

8. PROPOSED BURWOOD EAST RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION - RECOGNITION

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Community Services, DDI 941 8607
Officer responsible:	Unit Manager Community Support
Author:	Sylvia Smyth, Community Strengthening Advisor - East

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek formal recognition from the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board of the newly formed residents group known as the Burwood East Residents' Association and its boundaries.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. In late 2011, a group of residents from the Kingsbridge Drive and Stour Drive area held some informal meetings regarding the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority zoning of their properties and other earthquake recovery issues relevant to the area. It was noted at one of the meetings that the area does not have a residents' association at present and it was agreed that they consider setting one up. The group also noted that there were a number of wider issues such as safety and security that need to be addressed. This means the group would focus not only on red zone issues, but a wide array relevant to the residents living there. The proposed boundaries are Travis Road, Bassett Street, Anzac Drive and the Avon River (refer **Attachment 2**). They have called their proposed group the Burwood East Residents' Association and a tentative committee has been established. The official contact for the group is Wayne Gallot (toniwayne_gallot@hotmail.com).
3. The Burwood East Residents' Association seeks formal recognition of the group and its proposed boundaries as required in the current Residents' Associations – Formation and Recognition Policy (refer **Attachment 1**). Although presently under review, the policy remains the current guiding document for purposes of this report. The group's proposed formation was raised as correspondence at the Board meeting on 12 December 2011 when the Board requested a report from staff on the matter. Should the Board decide to officially recognise the group, they may also consider appointing a liaison to the group.
4. For further context around the request, please see the Background section at the end of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. Recognised associations are entitled to assistance in photocopying newsletters. This is allocated from the Community Support Unit's operational budget.

Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2009-19 LTCCP budgets?

6. Yes. This financial support is reflected as a line item in the Strengthening Communities budget on page 182 of the 2009-19 LTCCP.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

7. There are no legal considerations involved in the establishment of a residents' association.

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

8. Yes, as above.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

9. Recognition of residents' groups reflects the Council's provision of Strengthening Communities, within the Community Support activity management plan and on page 172 of the 2009-19 LTCCP.

Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2009-19 LTCCP?

10. Yes, as above.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

11. Recognition of the Burwood East Residents' Association aligns with the Council's Strengthening Communities Strategy, specifically goals 1 – 4 and 7 as mentioned on page 35 of the strategy:
- Goal 1- Understand and document communities' trends, issues and imperatives.
 - Goal 2- Promote collaboration among key stakeholders including government agencies, community and voluntary organisations, iwi and maori, to identify and address community issues.
 - Goal 3- Enhance engagement and participation in local decision-making.
 - Goal 4- Help build and sustain a sense of local community.
 - Goal 7- Enhance the safety of communities and neighbourhoods.

Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

12. Yes, as above.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

13. Consultation with the official contact from the group has consisted of phone calls and emails. Phone calls have also been made to the chairpersons of neighbouring Parklands and Windsor/Westhaven Associations. All parties were supportive of the Association being recognised.
14. Local residents held a public meeting to discuss the formation of the Association. Every resident within the proposed catchment area was advised of the meeting by way of a letterbox drop. Around 100 people attended and there was unanimous support for the creation of the Association. The group proposes it will continue consultation with the community via further letterbox drops and a Facebook page.
15. In summary, the recognition of the Burwood East Residents' Association aligns with all relevant policies, plans and strategies. The potential establishment of the group has elicited a strong response from community and the group has a clear plan in place to continue communicating with and representing their membership.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board:

- (a) formally recognise the Burwood East group with the boundaries, as proposed by the group: Travis Road, Bassett Street, Anzac Drive and the Avon River
- (b) consider formally appointing a Board Liaison to the Association
- (c) consider reviewing the Association's boundaries in May 2013 or when the land zoned red within their boundaries is vacated.

BACKGROUND

16. Almost all of the entire Burwood/Pegasus ward population is represented by a Resident's Association. There is only one area that remains unrepresented (refer Attachment 2). It should be noted that the boundaries proposed by the Association fulfil only a portion of the area not yet represented by any association.
17. There are two pockets, one to the North and one to the West that would remain unrepresented should the boundaries proposed by the Burwood East Association be approved:
 - the area across Travis Road and to the north of the proposed boundaries. This area contains approximately 150 homes and is informally but actively attending the Parklands Residents Association meetings.
 - the area between Bassett Street and Burwood Road and to the west of the proposed boundaries. This contains approximately 250 homes, is not included in any other association. The group further to the West of this is the Windsor/Westhaven Association. They are currently in recess.
18. The official contact for the proposed group feels that the areas to the east and north of their proposed boundaries would not be an easy fit for the new association. He believes the issues the group will discuss would not pertain as readily to these areas.
19. Finally, it should also be noted that a substantial proportion of the homes in the proposed boundaries have been zoned red (refer **Attachment 3**). As residents in this zone are required to leave their homes before 30 April 2013, the catchment area for the group will be reduced substantially. It remains to be seen whether or how the boundaries of the various associations throughout the ward will be reviewed at this time.