

Greater Christchurch Urban Growth Programme

Community Workshops Summary Reports



Huihui Mai
Let's come together



**Greater Christchurch
Partnership**
Te Tira Tū Tahi
One Group, Standing Together

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Introduction

During March 2023, workshops were run by the Urban Growth Partnership for Greater Christchurch to test the work to date on how we plan for accommodating future growth and how we might invest in our transport system in Greater Christchurch.

The goal of these workshops was to enable in-depth conversations with the community on the following:

-  > Opportunities and challenges of accommodating our growing population
-  > What we need to do to make sure people live well if we have higher-density housing
-  > How might a 'turn up and go' public transportation service be part of a future Greater Christchurch
-  > What would make the biggest difference in getting around without your car, or using your car less
-  > How might the future functions of our centres change when planning for growth

Workshops were held in the following areas:



Christchurch City Workshop

7 March 2023
University of Canterbury
40 participants



Selwyn District Workshop

8 March 2023
Te Ara Ātea, Rolleston
23 participants



Waimakariri District Workshop

14 March 2023
Mitre 10 Mega Rangiora Fitness Centre
35 participants

The purpose of this report is to capture the views of the participants at these workshops

Executive Summary

With the proposed pattern of growth, what do you see as the opportunities?

The proposed pattern of growth presents various opportunities for the communities of Waimakariri, Christchurch City, and Selwyn. One of the most significant opportunities identified across all three communities was the improvement of public transportation. Participants recognised that a better transport system would be essential to ensure sustainable and inclusive growth in the region. They suggested improving the frequency of services, enhancing connectivity, introducing park and ride options, and reducing the number of stops to ensure faster and more efficient journeys for passengers.

Another opportunity identified was the improvement of housing standards. The participants recognised the need to address the challenges associated with accommodating an aging population and emphasised the importance of ensuring a varied typology of houses and units that cater to different needs. Furthermore, participants identified the need for well-designed smaller dwellings that are suitable for urban living. They also stressed the importance of incorporating greenspace into high-quality intensification projects to ensure that the development is sustainable and provides a high quality of life for residents.

Participants across all three communities agreed that encouraging fewer cars within the city is closely linked to the idea of improving public transportation. They viewed this as an opportunity to not only help reduce emissions but also to reduce the cost of living for residents. The concept of car-sharing was mentioned several times as a viable solution, and participants emphasised the need to encourage this not only in the city but also in the suburbs. They recognised that car-sharing can be a cost-effective and sustainable solution that can provide residents with more options for transportation.

In terms of Selwyn district, participants highlighted the importance of identifying and ensuring the availability of essential amenities in close proximity, such as medical centers, educational institutions, transportation services, businesses, and shops. They recognised that having these amenities nearby is crucial for accommodating the anticipated growth of Selwyn. By ensuring that essential services and facilities are easily accessible, the town can attract more people and foster sustainable development.

Participants across all three communities identified the importance of seizing the opportunity to invest in and construct the necessary infrastructure for future growth, starting now. This proactive approach will allow for planning and strategic placement of infrastructure in areas earmarked for expansion. The infrastructure development should encompass not only three waters (water supply, wastewater, and stormwater) but also transport infrastructure.

The attendees expressed a desire for the integration of more green spaces and large trees into any proposed developments. By incorporating green spaces and trees, the communities can create a healthier and more attractive living environment for its residents. Additionally, such initiatives can promote biodiversity, improve air quality, and mitigate the impact of climate change.

In terms of Waimakariri, participants prioritised transport, particularly rail options and car sharing, along with the potential for a new airport at Rangiora. The group also believed that population growth presented opportunities for their community to become more self-sustainable by utilising their own energy resources and cultivating trees for construction purposes instead of solely for carbon reduction. They suggested that potential barriers around farming should be removed to allow for a more self-sustaining community.

As the community grows, it presents a variety of opportunities for local businesses to thrive. The expansion of the community can lead to an increase in demand for goods and services, creating openings for new businesses to establish themselves and for existing businesses to expand their operations. The community can support these businesses by prioritising local commerce, promoting a strong sense of community, and encouraging the growth of the local economy.

Executive Summary

With the proposed pattern of growth, what do you see as the challenges?

The proposed pattern of growth in the Greater Christchurch sub-region of New Zealand has generated discussions about the challenges that need to be addressed to accommodate the anticipated growth in a sustainable way.

One of the key themes that emerged from these discussions was the importance of environmental considerations when planning for growth. Participants from all three districts expressed concerns about the loss of productive land, the de-greening of the region, risks associated with climate change, water quality, and pollution resulting from high-density living. They highlighted the need to find a balance between growth and preserving the environment and to ensure that any development is sustainable in the long term.

Transport infrastructure was another challenge that participants identified as critical to accommodate growth sustainably. They emphasised the importance of affordable and efficient public transportation that is well-connected to various facilities and efficiently linked between residential and work areas. However, the proximity of the transportation network to residential areas could potentially cause congestion due to limited road space, and there is a need to find a balance between passenger and freight usage on any future rail system.

Housing developments also pose a challenge in accommodating growth sustainably. The traditional "¼ acre dream" and "kiwi way of life" mindset may no longer be sustainable in light of the increasing demand for housing, and there is a need to shift away from this traditional mindset to accommodate higher-density living. Participants across the districts have emphasised the need to carefully plan the type and location of housing developments to maintain the community's way of life and preserve cultural values. They also stressed the need to ensure that new housing is affordable and accessible to a diverse range of people.

Preserving cultural values and lifestyles is another challenge that needs to be addressed when planning for growth sustainably. Participants across the districts have highlighted the importance of preserving the unique cultural values and lifestyles that define the area. If urban growth is not planned properly, it has the potential to restrict the current way of life by limiting the choices available for products and services. The challenge is to find a balance between growth and preserving cultural values and lifestyles, while ensuring that any new development benefits the community as a whole.

In **Christchurch City**, environmental considerations were seen as a top priority when planning for growth sustainably. Participants highlighted concerns about the potential loss of agricultural land, the de-greening of the city, pollution from high-density living, climate change, water quality, and the need to find a balance between passenger and freight usage on any future rail system. A major challenge identified was the lack of perceived developer appetite for the type of development needed in the city, which may hinder the delivery of desired growth plans. Participants also emphasised the need to find a balance between transportation options and their accessibility to various facilities, such as hospitals and schools.

In **Selwyn district**, the "kiwi way of life" and owning a quarter-acre section were seen as defining cultural values and lifestyles that need to be preserved, while also accommodating growth and development. Participants highlighted the challenge of balancing growth with preserving the community's unique way of life, including access to essential services such as medical and educational facilities, the potential for limited choices available for products and services, and the lack of interest in high-rise or high-density housing. Transportation was also identified as a significant challenge, with concerns about the reliability, speed, and timeliness of public transportation options.

In **Waimakariri district**, alongside infrastructure challenges, some attendees/residents expressed resistance towards the concept of 15-minute cities, as they fear the potential implementation of social credits, which could negatively impact their lives. This apprehension may stem from a lack of trust in government and technology, and a desire for privacy and personal autonomy. The group has also expressed concerns about the potential loss of democratic processes and a land grab in the guise of climate change with the projected population growth to one million people. To address these concerns, it is important to engage in constructive dialogue and ensure that local communities have a voice in decisions that affect them. The group recognises the value of maintaining a sense of community identity and cohesion, even as the region grows.

Executive Summary

If we have more people living in high-density housing, what do we need to do to make sure people live well?

Participants in Christchurch City, Waimakariri District, and Selwyn District all highlighted similar priorities for living well in higher-density housing. The first priority was access to open and green spaces, which was emphasised by participants in all three districts. This included providing dog walking parks, sports/playgrounds/recreational areas, community gardens/allotments/fruit trees, walkways, and greenery. Participants also emphasised the importance of large green spaces with established trees to enhance the livability of high-density housing.

