



## Media Release

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### Bringing alive a 35-year vision

The Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy (UDS) is a bold and ambitious 35-year plan for managing urban growth and land use in Greater Christchurch. It is the focus of an exhibition opening at Christchurch's Our City O-Tautahi today.

Greater Christchurch's 35-year plan is one of first major urban development strategies to be implemented in New Zealand. It aims to protect water, enhance open spaces, improve transport links, create more liveable centres and manage population growth in a sustainable way.

It underpins greater Christchurch's impressive agenda of infrastructural plans to cater for growth

It is a partnership between the Christchurch City Council, Environment Canterbury, the Waimakariri District Council, Selwyn District Council, and the New Zealand Transport Agency (formerly Transit New Zealand).

*Greater Christchurch - there is a plan, we're on our way* at Our City O-Tautahi 22 September to 24 October is a multi-media exhibition showcasing the Strategy, adopted in 2007.

The exhibition in the first instance will invite people to step back in time, and consider how the results of some past urban planning, considered to be overly ambitious for its time, is now accepted as part of the fabric of Christchurch. Visitors might be astonished by what used to be the city's rural boundary during the Victorian era, and could find a fresh perspective on parts of Christchurch that were planned and developed between the 1930s and 1970s, but are taken for granted today.

Installations, listening posts and interactive displays will bring the strategy off the page and into real life, providing examples of projects and issues around the greater city that people are getting to grips with in their daily lives. These diversely include, urban planning, central city revitalisation, school travel plans, the Rangiora district centre development, art in public places, and the Styx Vision.



UDS Independent chair Bill Wasley said the exhibition was about humanising the strategy.

“The idea of a 35-year strategy can be challenging to take in at once. Because this is a long-term plan it is difficult for people to see immediately how it translates into real improvements in our urban environment; how it’s going to shape our communities and city in the future.

“While the framework for the exhibition is the 35-year strategy, the aim is to provide visitors with an experience that helps them understand what such a strategy means in terms of actual changes in how we manage, grow and enhance our own communities,” Mr Wasley said.

The exhibition also included opportunities for local people to share their stories, he said.

“We have invited a number of young people to participate in the exhibition. They are our future and will inherit the benefits of the Urban Development Strategy as it unfolds over the next 35 years.”

- *Greater Christchurch - there is a plan, we're on our way, Our City O-Tautahi*, corner Worcester Street and Oxford Terrace, 22 September-24 October, 10am-4pm, Monday-Saturday. Admission is free.

For more information on the UDS go to [www.greaterchristchurch.org.nz](http://www.greaterchristchurch.org.nz)

[www.ccc.govt.nz](http://www.ccc.govt.nz)

[www.nzta.govt.nz](http://www.nzta.govt.nz)

[www.waimakariri.govt.nz](http://www.waimakariri.govt.nz)

[www.ecan.govt.nz](http://www.ecan.govt.nz)

[www.selwyn.govt.nz](http://www.selwyn.govt.nz)

