

Report No:	RCS11-09-04
File No:	
Date:	26 August 2011
Decision Required	

REPORT SUMMARY

Report to: Community Services Committee
Meeting Date: 8 September 2011
Report Author: Reserves Manager
Subject: Motueka Community Board Request to Alter Reserve Financial Contributions Allocations in the 2011/12 Annual Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is to discuss the request from the Motueka Community Board for a change in the Reserve Fund Contributions for Motueka, to defer the funding allocation for the Memorial Park Fence to the 2012/13 financial year and allow the current funding to be added to the current playground funding allocated in the Annual Plan for 2011/12, to be used for the provision of new equipment for Decks Reserve and Ledger Goodman Reserve playgrounds.

RECOMMENDATION/S

Staff recommend the adoption of Option 5.2 within this report.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

THAT the Community Services Committee:

- 1 Receives the Motueka Community Board Request to Alter Reserve Financial Contributions Allocations in the 2011/12 Annual Plan Report RCS11-09-04; and**
- 2 Resolves that:**
 - (i) The Ledger Goodman playground equipment be replaced at a cost of \$20,000.**
 - (ii) The Memorial Park playground be upgraded to meet the Standards at a cost of \$40,000.**
 - (iii) Staff undertake community consultation on the replacement/upgrade of the Decks Reserve playground and plans and costings for this being completed by March/April 2012.**
 - (iv) Any shortfall of funding for the Decks Reserve playground be sourced from other projects within the Motueka Reserve Financial Contributions account or spread over two financial years if there are insignificant funds.**

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1. PURPOSE

1.1 To make a decision on the following request from the Motueka Community Board.

Moved P Hawkes/C Satherley
MCB11-08-13

THAT the Motueka Community Board request the Community Services Committee:

- a) To add the \$40,000 budgeted for a Memorial Park fence along Pah Street in 2010 – 2011 to the \$54,864 budget for playground equipment in 2011 – 2012;
- b) To defer any expenditure on the boundary fence for Memorial Park/Pah Street until the 2012 – 2013 year;
- c) That the Deck's Reserve play equipment be upgraded, subject to a plan being acceptable to the Motueka Community Board, to a maximum of \$75,000.
- d) That play equipment at the Ledger Avenue Reserve be put in place, subject to a plan being acceptable to the Motueka Community Board, to a maximum of \$20,000;
- e) To liaise with the Engineering Services Department to resolve the drainage problem outside the Motueka Tennis Pavilion in Memorial Park.

CARRIED

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The conifer hedge in the front of Memorial Park suffered a series of arson incidents and as a result it was completely removed and replaced with a very

temporary fence until funding could be allocated to replace this fence with another fitting to the status of the reserve.

- 2.2 Some user groups of the reserve along with the Motueka Community Board were not happy with the idea of a fence, however staff were concerned about any safety issues arising from balls leaving the reserve and issues for pedestrians and motorists.
- 2.3 Staff had also been approached by the local Community Constable requesting a pool style fence to allow visibility into the park. In March 2011 the Community Services Committee resolved that

**Moved Crs Norriss/Wilkins
CS11-03-04**

THAT the Community Services Committee agree to leave the temporary fence along the road boundary of Memorial Park, Motueka and that the situation be reviewed in 12 months time.

CARRIED

This indicated to staff that any funding allocated for the fence would need to stay in place for further discussion to be had in 2012.

- 2.4 The Motueka Community Board's submission to the Annual Plan was that they support the projects which are planned for the 2011/12 financial year within the Motueka Ward - this included projects funded from the Motueka RFC's. David Ogilvie's personal submission requested that funding be allocated to replace the privately owned playground equipment in Ledger Goodman Reserve and erect a "Tequnet" or similar climbing apparatus in the Decks Reserve playground. He suggested that if funding was not available in one financial year, that it be spread over two years or be loan funded.
- 2.5 This year Council's playgrounds were audited by a qualified playground auditor and it was recommended that the playground in Memorial Park be upgraded. The private equipment in Ledger Goodman Reserve also needs to be removed and replaced.
- 2.6 The Decks Reserve playground was not considered to be in need of upgrading at this time. It also operates under an older code for playground safety and if anything is altered or replaced within the playground the whole playground then needs to be brought up to the current playground standards.

- 2.7 It is possible to add a piece of equipment in a separate area that would not interfere with the current playground.

