

2.2 Request for Funding - Archaeological Survey Matarangi

TO Mercury Bay Community Board
FROM Heather Bruce, Area Manager - Mercury Bay
DATE 5/04/2022

1 Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is for the Mercury Bay Community Board to consider a request for funding for an archaeological survey to support a restoration plan for Ōmara Spit, Matarangi.

2 Summary

Matarangi Ratepayers Association Incorporated (MRAI) are leading a community project to mitigate the substantial erosion at Ōmara Spit which has seen the disappearance of the Spit walkway, dotterel breeding grounds and part of the Matarangi Golf Course.

MRAI have engaged a coastal restoration specialist who has prepared a restoration program which the project team plan to initiate in the near future.

To date there has been financial support from MRAI, Matarangi Community Trust and Powerco, which has enabled the purchase of 4,700 native halophyte plants, the project plan design and other associated costs. The project team envisage further financial support from the wider community and Matarangi Land Holdings Ltd.

The recent discovery of a substantial midden necessitates an archaeological survey of the erosion site as required by Heritage New Zealand, prior to any works commencing. The project has insufficient funds for this unexpected requirement, hence the request to the Community Board for financial assistance. The survey has been quoted at a cost of \$4,110.00 plus GST.

The Mercury Bay Community Board is asked to consider funding this archaeological survey from the Mercury Bay Community Board Discretionary Budget which has a current uncommitted balance of \$18,612.54.

This application aligns with community aspirations expressed in the [Mercury Bay North Community Plan 2020-2030](#) for protection of iconic and historic landscapes and erosion mitigation in Matarangi.

This application also aligns to the [Council Outcomes and Community Grant Criteria](#).

It should be noted that the restoration project outcome is to provide a buffer between the sea and private land (Matarangi Golf Course) and as such the Archaeological Survey relates to a midden on this private land.

MRAI have advised that an initial meeting has been held with the Archaeologist as noted in the quote and there are no anticipated additional costs for the survey work. The MRAI

further note that should costs of the survey increase, they will not request additional funds from the Community Board.

3 Suggested resolution(s)

That the Mercury Bay Community Board:

1. Receives the 'Request for Funding - Archaeological Survey Matarangi' report dated 5 April 2022.
2. Approves/declines the amount of \$4,110.00 plus GST for the Archaeological Survey for Ōmara Spit, Matarangi from the Mercury Bay Community Board Discretionary Budget.

References-Tabled/Agenda attachments

1. Attachment A - Email and Estimate - Mark Bedford MRAI - Grant Application for Archeological Survey Ōmaro Spit