

4.15. Levels of Service Increases

Community Facilities: Playgrounds and Sports Parks Funding

(Report prepared by J Tito/J Lyall)

R510-021-01

Purpose of report

1. To request funding for new development on Council playgrounds.
2. To request funding for improvements and upgrades to assets on Council playgrounds, parks and sports parks.

Executive Summary

3. The proposed projects for funding have been identified either through an Annual Plan submission, as a result of new subdivision development or have been identified by staff.
 4. A total of 10 projects totalling **\$1,705,160** are proposed that include new developments, asset replacement and improvements.
 5. A number of these projects meet the criteria for funding from the Land Subdivision Reserve with some projects to be rates funded, depending on the size of growth component for each project.
 6. This leaves a balance of **\$3,455,558** in the Land Subdivision Reserve.
 7. There will be an additional paper seeking Land Subdivision Reserve funding for projects to the Assets and Services Committee in June 2023.
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RECOMMENDATION

1. **Approve funding for proposed projects totalling \$1,705,160, with an allocation of funding from the Land Subdivision Reserve totalling \$1,437,160 and the balance, \$268,000, to be rates funded (see Table 1 of this report).**
 2. **Approve the use of \$268,000 of rate funded debt to fund the non-growth component of the works required to upgrade parks and open spaces assets to meet levels of service, safety and demand requirements.**
 3. **Note the rating impact will be \$21,440.**
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Background – Playgrounds, Parks and Sports Parks

8. The following new developments and upgrades to playgrounds, parks and sports parks have been identified. Projects that meet Land Subdivision Reserve funding criteria are put forward for Committee approval with the correlating funds deducted from the Land Subdivision Reserve Balance.
9. The projects involving replacement, upgrades or improvements are in response to aged play equipment, increased usage of assets, enhanced safety measures requiring soft fall matting and improved playing surfaces.
10. The Land Subdivision Reserve funds are obtained from financial contributions levied on new residential developments that take into consideration the effect of growth on the capacity of Parks and Open Space areas.
11. The Land Subdivision Reserve had an opening balance of **\$4,892,718** as of 1 July 2022. Funding of \$1,437,160 is sought from the Land Subdivision Reserve for these works with \$268,000 to have a Rates impact, see Table 1 below.

Table 1

Name of park and description of proposed project	Cost	Growth Driven (Percent)	Landsub Reserve	Debt funding
Rose Manor Reserve <i>A new playground in a new subdivision.</i>	\$550,000	100	\$550,000	\$0
Wairau Valley Hall Playground <i>A new playground to meet growth in numbers of children.</i>	\$150,000	100	\$150,000	\$0
Flaxbourne Domain <i>Upgrade to playground with an increased use of playground identified and a growth in number of children.</i>	\$150,000	60	\$90,000	\$60,000
Wither Hills Farms Park <i>Replacement bridge at Sutherland Stream car park entrance. A noted growth in track user numbers.</i>	104,000	50	\$52,000	\$52,000
Lansdowne Park <i>New seal on carpark at Lansdowne Hub with increased user numbers. Improved finish to hub development.</i>	\$181,160	100	\$181,160	\$0
Seddon Domain <i>Resurface for rugby field, with noted increase in number of players.</i>	\$45,000	70	\$31,500	\$13,500
Seddon Domain <i>Resurface to netball courts following damage, netball continues to be a growth sport in Seddon.</i>	\$100,000	50	\$50,000	\$50,000
Renwick Domain <i>Modular pump track to meet growth in users at Domain.</i>	\$75,000	100	\$75,000	\$0
Pollard Park Playground <i>Replace aging equipment to meet growth and changing needs of playground users.</i>	\$150,000	65	\$97,500	\$52,500
Havelock Domain Playground <i>Redevelopment of playground to meet growth in users of area and address health and safety concerns at the Domain.</i>	\$200,000	80	\$160,000	\$40,000
Total			\$1,437,160	\$268,000

Funding

12. A challenge for funding of Council assets for recreational areas is Council currently not having depreciation as a funding source when it comes to replacing existing assets. This policy is currently under review.
13. Council, however, is able to use development contributions received through the Land Subdivision Reserve as a funding source for these recreational projects. The criteria for use of this Reserve are restricted to service levels of growth. Table 1 therefore identifies projects that are driven by a higher level of growth and for which 100% of funding is sought. Where projects involve renewal and replacement, this is also in part to service increased levels of growth, however the need is not solely in response to growth. In these circumstances a lower level of funding is sought the Land Subdivision Reserve with the balance to be rate funded debt.

Next steps

14. If this funding request is approved staff will prepare necessary design, consents and tenders as required for these works to be installed.

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