



Summary of Feedback from Targeted Stakeholder Workshops

1. Introduction

Regenerate Christchurch is responsible for leading the regeneration of Christchurch. This involves engaging with communities, iwi and local businesses to drive regeneration, including in the Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor (which contains the former residential red zone).

The Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor (the Corridor) is around 600 hectares, which is more than three times the size of Hagley Park. There are many ways in which this area could be used. Regenerate Christchurch has been working through a comprehensive process to identify which of those ways best meet the vision, objectives and criteria used to assess land uses that have all been developed for the area.

In 2017 Regenerate Christchurch went through a research, visioning and design phase before reducing the 10 possible combinations of land uses into a *refined shortlist* that includes a Green Spine running the length of the Ōtākaro Avon River from the city to the sea, and three distinct areas or 'reaches'.¹

During May and June 2018, the public was able to provide feedback on this *refined shortlist* before the draft regeneration plan is finalised and provided to the Minister for Greater Christchurch Regeneration for consideration.

The objectives of this engagement were:

- to measure people's feedback on the proposed land use plan, including what people like and don't like about the plan, and what people most want to see in the Corridor; and
- provide everyone with the opportunity to give their feedback.

Substantial feedback was received through a Representative Survey conducted with greater Christchurch residents, people from the rest of New Zealand and former residential red zone property owners; and Exhibition Feedback provided in response to the Red Zone Futures Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor Exhibition. The analysis of this Feedback is available in the report *Public Feedback on the Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor Refined Shortlist*, prepared by Nielsen.²

¹ See more about this on the Regenerate Christchurch Engagement Hub website

² See the full report on the Regenerate Christchurch Engagement Hub website

Scope of this report

The purpose of this report is to summarise feedback received from people who participated in targeted stakeholder workshops with stakeholder groups that can be harder to reach or have a unique perspective.

2. Targeted stakeholders

We spoke to 260 people from a range of stakeholder groups, including representatives from Non-Government Organisations (NGO) / Faith, Community Language Information Network Group (CLING) and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD), Youth, High schools, Earthquake Disability Leadership Group, Business Sector, and PASIFIKA. These were delivered and analysed by Regenerate Christchurch and independently peer reviewed. Other specially designed workshops were held with 500 primary age school children³, with findings analysed by an independent contractor.

Participants were asked what they 'liked', or 'were unsure about/didn't like'. Note, given the sample size, structure and question format employed to garner feedback from these stakeholder groups, these findings are indicative only.

3. Executive summary

Overall, there was broad support for the plan, the Green Spine and each of the activities proposed in the Green Spine and each reach. Overall themes included:

- Cultural Experience, Whānau Fun, Grow, Sell, Share and Forage and Ecotourism Ventures held broad appeal across participants.
- Other activities were favoured by segments of the population; Need for Speed was favoured by young people, and Kids Paradise and Make a Splash appealed to children.
- Dominant themes were the protection of ecology and nature including swimmable water, river and wetlands care, mahinga kai restoring mana to the land, and ensuring animal wellbeing.
- Participants wanted a focus on opportunity for people to connect with nature, and with other people, to take part in recreational, sporting, cultural and multi-cultural, historical, local food experiences and events-based activities for all ages, that are sympathetic and integrated into the area and community and fulfil its purpose including facilitating experiences, sharing and learning.
- Accessibility for all is important, including low cost or no cost activities.
- Feedback focused on the importance of facilities; providing links to existing communities, river access, bridges for linking experiences, landings that assist with accessibility, boardwalks, pathways and the City to Sea link, transport, shelter, signs and information, community gardens, lighting for personal safety, toilets, seating, eating, wheelchair access. Consideration also needs to be given to maintenance costs.
- Some polarised views exist around commercialisation (unless environmentally sympathetic and community based/ benefit), the Gondola (unless successful and environmentally appropriate), Make a Splash (whether it could be successful all year round and the need given proximity to New Brighton and QEII) and Need for Speed (unless implemented well, for example with noise barriers).

³ See the full report on the Regenerate Christchurch Engagement Hub website

4. General feedback from each group

Non-Government Organisation (NGO) / Faith-based

Participants emphasised:

- the need to involve the community, including churches in the area, in decision making and governance;
- the importance of accessibility for all and connectivity between regenerated areas and the networks of community facilities connecting with existing hubs e.g. churches outside the regeneration area;
- any edge housing must have a small environmental impact; and
- a desire to see water quality improved, so the river is swimmable and mahinga kai restores mana to the land.

Community Language Information Network Group (CLING) and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD)

Participants emphasised:

- their approval of the proposed bridge linking Breezes Road and Shirley, the City to Sea cycle pathway, and the 'necklace' of attractions and mahinga kai;
- the importance of improving water quality in the Ōtākaro Avon River, heritage, memories, history and street scape;
- the need to ensure personal safety through good lighting and cyclists separated from walkers; and
- Horseshoe Lake Reach should be re-named Waikākaririki Reach.

