

Community Partnership Fund

Progress Report

(Please keep this report to 4 pages maximum plus Attachments)

F:112

DATE: 21st May 2008

1. Achievements:

Tell us about what you've achieved so far.

The project has met all deliverables as required,

More than 300 records are digitised and stored in central database.

All the layers are accessible in a GIS, or have been printed as maps, and the records are transferable as shapefiles.

- Plants= 92 records
- Resources linked to sites in the Park = 147
- Notable trees = 67
- Bird food trees = 34
- Ethnobotany =13
- People and Places=18
- Lakes = 8
- Streams = 7
- Spring sites = 11

Other material has been digitised, but is not yet accessible using the GIS.
Some NPDC layers have been corrected as appropriate.

2. Learnings:

Tell us about what you've learnt so far. What has worked well, what hasn't worked so well?

As a result of the matters raised here and below, and in order to maximise efficiencies, Puke Ariki and the Friends of Pukekura Park believe that we may need to revise some methodology and substitute some funding allocations associated with the F112 project. Our Milestones and overall budget would remain unchanged.

As we become more closely aware of the project flow, we can see, for example, that we may require less spending on computing hardware, but will need more work on

- i) drop-down menu design,
- ii) software alignment (PPGIS mashups), and
- iii) we will require a significantly more accurate GPS positioning system to work under the tree canopy in Pukekura Park (to fix the positions of the trees described in published literature and private records).

We determined that the GPS unit used for locating features within Pukekura Park is not sufficiently accurate. Therefore, we now have to look at alternative units and technologies.

The new Pukekura Park Portal Coordinator position has been advertised, but not yet filled. Puke Ariki and the Friends are considering whether it may be wise to 'split' the role, and seek the use of more technically specialised contractors. This is particularly pertinent as we require the following highly specialized knowledge:

- (a) To advise Puke Ariki curatorial staff and to ensure that data is compiled in formats and to standards agreed by the National Digital Forum
- (b) To develop PPGIS aspects which require expertise in computer languages and code writing.

During the initial weeks of the project, and while in discussion with both the New Plymouth District Council and Puke Ariki, we have discovered a number of ways to improve the management and robustness of the Project, while at the same time creating more accurate and useful data, and improving data storage and access.

3. Shared Learning:

How have you been able to share any learning or collaborate with others?

The Friends are now working closely with the New Plymouth District Council, and have been offered facilities which solve some of the technical issues. The use of GISBOOST™ in particular will allow greater flexibility for the project. The use of the "Peoples' Network" at Puke Ariki will assist the volunteers.

Discussion with our academic mentor from Auckland University, Professor Mark Gahegan, has shown additional possibilities for learning facilities and digital libraries that we feel will be important to address for this Public Participatory GIS. We brought Prof. Gahegan to New Plymouth for a day to meet with the Friends, and Puke Ariki staff, and for him to see Pukekura Park. He is assisting the Friends to solve the questions we have posed regarding the use of community data, and he is looking into how research students may be able to help.

The Friends of Pukekura Park have accepted a combined offer from the University of California Davis Arboretum and ESRI to become a partner in testing their new Botanic Gardens data model, which should be of tremendous assistance to us, the associated NPDC Parks staff, and to Pukekura Park and its archives. This relationship will ensure that the Pukekura Park GIS will be aligned to an international standard and contribute to international development and research processes.

Since the commencement of the project, several other related community projects have come to light which may align with the Pukekura Park Portal Project, namely the Puke Ariki schools environmental education programme, which uses Pukekura Park as a practical field-base; and a bequest to label native trees in Pukekura Park. Both projects can make use of the portal facilities that CPF F112 is aiming to achieve, and they will contribute additional information to the GIS.

4. Resources:

Are there any resources that you have produced that may be useful for others that you are able to share? Please attach document or links.

See Appendix 1.

The working GIS has been supplied to the NPDC.

5. Evaluation:

If your project is due to complete within six months, what arrangements have you made for the evaluation of your project?

N/A

6. Progress Summary for Website:

Please provide a brief paragraph about how the project has progressed (up to 150 words) which may be published on the website www.digitalstrategy.govt.nz under Project Updates.

