

# **AGENDA**

# Infrastructure Committee Meeting Tuesday, 30 July 2024

Date Tuesday, 30 July 2024

**Time Following Environmental Services Committee** 

**Location Council Chamber** 

**Timaru District Council Building** 

2 King George Place

**Timaru** 

File Reference 1688431



#### **Timaru District Council**

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Infrastructure Committee will be held in the Council Chamber, Timaru District Council Building, 2 King George Place, Timaru, on Tuesday 30 July 2024, at the conclusion of the Environmental Services Committee meeting.

#### **Infrastructure Committee Members**

Clrs Sally Parker (Chairperson), Gavin Oliver (Deputy Chairperson), Stu Piddington, Peter Burt, Owen Jackson, Allan Booth, Stacey Scott, Michelle Pye, Scott Shannon and Mayor Nigel Bowen

Quorum – no less than 5 members

#### **Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968**

Committee members are reminded that if you have a pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda, then you must declare this interest and refrain from discussing or voting on this item, and are advised to withdraw from the meeting table.

**Andrew Dixon** 

**Group Manager Infrastructure** 



#### **Order Of Business**

1	Apolo	gies	5
2	Public	Forum	5
3	Identi	fication of Items of Urgent Business	5
4	Identi	fication of Matters of a Minor Nature	5
5	Decla	ration of Conflicts of Interest	5
6	Chair	person's Report	5
7	Confir	mation of Minutes	6
	7.1	Minutes of the Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 11 June 2024	6
8	Repor	ts	14
	8.1	Actions Register Update	14
	8.2	CityTown Masterplan	18
	8.3	Temporary Road Closure applications - Section 342 and Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) LGA 1974	111
	8.4	Wastewater and Water Treatment Plants Safety Improvements Project and Funding	124
	8.5	Update on Overweight Permit use on Roads Servicing the Port	127
9	Consi	deration of Urgent Business Items	132
10	Consi	deration of Minor Nature Matters	132
11	Public	Forum Items Requiring Consideration	132
12	Exclus	ion of the Public	132
	13.1	Land Purchase Timaru Cemetery	132
13	Public	Excluded Reports	133
14	Readr	nittance of the Public	134

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Public Forum
- 3 Identification of Items of Urgent Business
- 4 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature
- 5 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest
- 6 Chairperson's Report

#### **7** Confirmation of Minutes

#### 7.1 Minutes of the Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 11 June 2024

Author: Rachel Scarlett, Governance Advisor

#### Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 11 June 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

#### **Attachments**

1. Minutes of the Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 11 June 2024



# **MINUTES**

# Infrastructure Committee Meeting Tuesday, 11 June 2024

Ref: 1688431

# Minutes of Timaru District Council Infrastructure Committee Meeting

Held in the Council Chamber, Timaru District Council Building, 2 King George Place, Timaru on Tuesday, 11 June 2024 Following Environmental Services Committee at 10.12am

Present: Clrs Sally Parker (Chairperson), Gavin Oliver (Deputy Chairperson), Stu

Piddington, Peter Burt, Owen Jackson, Allan Booth, Stacey Scott, Michelle Pye,

Scott Shannon

In Attendance: Community Board Members: Charles Scarsbrook (Temuka Community Board),

Michael Thomas (Pleasant Point Community Board), Janene Adams (Geraldine

Community Board)

Officers: Nigel Trainor (Chief Executive), Paul Cooper (Group Manager Environmental

Services), Andrew Dixon (Group Manager Infrastructure), Beth Stewart (Group Manager Community Services), Stephen Doran (Group Manager Corporate and Communications), Nicole Timney (Group Manager Property), Suzy Ratahi (Land Transport Manager), Mike Wrigley (Acting Recreational Facilities Manager), Jacky Clarke (Programme Delivery Manager), Adam Ward (Road Network Team Leader), Nick Houston (Water Services Project Team Leader), Matt Sisson (Property Projects Officer), Ashley Harper (Water Reforms Advisor), Grant Hall (Principal Three Waters Specialist), Jessica Kavanaugh (Team Leader

Governance), Rachel Scarlett (Governance Advisor)

#### 1 Apologies

#### 1.1 Apologies Received

#### Resolution 2024/16

Moved: Clr Sally Parker Seconded: Clr Stacey Scott

That the apology of Mayor Nigel Bowen be received and accepted.

Carried

#### 2 Public Forum

There were no public forum items.

#### 3 Identification of Items of Urgent Business

No items of urgent business were received.

#### 4 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature

The following matters of minor nature were notified:

- Farmers carpark update
- Bus shelter update
- Parks update

• Piazza lift closure update

#### 5 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

#### 6 Chairperson's Report

#### 7.1 Presentation of Chairpersons Report

#### Resolution 2024/17

Moved: Clr Sally Parker Seconded: Clr Michelle Pye

The Chairperson has attended a number of meetings including: Long Term Plan engagement functions, Council Meetings, Citizenship Ceremony, Council Workshops, Tenders and Procurement Meeting, and met with the Group Manager Infrastructure.

Carried

#### 7 Confirmation of Minutes

#### 7.1 Minutes of the Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 16 April 2024

#### Resolution 2024/18

Moved: Clr Gavin Oliver Seconded: Clr Michelle Pye

That the Minutes of the Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 16 April 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

**Carried** 

#### 8 Reports

#### 8.1 Actions Register Update

The Chairperson spoke to this report to provide the Infrastructure Committee with an update on the status of the action requests raised by councillors at previous Infrastructure Committee meetings.

Update included:

- 1. To note the Peel Forest Landfill is still ongoing.
- 2. To note the Vehicle Fleet will be presented to Council on the 13 August.

- 3. To note the Overweight's policy will be presented to the Infrastructure Committee on the 27 August.
- 4. To remove the Caroline Bay Master Plan action as it has been completed.

#### Resolution 2024/19

Moved: Clr Peter Burt Seconded: Clr Owen Jackson

That the Infrastructure Committee receives and notes the updates to the Actions Register.

**Carried** 

#### 8.2 Geraldine Water Headworks Resilience Strategy

The Water Reforms Advisor spoke to this report to brief the Infrastructure Committee of the scoping work carried out to date for the Geraldine Water Headworks Resilience Strategy and to seek approval of the way forward with this project.

Discussion included plan of actions if in the instance of a burst trunk main, the forward planning for the future growth of Geraldine, liability in Councils network for pipe replacement and renewal programmes. The Water Reforms Advisor also discussed with Council regarding stake holder Liaison Group.

#### Resolution 2024/20

Moved: Clr Gavin Oliver Seconded: Clr Sally Parker

- 1. That the scope of the Geraldine Water Headwork Resilience Strategy includes the consideration of:
  - (a) Water quantity and availability
  - (b) Water quality, including aesthetic parameters.
  - (c) Water storage volumes and location(s)
  - (d) Water reticulation to connect the borefield and reservoir components of the headworks infrastructure.
- 2. That the design period for the Geraldine Water Headworks Resilience Strategy be 50 years
- 3. That a Stakeholder Liaison Group be established to support the development of the Geraldine Water Headworks Resilience Strategy
- 4. That the makeup of the Stakeholders Liaison Group be;
  - (a) Infrastructure Committee Chair
  - (b) Geraldine Ward Councillor
  - (c) A Geraldine Community Board member
  - (d) A representative of Iwi
  - (e) A representative of Department of Conservation
  - (f) A representative of Talbot Forest Working Party

(g) A representative of potentially affected landowners

Carried

#### 8.3 The Terrace Footbridge - Options Assessment

The Land Transport Manager and Road Network Team Leader presented this report to the Committee to consider the desired level of service and decide on a management strategy for the Terrace Footbridge.

Discussion included whether or not the footbridge is essential for pedestrian access, and spoke about the lack of accessibility for mobility users and cyclists.

Councillors, the Land Transport Manager and Road Network Team Leader also discussed the ramifications of its potential removal, and budget accommodation for this project. Discussion also included, the option of keeping the footbridge closed and consulting with Citytown regarding its priority and considerations of allocating their budget towards the project.

Councillors agreed that community consultation should be conducted as the project was initially a community project, along with scope costings, and data usage of the footbridge. Discussion also included the projects priority against others and community funding for the project.

#### Resolution 2024/21

Moved: Clr Stacey Scott Seconded: Clr Gavin Oliver

- 1. That the Infrastructure Committee pause the project as further information is required and;
- 2. To scope project budget, go out for community engagement and;
- 3. To delegate to the Chief Executive to find budget for maintenance of the project 'option one' to reopen the footbridge.

Carried

#### 8.4 Infrastructure Key Project Updates

The Group Manager Infrastructure, Land Transport Manager and Principal Three Waters Specialist spoke to the Committee to provide an update on key infrastructure projects within the Infrastructure Group.

Discussion included, further work on the Geraldine sewer syphon, Seadown water trunk main, and temporary suspension of work with the Pareora pipe line due to water shortage of the Opihi River.

Further discussion included, work being done on the Port Loop road by Alpine Energy, as part of their decarbonisation project, which has in turn put a hold on Councils wider work of widening the foot path and resurfacing. This work will be picked up next financial year.

The Redruth Landfill Cell 2.3/2.4 Landfill Gas & Capping, and associated issues were discussed, including Enviro NZ not having the site finished which resulted in a redesign. The Group Manager Infrastructure agreed to investigate the contract and follow up with Enviro NZ. The lesson learnt from the additional grading fill material required for this project, is that, it could have been avoided if the cell was full and a survey completed to confirm before the contract was tendered.

#### Resolution 2024/22

Moved: Clr Stacey Scott Seconded: Clr Peter Burt

1. That the Infrastructure Committee receives and notes the Infrastructure Group Key Project Updates.

Carried

#### 9 Consideration of Urgent Business Items

No items of urgent business were received.

#### 10 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters

- Farmers carpark update: Work is underway with replacing grouting, and the design of the strengthening is underway. The detailed seismic assessment have not yet been received for the Farmers building which is privately owned, there will be no further action until these details are received.
- **Bus shelter update:** Work is being done with Environment Canterbury to produce a priority list for bus shelter maintenance, there is funding from the Long Term Plan for this maintenance.
- Parks update: Parks will be operating as a hybrid model, and employment is underway.
   Discussions are being had with a former contractor about commercial operation. Visibility of costs and savings on contracts will be reported on.
- Piazza lift closure update: Vandalism at the Piazza lift was discussed, with ideas to reduce this ongoing issue. The lifts mechanics are currently being worked on and will be running at the end of July 2024.

#### 11 Public Forum Items Requiring Consideration

There were no public forum items.

#### 12 Exclusion of the Public

#### Resolution 2024/23

Moved: Clr Sally Parker

Seconded: Deputy Chairperson Gavin Oliver

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting on the grounds under section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 as follows at 11.04am

General subject of each matter	Reason for passing this	Plain English Reason
to be considered	resolution in relation to each	
	matter	

The Meeting closed at 11.10am.

iiii asti uctu	re committee Meetin	ig ivilitutes	11 Julie 202
of the Infra	c Excluded Minutes structure Committee eld on 16 April 2024	s7(2)(b)(ii) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information	To protect commercially sensitive information
			Carried
13 Pul	blic Excluded Reports	5	
13.1 Pul	blic Excluded Minute	s of the Infrastructure Committe	ee Meeting held on 16 April 202
14 Rea	admittance of the Pu	blic	
Resolution 2	2024/24		
	Clr Sally Parker Deputy Chairperson (	Gavin Oliver	
That the me	eeting moves out of C	losed Meeting into Open Meetin	ng at 11.10am.
			Carried

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**CIr Sally Parker** 

Chairperson

#### 8 Reports

#### 8.1 Actions Register Update

Author: Rachel Scarlett, Governance Advisor

Authoriser: Stephen Doran, Group Manager Corporate and Communications

#### Recommendation

That the Infrastructure Committee receives and notes the updates to the Actions Register.

#### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Infrastructure Committee with an update on the status of the action requests raised by councillors at previous Infrastructure Committee meetings.

#### **Assessment of Significance**

This matter is assessed to be of low significance under the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy as there is no impact on the service provision, no decision to transfer ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from Council, and no deviation from the Long Term Plan.

#### Discussion

3 The Actions register is a record of actions requested by councillors. It includes a status and comments section to update the Infrastructure Committee on the progress of each item.

#### **Attachments**

1. Infrastructure Services Actions Required 🗓 🖫

Item 8.1 Page 14

#### Information Requested from Councillors (Infrastructure Committee)

Information Requested	Update on Peel Forest Landfill				
Date Raised:	08 August 2023	Status:	Ongoing		
Issue Owner	Group Manager Infrastructure	Completed Date:			

#### Background:

The Councillors requested an update on the work at the Peel Forest Landfill.

Update: LINZ approval has been granted, and now ECan consent process is ongoing (oral update on timeframe to be provided at the meeting).

February 2024 Update: Liaison continues with Aoraki Environmental Consultants. Consent application is almost complete for lodging and work is now commencing on the preparation of tender documentation.

March 2024 Update: Report being presented to Infrastructure Committee following requests at last meeting. Consent application is ready to be filed.

April 2024 Update: Consents are due to be lodged and work is underway preparing tender documentation. The next funding round for the Ministry for the Environment Contaminated Sites Remediation Fund is late September and we are investigating to see if we are eligible to apply for this. The breakdown of costs to provide clarity to the committee is underway.

June 2024 Update: Consent applications have now been lodged and tender documentation is being prepared. Investigation into the Ministry for the Environment Contaminated Sites Remediation Fund continues. The cost breakdown was emailed to Councillors on 2 May 2024.

July 2024 Update: Further requests for information were received for the consents and these have been responded to. Application for the Ministry for the Environment Contaminated Sites Remediation Fund which we are seeking to be considered as a priority outside of the usual funding rounds has been submitted. Looking to proceed to expression of interest process for works once funding has been confirmed, this will provide opportunity to contractors to understand the project and obtain necessary pre-qualifications so they are eligible to tender.

Item 8.1 - Attachment 1 Page 15

Information Requested	ormation Requested Vehicle Fleet					
Date Raised:	16 April 2024			Status:	Ongoing	
Issue Owner	Group Manager Infrastructure	Due Date:	13 August 2024	Completed Date:		

#### Background:

It is requested a report on the vehicle fleet to include additional data then what was provided in the Environmental Services report on the 16 April 2024, including a cost benefit analysis, and the environmental and social benefits of the vehicle fleet, this was requested to be brought to the 11 June 2024 Infrastructure meeting.

June 2024 Update: Following the presentation of the report to the Environmental Services Committee on 16 April 2024, a further report is being prepared to present to the Council meeting on 13 August 2024.

July 2024 Update: It has been decided that it would be more appropriate for this to be presented back to the Infrastructure Committee rather than Council so is being prepared for the 27 August Infrastructure Committee.

Information Requested Overweight Permits Policy					
Date Raised:	16 April 2024			Status:	Ongoing
Issue Owner	Group Manager Infrastructure	Due Date:	27 August 2024	Completed Date:	

#### Background:

It is requested that the Overweight Permits Policy discussion be taken offline and delegate to Land Transport Manager, and for the report to come back to the Infrastructure Committee meeting on the 27 August 2024.

June 2024 Update: This report is being prepared for the Infrastructure Committee Meeting on 27 August 2024.

July 2024 Update: This matter has been included on the agenda of the Infrastructure Committee meeting on 30 July 2024 and a report presented.

Item 8.1 - Attachment 1 Page 16

Information Requested	Enviro NZ Contract Investigation					
Date Raised:	11 June 2024			Status:	Complete	
Issue Owner	Group Manager Infrastructure	Due Date:		Completed Date:	30 July 2024	

#### Background:

In the Progress update report when the Landfill Capping project was discussed, it was requested to be added to the register that the Group Manager Infrastructure discuss with EnviroNZ regarding the additional grading fill material required for this project (contract 2645) and whether this cost should be paid by the council or the contractor.

July 2024 Update: The \$37k variation was to supply and place grading fill material as intermediate cap due to levels left by Enviro NZ being 0.25 to 0.50m lower than what the design called for. This was predominately through the centre line of the cells in a north / south direction. The consultants, T&T, provided a revised final cap design level which was lowered by approx. 300mm to minimise the volume of grading fill required but still providing a design surface that allows water to run off the finished surface.

The reason for the design surface not being achieved could be attributed to several factors:

- Greater compaction by Enviro NZ compared to that by their predecessor Waste Management Ltd
- General site settlement

TDC could have instructed Enviro NZ to top up the affected areas with grading fill, however, this would have delayed the capping contract. Given that it was determined that the height discrepancy was caused by settlement, that may have been historical, instructing EnviroNZ to undertake this work would likely be at Council's cost and higher than the capping contractor through their contract. It is recommended that this matter is closed.

Item 8.1 - Attachment 1 Page 17

#### 8.2 CityTown Masterplan

Author: Rosie Oliver, Development Manager

Authoriser: Andrew Dixon, Group Manager Infrastructure

#### Recommendation

That the Infrastructure Committee;

- 1. Endorse the CityTown Masterplan for public feedback; and
- 2. Note the CityTown Masterplan 0 5 year Road Map and associated funding priorities; and
- 3. Disestablish the CityTown Project Steering Group tasked with setting the strategic direction for the Masterplan; and
- 4. Endorse the establishment of a CityTown Stakeholder Reference Group to inform detailed planning and design of Road Map priorities.

#### **Purpose of Report**

This report invites the Infrastructure Committee to review and endorse the attached CityTown Masterplan (the Plan) for public feedback; to receive and note the work programme priorities set forth in the 0 – 5 year Road Map (the Road Map); to disestablish the CityTown Project Steering Group; and to direct the establishment of a CityTown Stakeholder Reference Group.

#### **Assessment of Significance**

- The endorsement of the Timaru CityTown Masterplan (including the Road Map/s) for public feedback, is a decision of medium significance, as defined by Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. This Plan, and the projects indicated in the Road Map, will be of high public interest, affecting or impacting to varying degrees not only building and business owners in the city centre but also the customers, commuters and residents who support them.
- The decision to establish a CityTown Stakeholder Reference Group is strongly aligned with the existing programme emphasis on consultative decision making. It is also critical to support future planning for (highly significant) Road Map projects to ensure that the value proposition of each is retained through good design and where necessary appropriate mitigation or management of disruption to stakeholders.

#### **Background**

- Through the Long Term Plan 2021-31 Council undertook to enable regeneration of the Timaru city centre. \$31.9m capital expenditure (capex) was allocated across a 10 year period with a further \$15.2m operational expenditure (opex) to unlock enabling initiatives. A further \$10m was forecast for the period 2031 41.
- The agreed deliverable for years 1-3 was to research and test possible investment opportunities with our community to shortlist only the projects and activities that would optimise social and economic returns. Through this process Council would refine a robust, evidence-based Masterplan to guide subsequent public and private decision making.

- Isthmus Group Ltd (Isthmus) were contracted to collate and to supplement existing insights as necessary, running a tactical and spatial design process to identify the strategic direction and corresponding projects that would best 'enable' our community to create a thriving, vibrant, sustainable centre. In June 2022 Isthmus presented, and the Infrastructure Committee endorsed, the Timaru CityTown Strategic Framework.
- Throughout 2023 and early 2024 the programme scope then underwent several significant revisions to align with a renewed focus on affordability and a reduced risk appetite. In May/June 2024 a draft Masterplan was at length consulted with both an 'internal' project team of subject matter experts (including CCOs, utilities), and with a limited group of governance and external stakeholders with historical project involvement.
- With the adoption of the Long Term Plan 2024 34 Council has since approved capex budget of \$6m (split across years 1, 4 and 5), and opex of \$600k (split equally across years 1 3) with the intention that this funding would be spent in accordance with the priorities outlined in the Masterplan, once endorsed.

#### **Endorsing the Timaru CityTown Masterplan for Public Feedback**

#### Discussion

- 9 Following the targeted consultation phase, amendments have been made to the CityTown Masterplan (Attachment 1). The Infrastructure Committee can now determine whether or not the prepared Masterplan should be presented for public feedback.
- 10 To provide this endorsement the Infrastructure Committee would require a level of confidence that the Masterplan is
  - aligned with our vision and aspirations for our city centre, and
  - evidence based or otherwise technically robust, and
  - likely to deliver a compelling social or economic return on investment, and
  - broadly supported by key stakeholders.
- The Plan itself both articulates the alignment with the strategic direction previously endorsed, and summarises the evidence (technical and anecdotal, locally gathered and/or informed by analogy/case study) underpinning each chapter in the closing pages of each. The investment logic for the proposed Plan is also outlined at Chapter 7 Enabling Tactics.
- 12 The Plan also summarises its own history of both broad and targeted stakeholder and community engagement, feedback which is documented in a range of reports available on the CityTown website and has shaped both the original and updated drafts.
- Throughout May/June 2024 the draft Plan itself also underwent a brief but robust stakeholder consultation exercise. The CityTown Stakeholder Feedback and Response Summary June 2024 (Attachment 2) provides a summary of feedback received, and key changes actioned and/or pending action and/or not able to be actioned due to scope, funding or other constraints.
- 14 Finally, while Council's decision on 16 July 2024 to consider alternative options for the Theatre Royal/Heritage Hub does create some uncertainty around the future of council owned assets at the south end of Stafford St, uncertainty on this point is unlikely to substantively alter the strategic direction proposed by the Masterplan.

The CityTown Masterplan contemplates the potential creation of a new Civic Hub (pp 100 – 101) within the "Creative Town Core" character area, and references to the Theatre Royal/Heritage Hub mostly refer in general terms to the relevance of future decisions (pp 135 – 137 Triggers and Dependencies, Masterplan Influences) with the image on pp 24 – 25 being the only signpost to a particular outcome. The Masterplan is also explicit that the primary development and investment opportunity for the "South Stafford" character area is Urban Living (detailed at pp 44 – 45), alongside existing activities.

#### **Options**

16 Council has four Options, summarised as follows:

	Option 1: Endorse for public feedback (preferred option)	Option 2: Direct further in house revisions	Option 3: Pause pending resolution of dependencies	Option 4: Endorse as final
Outcomes	Public feedback on Masterplan informs interpretation and implementation. Roadmap guides public and private city centre investment. Momentum maintained for participating stakeholders, unlocking social/economic returns.	Desired outcomes may be delayed.  Opportunity to assimilate further changes (short term).	Desired outcomes delayed indefinitely.  Opportunity to assimilate further changes (short term and long term).	Roadmap guides public and private city centre investment.  Momentum maintained for participating stakeholders, unlocking social/economic returns.
Delivery	Moderate	Slow	Very slow/indefinite	Fast
Cost	Low – collateral, advertising, engagement costs	Moderate - substantive changes to design work, imagery etc requires a contract variation (Isthmus)	Zero immediate  Moderate - substantive changes to design work, imagery etc requires a contract variation (Isthmus)	Low – publication of final Plan
Resource	Internal (project team) with committed external partners (CBD Group, SC Chamber of Commerce, Venture Timaru)	Additional use of design consultants  May lose support of external partners	Zero immediate  Additional use of design consultants  May lose support of external partners	Internal (project team) May lose support of external partners
Risks	Negative headlines, phone calls, emails	Negative headlines, phone calls, emails Loss of programme momentum and stakeholder goodwill Cost escalations	Negative headlines, phone calls, emails Relevance decreases Loss of programme momentum and stakeholder goodwill Cost escalations	Negative headlines, phone calls, emails Loss of stakeholder goodwill
Feedback	Desire for wider engagement with businesses, building owners	Frustration with delays, lack of transparency.	Frustration with delays, lack of transparency.	Frustration around lack of transparency, failure to include all voices in final consultation phase.

#### <u>Timaru CityTown Masterplan 0 – 5 year Road Map Funding Priorities</u>

#### Discussion

- 17 In order to note the 0 5 year Road Map funding priorities, the Infrastructure Committee would require a level of confidence that the projects in the Road Map, are
  - appropriately sequenced/prioritised; and
  - low/acceptable risk; and
  - achievable with the available funding.
- Pending completion and publication of the Benefits Realisation Plan, the recommendation to note the Road Map aligns with the investment logic presented in Chapter 7 Enabling Tactics. This Chapter notes that sequencing/prioritisation should still remain responsive to evolving triggers and dependencies, however none of the existing "known unknowns" have major implications for year one items i.e. first phase of the Strathallan Corner redevelopment and completion of tile resurfacing. The same is true for the year 0-5 opex projects.
- 19 Commitment of the funding is also low risk to stakeholders in terms of anticipated opportunity cost as these projects have already attracted strong support both through earlier community conversations and recent feedback on the draft Plan.
- The opportunity to leverage the MBIE TIF funding for the relocation and renewal of the toilet block is also time limited. Confirmation of the 0-5 year Road Map funding priorities is necessary to ensure that remediation can be tailored to achieve a well scoped "first phase" with outcomes of the standard expected by our community.
- In accordance with the revised (2023-24) scope for the Masterplan, the Road Map is not yet supported by a costed work programme. To ensure that our aspirations and programme delivery do not exceed available budget, the next step would be to obtain costed proposals through an appropriate procurement process to deliver the first (and subsequent) phases of the Strathallan Corner redevelopment, and then to establish subsidiary budgets for such of the smaller capex and opex projects as are achievable with the funds remaining.

#### Options

22 Council has two Options, summarised as follows:

	Option 1: Note the Road Map funding priorities (preferred option)	Option 2: Pause funding pending resolution of dependencies
Outcomes	Funding priorities confirmed and first steps can be planned and delivered.  Momentum maintained for participating stakeholders, unlocking social/economic returns.	Desired outcomes delayed  Opportunity to substantively revise funding priorities.
Delivery	Fast	Very slow/indefinite
Cost	CAPEX \$1.5m FY2024-25; \$0 FY 2025 – 2027; \$2m FY 2027 – 2028; \$2.5m FY 2028 – 2029 OPEX \$600k FY 2024 – 2027 (\$200k p.a)	Zero
Resource	Internal (project team) with committed external partners (CBD Group, SC Chamber of Commerce, Venture Timaru and others)	Zero  May lose the support of external partners.

Risks	Negative headlines, phone calls, emails	Negative headlines, phone calls, emails
	No further opportunity for substantive consultation to reset year one budget priorities	Loss of momentum, stakeholder goodwill, content relevance
		Probable loss of MBIE/TIF funding
		Cost escalations
Feedback	Strong desire to see tangible progress	Frustration with programme delays

#### Timaru CityTown Project Steering Group, Stakeholder Reference Group

#### Discussion

- The recommendation to disestablish the Project Steering Group, and to establish a Stakeholder Reference Group, is based on an officer assessment that with the direction and priorities having been established by the Masterplan, the decisions required over the next 5 years will be primarily operational rather than strategic.
- An exception would be significant procurement decisions, responsibility for which continues to sit with the Tenders and Procurement Committee. There are also established legal parameters and processes for major infrastructure decisions which again require Committee or Council level direction and cannot be delegated.
- In this scenario the duplication of a governance function, with duplicate review and decision-making timelines, would now be inefficient and inappropriate. Feedback from existing members of the Project Steering Group has already indicated that at certain project stages they have felt frustrated by their inability to meaningfully influence the work programme at a governance level eg recent revisions to scope and budget commitment, restricted access to information, restricted input to or visibility of decision making.
- A programme transition into a design and delivery phase presents an excellent opportunity not only to renew Council's commitment to collaborate with stakeholders, but also to ensure that the most meaningful and respectful use is made of stakeholders' limited time and of their considerable insights and abilities. A less formal but more flexible and responsive engagement process will now best serve this purpose.
- 27 It is therefore proposed that all members of the existing Project Steering Group should now be invited to participate in a Stakeholder Reference Group, together with representatives from the Community Advisory and Development and Investment Groups. As this expanded but streamlined group would not be tasked with a governance role, a fluid membership would be possible with the group contracting/expanding as need be to ensure appropriate representation on topics of high relevance to business interests, developers and/or particular community groups and demographics.

#### **Options**

28 Council has three Options summarised as follows:

	Option 1: Establish Stakeholder Reference Group (preferred option)	Option 2: Continue Project Steering Group	Option 3: No formal commitment to collaboration
Outcomes	Collaborative approach to project design and delivery (stakeholders help to shape	Empowering approach to project design and delivery	Limited stakeholder opportunity to influence

	solutions, governance decisions sit with Council/Committees) Well informed, balanced decision making with good outcomes for stakeholders. Opportunities for private sector partnering in programme delivery, complementary investment.	(governance decisions delegated to PSG).  Decisions support interests of groups represented.  Opportunities for private sector partnering in programme delivery and/or complementary investment.	outcomes, limited visibility of decision making process.  Projects delivered at pace but outcomes (stakeholder/community impacts and response) are less certain.  Private investment activity may not complement programme delivery.
Delivery	Moderate	Slow	Fast
Cost	Zero	Zero	Zero
Resource	Internal (project team) with committed external partners (CBD Group, SC Chamber of Commerce, Venture Timaru and others)	Internal (project team) with committed external partners (CBD Group, SC Chamber of Commerce, Venture Timaru and others)	Zero Likely to lose the support of external partners who will operate independently.
Risks	Negative feedback/frustration from stakeholders seeking greater influence over decision making.	Negative feedback/frustration from stakeholders if delegations or access to information restricted.  Group members nominally accountable for decisions or outcomes not under their effectual control.  (Perceived) conflicts of interest and less transparent process put decisions at risk	Negative feedback/ frustration from disempowered stakeholders.  Loss of stakeholder goodwill and voluntary support, partnership initiatives.  Reduced private sector commitment/investment.  Poorer quality decisions, not informed by valuable
	Acceptable/Authentic	of challenge by other stakeholders, ratepayers  Decision making may not comply with legal framework.	stakeholder insights.  Poorer quality project outcomes.

#### Consultation

- 29 Consultation to date has been summarised above and in the attached CityTown Stakeholder Feedback and Response Summary June 2024.
- To launch the proposed conversation with the wider community, officers would now develop a summary document outlining the key implications of the Masterplan and Road Map.
- In addition to wider public messaging and feedback opportunities, officers would then partner with representatives of the CBD Group and the South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce who have volunteered both to lead efforts to raise awareness of the Master Plan (and feedback opportunity), and to host and to recruit participants among building and business owners/operators to attend a number of targeted review workshops.
- In parallel with this process, officers would work alongside the CBD Group, South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce, and Venture Timaru to ensure that identified 'anchor tenants' are personally approached for feedback. The project team would also target key stakeholders who were unable to participate in the earlier May-June workshop series.

- It is noted that Council could revise the Masterplan at any time, whether in response to public feedback, or to incorporate new information (eg District Plan, Theatre/Heritage Hub etc). However, revisions to the Plan may not be the most efficient or cost effective way to ensure that community feedback continues to inform next steps. Rather, feedback could be added to that already collated to support interpretation and implementation of the existing Plan.
- This means that as and when the project team are considering allocation of funding to Road Map priorities, a weighting can be placed on feedback received to determine which projects lead and lag. Insights can also shape initial, internal planning for and design of specific projects.
- 35 This ability to bank and revisit feedback, at a later date, will be particularly useful for topics such as parking provision, where ideas cannot be fully tested or reconciled until detailed planning and design is undertaken for particular locations.
- Council also seeks also to honour its responsibilities under Te Tiriti o Waitangi and our local Rūnanga o Arowhenua has been represented both on our Project Steering Group and on our Community Advisory Group. Direct contributions to the earlier Strategic Framework and programme brand are reflected throughout the Masterplan.

#### **Relevant Legislation, Council Policy and Plans**

- The Masterplan has been shaped by, and will in the future inform roading infrastructure upgrades and renewals, three waters infrastructure upgrades and renewals, streetscape/community facilities upgrades, and policy/planning responses to a suite of private sector challenges including earthquake prone building maintenance and repair.
- It is therefore anticipated that, as a minimum, the project team must have regard to the Privacy Act 2020, the Resource Management Act 1991 (and/or future alternative legislation), the Local Government Act 2002, the Public Works Act 1981, the Building Act 2004, the Land Transport Act 1998, and the Utilities Access Act 2010, and associated Code of Practice.
- The project must also be delivered within the constraints of the operative District Plan with regard to the Proposed District Plan, together with Council's other bylaws and regulations, notably those relating to public space and licensing. Projects must also comply with the regional planning instruments and policies of Environment Canterbury.

#### **Financial and Funding Implications**

- All of the Options presented in this report fall within the existing funding allocation of the Long Term Plan 2024-34 being \$6m capital expenditure and \$600k operational expenditure.
- Selection of the preferred Options will in each scenario optimise return on investment by balancing programme pace with stakeholder buy in and acceptable risk levels for Council, and by ensuring the retention of the \$300k MBIE Tourism Infrastructure Funding available for the redevelopment of the toilets at Strathallan Corner.

#### **Other Considerations**

There are no other considerations.

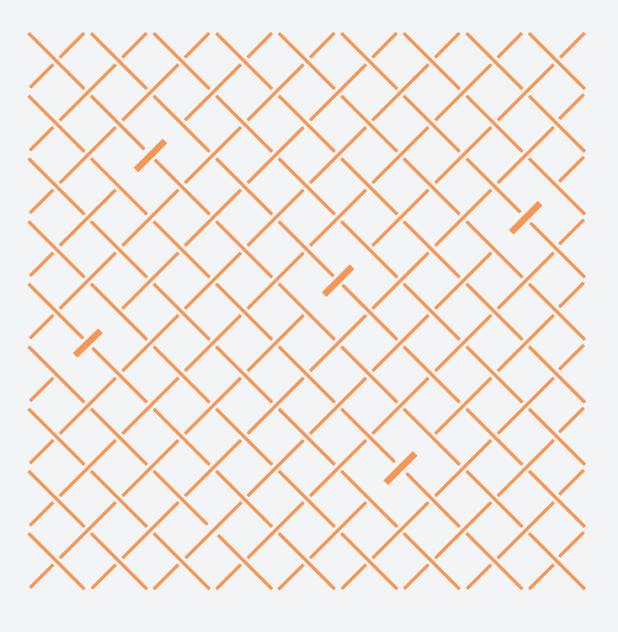
#### **Attachments**

- 1. CityTown Masterplan 🗓 🖺
- 2. CityTown Stakeholder Feedback and Response Summary June 2024 🗓 🖺

Timaru District Council 2024

# TIMARU CITYTOWN

# **MASTERPLAN**



Item 8.2 - Attachment 1 Page 25

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The Timaru CityTown Masterplan has been developed by the CityTown Project team (Timaru District Council together with Isthmus Group and support from Gap Filler) under the direction of the CityTown Project Steering Group. The document acknowledges the extensive work and contributions made by Upoko of Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua, the Community Advisory Group, the Development and Investment Group, Trial participants, numerous community & corporate stakeholders, and the wider community.

Authors: Timaru District Council Isthmus Group

Document record 100% Draft

July 2024

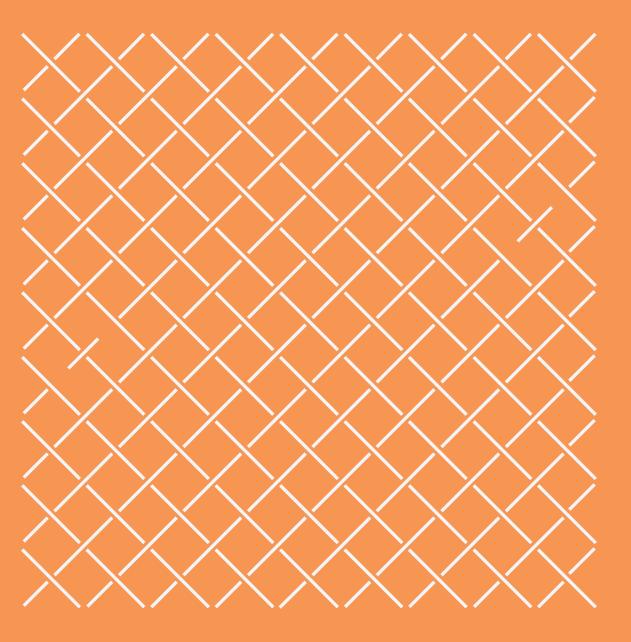
**CONTENTS** 

01	1.1 Document Purpose 1.2 Working Together 1.3 Building on What we Know 1.4 Kaupapa	5 7 7 8 10
02	Imagine Citytown 2.1 Our Place, Now & Then 2.2 Getting There 2.3 Timaru CityTown 2040 2.4 Proposed Street & Civic Spaces Materials Palette 2.5 Māori Design Principles	13 14 16 18 26 28
03	Framing the Opportunity 3.1 Strategic Framework Key Moves 3.2 Character Areas 3.3 The Urban Living Opportunity	31 32 36 44
04	Movement & Network 4.1 Our Place, Our Network 4.2 Proposed Street Experiences 4.3 Spatial Parking Plan 4.4 Parking Management Approaches 4.5 Vehicle Movements 4.6 Inter-Regional & Public Transport Plan 4.7 Walking and Cycling Plan 4.8 Urban Play & Mahi Toi Path 4.9 Fitness & Active Trails 4.10 Network Evidence Based Summary	47 48 50 54 56 60 64 66 68 74
05	Parks & Civic Spaces 5.1 Our Place, Our Space 5.2 Overview of the Sites 5.3 Strathallan Corner 5.4 Heritage Place 5.5 Bay Hill Piazza & Intersection 5.6 Civic Hub 5.7 Caroline Bay 5.8 Parks & Civic Spaces Evidence Based Summary	83 84 86 88 92 96 100 102
06	Town Vibrancy 6.1 Our Place, Our People 6.2 Ten Steps to Vibrancy 6.3 Vibrancy Evidence Based Summary	111 112 114 124
07	Enabling Tactics 7.1 Next Steps 7.2 Investment Strategies 7.3 Triggers & Dependencies 7.4 Masterplan Influences 7.5 Sequencing Timelines	129 130 134 135 136 138
08	Appendices	147

2 TIMARU CITYTOWN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 3

91

# INTRODUCTION



TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN





## 1.1 DOCUMENT PURPOSE

CityTown began 8 years ago as a community-led initiative to bring together the aspirations of our town centre stakeholders and our wider community for a vibrant, thriving town centre. What was needed was a 'Masterplan' that would replace ad hoc and reactive project delivery, and unlock complementary public and private investment in a purposeful strategic work programme.

The agreed Vision Te Hokinga ki te Ngakau – Return to the Heart now reflects our shared purpose being to draw more people into our town centre.

Our community is looking for enhanced connectivity and experience, while businesses require customers, commuters and residents to thrive. This Masterplan considers and seeks to balance the needs and lifestyles of our present generation with the younger generations we want to attract and retain. We want our town centre to be celebrated and supported by residents and visitors now, and in the future.

It is time for us to adapt to a decentralised and ageing population, ageing, earthquake prone buildings and infrastructure, and to respond to retail decline. It is time to breathe new life into the centre with urban living, consolidated retail, inviting, attractive social spaces and activities.

