

11. 6. 2009

REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE
SPREYDON/HEATHCOTE COMMUNITY BOARD

19 MAY 2009

PART A - MATTERS REQUIRING A COUNCIL DECISION

1. MONTGOMERY SPUR RESERVE DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN



General Manager responsible:	General Manager, City Environment, DDI 941-8608
Officer responsible:	Recreation Planning Advisor
Author:	Grant MacLeod, Recreation Planning Advisor

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Council's approval to release the **attached** Draft Management Plan for Montgomery Spur Reserve for public comment in accordance with their delegated authority and process of the Reserves Act 1977.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. On 31 October 2007, the Council publicly notified, with advertisements in the public notices of The Press and The Star, its intention to prepare a Management Plan for Montgomery Spur Reserve in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977. An information leaflet was distributed to stakeholders and their ideas and comments invited.
3. The Board was informed of the management plan process and visited the site of Montgomery Spur Reserve in late 2007 to see for themselves what the reserve had to offer and get an idea of the lie of the land.
4. On 14 and 21 October 2007, public information sessions were held at the St Martins Scout Hall to provide an opportunity for the public to share ideas and discuss directions for future management of the reserve, and for staff to outline the process for development of the Management Plan. Comments from these sessions and from various groups and individuals have been incorporated into the Draft Plan.
5. Over 160 people/organisations submitted on the issues gathering stage of the development of the Montgomery Spur Reserve Draft Management Plan. All of those that have left contact details have been acknowledged. The submissions were then analysed and processed to create the Draft Management Plan.
6. The planned consultation process will involve the following methods (note the intended timeline for the process is included):
 - (a) Public notification of the Draft Management Plan in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977, this will include advertising in local newspapers, this being the official opening of the draft submissions period, this period running for no less than two calendar months in accordance with the Reserves Act. Following this an officer's report on the submissions accompany the Draft Plan and be put before the hearings panel. The Hearings Panel is set to meet on the 9 November 2009 to form its recommendations to Council for what should be in the adopted management plan following hearing and viewing of verbal and written submissions.
 - (b) Information sessions will be held at St Martins Scout Hall for the public to meet Council officers face to face to better understand the process and ask general questions on the project. This to occur at the start and toward the end of the two month submission period.
 - (c) The Draft Management Plan will be displayed on the Council's 'Have Your Say' website inviting comment and at the Beckenham Service Centre. This to coincide with the public notification.

7. All previous submitters and interest groups will to be contacted directly with information about the release of the Draft Plan. This to coincide with the public notices and the letterbox drop above.
8. Consultation on the Management Plan must follow the procedures set out in the Reserves Act 1977 which requires that the plan be publicly notified and that interested parties be given at least two months to make submissions. The Act also allows for a hearing if required. All written submissions and hearings will be considered in development of the final plan which will be reported to the Council for approval. It is intended that the hearings panel to hear and view all submissions and form recommendations to Council.
9. The main themes or issues raised during the consultation for the Management Plan were as follows:
 - (a) Provision of recreational opportunities for walking and easy grade mountain biking.
 - (b) Weed control and native planting.
 - (c) Links into surrounding public access areas.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. The Draft Plan details funding that will need to be sourced from the upcoming LTCCP or subsequent LTCCP's. With the adoption of the Draft Plan there is no commitment to the Council to supply this funding as it is an LTCCP process that decides the funding.

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

11. No. The only funding at present is for planning time on the process. Any project listed in the Draft Plan will be sought from future LTCCP's.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

12. The Reserves Act 1977 requires that consultation be carried out on land that is classified under the Act. Montgomery Spur Reserve is classified as a Scenic Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

13. Page 124 and 125 of the LTCCP outlines how the Council will like to measure its achievements and plan for what it will do in the future. The Montgomery Spur Reserve Management Plan process will meet the requirements of the achievements listed in that section of the LTCCP.

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

14. Yes, the Draft Management Plan supports the provision of recreation facilities, and proportion of customers satisfied with a range of recreation opportunities available on parks.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

15. The Port Hills Recreation Strategy.
16. The Montgomery Spur Reserve Management Plan will meet the Community Outcomes for a city of healthy active people, a city with a sustainable natural environment, a liveable city and a cultural and fun city.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

17. The consultation will fulfil the requirements of the Reserves Act 1977.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

- (a) A representative from the Board be appointed to be considered for the Hearings Panel.
- (b) The Council appoint a hearings panel for the week beginning 9 November 2009, to formulate recommendations to the Council for the final version of the Management Plan.
- (c) The Council approve the release of the Draft Management Plan for Montgomery Spur Reserve.

BOARD RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

- (a) Oscar Alpers be considered as a representative on the Hearings Panel. Further, Tim Scandrett is recommended as the alternative nominee of the Board for the Hearing Panel in the event that Oscar Alpers is unavailable to attend.
- (b) The Council appoint a hearings panel for the week beginning 9 November 2009, to formulate recommendations to the Council for the final version of the Management Plan.
- (c) The Council approve the release of the Draft Management Plan for Montgomery Spur Reserve.
- (d) The Draft Management Plan for Montgomery Spur Reserve include comments regarding the potential opportunities for road/bike linkage(s) from Avoca Valley to the Centaurus Road area as a potential option. (*Refer clause 3.55 of the Draft Management Plan*).

Note: Staff to be congratulated on the quality of information and work involved with the Draft Management Plan for Montgomery Spur Reserve.