Preparing the ground for this digital project is proving to be as important as spadework is to gardening in Pukekura Park. The digitising of community records and use them in a Geographic Information System has been through a testing phase; the formatting and metadata standards are being finalised, and the community group will soon be assessing and archiving the priority sources of data. The possibilities of Public Participatory GIS have stimulated great interest, and this has opened up national and international networks; hearing about similar projects, having offers to collaborate, and drawing upon others' academic expertise. Solutions have become available to what appeared to be technical difficulties a year ago. The speed of change is exciting, and the increasing availability of professional tools to the community will allow much more efficient data use.

7. Project Deliverable progress and Evidence provided:
(Evidence: e.g. documents, website links, photos, CDs, manuals, receipts)

Deliverables (due at this report)	Progress (complete/partial/none)	Evidence provided
GIS Layers required are determined,	complete	Appendix 1 Screen dumps GIS 28 March 2008 showing progress:
Systems compatibility report complete,	complete	<p>Appendix 2 Combined NPDC / Puke Ariki / Friends project team established (table depicting project team expertise and contacts)</p> <p>Appendix 2a GIS expertise Peter Hebden, Manager Geospatial and Asset Strategy, NPDC (e-mail chains and confirmed meeting minutes)</p> <p>Appendix 3 Portal coordinator role and relationships schematic (a project overview... an essential component of the recruiting process)</p> <p>The Friends of Pukekura Park will access the GIS layers through the web-based GIS BOOST™ and have editing permissions. See www http://www.newplymouthnz.com/AtoZOfCouncilServices/GISBOOST/</p> <p>A quality management process will ensure that this data is to the required standard before being loaded to NPDC databases.</p>
Database hardware is purchased and installed,		<p>Appendix 4 FoPP seeks GIS advice from UC Davis Arboretum (letter from FoPP seeking guidance)</p> <p>Appendix 4a ESRI GIS Data Model collaboration with UC Davis (enthusiastic explanatory reply from Director, UC Davis Arboretum)</p> <p>Appendix 4b UC Davis - ESRI GIS Botanic Gardens Data Model (summary of the process, layers, and geodatabase structure)</p> <p>Appendix 5 UC Davis Arboretum invites Pukekura Park to become an international test site for the new botanic gardens data model (e-mail chain explaining assistance and expectations)</p> <p>Appendix 6 Arnold Arboretum Harvard University may join project (explanatory e-mail)</p> <p>Appendix 7 Prof Mark Gahegan, Auckland University visits New Plymouth (introduction / background / agenda for Prof Gahegan)</p> <p>Appendix 8 - costs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NPDC database is available and awaiting inputs. See cover letter. • The University of California Davis Campus has offered to partner the FoPP / Puke Ariki/ NPDC Parks Department with an ESRI ArcGIS data model which is being developed for Parks and Zoos. • Pukekura Park has been offered the status of an international test site. • There is a possibility of University of Auckland conducting research to • facilitate systems • There is also a possibility of a collaboration with Harvard University's • Arnold Arboretum, which uses the CAD based BG-BASE. • Some detail pertaining to the data model cannot be finalised until the • Project employs a GIS contractor (advertised but not yet appointed). A • video conference with UC Davis had to be postponed – but it is anticipated this will occur soon.
300 records are digitised and stored in central database,	Complete	<p>All the layers are accessible in a GIS, or have been printed as maps, and the records are transferable as shapefiles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plants= 92 records • Resources linked to sites in the Park = 147 • Notable trees = 67 • Bird food trees = 34 • Ethnobotany =13 • People and Places=18 • Lakes = 8 • Streams = 7 • Spring sites = 11 <p>Other material has been digitised, but is not yet accessible using the GIS.</p> <p>Some NPDC layers have been corrected as appropriate.</p>

Attachments Checklist

- Income and Expenditure Statement for the Project**
 - for any expenditure relating to the Grant Monies within the reporting period
 - to be consistent with your organisation's financial records
 - to include evidence of expenditure eg copies of all invoices, receipts, relevant bank statements, or wage records

- Risk Register**

- Evidence of Project Deliverables**

(please note we may return the material provided once it is verified)