

Big things for little community

By Ray Martin, Times Staff

News

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A small event being staged this week on Elgin Street could lead to big things for the Alison Park community.

The Alison Neighbourhood Association, in partnership with police, a number of community organizations and area residents, will stage a community clean up and barbecue tomorrow from 4 to 6 p. m. at the tunnel beneath the rail tracks on Elgin Street, adjacent to Soper Park.

“This could be so beautiful if it was just cleaned up and made safe,” said Courtney Storey, community relations worker for the neighbourhood association. The tunnel is the principle pedestrian link connecting Elgin Street South with Elgin Street North.

Since the section of street beneath the railway tracks has been closed, the area has slowly become overgrown with brush, littered with smashed pop bottles and other debris. It has also become a hangout for teens.

Storey said that over the past year, a team has been formed to work with the community to “take back the tunnel” and work to improve the area before serious problems develop.

Should the project be a success, Storey said organizers would work together to tackle other problems facing the multi-ethnic community.

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