## 1.2 WORKING TOGETHER

"Growth at the heart stems from partnerships and connections – it starts with the people (Timaru CityTown Strategic Framework)."

The Masterplan guides strategic ratepayer investment as and when council units renew key infrastructure, and will highlight the processes, plans and policies that facilitate urban regeneration led by the community and private sector. This is council's **Enabling** role.

The plan also guides private investors looking to contribute towards town centre activities and development over the coming years, as together we unlock both private returns on investment and the community outcomes which landlords and business can achieve.

Council, its CCOs and the private sector may also use this plan to attract external funding or investment in featured or well-aligned initiatives, in reliance on the robust evidence base and stakeholder insight which the Masterplan unites.

TIMARU CITYTOWN
FINAL MASTERPLAN
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FINAL MASTERPLAN

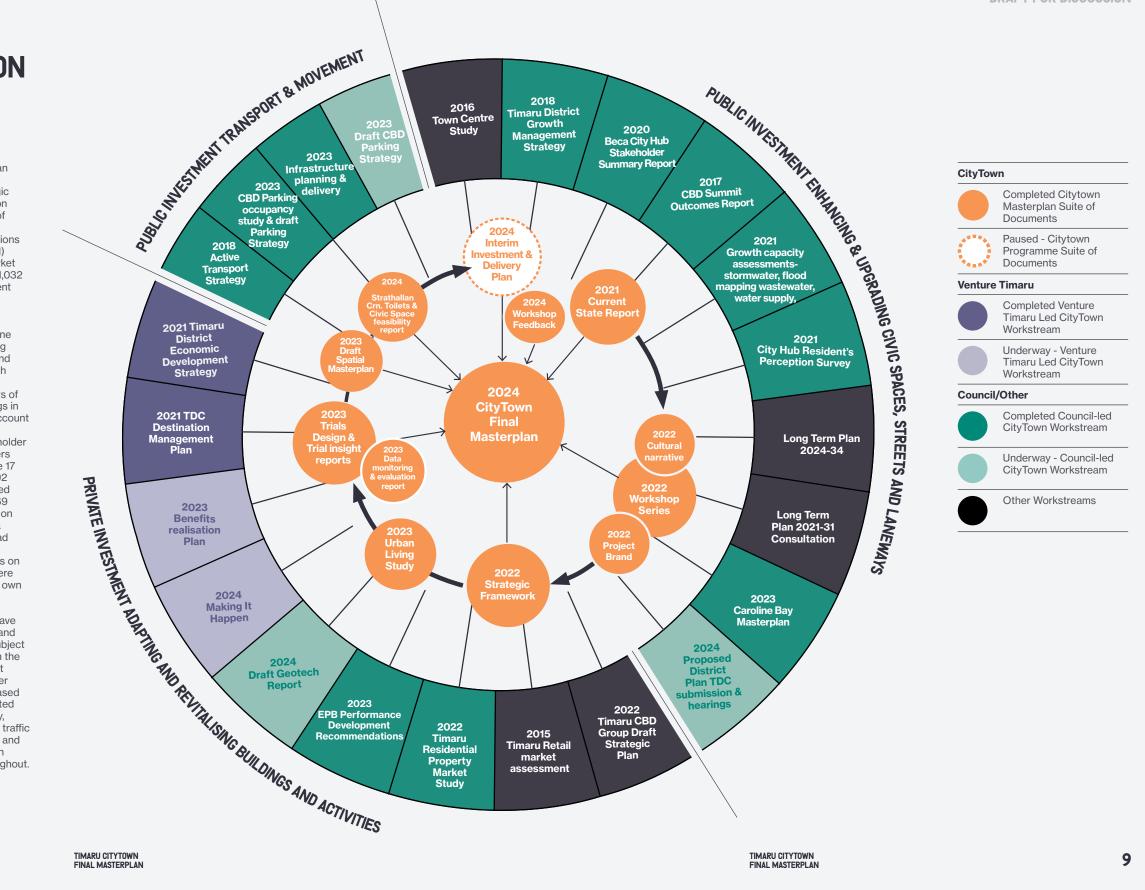
### 1.3 BUILDING ON WHAT WE KNOW

Specifically, this masterplan aligns with our previously adopted CityTown Strategic Framework and is based on feedback from hundreds of stakeholders provided via community wide consultations (including the LTP 2021-31) and via a district-wide market research piece capturing 1,032 diverse voices from different sectors of our community.

It also reflects the input of 64 town centre and Caroline Bay stakeholders attending 21 workshops, meetings and design drops, together with insights from discussions with all contactable owners of Earthquake Prone Buildings in our district. It takes into account feedback from the many additional, targeted stakeholder meetings and site walkovers undertaken for each of the 17 trials, together with the 992 survey responses submitted on the 12 trials, and the 669 corresponding comments on social media. If you'd like a bit more detail you can read all about our engagement process and earlier reports on our CityTown website, where the trial reports have their own dedicated page.

All of the ideas provided have been rigorously analysed and tested by more than 20 subject matter experts from within the Council group and relevant partner agencies. A number of locally and regionally based consultants have contributed urban design methodology, engineering assessments, traffic modelling, and community and private sector support with iterative peer review throughout.

8



Item 8.2 - Attachment 1 Page 29

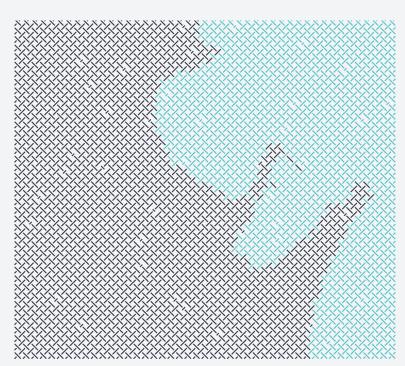
### 1.4 **KAUPAPA**

Te Whāriki expresses the desire for a new kind of partnership to shape our CityTown. It is in the act of weaving individual threads together that understanding and hope is formed as an evolving tapestry for the future. The Timaru CityTown Strategy sets out our commitment to partnering with mana whenua, businesses and community to regenerate Timaru, and adapt as we need to, by acknowledging that dropped stitches are important for learning, growing and creating a resilient future.

#### Te Whāriki

kia mōhio ai tātou ki a tātou E kore taea e te whenu kotahi ki te raranga i te whāriki kia möhio ai tātou ki a tātou. Mā te mahi tahi o ngā whenu, mā te mahi tahi o ngā kairaranga, weavers ka oti tēnei whāriki. I te otinga me titiro tātou ki ngā mea pai ka puta mai a tana wā, me titiro hoki ki ngā raranga i makere nā te mea, he kōrero anō kei reira.

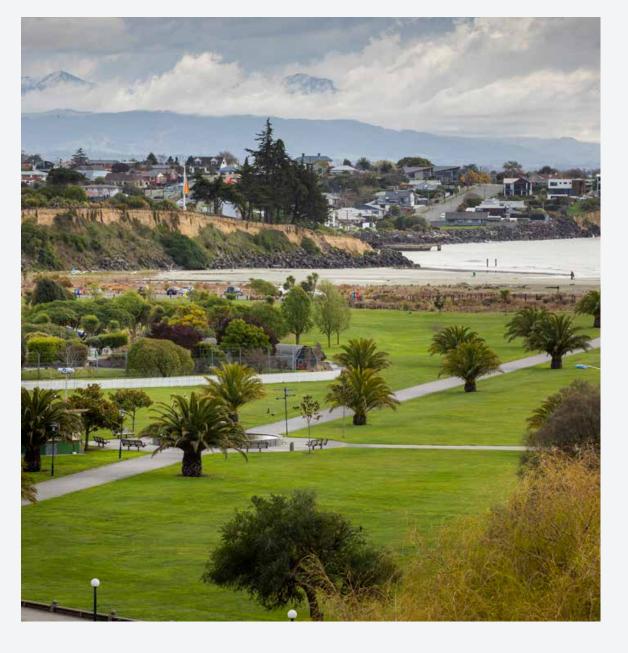
The tapestry of understanding cannot be woven by one strand alone. Only by the working together of and the working together of will such a tapestry be completed. Let us look at the good that comes from it and, in time we should also look at those dropped stitches because, they also have a message.



Me maumahara I mua, Me noho I te ao hurihuri, Live in the present Me hāere tātou a muri

Remember the past Look to the future

- TeWera King, Upoko, Te Rūnanga ō te Arowhenua

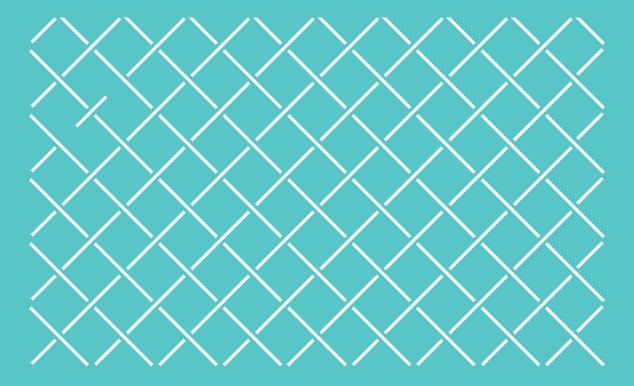


TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 10 11

Item 8.2 - Attachment 1 Page 30 **02** 

# IMAGINE CITYTOWN

Imagine CityTown and what it could become in the future, expanding its potential as a healthy, loved, mobile, diverse and dynamic urban centre. Timaruvians live and work in the centre, residents come frequently from the wider district to socialise, visitors make plans to come here, and entrepreneurs aspire to set up business here. All are welcome in this vibrant and thriving seaside town. "Something old and something new, something borrowed and something blue - the sheltered coastal nook of Timaru."



TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN

## 2.1 OUR PLACE, NOW AND THEN

#### People create vibrancy

With more people, CityTown will feel more vibrant by increasing the viability of businesses with extended opening hours. We can attract more people by reimagining CityTown as an urban community where people meet, socialise, play, live and work. Through the CityTown Urban Living study we learned that there are people in the district who would readily downsize to a city residence, and there is a latent demand for worker accommodation. Many other towns and cities in Aotearoa like New Plymouth, Nelson and Napier are also looking at how their coastal identity can attract urban pioneers.

#### Attracting more people

People always attract more people. Character areas support a concentrated mix of activities, and starting with the 'feel good stuff' will help boost investment confidence, increase social licence and create an appetite for more. The civic spaces are a great and safe place to do this, along with small interventions that leverage existing assets and promote activation. Further investment in public infrastructure (above and below ground renewals) will support urban living. In turn, this increases the demand for attractive shared spaces and safe connections. In time, cycleways and trails connecting Caroline Bay (e.g. Bay Hill intersection and Strathallan footbridge), will leverage the lifestyle that already exists within the town centre and surrounding urban areas making it more accessible and alluring for new residents and visitors.

#### **Preparing for Change**

Change does not have to be radical but it should be intentional. By enabling small things to flourish and existing character to endure, it is possible to achieve great things. This relies on place-led partnerships that share a vision for CityTown (like the Timaru CBD Group), and champions who believe in a future that is shaped by many voices. Incremental change can happen through local initiatives, temporary interventions or breathing life into earthquake prone buildings. In time, more urban dwellers will seek streets, greenways and laneways that are made for people. While the conversation about parking is present in all similar sized towns, changes do not need to happen overnight - reducing vehicle speeds, filling up offstreet carparking and enhancing laneways is a good start for Timaru.

#### Not just any town

A proven recipe for urban regeneration is to reconnect with the potential of a place through it's unique landscape and origin story, and find ways for people to experience its personality. Any investment in the Timaru Town Centre should showcase the following things:

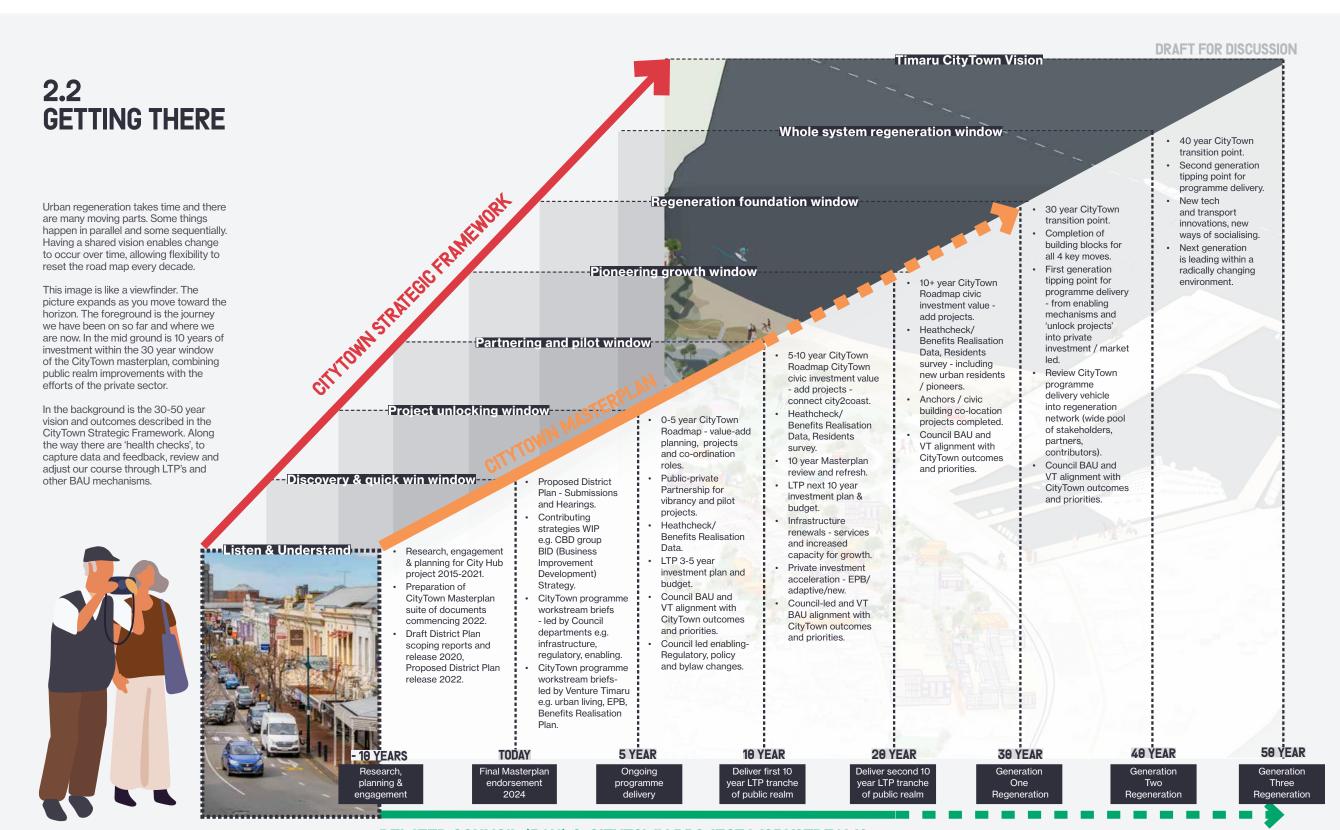
- The volcanic landform makes the street pattern and its landmark buildings unique - with elevated views, landings and valleys.
- Timaru bluestone is unique to Timaru

   it should be used in carefully curated ways to express identity, together with beautiful local plantings.
- Bold infrastructure investment is not foreign to Timaru, and investment which leverages existing assets like Caroline Bay, coastal connections and views is vital to the seaside town vibe. Because the town is elevated above the sea and separated by port and rail, bridges are
- Heritage is remarkably intact, and many character buildings have been preserved along the mainstreet and the original landing/port edge - including flour mills and grain stores. This character is vital to retain with adaptive reuse, seismic strengthening and integration of sympathetic opportunities.
- There is more to explore as CityTown shape-shifts toward a future that celebrates proximity to farm and sea, as primary production across a vast rural catchment links to the Port via the town centre. Scoff is an example of an event that links urban and rural stories through food experiences.
- The story of Mahinga kai has started to be woven into the original shoreline with CPlay and can be extended along the original shoreline with art, nature play trails and other design interventions to bring this to life.
- Timaruvians enjoy a challenge and competition - urban trails are a fun way to experience the city to sea connection, foster a healthy lifestyle, and social interaction.





14 TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 15



#### **RELATED COUNCIL (BAU) & CITYTOWN PROJECT WORKSTREAMS**

e.g District wide or regional (ECan) strategy, policy, planning and projects.

16 TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 17



Page 34

#### North Stafford St.

Conveniently walking across Port Loop Road onto Stafford Street, one can't help but feel the promise of transformation. There's a clear push to elevate hospitality activity adjacent to the intersection, making it the heartbeat of the community. Vibrant retail businesses line the streets, complemented by improved public spaces that encourage people to linger for longer. The pedestrianfriendly streetscape, enhanced by preserved historic facades and slow moving vehicles, creates a pleasant retail experience. While some parking provision remains and alternatives are offered, this is balanced with an improved pedestrian environment. Residents enjoy easy access to essentials and stunning views across to Bay Hill and Caroline Bay.

- Clear and direct pathway to Bay Hill with a tightened intersection
- Widened footpath, that enables outdoor dining opportunities
- Use of natural materials such as bluestone for new paving
- Parking & Drop Off Zone (includes servicing access)
- An enjoyable retail experience
- 6 Fixed furniture in sunny area with warm materiality
- Adaptive re-use of historic building (private)
- One-way vehicle movement going north towards Port Loop
- General Support Sup
- Colourful and native planting



20



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FINAL MASTERPLAN

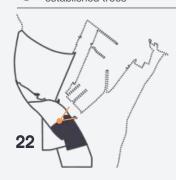
TIMARU CITYTOWN
FINAL MASTERPLAN

21

#### Strathallan Corner

Walking across to Strathallan Corner, the vibrant mix of activities that define this compact heart becomes evident. A playful civic environment attracts performances, buskers, and community events. Public investment has transformed the area with streetscapes that invite people to linger, enjoy lunch in the sun or the shade, gather, and move easily, doubling as blue-green infrastructure, supporting improved environmental outcomes. Laneways encourage foot traffic, linking civic spaces with lush green streets and the nearby residential neighbourhoods.

- Dedicated accessible parking for toilets
- Shared pathway linking civic anchors with residential neighbourhoods
- Dedicated performance space for buskers and other community events
- Consolidated and relocated toilet block
- Clear connection over the bridge to coastal trails and Caroline Bay
- 6 Terraced seating for passive recreation or to enjoy live music / performances
- Ability for food trucks to temporarily park during peak lunch hours
- Informal play elements contributing to a city town play trail
- 9 Slow vehicle speed zone
- Tighter intersection for safer pedestrian crossing at traffic lights
- Cruise ship passengers discovering Timaru
- Sheltered seating under established trees





Page 36

#### South Stafford St.

The Theatre Royal and heritage hub serve as central gathering spots, supported by upgraded infrastructure for increased live-work capacity. Exploring the slow core on foot reveals high-amenity, pedestrian-focused streets connecting cultural and civic anchors. This encourages longer, more frequent visits. The town heart buzzes with activities, leveraging the arts community for evening events and nightlife in the town centre. Uniting art, theatre, heritage, and creativity. This is a place that showcases Timaru's welcoming spirit, celebrating locals, attracting visitors, and enticing new residents.

- New residential housing and/or accommodation with easy access to key destinations in the centre
- 2 Active and vibrant environment night & day
- Accessible park and drop off
- Mahi toi integration in paving
- 5 Easy crossing connecting you to other civic spaces
- 6 Colourful native planting



24



## 2.4 **PROPOSED STREET & CIVIC SPACES MATERIALS PALETTE**

As the vision for the town centre evolves over time, it is critical to have unifying guidance for the look and feel of streetscapes and civic spaces, with clear direction for where high impact materials and themed palettes may go, or where existing materials and elements could be simplified. A streetscape design guide should be developed for the town centre that articulates the underlying story of place through an ongoing programme of upgrades and renewals.

#### Hardscape palette

Timaru is inextricably linked to its wider landscape and geology. The reef was formed by Mt Horrible's lava flow, giving the centre its unique topography, street pattern, and bluestone materiality upon which characterful buildings were built.

Materials should reflect the land form with Bluestone on the ridges and transitioning to softer earthy concretes and textural differences in the valley floors.

#### **Indicative Hardscapes**

High impact materials





Channel drain with Exposed aggregate decorative cast iron cover in situ concrete

Secondary materials





Baseline materials

In situ concrete kerb & channel





Precedent Streetscape & Civic Spaces Imagery.











#### Softscape palette

Regeneration of the natural environment, supporting biodiversity with ecological corridors and native plants is critical to a healthy CityTown.

The vegetation should reflect the ecological environment with lush dense vegetation following historical streams, and more hardy, resilient species being introduced as the streets move up the ridges.

#### **Indicative Planting**





Uncinia uncinata rubra

of bluestone and granite



Broom finish in

situ concrete with

Pimelia Blue Peter





Precedent Planting Imagery.













Coprosma Flat Freddy Festuca actae Pseudopanax Ferox



Cordyline australis



Parahebe Baby Blue





TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 26 **27** 

## 2.5 MĀORI DESIGN PRINCIPLES

This Masterplan is committed to partnering with mana whenua, businesses and community to regenerate Timaru. These Māori Design values (based on Te Aranga Māori design principles and informed by the cultural narrative framework produced by Te Rūnanga ō Arowhenua) act as a good foundation to guide the delivery of this vision for Timaru. It is essential that the unique story of place is told, linking in with the past, present and future to celebrate a uniquely Tī-maru vision for a thriving future for all. However, these will need to be further explored with Te Rūnanga ō Arowhenua to develop a partnering approach across the delivery of the Masterplan. This could be in the form of developing a Cultural Design Framework for Tī-maru, to provide the necessary guidance on all future design and storytelling opportunities in the public realm.



#### **TIPUORA**

Growing a thriving and dynamic life. The multiplication of shape reflecting the vision of growth and dynamism for Timaru.

#### KAITIAKITANGA

Guardianship, shelter and sustainability. Embedding meaning within pattern, within the core of a wider network.

#### TE WHĀRIKI

Weaving a tapestry of understanding together.
The overlap of stitches and dropped stitches for a unique pattern.

#### **Outcomes:**

Te Taiao

Our connection with the environment, from mountain to sea, the rivers and forests through the Town centre, are enhanced and flourish.

#### Mauri Tū

Our environment is present and visible, connecting the Town centre benefiting both land and people.

#### **Outcomes:**

**Whakapapa** 

Te Ruananga ō Arowhenua have a place and presence that can be seen and felt within CityTown. The names, the landmarks and the places that tell these stories are celebrated.

#### Mahi Toi

Mana Whenua art and culture support and influence the built and natural environment through art and events.

#### **Outcomes:**

<u>Mana</u>

The mana of iwi and hapū as partners in the development of our city is recognised and respected.

Whanaungatanga
Established and strong
relationships are the foundation
for our Town centre, with the long
term vision towards 2050 in mind.

#### **Attributes:**

- Our Town centre visibly sustains and enhances the natural environment.
- Our streams and waterways from parks to the coast are enhanced and connected
- Our natural environment is 'felt' and experienced, supporting the built environment throughout a connected Town centre.

#### **Attributes:**

- Gives mauri and life to the Town centre, proudly showcasing our special place in the world.
- Celebrates the names of our places, and expresses our history and our future as part of a city we all can be proud of.
- Timaru is identified as a culturally diverse place that is connected with its landscape and history, past, present and future.

#### **Attributes:**

- Partnering early in the design process helps us all build stronger connections. It helps to set the scope and direction for alignment with the vision for the Town centre.
- Partnership lets us establish long and meaningful relationships that grow the potential for future projects to come, and the future we all want to see.

#### Application:

- Ecological corridors are connected and restored - from parks to coast.
- Planting of appropriate flora through the Town centre, with strategies to encourage native planting in all spaces.
- Environmental outcomes are visible and present through public spaces and their connections, with the benefits measured through to 2050.

#### Application:

- Recognition and expression of place names, historical events and culturally significant sites through physical and digital interpretation, signage and wayfinding, design and public art.
- Te Rūnanga ō Arowhenua are appropriately engaged in the design process enabled through development of the Town centre.

#### Application:

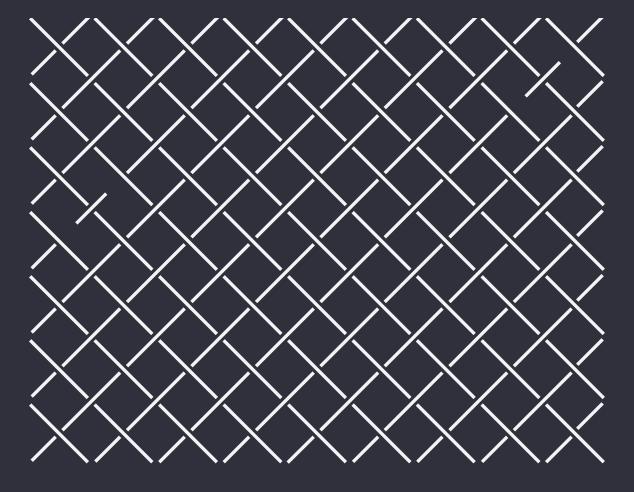
- The establishment of high level Treaty-based relationships with Te Rūnanga ō Arowhenua is essential at the outset of development proposals, and should be sought early in the concept and planning phases to maximise opportunities for design outcomes.
- Te Rūnanga ō Arowhenua are involved to provide cultural inductions and input to inform the whole project design lifecycle, from concept to delivery.

28 TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 29

**03** 

# FRAMING THIS OPPORTUNITY

The CityTown Strategic Framework provides an integrated kaupapa for all key components of the project. From vision and values to future potential ideas to be implemented on the ground, it tells the aspirational story of the future transformation of our centre.



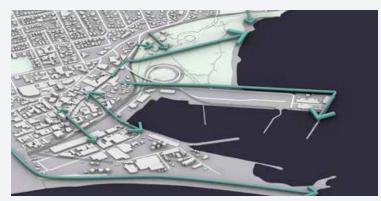
TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN

## 3.1 **STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**

The Key Moves are core ideas (spatial and nonspatial) that signal the change required to deliver on the shared vision and outcomes. The colours relate to each Key Move outlined below and are explained in further detail on the following page.

**32** 









TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN

### 2050 **TIMARU CITYTOWN**



## TE HOKINGA KI TE NGĀKAU **RETURN TO THE HEART**

#### **VISION**

**OUR HOME IS A PLACE OF SHELTER WHERE** WE ARE PROUD TO WELCOME PEOPLE AND **WEAVE NEW PARTNERSHIPS TO BUILD A** SUSTAINABLE AND DYNAMIC FUTURE.

#### **PARTNERSHIP VALUES**

Te Whāriki.

Weaving a tapestry of understanding together.

#### Tipuora.

Growing a thriving and dynamic life.

#### Kaitiakitanga.

Guardianship, shelter and sustainability.

#### **OUTCOMES**



**Healthy Timaru.** Te taiao hei whakamaru. Kaitiaki of natural environment



Loved Timaru. Ko au, ko koe, ko tātou. Visible & celebrated identity inclusive mobility



Mobile Timaru. Te ara āheitanga. Sustainable &



**Everyday Timaru.** He wāhi ora. Diverse & mixeduse town centre

Dynamic Timaru. Ōhanga taineke. Resilient local economy

#### 

**KEY MOVES** 







**Embrace the centre** with greenways



**COASTAL CONNECTION ĀRAI TE URU** 

Link to the water's edge and original shoreline



WELCOME HOME HOKI MAI

**Enable mixed-use to** invite urban living



THE HEART WITHIN TE NGĀKAU A IWI

Cultivate a cultural core













**TARGETED TRIALS** 

TARGETED TRIALS

• TARGETED TRIALS

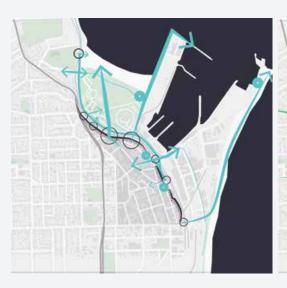


TIMARU CITYTOWN

33

## 3.2 **STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK KEY MOVES OVERVIEW**

To find out more, and read full versions of the Strategic Framework go to www. timarucitytown.co.nz



#### Coastal connection | Ārai te uru

Reconnect with the water edge and celebrate its dual character – both natural and industrious.

Join and grow the existing network of open spaces to create a soft and inviting green frame around the centre.

**Green Weave | Te raranga a Tane** 



#### Welcome home | Hoki mai

Introduce a mix and diversity of live-work opportunities in the centre to sustain vibrancy over the coming years.



#### The heart Within | Te ngākau a iwi

Amplify the beating heart of our centre within a cultural quarter framed by civic buildings.

#### **Key move possible considerations**

Get us to the water.

- · Upgrade and build new pedestrian and cycle bridges and crossings
- Upgrade the piazza and adjacent intersection as one of several designed features connecting Caroline Bay and the centre
- · Implement wayfinding between centre and coast as well as for coastal trails
- · Create a play trail from C-play to centre

#### Create a complete waterfront experience.

- · Enhance promenades for walking, cycling, wheelchair users, seating and viewing
- · Promote food offerings
- · Cater for bike, kayak, boating, swimming, water and waterfront activities
- Upgrade or relocate freedom camping
- · Protect and enhance the existing penguin habitats and viewing areas

#### Address SH1 barrier between the centre and wider Timaru.

- · Create gateways that pull/welcome people into the centre
- · Improve cycle and walking routes connecting to the centre
- · Upgrade intersections for active and vulnerable users
- Implement pedestrian and cycle wayfinding

#### Pull green into the centre - forming a continuous network of open spaces.

- · Enhance the parkland habitat and green gathering spaces
- Upgrade greenway streets in valleys
- Introduce stormwater management and rain gardens
- · Slow speed environment for shared users

#### Support finer grain retail.

- · Enhance existing laneways
- · Explore mid-block connections
- Encourage independent retail
- · Activation and pop-up solutions in vacant shops
- Enable the Royal Arcade's mixed use / adaptive re-use
- · Consolidation of retail to reduce walking distances

#### Unlock residential opportunities.

- Pilot residential at ground floor & live-work opportunities
- Area of influence for inner CityTown residential types

#### Enable reuse of character and heritage buildings

- · Support EPB strengthening and adaptive
- · Landmark buildings priority conversion projects

#### Improve mobility in the centre.

- · Enable MyWay route and stops
- · Utilise off-street car parking & wayfinding
- Potential future passenger rail & transport hub
- · Rationalise on-street car parks with time limits and pricing set to optimise occupancy

#### Enhance vibrant streets and open spaces.

- · Concentrate nightlife activity and outdoor dining
- Grow market along the street and create urban play streets
- · Potential one-way street with opportunity for dynamic on-street car parking (restricted to periods of day or week and user groups).
- · All weather facilities
- · New and greener outdoor public spaces

#### Strengthen cultural and civic anchors

- · Catalyst developments: food, art and culture experience within the heart
- · Pop-up/permanent creative community space (library, te ara, gallery etc) and/or potential youth space
- · Potential enterprise market hall 'all under one roof'
- · Possible co-location of upgraded civic spaces

TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN 34 **35** 

## 3.3 **CHARACTER AREAS**

The Key Moves have also evolved to define key attributes, activities, and spatial zones for the town centre. These spatial key moves form a scaffold from which conceptual designs can be developed.

The six character areas are not a hard spatial boundary for development and investment opportunities and do not establish new restrictions or limitations around private development.

They allow multiple opportunities to be realised at the same time, coordinated by a clear understanding of the potential synergies that exist between physical infrastructure and activities, alongside geospatial risks and dependencies. The opportunity statements outlined in the pages that follow are linked to each of the character areas, informed by the key moves and underpinned by technical contributions to the co-design process.

The areas are:

**SOUTH STAFFORD** 

**GREEN EDGE** 

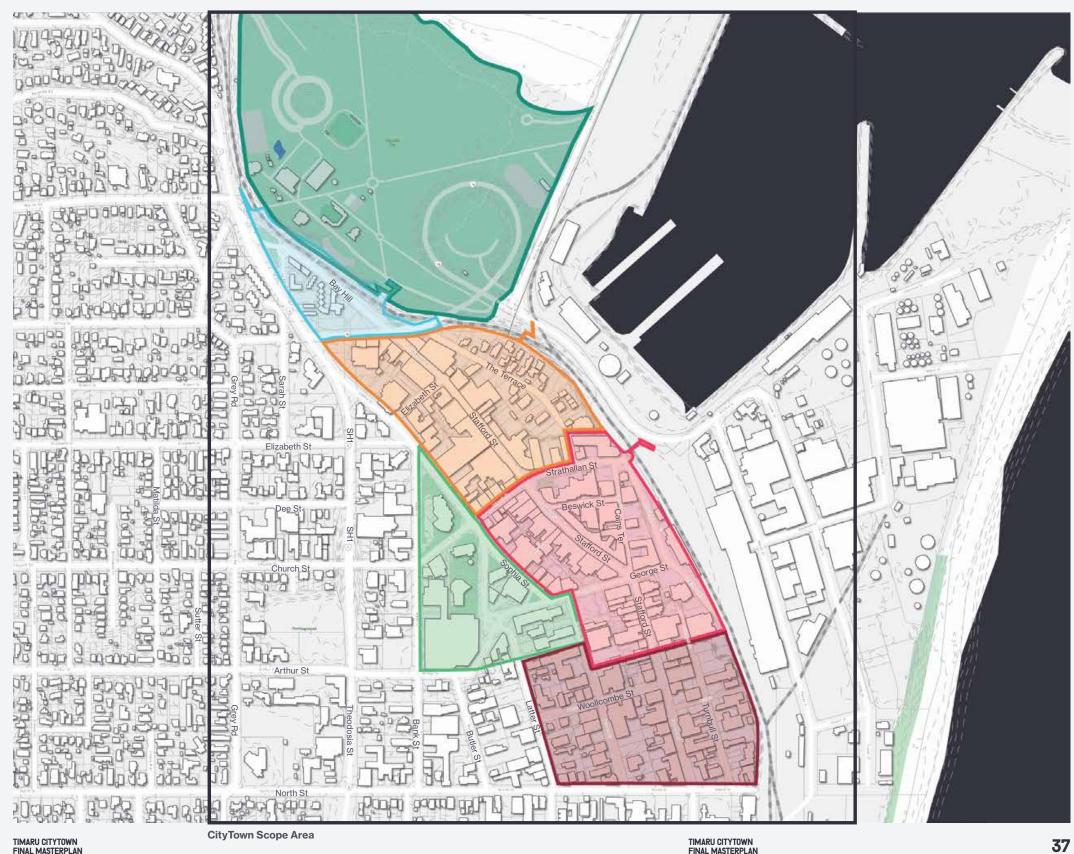
**CREATIVE TOWN HEART** 

**NORTH STAFFORD** 

**BAY HILL** 

**CAROLINE BAY** 

The corresponding colour blocks on the adjacent map show the approximate area referred to by each character area.



TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 36

Page 43 Item 8.2 - Attachment 1

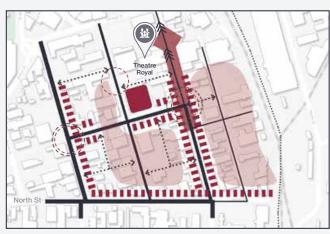
#### **Character Area Descriptions** The following opportunity statements are informed by the key moves.

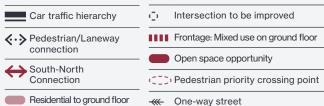
#### Character Area Maps

These maps highlight at a high level some of the possible interventions that might support the desired activity and development of these areas.

#### **SOUTH STAFFORD**

Urban Living is enhanced through the development of affordable medium density housing. This would establish a permanent community at this end of the town centre who would live, work and play in close proximity to their homes.





#### **Activity Diagrams**

These bar charts provide an indication on the current activity happening in each character area. The darker dots highlight the current activity level whilst the coloured dots show anticipated future activity levels. This highlights the most desirable private investment opportunities.

Residential Where I live Civic Where I play & engage w/community

Commercial Where I work

Retail Where I shop

Entertainment Where I meet, eat & am entertained Accommodation Where I stay if visiting



Significant increase in residential, civic, and accommodation activities is desirable. This requires better civic spaces, infrastructure, amenities, and utilities. Commercial activity remains constant because ensuring business relevance, fostering a competitive environment, and encouraging innovation can help maintain a thriving community and ensure long-term sustainability. Retail and entertainment activity remains low due to the proximity, and focus, of other character areas but may adapt to cater to a new resident population.

#### **Public sector investment**

- Streetscapes to support a walkable, high amenity live-work environment
- Infrastructure upgrades and renewals to support urban intensification capacity increase
- Acknowledgment of the link between the Theatre Royal, South Stafford and the development of a Creative Town Heart.
- · Continued provision for vehicle movements with some on street parking

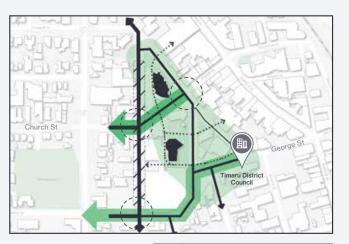




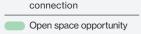


#### **GREEN EDGE**

A high amenity green network - occupied by some landmark and civic buildings. It visually and spatially contains the compactness of the town centre, acts as an identifiable gateway making the journey into town more attractive, and provides options for stopping and walking into town.





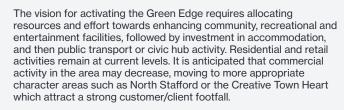


Intersection to be improved

(//) Increased car parking consideration

Green frame

Residential Where I live Civic Where I play & engage w/community Commercial Where I work Retail Where I shop Entertainment Where I meet, eat & am entertained Accommodation Where I stay if visiting 



- Civic spaces designed as cohesive and connected spaces
- Streetscapes designed to facilitate transport mode shift. i.e. safe to access the centre on foot or by bike
- · Infrastructure upgrades and renewals







TIMARU CITYTOWN TIMARU CITYTOWN 38 39 FINAL MASTERPLAN

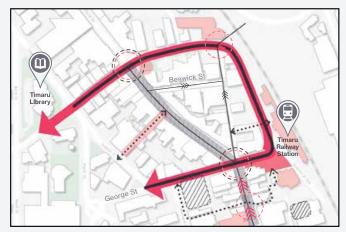
#### **Character Area Descriptions** The following opportunity statements are informed by the key moves.

#### **Character Area Maps**

These maps highlight at a high level some of the possible interventions that might support the desired activity and development of these areas.

#### **CREATIVE TOWN HEART**

A compact heart that invites a vibrant mix of activities. It can become an entrepreneurial and playful civic environment that attracts and accommodates not only retail, commercial, civic gathering space, entertainment, food and beverage but also arts, culture and nightlife.





