

# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Community Services Committee  
**FROM:** Community Services Manager  
**DATE:** 27 March 2007  
**SUBJECT:** Proposed Hope Community Centre

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## PURPOSE/REASON FOR REPORT

At the February meeting the Committee considered a report on a funding request from the Hope Community Church to assist with a major upgrade of their facility in Ranzau Road. The Committee requested a further report particularly outlining any proposed public use, it's use by the Ranzau School, the value of the project and the reserve DIL's attaching to it.

## BACKGROUND

The following information has been provided by the Church (please see attached report).

## DISCUSSION

The church have advised that the Ranzau School has made a commitment to raise \$10,000.00 towards the project.

In the report to the February meeting, Councillors were reminded of the commitment already made to the Headingly Lane Centre which is expected to cater for most needs of the Richmond and wider community. However having now received further information on the Hope Community Centre it is obvious that this will also provide a wonderful facility for the community in the Hope and possibly Waimea areas.

Their request for financial assistance was in two parts, one for financial assistance towards the capital cost of the facility and the other was for a waiver of the \$40,404.00 development contributions imposed by Council. While their request was for a waiver of the development contributions, the actual amount paid was:

Reserve DIL's	\$5,553.76
Roading DIL's	38,383.80
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	\$43,937.56
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As mentioned in the previous report, a request for a waiver of the development contributions is always difficult to deal with as any waiver has to be funded from another

source such as the Reserve DIL's account. The request for major capital funding could be referred to the Facilities Rate Committee should this Committee consider the project would meet the criteria. The other possible source of funding is the Reserve DIL's account.

Comments on each of these options:

- (a) Facilities Rate – as this proposal is similar to the Headingly Centre, but slightly smaller, it would be difficult to argue that it does not meet the criteria although clause 6 of the criteria states that 'projects are to be identified and detailed in the Council's LTCCP or Annual Plan'. For this to happen now, means that any funds would not be available until 2008/09. This may well suit the church as their project is being staged.
- (b) Reserve DIL's account – in the past funds have been provided to schools to assist in building school halls subject to the facility being available for public hire outside of school hours. Because the facility is within the Richmond Ward it could be argued that Richmond DIL's should be used, however the information provided by the church in this report indicates a wider area of use, including areas of the Waimea Ward.

Should Reserve DIL's be considered the best option for any funds provided to this project I would recommend an amount be provided each year for a set number of years as the income figures for 2006/07 are projected to be down on the original budgeted figure. Should there be a surplus in any one year within the Reserve DIL's account the full amount could be paid earlier.

A copy of the plans of the proposal are attached to this report.

## **OPTIONS**

- 1 That the request be referred to the Grants and Community Facilities Rate Committee for consideration.
- 2 That consideration be given to providing funds from the Richmond and Waimea Reserve DIL's account.
- 3 That the request be declined.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That consideration be given to the request from the Hope Community Church for funding towards their project that will provide another facility benefiting the wider community.

L L Kennedy  
Manager Community Services

