

# Car parking row looms

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City Reporter

The Melbourne City Council and the Melbourne Cricket Club are on a collision course over parking at Yarra Park around the MCG.

On Tuesday night, the council decided to seek a reduction of almost 500 parking spaces, down from the 5700 maximum, as part of its long-term vision of a car-free park.

The council's policy is that parking should be reduced as alternatives become available.

Environment committee

chairwoman Kate Redwood said the reduction was justified because the same number of spaces were available at Federation Square.

The council's proposal will go to a joint committee, including the State Government, that manages the park.

It is believed the Government may argue that the proposal breaks a five-year council and Government agreement signed in 2000. Last night, Melbourne Cricket Club general manager Stephen Gough said: "This notion of cutting car parking because of Federation Square is ludicrous."