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Dear Nick

**Friends of Pukekura Park New Plymouth Incorporated
Community Partnership Fund (Ref. F112): Completion of Milestone 1 : Deliverables 1, 2, 3, & 4.**

Please find attached the Milestone and Deliverables report, plus associated evidence Appendices 1-7 for the Community Partnership Fund project F112. The project has met all deliverables as required, but no hardware has yet been purchased.

During the initial weeks of the project, and while in discussion with both the New Plymouth District Council and Puke Arika, 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.

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 Arika will assist the volunteers. However, we have also determined that the GPS unit used for locating features within Pukekura Park is not sufficiently accurate. Therefore, we are now having to look at alternative units and technologies.

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 Arika 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 Arika 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.

Community Partnership Fund F112: Milestone 1

As a result of the matters raised above 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.

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 specialised 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.

We expect to be in touch with you shortly to discuss these aspects, and to find out how the Community Partnership Fund might view a 're-alignment' of the methodology and associated F112 budget.

Yours sincerely,



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