The second priority was access to public transport and walkable communities. Participants across all three districts emphasised the importance of safe pedestrian environments, providing cycling facilities and storage options, and offsite transport options such as walking, cycling, car-share, and micro-mobility to achieve this.

Well-designed neighborhoods and buildings were identified as a priority for higher-density living. Soundproofing inside buildings to minimise noise transmission, aesthetically pleasing designs, clean, safe, and attractive housing, access to natural light and sunlight, and sufficient storage space for residents were all suggested as priorities.

Participants also emphasised the need to cater to different groups of people when planning for future growth. They suggested that a variety of homes should be provided to cater to extended family living, groups of young people, single people, older people, and small families.

Considering climate change solutions and reducing emissions when planning for future growth and higher-density living was another priority identified by participants. Incorporating more wetlands, encouraging the use of solar power and other renewable energy sources, and promoting energy-efficient design in new buildings were all suggested.

Community spaces that provide a sense of belonging and inclusivity were identified as important for the growth of higher-density housing. These spaces allow people to come together and feel a sense of connection and support social cohesion, which could positively impact the overall well-being of the residents.

Lastly, privacy was identified as an important factor to consider in high-density housing. Participants suggested that good landscaping, soundproofing, good design, and technology such as smart blinds or curtains could help maintain privacy while living in high-density housing.

In Waimakariri, some participants expressed concerns about the concept of higher-density housing in the region. These individuals argued that there is ample land available and questioned the need for higher-density housing. They also suggested that high-density living is not conducive to living well, as it may lead to issues such as reduced privacy and lack of outdoor space and less social cohesion.

Overall, participants in all three districts identified similar priorities for living well in higher-density housing, including the provision of outdoor spaces, access to public transport, affordable housing, good design, and the need to consider the practical and aesthetic benefits of large green spaces with established trees. They also emphasised the importance of community spaces that foster social connection and inclusivity and suggested strategies to maintain privacy in high-density housing.

Executive Summary

Proposed 'turn up and go' public transport service

Within the Christchurch city workshop, the discussion focused on the proposed 'turn up and go' system in Christchurch City and participants recognised the importance of ensuring that the system is well-designed and developed from the outset. They emphasised the need for a holistic approach to planning, which takes into account the needs of all commuters, as well as the wider community. The participants identified several opportunities that could arise from incorporating a rail network into the system, which would provide commuters with a more efficient and sustainable mode of transportation. The system could provide seamless connectivity across the wider Christchurch region, making it easier for people to live and work in areas that are accessible through public transport.

Participants also recognised the potential of a 'turn up and go' system to support the development of high-density areas, which could help accommodate future growth in a sustainable way. By providing an efficient and convenient public transport option, the system can attract people to live and work in areas that are easily accessible through public transport. This could help reduce urban sprawl and car dependency, while also promoting sustainable and inclusive urban development.

Moreover, participants supported the idea of the 'turn up and go' system as it provides a sustainable and efficient alternative to using cars. This could potentially help in reducing emissions and easing traffic congestion. The participants recognised that the current reliance on cars as the primary mode of transportation in Christchurch City is not sustainable, and there is a need for a reliable and accessible public transportation system.

Participants also suggested the provision of secure parking facilities for both cars and bikes at the beginning and end of the system. This would not only encourage more people to use the system but also provide peace of mind for those who need to leave their vehicles for extended periods. By providing convenient and secure parking options, the 'turn up and go' system could help reduce the number of cars on the road, while also improving the overall experience for commuters.

Another key aspect highlighted by the participants was the need to improve the overall experience for pedestrians. They expressed their eagerness to see improvements in the pedestrian amenities at key centers such as Riccarton and Hornby, where commuters could easily transition from the system to their final destination. Participants emphasised the importance of creating a safe and convenient pedestrian environment, which would encourage more people to use the public transport system and reduce their reliance on cars.

However, participants highlighted several concerns regarding the proposed 'turn up and go' public transportation system. One of the main concerns raised was the need for bold political leadership and a city that is committed to making future investments in public transportation. Participants recognised that investing in a 'turn up and go' system would require significant financial and political commitment, and there was concern that petty politics and pandering to ratepayers could prevent the investment from being seen as feasible. Therefore, participants emphasised the need for strong leadership and commitment from the city's decision-makers to push through with the proposed system.

Another concern raised by participants was the potential traffic impacts and space constraints that could arise from implementing the 'turn up and go' public transportation service. The narrow roads may not accommodate buses, cars, bikes, walkers, and trees, and challenges posed by one-way systems could also be a hindrance. These concerns suggest that careful planning and design will be needed to ensure that the system does not exacerbate existing traffic congestion and other transport-related problems.

Furthermore, participants expressed concerns that the proposed 'turn up and go' public transportation route does not include the southern, hill, eastern, and airport areas of Christchurch. They suggested incorporating the airport, eastern Christchurch, and Colombo South Street into the route.

Additionally, participants emphasised the importance of consulting with Rangiora and Rolleston in the planning process to ensure that those areas are also included in the development of public transportation infrastructure. This highlights the importance of stakeholder engagement and consultation to ensure that the proposed 'turn up and go' public transportation system meets the needs of all communities, including those who are often marginalised and underrepresented in decision-making processes. By actively engaging with a diverse range of stakeholders, such as disability rights groups, environmental advocates, and community organisations, planners can ensure that the system is designed to be equitable and accessible for everyone. This can help build support and buy-in from the community, while also leading to more inclusive and sustainable outcomes.

Executive Summary

What would make you use your car less or not at all?

In Waimakariri and Selwyn districts, participants focused on what would make them use their cars less or not at all in relation to transport.

In terms of transportation options, residents in both Waimakariri and Selwyn districts emphasised the importance of having a variety of options that are reliable, frequent, accessible, and affordable. The suggestions ranged from dedicated cycleways, frequent bus services, electric bikes subsidies, rail systems, car hire services, free parking at park 'n rides, and more.

In Selwyn, residents also highlighted the need for a more diverse range of stores within the town to provide more options for residents to support local businesses and reduce the need to travel to neighbouring towns. Meanwhile, Waimakariri residents suggested the implementation of free mopeds, which are much cheaper than cars and have been successful in other countries.

However, opinions varied when it comes to the idea of reducing car usage. While some residents believed that there should always be a choice of cars as a means of transport and objected to any limitations on their options, others argued that finding alternatives that can provide comparable convenience and freedom of mobility is crucial to reducing car usage.

There are also several challenges to getting around without using a car or using it less, including difficulty in transporting bulky items, safety concerns, and the need for support from the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) to cover accidents that may occur while using bikes, scooters, or electric bikes.

Overall, the suggestions and concerns raised by residents in both districts demonstrate the need for comprehensive and inclusive solutions that take into account the unique needs and challenges of different groups of people when it comes to transportation.

Executive Summary

Future functions of our towns and centres

How will a 'turn-up-and-go' service change the function of our centres, and what do we need to ensure people want to spend time in them?

In the discussion about introducing a turn-up-and-go system in Riccarton, there was a consensus among participants that it could bring about significant changes, including reducing traffic congestion, promoting more walking and cycling, and improving access to the University of Canterbury. However, to create a desirable environment, participants also emphasised the need for attractive greenery in public places, better road layouts, sidewalks, and bike lanes, as well as developing more commercial and mixed-use spaces. Additionally, introducing carless days to promote sustainable transportation was suggested.

On the other hand, the introduction of a turn-up-and-go service in Hornby was met with more mixed responses. While some participants saw an opportunity in consolidating retail activities in one area, others expressed concerns about increased traffic and parking if people from other areas used Hornby as a "park and ride." Nonetheless, participants suggested that Hornby could become more people-centric, which could involve improving access for pedestrians, making it easier to transfer from buses to rapid transport, and providing more public and green spaces. Shifting the park and ride to an additional station west of Hornby was also suggested to reduce traffic and parking and encourage public transport usage.