Intersection to be improved



[2] Increased carparking consideration

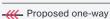


Pedestrian friendly environment



connection

Civic anchor connector Pedestrian priority crossing point





Residential Where I live



Entertainment Where I meet, eat & am entertained Accommodation Where I stay if visiting



Positive change is supported in all categories to achieve the vision for a Creative Town Heart. However, the magnitude of the change varies. Entertainment needs the most investment. Civic, commercial, retail and accommodation all require similar levels of change. Residential requires the smallest magnitude of change. Depending on local priorities and needs, some residential considerations could be made but aren't a primary focus.

#### **Public sector investment**

**Activity Diagrams** 

These bar charts provide an

indication on the current activity

private investment opportunities.

happening in each character area. The darker dots highlight the current

activity level whilst the coloured dots

show anticipated future activity levels. This highlights the most desirable

- Streetscapes with more greenery and pedestrian-friendly space can encourage people to 'dwell', gather and move around.
- · Laneways that encourage foot traffic e.g. Royal Arcade
- Civic spaces including Strathallan Corner and Heritage Place linked by green streets
- · Gathering space associated with Theatre Royal/heritage hub and civic anchors
- · Infrastructure upgrades and renewals that support increase capacity for live-work

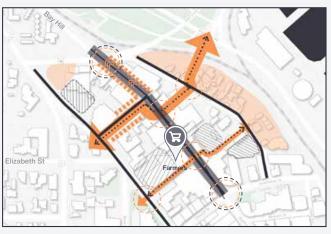






#### NORTH STAFFORD

A thriving shopping destination which enhances existing retail and creates more commercial/residential options by refurbishing heritage buildings. The streetscape creates better connections to Bay Hill, promoting mixed use and coastal connections to Caroline Bay.





Frontage: Mixed-use on ground floor East-West Connectivity Reduced Vehicle Speed

connection

Residential Where I live Civic Where I play & engage w/community Commercial Where I work

Retail Where I shop Entertainment Where I meet, eat & am entertained

Accommodation Where I stay if visiting The vision for North Stafford encompasses a significant increase in the importance of commercial activity. Efforts should be prioritised to enhance and develop this activity type here. Behind this, enhancing residential options and civic amenities, as well as providing more accommodation, will be important. Retail and entertainment need only remain at current levels due to existing strong provision.

- Streetscapes to support retail and commercial activity along Stafford Street by creating a slow speed threshold upon entering
- The Terrace streetscapes to support high quality mixed use, and medium density housing and existing community.
- Infrastructure upgrades and renewals







TIMARU CITYTOWN TIMARU CITYTOWN 40 41 FINAL MASTERPLAN FINAL MASTERPLAN

## Character Area Descriptions The following opportunity statements are informed by the key moves.

## Character Area Maps These maps highlight at a high level some of the possible interventions that might

support the desired activity and development of these areas.

#### **BAY HILL**

Already established but could be enhanced through private development associated with hospitality & residential uses. Streetscape modifications can allow hospitality to extend into the streets whilst reducing traffic volumes to take better advantage of coastline connections.



A pedestrian friendly environment

Frontage: Mixed use on ground floor

Pedestrian priority crossing point

# Residential Where I live Civic Where I play & engage w/community Commercial Where I work Retail Where I shop Entertainment Where I meet, eat & am entertained

The civic, commercial, retail, entertainment, and accommodation categories all support the Bay Hill vision. Enhancing civic amenities, commercial areas, retail options, entertainment facilities, and accommodation will all contribute to the area's overall development. Residential levels only need to be maintained, as additional supply is better developed elsewhere.

**Public sector investment** 

**Activity Diagrams** 

These bar charts provide an

indication on the current activity happening in each character area.

private investment opportunities.

The darker dots highlight the current

activity level whilst the coloured dots

show anticipated future activity levels. This highlights the most desirable

• Streetscape improvements

Car traffic hierarchy

⟨・・⟩ Pedestrian/Laneway

connection

Views to the Bay

Infrastructure upgrades and renewals

Accommodation Where I stay if visiting

 SH1 intersection upgrades to create a safer connection for pedestrians between the centre and Caroline Bay







#### **CAROLINE BAY**

Caroline Bay provides a beat to the centre. Entertainment and activities could offer an all-year-round schedule to increase visitors from across the region. Connections with the coastline can be improved with a real focus on promoting the natural environment.



Pedestrian/Laneway connection

Pohatu-koko Stream

Car parking

Key Activity Zones

Board walk opportunity



Caroline Bay is a continually evolving landscape. Activities, buildings and access points have shifted with the waterline over time. As an everyday destination for play, it is the focal point for Timaru, where activities and open space are abundant in equal measures. It is a generous space with room for 'hero events' to draw in crowds and visitors.

- A building/structure to display the heritage lifeboat
- Storage area for equipment.
- Planting along Pohatu-koko
- Campervan parking
- Marine Parade Korora area
- Linkages between the CPLAY playground and Timaru town centre.
- · Infrastructure upgrades and renewals







42 TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 43

## 3.4 **URBAN LIVING OPPORTUNITY**

Key Move "Welcome Home (Hoki Mai)" recognises that urban living is a key ingredient for the regeneration of the central city as an increased urban population will support retail, commercial and entertainment for businesses.

"Living (Kaiao)" in the Strategic Framework also outlines the current state, outcomes, objectives, and measures for attracting urban pioneers and providing more diverse housing stock in the centre.

Enhanced amenity, mobility, and identity will also enable viable residential intensification and bring about unique offerings.

> This urban living opportunity is further developed in the "Urban Living Study" and "Making it Happen" reports.



#### The key benefits of focusing on urban living in Timaru:



#### **Supports Commercial Uses**

The Strategic Framework establishes a number of key moves to address high levels of shop vacancy and low commercial office demand. This approach centres on shrinking the retail centre to consolidate commercial activity, and backfilling vacated spaces with residential use to bring more people and vitality into the heart of the city.



#### **Increases The Built Heritage Value Proposition**

Timaru town centre is home to highly valued heritage buildings which create its unique character. Retaining, and converting, this built heritage for both commercial and residential uses will be a critical part of regenerating the centre into a thriving and highly desirable urban area. New build residential developments can be seen as an opportunity to utilise the land around these historic structures, raising land prices and consequently the business case to invest in heritage building upgrades.



#### **Offers Diverse Housing Choice**

86% of dwellings in Timaru have three bedrooms or greater. Only 14% of its dwellings are townhouses/units. Empty nesters wanting to downsize have stated there is nowhere to go if wanting to stay in Timaru. The district is struggling to attract workers in part because they cannot find suitable accommodation. New central city residential development represents an opportunity to start to fill these gaps.



#### **Creates Environmental Benefit**

Attracting individuals to live in denser areas brings sustainability benefits. Dwellings are typically smaller (they don't need to provide all the amenity of a suburban or rural dwelling) resulting in fewer materials to build, less maintenance, and more efficient operation. Residents live closer to where they work, learn, or play and consequently can embrace active transport modes such as walking or cycling reducing transport emissions.



#### **A Timaru Typology**

Terrace housing typologies present an attractive form of urban living particularly in lower density urban environments such as Timaru town centre. Not only are terraces more affordable to build than apartments, they offer a living experience closer in character to the typical suburban lifestyle. Residents often have access to their own front door off the street. Attached garaging is achievable. Occupants can own the ground under their feet, free – at least to some degree – from body corporate fees. Terrace housing also presents an offering that could easily slot into the current Timaru town centre built environment - its fine grain is sympathetic (18-29 years old), and even 'Retirees' (65+), are demographics that with much of the local historic built form and its narrow form allows it to easily address the variations in topography present in the area.



Creating terrace housing that acknowledges Timaru's identity, and maintains an attractive urban environment, is critical to success. This requires the following key considerations below:



#### The future residents of CityTown

Data from residents currently living in Timaru is indicative of an area that is generally undesirable with poor quality housing stock. A significant part of the challenge will be providing higher quality dwellings to make the town centre a more enticing place to live. Our research indicates that Timaru's large 'Empty Nester' population, aged 50-64 years old, show a high level of readiness to move to the town centre and are prime candidates to target with quality urban development. Alongside this, 'Young People' also could help kick start urban living within Timaru centre.

Lower numbers indicate initial priorities for short term urban In the long term we advocate for an urban living experience that caters for all stages of life.





#### **Diversity Of Housing.** Provide a diverse offering to create more resilience

for development, better streetscapes, and a better social outcome for the central city community.



#### Proximity, Separation, Outlook

Dwellings addressing the street or on-site shared spaces create better outlook and reduce the adverse privacy on adjacent development.



#### **Outdoor Space** Providing quality

outdoor space - like generous balconies or roof terraces facilitates a suburban type/generous lifestyle within the central city.



#### Frontage Relationship Maintain Timaru's

heritage context with minimal street setbacks whilst managing privacy at ground floor level.



### Vehicle Access Integrating vehicle

storage should complement streetscapes by being consolidated within the site, with minimal access points off the street.

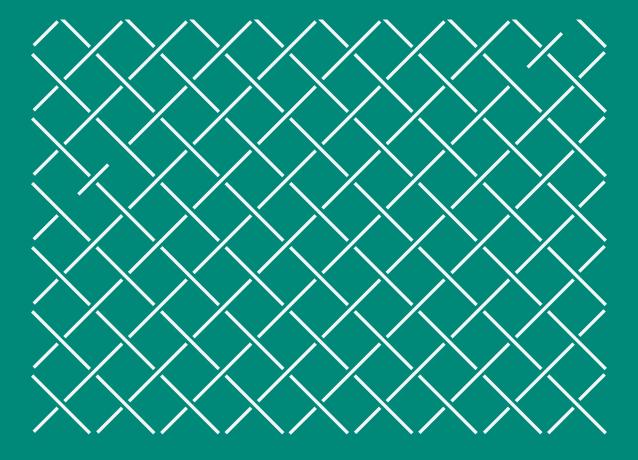
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TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN 44

04

## MOVEMENT NETWORK

This chapter explores the transformative potential of streetscape upgrades in revitalising CityTown. Simplifying and rationalising how people and vehicles move to and through our networks can create playful streets that unlock more lively, inclusive urban spaces for all, and support business activity through increased footfall.



TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN

## 4.1 OUR PLACE, OUR NETWORK

Despite the town centre being walkable, Timaru currently relies heavily on cars not only to get to but also to move around the centre. This decreases foot traffic and activity in the town centre, lowers the quality of public spaces, and increases emissions, which negatively impacts the health of our people and the environment.

To foster a more sustainable and attractive centre, we need to rethink our mobility systems and infrastructure. Any changes introduced must take into account the needs of urban and rural communities, as well as our ageing and vulnerable populations.

The Masterplan seeks to draw people into the heart of Timaru by car and also along safe and enjoyable pedestrian and cycling routes. In the town centre, existing and new laneways paired with slowerspeed environments will contribute to a more vibrant, accessible, and sustainable urban environment, while celebrating the area's history and narrative. These improved connections will reconnect the heart of Timaru to its unique sheltered harbor, honoring its history as a landing place, and celebrating its identity as a contemporary seaside town centre.



TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 49

**Activation/Attraction.** 

## 4.2 **PROPOSED EXPERIENCES**

This matrix uses illustrative examples (indicative only) to describe what people will experience in each street compared to the other streets. It is a descriptive 'snapshot' of how different types of streets work together as a network to reinforce the core of Timaru. These street types are mapped across the town centre area on the following page. All street types make provision for a range of transport modes, balancing continued vehicle access and parking requirements with better provision for safe, convenient, accessible and attractive links for people on foot or cycling.

When reviewing the streetscape experiences described to the right, each description highlights the unique characteristics. However, as a baseline, all street types must deliver the appropriate level of service.

At a minimum, streetscapes will need to cater for public transport and service vehicles. meeting minimum safety standards, and adequate parking provisions. In some cases time restrictions may apply for pick up/drop off and loading zones. Emergency vehicle provision also applies to all streets.

Finally, this network approach will be reviewed by a transportation specialist when each streetscape upgrade

#### **Look & Feel of Street Types**



Function.

Greenway

green space

Main Street:

Slow vehicle speed

movement between

cultural destinations.

**Main Street: Retail** 

Slow vehicle speed

shopping, tourism and

**Entertainment Street** 

food, beverage and

street that is more of

entertainment. A

that supports

accommodation.

Co-location of

a promenade.

area that enables safe

Mixed-use

Shared path and

passive recreation to

alongside dedicated

move around the core

#### Circulation/Parking.

directions, parallel park

on one side for a limited

time, there is priority

mobility parking and

Service vehicles can

I can drive in both

pick up/Drop off zones.

access at limited times.

directions, parallel park

on one side for a limited

time, there is priority

mobility parking and

Service vehicles can

pick up/Drop off zones.

access at limited times.

I can drive in one direction

northbound, parallel park

on one side for a limited

mobility parking and pick

time, there is priority

up/Drop off zones.

Service vehicles can

access at limited times.

I can drive in both

#### Identity.

I recognise this as

the social heart

of the city, where

I am welcome to

and congregate in

facades are interesting

and rain gardens reveal

sheltered places.

walk, shop, sit

Heritage street

and intact. Planting

connections to local

stories

## I like to use this shared

Movement.

get around.

#### through the city as I feel protected from cars. It provides a nice place to pause, meet people and

There is always something happening here - activities, playful installations or events. Jrban play trails make it an attractive way to move around.

I want to stop and experience what the street has to offer. and cross the street safely due to the low speed environment.

There are interesting including sheltered places like the Royal Arcade that is sheltered.

This is a contemporary retail street, with street furniture and a planting identity carried throughout.

Tree planting and wide footpaths help slow traffic, making it easier and more enjoyable to walk and cycle.

This is a vibrant retail destination supported by tree planting and wide footpaths. These enable pop-up shops and outdoor activations.

I can drive in both directions, parallel park on one side for a limited time, there is priority mobility parking and pick up/Drop off zones. Service vehicles can access at limited times.

This street reflects the social culture of Timaru and its people. It is a great place for visitors to come and spend time This street continues to operate safely after hours. It has places to sit in the sun or shelter. congregate or amble slowly through. Cars feel more like visitors here.

A promenade that enables lighting, activities, street closure events.



#### **Civic Street**

Flexible space that can accommodate larger numbers of people and safely connect them between civic spaces.

I can drive in one direction northbound, parallel park on one side for a limited time, there is priority mobility parking and pick up/Drop off zones. Service vehicles can access at limited times.

pride, innovation and creativity here, seeing key destinations relating directly with the street & connecting me to other nearby destinations.

I get a sense of civic

I want to stay longer in this civic area because I can easily walk or move slowly. Events are common and I can sit in the sun.

There is always something happening with new civic

#### Coastal Edge

Shared path and reduced speed environment to create a more enjoyable connection between City and Sea.

I can drive in both directions at a slower speed, conscious that pedestrians and cyclists also using this road. No on-street parking but clear directions to nearby off-street carparks.

I get a sense of the original shoreline here, seeing artworks dotted along the shared path giving me a sense of place.

I use this connection more often as I feel safe to walk and cycle along the road and it's a shorter way into town.

This becomes the main connection between City & Sea. Used by cruise ship passengers it encourages more

TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN

TIMARU CITYTOWN

51

**50** 

## DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION Legend. Greenway Shared path and passive recreation to move around the core alongside dedicated green space Main Street: Mixed-use Slow speed area with active frontages to get you between cultural destinations Main Street: Retail Slow speed and shared area to support shopping, tourism and accommodation. Entertainment Street Co-location of food beverage and entertainment. A street that is more of a promenade. Civic Street Flexible space that can accommodate larger numbers of people and safely connect them between civic spaces. Coastal Edge Shared path & reduced speed environment to create a more enjoyable connection between City and Sea. TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 53 **52**

Page 51 Item 8.2 - Attachment 1

## 4.3 SPATIAL PARKING PLAN

An appropriate Parking Strategy will ensure that a good balance is struck between easy vehicle access for those who need it, enjoyment of public space for recreation and leisure, and the availability of nearby parking for those able to walk.

Case studies indicate that target parking occupancy of 85% is optimal to achieve this result. This strategy must also continue to provide:

- Easy access to car parking in convenient locations
- · Short stay on-street parking
- Mobility and service parking in convenient locations
- Pick up/Drop off points onstreet
- Priority for mobility parking/short stay dropoff, loading and servicing (within restricted hours), and emergency access for streets within the urban core

This will support increased

54



## 4.4 PARKING MANAGEMENT APPROACHES

The Masterplan does not propose a net reduction in parking but rather a phased approach to optimise the existing spaces we have. This requires smart parking solutions, and ensuring that any changes are gradually introduced to allow for adaptation and response to demand over time.

#### What we know about parking in Timaru

Anecdotal data and workshop feedback has indicated that finding a park on Stafford St at certain times of day such as lunchtimes, or during busy times of the year, such as Christmas and Carnival is challenging. Quantitative data from a study conducted in 2021 by Abley indicated that of the 1,467 on-street carparks available across the town centre, certain areas (Stafford Street & a portion of Church Street) do experience higher demand (averaging 83% utilised) for parking at peak hours on weekdays, while the remaining on-street and 3,201 off-street carparks are underutilised with an average occupancy of 67%

Both average percentages qualify as underutilised compared to the suggested target of 85% occupancy in high-demand areas according to National Parking Management Guidance issued by Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency in 2021. This is in line with international best practice to ensure that one car park is available on an average block to reduce the amount of circulating traffic looking for a space.

#### How people currently move around within the town centre

Similar to accessing the centre, 64% of self-reported movement within the centre is made with private vehicles¹. It is likely higher if delivery and service vehicles were included in this count.

The high car dependency is likely due in part to the over-extended nature of the centre – stretching 1km from North St to Bay Hill Piazza. Blocks longer than 100m and the soft slope of Stafford Street are considered by locals to reduce

walkability for those with mobility impairments. The inconsistent level of activity along Stafford St also creates discontinuity of experience and interest, and the limited quality of pedestrian environments (including narrow and slippery footpaths) contribute to a less than optimum walking experience for locals and visitors. Perception of a lack of safety, especially at night, also deters people from moving around on foot.

#### Why change anything?

Parking is essentially a means to an end, and exists to support access to destinations that are important to our residents and visitors. The provision of parking also influences wider social, economic and environmental outcomes including accessibility, efficiency, and overall quality of life in our city. Any changes to parking must occur in parallel with public transport improvements, land use planning measures, shared mobility, and behaviour change initiatives. Higher quality urban environments can then attract more visitors and future residents to support future development.

#### What will change?

Instead of a net reduction in parking, a phased approach would optimise existing carparking spaces and allow adaptation in response to demand. Initially there would be minimal changes to existing parking availability, with future phases incorporating adjustments based on feedback and data. The next pages outline some strategies Council could consider when developing their future Parking Strategy and Parking Management Plan for the centre.

#### How will you know it works?

Learning from the case studies and having a robust monitoring and feedback system in place to track the impact of any changes would allow timely adjustments and issues to be resolved. Below are some of the recommended data sets that would be good to monitor over time. The variety of data is essential to paint a holistic picture of the impact of these changes.

- 1. Parking Occupancy
- 2. Duration of Parking Stays
- 3. Parking Violations
- Congestion levels
   Eftpos Spend
- 6. Retail Vacancy Rates
- 7. Air quality & carbon emissions
- 8. Public Transport Ridership #
- 9. Number of Visitors to Timaru
- 10. User Demographics

#### Supporting Research

There is a growing body of overseas evidence for the costs and benefits of parking reallocation approaches. However, in New Zealand there is limited local evidence in a range of contexts that planners can draw upon when engaging with project stakeholders. However, below are a few case studies of approaches that have been successful.



Fort Street Shared Street
Auckland
Fort Street showcases how

shared streets can turn a district into a destination, increasing visitors for shopping and other activities. It is one of several new shared spaces implemented in Auckland's CBD in recent years to enhance pedestrian connectivity and provide a high-quality public realm. The transformation of Fort Street into a shared street resulted in a 54% increase in pedestrian volumes and a 47% increase in consumer spending.



Heart of the City project Sheffield, UK In the early 1990s, Sheffield's

town centre faced economic decline due to the downturn in local industries and the opening of a new shopping centre on the town's fringe. In response, the city launched the Heart of the City project in 2004, which included streetscape improvements like narrowing carriageways and rationalising parking to boost pedestrian activity. This initiative led to a 35% increase in foot traffic and an estimated net increase in spending of £4.2 million.



Public Transport Uptake **Queenstown Lakes** In late 2017, the District and Regional Council increased parking fees, reduced non-priced parking spaces, and removed discounted long-term commuter parking, coordinating these changes with a new frequent bus network and a subsidized \$2.00 flat fare. Since implementation, bus ridership and parking revenue have increased, while parking occupancy rates dropped by 17% between 2017 and 2019. By June 2019, bus patronage had increased by 64% compared to 2017/2018.



Pedestrian Retail Street Wharf Street Tauranga Data from Marketview, supplied by economic development agency Priority One, showed retail spending at cafes, restaurants, bars and takeaways in the CBD was \$23.9m for the first six months of 2021. With six months of the year still to be accounted for, the spend looks set to eclipse the previous record spend of \$22,796,370 in 2016. The 17 street carparks were removed over a 5 year period. Demand was monitored and it was found that these carparks were not needed.



One-Ways & Traffic Calming Mangawhai Heads, Kaipara Kaipara District Council implemented a summer trial of traffic and parking management in Mangawhai Heads, making the main street one-way, introducing a 60-minute parking limit, and creating additional off-street parking with wayfinding signage. Businesses received four parking permits for off-street parking behind the shops to ensure onstreet parking availability for the public/customers. The changes saw strong approval from community and led to proposed further interventions, including a pedestrian zone in the shopping centre. Bike parking was also installed on the main street to encourage people to cycle rather than drive to the shops.



Retail Partnerships & Incentives Ultretcht & Rotterdam Local government and private companies collaborated to provide free public transport passes to employees, combined with a private shuttle bus to connect transit stops with workplaces. This programme. promoted through a marketing and communication plan, was found to have achieved a 37% reduction in the share of commuters traveling into the town centre by car. While a large medical centre in the Dutch port city of Rotterdam achieved a 20-25% reduction in employee car commutes through a scheme that charged employees to park outside their offices, while also offering them the chance to "cash out" their parking spaces and use public transport instead.

56 TIMARU CITYTOWN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 57

#### **Key Objectives and Approaches**

The following objectives (1-4) are underpinned by parking management approaches that could be endorsed as part of the Masterplan and carried forward to inform the development of Council's Parking Strategy and Parking Management Plan.

#### **Enhance Traffic Flow and Operational Efficiency**

Service vehicles play a critical role in ensuring businesses can operate in Timaru. It is key that we continue to meet the needs of delivery, maintenance, and emergency vehicles.



Flexible Loading Zones Implement adaptable loading zones and time-restricted parking to optimise space usage during peak and offpeak hours, ensuring efficient service delivery without disrupting traffic flow. This can be paired with dedicated spaces, times and permits for service. maintenance, and delivery vehicles to access local businesses



**Shared Parking Arrangements** Promote shared parking arrangements where multiple users (e.g. businesses, residents, visitors) can use the same parking spaces at different times of the day. This will help optimise use and manage demand.

#### **Support Local Businesses**

Supporting local businesses is crucial for the economic vitality and vibrancy of our high streets. Ensuring that more people can access businesses and services easily throughout the day directly contributes to their success. Key factors include creating quality urban environments, enhancing transport options, and providing practical parking solutions.



Retail Partnerships & Incentives Partner with local businesses to provide Implementing a dynamic pricing model parking validation or discounts for customers, incentivising visits to shops and restaurants. Offer employees a cash incentive to not use parking spaces, encouraging alternative modes of transportation like public transit, biking, or walking.



**Demand Responsive Pricing** that adjusts rates based on real-time demand helps to optimise the use of parking spaces. During peak times, higher rates can manage demand and ensure availability, while lower rates during off-peak times can attract more visitors to the area. But first proceed with upgrade to new technology planned year 2-4 in the LTP.

TIMARU CITYTOWN



Parking Buildings or Off-street Parking Lots in Strategic Locations Develop or enhance existing multi-level parking buildings in strategic locations that make it easier for customers to visit multiple local businesses in one trip. These should be within a reasonable walking distance of key areas and should work in synergy with the Strategic Framework Key Moves. They can be public/private partnership, council assets or private development carparks. This provides an opportunity to look at better efficiency of valuable land within the town centre.

#### Improve Accessibility & Meet Demographic Needs

Timaru's overextended high street and challenging topography means certain users rely on nearby parking to access the places they need to get to. This approach aims to ensure that those requiring parking can access it easily, safely, and efficiently.



Designated Parking Spaces Ensure designated parking spaces for those with accessibility needs including subsidies and permits for elderly (80+), assisted access (e.g. wheelchair) and young families (prams) located near key facilities and civic spaces/functions. Ensure there is a sufficient number of these dotted across the town centre and that the process to obtain a relevant permit is well known/understood.



Safer Parking Layouts Parallel parking and pull-through parking layouts are often considered more accessible for drivers with mobility challenges, as they typically require less maneuvering and provide better visibility when entering and exiting spaces. They also support a more pedestrian-friendly environment.



Improved Public Transit & Infrastructure Greater coverage, frequency, price point and kerbless drop-off points ensures more users can conveniently access diverse destinations while promoting sustainable and equitable transportation solutions. High quality and highly visible pick up and drop off points in the town centre attract and encourage uptake.

#### Make Change Seamless

Change should be facilitated by initiatives that prioritise convenience and comprehensive support. A holistic approach must be considered when making modifications to ensure their effectiveness. Strong communication tools and strategies are vital to ensure seamless changes and integration.



Intuitive Wayfinding Enhancing signage and digital mapping to guide users effectively through urban areas to find a park close to their destination is essential



<u>User-friendly Technology</u> Utilising mobile technology to offer flexibility in parking times, charges and the ability to extend duration for unplanned delays (e.g. Pay My Park).



Clear Communication & Feedback Utilising digital platforms (social media etc) and traditional methods (flyers etc) to provide timely and accessible information regarding parking changes is instrumental to a positive uptake. Having a robust monitoring and feedback system in place to track the impact of any changes would allow adjustments and issues to be resolved quickly. It gives users confidence that their needs are considered.

58

TIMARU CITYTOWN

59

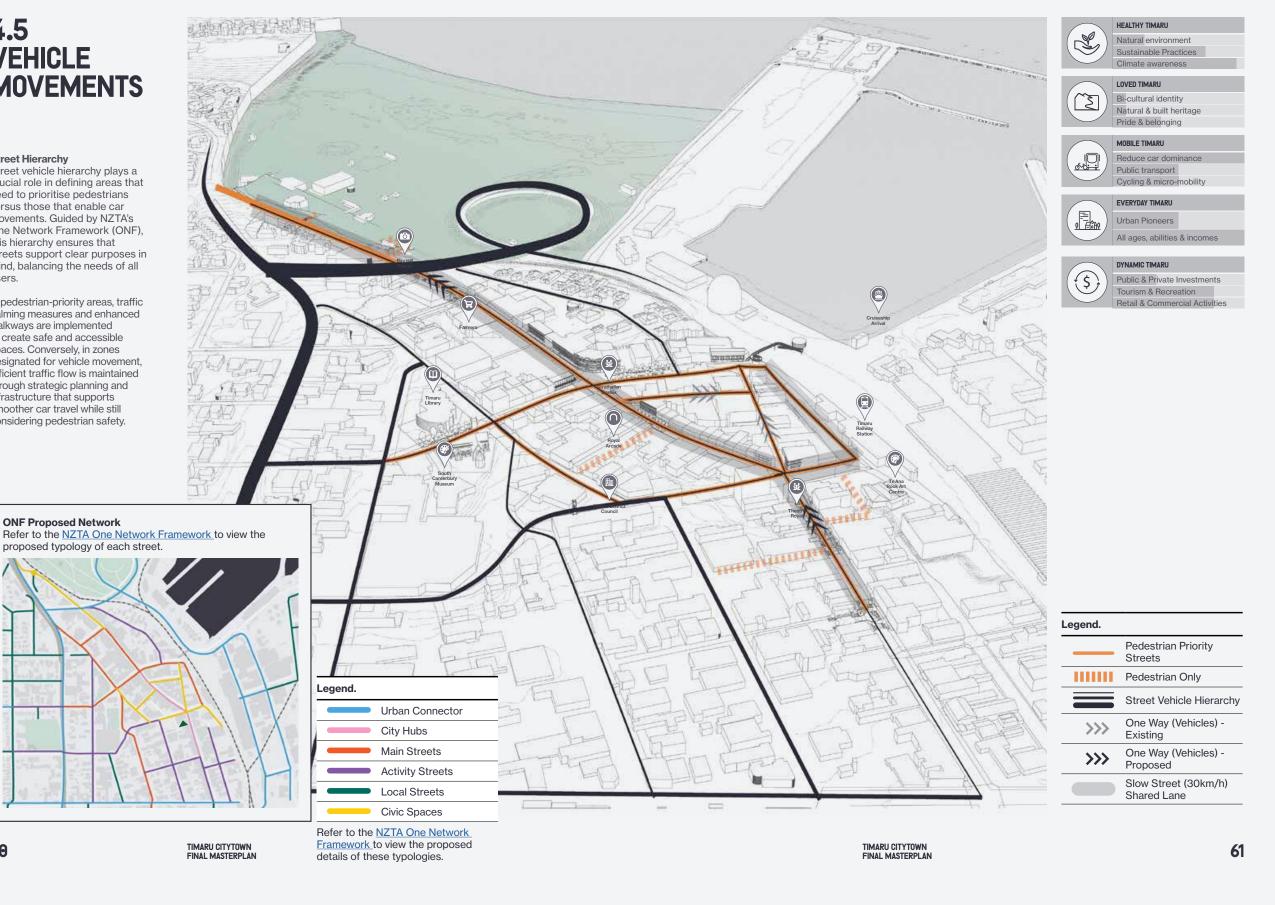
## 4.5 **VEHICLE MOVEMENTS**

Street Hierarchy Street vehicle hierarchy plays a crucial role in defining areas that need to prioritise pedestrians versus those that enable car movements. Guided by NZTA's One Network Framework (ONF), this hierarchy ensures that streets support clear purposes in mind, balancing the needs of all users.

In pedestrian-priority areas, traffic calming measures and enhanced walkways are implemented to create safe and accessible spaces. Conversely, in zones designated for vehicle movement, efficient traffic flow is maintained through strategic planning and infrastructure that supports smoother car travel while still considering pedestrian safety.

**ONF Proposed Network** 

60



#### **One-Ways**

One-way streets are already a familiar feature in Timaru, with existing examples on Cains Terrace and Beswick Street. These streets have demonstrated how one-way systems can enhance traffic flow, reduce congestion, noise and create a safer environment for pedestrians. By channeling traffic in a single direction, one-way streets help to minimise the likelihood of accidents, provide more space for sidewalks, and allow for smoother, more predictable vehicle movements.

One-way streets also serve as effective gateways into the city, enhancing the flow of incoming traffic, and making the transition into the city seamless and welcoming.

#### **North Stafford One-Way Benefits:**

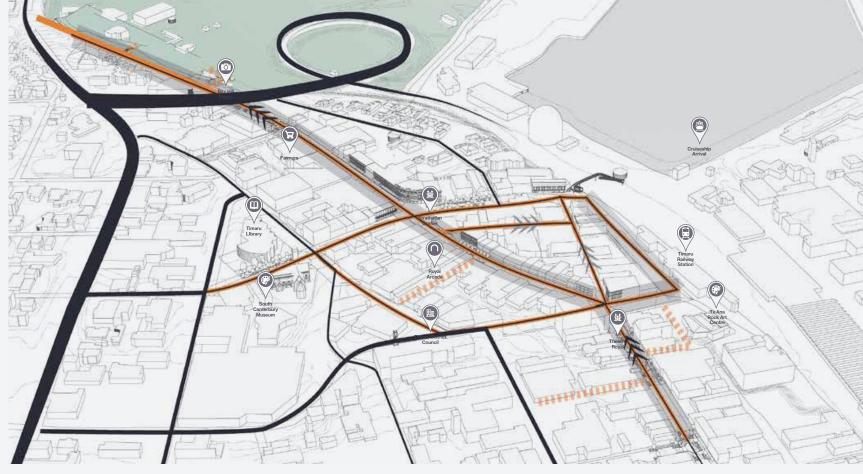
- Improves the Bay Hill intersection, enabling a strong pedestrian crossing point to the Piazza
- · Allows additional businesses, such as hospitality, to take advantage of the views across to Caroline Bay
- Enhances pedestrian and cycling experience
- · Establishes a strong gateway for alternative transport users (not for vehicle users) to encourage access to the city
- · Reduces the need to maintain all roads to the same vehicle loading standards or for heavy vehicles (buses and logistics)

#### **Trade-offs:**

- · No direct vehicle access down Stafford Street from Bay Hill or Sefton Street.
- · Additional traffic may be routed onto Port Loop Road and Sefton Street

#### Mitigations:

- · Wayfinding signage along Theodosia Street to direct traffic into the central carparking on Sophia & Bank
- A specific transport plan is required to ensure no adverse traffic outcomes develop
- · Extensive parking is available on adjacent streets, both on and off street, which could be increased to ensure no net loss of parking opportunities within the local area. This will need to be resolved as part of transport specialist inputs at the appropriate time
- · When this portion of street comes up for renewal and upgrade, detailed traffic / transport network modelling



Supporting Research/Case Studies





#### Esk & Don Streets, Invercargill

The Invercargill City Council has begun staged implementation of its town centre masterplan to rejuvenate the city by increasing footfall to struggling businesses, reducing reliance on private vehicles, improving environmental health, and celebrating the unique character of the town centre. As part of this initiative, the first city block of Esk and Don Streets have been transformed into shared one-way streets. These streets now feature generous greenspaces that incorporate water treatment systems, support local ecologies, and showcase seasonal colours and play areas. The inclusion of fixed and movable furniture has created versatile spaces that accommodate everyone - from solo buskers to large community markets and festivals. Adjacent offstreet parking building as part of the ICL public-private partnership has enabled a reduction in on street parking for these two 'city heart' civic streets. Anecdotal feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with local businesses noting a significant boost in vibrancy and foot traffic.

In the heart of Tauranga, Elizabeth Street has undergone a dramatic transformation. Once dominated by a thirty-meter-wide carriageway for vehicle movement and angle parking, it has been reimagined into a dynamic public space that caters to its retail and mixed housing edges while still accommodating public transport and private vehicles. The carriageway has been reduced to create more room for pedestrians and nature, with vehicles and cyclists now sharing the space safely. Additionally, intersections and pedestrian lighting have been upgraded to enhance safety. This transformation was meticulously designed and consulted upon to support the area's social, cultural, retail, and commercial environments.

Check out another example in Taupō

#### Legend. **Pedestrian Priority** Streets Pedestrian Only Street Vehicle Hierarchy One Way (Vehicles) -Existing One Way (Vehicles) -Proposed Slow Street (30km/h)

#### **South Stafford One-Way Benefits:**

· Aligns with TDHL land ownership, enabling proposed developments to integrate with the streetscape, maximising land desirability.

Shared Lane

- Creates a gateway from the south into the city, providing a clear transition from a light industrial/commercial area or future urban living environment into the cultural and retail core of the centre.
- When combined with a one-way section on North Stafford, it establishes clear vehicle transport movement within centre.
- Pedestrian linkages / laneways between Heritage Place and South Stafford encourage use of alternative parking and mutual benefits of hospitality and entertainment, and continuous amenity for new residents accessing the continuous amenity of greenways and the waterfront.
- Opportunity for time-limited access/closures for events & occasions
- Capitalises on the proposed investment in the new Theatre Royal, enhancing accessibility and signaling significant change within the area

#### **Trade-offs:**

- Barnard and Latter Streets may see increased traffic volume for vehicles moving north to south through the centre
- Streetscape design will need to integrate confirmed adjacent activities, development and pedestrian movements
- Parking to individual private premises will be restricted for vehicles entering from the north Mitigations:
- The short block depths and lengths within the centre requires minimal short diversions
- · The one-way section design should be developed in conjunction with the proposed Theatre Royal and TDHL land to ensure alignment with any significant Council
- · Clear wayfinding for vehicle movement and

TIMARU CITYTOWN TIMARU CITYTOWN 63

Elizabeth Street, Tauranga

Item 8.2 - Attachment 1 Page 56

62

# 4.6 INTER-REGIONAL & PUBLIC TRANSPORT PLAN

Currently public transport and interregional service movements are varied and dictated by the operator or driver. Defining preferred routes for these larger vehicles will help minimise congestion and help create safer and more people-friendly streetscapes.

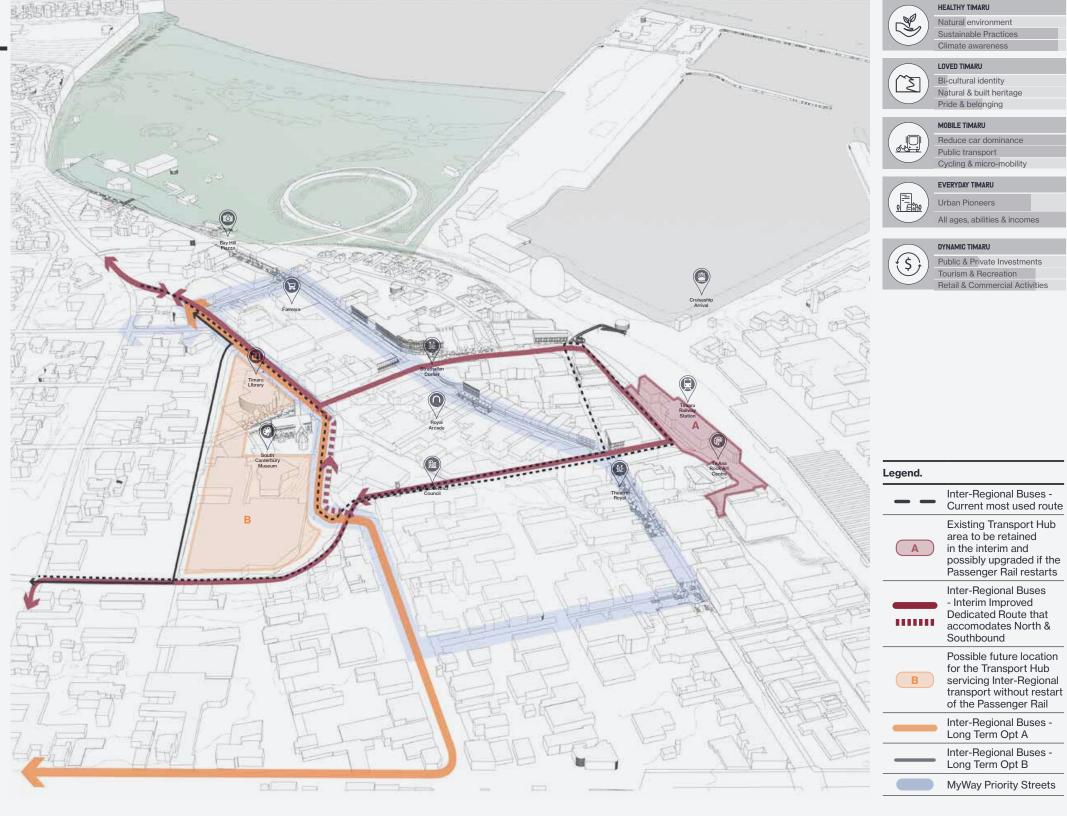
#### MyWay - Shared Transport options/ initiatives

In the longer term, continue to encourage ECan-run initiatives such as MyWay (with more accessible drop off points throughout the centre) that helps connect the community of Tlmaru with the town centre. A priority route through would support access to key locations, especially along Stafford Street. The priority loop would also connect up the key Civic & Cultural destinations.

