

# **GC2050**

# **Huihui Mai**

# **Youth Engagement**

# **2023**



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## Objectives:

1. To raise awareness and articulate the objectives of the Greater Christchurch Spatial plan.
2. To raise awareness of the proposed 'Turn up and go' Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) route.
3. To seek youth input on the work to date to inform the development of the Greater Christchurch Spatial Plan and Mass Rapid Transit Indicative Business Case.
4. To engage with a diverse audience of young people and encourage meaningful participation.

## Engagement Approach:

We worked with key Senior Leaders and teachers in high schools from various subject areas: Māori, Business, Technology, Music, Pacific Studies, Geography and English and engaged with their ākonga. Teachers and support staff were present throughout the whole engagement.

For the youth participation groups, and the Ara focus group- we worked with their youth development lead, youth pastor or project lead to co-ordinate the engagement.

## Who we spoke to:

Hornby High School (72)  
Haeata Community Campus (15)  
Ara Focus Group (22)  
Papanui High School (35)  
Voyce Whakarongo Mai- Care experienced (6)  
Christchurch Youth Council (11)  
Oxygen Youth Group (5)  
Ao Tawhiti (22)  
Avonside Girls High School (63)  
Christchurch Boys High School (25)  
Kaiapoi High School (80)  
Rolleston College / Darfield High (4)  
Youth Summit (35) -(Representatives from the Environment Canterbury Youth Rōpū, Waimakariri Youth Council, Christchurch Youth Council, the University of Canterbury Students' Association, Pacific Youth Leadership and Transformation Council, St Andrews College, Christchurch Girls High School, the Pacific Teachers' Network, Rerenga Awa-Canterbury Youth Workers Collective, Te Ora Hou Ōtautahi, Voyce Whakarongo Mai and Puāwai-Leadership Lab)

**Total: 395**



# Key themes from the kōrero

## Housing

- We need low - medium density housing options to cater for our bigger and intergenerational families who live together.
- We would like the option to buy a house with a backyard- this allows for connection with friends and whānau.
- We need access to green spaces!
- How do we provide options for each stage of our growth and development?
- Rural subdivisions in the Greater Christchurch is an ideal location- we don't want to lose the native bush and should replant a lot of land with natives.

## Mass Rapid Transit (MRT)

- Why is the East side (Linwood, Aranui, New Brighton) missing altogether?
- We need good communications on how this will have a positive impact on climate change and reducing emissions.
- It needs to be affordable (cheap or free), accessible, consistent and frequent.
- It needs to cut down the time we would spend sitting in a car.
- How will you manage congestion in the surrounding areas around the MRT route?
- Free Wi-fi please!
- The Bus Exchange does not feel safe, how will the MRT address issues of safety?
- How does the MRT link to surrounding areas of Halswell, Rolleston, Wigram, Shirley, Addington, Sydenham and Rowley?

## High Density Housing:

- What cultural aspects will be included in high density housing spaces?
- The kinds of jobs that we will have in the future are still unknown- we think we may like to live near where we work.
- We currently live in shared housing and there are 2 bins for 12 flats- how will rubbish be managed?
- How would you build a healthy complex to help young people who have mental distress?
- Youth-in-care would find it hard to live in high density housing.
- Plan for a youth-one-stop-shop in the high density housing areas.
- Youth wanting to flat with their friends as tertiary students or young professionals would like the option of living in high density housing.
- It needs to be accessible and affordable.
- The building designs should be cool, trendy and space & energy efficient.

## Could the MRT link out to Greater Christchurch?

- The MRT needs to link to Rolleston- the population is booming there, many young people come into the city for school and work from Rolleston.
- The Darfield youth and surrounding rural areas could access youth places and spaces in Rolleston which are unavailable in Darfield.
- The MRT needs to come out to the Kaiapoi/ Waimakariri area so youth can access it to come into the city for work and school, and to give people living in the city access to the Greater Christchurch region.
- Can clear communications about the rationale be given please?

## Other Key Themes

### Safety

- Safety across all aspects of living, working and playing in a city and on online platforms is important - it means different things for different groups of young people.
- We need our roads fixed (especially out East) and more lighting to make it safe at night.
- In the East the only safe place to go for young people is the library - there is so much potential for investment in New Brighton- how will the spatial planning address this? The East isn't featured anywhere here.

### Equitable access to education and higher learning

- If young people have access to higher education, it increases their options to earn a good income.
- We need to address privilege and take away barriers- so all young people can get on, 'the train of opportunity'.

### Cost of living

- The high cost of housing, food and fuel is worrying.
- We want to buy a home in the future- but we don't know if we can afford it.

### Cultural representation

- Māoritanga is embraced, visible, and valued across the city-it's good to see some cultural narratives, how are Mana Whenua leading these anchor projects?
- Māori and Pasifika cultures are embraced and seen around the city.
- Diverse, Multi-cultural and welcoming: an accessible city with transport, and culturally reflecting spaces that are fun and safe.
- We need diverse cultures represented at the decision making table.
- Every culture feels like they belong here and can see themselves reflected.

### Healthy cities

- How do we build and plan for more healthy cities?
- We need access to affordable and accessible health and mental health facilities.
- How will you build for and take care of kids/ young people who have trauma and māmae?
- Reduce predatory businesses like alcohol, vaping etc.
- How do we get more cycle lanes and more people biking?
- Will there be safe spaces for youth to hang out?
- Have any of our post-earthquakes engagements been actioned?

*For the MRT we are gutted that North Canterbury and Rolleston are missed out. It needs to link to the Greater Christchurch regions and we need clear communications about this*

*The high density building design options should be cool, trendy and space & energy efficient and promote access to green spaces*

*We need low - medium density housing options to cater for our bigger and intergenerational families who live together*

*We have a whole history of positive youth engagement and the youth action plan. Has anything moved from the earthquake consultations?*

*Where is the investment into the East side (Linwood, Aranui, New Brighton) of Christchurch? We need to see ourselves in the spatial planning*