Similarly, participants agreed that the introduction of a turn-up-and-go service in Central City had the potential to reduce emissions and create a more sustainable environment, while also increasing business income and job opportunities. To ensure that Central City is a place where people want to spend their time, participants suggested that efficient and reliable transportation is crucial, and shuttles can be an effective option. Additionally, an information center can help visitors navigate the city, while exciting events can draw people to the area. Security measures such as adequate lighting and law enforcement can promote a sense of security, and a variety of amenities and attractions can cater to the diverse interests and needs of visitors.

The introduction of a turn-up-and-go system in Church Corner was also discussed, with participants noting that it could lead to increased congestion around schools and universities and road layout changes. However, by creating a welcoming and attractive environment, providing basic amenities, diverse shops and markets, safe pedestrian crossings, and maintaining the historic church, Church Corner could become an attractive place to spend time in relation to the new transport system.

Finally, participants believed that introducing a turn-up-and-go service in Merivale could lead to a reduction in car reliance and more transportation options, making the suburb more modern and vibrant. However, careful consideration must be given to potential negative reactions, and diverse community needs should be met. Friendly and welcoming people, safe and secure environments, green spaces, thriving businesses, and good urban design are all essential to attract residents and visitors. The turn-up-and-go system can support these elements and increase accessibility and mobility in the area.

Common themes across all towns include concerns about population growth leading to strain on existing resources, crime rates, and impact on the environment. Participants also emphasised the importance of maintaining a sense of community and providing essential services such as healthcare, education, and employment opportunities.

In Rolleston, participants suggested that amenities such as cinemas and live music venues, mixed-use zoning, and preserving large mature trees are necessary to enhance the community's quality of life.

In Rangiora, maintaining the town's rural culture and character, providing practical skill-building opportunities for young people, and improving essential services such as medical facilities, education, and infrastructure were highlighted as important factors.

In Kaiapoi, creating a diverse community with various facilities, good schools, employment opportunities, and embracing diversity through providing places of worship for different religions was suggested. The use of "red zones" for recreational bike trails, green spaces, and dog parks was also mentioned.

In Pegasus, Woodend, and Ravenswood, participants emphasised the need for a balanced approach to growth that ensures the provision of essential services and facilities while maintaining the natural environment and sense of community. Factors such as adequate medical facilities, upkeep of beaches, bike and pedestrian safety, community facilities, and employment opportunities were highlighted as important.

Executive Summary

Future functions of our towns and centres

How might the projected growth change the functions of Rolleston, Rangiora, Kaiapoi, Pegasus, Woodend and Ravenswood and what will make people want to spend time in them?

Common themes across all towns include concerns about population growth leading to strain on existing resources, crime rates, and impact on the environment. Participants also emphasised the importance of maintaining a sense of community and providing essential services such as healthcare, education, and employment opportunities.

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Christchurch City Workshop



Christchurch City Workshop

On 7 March 2023, Greater Christchurch Urban Growth Partnership held a workshop within the city with 40 participants to discuss future growth in the area. Participants were asked to discuss a series of questions in groups about what they need to continue to live well while accommodating future growth, and how they might see investment in transport throughout Christchurch city.

At the workshop, participants were also asked to prioritise opportunities and challenges in relation to the questions asked. This was carried out using the ‘dotting method’ where each participant was given a certain amount of dots to ‘spend’ on each issue. This gives an indication of what people’s main concerns and opportunities are. Overleaf is a summary of findings from the Christchurch city workshop.



Accommodating 1 million people

With the proposed pattern of growth, what do you see as the opportunities?



Participants in the discussion identified better public transport as a major opportunity for sustainable and inclusive growth in the city. Improving the frequency of services, enhancing connectivity, introducing park and ride options, and reducing the number of stops were discussed as concepts to improve public transportation.

Planning for the proposed pattern of growth was also seen as an opportunity to improve housing standards and accommodate the needs of all members of the community. Participants recognised the importance of well-designed smaller dwellings, incorporating greenspace into high-quality intensification projects, and accommodating lower-income communities, temporary communities, and homeless people by designing inclusive and accessible housing solutions.

Additionally, participants agreed that leveraging existing railway lines can be a cost-effective and sustainable solution to reduce the impact of urban growth on the environment.

With the proposed pattern of growth, what do you see as the opportunities?

1

Better public transport

Participants identified better public transport as a major opportunity when considering the proposed pattern of growth. There was a consensus that improving public transportation is essential to enable sustainable and inclusive growth in the city. The opportunity to agree on an improved transport plan for the network and being able to deliver it was seen as a significant priority. Concepts discussed in relation to better public transport included improving the frequency of services, enhancing connectivity, introducing park and ride options, and reducing the number of stops to ensure faster and more efficient journeys for passengers.

2

Quality and mixture of housing

Participants viewed planning for the proposed pattern of growth as an opportunity to improve housing standards. They recognised the need to address the challenges associated with accommodating an aging population and emphasised the importance of ensuring a varied typology of houses and units that cater to different needs. Furthermore, participants identified the need for well-designed smaller dwellings that are suitable for urban living. They also stressed the importance of incorporating greenspace into high-quality intensification projects to ensure that the development is sustainable and provides a high quality of life for residents.

3

Encouraging fewer cars

Participants recognised that encouraging fewer cars within the city is closely linked to the idea of improving public transportation. They viewed this as an opportunity to not only help reduce emissions but also to reduce the cost of living for residents. The concept of car-sharing was mentioned several times as a viable solution, and participants emphasised the need to encourage this not only in the city but also in the suburbs. They recognised that car-sharing can be a cost-effective and sustainable solution that can provide residents with more options for transportation.

4

Use existing railway lines

Participants agreed that existing railway lines should be leveraged when designing a future transport system for Christchurch. They recognised that using existing infrastructure can be a cost-effective and sustainable solution that can help reduce the impact of urban growth on the environment.

