

STAFF REPORT

TO: Community Services Committee
FROM: Community Services Manager
DATE: 7 June 2006
SUBJECT: Tata Beach Reserves Management Plan

PURPOSE

To advise of a request from the Golden Bay Community Board for a review of the 2001 Tata Beach Reserve Management Plan.

DISCUSSION

The Tata Beach Reserves Management Plan was first adopted in December 1996 and reviewed in 2001 as a result of pressure to open up the whole of the esplanade reserve, to the west of the boat ramp, to vehicles.

As a result of the 2001 Review the following Section 8.1.2 was adopted:

“Protect and revegetate the sand behind the beach, by establishing a Coast Care programme to re-fill eroded areas with sand, plant and care for appropriate sand trapping plants, place sand trapping fences, and place fences and boardwalks to prevent trampling of plants and sensitive areas of sand. If over time the Coast Care programme builds out the top of the beach ridge to give adequate width for vehicles to drive along the reserve, turn, and pass each other, and to provide parking bays, then the stretch at the south end, currently closed to vehicles, may be re-opened. If the width continues to reduce despite the Coast Care measures, then the stretch at the boat ramp end, currently open to vehicles, may need to be closed”.

It will be noted from the above quotation, that only half the esplanade reserve is currently open to vehicles with the balance in mainly grass with some picnic tables.

Attached is a plan of the Tata Beach Reserves and the area under discussion is clearly marked.

The Coast Care Programme is now well established and is starting to show benefits, however, the narrowness of the esplanade reserve results in damage to some of the planting when cars turn or pass on this area. The Community Board, when discussing this issue, mentioned their concern for the protection of the coast care

work, safety issues and the legality of allowed a road to be open for vehicles on an esplanade reserve.

Also enclosed is an update on the development of the reserve in line with the programme included as part of the management plan.

OPTIONS

- 1 Decline the request to review the Management Plan.
- 2 Agree to a review of the Management Plan either for all reserves in Tata Beach or just the esplanade reserve in question.

PROCEDURE FOR A MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW

- 1 Public notice must be given of the intention to review the Management Plan and asking for ideas for the Plan.
- 2 Once the period of public notice expires a draft revised plan is prepared taking into account any suggestions received.
- 3 Public notice is then given of the draft revised plan calling for submissions.
- 4 Submissions are heard by a special committee set up by the Community Services Committee and then the final plan is prepared for adoption by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That staff be requested to commence a review of the Tata Beach Reserves Management Plan.

L L Kennedy
Community Services Manager