Youth

Participants emphasised:

- their approval of the proposals around water management, protection and enhancement of the natural environment and mahinga kai, layered with nature-based activities e.g. gamification, nature-based treasure hunts;
- having a connection between community, river, city and sea;
- the need for good transport, public and active transport options, with low cost buses and attractions linked to the Metro card;
- the value of collaboration between iwi, schools and community;
- having attractions, theme parks and event space for kids and all ages;
- the importance of balancing low cost/no cost activities with some commercial activity linked to the community, and approaches to mitigate impacts of commercial activities such as visual impacts, impacts on the environment and seasonality; and
- good lighting, toilet, seating, eating and rubbish facilities.

Earthquake Disability Leadership Group

Participants emphasised:

- accessibility in transport and buildings with Universal Design principles considered from project inception through to delivery, integrated across the entire corridor, not just in sections;
- the necessity of pathways and ramps in the Green Spine and Avon Terrace to have a safety rail for wheelchairs;

- high quality community centres with good toilets, as well as a good range of hospitality options; and
- some consider Horseshoe Lake provides a great opportunity for a lake.

Business Sector

Participants emphasised:

- the strong alignment with the Christchurch NZ vision;
- their support for the emphasis on the natural environment considering its health and wellbeing benefits;
- the importance of good transport and connection to the rest of Christchurch and from city to ocean;
- the need to manage maintenance costs;
- decisions made should be based on long term vision effecting future generations; and
- they wanted to see a compelling reason to invest.

PASIFIKA

Participants emphasised:

- the value of the *Green Spine* as a place where communities can celebrate and build community connectedness;
- focus on facilities developed by locals that are for locals and visitors;
- the importance of shade, lighting, and health and fitness was important to this community; and
- the need to include low/no cost activities such as play areas for teenagers and sports courts for all; and
- honouring history is a must.

High Schools

Participants emphasised:

- that they liked the City to Sea Path, focus on nature, places to connect, celebrate, explore and be active in the Green Spine; and
- personal safety and litter concerns.

Children

500 children from Waitakiri, Banks Avenue, St James schools and the South New Brighton Envirogroup liked all 16 concepts included in the plan for the three Reaches. In addition, they identified five key themes that expand on the proposals in the plan:

1. **Being in and about nature** – Protecting, restoring and educating, being enveloped in nature, being active and connected to nature. For the clean river to connect us together with each other, nature and new possibilities. Accessible river edges, explore nature trails, accessibility through bridges and board walks.
2. **Parks of all shapes and sizes** – Kids Paradise including water, outdoor adventure and also a range of sports, community and events facilities. Children wanted to see greater inclusion of sport fields for rugby, football, hockey, basketball, netball, ice-skating, trampolining and gymnastics.
3. **Food, food, diverse and glorious food** – Places for people and sharing, a defined entrance, Whānau Fun, Christchurch on a Plate, Sustainable Farming, Grow, Sell, Share and Forage, community edible gardens.

4. **Being connected and together** – Places for people and to strengthen communities, cultural experiences and share stories, Whānau Fun, sport, events and celebrations.
5. **The view from above – the gondola** – Popular with some.

The children believe that for the activities in the Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor to be fully experienced, several important things need to be considered:

- Safety is everyone's concern: Has safety been sufficiently considered for all users, as well as the existing flora and fauna? A specific area of concern was the importance of separated paths for walkers and cyclists.
- A place for everyone to share and respect: With so many exciting ideas it is likely to be busy, it's important to keep the area well looked after by users and businesses.
- Four seasons in one day: Ensuring there is enough shelter during windy/cold days: both through use of natural tree and manmade shelters and huts.

5. Feedback on activities

Stakeholders' feedback about the activities that could be included in the Reaches are reported below as 'liked' [✓], 'were unsure about/didn't like' [✗], or feedback was mixed [✓✗]. The absence of a response does not indicate a like or dislike, it indicates insufficient feedback was provided for this level of analysis. Note, this analysis is indicative.

Area	Activities mentioned	NGO Faith	CALD/CLING	Youth	EDLG	Business	Pasifika	High Schools	Children
Ōtākaro Loop Reach	Ecotourism ventures	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
	Cultural experience	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Whānau fun	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓
	Christchurch on a plate			✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
	Kids paradise		✓			✓		✓✗	✓
	Take in the view		✗	✓✗			✗	✓✗	✓
Horseshoe Lake Reach	Christchurch on a plate		✓					✓	✓
	Cultural experience			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
	Make a splash		✓	✗		✓✗	✗	✗	✓
	Ecological restoration and eco-sanctuary		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
	Sustainable farming		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
	Grown, sell, share and forage		✓	✓	✓	✓✗			✓
Eastern Reaches	Ecotourism ventures	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓
	Need for speed		✗	✓✗		✓	✓✗	✓✗	✓
	Make a splash			✓✗		✓	✓✗	✓✗	✓
	Ecological restoration and eco-sanctuary		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
	Sustainable farming		✓	✓	✓				✓
	Kids paradise				✓			✓✗	✓