

## 21. NEW BRIGHTON MALL

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Corporate Plan Output: Pedestrian Initiatives/Traffic Signs and Markings	

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee regarding the progress of the New Brighton Mall revitalisation project

### PUBLIC CONSULTATION/SURVEY

The focus group survey, commissioned by the New Brighton Mall Road Sub-committee, has been conducted by Opinions Market Research Ltd. The purpose of the focus group sessions was to explore reactions to the proposed design option for the slow road, including perceptions of safety and amenity. The survey results have been reviewed by the sub-committee.

### CONCEPT PLAN

The sub-committee have made two changes to the draft concept plan which was presented to the November meeting of this committee, they are:

- (a) Deletion of the proposed pedestrian access from Beresford Street through to the slow road. This can be revisited if necessary at a later stage. Individual businesses are to be encouraged to provide entry from the Beresford Street car park area.
- (b) Deletion of the proposed roadway exit from the mall through Carnaby arcade.

The sub-committee have resolved that the revised concept design for the mall revitalisation be used as the basis for consultation with the wider public through the City Scene publication.

### BUDGET

A preliminary budget was prepared and submitted to this committee in November 2000. The deletions from the concept plan reduced the preliminary budget by \$500,000. The revised budget has been used as the basis for the funding submission to the Annual Plan Working Party, which was as follows:

\$500,000 in financial year 2001/02  
\$800,000 in financial year 2002/03

The work associated with the construction of the slow road is still subject to:

- (a) the development and acceptance, by the New Brighton Business Association, of a "special rate" to provide partial funding of the slow road
- (b) the rationalisation and upgrading, by the New Brighton Business Association, of the Hawke Street car park

Information has been provided to the New Brighton Business Association regarding the requirements for the "special rate". Based on the budget previously presented to the City Services committee, the total amount to be raised through the 'special rating' process is \$610,000. The New Brighton Business Association have indicated acceptance of this amount. The money is likely to be recouped by the Council over a period of approximately 15 years.

The New Brighton Business Association have also indicated that they will proceed with the upgrade of the Hawke St car parks. The timing of this upgrade will coincide with the introduction of the slow road (Refer to the attached copy of letter).

### FUTURE ACTION

A programme of work needs to be developed. The work identified on the concept can be staged. There are a number of items such as:

- (a) **Special Order Procedure.** The Council has to instigate a procedure for reopening a roadway through the mall. Before this can be commenced the concept plan needs to be developed further to provide more detail on what is being proposed for the slow road. This work should commence as soon as possible. The Special Order process will take in the order of six months. Should there be an objection to the re-introduction of a slow-road through the mall that leads to an appeal to the Environment Court, delays of up to two years could be experienced.
- (b) **Beresford Street car park development.** This can commence because the Council has resolved to sell the land at the rear of the car park. (The funds obtained from the sale are to be used to help finance the development of the car park).
- (c) **Seaview Road/Union Street modifications.** This work can commence as soon as the design has been completed and a contractor has been appointed.

- Recommendation:**
- 1. That the procedures to reverse the existing Special Order Procedure covering the pedestrian status of the mall be commenced.
  - 2. That the revised concept plan be adopted for consultation purposes.
  - 3. That the Concept plan be published in the April issue of City Scene and that public comment be invited.
  - 4. That the work of the New Brighton Mall Working Party be concluded with the Council's thanks for its efforts for the contribution it has made to the planning for this project.

**Chairman's**

- Recommendation:** That the above recommendation be adopted.