

Officer responsible City Streets Manager	Author Mike Calvert
Corporate Plan Output: Car Parking	

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board comments from the City Streets perspective regarding the proposed use of the New Brighton Car Park Special Fund for the development of the New Brighton Beach Park area as recommended in a report to the Parks and Recreation Committee by the Parks Planning Team Leader, Chris Freeman.

BACKGROUND

At the March meeting of the Parks Committee a report by Chris Freeman was presented which recommended the possible use of the New Brighton Car Park Special Fund which currently contains approximately \$50,000 dollars. City Streets Unit have been asked to comment on this proposal.

The origin of the New Brighton Car Park Special Fund is unclear as there are no documented details as to where the fund originated. Discussions with Council staff and the local retailers have elicited that there are several possible sources for the fund, the most likely of which is a special rate levied on the New Brighton retailers for the development of the New Brighton Mall in the early 1970s.

CAR PARK FUNDS

The use of the fund for the enhancement of the southern foreshore car parking area could be seen as an appropriate use of the money if the area were considered to be associated with the mall. This parking area will service both the Pier terminus building and could also be used by visitors to the south eastern area of the Mall. There is, however, more convenient parking available in Beresford Street for which plans have been prepared for their upgrading. It should therefore be acknowledged that if this fund is used for the foreshore development it will not be available for the proposed upgrading of Beresford Street and the associated parking in this area. The redevelopment of this area has been discussed with local retailers and other affected parties for some years with the expectation the Council will fund these works in the near future.

The New Brighton District Business Association have been approached regarding the use of these funds for the foreshore development and they have commented that the retailers in the area would *not* like to see these funds used for anything other than upgrading of the Mall and parking on adjacent land.

CONCLUSION

The use of the New Brighton Car Park Special Fund for the foreshore car parking area could be seen to come under the auspices of the fund but will potentially remove \$50,000 from the work required on the Mall and more particularly on Beresford Street. The local retailers are not in favour of the use of this money for the foreshore development.

Recommendation: That the information be received.

Chairperson’s Recommendation: For discussion.