5

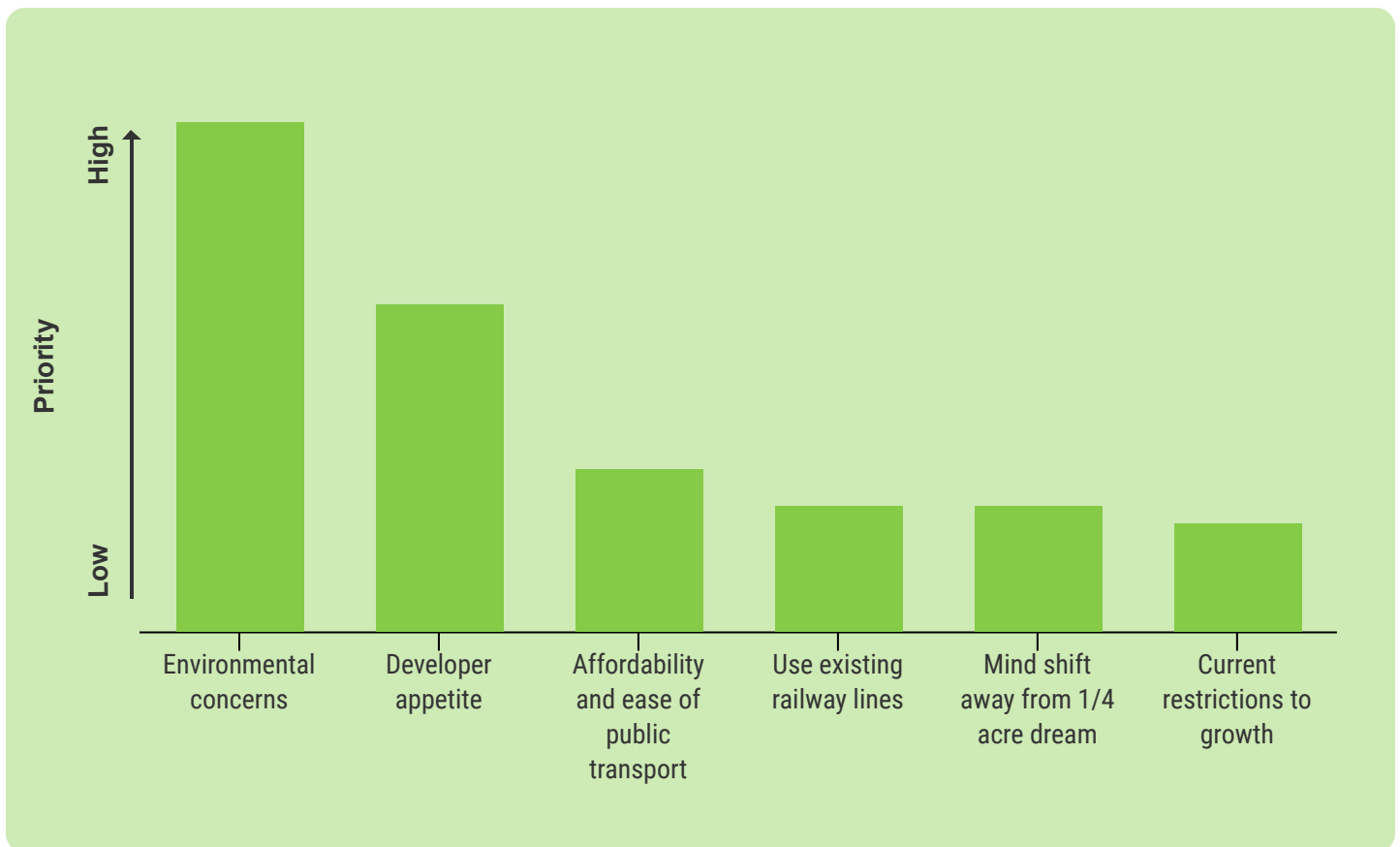
Accommodate lower-income communities

Participants agreed that accommodating lower-income communities, temporary communities, and homeless people was a priority when planning for growth. They recognised that urban growth can have significant social implications and that it is important to consider the needs of all members of the community, especially those who are most vulnerable. Participants identified the need to design inclusive and accessible housing solutions that can accommodate a range of income levels and lifestyles.

Other opportunities

Planning for the projected growth in Christchurch also presents opportunities for exploring higher-density housing options that could improve housing affordability. Participants noted that this could also create more business opportunities, as well as protect productive land and promote self-sustaining urban centers. Working in partnership with Tangata/Mana Whenua and developing 15-minute cities that are vibrant and energetic were also seen as potential opportunities for growth. Furthermore, participants suggested considering climate change solutions, such as solar power, as part of planning for future growth.

With the proposed pattern of growth, what do you see as the challenges?



Participants identified the environment as a significant concern when considering the challenges facing the city regarding urban growth. The need to balance growth with environmental sustainability was a key consideration. Additionally, the lack of developer appetite to deliver the type of development needed was cited as a major challenge. The current profit-driven model was seen as a constraint that may hinder the delivery of sustainable and inclusive development.

Overall, participants recognised the need for a balanced approach that considers both environmental sustainability and the needs of the community when planning for urban growth.

With the proposed pattern of growth, what do you see as the challenges?

1

Environmental Concerns

It was agreed by the participants that when planning for accommodating growth, environmental considerations should take priority. Among the significant priorities that should be taken into account are the potential loss of agricultural and productive land, as well as the need to safeguard our food resources. Other environmental concerns that were mentioned include the de-greening of Christchurch, which could lead to a reduction in the number of trees, the potential for pollution resulting from high-density living, the risks associated with climate change, and water quality.

2

Developer Appetite

One of the major challenges that participants identified in implementing the desired plans for accommodating growth is the lack of developer appetite. Participants pointed out that the current profit-driven model hinders the delivery of the type of development that Christchurch needs. This constraint was cited as a major obstacle to achieving the desired plans for growth.

3

Public transport - Affordability and ease

In regard to future travel within Christchurch city, there were concerns expressed about the affordability of public transportation. Additionally, participants discussed the importance of ensuring that public transportation is well-connected to various facilities and efficiently linked between residential and work areas. Some individuals also expressed concerns about the proximity of the transportation network to residential areas, as it could potentially cause congestion due to limited road space. Lastly, participants emphasised the need to find a balance between passenger and freight usage on any future rail system that may be implemented.

4

Mind shift away from the 1/4 acre dream

In order to accommodate growth and high-density living, participants recognised the challenge of shifting away from the traditional "1/4 acre dream" and "kiwi way of life" mindset. This change in attitude may take a significant amount of time, and as such, it may be difficult to achieve at the pace required to accommodate growth.

5

Current restrictions to growth

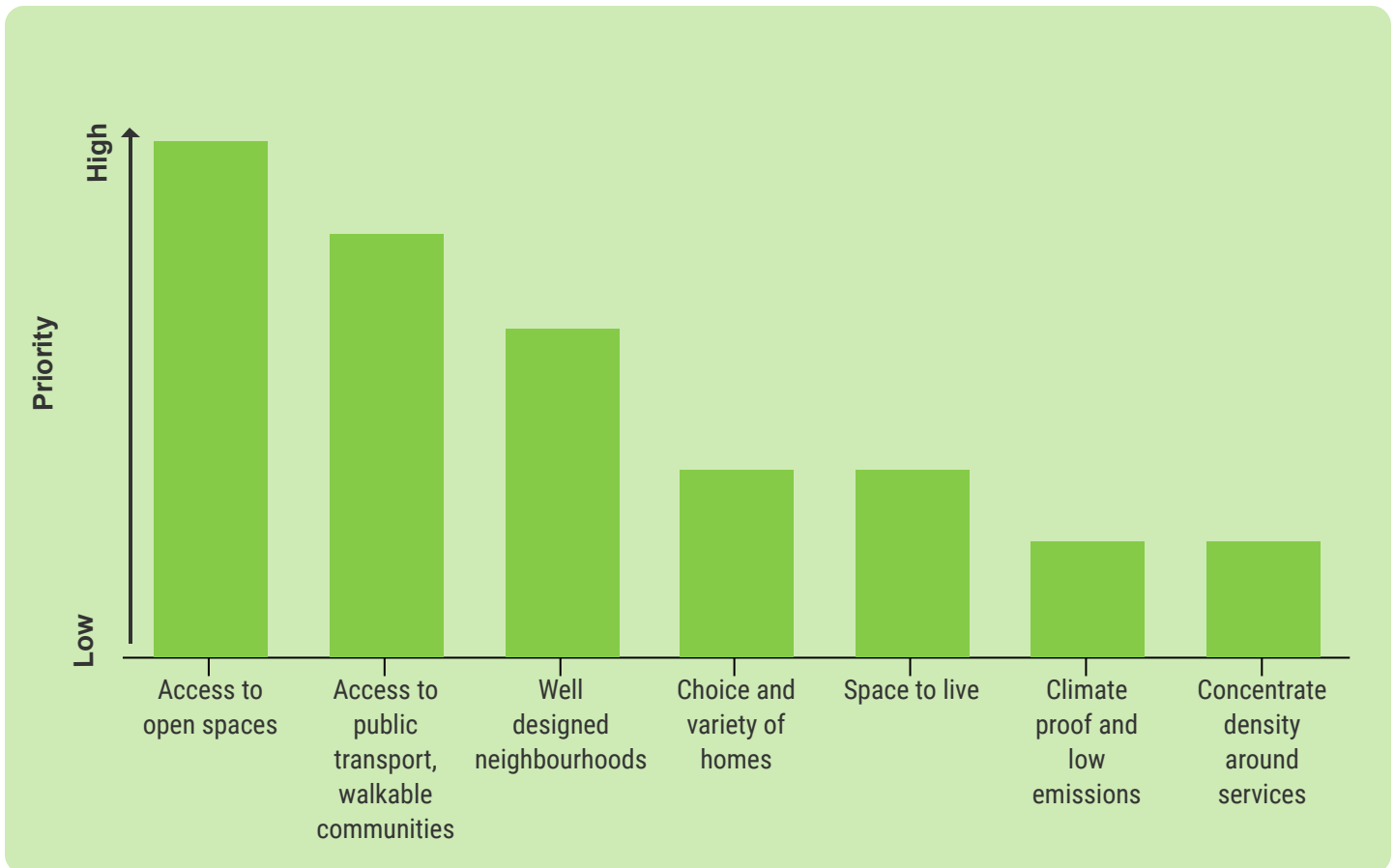
Participants acknowledged that there are existing regulatory limitations to planning for growth. As a result, growth may not occur at all or may not take place in the preferred or anticipated locations due to these planning limitations.

