Aranui Community Trust Incorporated Society

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Our Community Plan 2006-16 Christchurch City Council Freepost 178 PO Box 237 Christchurch 8003

SUBMISSION MADE ON BEHALF OF THE ARANUI COMMUNITY TRUST

IN RESPONSE TO CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL OUR COMMUNITY PLAN 2006-16

Representatives of the Aranui Community Trust wish to discuss the main points contained in this written submission at the hearing on 25 May and 7 June 2006, and can be contacted at the address detailed above.

The Aranui Community Trust, Housing New Zealand Corporation and the Christchurch City Council entered into a formal four year partnership agreement with respect to all parties working collaboratively to effect improvements to the physical and social environment of Aranui with the primary objective to "enhance Aranui as a good place to live". This is to be achieved through the project aims to improve:

- The physical environment in the area, including streets, parks and other amenities;
- Social opportunities and the social environment, including enhancing community pride and capacity, strengthening connections between individuals, business and community groups, and encouraging better services to the area;
- Economic opportunities, including providing employment and work experience opportunities

Progress during this period of time has been literally stunning. The physical environment has been significantly improved, with a large number of new homes built, work undertaken on existing homes, road and park improvements completed as well as a significant improvement in the lives of its residents. People who live in Aranui are very satisfied with the significant achievements that have been made.

The Aranui Community Trust greatly appreciates the commitment and the support the Christchurch City Council has dedicated to the project to date. Resourcing the project by adequate staffing is essential and a commitment to project management, community development and project coordination has been undertaken by the City Council. The Aranui Community Trust urges the Council to continue to allocate funds for these vital components.

Work is progressing on four current priority areas for Aranui (Employment & Training, Housing, Health and Strengthening Families including services and facilities for children and youth), and there is a high level of enthusiasm and expectation for success by all those involved.

In order to continue to enhance both the physical and social environment of Aranui, the Aranui Community Trust, on behalf of the people of Aranui wish to make the following recommendations for consideration by the Christchurch City Council for the Our Community Plan 2006-16.

Сар	oital works programn	ne		
Aranui Learning Centre	Full version	Page	74/75	

Discretionary projects: non priority

It is planned to establish a learning centre for the Aranui community in an available council-owned building in Wainoni Park, The centre would deliver programmed and individual learning opportunities, provided by a team of employees and volunteers. While the focus of the facility would be on learning-with a strong emphasis on technology-it is also proposed the centre provide a library service focusing on popular materials and learning resources. This facility is important to provide a tailored service focusing on popular materials and learning resources. This facility is

important to provide a tailored service for this community that is seeking improved access to enhanced learning opportunities.

The Aranui Community Trust was shocked to be advised that the Aranui Learning Centre was not going to be included in the Capital Works Programme for 2006-16.

The History:

A verbal presentation was put to the Aranui Community Trust from the Libraries unit (Sue Sutherland and her team) in 2002. Libraries thought that Aranui residents would benefit from a learning centre environment that would encourage and promote reading, have an information technology focus and have the support of educators. Further extensive consultation has been done with the community by way of fono, hui and public community meetings and identified through all of these recorded consultation processes is that there is a need to have a learning centre here in Aranui.

Kim Taunga from libraries worked with the Aranui community around information and consultation regarding a Learning Centre. One of the ideas that was put to the Aranui Community Trust was that the learning space would have a number of computers with full internet services, provide a collaborative learning environment for all. Homework support would be offered with information on employment and career choices also being available. The community has been advised that a learning centre of some sort would be established in Aranui.

The Aranui Learning Centre aligns with the objectives of the Council outlined in "Our Community Plan" and the Library's Strategic Plan and Lifelong Learning Strategy.

The Burwood/Pegasus board has advised the Aranui Community Trust that they support our submission to have the Aranui Learning Centre included back on the City Councils priority list.

Our recommendation is that the Learning Centre be reinvestigated and reinstated back onto the "Our Community Plan 2006-16". Please see the enclosed petition which supports this recommendation signed by members of the community.

Parks, open spaces and waterways Wainoni Park

Wainoni Park is the heartbeat of Aranui. The amount of hours that has been spent on this park in terms of consultation and resources is phenomenal. The park is now a very vibrant centre piece for Aranui. Issues around safety in the park have been addressed, rugby league is back on the newly marked and positioned fields, lots of children are using the play areas, the permanent volleyball net is used all year round, a new road is about to be blessed and opened and everyone has a smile on their face. The community has played a big part in the consultation process and council have played the biggest part in the continued developing and enhancing of this park. Council has worked beside our community every step of the way to get the 10 year plan to a final sign off stage by the Burwood/Pegasus board. This 10 year plan received final sign off in 2005. Thank you to all past and present B/P board members and also to the Council staff who worked on this project.

It is great that the work to date has been completed but as per the plan there is still a lot to be done. On each of our plans there is a permanent note posted, "proposed work to be carried out subject to future approval and funding".

There is no mention of Wainoni Park in the Parks, open spaces and waterways section of the Our Community Plan. Please see the enclosed Master Plan for Wainoni Park.

Our recommendation is that Wainoni Park be put into the Our Community Plan and have specific funding allocated to Wainoni Park to ensure the Master Plan can complete its planned stages over the next 10 years.

Council's proposed savings Full Version Page 86
Services and activities considered for reduction

The Aranui/Wainoni Family Centre is utilized by our community and there is a definite need for this facility to exist. The trust believes there is room for significant improvement in the way the facility operates.

We would suggest that the Management Committee be disbanded and that two of the existing committee members merge and sit on the Aranui Community Trust board. Rugby League is vibrant again in Aranui and they require a permanent base at the moment they do not have one. The family centre would be the ideal place for the club.

The ideal suggestion for the family centre is to have a full time or two part time workers based in it so the facility can be open most hours of the day and people are able to make bookings. After correctly marketing the facility to the community we are sure there would be an increase in activities and programmes.

Our recommendation is that the Wainoni/Aranui family centre not be considered for reduction and that funding be put towards a position of a full time or part time facility coordinator.

Final word

The model of working with central government, local government and community works well we would ask that a continued contribution be made by Christchurch City Council, to be able to engaged in a proactive and collaborate manner which will ensure the significant achievements made can be sustained.

If we are to continue to enhance Aranui as a good place to live, then all the usual events, activities and facilities that are available in other suburbs in Christchurch need to be afforded to the people of Aranui. The members of the Aranui Community Trust would like to thank the Christchurch City Council for the opportunity to comment on the "Our Community Plan".

Rachael Fonótia

Aranui Community Coordinator

Signed for and on behalf of the

Aranui Community Trust Incorporated Society

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We the undersigned residents of the Aranui Community call on the Christchurch City Council to support the proposed establishment of a learning centre for Aranui.

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