



general
purpose
committee

2
section

infrastructure

GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE - INFRASTRUCTURE

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ITEM: 4 Security Gates on Navua Reserve and Macquarie Park**FILE NUMBER:** PK/002/ENG/INI30NBX.E02**REPORT:**

Over the past four years, the Navua Community Bushcare Group have undertaken a great deal of work and have achieved significant results in improvement to the reserve. The group meets twice a month to remove weeds, reestablish and maintain native vegetation and generally ensure that the reserve is a clean, safe place. The reserve however continues to be a target for vandalism, and this has required excessive maintenance funds being spent on replacing broken gates, padlocks, park furniture, signage and the like. The vandalism is however most damaging to the newly established vegetation in the reserve, which is a continual disappointment to the volunteers who have committed many hours to enhancing the area. It is proposed to prohibit vehicular entry to the reserve during the evening. This would be accomplished by using a security firm to 'lock up' every evening and a local resident to unlock the gates every morning.

Macquarie Park is another area that is prone to constant vandalism, including the lighting of fires, generally during the evening. The newly placed gates are ready to be closed of an evening, and it is anticipated that this will have significant impact on the level of maintenance needed in the reserve. The gates will be closed by the same security firm, one half hour after the Navua gates have been closed, and will be opened by Parks staff every morning by 6.30am.

Prominent signage will be displayed to alert visitors to the closing and opening times of the gates, along with a phone number to contact, and the cost to have the gates reopened should they be locked in. Prior to lock up, the security firm will check the car park for remaining visitors, and will sound a horn if a vehicle is present with no visible occupants.

If anyone is locked in, they will need to call the security firm, and will be charged a \$20 fee for the gates to be reopened. The following are the proposed opening and closing times for the gates:

	Navua Reserve	Macquarie Park
Daylight Saving (i.e. Summer)	7.00am Open 8.00pm Close	6.30am Open 8.30pm Close
Outside of Daylight Saving (i.e. Summer)	7.00am Open 6.30pm Close	6.30am Open 7.00pm Close

The cost to close the gates by the security firm are \$300 per month for Navua Reserve and \$240 for Macquarie Park, however, it is not anticipated that the firm will be utilised all year round. Funds for the closing of the reserves will be provided from the Parks Maintenance budget and it is anticipated that the reduction in vandalism will compensate for the cost of the service.

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RECOMMENDATION:

That access to Navua Reserve and Macquarie Park be limited as outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 4 Oooo

ITEM: 5 Seed Collection Policy - Council Owned and Managed Land**FILE NUMBER:** GP010/001/ENG/INI30NBX.E03

REPORT:

A policy has been prepared in response to requests for permission to collect seed from bushland reserves throughout the Hawkesbury area. The policy covers the collection of seed from all suitable areas of Council owned and/or managed land, including bushland reserves, parks, and road reserves. The policy addresses collection by members of the public, community volunteer groups (ie. Landcare/Bushcare groups), and professional collectors and growers. The aim of the policy is to regulate and co-ordinate the collection of seed from native bushland areas to ensure that while the demand for seed is met, the integrity of our bushland areas is maintained.

The policy has been developed in consultation with Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Trust, Greening Australia, Native Seed Saver Network, and Blue Mountains City Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Seed Collection Policy for Council Owned and Managed Land be adopted, pending agreement by the Department of Land & Water Conservation.

ATTACHMENTS:

AT-1 Seed Collection Policy the Policy will be attached as a supporting document.

oooO END OF ITEM 5 Oooo