Other challenges

Participants highlighted several other challenges associated with accommodating future growth, which include:

- The cost to ratepayers
- Concerns about a piecemeal approach to planning for growth
- Challenges associated with maintaining social cohesion as the population grows
- Short-term and election cycle thinking, which may hinder long-term planning efforts
- The need to consider planning for significantly less growth than projected, particularly if growth varies according to age group
- Pressure on certain school zones due to residents' desire to move into those zones to ensure their children attend their preferred schools
- The need to ensure infrastructure, particularly for three waters servicing, is adequate to support growth.

If we have more people living in higher-density housing, what do we need to do to make sure people live well?



To ensure a high quality of life for people living in higher-density housing, participants identified access to open spaces, public transport, and walkable communities as crucial. They also emphasised the importance of well-designed neighborhoods, which incorporate green space, to support healthy and active lifestyles.

If we have more people living in **high-density housing**, what do we need to do to make sure people live well?

1

Access to open space and greenspace

Participants emphasised the importance of open and green spaces as a top priority for living well in higher-density housing. They suggested various options such as dog walking parks, sports/playgrounds/recreational areas, community gardens/allotments/fruit trees, lots of walkways and greenery, and areas that are people-friendly and suitable for playing.

2

Access to public transport and walkable communities

Participants identified access to public transport and walkable communities as another top priority for ensuring people can continue to live well in higher-density housing. To achieve this, they highlighted the following aspects as important:

- Creating safe pedestrian environments.
- Providing great cycling facilities and safe storage options.
- Offering offsite transport options such as walking, cycling, car-share, and micro-mobility (i.e. "mobility as a service").
- Improving transport routes.
- Providing service bays and parking spaces for tradespeople, community workers, and other professionals.

3

Well-designed neighbourhoods

Participants emphasised the importance of well-designed neighbourhoods when considering higher-density living. The following priorities were suggested when developing high-density housing:

- Soundproofing inside buildings to minimize noise transmission between units or neighboring apartments.
- Aesthetically pleasing designs that are uncrowded and well-lit.
- Clean, safe, and attractive housing that is suitable for everyone.
- Access to natural light and sunlight, which was suggested several times among participants.
- Sufficient storage space for residents.

4

Choice and variety of homes

Participants emphasised the need to cater to different groups of people when planning for future growth. They suggested that a variety of homes should be provided to cater to extended family living, groups of young people, single people, older people, and small families. The types of homes could include standalone homes or apartments of various sizes.

Participants also stressed the importance of well-designed apartment buildings that incorporate shared green spaces and other areas. They did not want these buildings to be grey concrete blocks but rather to have an accessible design that considers cultural and recreational needs and wants.

5

Climate-proof and low emissions

Participants emphasised the importance of considering climate change solutions and reducing emissions when planning for future growth and higher-density living. They suggested the following measures:

- Incorporating more wetlands to improve water quality and reduce flooding.
- Encouraging the use of solar power and other renewable energy sources.
- Promoting energy-efficient design in new buildings.

If we have more people living in **high-density housing**, what do we need to do to make sure people live well?

6

Enough living space

Participants emphasised the importance of having enough living space when considering higher-density living. They suggested designing housing complexes and small areas with mechanical carparks or parking structures to free up space. Additionally, participants suggested ensuring that there are enough storage and secure spaces for bikes to support active transportation.

7

Concentrate density around services

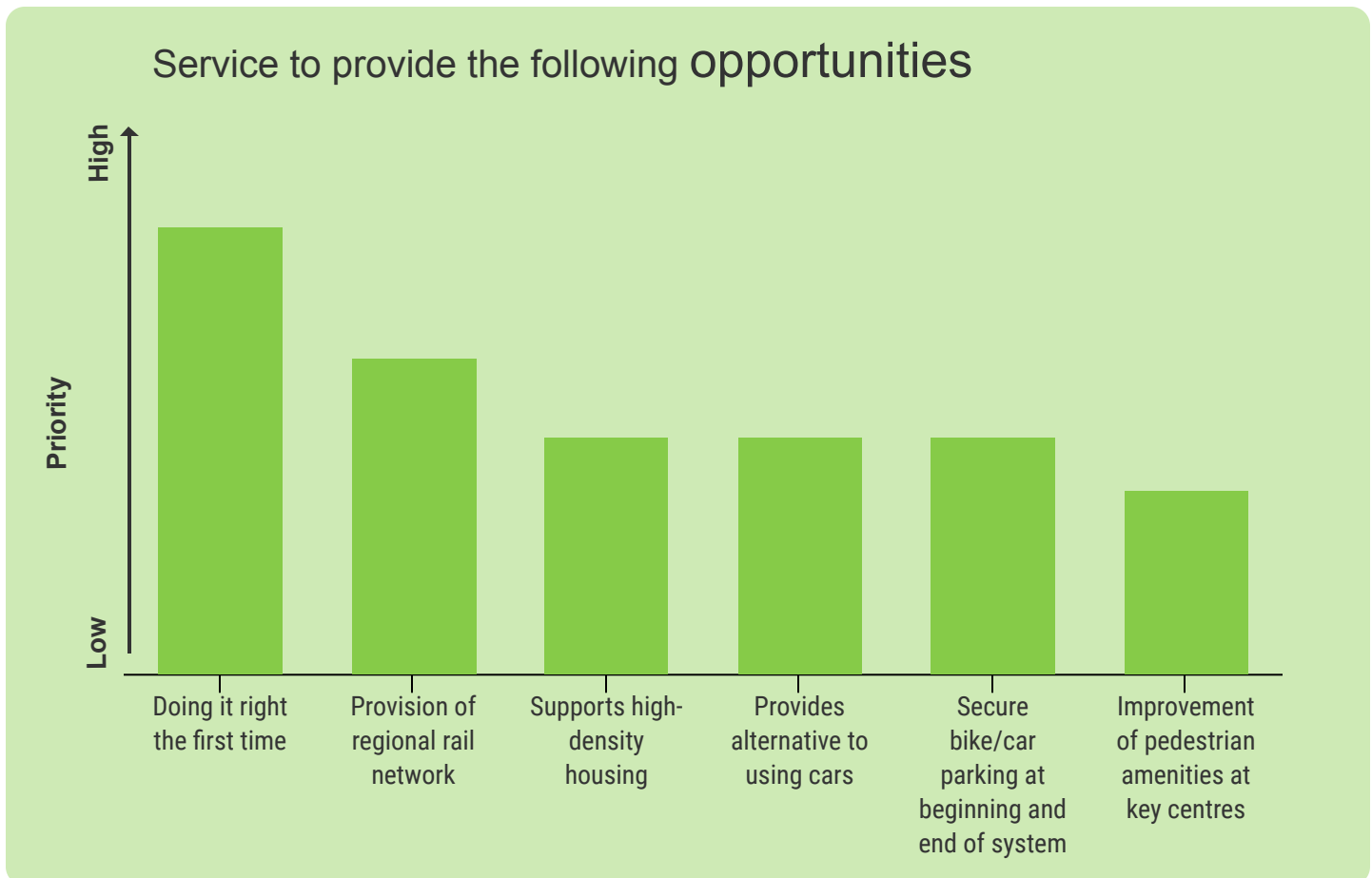
Participants discussed the concept of 15-minute cities, which aims to provide residents with all the necessary services and amenities within a 15-minute walk or bike ride from their homes. This would include things like healthcare facilities, schools, shops, parks, and recreational amenities. The idea is to create self-sustaining urban centers that reduce the need for long commutes and promote a more sustainable lifestyle.