InterCity Buses & Cruise ship Shuttles
Large coaches circulating through
key civic routes and spaces limits
the potential for future streetscape
upgrades, and a people friendly town
square. When present, large vehicles
also disrupt movement and activities,
therefore it is preferred to prioritise
people and smaller vehicles in and
around Heritage Place and alongside
the coastal connection.

The current drop off location is at the former railway station, and there is a benefit to businesses (e.g. Te Ana and the Info Centre) with visitors spending stopover time around Heritage Place. This should be retained in the interim however, a new dedicated route for regional bus services to access Station St via George St and Cains Terrace is advised. In addition, larger cruise ship shuttles should use these same streets.

In the future, there may be appetite for a new transport hub (In the Orange Area B zone) which would move this same traffic to the Western edge of the city which also offers appropriate retail and hospitality provision while being adjacent to the information and civic /support services provided by the Timaru Library, also passing alongside the South Canterbury Museum, another tourist destination.



TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 55

## 4.7 WALKING & CYCLING PLAN

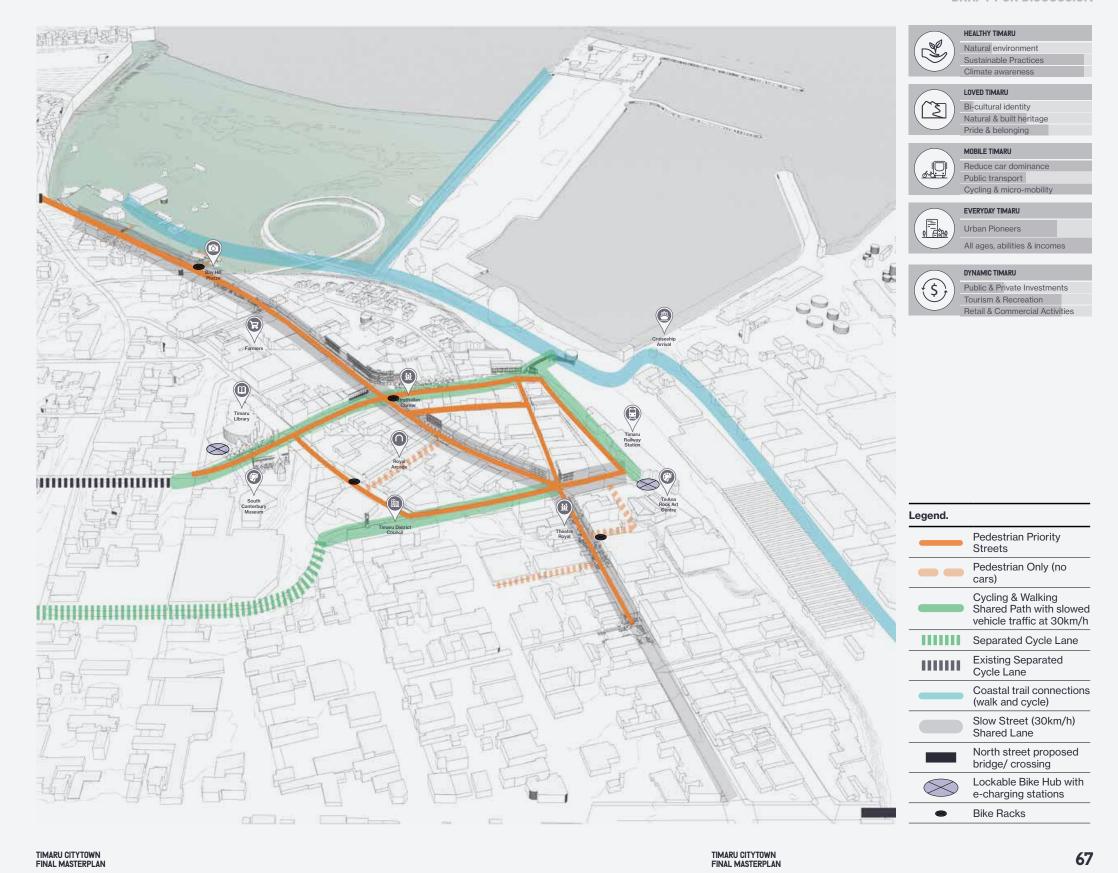
The proposed walking and cycling network connects up with Timaru's wider existing cycle network, enabling locals to cycle into the centre comfortably, safely and efficiently. Strathallan bridge acts as a catalyst to bring cyclists from Caroline Bay and coastal trails into CityTown via Port Loop Road.

Slow streets require motorists to drive no faster than 30km/ while separated on-street cycle lanes provide movement to the periphery and connect into the shared paths and slow-streets where cyclists can move safely.

Provision of 'end of trip facilities' can work to counter common reasons not to cycle. Facilities with covered cycle storage, lockers, toilets, and showers, and e-bike charging stations are proposed within the CityTown in anticipation of increasing cycle usage over time.

Along Stafford Street and most side streets shared paths prioritise pedestrians, and cyclists are encouraged to ride to the conditions or to park/lock their bike before continuing on foot.

66



HEALTHY TIMARU

## 4.8 URBAN PLAY & ART/MAHI TOI\* PATH

Incorporating urban play and mahi toi\* into the town centre transforms it into a vibrant and inclusive space that caters to all ages and fosters community engagement.

Leveraging the existing C-PLAY anchor (an award winning locally and community inspired playground) that draws people to Caroline Bay, the shoreline mahinga kai play trail would connect this site with smaller, informal play areas in the town centre. These urban play areas, designed with diverse and dynamic activities, encourage physical activity and social interaction among children, teenagers, and adults alike. From interactive installations and climbing structures to spaces for spontaneous games and performances, these play areas are engineered to adapt and evolve, providing endless opportunities for fun and creativity. They also respond to the site, and history of place and offer opportunities for mahi toi\* or art integration.

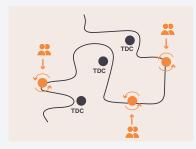
This network attracts more people to the town centre, fostering a lively, connected community. Families can enjoy the playful environments, while art enthusiasts and creators find inspiration and a platform for their talents. The result is a dynamic, ever-changing town centre that appeals to a broad audience and encourages longer, more frequent visits.

Natural environment Sustainable Practices LOVED TIMARU Bi-cultural identity Natural & built heritage Pride & belonging MOBILE TIMARU Reduce car dominance Public transport Cycling & micro-mo EVERYDAY TIMARU Urban Pioneers All ages, abilities & incomes Public & Private Investments Tourism & Recreation Retail & Commercial Activities Samuel Comment Legend. Fixed and dedicated playspace Playful elements integrated with streetscape design Informal play elements relating to the views Temporary play elements that operate on rotation & are activated/owned by community Informal/Sculptural play elements telling the story of place and where Mahi Toi could be appropriately integrated

\*Mahi toi: Visibility of Māori expression/art

TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 69

#### **Key principles**



Council & Community Driven This will be a collaborative effort, between local council and the community, fostering a sense of shared responsibility and pride in the play trail.

- Council to ensure safe connections between various play sites and good sightlines from the street and seating around play area
- · Allow more temporary sites to be programmed and owned by local businesses in close proximity
- Hold regular workshops and meetings where community members can contribute ideas and feedback for the play trail.



Diverse & Ever-changing Play The play trail will offer a diverse range of activities and equipment that evolve over time, ensuring children and families always find something new and exciting to explore.

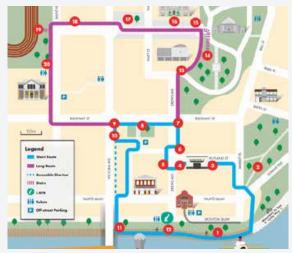
- Balance of informal play & play along the way with formal dedicated play spaces
- Ensure flexible play elements that can change throughout the year and align with various year round events
- Consider play for different personality types and ages



Celebrate History of Place The design and elements of the play trail will reflect the unique history, landscape and culture of the town, creating an engaging narrative that connects users with the story of Timaru.

- Integrate the story of place in permanent play elements
- Place informational plaques and storyboards throughout the trail that share interesting facts and stories about the town's history and culture.
- Commission local artists to create sculptures, murals, or installations that depict aspects of the town's heritage.

#### Benchmarking of similar scale



#### Whanganui Play Trail

This play trail is a community-led initiative that rejuvenates urban spaces with diverse, interactive play elements. From imaginative playgrounds to sensory installations, the trail invites residents of all ages to engage in active play and social interaction. Developed in collaboration with local stakeholders, it revitalises public areas, fosters community connections, and promotes physical activity. It exemplifies the transformative impact of community engagement and creative urban design in enhancing the livability and vibrancy of cities.



#### Invercargill Playful Streets

Esk Street was designed to become the social heart of the city where there's always something happening. It was designed to be playful and playable, with seating that faces the sun and looks over a built play "trail" of obstacles, gardens and design features for climbing and enjoying. The street can host big and small events, with a range of configurations to suit what's on. This light touch play highlights the success of integrated play in furniture.

#### **Play Principles and Considerations**



#### Integrate Art

Incorporate local artwork along the trail to enhance visual appeal and cultural engagement, making the experience more enriching and community-focused.



#### Small & Familiar

Include classic, easy-tounderstand games that promote social interaction and nostalgia, making the trail accessible and enjoyable for all ages.





#### All Sensory Experiences

Design features that stimulate all five senses, ensuring the trail offers a holistic, immersive experience that captivates visitors of all ages.



#### Digitally Enhanced

Utilise apps and digital guides to provide interactive maps, educational content, and realtime updates, enhancing visitor engagement and navigation.

TIMARU CITYTOWN



#### Temporary installations

Introduce temporary installations to keep the trail dynamic and fresh. encouraging repeat visits and ongoing community interest.



#### Intangible Play

Create activities such as Codebreakers that prompt visitors to think creatively or move uniquely, fostering mental engagement and physical activity in innovative ways.

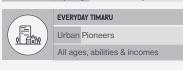
#### Strategic Framework Alignment Outcomes Alignment

Urban play trails attract both visitors and locals to the town centre, offering playful elements for kids and educational insights for adults about Timaru's history. They can also help celebrate and elevate Timaru's bi-cultural and increasingly multi-cultural identity. Finally, these trails can encourage walking in CityTown, reducing the perceived length of the main street with inviting places to pause. They also inspire exploration of new routes, fostering discovery of previously unnoticed connections especially to the water's edge. Ultimately, these trails encourage more people into the heart of Timaru which supports finer grain retail and adds to vibrancy.











#### **Key Moves Alignment**









#### **Cultural narrative opportunities**



TIMARU CITYTOWN

**7**1

#### **Urban Play Personalities**

There are so many diverse ways that people like to play, and a city play trail should try to appeal to all of them. We're pretty good at considering mobility, ability and demographics when designing play elements to make sure that all types of people of a range of ages could take part. We're less good at catering for different play personalities.

First theorised by Dr Stuart Brown, founder of the National Play Institute (USA), play personalities are the dominant mode of play that people prefer to engage in. Most play spaces cater heavily to people (especially kids) who like physical play climbing, swings, slides, with sports fields for competitive play. The play trail provides an opportunity to prioritise other modes of play and provide fun interactions for people of all ages.

#### Creator | Kaihanga

Creators like to bring new things into the world or preserve and appreciate things others have made. They often paint, write, sculpt, knit, garden, repair, often with high attention to detail and originality.

Try outdoor easels with a sea view, interactive installations where people can make or change patterns or some all-weather instruments.

#### Explorer | Kaihōpara

Explorers play through exploration whether physical (new places), emotional or mental (such as researching a new subject or other points of view). They are often unafraid to take risks and try new things.

The whole idea of a trail suits an explorer. Try including options for foraging, discovering new varieties in the rose garden or checking out some rare reference books in the back research room of the Museum

#### Competitor | Kaiwhakataetae

Competitors like following rules and playing to win, analysing strengths and weaknesses and developing strategies. They are often highly motivated and tenacious.

Try hopscotch in the city, or even having some prizes for people who finish the play trail the fastest.

#### Trickster | Kiri Hangareka

Tricksters have a strong sense of humour and can be fiercely independent, turning norms on their heads. They often help others break free from their own limitations, think differently or find joy in the small things.

Try a 'complete the drawing' or 'write the caption' activity on the play trail map, or describe a few different characters that people could choose to 'be' whilst doing the play trail.

#### Collector | Kaikohi

Collectors are often both meticulous and highly imaginative. They enjoy creating or holding an interesting collection of objects or experiences, with a natural curiosity about the world.

Give collectors guidance and instructions to find eight different types of shells on the beach or spot 20 of the Edwardian buildings in the city.

#### Director | Kaitohu

Directors are organisers who like communicating and overseeing things and people. They are often good at problem solving and multitasking, and take pleasure in coordinating things.

If doing the play trail in a group, the Director will usually be holding the map (and already thinking about where to go for lunch). Try including some 'choose your own adventure' elements in the trail to give Directors the chance to assert themselves.

#### Kinesthete | Kainekeneke

Kinesthetes are dynamic and energetic people who thrive on movement. They often have a natural talent for dance, sports and other physical pursuits.

Try having a dance on the corner outside Mrs M's or making it to Patiti Point and back on the South Beach Coastal Track.

#### Storyteller | Kaitito Paki

Storytellers are great at seeing the world through the eyes of others and finding common ground. They're often good observers and listeners and find stories everywhere.

Try including some opportunity in the trail for people to write about their play trail experience, or what they would add to the trail. Encourage them to soak up the oldest (human) Timaru stories at Te Ana.























72 TIMARU CITYTOWN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 73

## 4.9 FITNESS & ACTIVE TRAILS

Harnessing the town's competitive spirit and vibrant community of adventurers, the fitness and wellbeing trails can help transform the town centre into an informal, dynamic hub for physical activity and holistic health connected to the coast and green spaces. These trails would feature a variety of natural and playful fitness challenges designed to inspire and engage everyone, from beginners to seasoned athletes. Imagine jumping up and down a log 20 times, racing to beat the record time up a flight of stairs, or balancing along a winding beam. This would support urban pioneers - exchanging a private small backyard for a shared large backyard across the town centre.

With its' unique topography, each challenge caters to different fitness levels, with trails of varying difficulty to match your personal goals and progress. Additionally, each trail integrates with digital trackers and fitness apps, allowing participants to monitor their performance, set personal records, and compete with others in the community.

The three difficulty levels of trails have been designed to start and finish in various public civic spaces. This effort aims to activate these areas and ensure greater movement throughout the town centre.

Finally the trails are activated occasionally for competitive or social events sponsored by local sports/community groups with unique challenges or by local businesses (e.g. chocolate fish races, stair climbs etc). The trails, while not physical interventions, help draw visitors in, encourage longer visits, and support the discovery of new destinations.







10m Legend. 8m 2km Loop 6m -1% -2% 4m Start/End -3% 2m Kilometer Marker Hectors' Coastal Track -Off Road ←→ distance 1.98 km Hectors' Coastal Track descent 11 m On Road 130 kcal 91 kcal Elevation Gradient CityTown Valley & Cliffs Loop 15m 10m Legend. 0% 5km Loop 5m 0m Start/End -4% -6% -5m Kilometer Marker Hectors' Coastal Track -Off Road ←→ distance 5.09 km ←→ 5.09 km Hectors' Coastal Track -234 kcal 336 kcal On Road Elevation Gradient 15m City to Sea Loop Legend. 10km+ Loop 5m Optional 4km extension 0m on to Dashing Rocks (via Benvenue Cliff trail / Blacketts lighthouse en route) y Walking v 🛧 Running v Start/End descent 48 m Kilometer Marker 456 kcal 653 kcal Hectors' Coastal Track -Off Road Elevation Hectors' Coastal Track -On Road Gradient TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN **75** 

12m

**DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION** 

74 TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN

Item 8.2 - Attachment 1

CityTown Heart Leisure Loop

#### **Key principles**







**Embrace Existing Assets** Incorporate natural elements and playful fitness challenges that activity in a fun and informal way.

- Work with the existing context: Identify existing elements and assets for jumping, sprints, balance
- Design Multi-Difficulty Trails: Create trails with varying levels of difficulty to cater to beginners, intermediates, and advanced users.
- Interactive Signage: Place signs with instructions and motivational messages at various challenge points, encouraging users to participate and track their performance.

Leverage Digital Integration Utilise technology to provide an interactive and personalised engage all ages, promoting physical experience, encouraging users to monitor their progress.

- Sync with Fitness Apps: Integrate trail challenges with popular fitness apps and trackers to allow users to monitor their progress and set personal goals.
- Digital Leaderboards: Install digital leaderboards at key points along the trail to display top performances and motivate users to beat the records.

Foster Community Engagement Create opportunities for social interaction & community building, fostering a sense of ownership among users.

- Host Regular Events: Organise community events such as timed races, group challenges, and fitness competitions to encourage participation and social interaction.
- Volunteer Programs: Establish volunteer programs for trail maintenance, event organisation, and guided tours, involving community members in the upkeep and activities.
- Feedback and Suggestions: Set up a system for users to provide feedback and suggest improvements, ensuring the trail evolves with the community's needs and interests.

#### Benchmarking of similar scale



#### Hobsonville Coastal Walkway

Te Ara Manawa is more than a walkway; it is a healthy, green necklace stitched into the surrounding neighbourhoods through a fluted edge, linking social spaces that are built up from and reflect Hobsonville's history and character. It is a habitat for people and wildlife that contrasts with the built-up intensity of the peninsula, and an opportunity for meeting and socialising, discovery through play, pausing, resting and contemplation. The range of potential experiences is diverse.



Hart's Mill Surrounds. Adelaide, Australia. This is dynamic urban development project is designed to foster a healthy, active lifestyle by transforming the waterfront area into a vibrant community hub. It features extensive public spaces, parks, and green areas for walking, jogging, and cycling, complemented by dedicated pedestrian walkways and cycling paths. Regular community events and activities promote social interaction and outdoor engagement. Overall, Harts Mill aims to create

#### **Fitness & Wellness Trail Considerations**



#### Community Fitness Classes

Organise regular fitness classes, like yoga or boot camps, along the trail to foster a sense of community and encourage group participation



76

#### Rest and Relaxation Areas

Create shaded rest spots with benches and serene views, offering places for relaxation and recovery during or after exercise.



#### Hydration Stations/Bike Repair

Install water fountains, hydration and bike repair stations at intervals to ensure visitors can stay hydrated. promoting health and safety during physical activity.



TIMARU CITYTOWN

#### Informational Signage

Place signs with exercise tips, health facts, and motivational quotes along the trail to educate and inspire visitors on their fitness journey.



#### Accessible Design

Ensure the trail is inclusive, with features like smooth pathways and adaptive equipment, enabling individuals of all abilities to participate.



Natural Landscaping

Enhance the trail with diverse, native plantings and natural elements to create a tranquil environment that promotes mental and physical well-being.

#### Strategic Framework Alignment Outcomes Alignment

Fitness & Active Trails support an "Everyday Timaru". By drawing residents and visitors into the heart of the city, they generate daily footfall to support thriving retail streets and activities. They contribute to shifting the focus from a 'central business district' to a town centre that promotes a diverse mix of uses and users. Accessible and appealing to our ageing population, families, and individuals of all ages and abilities the trails make Timaru's centre more inclusive and vibrant. This supports the development of a unique Timaru typology - elevating urban lifestyles and attracting new residents.









#### **Key Moves Alignment**

an accessible, sustainable urban setting that enhances

physical well-being and community connectivity.









#### **Cultural narrative opportunities**



TIMARU CITYTOWN **77** 

## 4.10 NETWORK EVIDENCE BASED SUMMARY

Changing Timaru's network requires a balanced approach to deliver outcomes that reflect the current needs of Timaruvians, the specific context nuances, and its future potential.

Enabling vibrancy and ultimately revitalising the centre involves changing the status-quo. The proposed opportunities in this chapter have been carefully considered based on what we have heard, learned, and experienced, supported by research to create a well-considered Network plan.

#### **Timaru's Existing Network & What it Needs**

"You can get anywhere in the length of a song" is a positive attribute identified by Timaruvians relating to their lifestyle, a lifestyle enabled by car travel, including travel to the centre from the District and neighbouring rural areas. It is important to retain this accessibility, particularly for industry needs such as vehicle connectivity to the port. We also learnt through the trials, data collection, and workshops that many drivers in Timaru expect a high number of on-street car parks, despite the centre being characterised as walkable, as defined by independent research. However, community feedback also confirmed that the number of vacant shops (a symptom of online shopping trends and out-of-town developments) perceived barriers to walking and cycling between key destinations, has contributed to the lack of foot traffic and activity in our centre, and to the quality of public spaces. Nonetheless, MyWay is well utilised in Timaru as an 'on-demand' public transport solution, indicating the community's acceptance of change when done well. Rethinking our mobility systems and infrastructure with the needs of our communities (urban and rural, ageing, and vulnerable) in mind is essential to unlock a sustainable, attractive, and future-proof network for all.

#### Researched & expert insights about Timaru

Desktop research, reports and site visits revealed some of the following SWOT insights (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats):

Future Rail
Having a station in
the centre of town
could be a significant
asset in the event that
the passenger train
re-opens. This would
enhance regional
transport, promoting
economic growth and
easier commuting.

Topography & Population Timaru's hilly terrain and numerous stairs present accessibility challenges, particularly for its ageing population. This limits mobility and highlights the need for more inclusive infrastructure planning and development.

MyWay
Timaru's MyWay On
Demand service attracts
500-600 daily users,
with numbers rising.
This unique, flexible
transportation system is
exceptionally suited for
a town of Timaru's size,
offering convenience and
efficiency.

City & Sea Connection Timaru faces significant barriers in providing safe, non-vehicular access to the sea. Improving pedestrian and cyclist pathways is essential for better, safer connections between the city and its coastal areas. Parking
Recent assessment
notes carparking
occupancy rates in the
centre are less than
optimum (underutilised,
suggesting that
consolidation and better
management could
unlock opportunities
for new use of parking
space without hindering
supply needs.

Fragmented destinations Fragmented activity hubs and poor connectivity in the city centre lead to excessive car use. As the population increases, this will exacerbate vehicle congestion and pollution. Inspired by best practices and external benchmarks, enhancing public transport, developing pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, and promoting mixeduse developments are essential. These measures will support sustainable growth, reduce congestion, and improve urban livability.



## MOTORISED VEHICLES

10 / 5 Minute walk

Minor cycle / pedestrian
Incidents\*

Serious cycle / pedestrian incidents\*

Vehicle only incidents\*

Heavy vehicle route

Local routes

Visitor routes

Key gateway

Primarily local carpark





\* Data from NZTA's Crash Analysis System (CAS) Maps



## **ACTIVE MOBILITY & PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

10 / 5 Minute walk
Walking & cycling tracks
Laneways / internal arcades
Cycle routes / network
Hector's track
Bus route and stops
Slippery tiles paving
SH1 crossings

Railway crossings

X X No connection / Connection to close

Railway station (private ownership)

Proposed Hector's

Elevator

Proposed Hector's Track upgrade



TIMARU CITYTOWN

**79** 

TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLA

78



#### **Evaluation and monitoring**

Quantitative and qualitative data has been captured to formulate the Masterplan and the suite of movement recommendations therein. This is not complete or conclusive, but rather establishes a baseline for ongoing data comparison over time to inform decisions. The most relevant movement network insights from the CityTown trials relate to testing the appetite and readiness for changes to street space. the short and long term aspirations related to landuse, the capacity to use existing assets, and the incremental shifts that could promote vibrancy in the town centre. This helps inform investment priorities and sequencing, and where the focus for ongoing evaluation and monitoring should occur.

Quantitative monitoring and evaluation to date includes: vehicle and pedestrian counters, bluetooth data, intersection cameras, carpark occupancy and speed data.

Qualitative monitoring and evaluation to date includes: research and online / intercept surveys, trial observations and feedback, workshops and engagement, Sensibel assisted participatory research.

Alongside CityTown trials, baseline quantitative data was captured across CityTown for travel modes, speeds and volumes. This was coordinated by transport specialists 2022-2023. Refer to the relevant documents and reports shown on page 8&9 for Parking occupancy and CityTown trial insights which can also be found here www. timarucitytown.co.nz/trials

#### What we heard from the community

Community feedback highlighted the need for a comprehensive approach to network revitalisation, that helps optimise people's movements to, from and within the area. Ideas such as simplifying pathways, ensuring accessible parking, and infusing streets with lively activities to encourage pedestrian engagement were shared as opportunities. Safety and mobility were repeatedly raised as needing to be integrated into designs of green open spaces to create a more inviting town centre, inclusive of all demographics. There was an overwhelming emphasis on connection between Caroline Bay and the Town Centre, particularly via the Bay Hill area. Additionally, efforts to seamlessly connect with existing cycling networks were emphasised, with the goal of providing visitors and residents with a desirable and convenient lifestyle. The biggest driver for these suggestions was to foster a sense of belonging.

#### Insights from community feedback & trials.

Enhance pedestrian experience and safety A focus group walk with a range of abilities, backgrounds and ages participated in a user experience walking from Heritage Place to Caroline Bay. Every participant recorded more negative experiences than positive and revealed the biggest challenges were road layout and surface conditions (including lack of footpaths, awkward drop kerbs and narrow clearances). Feedback revealed that shorter crossing distances and implementing safer crossing solutions with traffic-calming measures would help. Through testing, layout improvements saw an 11% increase foot traffic

Make alternative travel modes easier "So excited to see a bi-directional cycle lane along Port Loop. This will improve safe movement of cyclists through the busy zone". This suggests that providing infrastructure upgrades for cycling, and walking is desirable

Strengthen Existing Connections Through stakeholder engagement, we repeatedly discovered the lack of awareness of existing connections to Caroline Bay via existing bridges and connections. A solution raised was to invest in wavfinding systems to improve accessibility and encourage more visitors encourage exploration of to walk into the town the area by foot or bike.

Streetscape Amenity Trials revealed the impact Parking was discussed of introducing informal play and planted barriers times including the to enhance public spaces need to ensure ease of - creating an environment that feels safer for kids to play in and spend time in. In turn 18% of people felt that more activity and people on streets near kev destinations would make them more likely to walk and spend time around there.

Mitigate the impact of bus congestion During trials and site visits, congestion was observed during cruise ship visitors coming in with buses This indicated a need to rationalise various bus movements and clarify drop-off zones to improve traffic flow or

Address Parking and explored multiple access to destinations. From trials, we heard that people would be less likely to walk or spend time if parking was inconvenient. Creating alternative parking solutions needs to be easy and convenient

#### Why are networks important?

The Benefits of Slower Vehicle Speeds: For people who are walking or biking, a reduction in vehicle speed from 50km/hr to 30km/hr translates to a 90% chance of surviving a crash.1

Health Benefits of Active Transport: Active commuting (walking or cycling) has been found to decrease cardiovascular risk by 11%. Active transport could help reduce NZ's high obesity rate.2

**Economic Benefits of Active** Transport: Active forms of transport have wider economic benefits in NZ, saving \$4.27/km for each new walker and \$2.14/km for each new cyclist (in terms of public and private sector health costs).3

The Importance of Fitness & Activity: Physical activity reduces the chance of experiencing depression by 10% in children (5-18 years), 22% in adults (18-64) and 21% in older adults (65+years).4

The Value of Walking Loops: Compared with other parks, parks with walking loops were found to have 80% more users, over twice as many seniors and 90% higher levels of moderate to vigorous physical activity.5

- 1. Auckland Transport Vision Zero, Safe Speeds - The Reason
- 2. Environmental Health Intelligence NZ, Massey University
- 3. Valuing the Health Benefits of Active Transport Modes, MRC and Centre for Physical Activity and Nutrition Research, Auckland University of Technology - NZTA Research Report 359 2008
- 4. Sport NZ Active NZ Main Report.
- 5. City Parks Alliance, USA 2018.

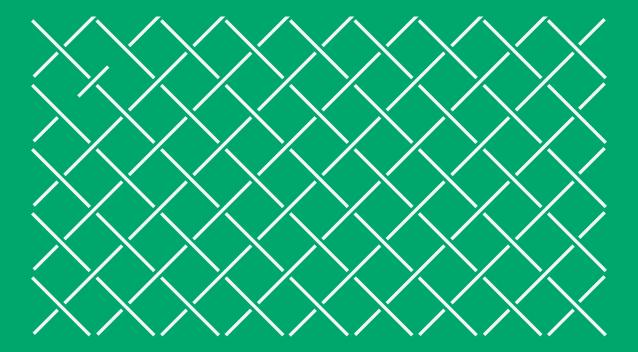
TIMARU CITYTOWN 80

TIMARU CITYTOWN 81

**05** 

# PARKS & CIVIC SPACES

This chapter focuses on providing design guidance on the renewal, upgrade of and investment in existing civic spaces. These are not final designs, but rather high level concepts that consider the proposed network upgrades and align with the broader Strategic Framework Key Moves and Objectives. As a network of civic spaces, they are intended to offer varied and distinctive spaces that cater to a diverse range of users, thus fostering a vibrant town centre where people are encouraged to linger and connect.



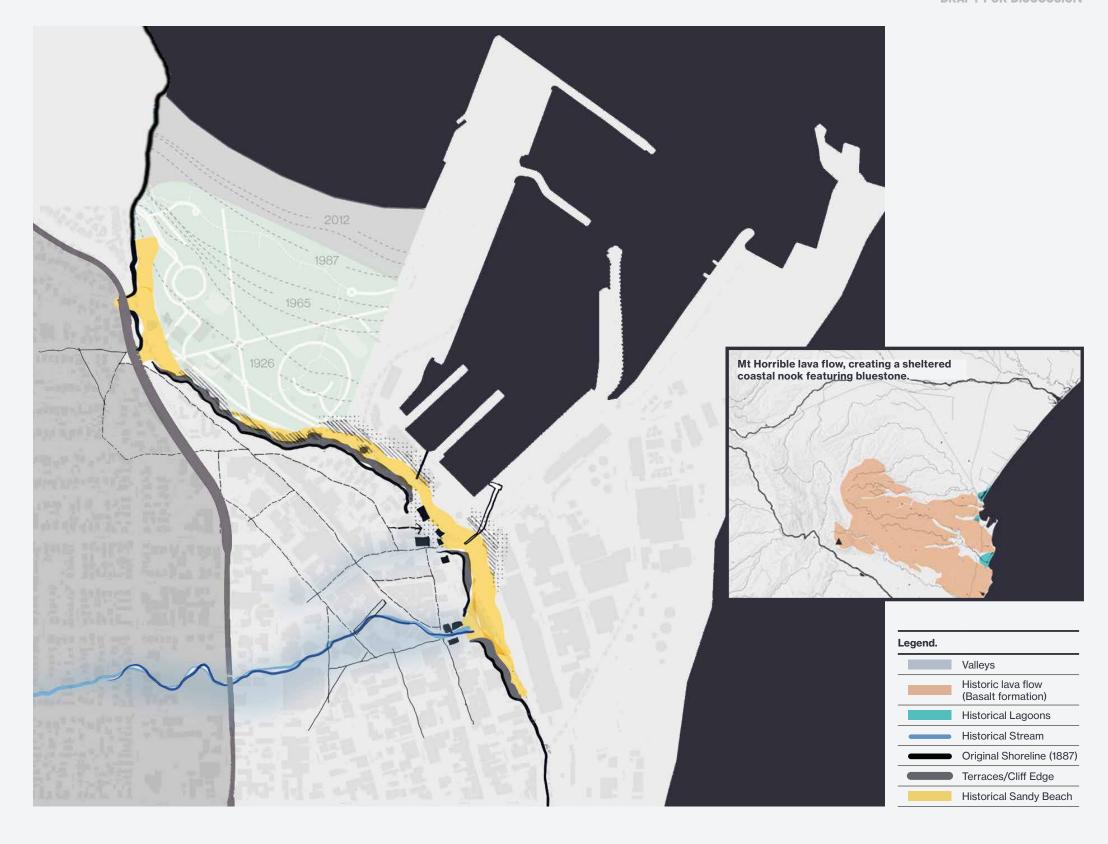
TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN

## 5.1 OUR PLACE, OUR SPACE

Timaru lies between the mountains and the sea, at the head of the only safe harbour along an exposed stretch of South Canterbury coastline. The Mt Horrible lava flow created the elevated location of the town and the sheltered reef – it defines the distinctive street pattern and can be seen in the Timaru bluestone of its heritage buildings.

Timaru was a place valued by tangata whenua for its natural shelter where waka came ashore. Colonial settlers similarly valued the shelter and soon built a deep-water port. While the natural shoreline and lagoons have been lost over time with urbanisation, the proximity to the coast and to the rural surrounds shapes the Timaru lifestyle and its future. The three civic spaces are intended to reflect this story of place.

The concept designs proposed for Timaru's three civic spaces leans on this history of the land to create moments to pause, linger and experience that feel of place and unique identity. Each one does this in a different way to ensure all three best serve the community needs during all seasons and times of day. These changes are intended to attract more people to and through our town centre and enhance the experience for visitors, locals and urban residents alike.



84 TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN S5

## 5.2 OVERVIEW OF THE SITES

The proposed civic space upgrades are designed as an interconnected network, each supporting the other. Rather than trying to accommodate all activities, in each space has a unique purpose and is suited for different times of day, seasons, weather conditions, and activities.

This approach encourages movement between the sites and ensures an equal distribution of activity throughout the town centre. Each space reflects its geographical location and historical context, while a cohesive design palette visually unites and enhances these spaces making them uniquely Timaru.













#### 1 Strathallan Corner

Purpose: To enhance the site's role as a centrally located and restful civic space engaging with street life. A space where the city's pulse softens – a haven for lunchtime retreats and quiet contemplation, seamlessly intertwined with the rhythm of street performances and busking.

Main use: Midday, Weekday

Main use: Midday, Weekday
Recreation: Outdoor & Passive
Main Activity: Lunch & Performance

#### 2 Heritage Place

Purpose: To act as a meeting place in the "Creative Town Heart", reflecting the historical landscape where the stream and shoreline once joined. It is intended to be in service to all including, small events/markets and to offer a suitable civic space for future residents living in the South end of the centre. It is the only large open space (other than Caroline Bay) suitable for hosting regular markets without requiring road closures.

Main use: Evenings, Weekdays
Recreation: Outdoor & Active/Temporary Main Activity: Food & Beverages

#### 3 Bay Hill Piazza & Intersection

Purpose: The new proposed space and intersection layout create a sequence that aims to entice exploration to Caroline Bay and back into the centre whilst making the most of the incredible mountain and sea views along the way. Main use: Weekend, Weekdays Recreation: Outdoor & Active/Passive Main Activity: Lunch, Views and getting to the Bay

#### 4 Caroline Bay

Purpose: To continue to act as an outdoor destination with a range of entertaining activities for families and visitors alike. It will also continue to host larger events that couldn't otherwise be hosted in the town centre whilst enticing visitors into town along playful trails.

Main use: Weekend Recreation: Outdoor Passive & Active Main Activity: Walk, Play & Learn

#### Civic Hub

Purpose: To act as a place that provides multiple ways for people to connect and gather. Intended to help strengthen our communities, support our local identities and enable our people to fully participate in society. The hosted activities improve our sense of wellbeing and belonging and creates a sense of pride among our residents.

Main use: All Day, Every Day Recreation: Indoor Passive & Active Main Activity: Civic Functions & Events

87

Civic Spaces

Landmarks

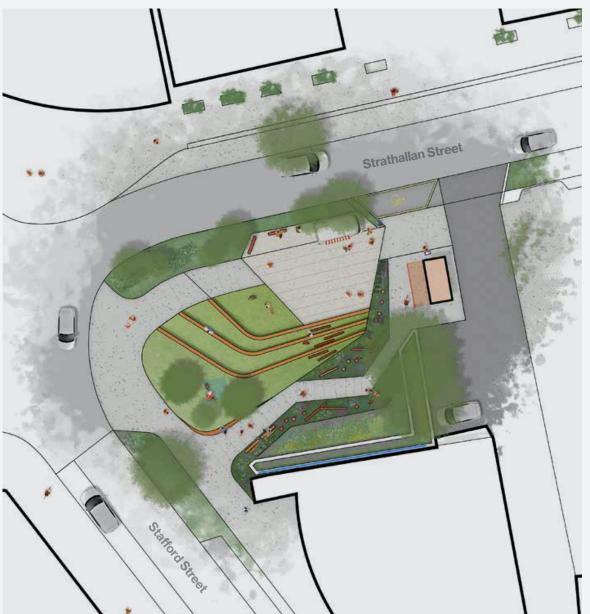
Civic Hub Zone

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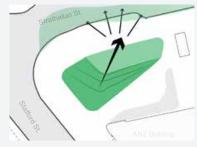
## 5.3 **STRATHALLAN CORNER**

#### **Design Thinking**

Our design enhances the site's role as both a tranquil refuge and vibrant performance space. Imagine a haven for lunchtime retreats and quiet contemplation, seamlessly intertwined with the rhythm of street performances and busking. By removing the fountain and minimising the impact of the existing structure, we create an open environment more engaged with street life that improves accessibility and encourages both movement and relaxation. Oriented towards Strathallan St and open to North Stafford, the space merges effortlessly with the pedestrian desire lines and future greenways. Terraced seating and playful features evoke the town's geological story, blending natural history with a place of shelter.



#### **Key Moves Diagrams**



Orientate to the Greenway

integration with the green weave

& performance infrastructure linking

· A flat area that has the ability to be

used for eating lunch or watching

**Zoning Diagram & Movement** 

used in a variety of ways

· Terraced seating that can be

and enable light activations to

This will ensure greater

happen.

to trails

performances

### Let the space breathe

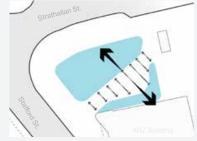
By decluttering the space and simplifying the configuration you unlock greater use, accessibility and activation of the site.

- Provide bike parking, playful elements Redesigned and relocated toilet to unlock more space
  - Removal of the fountain feature, walls & softening the level changes
  - · Clear lines of sight between the two streets that encourage more movement through the space

#### Space for informal play & rest

With improved sightlines to the south east corner that is sheltered by trees and off the main streets, it lends itself to for relaxation and informal play.

