

15. NEW BRIGHTON MALL PLAYGROUND

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Strategic Development
Officer responsible:	City Solutions Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to advise the board on sites investigated for a new playground in New Brighton Mall and make a recommendation.

INTRODUCTION

2. In December 2002 the Master Plan for New Brighton was approved by Council, including support for the slow road. In May 2004 the Environment Court decided in favour of the Council's resolution to revoke the pedestrian status.
3. The New Brighton Mall Slow Road Project involves the introduction of a one-way slow road and consequent de-pedestrianisation of Seaview Road between Union Street and Oram Avenue (New Brighton Mall). The playground that was located in the mall was removed when construction of the slow road began in early August 2005.
4. Officers have investigated a number of sites for a new playground and below is a breakdown of what each site has to offer.

OPTIONS

5. Three sites have been assessed for suitability for the playground, they are marked A, B and C on the attached plan.

Area	Location	Advantages	Disadvantages
A	Adjacent to the bend in the slow road.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Area is large enough to accommodate a playground.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shady• Exposed to easterly wind.
B	South of Area A, between the Slow Road and Beresford Street.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Located alongside the sculpture court area.• Sunny• Sheltered from easterly wind.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Smaller set of equipment than was previously in the mall.
C	At the end of the pedestrian mall, adjacent to Marine Parade.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Near library and beach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very close to existing Whale Pool playground• Exposed to Easterly wind• Blocks the end of the mall, the 'Avenue' effect will be lost.•

PREFERRED OPTION

6. The preferred option is Area B (as identified on the plan) as it is sunny, sheltered and the design and theme can be tied in with the sculpture court, which will be located next to it. This option also leaves the remaining areas open for other uses and retains the 'Avenue' effect through the end of the mall.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

7. The estimated cost of \$60,000 to re-establish a toddler playground on the site will be funded by existing Greenspace Unit and Transport and City Streets Unit budgets.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the new playground for the New Brighton Mall be located in the position marked B on the attached plan.

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

For discussion.