Other suggestions

Participants discussed additional suggestions, such as ensuring housing affordability through a mix of ownership models, implementing mixed-use zoning to facilitate 15-minute cities, encouraging diverse communities with a mix of income levels and cultures, building communities that foster a sense of belonging, planning for housing that accommodates individuals with disabilities (both physical and mental), and incorporating Te Ao Māori perspectives and influence during the planning stages.

Transport Options

How might a 'turn up and go' public transportation service be part of a future Greater Christchurch?



Participants agreed that 'doing it right the first time' was extremely important when investing, designing and developing a turn-up-and-go system for Christchurch. Such a system would provide an alternative to using cars and could support higher-density housing. They also noted that regional rail network provision is an opportunity worth considering.

Participants also suggested that the turn-up-and-go transport system should include secure bike and car parking facilities at the beginning and end of the system to encourage people to use it. They also stressed the importance of improving pedestrian amenities at key centers to create more walkable neighborhoods. By providing these alternatives to driving, the turn-up-and-go system could reduce traffic congestion and contribute to a more sustainable and livable city.

Opportunities related to the proposed 'turn up and go' public transport service

1

'Do it right' the first time

Participants emphasised the importance of doing it right the first time when it comes to investing in a 'turn up and go' system. They urged that there should be no compromise in the design and development of the system and that ensuring a well-planned and holistic approach is critical for its success.

2

Provision of regional rail network

Many participants at the workshop saw the provision of a rail network as an exciting opportunity for the 'turn up and go' system. They expressed their keenness to see the existing rail network is utilised and incorporated into the proposed system. This would allow for seamless connectivity across the wider Christchurch region and provide commuters with a more efficient and sustainable mode of transportation.

3

Support higher-density housing

Participants recognised the potential of a 'turn up and go' system to support the development of high-density areas, which can help accommodate future growth. By providing an efficient, reliable, and convenient public transport option, the system can attract people to live and work in areas that are easily accessible through public transport. This, in turn, can help reduce urban sprawl and car dependency, while also promoting sustainable and inclusive urban development.

4

Provides an alternative to using cars

Participants supported the idea of the 'turn up and go' system as it provides a sustainable and efficient alternative to using cars, which could potentially help in reducing emissions and easing traffic congestion. The participants recognised that the current reliance on cars as the primary mode of transportation in Christchurch city is not sustainable, and there is a need for a reliable and accessible public transportation system. The 'turn up and go' system can play a crucial role in providing people with a convenient, affordable, and environmentally friendly alternative to driving, which can also lead to a healthier lifestyle.

5

Secure bike / car parking at the beginning and end of the system

During the workshop, participants emphasised the importance of a well-designed turn-up-and-go system that considers the needs of all commuters. One key aspect mentioned was the provision of secure parking facilities for both cars and bikes at the beginning and end of the system. This would not only encourage more people to use the system but also provide peace of mind for those who need to leave their vehicles for extended periods.

6

Improvement of key amenities at key centres

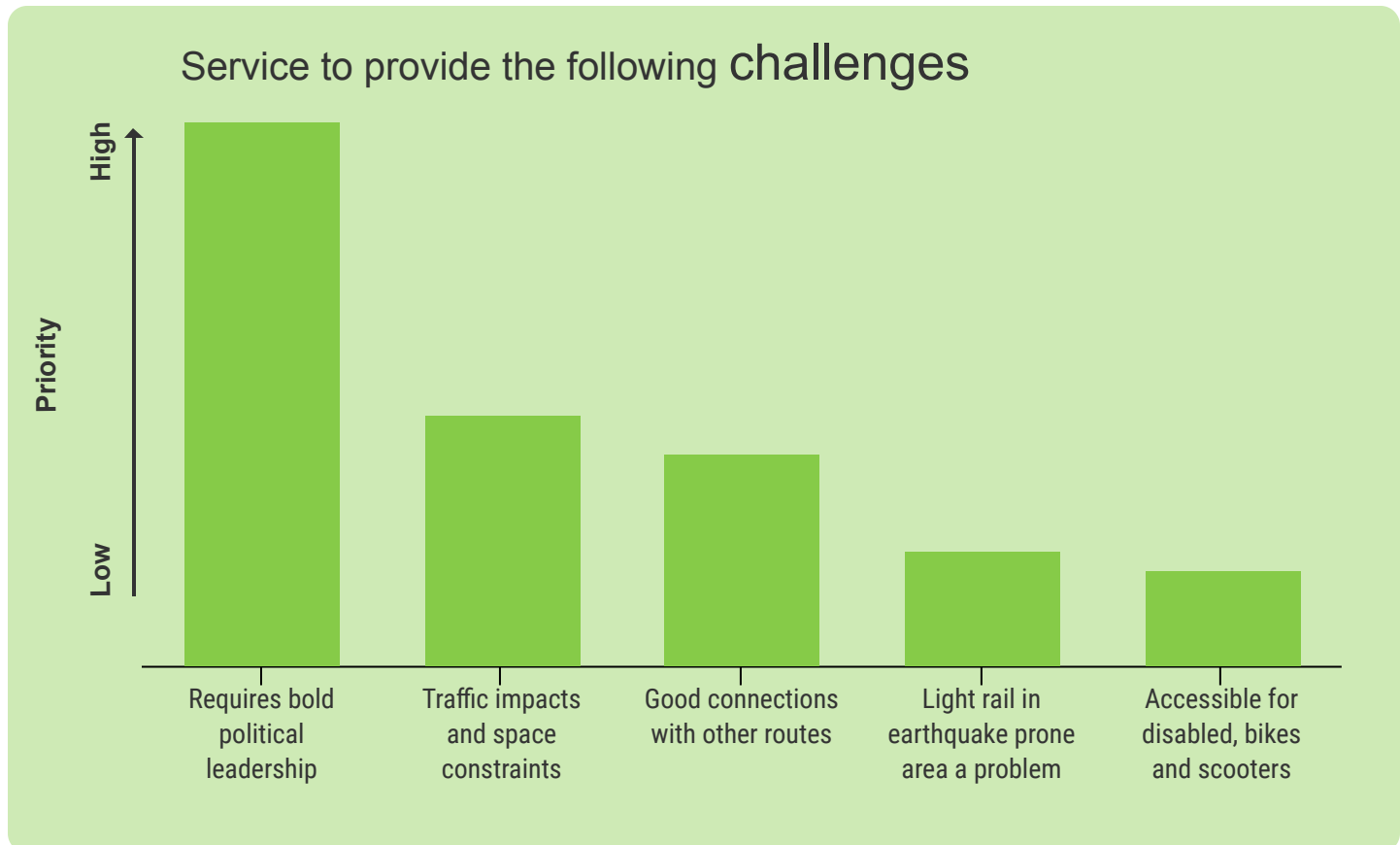
The proposed 'turn up and go' system was viewed by the participants as not just a means to provide an efficient and sustainable mode of transportation but also as an opportunity to improve the overall experience for pedestrians. The participants expressed their eagerness to see improvements in the pedestrian amenities at key centers such as Riccarton and Hornby, where commuters could easily transition from the system to their final destination. Participants emphasized the importance of creating a safe and convenient pedestrian environment, which would encourage more people to use the public transport system and reduce their reliance on cars.

Other opportunities mentioned

Participants identified several opportunities for the proposed 'turn up and go' route. These include the potential for extension by park/cycle/park and ride, an alternative concept of a more orbital route, and the benefit to central city businesses. Additionally, the suggestion was made to change the rail from the City to Tower Junction and increase the cost of parking in the central city to encourage public transport usage, as well as promote electric vehicles.