- Light touch permanent play elements telling the story of Timaru's landscape
- · Retain natural cover from trees and seating for picnicking
- Ensure good sightlines from the street and seating around play area
- Incorporate drinking fountains/ hydration station to support fitness trails through this space



## Flexible Open Low Planting with **Soft Terraced Play Elements** Corridor Existing Future opportunity to activate edge of civic space

TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 88 89

#### **Site Photographs**









#### **Site-specific considerations**



Level Changes

Strathallan corner has a small level change which is amplified by the varying heights of walls and platforms Rationalising this into a ramp across the site would help improve accessibility.



#### Views

90

Strathallan corner is a great place to admire the heritage buildings of Stafford Street and to connect more clearly with Strathallan Street. Ensure the design amplifies and enables good sightlines to these unique features.



#### Amenity Clutter

The fountain & toilet block take up a large amount of space rendering the public open space uninviting. Their footprints could be minimised to unlock greater space and amenity for people to entertain and be entertained.



#### Site Access

Movement through the square is convoluted due to the mixture of stairs and ramps. Although only two key access points, the movement through the space doesn't feel clear and some areas are tucked away from the street view which makes it appear unsafe.



#### Substation

A key consideration for any future design is the retention of the substation situated under the top lawn and ensuring access to it. Further investigation will be required upon a concept design.



#### Solar Orientation

Enhance the north facing aspect and wrap the greenway around the edges. Maximise the open space to ensure people can sit and enjoy sitting in the sunshine. But equally provide seating options for those who want shade, retreated from the open space.

#### Benchmarking of similar scale



#### The Glade. New York, USA.

Of a similar scale to Strathallan Corner this pocket garden boasts a performance space built into the landscape. The Glade is used casually as a place to rest as well as for unticketed events so is intended to reinforce that relaxed atmosphere. Tiers of communal seating are built from large black locust timbers with a continuous sculpted edge that unifies the benches and provides a more comfortable seat.



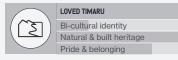
Te Awataha Greenway Integrated Nature Play
The various open spaces connected by the
greenway all have different functions, varying
from neighbourhood pocket parks and play
spaces to active sport and recreation. There is
an outdoor classroom and stream measuring
and monitoring stations along with a nature
play trail which weaves back and forth across
the stream offering an interactive journey. It
acts as a place to pause.

#### Strategic Framework Alignment

Upgrading Strathallan Corner aligns with delivering a Healthy & Mobile Timaru. By enhancing the site's role as a haven for quiet contemplation and social interaction, it prioritises the health of the natural environment while providing equitable access to all members of the community. The re-orientation towards the street seamlessly integrates the space with public walkways and future greenways, encouraging greater utlisation and awareness of the space. Terraced seating and playful passive features not only evoke the town's geological story but also serve as a reminder of our role as kaitiaki, or guardians, of the land.

#### **Outcomes Alignment**





MOBILE TIMARU





#### **Key Moves Alignment**









#### **Cultural narrative opportunities**







91

TIMARU CITYTOWN
FINAL MASTERPLAN

TIMARU CITYTOWN

## 5.4 **HERITAGE PLACE**

92

#### **Design Thinking**

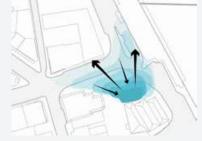
Heritage Place occupies a significant landing place for the settlement of Timaru and establishment of the Port. It is an important site on the original shoreline where a stream once flowed to the sea. It is now a local meeting place at the historical town heart. Visitors come to learn more at Te Ana and the Visitors Centre and shop at the markets while new residents linger in this space or pass through on their way to Caroline Bay or Marine Parade. As the Southern most meeting place within the "Creative Town Heart", the space is designed to expand and contract, accommodating diverse events such as markets and concerts, mirroring the ebb and flow of tides. This square will become a vibrant cultural hub of evening activity for all ages, seamlessly connected to other civic spaces. The open, adaptable layout fosters a sense of community and dynamic interaction, honoring the site's historical roots while embracing contemporary urban life.



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#### **Key Moves Diagrams**







#### Pull the Green In

Softening the edges of the square Recognising and reflecting the with low native planting will create a safer and more inviting civic space to pause and spend time in.

- Soften the edge of the civic square with low planting, making it more permeable and avoiding CPTED issues
- Create seating that faces the square and does not hinder the open space's flexible use
- Introduce supporting infrastructure for walking & cycling.

#### Reflect the story of this place

area's historical context will enrich the cultural fabric and create a unique identity for the site.

- Design pathways and features that trace Define building entrances and arrivals to the original shoreline and stream gully. Consider materials that tell that story
- Create a space that has the ability to grow and contract depending on the use of the space
- To unlock the use of this space, consider an alternative service vehicle lane with any future development of the corner site

Activated pathways & entrances Improving the interaction between buildings and the civic square will foster a more vibrant

public space.

the square to be more inviting, with the use of light and gateway articulations

- Activate facades looking onto the square with movable furniture to support cafes, shops and community spaces.
- Connect and create sightlines to nearby civic destinations

#### **Zoning Diagram**



TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 93

#### **Site Photographs**









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#### Service vehicle lane

The current service vehicle lane disrupts 
The historical significance of the the flow of public space. Its presence segregates areas meant for public enjoyment, reducing the cohesion and attractiveness. Alternative locations for this could be considered



#### Obstructions

Numerous bollards and light poles clutter the environment, creating a disjointed and crowded space. These elements impede movement and flexibility of the space. Alternative configurations and softer protective edges should be considered.

94



#### History of the Site

site, being the original shoreline and stream location, is not reflected in its current design. Acknowledging this heritage could enrich the site, offering educational and cultural value while enhancing its character.



#### Hard Edges

The site has little planting with the exception of the courtyard behind Speights Ale House outdoor dining area. The edges of the square are made up of hard surfaces whereas increasing greenery could enhance aesthetics, provide shade, and improve air quality, making it more inviting and pleasant.

TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN



The site lacks active frontages, making it feel unwelcoming, especially at night. Without businesses or residences overlooking the area directly, it remains underutilised and can appear unsafe, discouraging people from lingering.



#### Car Parking

5 carparks occupy a significant portion of the public space, limiting its potential use as safe public amenity area and its ability to expand for events/ cater to growing urban population It is recommended that the parking on Heritage Place be relocated to enhance the area's usability. This could be done by adopting more efficient parking layouts on adjacent streets and public carparks behind The Landing services building - where campervans/ buses currently are. Limit turning circles to vans/ shuttle in this area.

#### Benchmarking of similar scale



Te Ara Pū Hā South Frame. Christchurch, NZ. A network of landscape destinations fostering social, cultural, and economic vitality. Supported by strategic activation and place-making, these spaces reveal the Precinct's identity and encourage footfall to surrounding businesses. The design reflects the historical Ōtākaro/Avon River, integrating key cultural and natural elements. Pathways mimic the river's flow, guiding visitors through gardens and artworks to create a sensory journey.

Brunel Square SouthGate. Bath, UK. Formerly a hard paved space used more as a thoroughfare, the main square at SouthGate now buzzes with shoppers, students, families and children, mingling and playing amongst the lawn 'combs' and relaxing amongst the planting. The new designs not only provide a canvas for the city's daily civic life but have in-built flexibility to be able to play host to Bath's busy events calendar.

#### Strategic Framework Alignment Outcomes Alignment

Heritage Place aligns with amplifying the heart of Timaru's centre within a vibrant cultural quarter. By cultivating a strong Creative Town Heart, Heritage Place becomes a nexus that uniquely blends art, theatre, heritage, and creative endeavours through the year, reflecting Timaru's commitment to caring for locals, welcoming visitors, and attracting new residents. This creative heart within connects existing and future cultural and civic anchors through high-amenity spaces, encouraging longer and more frequent visits to the centre.







	DYNAMIC TIMARU
( ( < )	Public & Private Investments
	Tourism & Recreation
	Retail & Commercial Activities

#### **Key Moves Alignment**









#### **Cultural narrative opportunities**







95

TIMARU CITYTOWN

#### 5.5 **BAY HILL** PIAZZA & **INTERSECTION**

#### **Design Thinking**

This design aims to better connect the town centre with Caroline Bay, encouraging a safer two-way movement between both. It enhances the experience of discovering the stunning views of Caroline Bay, enjoying the hospitality of Bay Hill, and the journey back towards the city. As a key site that the future fitness and wellness trail traverses, the furniture is designed to encourage users to move, bringing the recreational and activity-based identity of Caroline Bay closer to the Town centre. Careful consideration of environmental impacts, such as wind and sun, ensures it's a comfortable space to rest, eat, and occupy.



#### **Key Moves Diagrams**



Easy Access & Flexible Space Ensure all movement types vehicles, pedestrians, bikes, etc. have clear and easy access to Bay of viewing moments along Hill, the Piazza, and Caroline Bay.

- Develop an easy-access, shared user and locals to enjoy experience along the length of Bay Hill Road
- Ability for par/full temporary road closures for events
- · Enable commercial, event. and recreational spaces to be conveniently accessed by all users
- · Rationalise parking and vehicle movements to minimise disruption to the experience of place and views



Leverage the Views Accentuate the discovery experience by linking a series pedestrian desire lines for visitors • Enable a mixed-use, high-amenity

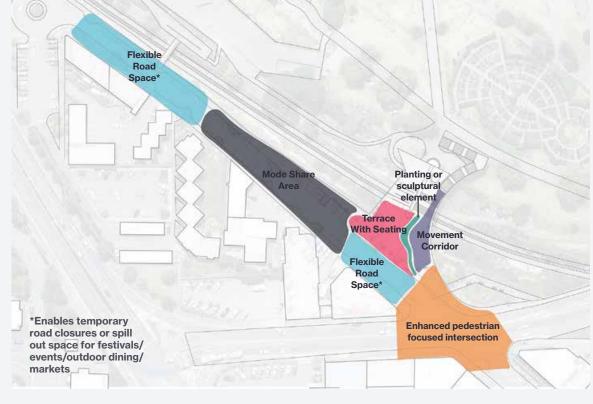
- · Use vegetation, vertical artistic installations (that could act as wind barriers), and structures to help shape the view
- Use material differences to highlight areas of viewing, areas of pause, and areas of seating to create points of interest that leverage the views.



Create a Chain of Destinations Create a hub of hospitality destinations all within a 5-minute walk of each other.

- development on the corner of Bay Hill and Sefton Street that responds to the streetscape and access to the Piazza.
- Unlock the potential of the Piazza as a space that is functional in all weather events, focusing on mitigating wind and sun effects. This could include carefully considered planter boxes to enhance the site's experience.
- Encourage hospitality development connecting the top of Stafford St to the Piazza and Bay Hill.

**Zoning Diagram** 



TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 97

#### **Site Photographs**









#### **Site-specific considerations**





#### Paving & Planting

The paving on the Piazza features a distinctive pattern that creates an expansive and grand space. However, its design lacks a connection to local history and distracts from the views of Caroline Bay. Careful consideration of this design and material through any renewal could significantly influence the overall experience of the space. For example, surface material should celebrate the distinction between solid cliff and cantilevered deck structureheightening the experience of the clifftop edge with appropriate and local materials. Also important to note that the site's capacity for planting is limited, as over half of the piazza is a bridge structure that precludes soil-planted trees. Consequently, tree planting is restricted to the edge of Bay Hill, where some trees are already situated.

98



#### Exposed to weather

The Bay Hill Piazza Space is currently a large open space prone to extreme weather conditions, particularly wind and rain. The site provides little to no shelter, making it less usable during winter months or on rainy days.



Water feature & Play

The current water feature has required significant maintenance and does not logically represent the natural location for water atop the coastal cliff. Its future relevance and cost should be further considered, but for now it remains a notable feature.

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#### Accessibility Requirements

The majority of the Bay Hill area is gradually sloped with accessible ramps across the Piazza that could benefit from greater wayfinding. Careful consideration to ensure level entrances into commercial or hospitality areas is needed along with access and operation of the elevator on the Piazza.



#### Crossing Experience

The pedestrian crossing between Bay Hill and North Stafford Street is overly wide, and crossing times are infrequent and short duration. Combined with being a route for heavy vehicle traffic, this results in an unpleasant and unsafe crossing, effectively severing Caroline Bay from the Town centre. In addition to road layout changes in the adjoining streets, consideration should be given to any changes that can be negotiated with Waka Kotahi NZTA for the operation of the intersection such as noisereducing road surfacing, or rephasing of the lights to prioritise pedestrians.

#### Benchmarking of similar scale



#### Esk Street. Invercargill, NZ.

Feature lighting and spaces for slowing down are defined by warm-toned clay pavers recycled from the original street paving, and under lighting of seats. Their organic shapes and contemporary setout elevate this often-overlooked material, creating warmth regardless of the weather. The street reveals success is a result of the ongoing support from layers and stories over time. A trail weaves through gardens, offering kids joyful routes. Fixed and movable furniture creates flexible spaces suitable for received by locals and businesses. solo buskers or large scale community markets.

#### Strategic Framework Alignment Outcomes Alignment

The Piazza upgrade aligns with the Strategic Framework's intention of addressing the critical barrier between the centre of Timaru, Caroline Bay, and the Port. By overcoming the intersection challenges and heavy vehicle traffic along Port Loop Road, the Piazza can facilitate active modes of transport. enhancing accessibility for locals and visitors alike between the two destinations. It can also help highlight the original coastline beneath the terraces and celebrate the natural heritage of Timaru -Caroline Bay as a destination in the centre not next to it.



HEALTHY TIMARU

LOVED TIMARU Bi-cultural identity Natural & built heritage



Reduce car dominance Public transport





#### Wharf Street. Tauranga, NZ.

Completed at the end of 2020 in time for the summer season, Wharf Street was closed to traffic in favour of a spatial arrangement that enables the street to operate as a dining precinct as well as a pedestrian thoroughfare and event space. This local business and landowners throughout the design and construction process. It has been well

#### **Key Moves Alignment**









#### **Cultural narrative opportunities**







TIMARU CITYTOWN

99

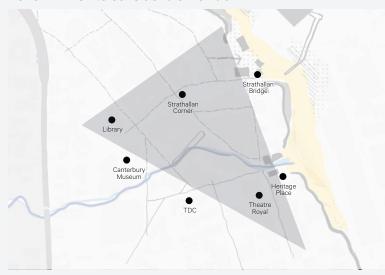
Page 74 Item 8.2 - Attachment 1

#### 5.6 **CIVIC HUB**

#### **Design Thinking**

Civic anchors within Timaru will play a key role in catalysing the revitalisation of CityTown. A Civic Hub would significantly enhance the vibrancy of its surrounding area by bringing different users, activities, and transport modes into a consolidated space. Whether a Civic Hub is co-located on a single site or whether activites are spread across the town centre will affect its impact and how it can help revitalise the centre. Careful consideration and response to the chosen site for the Civic Hub is required to unlock this opportunity. Concentrating all civic functions in one location, instead of spreading them across the town center, could lead to a decrease in foot traffic to outlying areas and focus overall engagement with the town center within a smaller, consolidated core.

#### Zone in which to consider a civic hub



#### Site considerations

- · Accessibility and connectivity (proximity to public transport links, parking facilities and walkability to nearby destinations)
- · Availability and capacity of infrastructure and utilities (water, electricity, sewage)
- · Impact on traffic & movements through the town centre
- · Potential for preserving or enhancing built or natural heritage
- · Compatibility with existing land use and future development plans
- Potential for green building practices and sustainable construction
- · Ease of access for all demographic groups, including those with disabilities
- · Potential to stimulate local businesses and economy.

100

#### **A Consolidated Civic Hub Approach**

#### Pros

- Increased Efficiency and Convenience: Making it easier for residents to access multiple services in one trip, reducing travel time, and enhancing the overall user experience.
- Community Engagement and Accessibility: Civic hubs can include public spaces, such as libraries. community centres, and meeting rooms, encouraging civic engagement and making services more accessible.
- · Cost Savings: Shared resources and facilities reduce operational costs, including utilities, maintenance, and staffing, allowing more budget allocation for other community services.
- · Optimised Space Utilisation: Shared facilities and multipurpose spaces make better use of available land and buildings, reducing the need for additional construction and promoting sustainable urban growth.

- · Multi-Criteria Assessment: An MCA assessment will need to be undertaken to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the implications across a range of locations.
- · Initial High Capital Investment: The cost of building a comprehensive civic hub can be significant, requiring substantial initial capital outlay.
- Complexity in Management: Managing a large, multi-use facility can be complex, requiring effective coordination and administration to ensure smooth operation and maintenance.

#### Benchmarking of similar scale



Napier's Civic Hub Te Aka will serve as a central point for public services, events, and gatherings, fostering community and accessibility. Featuring modern design complementing the city's Art Deco heritage, with versatile spaces for meetings. exhibitions, and performances. It's intended to support local businesses and tourism, offering a welcoming environment for residents and visitors. By consolidating services and amenities, Napier's Civic Hub promotes efficiency and convenience, enhancing connections and stimulates economic growth. the city's vitality.

Strategic Framework Alignment

The Civic Hub contributes to the strategic framework by

amplifying the beating heart

of the centre. The strategic

cultural and civic anchors

people to inhabit the centre

longer and more often. It aims

to sustain a constant vibrancy

extending activities beyond retail

and hospitality. It allows future

flexibility to insert new cultural

and civic buildings within this

framework as the centre grows

and its role in the district evolves.

for the centre all year round,

framework identifies the need

to connect existing and future

through high-amenity pedestrian

streets and spaces, encouraging

#### **Outcomes Alignment**



HEALTHY TIMARU Sustainable Practices

LOVED TIMARU Bi-cultural identity Natural & built heritage Pride & belonging

MOBILE TIMARU 

Reduce car dominance Public transport

**Urban Pioneers** All ages, abilities & incomes

DYNAMIC TIMARU Public & Private Investments Tourism & Recreation Retail & Commercial Activities

Tauranga's upcoming civic hub will host a central library, community centre, and spaces for cultural and civic events, reflecting Tauranga's commitment to an inclusive urban environment. It incorporates green building practices to reduce its environmental footprint. It provides workspaces and facilities for local government functions and community initiatives. By bringing diverse services together, it fosters community



Pull green into the centre to form a inuous network of open space:

Support finer grain retail nlock residential opportunities Enable reuse of heritage buildings

rengthen cultural & civic anchors

**Cultural narrative opportunities** 

TIMARU CITYTOWN

TIMARU CITYTOWN

101

Page 75 Item 8.2 - Attachment 1

#### 5.7 CAROLINE BAY

Caroline Bay has its own Masterplan. Refer Caroline Bay masterplan for additional detail.

#### **Design Thinking**

Caroline Bay will continue to act as a destination with clustered activities that bring convenience and vibrancy, while more adaptive buildings serve wide-ranging community needs. Heritage buildings along the original shoreline promenades will be elevated, with more recent buildings retrofitted to respond sensitively to their environment and provide active frontages. Marine Parade will become an activated promenade between the soft park edge and the gritty Port edge with protection for the kororā penguin habitat, and temporary activation kiosks. Considered access to and from the town centre, continuous journeys around the park and rationalised path networks will be key to its continued success as a coastal outdoor venue.



#### **Key Moves Diagrams**



#### Thriving habitat

Remnant natural edges are restored to become part of a whole landscape connecting the stream to the sea. Habitats are created and enhanced, responding to a modified, dynamic landscape.

- Revitalise Pohatu-koko stream with diverse and native planting, a walkway and educational signage.
- Enhance/reinforce native planting

#### Considered access

There are multiple ways into Caroline Bay that connect you to a seamless journey. Active travel is part of the destination experience. Views are captured and framed, assisting with wayfinding.

- Create a continuous cycle and walking loop around Caroline Bay
- Improve accessibility routes and celebrate entry points
- Speed interventions along marine parade



#### Seaside activity

In discouraging buildings along the waters edge, a dense activity hub develops and new lightweight structures activate the promenade. Activities can expand and contract, celebrating both the everyday activities & hero events.

- Activate marine parade with mobile vendors or movable kiosks
- Rationalise infrastructure in the entertainment and activity zone focusing on multi-use, flexible buildings that cater for diverse uses

#### **Zoning Diagram**



102 TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 103

#### **Site Photographs**



#### **Site-specific considerations**



#### Existing & Evolving Landscape

Caroline Bay has transformed into a destination park, emphasising environmental care through the dunes project and kororā penguin protection, reflecting a new appreciation by Timaruvians.



104



#### Park Scale

As beach areas shift, vehicle access to the aggrading beach demands careful planning. Caroline Bay's vastness poses challenges for users navigating distances between destinations.



Original main entry and buildings are located towards Wai-iti Rd where topography is more gentle and connectivity with the rest of Timaru is easier for pedestrians. This supports the highly successful CPlay destination.



#### Events, Activity & Heritage

Temporary installations and extensive open areas have always been used to welcome large crowds, impacting on the everyday/all year long layout of Caroline Bay. Large scale events vs. community everyday needs



The site lacks active frontages, making it feel unwelcoming, especially at night. Without businesses or residences overlooking the area directly (this only occurs in places and distantly along the cliff top e.g. The Bay Hill and Evans St accommodation ), it remains underutilised and can appear unsafe, discouraging people from lingering.

#### Connection with the Centre

Access to Caroline Bay from the shore has been a challenge due to the cliff edge and barriers such as Port Loop Road and the railway line. Formerly, inter-regional seaside day trips occurred by train and then car when the shoreline was closer to the cliff edge.

#### Benchmarking of similar scale



#### Rotorua Lakefront. NZ.

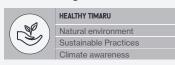
This project celebrates the landscape values of this national taonga. It is a new relationship with the lake edge for future generations, one that respects the lake and enhances the wairua and mauri of this shared cultural landscape. Traces of the original shoreline are revealed by declaiming and decluttering the land to establish terraces and a softer ephemeral edge using abstracted forms, colour and texture unique to Rotorua.

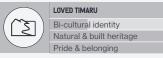
Waterfront Park. LouseVille, Kentucky USA. Once a wasteland of scrap yards and abandoned industrial buildings, Waterfront Park is now a vibrant 85-acre green space that welcomes over 2.2 million visitors each year. Over the years, various phases have seen the regeneration of the open space. It host various festivals and events but there is also plenty of space to take a walk, ride your bike, do some yoga, or enjoy a breathtaking

#### Strategic Framework Alignment

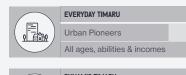
Caroline Bay stands as a pivotal asset in Timaru's strategic framework, embodying the city's relationship with the sea and its historical evolution from the shoreline. It remains a significant green asset, highly valued by residents and visitors alike. Addressing the disconnection caused by Port Loop Road is crucial to reintegrate Caroline Bay with the centre, enhancing access and fostering a stronger bond between the sea and the city. By enhancing ecological linkages and providing accessible green spaces, Caroline Bay can continue to be a focal point for the community's social and environmental aspirations.

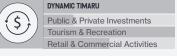
#### **Outcomes Alignment**











#### **Key Moves Alignment**

view of the city from the Big Four Bridge.









#### **Cultural narrative opportunities**







TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN

TIMARU CITYTOWN 105

#### 5.8 **PARKS & CIVIC SPACES EVIDENCE BASED SUMMARY**

#### **Timaru's Existing Parks & Civic Spaces**

Caroline Bay is a considerable green asset for Timaru, highly valued by residents and attractive for visitors, in particular for the beach, the boardwalk and the award winning playground (C-PLAY). It is however severed from the centre by the Port Loop Road and by the railway line. Other small green open spaces are mostly disconnected and less convenient or attracting for people to access and inhabit being surrounded by vehicles and providing limited shelter or amenity. The green open space available to workers, residents and visitors in the centre is therefore inadequate. There is also a major opportunity for using our civic spaces to enhance the maritime or waterfront connection, a link that will attract visitors and revive the nostalgia and lifestyle aspiration of residents.

#### Researched & expert insights about Timaru Desktop research, reports and site visits revealed some of the following SWOT insights (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats):

Caroline Bay As a premier park, Caroline Bay represents almost the full extent of green space in the heart of Timaru. Other small green open spaces are mostly disconnected and less convenient or attracting for people to access and inhabit being surrounded by vehicles and providing limited shelter or amenity. This was a repeated point throughout our engagement sessions and aligns with feedback from the CityHub Residents Perception Survey that highlighted that the third most important change to the look and feel of the heart of Timaru would be more greenery.

History of this place With two streams now invisible under the centre, consultation revealed a disconnect with it's history as a landing place. How the urban context can reconnect people with this history was deemed important.

Access to Sea The clifftops, the expansive area of Caroline The TDC Parks Bay, the condition and visibility of bridges, the railway line and the heavy comparatively low service vehicle routes, such as Port Loop Road, are significant barriers to connecting people to the water's edge from the town centre. Repeatedly we heard the importance of re-connecting the town centre with Caroline bay and the need for the wide intersection to be reconsidered to offer a safer crossing solution.

Timaru's hilly terrain and numerous stairs and gradients present accessibility challenges. particularly for its ageing population. This limits mobility and highlights the need for more inclusive infrastructure planning and development. With 30% of swells and winds coming from the North East, the town centre needs spaces of shelter from the weather but also spaces for people to pause as they journey through the town centre.

Topography & Population

Ecology & Natural Habitats. Strategy 2012 to 2022 emphasises a provision of park land for the wider district, but a comparatively high provision of Premier Parks (Caroline Bay and the Botanic Gardens) for the size of the town centre. It identifies that the best option for urban areas to enhance the natural environment are ecological linkages that provide for habitat values, and walking and biking for which there is growing demand.

**Activated Public Spaces** Various conversations with stakeholders and community revealed the importance of being able to activate the existing public spaces with the likes of music, food trucks, and informal play elements. Many suggesed the need for these spaces to cater to these activities.



#### **GREEN SPACES, RESERVES & WATERWAYS**

10 / 5 Minute walk

Historical stream

Historic Jagoon

1887 Original Shoreline

Penguin reserve areas

American ash trees

Significant trees





#### **TOPOGRAPHY** & LAND FORMATION

.4 View to port .4 View toward Timaru centre View to Caroline Bay and mountains

\* 360° view

10 / 5 Minute walk Vallev

Historical stream 1887 shoreline

Shoreline history

Terraces

Shaded side of the street

Frequent wind tunnels



TIMARU CITYTOWN TIMARU CITYTOWN 106 107

Page 78 Item 8.2 - Attachment 1





TIMARU CITYTOWN 108

#### **Evaluation and monitoring**

Quantitative and qualitative data was captured to formulate the Masterplan and the suite of civic space upgrade recommendations. This is not complete or conclusive, but rather establishes a baseline for ongoing data comparison over time to inform decisions. The most relevant parks and civic spaces insights from the CityTown trials relate to testing the appetite and readiness for changes to these spaces, the short and long term aspirations for related activity and the capacity to use existing assets better, and the incremental shifts that could promote vibrancy in the town centre. This helps inform investment priorities and sequencing, and where the focus for ongoing evaluation & monitoring should occur.

Quantitative monitoring and evaluation to date includes: pedestrian counts, bluetooth data, intersection cameras.

Qualitative monitoring and evaluation to date includes: online/ intercept surveys, trial observations and feedback, workshops and engagement, sensibel assisted participatory research. Site specific further investigations will be required to insure informed design decisions. Refer to the relevant documents and reports shown on pages 8&9 and relevant CityTown trial insights which can also be found here www.timarucitytown.co.nz/trials

#### What we heard from the community

The community also expressed a clear vision for enhanced parks and civic spaces throughout the centre emphasising the need for areas that balance shade and sun, and providing comfortable spots to linger and pause. The community want these spaces to remain adaptable and to be equipped with necessary infrastructure, such as power outlets and shelters, and to be able to host a variety of events. Additionally, the popularity of Loose Parts games suggests that permanent and informal play activities should be incorporated into any upgrades. Lastly, increasing green areas, and creating safer connections between them was identified as a key priority. An overview of the conducted trial findings are outlined below.

#### Insights from community feedback & trials.

Design for play It is recommended to include more interactive and child-friendly playful street furniture, or interactive installations to make the space more attractive for families

Food/Cafe A cafe or food shop at the Bay would be a great opportunity for a private investor to explore particularly as we attract more urban pioneers for whom Caroline Bay would be their 'local' park.

Enable activity Feedback from intercept surveys stated that more activity, music. features within the public events, and arts would space. This could include be a draw-card to these areas. Possible design considerations were flexibility of open spaces and street furniture to enable multi-purpose/ function of certain areas as well as infrastructure to support outdoor performances.

Inclusive for all Comments focused on more kid-friendly spaces and generally having more activity and food & beverages Currently the spaces are suited for a certain demographic. There is a desire to see more consideration for families and accessibility for the elderly, and safety around the area to accommodate this.

TIMARU CITYTOWN

#### Why are parks/civic spaces important?

The Value of Open Space: Compared with apartments immediately adjacent to a local park, an apartment 500m away is expected to be 16.4% less valuable.6

Formal & Informal Play: The most common reason for going to a park is "bringing children." Play areas account for 25% of children's park use. Every play element added to a playground increases its use by 50%.7

Lingering: The provision of seating in public spaces can extend the time spent in some public spaces by 10-15mins. Lingering fosters social interaction and a sense of safety through the presence of other people. These factors contribute towards wellbeing, acceptance and preventing loneliness.8

Loneliness: Social isolation issues face 2/5 NZ adults 65+ years and is highest among youths aged 15-24. Good social health provides a preventative measure for poor mental health.9

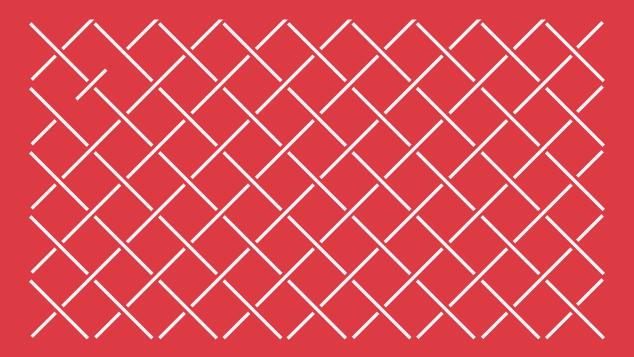
Value of Quality Public Realm: Fort Street shared space aimed to enhance pedestrian connectivity and amenity as part of a wider pedestrian network of lanes within Auckland's' town centre. Upon completion it saw a 54% increase in pedestrian volumes, a 47% increase in consumer spending and 80% increase in perceived safety in the area.10

- 1. Analysis of the Impact of Proximity to Open Space on Residential Property Values, Auckland Council 2016
- 2. City Parks Alliance, USA 2018.
- 3. People More Likely to Spend Time Together In Public Spaces, London School of Economics 2014
- 4. Social Connectedness Improves Mental Health, Loneliness.Org 2018
- 5. Global Designing Cities Initiative 169

**96** 

## TOWN VIBRANCY

This chapter focuses on the 'soft' ways of creating and fostering vibrancy: what you can achieve not with major developments and construction projects but with good systems of support and encouragement. These include a couple of key paid roles, a few new programmes with a bit of funding and good communication and alignment of Council, private and public efforts.



TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN

#### 6.1 OUR PLACE, OUR PEOPLE

The top 7 opportunities listed here are a synthesis of participatory design and trial insights.

These initiatives invite an expanding network of community and business stakeholders to participate in town centre regeneration opportunities that can be enabled by Timaru District Council and its CCOs.

#### Top 7 Opportunities to increase vibrancy

- **1. Create a vacant space broker** and a programme of popups to fill empty shopfronts in the short term and to give local artists, makers, producers and more a platform to expand their presence in the city.
- **2.** Improve the town centre intersections, giving pedestrian priority and increasing crossing times as plans are being made for physical changes to shorten crossing distances and improve visibility.
- 3. Create or fund an Arts & Events Coordinator role

To be a single point of contact for the creative sector. This Coordinator should lead development of an Arts & Events Strategy with a clear focus on the central city. Proposed programmes such as the Temporary Public Art Programme and Popup Programme could be spearheaded by this new role.

- 4. Proactively seek and support trading in public places and outdoor dining in strategic locations to create more life on the street and reasons to come to the city. Make public callouts e.g. for two Friday afternoon food trucks at the Piazza, or in the Sophia St carparks by the Royal Arcade and waive the associated fees.
- **5. Focus on the Royal Arcade as a place for hospitality**, extending outdoor dining outside of non-hospitality tenancies and incentivising conversions to hospitality in the longer-term.
- **6. Make strategic use of the Built Heritage Protection Fund.** For instance, develop criteria to focus for the next few years on the external appearance of buildings in the North Stafford and Creative Town Heart character areas; followed by a five-year focus on improving public access to heritage buildings in those areas through structural, occupancy and permitted use work.
- 7. Support a Strategic Development function

Perhaps Venture Timaru (or TDHL) to enable key strategic developments in one or two priority heritage locations. By funding pilot projects or feasibility studies and liaising with developers, Council could add an enabling function alongside its regulatory role.

#### **Past Activations in CityTown**











112 TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 113

#### 6.2 TEN STEPS TO VIBRANCY

Sitting behind the Top 7
Opportunities are ten main
objectives or ways of attaining
vibrancy, with more than 60 ideas,
short and long term, specific
to Timaru. The single biggest
principle behind these ideas is
to make strategic and pro-active
use of all of the levers at Council's
disposal so that the policies,
financing approach, community
funding and strategies are all
working hand-in-hand.

#### Imagine

#### **1EVERY SHOPFRONT IS FULL**

Imagine a central Timaru with daily activity in every ground floor space, and an increasing range of residents and activities on the upper floors.

#### What are we doing already that we can build upon?

Developers have been making building improvements and attracting new and exciting tenants. TDC has previously led a programme to help owners identify next steps for their earthquake prone buildings.

#### What initiatives could we start in the short-term?

A Popup Programme for local makers & growers (see #7 and #8). Take on a short-term lease or two and make a call out to local makers and growers (and market stall holders) who'd like to try having a short-term shop front. This effectively pilots the medium-term establishment of a creative site broker.

#### What initiatives could we start in the medium-term?

Create a site broker for creative Timaru (see #7 and #8). It connects owners of vacant land & buildings with people who have big ideas to fill those spaces temporarily while longer-term tenants and plans are being worked on.

Rates incentive for property owners. When the broker matches a project to a vacant space, property owners are eligible for a rates incentive, which is capped for each project and for each year's programme.

#### What initiatives could we start in the long-term?

Drop-in spaces where people can hang out and access activities. For youth, elderly, kaumatua, intergenerational.

Lofty residencies (see #7 and #8). Using some upper floors for short-term artists-in-residence, chefs-in-residence, athletes-in-residence – to kickstart inner-city living and bring more activity to the town centre. Could be managed by the broker.

#### Who does what?

TDC funds the research and establishment of a Timaru-specific creative broker, external to Council (e.g. livs.org.nz). While that work is underway, TDC takes on two short-term leases in the Creative Town Heart, and pilots a 3- to 6-month Popup Programme, which could be run by an external event management or arts group e.g. with support from the Artisan Farmers Market. TDC starts work on the rates incentive, which may require a Policy change.

South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce or CBD Group could support popups that may want to continue, with mentoring, training or advice.

Building owners offer vacant properties for the pop-up/broker programme, and support the rates incentive. If unsure, check if their upper floors have an historical right for residential use, and express interest in the Residency programme as a step towards having a residential tenant.

Creatives of all types get involved: have a crack at a pop-up space or residency. Youth, elderly and other support groups consider trying a short-term drop-in space to help clients and stakeholders feel more comfortable in the city.

#### **Imagine**

#### 2 MORE PEOPLE WALKING ON THE STREET

Imagine Timaru as a 16-hour city, where you find a consistent number of people in the city from 8am to midnight, increasing the vibrancy and sense of safety.

The central city boutique fashion and other shopping offerings are already a big drawcard. Council has been improving accessibility and addressing the slippery tiles. And the MyWay bus stop parklets are reducing the need for cars. A few hospo and entertainment businesses are working hard at creating nightlife and Sunday trading.

Highlight and incentivise the use of off-street car parks. Encourage parking a block or two off the main street, and reducing the number of short trips by car. Increase the cost of on-street parking in the core. Consider wayfinding to assist with this shift.

Clarify and improve bike parking in the town centre. Possible partners: all the bike shops!

Reduce on-street car parks or time limits in the core.

Improve town centre pedestrian crossings, especially at Bay Hill. Increase crossing times, give pedestrian priority and shorten crossing distances.

Allow dogs on Stafford Street and in the Royal Arcade, on leads and in effective control. Circulate maps of dog-friendly businesses and places.

Highlight and improve the laneways and midblock connections with public art and urban play. Decrease the walking time and perceived distance from the edges to the centre.

TDC incentivises use of off-street carparks, and discourages long-term on-street parking. TDC improves and clarifies bike parking in the Creative Town Heart, and increases pedestrian priority at central city crossings. TDC makes bylaw and policy changes to allow dogs in currently prohibited areas. In the longer term, TDC improves the laneways and side streets with public art, lighting, etc.

Bike advocates and shops help promote the new bike parking and other amenities.

Businesses put your hands up to be promoted as a dog-friendly business. Dog advocacy and support groups like SCDTC promote and support the changes, and help keep everyone safe.

114 TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 115

#### **3 THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING HAPPENING**

Imagine if there's always something to stumble upon in town: live music, workshops, events. Big events (i.e. Matariki Night Market) are complemented with a range of smaller activities day and night.

#### What are we doing already that we can build upon?

The CBD Group has established a Business Improvement District with a vision that 'Our central destination is the number one choice where people want to work, live and play. Our business district thrives both economically and socially'. Recent work has been done to clarify rules and encourage more busking, and regular events like Saturday Live! are well established.

#### What initiatives could we start in the short-term?

Prioritise events in the central city. Through funding criteria and relationships, try to encourage more small events in central locations, perhaps linked to the development of the fitness trails.

Further clarify and simplify the busking policy and process. Allow busking at Strathallan Corner and the Piazza and provide on site signage or links for booking.

#### What initiatives could we start in the medium-term?

Develop an Arts & Events Strategy. Provide focus and prioritise certain sizes and types of events for the central city.

Clarify roles for groups with an events focus, e.g. Venture Timaru can focus on large, hero events, many in Caroline Bay; the new CBD Group can focus on (large?) Central city events in support of business; Council and other external partners can develop a new events stream focusing on smaller community events in the city; and then a wide range of groups delivering suburban and sporting events.

Create an Arts & Events Coordinator role in Council or Venture Timaru(see #3). A single point of contact for people and groups wanting to run events and arts projects in Timaru who can guide and advocate for the creative community.

Encourage the Museum (see #9), Library and Aigantighe (see #8) to continue to have regular outreach activities or satellites in the city and resource.

