

**URGENT DECISION OF THE
FRANKLIN LOCAL BOARD**

SUBJECT

Allocation of operational funding to enable the continued development of trails plans (local paths plans).

BACKGROUND

Local paths are linkages that connect communities by providing connections between destinations such as schools, town centres, open spaces, council facilities and transport hubs. Local paths can be streets, open spaces or on private land, planned and managed to provide environmental and recreational benefits.

Outcomes can include:

- High amenity walking, cycling and horse riding connections
- Improved ecological outcomes, including less impervious surfaces for stormwater runoff and a decrease in traffic congestion
- Improved access to recreational opportunities
- Contribution to improved health and wellbeing.

During consultation on the Franklin Local Board Plan 2014 (the plan), the community indicated its support for a network of connections between open spaces. The plan includes a key outcome to 'improve connectivity between outdoor areas used by the public', with a key initiative to 'develop a Greenways Plan to identify connections for our parks, forests, waterfronts, rivers and streams via pathways for walking, cycling and horse riding'. Since the plan was adopted, the name for greenways has been changed to local paths, to better reflect their use and enhance community understanding.

The board gave direction that a staged approach was to be used to develop local paths plans across Franklin for specific areas, with Beachlands/Maraetai being the first priority area, followed by Waiuku and then Pukekohe.

Work commenced in November 2015 on the Beachlands/Maraetai plan, and a steering group of local community organisations was formed (called Pohutukawa Coast Trails – hence the trails plan name) to work in partnership with the board to develop a plan. A draft plan has now been developed and initial work is being undertaken to start the process to develop a plan for Waiuku.

Locally Driven Initiatives operational budget of \$25,000 was allocated by the board in its 2015/16 and 2016/17 Local Parks Work Programme for development of the plans, which includes the engagement of a contract project manager. The budget was all spent in 2015/16 and in 2016/17, the budget will be largely spent by the end of December 2016. In order to continue for the rest of the financial year with the completion of the Pohutukawa Coast Trails Plan and the development of the Waiuku Trails Plan, the board needs to allocate additional funding to the project.

Proposed Sources of Funding

Option 1

The Franklin Local Board has a community response fund of \$97,318 (operational funding) for the 2016/2017 financial year. The fund can be used at the local board's discretion. The following funding has already been allocated from the community response fund:

Date	Project	Cost \$
2/8/16	Printing additional 6000 weed management brochures	4,500
2/8/16	Strategic weed control - transfer to local environment work programme	9,000
16/8/16	50% cost of preparation of a bid to host an event in Pukekohe	5,000
16/8/16	Printing additional 2,000 weed management brochures and distribution costs to all rural delivery addresses and holders of post office boxes	1,300

Date	Project	Cost \$
27/9/16	Development of a concept plan for Sunkist Bay, Beachlands	15,000
27/9/16	Upgrade of the flooring at Franklin Pool and Leisure including costs of all materials and installation of the reception area and ramp	32,000
4/10/16	Additional costs for reclassification of Karioitahi Recreation Reserve for new surf lifesaving building	10,275
13/10/16	Additional funding for Manukau Beautification Trust – Eye on Nature event	2,700
	TOTAL	79,775

A balance of \$17,543 is therefore available for allocation from the community response fund.

Option 2

In the Sport and Recreation Work Programme 2016/17, Locally Driven Initiatives operational funding of \$114,000 is allocated to implementation of the Franklin Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan. There is currently no indication on how this funding will be spent. Therefore, the board can consider reallocating part of this funding to other priorities.

Recommended option

Due to the \$114,000 budget with no current projects in the Sport and Recreation Work Programme 2016/17 (option 2), it is recommended that the board allocates up to \$25,000 for the remainder of the 2016/17 financial year from this budget to the activity in the Local Parks Work Programme 2016/17 to develop trails (greenways) plans in Franklin.

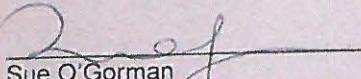
RECOMMENDATION

That the Franklin Local Board reallocates up to \$25,000 from the Sport and Recreation Work Programme 2016/17 Locally Driven Initiatives operational budget of \$114,000 - activity name 'Franklin sport and recreation plan implementation' - to the Local Parks Work Programme 2016/17 Locally Drive Initiatives operational budget - activity name 'development of the greenways programme' - to enable the project to continue in the 2016/17 financial year.

REASON FOR URGENCY

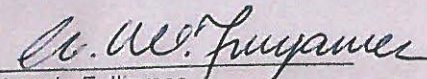
The timelines to allocate funding in order for the project to continue means that an urgent decision is needed as a new contract is required to be drawn up for the trails project manager for February 2017 onwards.

AUTHORISED FOR RELEASE



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Date 21/12/2016

APPROVED


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22/12/2016
Date


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23.12.16
Date