Catherine Park Meeting Council Landscape Architect December 7, 2021

Participants:

NB Council - Lia Skountzos, Landscape Architect

Scotland Island representatives - Roads, Drainage and Environment Subcommittee, Bootcamp, Recreation Club, Bushcare

Aim: - Review of requirements and priorities to be incorporated into a landscape plan for Catherine Park

Introduction: Common agreement on the importance of:

* Retaining and enhancing the natural character of the park (simple and low key)
* Open space for games and festivals with an improved grass surface and drainage
* Improving amenity for community gatherings and recreation, on the foreshore and between the Hall and Recreation Centre,
* Safe all-weather access for pedestrians from roads and along the foreshore, across the swale and up to and between the community buildings
* Consideration for the needs of special interest groups

The group walked around the park looking at its present structure and the condition of existing facilities. Discussion centred on what improvements are required and what are the future priorities. It was acknowledged that improvements will extend over years, but this is an opportunity to set priorities and budget requirements for the future.

In existence now are:

* Picnic sites – 3 sites
* Small craft storage sites – 2 sites
* Open grass play space with log edging
* Playgrounds – 2 sites
* Paths and handrails – From the road to the Hall and Recreation Centre and along the foreshore to Tennis Court Wharf access
* Outdoor meeting and performance areas – The paved and grassed area below and between the Hall and Recreation Centre and the foreshore either side of Pitt Street.
* Surrounding bushland and landscape beds
* Sandy foreshore beach – 2 sites either side of Pitt Street
* Below and adjacent to Pitt Street parking for mobility vehicles incorporating a drop off pick up site for deliveries

To date discussion has highlighted as most critical the need to provide safe and functional access along the foreshore and between the buildings, improvements to the open grass play space, designated space for small craft storage and improvements to the outdoor meeting space (especially in the vicinity of the buildings and along the foreshore).

Lia will be considering community ideas and previous designs to complete a landscape plan for community discussion/ consultation.