#### What initiatives could we start in the long-term?

Establish clear booking systems and processes for the public power outlets in the city, and provide shelter and seating in key performance locations.

Slight amendments to the Public Places Bylaw, as required.

#### Who does what?

TDC engages widely to help develop an Arts & Events Strategy with a clear focus and role for central city events. TDC resources and supports key events partners including Venture Timaru and the CBD, and supports the BID strategic plan. TDC creates a new Arts & Events Coordinator role to help external people and groups create more city vibrancy. This coordinator could help encourage clearer and more welcoming policies and systems e.g. for booking civic spaces for events.

South Canterbury Museum, Libraries and the Aigantighe get involved in development of the Arts & Events Strategy, and align outreach activities.

CBD Group and Venture Timaru make use of the new Arts & Events Coordinator, and make sure the Arts & Events Strategy includes some of your priorities, which you then deliver on.

Anyone and everyone who might perform or help organise and deliver an event - get engaged and consider if you have a role in the central city.

#### **4 THE STREETS ARE PLACES**

Imagine if the streets and outdoor areas were places in their own right, not just ways of getting somewhere.

#### What are we doing already that we can build upon?

There are some regular events showing the appetite for late night shopping with entertainment, especially on Friday nights. There are a few pockets of outdoor dining, and the CityTown team tried out table tennis, tether ball and other recreational uses of the street. There are a lot of self-guided tours of local history and activities, e.g. Timaru Trails and Wuhoo Timaru

#### What initiatives could we start in the short-term?

Play Trails & Fitness Trails. Maps of ways of playing and being active in the city, using existing facilities, and trying to 'lure' people from existing hotspots e.g. C-Play into the city.

Create a new Play Advocate role for the city, or support such a role in another organisation.

Improve and encourage outdoor dining. Waive fees, at least temporarily, even just for a few strategic locations.

#### What initiatives could we start in the medium-term?

Amend the Public Art Policy and create and fund a small temporary public art programme targeting strategic locations (see #8). The programme could be coordinated by an external partner.

Support Trading in Public Places in the central city (see #7 and #8). Encourage shops to display more wares on the street, and create some 'pre-approved' locations for street trading.

Parklets programme / hire. Use the LTU-approved parklet kit as the basis for a parklets programme to get more varied activity happening on the city streets. The programme could be coordinated by an external partner.

Play Trail Stage 2. Develop some new and seasonal play trail additions with partners.

#### What initiatives could we start in the long-term?

A more welcoming regulatory framework, with amendments to the Trading in Public Places bylaw, and reconciling the perceived clash between the bylaw and District Plan. Take a pro-active approach to encouraging, seeking and subsidising activity in the locations you want it, rather than an approach of waiting for others to approach with requests.

#### Who does what?

TDC actively encourages outdoor dining in Bay Hill, North Stafford and the Creative Town Heart. TDC engages someone local to put together the Play Trail materials, and promotes it. TDC creates a Temporary Public Art Programme, a Trading in Public Places Programme and a Parklets Programme - and proactively seeks delivery partners in strategic locations in the central city. TDC may opt to engage existing external groups or companies to coordinate these programmes.

Wuhoo Timaru, Sport Canterbury, YMCA and others: lead or participate in the play trail development. Sport Canterbury and TDC develop the play advocate role.

Aigantighe, Ignite and other arts groups help develop and deliver the Temporary Public Art Programme.

Business Owners consider whether you might benefit from outdoor trading on the street or in a parklet outside your business, or at a satellite location. Consider whether you could support a play space adjacent to your business (e.g. set up, packdown)

TIMARU CITYTOWN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN

#### **5 THE ROYAL TOUCH**

Imagine if the Royal Arcade, unique in New Zealand, was the buzzing hive of activity so many people want it to be.

#### What are we doing already that we can build upon?

Some developers have a vision for Royal Arcade and are starting to put it into action. Hospitality outlets are slowly on the rise. An occasional public event or installation enlivens the arcade.

#### What initiatives could we start in the short-term?

Support a marketing strategy for an 'entertainment zone' that includes Royal Arcade.

Extend outdoor dining outside of non-hospitality tenancies.

Waive fees and offer support for conversions to hospitality (change of use, code of compliance, etc.)

#### What initiatives could we start in the medium-term?

Make Royal Arcade one of the key locations for the temporary public art programme.

#### What initiatives could we start in the long-term?

Get new fire engineering reports, and develop clear guidelines on fire safety, occupancy, egresses and permitted activities.

#### Who does what?

TDC increase and support outdoor dining and hospitality conversions in Royal Arcade. TDC include Royal Arcade in the Arts & Events Strategy, Temporary Public Art Programme and Trading in Public Places Programme.

TDC partner with Building Owners and TDC partners to undertake new fire engineering reports and clear guidelines for occupancy and special events.

Venture Timaru, CBD Group, Building and Business Owners put heads together on a marketing campaign that includes Royal Arcade.

Artists and Arts Groups consider temporary public art proposals for Royal Arcade.

Hospitality Businesses (and prospective ones) consider exploring a location in Royal Arcade.

#### Imagine

#### 6 SEASIDE STORIES RIVIERA OF THE SOUTH

Imagine if Timaru felt like, and was considered, one of the top coastal cities in New Zealand with easy access to the water and a celebrated maritime connection and history.

#### What are we doing already that we can build upon?

Caroline Bay is one of the top beaches in the country. There's a long history of place stories and city taglines that highlight Timaru's beachfront location. Events like the Seaside Festival anchor this identity, and Timaru's status as a sporting hub includes water sports like surfing, white water rafting, kayaking, fishing and sailing.

#### What initiatives could we start in the short-term?

Improve the walking experience between the city and the water, so the Bay and city don't feel so separate - especially Station St, Strathallan St and Port Loop Rd.

Storytelling in the streetscape. Build upon Seafarers Corner and the Capt Cain statue in the city to tell more nautical stories, with recovered Port objects and more always pointing to that coastal connection.

#### What initiatives could we start in the medium-term?

Make a bit more of the penguins with a small streetside, non-invasive seating area nearby where people can wait as dusk falls.

Improve the walking experience of Marine Pde.

Encourage water sport hire facilities near the water's edge to help everyone experience the sea in different ways.

#### What initiatives could we start in the long-term?

Develop an elevated vantage point where people might ship-watch and enjoy their lunch.

Develop a seaside building into a covered public market (See #7 and #9).

#### Who does what?

TDC improves the footpaths and walking experience from city to shore. TDC facilitates more physical markers in the city that refer to the beach and sea. TDC leads conversations to develop a penguin platform and Marine Pde Promenade, and a small public space near the Port.

Venture Timaru and Developers work together on a business case for a suitable seaside building into a covered market and food hub

Penguins First and Timaru Penguins ensure any rest area development doesn't impinge upon kororā habitat.

Business Owners consider setting up a beachside kiosk or other cost-effective means of hiring out kayaks, SUPs and more, with TDC supporting Trading in Public Places.

TIMARU CITYTOWN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN

#### 7 AMP THE AGRICULTURE

Imagine if Timaru's role as a food basket for New Zealand was prominent and celebrated throughout the city day in and day out.

#### What are we doing already that we can build upon?

The Artisan Farmer's Market brings local produce into the city every Saturday. SCOFF highlights local produce and products and the restaurants in the city making use of them. The District's economy is strong and resilient.

#### What initiatives could we start in the short-term?

Storytelling in the streetscape perhaps through the arts and play trails. The rural connection is less present in the city than the maritime history. Consider ways of highlighting agricultural history and successes.

A pop-up Programme and vacant shop broker to support more producers to try a pop-up shop (see #1 and #8).

#### What initiatives could we start in the medium-term?

Trading in public places programme in a targeted location or two to support market stalls throughout the week (see #4 and #8).

Consider ways of extending the focus SCOFF puts on local producers year-round. Perhaps the vacant spaces broker could facilitate a local food collective pop-up.

#### What initiatives could we start in the long-term?

Progress the food hub concept, perhaps in conjunction with a covered public market (see #6 & #9).

Central city residency programme, for more producers and chefs living in the city and having a presence there (see #1 and #8).

#### Who does what?

TDC leads work on storytelling in the streetscape and the Trading in Public Places programme.

Venture Timaru works to progress the food hub concept.

Local Producers and groups like Federated Farmers South Canterbury might advise on agricultural success stories to share, and creative ways of telling them in the city.

Local Producers too small to take on a shopfront or daily market stall could try to form a collective.

#### Imagine

#### **8 LOCAL ARTS & CRAFT**

Imagine if the vast number of local artists and makers had a strong visual presence and impact in the city.

#### What are we doing already that we can build upon?

There are simply loads of artists, theatre groups, weavers and so much more who are not well networked or operating as a collective. The Aigantighe is a huge resource and repository of knowledge, with a track record of successful city outreach activities. Many artists have (mostly upstairs) studio spaces in the city.

#### What initiatives could we start in the short-term?

Develop the Public Art Programme (see #4) in such a way that a wide range of artists and makers can be involved - e.g. not just sculptures.

A Popup Programme and creative broker to support more artists and crafters to try a popup shop (see #1 and #7).

Amp the boutique fashion with marketing and e.g. Ara Institute fashion students getting involved in the Popup Programme & Residency Programme.

In the short-term, resource a part-time coordinator for Ignite or similar community group to promote and link all the arts activity in Timaru.

#### What initiatives could we start in the medium-term?

Trading in public places programme in a targeted location or two to support market stalls throughout the week (see #4 and #7)

Encourage the Aigiantighe to have satellite outreach activities in the city (see #3).

An Arts & Events Coordinator role in Council to help ramp up creative presence in the city (see #3).

#### What initiatives could we start in the long-term?

Central city residency programme, for more artists and makers living in the city and having a presence there (see #1 and #7)

#### Who does what?

TDC leads the development of the Public Art and Popup Programmes, and the Residency Programme. All of this is supported by the new TDC Arts & Events Coordinator role.

Aigantighe continues and intensifies city outreach activities.

Artists and Makers get engaged in the Public Art and Popup Programme.

Ignite or a similar community group carries on promoting all the arts in Timaru, creating and sharing opportunities for the creative community to come together, interact and feel more unified.

120 TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 121

#### 9 HERITAGE

Imagine if the cultural and built heritage of Timaru was as much of a drawcard as the gothic in Dunedin

#### What are we doing already that we can build upon?

TDC created a new fixed term role and programme to support owners of earthquake prone buildings to restore and preserve them. There are architectural gems waiting to be revitalised. Te Ana is a nationally significant venue sharing cultural heritage and running tours.

#### What initiatives could we start in the short-term?

Continue and expand the Earthquake Prone Building support programme. Include support and advice for accessing capital, especially from non-bank lenders (see #10).

Continue and promote the heritage trails and self-guided heritage tours on offer.

#### What initiatives could we start in the medium-term?

Make strategic use of the Built Heritage Protection Fund, e.g. with criteria to focus for the next several years on the external appearance of buildings in the North Stafford and Creative Town Heart character areas; followed by a five-year focus on improving public access to heritage buildings through structural, occupancy and permitted use work.

Encourage the Museum to have satellite outreach activities in the city (see #3).

#### What initiatives could we start in the long-term?

Create a Strategic Development role and portfolio in Venture Timaru or TDHL to enable key strategic developments in one or two priority heritage locations.

#### Who does what?

TDC continues the EPB programme, and leads engagement to develop criteria for the Built Heritage Protection Fund. TDC establishes and funds a small Strategic Urban Development function in one of the CCOs.

Civic Trust and other heritage groups help develop criteria for the Fund and provide advice to the Strategic Urban Development function.

Venture Tlmaru and TDHL consider how they could best achieve a new Strategic Development function (see #10).

#### Imagine

#### 10 SUPPORT CENTRAL LIVING

Imagine if there were far more central city homes and apartments, bringing more around-the-clock people into the city and supporting more shops and activities.

#### What are we doing already that we can build upon?

District Plan Changes

Development of EPB Performance Development Recommendations

Development of CityTown Urban Living Study

Development of Making it Happen

#### What initiatives could we start in the short-term?

Continue the EPB support programme, and expand it to include support for conversions to residential (see #9).

#### What initiatives could we start in the medium-term?

Encourage upper floor residential conversions for buildings in the North Stafford, Creative Town Heart and South Stafford character areas. Waive Council fees temporarily for targeted consent processing in certain geographical focus area.

Explore and develop central city amenities to support people who have barriers to downsizing: bike storage facilities, long-term parking options at the city edge, a tool library and shared workshop space, etc. It could, in full or in part, operate as a contestable 'city residential support fund' with spend prioritised in response to feedback from the Strategic Urban Development function and stakeholders.

#### What initiatives could we start in the long-term?

Explore and develop other lifestyle support measures for people living and working in the city, e.g. a city creche.

#### Who does what?

TDC include residential support in the EPB programme, and waive or reduce fees for conversions. TDC lead scoping and conversations around central city amenities to support residential, and actively seek partners to deliver or help deliver those amenities; and/or develop funding criteria and seek applications from potential providers.

Building Owners explore the viability of residential conversions.

Business Owners consider what services you could provide to cater to this new market of central city residents.

Venture Timaru lead the promotion and creation of more residences in the city. This could go hand-in-hand with the proposed Strategic Development function (see #9).

122 TIMARU CITYTOWN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 123

#### 6.3 **VIBRANCY EVIDENCE BASED SUMMARY**

#### **Timaru's Existing Places & Events**

Given the chance, Timaruvians mostly talk about what they love about the place and their vision for the central city, some harking back to the 'heyday' with lots of people on the street, late night shopping, and cafes open on Sundays. This sort of vibrancy is holistic and the investment required is circular (i.e use it or lose it).

Interesting buildings and an inspiring streetscape and public spaces support a wide range of activity day and night. Social events and non-commercial activities bring more people into the city and help them feel connected, which in turn supports more shops and restaurants. Developers and prospective business owners take confidence from the activity and optimism to invest their money and energy into further enlivening the city. Buskers thrive where more pedestrians are passing by, which improves everyone's experience and attracts yet more people. There are virtuous circles everywhere in thriving cities. Everyone has a role to play not only in enjoying but in creating and supporting vibrancy.

#### Researched & expert based insights about Timaru Desktop research, reports and site visits revealed some of the following SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats):

Royal Arcade A sheltered through passage that has a lot of character and has immense potential as an attraction for various users.

Heritage Buildings The distinctive streets and industrial edges of Timaru are defined by the presence of fine Victorian and Edwardian heritage buildings imbuing a sense of place and in turn economic value. This unique architecture is a result of the 'great fire' in 1869 which destroyed 39 wooden buildings on Stafford Street, rebuilt using bricks and stone

Vacant Buildings Long-term vacant shops were observed along the high street. These were heard to not be uncommon and are detracting from the vibrancy of the centre. Activating these spaces through arts and creative programmes was deemed a possible solution.

City Events Timaru hosts a full calendar of seasonal and annual events from the weekly Saturday morning Artisan Farmers Market and the annual Matariki light festival to a range of happenings in Caroline Bay including the Rock and Hop festival, Rose Festival, Timaru Gypsy Fair and Summer Carnival (now in its 112th-year). More recently with Ignite Timaru that has activated the town centre streets.

Arts & Culture Scene Timaru is home to permanent attractions such as the Te Ana Māori Rock Art Centre, the South Canterbury Museum and the Aigantighe Art Gallery. These paired with the Art and Design centre at Ara. the public sculpture and street art self-quided trails and a number of independent theatre clubs, galleries and art collectives contribute to the thriving yet 'hidden away' art and theatre



#### **EVENTS**, **ACTIVITIES** & ART

10 / 5 Minute walk X Street art Museum, theatres and galleries Permanent activities Frequent/well known events Infrequent/lesser known events Potential areas for activity/ activations





#### HERITAGE



10 / 5 Minute walk

Heritage buildings Original landing points

Historic town border

Original shoreline

TIMARU CITYTOWN 125

TIMARU CITYTOWN 124

Page 87 Item 8.2 - Attachment 1





126

#### **Evaluation and monitoring**

Evaluation and monitoring for vibrancy in the town centre was measured through quantitative and qualitative data.

Quantitative monitoring and evaluation to date includes: number of participating businesses and artists.

Qualitative monitoring and evaluation to included: online/intercept surveys, trial observations and general feedback. Site specific further investigations will be required to insure informed design decisions. Refer to the relevant documents and reports shown on pg 8/9 and relevant CityTown trial insights which can also be found here www.timarucitytown.co.nz/trials

#### What we heard from the community

We heard a lot about the community's desire for more life on the streets: events, outdoor dining, people out at night, shops open late. Things to keep young people from leaving. But the people and groups working to create vibrancy in Timaru say it feels more difficult than it needs to be. There's not a strong culture of trying new things, because audiences and customers are hesitant with the unfamiliar. People find it hard to find out whether they'll need permits or approvals, what the criteria are and how to go about it. The importance of 'fairness' has deep roots in Timaru, which often enables one dissenting voice to scupper an idea that's worth exploring. Trials like Ignite Timaru and Codebreakers revealed a strong appetite for supporting local artists, creatives, and businesses. During IGNITE, over 44% of respondents stayed for 1-2 hours, and 24% stayed for 3-4 hours. While 43% of attendees said the event met their expectations, and 32% said it somewhat met expectations, feedback indicated a need for more cohesive programming and better promotion to attract more people and help them plan their time at future events. The central city needs some gentle momentum: some small and regular things like arts programmes and weekly events.

#### Insights from community feedback & trials.

Council Arts/Events Coordinator: Having a single point of contact to help people navigate approvals processes would nights but many shop be beneficial. Someone who actively seeks partners to deliver Friday night events (e.g.) instead Fridays. Needs enough of waiting for someone to scale and commitment to uses of vacancies. apply obstacles.

Infrastructure to support outdoor performances in the city: public power points, clear booking systems, shelter (portable or permanent), help with promotion. There are lots of buskers and groups who'd make use of this.

Late night shopping Clear support for late night shopping (and entertainment) Friday owners don't think it'll be worth their while, and don't want to work late reach critical mass.

Youth activity: More things for young people to do in the city are a must. Urban play and youth-friendly events, spaces to hang out without needing to spend money.

Fill the Vacant Shops: See the vacant shops as an opportunity for people to try new things with low cost and commitment. Implement a range of measures to incentivise short-term

Royal Arcade Activation: As a unique and well-loved treasure there is the desire for this space to be used more for events, outdoor dining and arts installations.

Why is placemaking important? Programming: Nothing increases park use and physical activity as much as programming – i.e. providing supervised activities to help people make use of the space – with each additional supervised activity leading to a 48% increase in park use and a 37% increase in physical activity. In particular, seniors and teen girls are underrepresented in parks and benefit greatly from programming targeted at their needs and interests.1

Filling Empty Shops: New powers from the UK Government have come into effect May 2024 to combat high street vacancy that will allow local leaders to take control of empty properties blighting high streets and rent them out to local businesses that want to use them. High street shops vacant for over 1 year will be auctioned off (no reserve price) for a rental lease of up to 5 vears.2

Heritage Retention & Reuse: The built environment sector accounts for 40% of global green house gas emissions. 50% of this is due to construction/ deconstruction. Not only does heritage building retention and re-use maintain a sense of identity within cities but it also makes carbon savings of 40-70% when compared with new builds (and using recycled materials.3

- 1. City Parks Alliance, USA 2018.
- 2. Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities, UK, 2024
- 3. Building a World Free from Waste and Pollution, Fllen Macarther Foundation

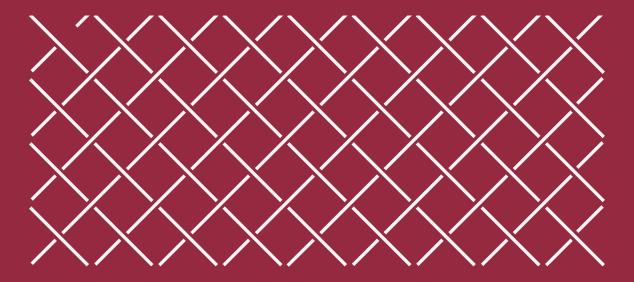
TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN 127

Page 88 Item 8.2 - Attachment 1

**07** 

# ENABLING DELIVERY & NEXT STEPS

This chapter outlines tactics to guide the council in achieving the Strategic Framework and final Masterplan vision. It identifies strategic starting points in private investment, vibrancy unlockers, public space infrastructure, and transportation shifts. A timeline sequence navigates priorities, ensuring a coordinated approach that delivers a holistic vision benefiting all of Timaru. This involves pinpointing key investment areas, launching funded programs, and fostering collaboration between the council, private sector, and public initiatives to ensure benefits extend beyond individual geographic footprints to the entire community.



TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN

### **NEXT STEPS**

Urban regeneration seeks to create new opportunities both for the local community and for businesses looking to invest in the area by repurposing underused land and buildings. The kev is public and private co-investment.

Council's role is to enable the repurposing and creation of mixed-use buildings and spaces, and to ensure that infrastructure and public realm renewals can help to regenerate the built environment.

The purpose of the Masterplan is to guide a programme of future investment that will stimulate growth and promote sustainability. This relies on meaningful collaboration and partnership with investors and developers, alongside a collaborative approach with the community and businesses/business association (CBD Group) and with Council's CCOs to create events and promotional planning, dedicated roles and programmes that help nudge things in the right direction for Timaru.

Unlocking greater vibrancy in the town centre is explained in the previous chapter, and is less reliant on sequencing timeframes. Here we explain the core components of public and private investment and the dependencies between them that may determine sequencing. This chapter acknowledges continued alignment and strong relationships with contributing workstreams, organisations and their strategies as part of the CityTown regeneration programme



#### **PRIVATE INVESTMENT** ADAPTING AND REVITALISING BUILDINGS AND ACTIVITIES

#### **Core components:**

Private investment could include a range of opportunities, particularly focused around

- · Adaptive reuse of heritage and earthquake prone buildings, including residential above street level, indoor markets, interim uses and pop-ups for vacant shops
- New live-work development opportunities inserted into central city CCZ and MUZ zonings in PDP (residents, business entrepreneurs, hospitality, accommodation etc.)

#### **Desired outcomes:**

- Increase business and investor confidence in the urban centre
- Attract and accelerate residential development in the centre
- Entice 'urban pioneers' by catering to people likely to make the first move to urban living and local business incubation
- 4. Uphold quality standards to ensure that value proposition is retained for future investors
- Encourage the restoration of heritage buildings to retain character in the centre as a major attractor
- Counter the trade-offs in downsizing with ample amenity, storage and ways to get around.

#### **Evidence-based justification**

- Increasing inner city population creates more vibrancy and demand for shopping, hospitality and entertainment
- · Timaru offers an outstanding seaside lifestyle that is affordable
- Characterful and quality offerings will create more demand
- Proximity between living and working premises reduces the need for travel and increases leisure time
- · The presence of people after hours creates a day/night buzz
- There is a pent up demand for retirees and empty nesters in the Timaru District to downsize, and a need for worker accommodation to serve hospitality, port, trades and primary production.
- Conversion of heritage buildings into indoor markets or innovation hubs/ incubators for small business has been successful elsewhere (e.g. Riverside markets)

#### **Priority Locations**

- · Potential for comprehensive development- South end of Stafford
- Vacant sites and carparks- infill
- Existing character and heritage buildings- adaptive re-use- above street level
- Vacant shops (revived businesses) - CCZ and MUZ zonings in PDP

#### **Priority Projects**

- Development opportunities identified (willing landowner, willing investor)
- · Supports the Creative Town Heart

#### **Dependencies**

- Renewals (underground services to support growth demand and future capacity)
- Amalgamation of lots for comprehensive outcomes where relevant
- Demolition of existing buildings
- Use of offstreet parking/ parking buildings

#### Mechanisms for success

#### Actions

- PDP activity status, standards & rules
- Quality Guidelines
- · Enabling toolkit and co-ordinator roles Promotion Pilot and partnership
- · Comprehensive Development Plans for blocks and identifying location of

laneways and mid-block linkages

#### Future funding options

- · Financing entities and partners
- · Incentives and fee waivers PDP and any future joint variation/
- comprehensive development plan overlay/plan change process
- Business Investment District (BID) funding mechanisms

#### **Potential Partners**

- Led by Venture Timaru, economic and tourism development agency (CCO) in partnership with TDC
- Supported by TDHL (CCO) and property portfolio and investment
- Co-ordination with the CBD Group and Business Association
- Cross-council co-ordinator role Experienced development mentors
- (e.g. Vinegar Lane model) · Potential for neighbouring building

owners to achieve seismic upgrade and consenting milestones as a 'partnership' model.

- lwi and Te Papatipu Rūnanga property/housing development entities and community housing providers (CHPs)
- Panel of qualified architects/heritage and EPB advisors/designers and construction companies to uphold standards and knowledge

#### Conditions for making it happen

- · Champion networks, promotion and
- Champion data sharing and consistency fo practice standards
- Celebrate exemplars, pilots, precedents and showcasing the positive outcomes and best practice
- Ongoing survey and data collection to provide evidence of growth and
- Support for incremental and adaptive changes of EPB and local building
- Fill the gaps i.e. pop-up events and experiences e.g. indoor markets, pop
- up for creative community showcase Continue to reduce vehicle volumes and speed to support pedestrian
- Walking and cycling connections to coastal trails/ Caroline Bay to attract
- new residents and support businesses Quality streetscape and civic space upgrades- i.e. the shared urban
- backvard

#### **Relevant Contributing** CityTown programme documents include

- 'Making it Happen' Residential guide (VT)
- CityTown Urban Living Study
- CityTown Strategic Framework
- EPB Performance development recommendations
- Timaru residential property market study 2022
- Timaru CBD Group Draft Strategic Plan
- · Proposed District Plan
- CityTown Interim Investment and Delivery Plan
- Benefits Realisation Plan (Draft) VT

TIMARU CITYTOWN 131

TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 130

#### **PUBLIC INVESTMENT ENHANCING & UPGRADING CIVIC SPACES, STREETS AND LANEWAYS**



#### Core components:

Public investment could include a range of opportunities, particularly focused around

- · Civic spaces and buildings particularly the upgrade of Strathallan Corner, Heritage Place, Bay Hill Piazza and crossing, and consideration for the co-location of the library with either the theatre and museum OR Council services.
- Streets and laneways/ arcades including better use of existing (Royal Arcade/ Beswick St/de-clutter Stafford St), and upgrades to streets as greenways/ one-way streets.
- · Underground services and renewals as required to address repairs and capacity upgrades as required, alongside a 'dig-once' approach to complete above ground improvements

#### **Desired outcomes:**

- 1. Leverage civic space to spur economic activity and increase
- 2. Invest in civic space to support urban living and public life (function of urban centre as a gathering place for social/cultural exchange)
- 3. Environmental stewardship, water collection and urban nature.

#### **Evidence-based justification**

- Quality of life and place attracts people
- · Civic infrastructure investment supports cultural activities & social interactions
- · Civic spaces are well known and have strong place story

132

#### **Priority Locations**

- Character/port heritage vibe
- Innovative businesses/hospitality hot spots
- Natural character supported by greenways and views
- · Centre of town, bookends

#### **Priority Projects**

- Strathallan corner and greenways
- Heritage Place & Royal Arcade
- · Bay Hill piazza and crossings
- · One way Stafford- north and south

#### Dependencies

- Complement other development
- Support most viable urban livework areas to accelerate inward migration of urban pioneers
- Modal shifts and safe journeys (improve pedestrian environment)

#### Mechanisms for success Actions

TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN

- · Start with the Creative Town Heart Complement day/night attractors
- Leverage existing assets
- · Connect Caroline Bay
- · Future funding options
- · Green infrastructure/ climate adaptation funding- MfE/ central
- Development contributions
- · Part of Central Gvt regional deals package? Demonstrate economic benefit to region

#### **Potential partners**

- CBD Group/Business Association
- · Māori and other local artists
- Timaru Civic Trust
- · Central Government funders
- Utility Providers

#### **Conditions for making it happen**

- Public support
- LTP funding
- · Renewals Programme Plan- coordination of services and dig-once approach

#### **Relevant Contributing** CityTown programme documents include

- · CityTown Strategic Framework
- · Timaru CBD Group Draft Strategic
- · CityTown Interim Investment and Delivery Plan Benefits Realisation Plan (Draft) -
- Venture Timaru
- CityTown draft Spatial Masterplan
- CityTown trial insight reports
- Strathallan Corner toilets and civic space feasibility report

#### TRANSPORT AND MOVEMENT

PUBLIC INVESTMENT



#### Core components:

Public investment could include a range of opportunities, particularly focused around

- · Vehicle parking, rideshare and public transport (PT) including onstreet/offstreet parking options, MyWay, EV charging stations, intercity bus routes and Cruise ship transport.
- Trails and active transport including better use of laneways and midblock connections with public art and urban play, art/recreation/play trails connecting to Caroline Bay, and small infrastructure for bikes.

#### **Desired outcomes:**

- Increase life in public spaces
- Make room for pedestrians
- Retain/increase accessibility/ inclusivity for all demographics
- Reduce carbon emissions
- Support local identity and lifestyle
- Provide a diversity of healthy and affordable choices
- Inter-city connectivity bus, plane,train, ship

#### **Evidence-based justification**

- Case studies where increased footfall increases economic activity
- · Connections to the waterfront increase visitation to the city · Recreation and leisure options
- increase desirability of place · Affordable and equitable commuting
- options attract all ages · Reduced parking times increase
- turnover of customers · Reduced number of vehicle movements improves safety
- · Appealing public transport for visitors

#### **Priority Locations**

- Green Edge Character Area · Re-route buses and coaches
- · Slow traffic with thresholds
- Extend existing cycle routes- bridge to bridge, city to sea

#### **Priority Projects**

- Port Loop Road shared path
- · Church St/Strathallan Greenway
- One way Stafford- north and south
- Parkway- Sophia St (bus route) Offstreet parking and linkages
- Urban play trail/ fitness trail

#### **Dependencies**

- Co-ordinate with other planned development
- Support urban living options that reduce the need for private vehicles
- More people living in the centre increasing pedestrian activity and demand for public transport
- Location of bus station to support businesses

#### **Mechanisms for success**

#### **Actions**

- · Centred on civic spaces
- Link up laneway networks · Wayfinding incentives to fill up
- offstreet parking first
- · Parking duration deterrents
- · Reduce traffic speeds to 30km/hr
- Future funding options Green infrastructure/ climate adaptation funding- MfE/ central Gvt?

#### **Potential partners**

- CBD Group/ Business Association
- Climate change / carbon zero lobby
- South Canterbury eco-centre
- Waka Kotahi
- Kiwi Rail
- · ECan MyWay

#### **Conditions for making it** happen

- Good comms, good data, low fuss but continual nudging
- Planned incremental and adaptive changes
- · Programmed events and experiences (e.g. temporary road closures for bike rides and runs)
- Reversible measures first- e.g. parking duration/priority parking for mobility and loading
- Shop owners/landowners buy-in to best practice
- Rural residents coming to town have pre-planned parking
- Continued success of MyWay
- Allow other factors (e.g. increased urban living) to out compete incompatible landuse in the urban centre (e.g. car yards)

#### Relevant Contributing CityTown programme documents include

- CityTown Strategic Framework 2022
- CBD Parking occupancy study 2023

reports 2023

- Draft CBD Parking Strategy 2023 CityTown Current State Report 2021
- CityTown draft Spatial Masterplan 2023 · CityTown Trials Design and Trial insight
- · CityTown data modelling and evaluation report 2023

TIMARU CITYTOWN 133

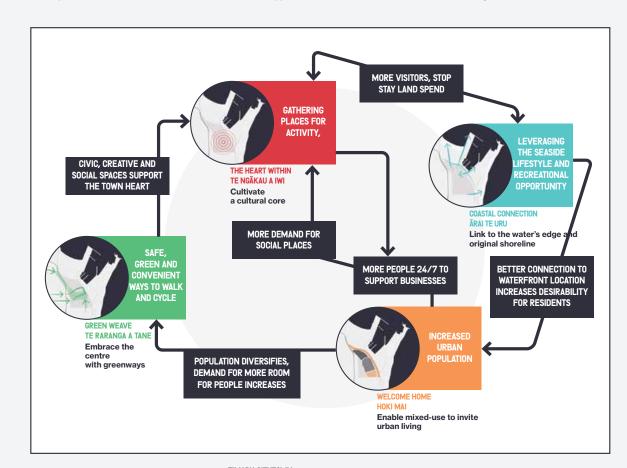
#### 7.2 **INVESTMENT STRATEGIES**

- · Invest in activity, civic spaces, speed thresholds (one-way/ intersection), and critical infrastructure renewals first. Put effort into increasing the urban population, so that growth indicators can drive further investment in streetscape upgrades and inform future design and allocation of space to high value uses.
- Apply an 'adaptive urbanism' approach rather than temporary trials or quick wins so that incremental or iterative change is facilitated by semi-permanent or permanent interventions at a smaller scale.
- Take a bold but iterative approach that balances fixed and flexible interventions, ensuring that over a 10-30 year lifespan there is room to adapt strategic opportunities while keeping a coherent shape to the town centre.

Future infrastructure investment should be aligned with growth, helping to create and meet demand in the urban centre through well-timed projects that align with community readiness for change. These should retain the momentum of regeneration, increasing rather than throttling the capacity to evolve activities and landuses. Hand in hand with this approach are regulatory mechanisms and other incentives to enable change over a period of time. Key to this approach are the following strategies:

- · Rationalise and provide value for money with streetscape guidelines that promote reuse and the art of subtraction and simplicity. Some elements of 'clutter' in the public realm could be removed, with restraint applied in future decisions about where higher value design and materials are most impactful.
- Signal a change in environment that supports a people-centric urban area with reduced vehicle speeds. While targeted to specific thresholds (such as green edges, intersections and one-way streets). The effect will spread the benefit for the whole geographical area of the town.
- Shift the pace of positive regeneration in the town centre with a managed portfolio of Council owned assets, providing clear guidance for acquisition and divestment. Future opportunities for co-location of

- civic assets or parking buildings will not be discounted, provided they are in the right 'zone'.
- Make a strong case for regional economic and environmental benefit that is likely to attract other funding streams in time. This requires a realistic plan with a degree of 'stretch' that dovetails with other strategies - such as the 'Making it Happen' residential quideline, and the CBD Group Strategy.
- Apply a 'dig-once approach' where possible. Priority projects would ideally align with service renewals and public realm improvements in areas that attract private investment. Where this is not possible, infrastructure at the end of its lifespan may take precedence as critical investment to support current activities and future growth.



TIMARU CITYTOWN 134

#### 7.3 **TRIGGERS & DEPENDENCIES**

Within the Timaru town centre, there are numerous triggers and dependencies that both the private sector and Council can respond to over time to implement this Masterplan successfully. Each of the triggers and dependencies below need to be carefully considered to fully understand their implications and identify the opportunities that could unlock portions of this Masterplan. While Timaru is not unique in this regard, several locally specific triggers and dependencies have been identified and should be considered where possible.

#### **Specific Timaru Triggers / Dependencies**

#### EPB/AF8 Situation

- Large number of buildings
   Funding Allocation: not up to code, impacting viability of upgrading and ability to tenant
- · Uncertainty or inconsistent soil classifications.

#### Civic Building Renewals

- · Decision making on future of theatre, museum and library
- EPB status of and upgrades to TDC and TDHL properties

#### Use ownership of Assets

- Key connections or intersections are controlled by Waka Kotahi (NZTA), KiwiRail
- PrimePort commercial operations continuity

#### Visitor fluctuations

· Fluctuations in cruiseship numbers creates sharp and short increases in visitors at different times of year.

#### Infrastructure Renewals

- Securing dedicated funding from both local and national sources to prioritise and implement infrastructure renewals and upgrades. Coordination with TDC
- CCOs and National Agencies: Establishing a clear line of communication and coordination with TDC CCOs and National Agencies to ensure alignment of projects with the long-term vision for
- Timelines and funding constraints for utility providers.
- Community Consultation: Engaging with Timaru residents and stakeholders to gather input and support for infrastructure projects, and to minimise community and business disruption

#### Private Sector Interest

- Policy and Bylaw Reviews Initiating a comprehensive review of existing policies and bylaws to facilitate mixed-use development, including updates to zoning guidelines and land use regulations.
- Support for Development: Creating enabling programmes to encourage private sector investment in the town centre (e.g. Making it Happen)
- Public-Private Collaboration: Establishing formal partnerships between TDC and private sector entities to codevelop projects that align with the Masterplan.
- Pilot Projects: Launching pilot projects to showcase successful public-private collaborations and build confidence among stakeholders

#### Typical Triggers / Dependencies shared with similar town centres central or regional

#### **Environmental and Physical Market and Competitive**

- Ageing Infrastructure: Deterioration of existing infrastructure and buildings, necessitating updates and renewal
- Environmental Concerns: Need for sustainable practices and green infrastructure to address environmental hazards.

#### **Cultural and Recreational**

- Event Hosting: Plans to host major events such as festivals, sports events, or cultural exhibitions, requiring improved facilities and public spaces.
- · Cultural Initiatives: Community-driven cultural projects or heritage conservation efforts that call for revitalisation

#### Technological

· Digital Transformation: Advances in technology that enable new business models or improve urban management, prompting undates to infrastructure and services

- Competitive Pressures: Need Government Initiatives: to compete with nearby towns or urban centres that offer more attractive amenities and services
- Market Trends: Emerging market trends that affect local businesses and consumer behaviour, necessitating adaptation and renewal

#### Safety or Incident

- Safety Improvements: Efforts to improve safety and security such as better lighting and slipresistant surfaces.
- Natural Disasters: Events such as floods. earthquakes, or storms that create an urgent need for revitalisation. Significant Accidents:
- Major accidents that lead to infrastructure damage or changes in public perception of safety.

#### **Policy and Governance**

- Introduction of government policies or initiatives aimed at urban renewal and development
- Zoning Changes: Changes in zoning laws or land use regulations that encourage redevelopment

#### **Economic**

- · Retail Decline: Closure of key businesses or decrease in retail activity prompting the need for revitalisation.
- Economic Incentives: Introduction of financial incentives for businesses to invest, such as tax breaks or grants.
- Economic Opportunities: Identification of new economic opportunities or industries that can rejuvenate the centre.
- Increased Investment: Availability of funding or investment opportunities from government grants, private investors, or publicprivate partnerships.

