

7. BROOKLANDS LAGOON AREA DRAFT PARKS MASTER AND MANAGEMENT PLANS

General Manager responsible:	General Manager City Environment Group, DDI 941-8608
Officer responsible:	Asset and Network Planning Unit Manager
Author:	Derek Roozen, Parks and Waterways Planner

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Council's approval of the Draft Spencer Park Management Plan 2009 (**Attachment 1**), Draft Seafield Park Management Plan 2009 (**Attachment 2**) and Draft Brooklands Lagoon/Te Riu o Te Aika Kawa Area Parks Master Plan 2009 (**Attachment 3**), with recommended changes incorporated, as the operative plans. The attachments are separately circulated.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. At its meeting on 14 May 2009 the Council received a report from the Shirley/Papanui Community Board recommending the Council approve the Draft Spencer Park Management Plan 2009, Draft Seafield Park Management Plan 2009 and Draft Brooklands Lagoon/Te Riu o Te Aika Kawa Area Parks Master Plan 2009 to be notified for public submissions for a period of not less than two calendar months as specified by Section 41(6)(a) of the Reserves Act 1977. The draft plans were available for public consultation from 27 June to 31 August 2009. A total of 30 submissions were received.
3. Hearings were held on 21 September and 3 November 2009 where five submitters made oral submissions. The Hearings Panel, comprising Councillor Ngaire Button (Chair), Councillor Chrissie Williams and Shirley/Papanui Community Board member Pauline Cotter, reconvened on 6 April and 28 April 2010 to deliberate and decide on the extent to which submitters' objections and comments will be allowed or accepted or disallowed or not accepted.
4. The determinations of the Hearings Panel have been highlighted as tracked changes in the draft plans and incorporated in the revised master plan. The three track changed draft plans and a clean copy of the revised master plan (**Attachment 4**) are separately circulated.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. The master plan contains a number of proposals that will be put forward for consideration in the 2012-22 LTCCP. The plan clearly states that the projects are subject to approval through the LTCCP process.

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

6. Yes, as above.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

7. The two management plans have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Reserves Act 1977 as they cover reserves classified under this Act. The preparation of the master plan was not required to be subject to the Reserves Act as it includes areas not held under the Act. Yet, due to its overarching coverage, including the aforementioned reserves, and in order to achieve an integration of planning, consistency of consideration by the public and economy of scale cost savings, the three plans were processed together. The master plan is a statutory document under the Reserves Act 1977 for the areas it covers that are reserves classified under the Act (that is, Spencer and Seafield Parks) and a contract between the public and the Council under the Local Government Act 2002 for the non-reserve public open space areas administered and managed by the Council.
8. The master plan also covers public areas under the administration of the Department of Conservation and Environment Canterbury. For these areas, the master plan is not binding on these government bodies in any way but instead serves an integrated information and advocacy role.

9. The Hearings Panel has delegated authority, under the Council's Hearings Panel Reserves Act 1977 delegations, to hear and determine submissions and objections in relation to the preparation, review and change of management plans for reserves, pursuant to Section 41 of the Reserves Act. As the submissions and objections have been heard and determined by the Hearings Panel under this delegated authority, the Council cannot make any further amendments to the plans.

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

10. Yes, as above.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

11. The three plans will assist the Council, for the area that the plans address, in being effective in ensuring the best provision of activities and services for Parks, Open Spaces and Waterways to meet community and environmental needs for open space, protect natural resources and scenic values, beautify the city and manage the land drainage network (Page 117 of the Long Term Council Community Plan 2009-19).
12. Spencer Park, Seafield Park and Brooklands Spit come under the activity of Regional Parks in the LTCCP and Activity Management Plans. In the current LTCCP, up to \$30,000 per annum is available for plantings in Spencer Park and up to \$15,000 per annum for plantings in Seafield Park. In addition, \$5,000 per annum is available for car parks and driveways in Spencer Park and Seafield Park.

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

13. In order to ensure the best management and use of the multiple values contained in Spencer Park and Seafield Park, and the other public parks and open space in the Brooklands Lagoon/Te Riu o Te Aika Kawa area, and contribute to meeting the Council's Parks, Open Spaces and Waterways activities and services as described in paragraph 11, the Council needs to have in place good operational plans for these parks and open spaces.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

14. The Council strategies relevant to the plans include the Biodiversity Strategy 2008, Christchurch Active Living Strategy 2004, Climate Change Policy 1995, Draft Climate Smart Strategy 2010-2025, Parks and Waterways Access Policy 2002, Physical Recreation and Sport Strategy 2002, Dog Control Policy 2008, Dog Control Bylaw 2008, Parks and Reserves Bylaw 2008, Marine and River Facilities Bylaw 2008 and the Draft Public Open Space Strategy 2010- 2040.
15. Approval of the plans is consistent with achieving the appropriate management and use of the resources in the Conservation 1A Zone (coastal margin), including ensuring the natural character of the coastal environment remains substantially unchanged and providing for the range of values present on the land, including recreational, ecological, scenic, educational, cultural and heritage values. It is also consistent with meeting the Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy's strategic directions to enrich lifestyles by developing an open space network and providing additional recreational opportunities in parks and natural areas, and to enhance environments by recognising the value of, and protecting, the coastline, estuaries, wetlands and waterways.

Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

16. Yes, the approval of the plans as the operative plans will permit the planning process to be completed, resulting in documents being in place that direct and guide the management, use and enhancement of the public parks and open space areas in the Brooklands Lagoon/Te Riu o Te Aika Kawa area in a manner consistent with the Council's long term plans and strategies, including those referred to in paragraphs 14 and 15.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

17. Yes, consultation has exceeded the requirements of the Reserves Act 1977.
18. Key stakeholders were involved in the preparation of, or commented on, the draft plans before they were publicly notified. These included Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, through Mahaanui Kurataiao Ltd, and staff of Environment Canterbury and the Department of Conservation.
19. Two periods of public consultation were undertaken during the process of review and preparation of the draft plans. These followed the public notification in March 2008 of the Council's intent to prepare the draft plans and the notification in June 2009 of the draft plans for public comment. Both consultations fully complied with Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977.
20. The Shirley/Papanui Community Board has been engaged and informed, through field trips, seminars and reports, since 2003 on the public parks and open space planning for the Brooklands Lagoon/Te Riu o Te Aika Kawa area.

RESERVE HEARINGS PANEL RECOMMENDATION

With the powers of the Council delegated to the Brooklands Lagoon Area Draft Parks Master and Management Plans Management Plan Hearings Panel to hear and determine submissions and objections in relation to the preparation, review and change of management plans for reserves pursuant to Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977, and for parks held under the Local Government Act 1974, it is recommended that:

- (a) The Council approves the Spencer Park Management Plan, Seafield Park Management Plan and Brooklands Lagoon/Te Riu o Te Aika Kawa Area Parks Master Plan, with the changes shown as tracked changes in the draft plans and incorporated in the final versions of the plans, as the operative plans.
- (b) This report is forwarded to the Shirley/Papanui Community Board for information.
- (c) The Council consider supporting staff to investigate further the following issues:
 - (i) With respect to the Dog Control Policy and Bylaw, the need for further restriction of dogs in natural areas in order to protect wildlife, the provision and effectiveness of signage on site to better inform dog owners, and requirements for improved enforcement.
 - (ii) Development of a policy for the use and promotion of Māori names in significant natural and open space areas.
 - (iii) The feasibility of and options for the Christchurch Water Sports Club relocating to an alternative site, and the Club's land being acquired for addition to the Seafield Park scenic reserve.