

1. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

1.1 BEXLEY ROAD

Kate Grumball, Geoff Cox and Aileen Trist from the Bexley Residents' Association were in attendance to request the upgrading of cycle facilities on Bexley Road from Bexley Reserve to Bridge Street.

The Association expressed the concerns of residents and cyclists at the condition of this section of the Woolston/Burwood Expressway and the danger to cyclists having to use the road at the conclusion of the Anzac Drive cycleway. Particular problems raised included the adverse camber of the bend approaching Bridge Street, the speed of traffic, the narrowness of the road and road shoulder, poor lighting, vehicle emissions and the uneven road seal. The Association stated a preference for an off-road cycleway.

The Board **decided** that the City Streets Unit be requested to report to the Board on a possible off-road walkway/cycleway on the eastern side of Bexley Road from the Bexley Reserve area to Bridge Street, including issues of cycle facilities, road camber, the width of the road shoulder, road alignment and safety issues.

1.2 NORTH NEW BRIGHTON SAND DUNES

Gary Teear, Keith McKay, Linda McGillivray and Marie Austin from the Coastal Image Group were in attendance concerning their vision for the sand dune area in North New Brighton.

The group's vision is for a 'marine promenade' and recreational foreshore for 900 metres between the North Beach Surf Club and Waimairi Surf Club, providing a more open and safe area for the community and visitors to enjoy. The group considers this concept would fit well with the planned upgrade of the North New Brighton War Memorial and Community Centre. The proposal would involve modification of the sand dunes but the group has received engineering advice from OCEL Consultants that the proposal would not compromise coastal protection from tsunami or storm events. The group's estimate of an appropriate dune height was 5.5 metres. However, the group expected that Environment Canterbury and the Council would need expert advice on any revised minimum height. Evidence was provided of the community consultation undertaken by the group. The group requested that the Council review the resource consent to manage the dunes in order that the group's proposal could be considered.

Alison Adams and Soren O'Neil from Supporting a Natural Dune System (SANDS) were in attendance to ask that the Council not review its existing consent to manage the sand dune area at a minimum height of 8 metres above mean sea level.

SANDS expressed concern that lowering the dunes would put at risk the protection provided against successive storms by reducing the sand volume of the dunes and possibly altering the coastal sand dynamics. In their view this would raise issues of liability. SANDS also noted the expense involved in lowering the dunes and ongoing maintenance, which may limit funding for other projects in the area. SANDS favoured the existing character of the dunes and saw potential for eco-tourism and outdoor recreation opportunities. Given their perception of the high cost and high risk of any lowering of the dunes, SANDS called for wider consultation on the views of Christchurch residents on the foreshore.

The Board's decision is recorded under Part B, clause 2 of this report.