TIMARU CITYTOWN

135

Page 92 Item 8.2 - Attachment 1

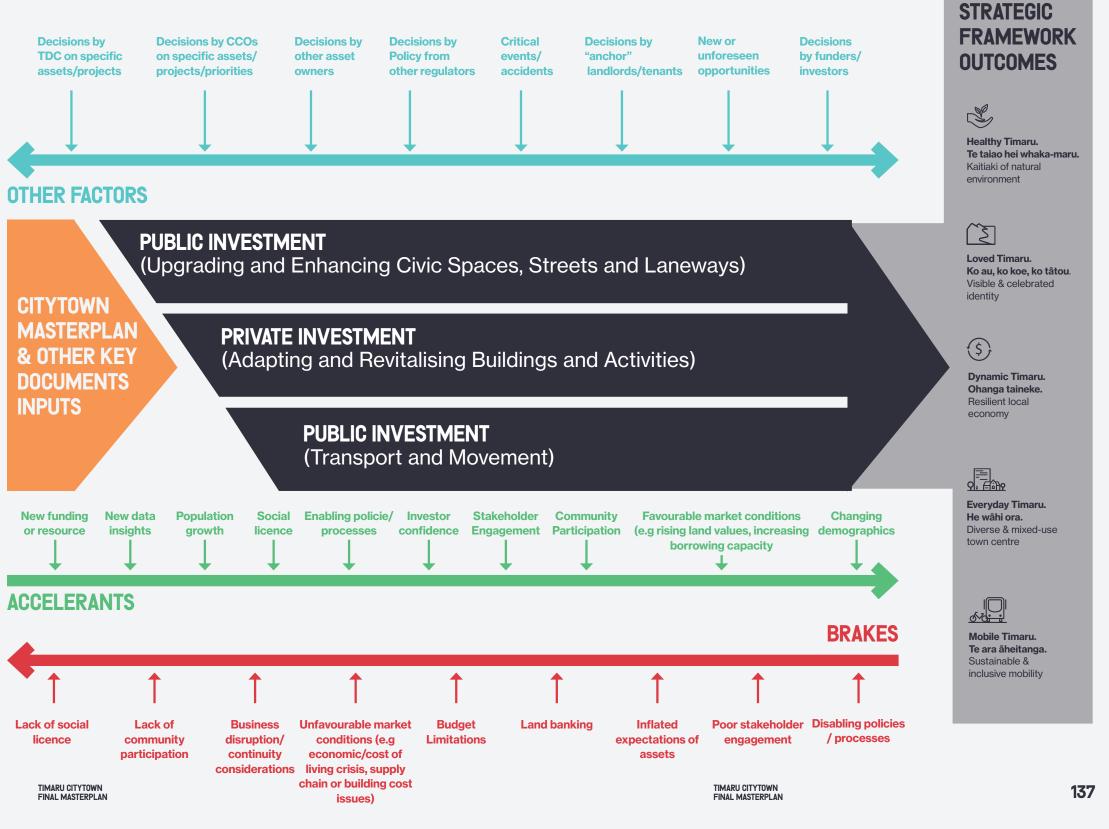
## 7.4 MASTERPLAN INFLUENCES

Achieving the Masterplan and strategic framework will require both public and private investment, alongside sustained social license to capitalise on the opportunity within Timaru. This process may not necessarily follow a linear path, as circumstances and external influences are beyond the control of any single organisation or public entity. However, there are three primary work streams that must converge and respond to each other:

- Public Investment: Enhancing Civic Spaces, Streets, and Laneways
- Private Investment: Adapting and revitalising buildings and activities
- Public Investment: Transport and Movement

These work streams will need to catalyse change and be adaptable to any subtle shifts that may occur over the course of this Masterplan. In addition to these primary streams, various other factors will continue to operate under standard market conditions and public policy requirements. periodically increasing or decreasing priorities for individual elements of the Masterplan. There are also accelerants and brakes that can influence the delivery of the Masterplan, Proactive management or mitigation of these considerations will achieve better outcomes for the community of Timaru.

136



Year 5

#### 7.5 **SEQUENCING TIMELINES**

#### **0-5 YEARS**

The sequencing of investment activity over an interim 0-5 years, and an intermediate 5-10+ year timeframe reflects the priorities identified through stakeholder workshops and investigations over the course of the CityTown Masterplan development. This process identified a clear rationale and preference for prioritising investment in the Creative Town Heart character area (also known as the Creative Town Heart), and at the Bay Hill intersection. The 0-5 reflects small scale interventions to be further investigated within a \$6m CAPEX budget + an additional OPEX budget for enabling or promotional programme work. Beyond this, the indicated 5-10 year+ priority works are triggered by planned civic projects and renewals. The green weave encompasses priority connections and civic spaces within the Creative Town Heart. The portions of one-way street and the Bay Hill intersection are included as public realm upgrades that have wider impact in terms of vehicle speed threshold, walkability and gateway functions.

\*This is a possible mechanism to create a comprehensive outcome for a large block - i.e. ensure mid-block linkages and laneways- (via PDP plan change/ variation). Could be required of private developer for amalgamated block or led by

#### Legend.



(Investment feasibility/costing/ business case)

(Guidance, incentives. storytelling, monitoring and evaluation etc)

> Enable policy/bylaw,

138

(Feasibility/design/ implementation)

FINAL MASTERPLAN

#### **Categories**

Civic spaces

and buildings

Streets and

laneways

Underground

services and

renewals

Vehicle Parking

and rideshare/

PT

Trails, and

active

transport

Arts, events,

urban play and

activity

#### Underway

Feasibility study for locating & future proofing priority/funded infrastructure before full upgrades e.g. new toilets

Coat slippery paving, make safe and

gardens/plant guide) **Events promotion &** cruise ship transport

**Port Loop Road** shared walk and cycle path, planting and

budget)

wayfinding (separate

- alternative travel

modes & experiences in

partnership w/ ECan & VT

Resource vacant space broker to start programme of pop-ups

> Confirm/Update and socialise findings of Geotechnical Studies

"Making it Happen" confirm 'Enabling' commitment details

#### **INTERIM 0-5 YEARS**

Year 1

Year 2

**Concept Design & costing** 

packages for priority civic

space investment in Creati

& Heritage Place

**Undertake further design** 

investigations for critica

to enable new residential

service renewals in the Town

**Heart, and increased capacity** 

**Town Heart-Strathallan Cnr** 

Year 3

Services/ small infrastructure

bollards, power and lighting to

support markets, events and

e.g. Heritage Place- pop up

Year 4

**De-clutter Stafford** 

by reducing high

Street, reduce costs

maintenance street

furniture/paving items

**Deliver** Strathallan corner- full civic space upgrade

**Prioritise** activity in performanc

Further clarify the busking policy and Piazza.

process. Allow and encourage busking at **Strathallan Corner &** 

Bay Hill / Sefton St E /SH78

intersection-Commence

design and engagement

with Waka Kotahi to

improve crossing.

infrastructure e.g. Bay Hill pop up Bollards for temporary road closures to host events.

Small intervention

**King George Place** and capacity upgrade <3 years

Minor capacity upgrades and resilience workpower and watertown heart

**District Parking** Strategy (guided by Masterplan)

Finalise Timaru Optimise offstreet parking, increase with marketing. wayfinding, incentive

Establish a 'centre of excellence' mechanism for shared

learnings relating to heritage buildings/ earthquake

Capture onstreet and offstreet parking occupancy, duration and frequency data with parking meter sensors

Trial changes to short duration

parking incentives, shared parking, and parking user priority (mobility, service and loading) in high demand **Start a Parklets Programme using** the LTU-approved kit for (free) hire. Parklets replace carparks temporarily where businesses support them to provide space for activation and dining

Improve the laneways and side streets with public art and urban play to decrease the perceived distance from the edges to the centre

**Support Mana Cultural Design** Framework

**Small infrastructure interventions** - e.g. Supply visible bike parking & repair facilities, including e-bike & lockable units in greenway & parkway locations

times, increase walk time at pedestrian crossings

play/recreation/ arts trail along former shoreline and into town

Royal Arcade: Encourage new fire engineering reports, & develop clear quidelines on fire safety, occupancy, egresses & permitted activities

Improve and encourage outdoor dining. Waive fees, at least temporarily, for a few strategic locations.

Resource an Arts, Play & Events Coordinator role

the city

**Develop an Arts & Events** Strategy. Provide focus and prioritise certain sizes and types of events for the central city.

**Expand waste** 

strategy to

include policy

for recycling of

building materials

**Amend the Public Art** Policy & start a Temp **Public Art Programme** in targeted locations incl Royal Arcade

Install more car

share, EV charging

stations in strategic

locations to support

**Support Trading** in Public Places e.g. with 'preapproved' locations.

**Upper floor** 

conversions -

permit Strata

and/or Unit Title

residential

Adaptive reuse/ heritage/ EPB

New

development

e.g. residential.

live-work

Design guidance to support promotional documents and uphold design

quality, incl. verandas

prone building repairs given highest concentration in the south. Cherish heritage, refurbish, rejuvenate, illuminate. Momentum amongst building owners and partners.

**Review of Masterplan** Comprehensive against Proposed **Development Plan District Plan. Determine** to facilitate desired if variation or plan outcomes in South change required

**Encourage the Museum,** 

to have regular outreach

activities or satellites in

**Library and Aigantighe** 

Resource a CityTown private development crosscouncil co-ordinator function in TDC

**Develop pre-selected expert** supplier panel for professional advice, construction methodology and design services w/ localised independent knowledge. (Establishment/management external to TDC)

Streamline and outsource design review process (regulatory) to ensure quality

TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN

139

Theatre/civic hub

functional

Low cost interventions to reduce vehicle speeds (guided by **ONF** street guide) classifications

Water and biodiversity

strategy for current

and future green city

network (incl. rain

surrounds.

**Demolish existing Strathallan** 

relocated, smaller footprint

toilet. Reinstate immediate

toilets and replace with

**Promote** existing laneway connections and circuits. linking parking

packages for priority streetscape investment in Creative Town Heart-Strathallan St & George St

**Design and costing** 

**George Street** renewal and capacity upgrade <3 years

**Decrease wait** Mahinga Kai-

Investigate

Promote activation, events

(PDP, regulatory, property portfolio)

Build

TIMARU CITYTOWN

#### 0-5 YEARS SEQUENCING TIMELINE MAP

- Strathallan toilets upgrade and re-instate surrounds - Yr 1
- Low cost interventions to reduce vehicle speeds - Yr 1
- 3 Supporting services/small infrastructure e.g. mahi toi, power and lighting to support markets and events or gateway appeal for civic space activations Yr 2/3
- Bay Hill & George Street Small intervention projects wayfinding, pop up bollards for temporary road closure Yr 2/3
- Royal Arcade as a place to focus activation Yr 1-2
- 6 Strathallan Corner Civic Space Upgrade Yr 1-4
- Stafford (declutter and resurface tiles)
- Improve side streets with public art and urban play to decrease the perceived distance from the edges to the centre Mahinga kai play/recreation/arts trail Yr 5
- Bay Hill Gateway
  Intersection commence planning,
  design and State
  Highway discussions
  with Waka Kotahi Yr 5

140



#### 5-10+ YEARS

Creative Town Heart concept design and cost option packages to inform public realm-civic space and streetscape upgrade investment priorities and dependencies. Undertake reporting and LTP submissions/budget confirmation.

Legend.

142

Investigate

(Investment

Promote (Guidance,

incentives.

storytelling,

monitoring and

evaluation etc)

Enable
(PDP, regulatory,

policy/bylaw,

Build

property portfolio)

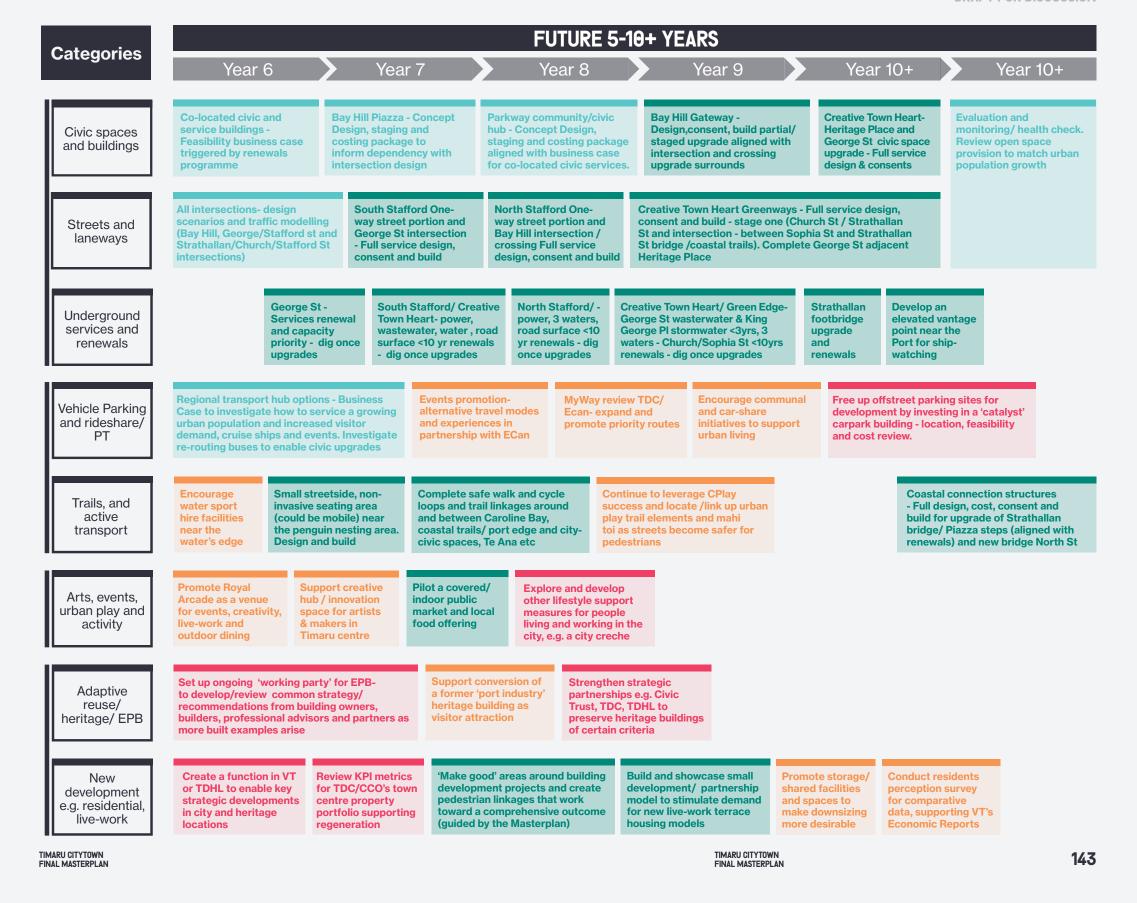
(Feasibility/design/

implementation)

feasibility/costing/

activation, events,

business case)



#### 5-10+ YEARS SEQUENCING TIMELINE MAP

#### **Under 10 Years**

- 1 Intersection upgrades/ pedestrian crossings
- Streetscape upgrade of North Stafford including a One-Way
- Streetscape upgrade of South Stafford including a One-Way
- Church Street & Strathallan Street Greenway Route
- Shared path walk and cycle connection along original shoreline

#### Over 10 Years

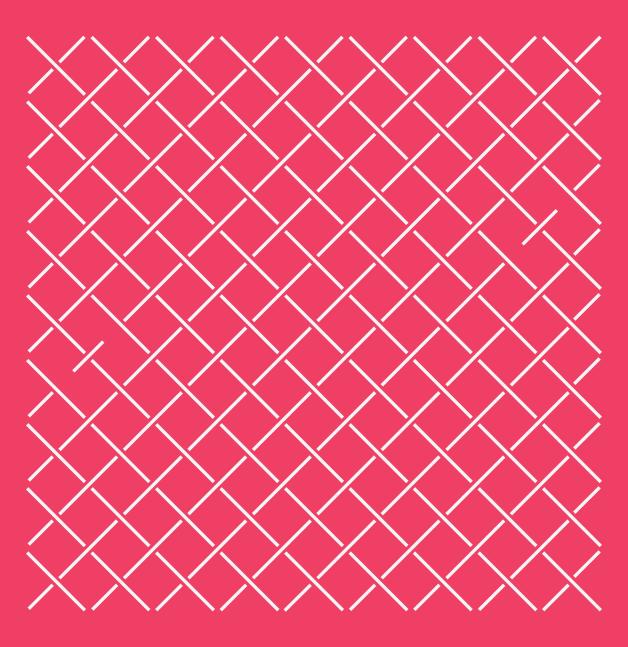
- Completion of Greenways and parkway edge to support increase in urban living and diversity of transport modes
- Co-locate/relocate civic anchors and community hubs where appropriate
- Cycleways and upgraded/new bridge structures connect coast to city
- 9 Heritage Place Upgrade

Legend. (Feasibility/design/ implementation)

144 TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 145

88

## APPENDICES



TIMARU CITYTOWN
FINAL MASTERPLAN

2025 - 2035

#### 8.1 **PRIOR AND** RELATED **WORKS**

**Completed Citytown** Masterplan Suite of

Completed Venture Timaru Led CityTown Workstream

Underway - Venture

Completed Council-led CityTown Workstream

Underway - Council-led CityTown Workstream

Other Workstreams

Underway - Other Workstreams

#### 2011-2020

#### **INVESTIGATE**

Research & Background

Parks Strategy 2012-24 2011

A high level document to identify existing land resources. to identify the need for additional park land to meet future demographic changes, and to support requirements for reserves contributions arising from development.

**Timaru Retail Market** Assessment 2015

A retail demand/supply study analysing the future scale and type of retail provision.

**Town Centre Study 2016** 

This report examines the issues and opportunities faced by the District's town centre & presents options to address this.

**CBD Summit Outcomes** Report 2017

A summary of two workshops in February 2020 to assist the development of a CBD plan for Timaru. (100contributors).

**Timaru District Growth Management Strategy 2018** 

A 30 year strategy to manage urban and rural land use growth. Intended to inform the supply of zoned land provided through the District Plan and how to manage growth in existing zoned areas. The approved GMS will also inform the Long Term Plan.

**Beca City Hub Stakeholder** Summary Report 2020

Over 120 people, representing town centre stakeholders and over 30 community, private and government groups gave feedback to identify and summarise the challenges and key themes for the city hub strategy project.

NPS-UD 2020

The National Policy Statement on Urban Development aims to make sure that New Zealand's towns and cities are wellfunctioning urban environments that meet the changing needs of our diverse communities.

TIMARU CITYTOWN

2021

#### **DISCOVER**

**Analysis & Further Engagement** 

Long Term Plan 2021-31 Consultation

Feedback gathered on preferred level of ratepayer investment for the town centre - to Facilitate, to Enable or to Transform. The Officer Report summarises the feedback themes and community preference for a very high level of return on a moderate amount of investment.

**CBD Parking Occupancy Study** 

**Growth capacity assessments**stormwater, flood mapping. wastewater, water supply, 2021

**TDC City Hub Resident's Perception Survey 2021** 

In preparation for the Timaru CityTown project a broad research was required to gather the views, ideas and aspirations of residents across the District for the town centre of Timaru. Helping us identify and prioritise preferred purposes for the town centre and activities/experiences.

**Timaru District Parking** Strategy

Establishes high level strategic principles for parking management across the Timaru District

**Current State Report** 

The assessment reviews the current performance of Timaru CityTown against seven attributes of forward thinking, inclusive cities that put people first. These attributes align with Timaru District's Community Wellbeing Outcomes as set out in the Long-Term Plan (2021-31).

**TDC Destination Management** Plan 2021

Prepared by Venture Timaru this plan is intended to support the future growth and development of the Timaru District's visitor economy.

**Timaru District Economic Dev** Strategy 2021

Prepared by Venture this document sets out a programme of action that will be pursued to ensure that the Timaru District, its people, places and businesses, thrive.

**Timaru Residential Property** Market Study 2022

2022

Colliers gathered insights including the existing residential typology, sales and rental data, local demographics, business demographics and information on relevant commercial projects and data points begin to trial, test and refine ideas.

Timaru CBD Group

**DEFINE + DEVELOP** 

**Timaru CityTown Infrastructure** Planning and Delivery - Current State Report 2023

**Earthquake Prone Building** performance development recommendations 2023

2023

**Timaru CityTown Infrastructure Planning and Delivery Current State Report** 

**Benefits Realisation Plan** 

Making it Happen

2024

in the Timaru town centre. A summary of the social and commercial opportunity, a guide to the regulatory and technical framework, and a signpost to support available for those seeking to unlock residential development in the Timaru town centre.

**Proposed District Plan** 

Incorporates recommendations residential development.

CityTown Masterplan suite of documents

Workshop series 2022

To realise Council's aspiration to "enable" urban regeneration in the heart of Timaru, a local Community Advisory Group and Development and Investment Group were established to help review, refine and define the strategic ambitions for the Timaru CityTown Strategy. They contributed to a series of four design workshops looking at current state, future state, shared purpose and role & influence. This generated the vision and informed the Strategic Framework underpinning the Tactical Masterplan.

Timaru CityTown Strategic **Framework** 

The Framework leverages all conversations, research and data collection to date together with case studies from around the country to inform the Vision, the Kaupapa, the Outcomes and the Key Moves proposed to enable urban regeneration in the Timaru Town centre. It also proposes a tactical process for the next 18 months which will enable us to refine back from a long list of possibilities to our immediate investment priorities.

**Cultural narrative framework** Providing a cultural narrative around Te Whāriki through regular korero and review of content alongside

the CityTown project brand.

**Project brand** 

A project brand to help communicate suitable. the CityTown masterplan to the wider public. A language that reflects Timaru's positive attributes and history as a place of shelter.

**CityTown Draft Spatial** Masterplan

Isolates the components of the Strategic Framework that will inform our tactical process over the next 18 months to distill Options for the Timaru CityTown Masterplan in time for the Long Term Plan 2024-34.

CityTown Trials Design gateway documents and Trial insight reports

Isolates the components of the Strategic Framework that will inform our tactical process over the next 18 months to distill Options for the Timaru CityTown Masterplan in time for community consultation through the Long Term Plan 2024-34.

CityTown data monitoring and evaluation report

Isolates the components of the Strategic Framework that will inform our tactical process over the next 18 months to distill Options for the Timaru CityTown Masterplan in time for community consultation through the Long Term Plan 2024-34.

**Timaru CityTown Urban Living Study** Investigates the feasibility and interest in urban living in Timaru. Who, what and where this might be most

A guide to residential development

**TDC Officer Submissions & Hearings Timaru City Centre Parking** of the CityTown project team for regulatory changes that will promote the Strategic Outcomes and unlock centre. the Key Moves, notably inner city

**Strathallan Corner Toilets and civic** space feasibility report

Isolates the components of the Strategic Framework that will inform our tactical process over the next 18 months to distill Options for the Timaru CityTown Masterplan in time for community consultation through the Long Term Plan 2024-34.

**DELIVER** 

Long Term Plan 2024-2034

Infrastructure Strategy 2024-54 The 30 year vision and plan for our community's infrastructure to ensure a balanced work program that protects public health, promotes economic growth. and supports our community wellbeing.

Management Plan

**Land Transport Activity & Asset** Management Plan 2024 - 34

TIMARU CITYTOWN

149

Page 99

148

8.2 POLICY/BYLAW REVIEW

Content is pending

Content is pending

159 TIMARU CITYTOWN FINAL MASTERPLAN 151

#### CityTown Master Plan Workshops May – June 2024

#### **Stakeholder Feedback and Response Summary**

#### **People and Process**

- 1 Throughout May and June 2024 the draft Plan underwent consultation with both an 'internal' project team of subject matter experts (including CCOs, utilities), and with a limited group of governance and external stakeholders with historical project involvement.
- 2 Stakeholders invited to/included in this review process were:

Internal Project Team (units/agencies)	External Stakeholders
Development	Elected Members
Land Transport	
Drainage and Water	Project Steering Group (excluding
Parks and Recreation	elected members)
Waste Management	TCRAG/Stockman Group
Building Control	Venture Timaru
Planning	SC Chamber of Commerce
Environmental Compliance	CBD Group
Property	Group Manager Infrastructure
Customer Services, including Community	Group Manager Environmental Services
Development	Te Runanga o Arowhenua – vacancy
Policy	,
Libraries	Development and Investment Group
Museum	(excluding elected members, PSG
Climate Change	members)
Emergency Management	Timaru District Holdings Limited
Communications	Miss Timaru, Preen
	RSM Law
Senior Leadership Team	Handsome Group Limited
'	Prime Port
Venture Timaru (Economic Development)	
Venture Timaru (Destination	Community Advisory Group
Management)	Arowhenua
Timaru District Holdings Limited	Te Aitarakihi Multicultural Trust
Earthquake Prone Buildings Liaison	Aoraki Multicultural
Officer	Presbyterian Support South Canterbury
	Ignite
Alpine Energy	Sustainable South Canterbury Trust
Netcon	South Canterbury DHB
Chorus	Age Concern
	Trial Participants and Stakeholders
	Timaru Penguins
	Ignite
	Aidan Theatre
	Libraries
	Youth submitter
	Wuhoo/CPlay

Former PSG members
Prime Port
Timaru Artisan Farmers Market
Royal Arcade Trial participants
Code Breakers Trial participants
First Fridays Trial participants
Strathallan Corner Trial participants
Te Ana Maori Rock Art Centre
Businesses
Buskers

CBD Group (separate workshop)

Timaru Civic Trust (separate workshop)

#### **Caroline Bay Stakeholders**

Arowhenua Host Lions Timaru Yacht and Powerboat Clun Penguins First Timaru Penguins Speed Skating South Canterbury Sustainable South Canterbury Trust Venture Timaru Suburban Lions Caroline Bay Association Sopheze on the Bay South Canterbury Hospice Timaru Festival of Roses Timaru Horticultural Society Caroline Bay Rock n Hop Endeavour Sea Scouts

Italics indicate that the individual or agency either did not respond or was not able to participate within these timeframes.

PrimePort

Feedback from workshops, and from emails/written submissions, was then collated and provided (verbatim) to the design consultants. This feedback was then further workshopped between the programme manager and the design team to confirm areas with strong support and to refine the substantive changes required to address points raised by stakeholders.

#### Popular elements, positive feedback

Strong support was expressed at the strategic level (ie Key Moves, Character Areas), for enhancements to civic spaces (particularly Strathallan Corner, including the relocation of the toilet block/reallocation of space) and for all initiatives to increase accessibility and amenity, including proposals to develop trails for play, mahi toi and art, and fitness.

- Proposals to implement both operational and infrastructure solutions to encourage more frequent events and activities in the centre, including the recommendation to broker a solution to our vacant shop fronts, also received positive feedback, as did intersection enhancements (in principle).
- Agencies with a potential role to play in unlocking centre vibrancy were positive about the importance of ongoing partnership and collaboration with the Council, and support the recommendations that the Council should resource relevant functions within agencies that have the most appropriate remit (eg business development or support) rather than trying to do everything itself. They are keen to continue to partner in design and planning for next steps.
- There has also been consistently strong support for and recognition of the need to increase our resident population although it is seen as important that existing building and business owners are not compromised by premature infrastructure changes made to unlock these new opportunities. The Master Plan provides some direction here about lead and lag activities and investment.

#### Unpopular elements, opportunities for improvement

8 Significant opportunities for revision were also identified, as outlined in the table below.

Feedback	Response
Frustration with document length, complexity; desire to bring the roadmap (proposed projects and funding) front and centre	Summary version to be prepared once content has been endorsed for public feedback. <i>To be actioned pending decision outcome</i>
Identified errors, repetition, placeholder content	Updated or removed as relevant. Actioned
Small font size	Copies of the final version will be printed in A3/booklet format as intended. <i>Actioned</i>
Language too negative in places, not sufficiently inspirational. Language also too technical, insufficient focus on economic vibrancy, success of local businesses	Language revised to describe opportunities, solutions. Various updates throughout to highlight the business/commercial opportunity and relevant considerations, impacts <i>Actioned</i>
Confusing infographics, missing keys/legends to interpretation, map details confusing or inconsistent	Replacement of confusing infographics (eg impact compasses replaced with slider bars), keys/legends updated as relevant, map details updated as relevant <i>Actioned</i>
Consultation	
Individual building and business owners haven't been consulted.	Data from consultation and engagement during early project stages (eg LTP, Perception Survey), and from the Strategic Framework phase, and
Anchor tenants haven't been consulted.	from the trials is available online. Details of targeted conversations/meetings/email exchanges with specific building and business owners in connection with particular topics or

trials has been reviewed by Mayor/CE to confirm that this has been appropriate and sufficient. **Actioned** 

Representatives of building and business owners (CBD Group, Chamber, TCRAG, EPB Liaison Officers) have all participated in the review of the draft Master Plan and a comprehensive record of their feedback (verbatim, as per emails and workshops) has been provided in confidence to elected members. Plan updates are as summarised here and as per the attached updated Master Plan. The Mayor has undertaken key conversations with anchor tenants to date. *Actioned* 

The officer recommendation is to now release the Master Plan for public feedback including general outreach/review by building/business owners, and including targeted conversations with 'anchor' tenants to carry feedback into the plan and/or interpretation of the plan. It is proposed that both the wider and targeted engagement and in person outreach would be led by the CBD Group and South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce in partnership, with core expenses (eg printing) met by TDC, and with dedicated officer support and officer liaison with the 'anchor' tenants or others keen to engage directly. *To be actioned pending decision outcome* 

#### <u>Parking</u>

No net loss of parking – anything lost should be offset nearby (on or offstreet)

More detail (#s) for on street provision (loss or gain) in key locations

More detail around options for alternative provision (on or off street) including new/additional parking buildings (fully accessible, in close proximity to main attractions), layouts, management approaches etc

Improve clarity of language, greater transparency about implications of the recommendations

Need case studies/research on impact on business of changing provision

Plan explicit - no net loss of parking Actioned

Site specific details (#s) provided where a concept has been developed (eg Heritage Place). *Actioned* 

Additional pages (pp 56 – 59) now included to outline options for management and additional parking provision both on and off street. *Actioned however at this time funding/resourcing has not been allocated to meet stakeholder objectives around additional parking provision.* 

Case studies/research examples included with detail around impact on businesses of changing provision (pp 56-57). *Actioned* 

Updates to network chapter to improve clarity of intent for on street provision. *Actioned* 

Land Transport Unit to commence installation of new parking infrastructure, collection of relevant data to inform optimisation for occupancy, footfall

#### To be actioned from FY2027-28 as per budget allocation

Land Transport Unit to complete (District) Parking Strategy and City Centre Parking Management Plan in due course *To be actioned following allocation of budget/resource* 

Land Transport Unit to remediate Sophia Street carparking building to protect opportunity to maximise occupancy *To be actioned from FY2024-25 as per budget allocation* 

#### Vehicle Movements/Access

One-Way North Stafford – support for narrowing intersection crossing distances and improving intersection safety; support for additional pedestrian amenity including space for dining, art, play, plantings etc; support in principle for slowing traffic etc but concerns about restricting circulation and supporting simple wayfinding, particularly assisting drivers to navigate to alternative/off-street parking options if no right turn from top end of top Stafford St block and no transit south above Canon St. Suggestion that better to retain right turn down the Port Loop in lieu of left turn towards Theodosia/Evans Street.

One-Way South Stafford - support for narrowing between key civic spaces and including gathering space outside of theatre/museum (or across the road) for tour, school groups etc; support for additional pedestrian amenity including space for art, play, plantings etc; support in principle for slowing traffic etc *but* concerns about restricting circulation and supporting simple wayfinding to existing or future retail businesses in the area noting that many of those businesses rely on vehicle access for delivery and/or retail of goods (this area of town is currently attracting larger format retail, not small boutique stores).

Public transport proposal should also include more detail about the MyWay, either be more specific about current routes/proposed changes to regional bus network or do not include.

Perceived risk to pedestrians of sharing space with cyclists (Greenways) vs desire to see more explicit provision for cycling infrastructure.

Need case studies/research on impact on business of shifting to one way streets

One way concepts (North, South Stafford) retained for further consideration however new information about pros/cons/mitigations, also relevant case studies and impact on businesses, now included at pp62 – 63 *Actioned*.

Recommendations tagged with the caveat that

- Further site specific data collection (parking and vehicle circulation) and testing of road layout solutions; and
- Further engagement with building owners and business owners and operators in and around affected blocks; and
- Provision of alternative parking solutions and effective signage/wayfinding solutions; and
- Clear investment logic for the value-add of any alternative use of road corridor (eg art, play, dining, plantings, shared spaces for pedestrians/cyclists etc);

Must all be addressed in detail in any further consultation and design solutions that may progress in due course with full review by a transportation specialist. *Caveat actioned, follow through to be actioned in future planning.* 

There is a dependency with the Land Transport Unit Parking Strategy and City Centre Parking Management Plan, also the Land Transport Unit's Asset and Activity Management Plan *To be actioned following allocation of budget/resource* 

No budget for additional design work, concepts. No present funding however would be actioned as/when individual projects progress.

Desire for more detailed design work and concepts, aerial plans (cf Civic Spaces) to show street typologies, potential reallocation of space etc

Block sizes are too big, we need more mid-block connections.

Desire for better pedestrian/mobility access including level access across assets owned by NZTA (Port Loop Road/intersection) and/or Kiwi Rail (eg along Station St, Strathallan footbridge).

Existing recommendations to create additional mid block connections and laneways as/when the opportunity presents made more explicit (eg pp 35 Key Move Welcome Home/Hoki Mai). However the mechanism to achieve this outcome would be the District Plan and/or consenting process for individual developments where there may be opportunities for win/win outcomes. Realisation of stakeholder aspiration now sits with the planning/consenting processes and in the context of private development.

Council can continue to advocate with NZTA and KiwiRail for improvements to pedestrian safety and amenity at crossing/potential crossing points but the Master Plan does not incorporate ideas which we cannot action in the current environment. Realisation of stakeholder aspiration sits with external agencies/central government.

#### **Character Areas**

Not enough detail but too much on each page, spread it out

Not enough detail about opportunities for the Bay Hill to reallocate road corridor away from vehicle movements/parking and towards outdoor dining/pedestrian experience. Desire for a one way section, and/or a fully pedestrianised section at the top as an alternative mechanism to reduce traffic through the Bay Hill intersection, possibly creating an alternative vehicle access behind the proposed Bay Hill development.

'Cultural Core' both title and area/inclusions unclear

South Stafford area should recognise and provide for businesses with larger footprints and/or requiring exceptional vehicle access.

Character area content at pp 36 – 43 expanded to include simple map annotations for each area, clearer infographics for activity opportunities, more detailed descriptors and sample imagery of the aspirational look/feel. *Actioned* 

Geographic scope of Bay Hill Piazza and Intersection Civic Space (at pp 96-99) expanded to clearly show (map and text) incorporation of opportunity for reallocation/alternative use of road space at the top end of the Bay Hill without being definitive (still subject to detailed design in due course). **Actioned** 

'Cultural Core' updated throughout to 'Creative Town Heart' and expanded as per above to be more explicit that this includes not only particular streets and laneways but also the relevant civic spaces/assets in or adjoining the area. **Actioned** 

South Stafford character area still promotes development for residential, accommodation, and civic use with upgrades and renewals to support urban intensification capacity increase and corresponding community amenity for new residents. At this time it is anticipated that residential/ accommodation/ civic activities will coexist with existing retail, commercial and entertainment activities in this location until such time as market forces drive a shift in investment

priorities (ie streetscape upgrades would lag not lead/dictate change). Review of recommendations to follow (1) increased private sector activity in this area, (2) resolution of uncertainties around future of the Theatre Royal and TDHL sites, and (3) confirmation of urgency of both TDC and utilities (Alpine) renewals. Requires further analysis to minimise or mitigate disruption for existing building/business owners in due course, however there is broad support for a residential investment focus for the South Stafford area.

#### **Civic Spaces**

Limited interest in/support for the shelter structure at the Bay Hill

Bay Hill intersection – ongoing desire to exclude heavy vehicles/Port traffic, redirecting them to North St, Heaton St

Bay Hill intersection – consideration of a pedestrian over or underpass

Inappropriate to include layout changes in Heritage Place concept that impact/incorporate privately owned property

Theatre location formerly a fixed dependency/hard parameter, now potentially flexible

Co-location of civic spaces formerly not in scope, now in scope

Strathallan Corner – general support, two stakeholders expressed concerns about the number of toilet stalls and the stalls being unisex (South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce seeks a review of the proposal to reduce the number of stalls and convert to unisex); some desire to see costed options that would remove the Alpine substation to allow for a fully levelled site; limited disagreement about site priorities (shelter, performance etc)

Shelter structured removed from Bay Hill Piazza and Intersection Civic Space concept at pp. 96 - 99 *Actioned* 

Removal of heavy vehicles/Port traffic from the Bay Hill intersection out of scope as per previous SLT, Council direction *Not actioned* 

Pedestrian under/over pass not incorporated due to feasibility (and cost) and asset ownership considerations. *Not actioned* 

Heritage Place concept at pp 92 - 95 revised to no longer include layout changes impacting privately owned property. *Actioned* 

Theatre references and content not edited at this time however earlier Civic Hub/co-location concept (previously removed at draft spatial plan stage) reintroduced at pp 100 – 101 to highlight opportunity for consideration of multiple possible sites within the 'Creative Town Heart', relevant criteria to support analysis. Actioned in part, subsequent decision may be required on whether to prepare a revised Master Plan pending final decisions on Theatre/civic hub options

Strathallan Corner is in the 0 - 5 year road map which will direct budget allocation for the LTP 2024 - 34 funding, and is also marked for immediate investment via the separate toilets/MBIE TIF funding. Details about the design and costed options will be separately consulted in due course pending confirmation by the Tenders and Procurement Committee that officers can proceed with the preferred supplier. To be actioned pending TP Committee decision to proceed to design and consenting phase.

The Property Unit have recommended that 4 unisex units (one fully accessible, with baby change facilities) is sufficient to meet current needs and the design allows space for the installation of a further 4 units if later required. The fully accessible, inclusive design has become standard across the country and has already been implemented in other locations both within the Timaru District (22 fully unisex already including station street; 6 hybrid; 10 currently segregated) and in nearby areas such as Rakaia and Tekapo, and is as per the original funding application. No action, there is no present intention to review either the number of units or the unisex format.

#### **Investment Case**

Investment logic is missing both for the total proposition and for the specific projects/recommendations

Need to reincorporate evidence/case studies from other similar town centres, also with consideration as to how Timaru may be the same/different

Both the draft Benefits Realisation Plan and the draft Investment and Delivery Plan are now appropriately signposted at various points throughout the Plan. Chapter 7 (Enabling Tactics) has also been updated to include the high level case for change/investment with detail around the who, what, how, why etc and acknowledgement of how workstreams (roles and responsibilities, documents, work programmes) are operating across TDC, its CCOs, private sector groups and community agencies, as well as private individuals. *Actioned* 

The revised scope for the Master Plan did not include either a costed work programme or an investment case. This would, at the time, have been inappropriate due to the forecast reduction in Council's LTP 2024-34 funding commitment. Work on the draft Investment and Delivery Plan was also suspended in February 2022 in accordance with the direction to stop all consultant spend not contractually committed. Timaru has an existing Economic Development Strategy (EDS) which is collated and updated by Venture Timaru, and the CBD Group (now funded via the BID) has their own Strategic Plan for the town centre. Not currently in scope for the Master Plan to include either a costed work programme or a corresponding business case.