The system was also seen as having less social harm, such as reducing drink driving incidents. Other benefits and opportunities included important centres being connected, level boarding to ensure accessibility for prams and wheelchairs, improved air quality, and the potential for Te Ao Māori input and increased partnerships. Participants also highlighted the potential to draw on international examples and the possibility of an elevated system such as a sky train. Lastly, direct access to shopping and schools was also seen as a positive aspect of the proposed turn up and go system.

How might a 'turn up and go' public transportation service be part of a future Greater Christchurch?



The participants reached a consensus that the development of a reliable and efficient "turn up and go" public transportation service for Christchurch requires bold political leadership. However, they also noted that the wider traffic impacts and space constraints need to be considered during the planning process.

Additionally, the potential risks associated with implementing light rail in an earthquake-prone area must be addressed. It was also suggested that there should be enough room for bikes and scooters on board public transport to encourage active transport

Challenges related to the proposed 'turn up and go' public transport service

1

Requires bold political leadership

Participants agreed that investing in the proposed "turn up and go" public transportation service requires bold political leadership and a city that is committed to making future investments in public transportation. The concern among participants was that petty politics and pandering to ratepayers could prevent the 'turn up and go' investment from being seen as feasible, as it may not stack up as a business case.

2

Traffic impacts and space constraints

Participants expressed concerns about the potential traffic impacts and space constraints that could arise from implementing the "turn up and go" public transportation service. These concerns included narrow roads that may not accommodate buses, cars, bikes, walkers, and trees, as well as challenges posed by one-way systems.

3

Good connections with other routes

Participants expressed concern that the proposed 'turn up and go' public transportation route does not include the southern, hill, eastern, and airport areas of Christchurch. They suggested incorporating the airport, eastern Christchurch, and Colombo South Street into the route. Additionally, participants emphasised the importance of consulting with Rangiora and Rolleston in the planning process to ensure that those areas are also included in the development of public transportation infrastructure.

4

Light rail in an earthquake-prone area

Participants agreed that implementing light rail in an earthquake-prone area could be a problem due to potential safety concerns and high construction costs. Therefore, alternative transportation options that are more feasible and resilient in the face of earthquakes need to be explored.

5

Accessibility for bikes, scooters, and disabled

Developing a "turn up and go" public transportation system also presents challenges related to accessibility for disabled individuals and the need to accommodate bikes and scooters on board. The design of the system needs to ensure that it is accessible to all, including those with mobility challenges. This could mean providing wheelchair ramps and other features to make it easier for disabled individuals to use the service. Additionally, there needs to be sufficient room on board for bikes and scooters, which may require some adjustments to the design of the vehicles or infrastructure.

Other challenges mentioned

Participants also raised several other challenges and concerns regarding the proposed 'turn up and go' route. Some concerns included the need for a supportive parking plan to be in place for the service to be successful and NIMBYism (Not In My Backyard) where people may resist changes to their local area.

The cost was also a significant concern, along with the potential for car owners to be unhappy about being subjected to public transport. Some participants suggested a 'perfect is the enemy of good/progress' approach, meaning that it may not be possible to address every concern or issue, and that progress should still be made where possible. Other suggestions included the need to connect the system to regional rail. Additionally, freight concerns were raised regarding the impact of the proposed system on existing freight networks.

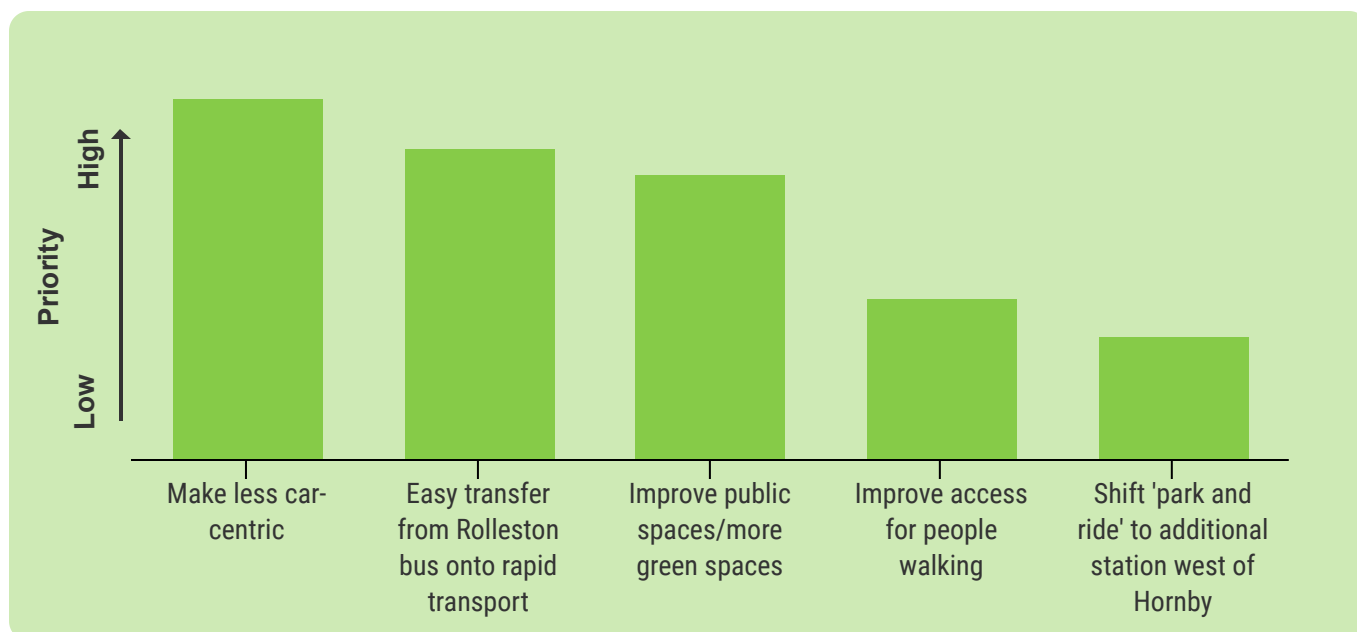
Participants were asked how the turn up and go service might change each centre and what would be important to ensure each centre is a place that people want to spend their time.

HORNBY

How might a 'turn up and go' service change Hornby?

According to the participants, the implementation of a 'turn up and go' service is unlikely to bring significant changes in Hornby, considering it being a significant freight route linking the airport and State Highway 1. There were concerns that the 'turn up and go' service might lead to an increase in traffic and parking, with people coming from other areas and using Hornby as a 'park and ride.' However, an opportunity highlighted was the consolidation of retail activities in a single area, although the current private ownership of retail establishments poses a challenge to this idea. Another potential challenge is the conflict between heavy rail and rapid transit.

What would be important to ensure Hornby is a place people want to spend their time?



To ensure Hornby is a place that people want to spend their time, it is important to make it less car-centric and more people-centric. Participants in the workshop suggested that a shift in focus from cars to people would be critical to the success of the proposed 'turn up and go' system in Hornby. This could involve improving the access for people who walk, making it easier to transfer from the Rolleston bus onto the rapid transport, and providing more public and green spaces for people to enjoy.

Another suggestion was to shift the park and ride to an additional station west of Hornby. This would not only reduce the amount of traffic and parking in Hornby but also encourage people to use the public transport system, making the area more accessible for those who do not have a car. By creating a more people-friendly environment, Hornby could become a vibrant and thriving community where people want to spend their time.

