



REGENERATE CHRISTCHURCH MEDIA RELEASE

7 September 2018

03 353 9600

info@regeneratechristchurch.nz
regeneratechristchurch.nz

High public support for Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor land uses



Regenerate Christchurch has today published the results of independent research by Nielsen - a leading global information and measurement company - which has identified an overwhelmingly positive response to the refined shortlist of land uses for the Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor Regeneration Area that was presented during a recent exhibition and public engagement.

The report summarises the results of exhibition feedback, and a representative survey which shows that 89 percent of Greater Christchurch residents are positive about the land uses, with 91 percent rating the 11-kilometre “Green Spine” positively.

The Green Spine is proposed to be the central corridor, up to 150 metres wide on each side of the Ōtākaro Avon River, connecting the city to New Brighton. It will incorporate walking paths, nature trails, cycle ways, community spaces such as playgrounds, picnic spots, barbecue areas, coffee stops, large areas of ecological restoration, wetlands to improve stormwater management, and will support better access to the river.

The research has found that protection of native plants and wildlife, ecological restoration and habitat renewal, opportunities for recreation and sports, accessibility for all and the area's multi-functional uses are the most preferred elements of the shortlist.

The elements that surveyed respondents were unsure about or did not like were commercial activities (10 percent), the inclusion of housing (9 percent), excessive motorised noise (6 percent), absence of a flatwater facility (6 percent), a gondola (5 percent), cost (5 percent) and negative impacts on current wildlife and plants (5 percent). (Source: Regenerate Christchurch research conducted by Nielsen, June 2018).





Despite a petition organised by proponents of a flatwater facility, only 6 percent of respondents in the representative survey were unsure of or did not like the absence of a flatwater facility from the shortlist.

Chief Executive Ivan Iafeta says the findings of the representative survey and feedback on the Red Zone Futures exhibition, which ran from 26 May to 30 June, will inform the development of the draft regeneration plan for the Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor.

The views of the Christchurch City Council, Environment Canterbury, Ōtākaro Ltd, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu will also inform development of the draft plan before it is publicly notified.

The report on the findings by Nielsen is available on the [Regenerate Christchurch Engage website](#).

-ENDS-

For more information please contact:
Simon Makker
027 622 0487

