

Memorandum

To: Devonport - Takapuna Local Board

From: George McMahon - Parks and Places Specialist

Date: Thursday, 24th January 2019

Subject: Andrew Joseph Sumich, memorial seat to be installed at Milford Beach Front Reserve, at the end of Muritai Road, Milford 0620

1. Introduction

The purpose of this memorandum is to determine whether the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board support Auckland Council staff exercising their delegation to decline the application from the Sumich family for a donated park bench with plaque to be installed at Milford Beach Front Reserve.

2. Detail

In accordance with the “Plaques and Memorials on Parks Interim Guidelines”, an application form (attachment A) from Margaret Sumich (Mother) has been received to provide for a donation of a park bench, at Milford Beach Front Reserve, at the end of Muritai Road, Milford.

Attachment B to this memorandum is a map showing the proposed location on the ground. This has been confirmed with the Sumich family. The proposal is to replace the existing bench with a new bench with a memorial plaque to their son, Andrew Sumich.

To determine appropriateness of memorials, an assessment of the application is undertaken in accordance with the plaques and memorials guidelines. The key generic protocols and assessment criteria for assessing an application is as follows:

Where there is no policy (i.e. identified in Reserve Management Plan), plaques and memorial structures will only be approved in recognition of:

- i) An important historical figure or important person associated with the park or locality;*
- ii) An important cultural location;*
- iii) An organisation or community group involved in the development of the area;*
- iv) Someone who has come to a misadventure involved in the development of the area; or*
- v) A significant event e.g. events of civic (national or local) nature.*

3. General

The application has been assessed in accordance with the policy; the information available suggests the application does not meet the generic protocols for plaques and memorials.

An important historical figure or important person associated with the area

4. Implementation Issues

There are no foreseen issues with implementation. The applicant has confirmed they will pay for the seat, plaque and installation, as per the agreed process with Community Facilities contractors.

5. Comments

Andrew Joseph Sumich passed away after his battle with cancer at age 42.

Mr Sumich's life does display merit as is evident in the application and letters of support from St Joseph's Parish, Rosmini College, his former employer and Wakatere Boating Club, the Parks and Places Specialist does not support the application, as it does not meet the guidelines. Mr Sumich was associated with the area, however there are no direct links to the reserve, rather links to his sailing background. His contribution to Auckland while commendable is not extensively associated with the locality.

6. Recommendation

That the Devonport- Takapuna Local Board, support the Manager Land Advisory Services, Stakeholder and Land Advisory, Community Facilities, exercising their delegation to decline the landowner approval to the applicant.

7. Attachments

Attachment A – Application form received from Margaret Sumich dated 26/11/2019

Attachment B – Map of proposed seat

Attachment C – Letters of support