Case studies including economic impacts as studied elsewhere have been included throughout the document as relevant to recommendations given. This information provides the rationale for

the 0-5 year road map which sets the priorities for the LTP 2024-34 funding. **Actioned** 

#### Local operating context

Frequent reiteration of Timaru's context ie local demographics (ageing, rural) and behaviours (vehicle dependency), topography constraints around accessibility, size/function of the town

Alignment with other related workstreams, plans, strategies needs to be clearer (eg District Plan)

Relevant local triggers, dependencies, constraints need to be much clearer and defined as specific to Timaru (eg EPBs, theatre, civic hub, Showgrounds development)

Strong desire for increase to both capital and operating investment eg subsidising costs of development/resourcing the process internally to derisk and streamline for developers; lighting (street trees, uplighting of buildings, technological innovation at Strathallan Corner etc); plantings (new/upgraded, more regular maintenance etc)

Not the role of the Master Plan to provide specific direction as to how the CCOs operate, priorities for activity and investment.

Desire for more permissive building regulations, less onerous requirements around EPBs, change of use, redevelopment etc.

More detail needed around TDC requirements for/support available to private building owners with specific issues around management and maintenance of facades and canopies.

Well understood local context is described at numerous points throughout the document, the implications are unpacked in detail in the Current State Report and the Strategic Framework. *Actioned* 

Workstream alignment appears in new infographics (eg pp 8-9) and is discussed under Chapter 7 Enabling Tactics. The Road Maps at pp 138-145 include relevant deliverables/dependencies from other agencies, workstreams. **Actioned** 

Road map recommends an opex allocation to support vibrancy. This is prioritised to addressing vacant spaces, enabling development and encouraging arts/culture/play as key "unlockers" which can become self-supporting if value add can be demonstrated, ie the community/private sector can own these initiatives in time. **Actioned** 

Plan updated to include additional detail around the urban residential opportunity at pp 44-45 and also now clearly signposts related workstreams/documents which outline the detail around mechanisms to enable (residential) development. *Actioned* 

However, related workstreams/documents outlining opportunities to enable (residential) development are still in draft and the funding/resourcing/regulatory commitment to proposed tools has not been made. *Opportunity being progressed, process for decision making in place, however funding/resourcing may be insufficient to meet stakeholder objectives.* 

Roadmap also recommends capex investment in small infrastructure (eg power supplies, pop up bollards etc) to support and encourage more regular activation of the streets and civic spaces through arts and performance, markets etc. **Actioned.** 

At present there is no short or long term opex provision for a higher level of streetscape amenity and maintenance eg lighting, plantings and the road map reflects this. *Funding/resourcing insufficient to meet stakeholder objectives*.

References to specific CCO priorities, investments, operating processes scaled back to general direction to TDC/CCOs to consider opportunities complementary to the Master Plan and/or acknowledgement where a core CCO function is relevant to an opportunity (eg Venture Timaru leading on economic/business development; TDHL as possible investment partner). No recommended change to existing mechanisms for TDC/CCOs to set direction, priorities. Actioned as to Master Plan, opportunity to act on stakeholder priorities for CCOs now sitting with CCOs/governance.

Changes to the Building Act and associated policies cannot be actioned by the Council. Realisation of stakeholder aspirations sits with central government.

Frustrations with cost of process to date, delays in progress and communication

Frustration with reduction in investment commitment from the Council

One member of the Project Steering Group has been very explicit that he does *not* support the plan, and does *not* have confidence in the project and consultant team to deliver the right solutions.

Not addressed in the Master Plan, not the scope of the document to do so.

Decisions that have been made re scope changes, programme pauses, suspension of communication/engagement with stakeholders, restriction of information, reduction of the funding commitment etc are political and sit with elected members or the CEO to respond/comment.

Similarly, officers cannot respond to comments or questions about the competence or trustworthiness of consultants or team members. Performance concerns sit with the CEO to address.

Not actioned, inappropriate for officers/plan to address these concerns.

#### **Divergent views**

- 9 The workshops also highlighted the tension (not new) between feedback from building owners/business operators who are focused on the uncertain commercial impact of infrastructure changes (often preferring status quo network model for vehicle circulation, parking), and feedback from both technical experts and community groups/agencies all of whom have a significantly higher appetite for change.
- As the risk is worn differently across these groups it is unlikely that the two positions would move closer together, however they may move forward in parallel as (in due course) we increase our social licence for change through the delivery of projects with documented, positive, local economic outcomes.

8.3 Temporary Road Closure applications - Section 342 and Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) LGA 1974

Author: Selina Kunac, Transport Strategic Advisor

Susannah Ratahi, Land Transport Manager

Authoriser: Andrew Dixon, Group Manager Infrastructure

#### Recommendation

That the Infrastructure Committee:

- 1. Approves temporary closure of Cain Street (from Hassell Street to Aynsley Street) for the Timaru Girls High School Ball on 9 August 2024 from 5.45pm to 8.00pm under Section 342 and Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974.
- 2. Approves traffic management for the Timaru Girls High School Ball be funded from the Community Events and Programmes budget.
- 3. Approves temporary closure of Raymond Street (from Otipua Road to Oxford Street) for the Timaru Boys High School Ball on 30 August 2024 from 5.45pm to 7.30pm, under Section 342 and Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974.
- 4. Approves traffic management for the Timaru Boys High School Ball be funded from the Community Events and Programmes budget.
- 5. Approves temporary closure of George Street (from Stafford Street to Station Street) for the Spring Fathers Day Market on 31 August 2024 from 7.00am to 1.30pm under Section 342 and Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974.
- 6. Approves traffic management for the Spring Fathers Day Market to be funded from the Community Events and Programmes budget.

#### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to seek the Committee's approval of temporary road closure application(s), as per Section 342 and Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974.

#### **Assessment of Significance**

This matter is deemed to be of low significance under Council's Significance and Engagement Policy as the process is in accordance with legislation and Council policies. However, it should be acknowledged that due to the nature of, and volumes of visitors expected at, the event(s) proposed, there is likely to be community interest.

## **Background**

- A recent review of Council's processes by the Ombudsman has recommended that Council use the Local Government Act 1974 processes for approving temporary road closures for events.
- 4 Temporary road closures for events have previously been processed using the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965. These regulations are a very similar process to the Local Government Act 1974 both requiring public notification of the road closure. The

difference is that approval of temporary road closures under the Traffic Regulations can and was delegated to Council Officers, approval under the Local Government Act cannot be delegated with the legislation specifically stating that for events, Council or Committee must approve these.

- Under Section 342 and Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974 Council (or a Committee of the whole) may close any road or part of a road to all traffic or any specified type of traffic (including pedestrian traffic) for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate 31 days in any year for any exhibition, fair, show, market, concert, film-making, race or other sporting event, or public function. This is provided that no road may be closed for these purposes if that closure would, in the opinion of the council, be likely to impede traffic unreasonably.
- Council officers operate a temporary road closure application process that enables organisations in the Timaru District to apply for temporary road closures for their events. All applications are assessed against key criteria including event type/activities planned, temporary traffic management arrangements, and impact on stakeholders.
- 7 Council budgets allow for funding of traffic management for community events and the following classification system is used to determine whether events are eligible for this funding and where responsibility for costs is held.

	Commercial Events	Community Events
Definition	Where the primary activity is the sale or marketing of goods or services	Where the primary activity is entertainment, recreation, celebration or commemoration
Responsibility for preparation of temporary traffic management plan (including associated costs).	Event	Council and/or Council's contractor
Responsibility for implementing temporary traffic management plan (including associated costs)	Event	Council and/or Council's contractor

#### Discussion

The following temporary road closure applications have been assessed by Council officers and require decision on approval by the Committee. Records of application assessment including full Council officer recommendations are included as Attachment 1. Council should consider approval or decline of each application individually.

Event Name / Organisation	Event type	Event date and traffic management set up/pack down times	Proposed closure area	Officer recommendation
Timaru Girls High School Ball	Community	9 August 2024 from 5.45pm to 8.00pm	Cain Street (from Hassell Street to Aynsley Street)	Recommended
Timaru Boys High School Ball	Community	30 August 2024 from 5.45pm to 7.30pm	Raymond Street (from Otipua Road to Oxford Street)	Recommended
Spring Fathers Day Market	Community	31 August 2024 from 7am to 1.30pm	George Street (from Stafford Street to Station Street)	Recommended

#### **Options and Preferred Option**

- 9 Option one is that the Committee:
  - approves the following applications for temporary road closure under Section 342 and Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974, including all conditions proposed by Officers:

Event Name / Organisation	Event type	Event date and time	Proposed closure area
Timaru Girls High School Ball	Community	9 August 2024 from 5.45pm to 8.00pm	Cain Street (from Hassell Street to Aynsley Street)
Timaru Boys High School	Community	30 August 2024 from	Raymond Street (from Otipua
Ball		5.45pm to 7.30pm	Road to Oxford Street)
Spring Fathers Day	Community	31 August 2024 from	George Street (from Stafford
Market		7am to 1.30pm	Street to Station Street)

- This option incurs some cost to Council as outlined in the Financial Implications section below. These costs are within available budgets. Option 1 is the preferred option.
- Option two is that the Committee approves the temporary road closure applications as per Option 1, under Section 342 and Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974, with additional conditions to be advised by the Committee. This option incurs some cost to Council as outlined in the Financial Implications section below.
- Option three is that the Committee advises alternate decisions to approve and/or decline the temporary road closure applications under Section 342 and Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974, including advising any additional conditions if applicable. This option may result in the proposed event or events being unable to proceed as planned and cancelled.

#### Consultation

- 12 Under the Local Government Act 1974 Schedule 10, Council is required to:
  - a) Publicly notify the intent to temporarily close roads for events
  - b) Publicly notify Council/Committee decisions to temporarily close roads for events
  - c) Consult with NZ Police and New Zealand Transport Agency prior to approving temporary road closures for events.
  - Council officers have undertaken requirements a) and c) for all applications considered in this report.
  - The attached application review records outline feedback received from NZ Police and New Zealand Transport Agency (Attachment 1).
- The temporary road closure application process requires applicants to produce a communications plan advising how they intend to communicate with key stakeholders and people impacted by the event. Communications plans for all applications considered in this report have been received and approved by Council officers. Implementation of these plans is noted as a condition of approval should the temporary road closure proceed. Council officers would further notify emergency services of confirmed closures.

# **Relevant Legislation, Council Policy and Plans**

- 14 Local Government Act 1974
- 15 Timaru District Council Long Term Plan 2024-34

## **Financial and Funding Implications**

- 16 Council has an approved Community Events and Programmes budget of \$100,000 (excluding GST) for the current financial year within the Land Transport activity, which provides funding for traffic management for community events.
- 17 The following costs would be incurred by Council if these events were approved to proceed (all costs are estimates and exclude GST):

Event Name	Cost to prepare temporary traffic management plan	Cost to implement temporary traffic management plan
Timaru Girls High School Ball	\$150.00 + GST	\$2,135.00 + GST
Timaru Boys High School Ball	\$150.00 + GST	\$2,135.00 + GST
Spring Fathers Day Market	\$250.00 + GST	\$2,135.00 + GST
Subtotal	\$550.00 + GST	\$6,405.00 + GST
TOTAL	\$6,955.00 + GST	

#### **Other Considerations**

18 Council officers consider that temporary road closure presents some reputational, financial and health and safety risks to Council, however, these are mitigated by the proposed conditions of road closure including planned communications activity, provision of insurance cover and compliance with relevant regulations, legislation and bylaws respectively.

#### **Attachments**

1. Road Closure Requests July 2024 🗓 🖫

# **Temporary Road Closure**

# **Application Review Form**

Section 342 and Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974



o Te Tihi o Maru

Event details		
Event name:	Spring Fathers Day Market	
Event organisation:	Timaru Artisan Farmers Market	
Event contact details:	Andrea Hutton	
Event date/time:	31/8/2024 9am – 12pm	
Road/road section to be closed:	George Street (from Stafford Street to Station Street) Road closure period: 7am – 1.30pm	
Event type:	Community	

|--|

#### Recommendations

That Timaru District Council (or a Committee of the whole) approve temporary closure of George Street (from Stafford Street to Station Street) for the Spring Fathers Day Market on 31/8/2024 from 7am to 1.30pm under Section 342 and Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974. That Timaru District Council (or a Committee of the whole) approve traffic management for the Spring Fathers Day Market to be funded from the Community Events and Programmes budget.

That approval is subject to the following conditions:

- That the **Timaru Artisan Farmers Market** has public liability insurance in place for the event, covering a minimum of \$1,000,000.
- that the Temporary Traffic Management Plan for this event is updated and approved by Council Officers, and that temporary closure is undertaken in accordance with this plan.
- that communications activity is undertaken in accordance with the approved communications plan.
- that all staff at the event (including volunteers) comply with any instructions from NZ Police,
   Council Officers and Traffic Management staff.
- that the Timaru Artisan Farmers Market will meet the cost of any damage to public property, including roads, caused by the event.
- that following the event, all streets and surrounding areas will be left in a clean and tidy
  condition.
- That the Timaru Artisan Farmers Market will ensure compliance with any other relevant regulation/bylaw pertaining to the event is met (for example, health and safety, food/liquor licenses, waste management).

#### Costs

\$2385.00 + GST

Officer Name: Rachel Hermens Officer date: 12/07/2024

# **Application Assessment**

Information checklist	
Applicant has fully completed all fields in 'Section 1 – Contact Details' of the Application Form	Yes
Applicant has fully completed all fields in 'Section 2 – Event Details' of the Application Form	Yes
Applicant has confirmed understanding of all obligations in section 4	Yes
Applicant has supplied proof of public liability insurance for the event	Yes
Applicant has supplied Communications Plan	Yes
COMMERCIAL EVENTS ONLY: Applicant has supplied a Temporary Traffic Management Plan (TTMP)	NA
COMMUNITY EVENTS ONLY: Applicant has supplied a map of the proposed temporary closure area/event route	Yes
Applicant has signed and dated declaration in 'Section 5 – Declaration'.	Yes

Applicant has satisfied all information requirements	Yes
Officer comments: All required information provided.	

NZTA / NZ Police Consultation	
NZTA Representatives	
Contact name:	Croydon Terry/Theresa Allan
NZTA comments and TDC actions (if applicable):	No objections.
NZ Police Representatives	
Contact name:	Victoria Walker
NZ Police comments and TDC actions (if applicable):	No objections.

Communications plan	
Communications Plan provides the following information:  Lists affected stakeholders  Describes how stakeholders will be affected by temporary road closure  Outlines key messages  Includes action/implementation plan detailing how and when stakeholders will be communicated with  Includes procedure for managing complaints  Includes procedure for how the plan will be monitored	Yes

Communications Plan is approved:	Yes
Officer comments N/A	

Traffic management		
COMMERCIAL EVENTS ONLY: Temporary Traffic Management Plan approved	NA	
Officer comments:		
COMMUNITY EVENTS ONLY: TTMP prepared by Council contractor and approved In progress.		
TTMP Preparation costs \$250 + GST		
Estimated TTMP Implementation costs \$2135 + GST		
Officer comments: Costs are estimates only. TTMP to be updated for 2024 (minor changes anticipated).		

Key dates	
Action	Date
Advertising intent of road closure	15/7/2024
Council/Committee report due	17/7/2024
Council/Committee decision	30/7/2024
Advertising confirmation of road closure	23/8/2024

# **Temporary Road Closure**

# **Application Review Form**

Section 342 and Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974



o Te Tihi o Maru

Event details	
Event name:	Timaru Boys High School Ball
Event organisation:	Timaru Boys High School
Event contact details:	Keri Whytock
Event date/time:	30/8/2024 6pm -11pm
Road/road section to be closed:	Raymond Street (from Otipua Road to Oxford Street) Road closure period: 5.45pm – 7.30pm
Event type:	Community

Officer application assessment result	Recommended

#### Recommendations

That Timaru District Council (or a Committee of the whole) approve temporary closure of Raymond Street (from Otipua Road to Oxford Street) for the **Timaru Boys High School Ball** on **30 August 2024 from 5.45pm to 7.30pm** under Section 342 and Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974. That Timaru District Council (or a Committee of the whole) **approve** traffic management for **the Timaru Boys High School Ball** be funded from the Community Events and Programmes budget.

That approval is subject to the following conditions:

- that Timaru Boys High School has public liability insurance in place for the event, covering a minimum of \$1,000,000.
- that temporary closure is undertaken in accordance with the approved Temporary Traffic Management Plan
- that communications activity is undertaken in accordance with the approved communications plan
- that all staff at the event (including volunteers) comply with any instructions from NZ Police,
   Council Officers and Traffic Management staff.
- that Timaru Boys High School will meet the cost of any damage to public property, including roads, caused by the event.
- that following the event, all streets and surrounding areas will be left in a clean and tidy
  condition.
- that Timaru Boys High School will ensure compliance with any other relevant regulation/bylaw
  pertaining to the event is met (for example, health and safety, food/liquor licenses, waste
  management).

#### Costs

\$2285.00 + GST

Officer Name: Rachel Hermens Officer date: 12/07/2024

# **Application Assessment**

Information checklist	
Applicant has fully completed all fields in 'Section 1 – Contact Details' of the Application Form	Yes
Applicant has fully completed all fields in 'Section 2 – Event Details' of the Application Form	Yes
Applicant has confirmed understanding of all obligations in section 4	Yes
Applicant has supplied proof of public liability insurance for the event	Yes
Applicant has supplied Communications Plan	Yes
COMMERCIAL EVENTS ONLY: Applicant has supplied a Temporary Traffic Management Plan (TTMP)	NA
COMMUNITY EVENTS ONLY: Applicant has supplied a map of the proposed temporary closure area/event route	Yes
Applicant has signed and dated declaration in 'Section 5 – Declaration'.	Yes

Applicant has satisfied all information requirements	Yes
Officer comments: All information supplied.	

NZTA / NZ Police Consultation	
NZTA Representatives	
Contact name:	Croydon Terry/Theresa Allan
NZTA comments and TDC actions (if applicable):	No objections.
NZ Police Representatives	
Contact name:	Victoria Walker
NZ Police comments and TDC actions (if applicable):	No objections.

Communications plan	
Communications Plan provides the following information:  Lists affected stakeholders  Describes how stakeholders will be affected by temporary road closure  Outlines key messages  Includes action/implementation plan detailing how and when stakeholders will be communicated with  Includes procedure for managing complaints  Includes procedure for how the plan will be monitored	Yes

Communications Plan is approved:	Yes	
Officer comments Low volume road and low risk closure.		

Traffic management	
COMMERCIAL EVENTS ONLY: Temporary Traffic Management Plan approved	NA
Officer comments:	
COMMUNITY EVENTS ONLY: TTMP prepared by Council contractor and approved	Yes
TTMP Preparation costs	\$150.00
Estimated TTMP Implementation costs	\$2135.00
Officer comments:	

Key dates	
Action	Date
Advertising intent of road closure Probably need to make sure this is at least 2 weeks before Council/Committee report is due so that any feedback can be put in report.	15/7/2024
Council/Committee report due	17/7/2024
Council/Committee decision	30/7/2024
Advertising confirmation of road closure	2/8/2024

# **Temporary Road Closure**

# **Application Review Form**

Section 342 and Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974



o Te Tihi o Maru

Event details	
Event name:	Timaru Girls High School Ball
Event organisation:	Timaru Girls High School
Event contact details:	Mark Lissington
Event date/time:	9/8/2024 6pm – 10pm
Road/road section to be closed:	Cain Street (from Hassell Street to Aynsley Street) Road closure period: 5.45pm – 8pm
Event type:	Community

|--|

#### Recommendations

That Timaru District Council (or a Committee of the whole) approve temporary closure of Cain Street (from Hassell Street to Aynsley Street) for the Timaru Girls High School Ball on 9 August 2024 from 5.45pm to 8.00pm under Section 342 and Schedule 10, Clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974. That Timaru District Council (or a Committee of the whole) approve traffic management for the Timaru Girls High School Ball be funded from the Community Events and Programmes budget.

That approval is subject to the following conditions:

- that Timaru Girls High School has public liability insurance in place for the event, covering a minimum of \$1,000,000.
- that the Temporary Traffic Management Plan for this event is updated and approved by Council Officers, and that temporary closure is undertaken in accordance with this plan.
- that communications activity is undertaken in accordance with the approved communications
- that all staff at the event (including volunteers) comply with any instructions from NZ Police,
   Council Officers and Traffic Management staff.
- that Timaru Girls High School will meet the cost of any damage to public property, including roads, caused by the event.
- that following the event, all streets and surrounding areas will be left in a clean and tidy
  condition.
- that Timaru Girls High School will ensure compliance with any other relevant regulation/bylaw
  pertaining to the event is met (for example, health and safety, food/liquor licenses, waste
  management).

# \$2285+GST Officer Name: Rachel Hermens Officer date: 12/07/2024

# **Application Assessment**

Information checklist	
Applicant has fully completed all fields in 'Section 1 – Contact Details' of the Application Form	Yes
Applicant has fully completed all fields in 'Section 2 – Event Details' of the Application Form	Yes
Applicant has confirmed understanding of all obligations in section 4	Yes
Applicant has supplied proof of public liability insurance for the event	Yes
Applicant has supplied Communications Plan	Yes
COMMERCIAL EVENTS ONLY: Applicant has supplied a Temporary Traffic Management Plan (TTMP)	NA
COMMUNITY EVENTS ONLY: Applicant has supplied a map of the proposed temporary closure area/event route	Yes
Applicant has signed and dated declaration in 'Section 5 – Declaration'.	Yes

Applicant has satisfied all information requirements	Yes
Officer comments: No comments.	

NZTA / NZ Police Consultation	
NZTA Representatives	
Contact name:	Croydon Terry/Theresa Allan
NZTA comments and TDC actions (if applicable):	No objections.
NZ Police Representatives	
Contact name:	Victoria Walker
NZ Police comments and TDC actions (if applicable):	No objections.

Communications plan	
Communications Plan provides the following information:  Lists affected stakeholders  Describes how stakeholders will be affected by temporary road closure  Outlines key messages  Includes action/implementation plan detailing how and when stakeholders will be communicated with  Includes procedure for managing complaints  Includes procedure for how the plan will be monitored	Yes

Communications Plan is approved:	Yes
Officer comments  Low volume road and low risk closure. Officers comfortable with communications plan and have	
received copy of letter to affected residents.	

Traffic management	
COMMERCIAL EVENTS ONLY: Temporary Traffic Management Plan approved	NA
Officer comments:	
COMMUNITY EVENTS ONLY: TTMP prepared by Council contractor and approved	In progress
TTMP Preparation costs	\$150.00 + GST
Estimated TTMP Implementation costs	\$2135 + GST
Officer comments: TTMP to be updated to reflect new roundabout installed 2024.	

Key dates	
Action	Date
Advertising intent of road closure	15/7/2024
Council/Committee report due	17/7/2024
Council/Committee decision	30/7/2024
Advertising confirmation of road closure	2/8/2024

# 8.4 Wastewater and Water Treatment Plants Safety Improvements Project and Funding

Author: Andrew Dixon, Group Manager Infrastructure

Authoriser: Andrew Dixon, Group Manager Infrastructure

#### Recommendation

That the Infrastructure Committee approve:

- 1. An additional capital works project, wastewater and water treatment plant safety upgrades and funding of \$700,000 in the 2024-25 financial year.
- 2. That the \$1.3 million unspent sewer capital funding be carried forward from 2023-24 Financial year to current 2024-25 year.

# **Purpose of Report**

To reallocate capital funding in the existing approved Long Term Plan to safety improvements required at water and wastewater treatment plants.

#### **Assessment of Significance**

This matter is of low significance in terms of the Timaru District Council Significance and Engagement Policy as it is consistent with Council's Long Term Plan and a legislative requirement.

#### **Background**

- A recent audit of the water and wastewater treatment plants has identified several health and safety deficiencies. These have been identified as part of the development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) that are to ensure both the safe and effective operation of equipment and compliance monitoring.
- These deficiencies are due to historical plant designs and installations that the operations and maintenance of are now considered to have some inherent risk to staff. Standards have changed and there is less tolerance of operating safety risks.
- The Health and Safety Act at Work Act 2015 clearly places obligations on Council to provide a safe working environment for staff through all practical means.

#### **Discussion**

- Safety risks have been identified and there is an obligation to mitigate these. Doing nothing is not an option.
- 7 Some mitigations are low cost and simple such as improved provision for safety harnesses, handrails, protective equipment and operating procedures.
- There are other more costly risk mitigations that should be implemented. These involve plant improvements such as renewal of wastewater treatment pond aerators that can be serviced from the shore rather than operators accessing them in the ponds. Also allowing for improved ventilation, improved lifting facilities to access pumps in a safer manner and separation of hazardous environments.

The extent of these improvements has not been determined but it is important that when identified funding is available for mitigation which is currently not funded as information was not available at the time budgets were prepared. Lack of funding is not a defence in a safety incident.

#### **Options and Preferred Option**

- 10 There are three options available to ensure adequate funding for safety improvements.
- 11 Option 1 to reallocate funding within existing approved budgets to safety improvements. The funding of \$700,000 for treatment plant upgrades would be funded through re-allocating \$400,000 from sewer reticulation renewals (current budget \$2M with commitment of \$1.5M) and \$300,000 from urban water reticulation renewals (current budget \$2M). This will require the deferment of pipe renewals and potentially marginally increase risk of failures. If failures do occur repairs will be undertaken promptly with disruption minimised where possible. It should be noted that critical pipes will have priority, and these will continue to be renewed as programmed.

# 12 Option 2 – Approve carry forward of 2023-24 sewer capital expenditure. (preferred)

The 2023-24 Sewer capital expenditure as at 30 June 2024 was \$1.3 million under budget. This is due to the late awarding of the Douglas Street sewer renewal contract. If this previous year's funding is carried forward there will be sufficient funding to undertake the urgent safety improvements at the treatment plants with minimal impact on programmed renewals and level of service.

## 13 Option 2 - to approve additional capital expenditure.

An additional \$700,000 in the 2024/25 budget could be approved for Treatment Plant safety upgrades. This would be loan funding.

#### Consultation

14 Consultation is not required on this matter.

#### Relevant Legislation, Council Policy and Plans

- 15 Timaru District Long Term Plan 2024-34
- 16 Health and Safety at Work Act 2015

# **Financial and Funding Implications**

- 17 The options presented are focussed on current financial year only, future funding for upgrades will be considered during the next Annual Plan process.
- 18 The reallocation of funding from pipeline renewals to treatment Plant upgrades will have no financial implications as the existing overall budget envelope will remain the same.
- 19 If additional funding was to be approved this is funded by loan that may impact the debt cap ratio and have an associated interest cost.

#### **Other Considerations**

There is significant funding in current approved budgets for the upgrade of the Aorangi Road Wastewater Treatment Plant (\$3.5 million) and Claremont Water Treatment Plant stage 1 (\$1.56M). These are critical planned works improving safety, resilience, and capacity. The additional safety improvements proposed are for Council's Inland Towns treatment plants.

# **Attachments**

Nil

# 8.5 Update on Overweight Permit use on Roads Servicing the Port

Author: Susannah Ratahi, Land Transport Manager

Authoriser: Andrew Dixon, Group Manager Infrastructure

#### Recommendation

That the Infrastructure Committee:

- 1. Receives and notes the update on ISO container permits on Roads servicing the Timaru Port
- 2. Endorses a dispensation for existing overweight permits on Local Roads servicing the Timaru Port including the maximum of 1.2 VAI permitted to 30 April 2025.

# **Purpose of Report**

- 1 The purpose of this report is to:
  - Provide the Infrastructure Committee an update regarding assessment of pavement impacts of various heavy vehicle combinations related to ISO Container transportation on roads servicing the port.
  - Update the Infrastructure Committee on the implications for issuing of ISO container permits.
  - Discuss current interim funding allocations in regard to the "Pothole Prevention Fund" from Timaru District Council under the National Land Transport Programme (NLTP).
  - Present options for extensions of existing and new ISO Container overweight permits on roads servicing the port.

Note: ISO Containers are large, standardised containers designed and built for intermodal freight, often used to haul heavy loads and palletised products. Further description including use in the Timaru District is provided below.

## **Assessment of Significance**

This matter is deemed to be of low-medium significance in terms of the Timaru District Council Significance and Engagement policy as while this is consistent with national policies, it could have an impact on local businesses, and have an impact on levels of service provided on roads servicing the Port.

#### **Background**

3 At the April 2024 Infrastructure Committee meeting the following resolution was recorded:

"The Deputy Chairperson moved that a dedicated authority be set up to work more collaboratively with the road-using group. This group is to include sector members, officers and elected members. The Land Transport manager was delegated authority to form this forum.

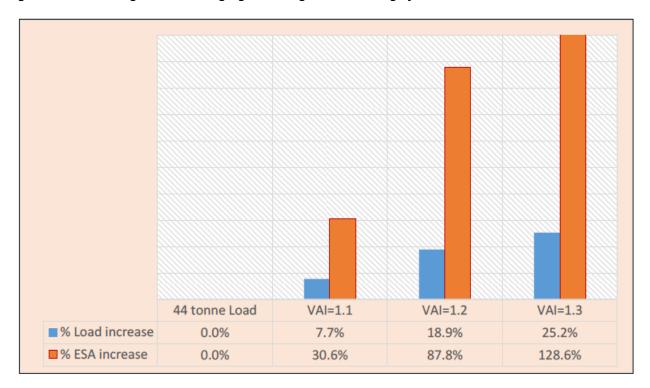
The Land Transport Manager will report back to the Infrastructure Committee at the 27 August Committee Meeting. In the meantime, an extension of the current policy will be granted until August 2024."

- To date, this has not occurred, as Officers need to obtain data on specific axle loading and pavement strength. Stage one of this data was received on 11 July 2024. Officers are awaiting stage two which will investigate current pavement strength of each road servicing the port and will provide different scenarios for the expected life of each road under various loading options. Unfortunately, this has taken longer than anticipated as it is not something we have been able to undertake in house.
- In New Zealand there are controls on the weight and axle loads of vehicles travelling on public road networks. Weight limits are imposed to protect roading assets and manage and monitor safe loading practices used by transport operators. If a vehicle exceeds the limits (for example, because an indivisible load is being carried or because of the vehicle's design), then an overweight permit is required before travel is allowed.
- The maximum weight limits for vehicles are set out in the Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Dimensions and Mass 2016 (VDAM).
- The VDAM Manual (Volumes 1 and 2) sets out the policies, standards and procedures for issuing overweight, over dimension, High Productivity Motor Vehicle (HPMV) and other specialist vehicle permits, in alignment with VDAM. The manual is published by NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi and is the current industry standard.
- In the Timaru District, Timaru District Council (TDC) is the authority for permitting of overweight vehicles on local roads, and NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) is the authority for permitting of overweight vehicles on State Highways. Historically, transport operators have been required to submit separate applications to each authority to travel on State Highways and local roads in our District.
- 9 Noting that as a Road Controlling Authority TDC can impose conditions and control what they see as a suitable variation to any existing best practice guidelines, while also ensuring they are meeting the intent of the Local Government Act.
- 10 TDC has collaborated with NZTA to streamline the application process for overweight permits in the district. Applicants can now make a single application where there is travel intended on both the Timaru District and State Highway networks. Permit applications are assessed and administered by NZTA, ensuring consistency in the assessment methods used.
- Processing overweight permits involves reviewing engineering attributes, multiple vehicle combinations, bridge reports and Vehicle Axle Index (VAI) calculations (VAI is a measure of axle loading, used to determine compliance with overweight permitting limits), all of which require knowledge of the VDAM regulations and administration. NZTA operates a calculation system called OPermit, which assists with application processing. As TDC does not have the same access to these tools internally, it is beneficial to leverage the expertise and tools used by NZTA. We have been running HPMV permits for local roads through OPermit for some time. Many other Councils throughout New Zealand operate a similar arrangement, including Christchurch City Council, Selwyn District Council and Ashburton District Council.
- While alignment with the VDAM Manual is considered best practice, roading authorities have the ability to approve overweight permit applications over and above the weight limits set out in the Manual. Since VDAM was established, TDC has progressively aligned its permitting procedure and assessment criteria to these standards, which has been strengthened by fully streamlining assessment with NZTA in October 2023. In most cases, industry is already well aligned to VDAM, and a good level of compliance is achieved. Council also works with NZ Police to monitor permits and facilitate safety agreements with transport operators.

- There is one variation between Council's historic assessment criteria and VDAM, which is requiring a graduated response to address, in collaboration with industry. This affects permits for the cartage of ISO containers, an activity mostly limited to specific locations at Timaru Port and the approved route from Clandeboye Dairy Factory to Temuka rail head. ISO containers are large cargo containers used to ship goods. They can be refrigerated so are well suited for cartage of food products. These containers, when full, often exceed road transport mass limits as shipping is based on volume not mass.
- At the April 2024 Infrastructure Committee Meeting public forum a heavy transport operator that accessed the Clandeboye Dairy Factory route stated that there had been changes to loading activities and that route was no longer required, however, the roads servicing the Port were needed to maintain affordability in a competitive international market.
- The VDAM Manual sets a maximum VAI (a measure of truck axle loading) limit of 1.1 for ISO container cartage, where historically Council has approved permits to carry up to a VAI of 1.2. To our knowledge, TDC is the only roading authority in New Zealand which has allowed this dispensation. Allowing heavier vehicle weights has an impact on the condition and deterioration of the road network that increases maintenance costs and reduces the level of safety.
- Previous engagement with one operator resulted in a request that further dispensations were needed to ensure maximum utilisation of shipping methods, to ensure the competitiveness of the New Zealand export market. The operator has also noted the authority of TDC to set VAI limits for local roads, and the need to balance weight limits with being a proactive enabler of the NZ economy. They have advised that a 2-year dispensation would be sufficient, as this would align with fleet upgrades and configuration changes.

#### Discussion

- In advance of discussions with existing permit holders, officers have been working to confirm baseline axle loading (demand) data and specific pavement strength assessments for the roads in the Port area. This will help to ensure that all stakeholder input and future decision making is evidence-based. Unfortunately, data collation has taken longer than anticipated as it is not something we have been able to undertake in house. Axle loading data was received by officers on 11 July 2024, and we are awaiting the stage two data which will investigate current pavement strength of each road servicing the port and will provide different scenarios for the expected life of each road under various loading options.
- A Standard Axle is defined as a single axle with dual tyres applying a load of 80 kN to the road pavement. Pavement designs are based on Equivalent Standard Axels (ESAs) under the various loading scenarios.
- Increasing the VAI means increasing the truck gross weight, axle loading (ESA) on the road pavement and consequently the pavement damage factor. The diagram below shows the relationship between VAI ratings, vehicle loads and axle loads. A high VAI factor is indicative of a larger concentration of weight/loading on vehicle axles, and therefore pressure on the road beneath. A general principle is that vehicle axle loading increases exponentially compared to corresponding increases in overall vehicle weight, meaning that a small increase in vehicle loading can have a large impact on the road beneath, unless new axles are introduced to distribute the weight.



- 21 Not all pavements are equally capable of carrying overweight or high Productivity Motor Vehicles (HMPV's) without incurring and increased rate of road formation shape deterioration. It is recommended that Road Controlling Authority's (RCA) grade their pavements according to their carrying capability. The best practice is for the RCA to collect pavement data for each road section that will function as an overweight route to determine the pavement capacity and understand the expected pavement deterioration to assist in informed decision making to be made on route selection.
- This is underway for the Port roads and once the specific pavement strength analysis reports are completed then officers can continue with further discussions with delegated Councillors and industry to further discuss options, prior to presenting a further report to a future Infrastructure Committee meeting.

# **Options and Preferred Option**

- Option 1 (preferred option): That the Infrastructure Committee receives and notes the information provided to date and approves a further extension to permit holders to a maximum of VAI 1.2 to 30 April 2025 on the local port road network. This date is after the peak dairy season. This allows for overweight vehicles to have access to the port network while engagement with transport operators and road data analysis is completed as previously requested by Committee. This limited time extension has minimal impact on the risk profile for Council.
- Option 2: That the Infrastructure Committee receives and notes the information provided to date and approves a policy dispensation for overweight permits on local Port roads to a maximum of VAI 1.2. This is not recommended, as the risk profile and future costs to Council have not been completed at this time. Once the risk profile is understood and engagement with operators has been completed, this dispensation can be considered as part of the overweight vehicle policy adoption.

#### Consultation

25 Discussions will be held with existing permit holders to ensure they understand the changes that will be implemented.

## **Relevant Legislation, Council Policy and Plans**

- 26 Land Transport Act 1998
- 27 Local Government Act 2002
- 28 Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Dimensions and Mass 2016 (VDAM)
- 29 NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi Vehicle Dimensions and Mass Permitting Manual Volumes 1 and 2

#### **Financial and Funding Implications**

- 30 Roads in the Timaru District have historically been designed and maintained based on lighter traffic loads than have progressively been nationally permitted to use them. Heavy trucks cause roads to wear out faster, so routes approved to carry heavy vehicles are generally designed to higher specifications, which comes at a higher cost. Regular maintenance also helps to improve longevity.
- 31 If there are more trucks travelling a road than expected, or if the loads they are carrying are heavier than expected, the road wears out quicker. This drives a need for more maintenance more often (higher maintenance costs) and shortens the life of the road (introducing capital rebuild costs sooner than expected). For the average road user this looks like more frequent road works, lower road quality (more potholes) and extra measures like temporary speed limits to keep the network operating safely.
- 32 It is important to note that Government through the NLTP have indicated that they will be fully funding the requested "pothole protection fund" which has not allowed for significant upgrades on all roads servicing the port. Approvals of vehicle combinations that accelerate road damage, outside of national best practice, may not be met by the NTLP funds.

#### **Other Considerations**

33 There are no other considerations.

# **Attachments**

Nil

- 9 Consideration of Urgent Business Items
- 10 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters
- 11 Public Forum Items Requiring Consideration
- 12 Exclusion of the Public

#### Recommendation

That the public be excluded from—

- \*(a)the whole of the proceedings of this meeting; or
- \*(b)the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely,—

# 13.1 Land Purchase Timaru Cemetery

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Plain English Reason
13.1 - Land Purchase Timaru Cemetery	s7(2)(h) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	To enable Council to carry out commercial activities

#### Note

Section 48(4) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 provides as follows:

- "(4)Every resolution to exclude the public shall be put at a time when the meeting is open to the public, and the text of that resolution (or copies thereof)—
  - (a)shall be available to any member of the public who is present;
     and
  - o (b)shall form part of the minutes of the local authority."

13	Public Excluded Reports

14	Readmittance of the Public