



Te Arai Beach Preservation Society Inc

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3 December 2015

Mace Ward
Manager Regional and Specialist Parks
Auckland Council

Dear Mace

Re: PC 166 and relocation of Pacific Road Carpark

We are aware that Te Arai Coastal Lands has submitted to Council for a subdivision consent at the property at Pacific Road, Te Arai being for Lots 12 – 20. The landowner is required by the Environment Court ruling on Plan Change 166 to provide information to our Society on resource consent applications it has lodged. Through this process the Society has learnt that the proposed subdivision plan shows a realignment of Pacific Rd which provides public access to the beach and a proposed relocation of the public carpark from its current location to several hundred metres inland.

We have expressed concern to the landowners about the impact of the proposed relocation of the carpark on the community which has used the beach for recreation – swimming, surfing, fishing etc for over fifty years. Particularly affected by the significant increase in distance between the foreshore and the carpark will be family groups as well as older people carrying fishing gear.

We understand that a decision has not yet been made regarding the re-location of the carpark so we wish to advise Council of the concerns of the community.

1. We have been lead to believe that the rationale for the move is on ecological grounds but the carpark has been in its current location for many years and from our experience there has been little or no adverse effect on the NZ fairy tern or northern NZ dotterel. We agree that preventing access of vehicles and trail bikes to the foredune areas is important but this is a wider issue and not directly attributable to the location of the carpark.
2. The carpark is currently located on the reserve and the proposal is to relocate it inland on to private land. At the least the location of the carpark should be considered as part of a public management planning process for the reserve not as part of a non-notified subdivision consent application.
3. An increase in difficulty of access from the relocated carpark together with insufficient justification for relocation will inevitably lead the community to conclude that this is a ploy by the landowners to discourage public access to the beach. This is not acceptable

particularly as public access along Pacific Road to the beach and carpark has been protected for public use by an access easement over it.

The Pacific Road carpark should not be relocated at least until a public reserve management planning process has been undertaken.

Best regards,

Lynnette Whale
Secretary
Te Arai Beach Preservation Society Inc