

STAFF REPORT

TO: Members, Motueka Community Board

FROM: Horticultural Officer

DATE: 16 July 2007

SUBJECT: MOT RIDES –Motueka Skatepark Working Group

PURPOSE/REASON FOR REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise the Community Board on the Working Group - MOT RIDES.

BACKGROUND

The Motueka Skatepark and BMX track is situated on Old Wharf Road Reserve on Old Wharf Road, Motueka. In 2006 \$10,000 was allocated from DILS after a request for funds for improvement to the park, was made by the youth of Motueka through the Youth Council. A consultation meeting was held at the park and Youth Councillors wanted to use their own resources, local contacts and skills to drive the project. With the help of many of the young people at the skatepark they built their own skating and BMX ramp adjacent to the concrete skate area. This created a great deal of interest over the summer months and many volunteer hours were spent down at the park designing and building the ramp, but unfortunately this didn't meet Health and Safety regulations. There was also a noticeable drop off in vandalism in the area at this time.

COMMENT/DISCUSSION

During the building of the project Council Parks and Reserves staff evaluated the long term viability of maintaining the plywood structure that was built. Extra funding was applied for, with the aim of building a permanent concrete skatepark. DILS was granted for the 2007 financial year.

Further discussion with the young people and their parents as well as staff from Motueka Recreation Park an even bigger vision for the Skatepark has evolved. Consequently a fundraising working group called MOT RIDES has been set up. This group, so far, includes Sandy Knox (a local parent), Andrew Heyward (Tasman Youth Council – Motueka Cluster Co-ordinator), Kathy Tohill-Curnow (TDC Horticultural Officer) and Michael Greaney (Youth Representative). The group is currently applying for funding from Lottery Grants Board to do a feasibility study with the aim of

applying for further funding from the Lottery Grants Board next financial year. Due to the efforts of this group we have now let a Contract to NZ Civil to begin the first stage of the project using the funding we have been allocated for this financial year. Attached is a copy of the plan for Stage 1 of the project.

AFFECTED PARTIES

The community of Motueka and surrounding districts.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received. If you wish to discuss any matter I am happy to answer questions relating to the report.

Kathy Tohill- Curnow
Horticultural Officer

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