The following table identifies the approximate costs. Estimates are based on 2 post signs for each park and 4 placard sign for each playground. It is worth noting, however, to reduce cost it may be possible to add a placard sign to an existing park bylaw sign, thus avoiding the cost of installing a post sign.

Ward	No of Sports Parks	Option 1 Sports Parks Signage	No. of Play-ground s 326	Option 2 Playgrou nd Signage	No. of Parks 953	Option 3 Parks Signage	Total Cost of Parks and Play grounds Signs
Riccarton/Wigram	17	\$5,916	72	\$26,424	172	\$59,856	\$86,280
Fendalton/Waimairi	14	\$4,872	41	\$15,047	86	\$29,928	\$44,975
Shirley/Papanui	17	\$5,916	54	\$19,818	130	\$45,240	\$65,058
Burwood/Pegasus	15	\$5,220	54	\$19,818	105	\$36,540	\$56,358
Hagley/Ferrymead	18	\$6,264	47	\$17,249	181	\$62,988	\$80,237
Spreydon/Heathcote	13	\$4,524	47	\$17,249	119	\$41,412	\$58,661
Bank Peninsula	8	\$2,784	11	\$4,037	160	\$55,680	\$59,717
<b>Total cost of installing signs</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>\$35,496</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>\$119,642</b>	<b>953</b>	<b>\$331,644</b>	<b>\$451,286</b>
Design		\$5,000		\$5,000		\$5,000	
Promotion		\$10,000		\$10,000		\$10,000	

Ward	No of Sports Parks	Option 1 Sports Parks Signage	No. of Play-grounds 326	Option 2 Playgrou nd Signage	No. of Parks 953	Option 3 Parks Signage	Total Cost of Parks and Play grounds Signs
Maintenance (per year)		\$7,099*		\$23,928*		\$66,328*	
<b>How Costs Assigned</b>	2 signs per park		1 Sign plus 4 plaques per playgro und			2 signs per park.	

\* Based on 20% of signs sustaining damage.

Smokefree Canterbury would welcome the opportunity to work alongside nominated officers to assist in implementing either of the above options.

#### **Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2006-16 LTCCP budgets?**

18. There is currently no funding in the LTCCP to undertake an extensive signage programme.

#### **LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

19. Council will need to consider a wider policy decision such as smokefree playgrounds/parks city wide. The proposal for a trial although based in one particular Community Board area has wider implications for all 953 parks and 326 playgrounds in Christchurch. No current policy exists and the Community Board does not have delegated authority to introduce smoke free parks and playgrounds. It is therefore a decision of Council as to whether or not the matter should be progressed. The next stage of the process would be to consider the results of the trial on future policy development for Council parks and playgrounds. Policy development would require consultation with the wider community and Community Boards and reporting back to Council. There could be implications for the development of a wider policy covering other public places including certain footpaths/malls etc.
20. Territorial Authorities have a duty to improve, promote and protect public health and enhance community well being (Ref Section 145 of the Local Govt Act 2002).
21. Currently open spaces such as parks were an alternative location to indoor areas for smoking where harmful effects dissipate in the open air. However there is community support in Hornby for making parks/playgrounds smoke free.

#### **Have you considered the legal implications of the issue under consideration?**

22. This will be the development of a Council Policy to be consulted with the wider community under the Local Government Act provisions and with a further city wide survey to determine community support for the policy.

#### **ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS**

23. Activity Management Plans or Asset management Plans have not considered the development of smokefree playgrounds or parks.



**7 Cont'd**

**Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2006-16 LTCCP?**

24. There is not a direct level of service in the LTCCP regarding creating a smoke free environment on parks and within playgrounds, however the initiative is part of the Healthy City Collaborative through a charter to promote protect and improve the health and wellbeing of the people of Christchurch.
25. There is no current project or funding in the LTCCP and will need to be considered for the review of the 2009/19 Plan.

**ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES**

26. The initiative aligns with the Strengthening Communities Strategy and promotes collaboration between government agencies the local community and groups like Smokefree Canterbury.
27. Healthy Christchurch Charter to which the CCC is a signatory with Ecan, Ministry of Health, Canterbury District Health Board, Christchurch School of Medicine, Pegasus Health and Te Runanga o Ngāi Tahu has a priority "To reduce health inequalities by working to improve the health status of people in disadvantaged groups in Christchurch".

**Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?**

28. Establishing smoke free playgrounds is one collaborative intervention that can help achieve the Community Outcome of a 'Healthy City'.\* Smoke free playgrounds will mean that 'more people in Christchurch live a healthy lifestyle' and that the city will be 'supporting the health of the community'. The Community Outcome "A Healthy City"; we live long, healthy and happy lives. We all have access to affordable health services that meet our needs. More people in Christchurch live healthy lifestyles. Our city environment supports the health of the community

**CONSULTATION FULFILMENT**

29. It is proposed to undertake a city wide survey through an independent provider as part of a planned customer satisfaction survey for the parks key performance indicators. This will give further credit to the Horny community survey undertaken by Smokefree Canterbury. The developed policy will also need to be communicated to the wider community for feedback.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That the Environment Committee recommend

- (a) That the Board note the results of the three playgrounds smokefree trial and request that the Council support the future implementation of more smokefree playgrounds/parks by implementing a city wide policy.
- (b) Consider with the proposed policy the implementation of smokefree areas outside of parks and playground areas.

**4. 9. 2008**

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**8. ELECTED MEMBERS INFORMATION EXCHANGE**