3. PRESENT SITUATION/MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED

- 3.1 The original programme for the 2011/12 financial year was to replace the equipment in Ledger Goodman Reserve and to upgrade equipment in Memorial Park and the recent audit of Council's playgrounds reinforces this decision.
- 3.2 Having said that, the Motueka Community Board are strongly of the opinion that the Decks Reserve playground requires upgrading.
- 3.3 Staff still consider that the Ledger Goodman and Memorial Park playgrounds should be given priority and can reasonably quickly have this work undertaken.
- 3.4 The upgrading or replacement of the Decks Reserve playground is more complicated and will require a survey of users before any planning is commenced. This could be carried out over the next few months. Once this is completed, draft plans and costings can be produced for consideration by the Motueka Community Board and users.
- 3.5 Using the above timeframe will mean that no work could be undertaken on Decks Reserve before Christmas as requested by the Board, however with the current workloads of staff, even without the necessary public consultation, there is sufficient time to meet this request.

4. FINANCIAL/BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 In the 2011/12 Annual Plan, \$54,854 was allocated within the Motueka Reserve Financial Contributions account for playgrounds within the Motueka Ward and a further \$47,931 was carried over from 2010/11.
- 4.2 The funds allocated for the Memorial Park fence should not be reallocated until after the 12 month review which will be in March/April 2012.
- 4.3 The total budget available in 2011/12 for playgrounds is \$102,785 and the estimated costs of the replacement equipment for Ledger Goodman is \$20,000 and the upgrade of Memorial Park playground to meet the required

standards is \$40,000. This leaves approximately \$43,000 that can be used towards Decks Reserve playground.

- 4.4 Once the costings of the Decks Reserve playground are known, staff could provide options for meeting any shortfall over and above the available \$43,000. Based on the known costs of new playgrounds the shortfall could be up to \$50,000.

5. OPTIONS

- 5.1 To agree to the request from the Motueka Community Board for the transfer of funds from the Memorial Park fence and to upgrade the Decks Reserve playground to a maximum cost of \$75,000 and renew the Ledger Goodman playground to a maximum of \$20,000.
- 5.2 To agree to replace the Ledger Goodman playground equipment at a cost of \$20,000 and to upgrade the Memorial Park playground at a cost of \$40,000 to meet the Playground Safety Standards and, further, that a survey of users be undertaken for the Decks Reserve playground so that plans and costings can be completed for approval by the users and Motueka Community Board by March/April 2012.

6. PROS AND CONS OF OPTIONS

6.1 Option 5.1

Pros:

- Meets the wishes of the Community Board.
- Provides a replacement for Ledger Goodman which is required to meet the Standards and provides for a partial upgrade of Decks Reserve playground.
- Could be financed solely from the playground account.

Cons:

- This option means that the Memorial Park playground would not be brought up to Standard.
- There would be no time to complete a full survey of users and meet the Board's timeframe.
- Staff have a large programme of work to complete and may not have time to complete the Decks Reserve planning.

6.2 Option 5.2

Pros:

- Provides for the replacement/upgrades necessary to meet the Standards.
- Provides time for proper consultation/surveys of users before deciding on a playground for Decks Reserve.
- The Ledger Goodman and Memorial Park upgrades can be financed from the playground account.
- Some funds would be available for the Decks Reserve playground with the balance being sourced from transfers within the Reserve Financial Contributions budget or from the following financial years account.
- Does not take the funds from the Memorial Park fence budget before the review of this matter in March/April 2012.

Cons:

- Does not fully meet the wishes of the Community Board.

7. EVALUATION OF OPTIONS

- 7.1 Option 5.2 meets the requirements of the Standards and provides for proper consultation on the Decks Reserve playground.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

- 8.1 This is not a significant decision according to the Council's Significance Policy.

9. RECOMMENDATION/S

- 9.1 Staff recommend the adoption of Option 5.2.

10. DRAFT RESOLUTION

THAT the Community Services Committee:

- 1 Receives the Motueka Community Board Request to alter Reserve Financial Contributions allocations in the 2011/12 Annual Plan Report RCS11-09-04; and**

2 Resolves that:

- (i) The Ledger Goodman playground equipment be replaced at a cost of \$20,000.**
- (ii) The Memorial Park playground be upgraded to meet the Standards at a cost of \$40,000.**
- (iii) Staff undertake community consultation on the replacement/upgrade of the Decks Reserve playground and plans and costings for this being completed by March/April 2012.**
- (iv) Any shortfall of funding for the Decks Reserve playground be sourced from other projects within the Motueka Reserve Financial Contributions account or spread over two financial years if there are insignificant funds.**

Beryl Wilkes
Reserves Manager

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