Piha Domain – Driveway Upgrade

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Dear Resident/Ratepayer,

Local & Sports Parks West plan to upgrade the driveway and associated infrastructure at Piha Domain, in response to previous community feedback highlighting issues of dust and inappropriate driving

The attached concept plan shows the proposed upgrade which will include:

* Widening and sealing the driveway, to remove the problems of dust created from the driveway and allow vehicles to pass
* Introducing low grassed bunds to deter inappropriate driving and rationalise parking. Bunds will also limit turf damage and further reduce dust from the remainder of the parking area
* Widening the entrance and installing new gates, to improve access for buses and coaches
* Upgrading the pedestrian footpath leading to the footbridge to concrete
* Rationalisation of existing signage and installation of new picnic benches/litter bins

The upgrades will be phased over two years, with priority works on the driveway surfacing and bunds due to begin in late Autumn/early Winter 2013.

Further information can be found on the attached Frequently Asked Questions sheet.

If you have any comments or feedback on these proposals, please email Parkswest@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or phone Mark Miller on (09) 301 0101.

Feedback is due by Friday 1 April 2013.

Piha Domain – Driveway Upgrade

Frequently Asked Questions

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* Why is Council upgrading the driveway?

Community feedback in 2011 highlighted that two key concerns of local residents was dust created during the summer from the gravel driveway and irresponsible/antisocial behaviour associated with vehicles.

* What are the benefits of using chipseal for the driveway?

The main advantages are that there will be no dust, and vehicles will be more likely to stay on the driveway.

Chipseal will also be lower maintenance and longer lasting than gravel – removing the need for regular damping down with dust retardant and regrading of the surface. The on-site speed limit can be line-marked on chipseal, meaning the removal of surplus signage.

* Will there be an increase in impermeable surfaces?

No – the current compacted gravel driveway is already impermeable and due to natural spread the areas adjacent to the road have also compacted to create an impermeable layer, as evidenced by pooling of water in the winter. The new road surface will be similar in overall surface area to the existing driveway and surrounding compacted gravel.

All areas adjacent to the new driveway will be regraded and any surplus old gravel removed, leaving a more permeable sandy surface.

* What are the grassed bunds for?

The low grassed bunds are a way to encourage drivers to remain on the driveway and slow vehicle speeds/discourage antisocial behaviour on the grassy areas.

They may also encourage more organised parking during peak visitor periods.

* What about signage?

All existing signage will be reviewed and either replaced/relocated to a more appropriate location or removed if no longer required.

* Why are there more picnic tables and litter bins?

A few additional picnic tables have been included on the concept plan to allow visitors to enjoy a picnic at the Domain. They have been located specifically to avoid the more open areas around the lagoon.

The existing litter bin is not in a good location at the entrance to the Domain – the new locations have been proposed to make it easier for visitors to be responsible with their litter before getting back into their vehicles.

* When will works take place?

Due to budgetary constraints, the works will be phased over two financial years.

The priority work to seal the driveway and create the bunds will take place in later autumn/early winter 2013.

The remaining works will be completed in the 2013/14 financial year.

Signs will be put up prior to works beginning

* Will I still be able to park during works?

Wherever possible, public access will be maintained throughout the works. Restrictions may be required during certain phases to protect the public from plant and machinery.