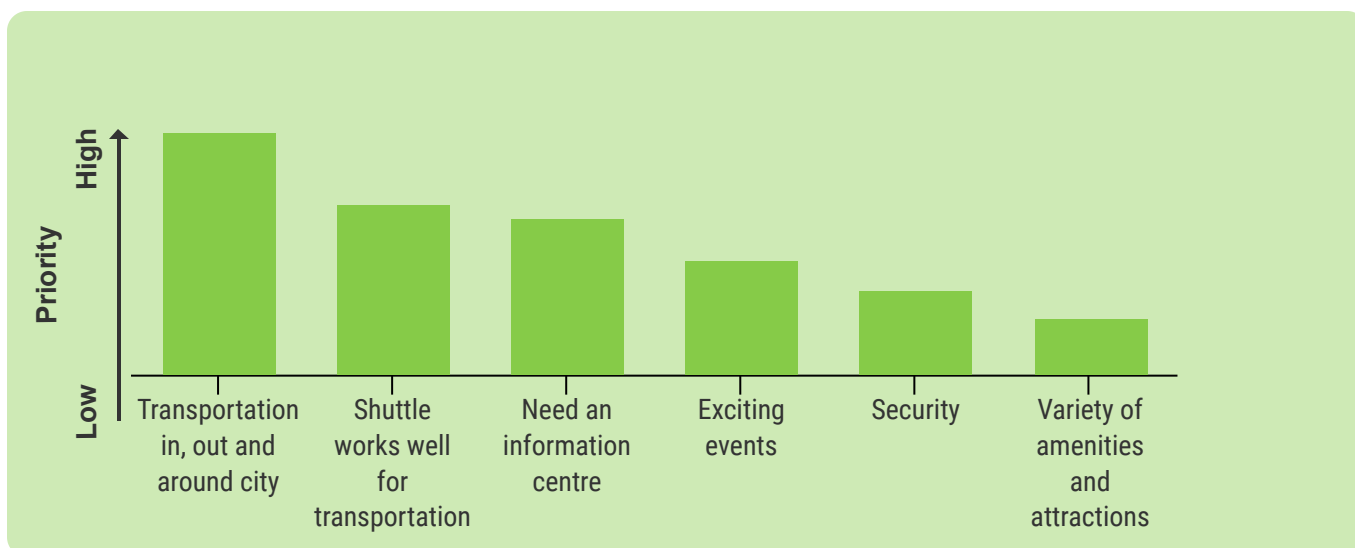
CENTRAL CITY

How might a 'turn up and go' service change Central City?

The introduction of a 'turn up and go' service in Central City has the potential to bring about significant changes to the area. One of the most significant changes is the reduction of cars on the road, leading to fewer emissions and a more sustainable environment. By providing an efficient public transport option, the 'turn up and go' system can encourage people to leave their cars at home and opt for a more sustainable mode of transportation, such as buses or trains.

Furthermore, the introduction of the 'turn up and go' service can also bring more people into the city, thereby creating more income for businesses. The system can provide a faster and more convenient way for people to access the Central City area, making it easier for them to visit shops, restaurants, and other businesses. This can help promote economic growth and create more job opportunities in the area.

What would be important to ensure that Central City is a place people want to spend their time?



Ensuring Central City is a place where people want to spend their time requires careful attention to several key factors. One of the most critical aspects is transportation, both in and out of the city and around it. An efficient and reliable transportation system can make it easier for people to access different parts of the city and make their way to various destinations, whether they are commuting for work or exploring the area as tourists.

Shuttles are an effective transportation option in the city. They can provide a convenient and cost-effective way for people to move around, especially for those who may not have access to a car or who prefer not to drive. An extensive shuttle network can also help reduce traffic congestion and promote sustainable modes of transportation.

An information center can provide a centralised location for visitors to gather information about the city, its attractions, and events. This can help visitors navigate the city more easily and ensure they have a more enjoyable experience.

Exciting events can also help draw people to the city and keep them engaged during their visit. Whether it is cultural events, music festivals, or sporting events, a diverse range of events can provide something for everyone and create a vibrant and active atmosphere in the city.

Security is also essential to ensure people feel safe and comfortable spending time in the city. Adequate lighting, surveillance, and visible law enforcement can help promote a sense of security and reduce the likelihood of crime.

Finally, providing a variety of amenities and attractions can help ensure the city caters to the diverse interests and needs of its visitors. This can include a range of shopping and dining options, green spaces and parks, cultural institutions, and recreational facilities.

RICCARTON

How might a 'turn up and go' service change Riccarton?

The introduction of a turn-up-and-go system in Riccarton has the potential to bring about significant changes to the neighbourhood. One significant change is the reduction in congestion on surrounding roads, as the system can encourage people to leave their cars at home and use public transport instead. This can lead to a reduction in traffic congestion and improve the overall flow of traffic in the area.

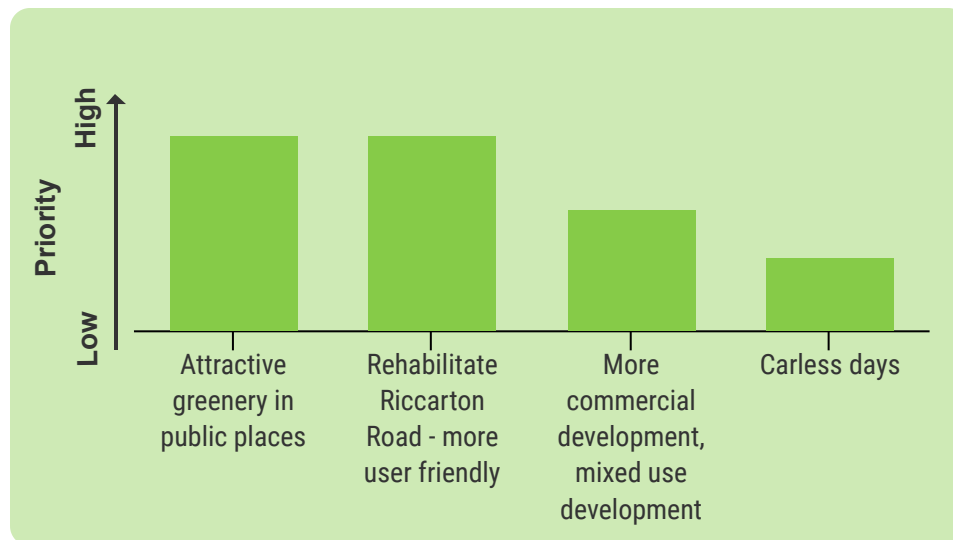
Another potential change is an increase in walking, as the turn-up-and-go system can provide easier access to different parts of Riccarton, making it more convenient for people to walk to their destination. This can help promote physical activity, reduce reliance on cars, and create a more pedestrian-friendly environment.

The turn-up-and-go system can also attract more shoppers to Riccarton, as it can provide a faster and more efficient way to access the area's shops and businesses. This can contribute to the economic development of the neighbourhood, as more shoppers can bring about increased business opportunities and employment.

In addition, the introduction of the turn-up-and-go system can lead to denser housing development in Riccarton. With better access to public transport, it can encourage more people to live in the area, which can lead to the development of more apartments and townhouses.

Finally, the turn-up-and-go system can provide better access to the University of Canterbury.

What would be important to ensure Riccarton is a place people want to spend their time?



To ensure that Riccarton is a place where people want to spend their time, participants cited the following key factors. One essential element is the presence of attractive greenery in public places, such as parks and open spaces. This can create a more inviting and pleasant environment for residents and visitors, providing spaces for relaxation and recreation.

The rehabilitation of Riccarton Road to make it more user-friendly is also crucial. This can involve improving the road layout, sidewalks, and bike lanes, making it more accessible and safer for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists. The revitalisation of Riccarton Road can help make it a more vibrant and active commercial hub, attracting more shoppers and businesses to the area.

The development of more commercial and mixed-use spaces in Riccarton can also contribute to making it a more desirable location. This can create opportunities for more diverse and innovative businesses, provide more job opportunities, and help enhance the overall economy of the neighborhood.

Introducing carless days can also be an effective way to reduce traffic congestion and promote sustainable modes of transportation. By encouraging people to leave their cars at home and use public transport or walk, carless days can help create a more pedestrian-friendly and environmentally sustainable environment in Riccarton.

CHURCH CORNER

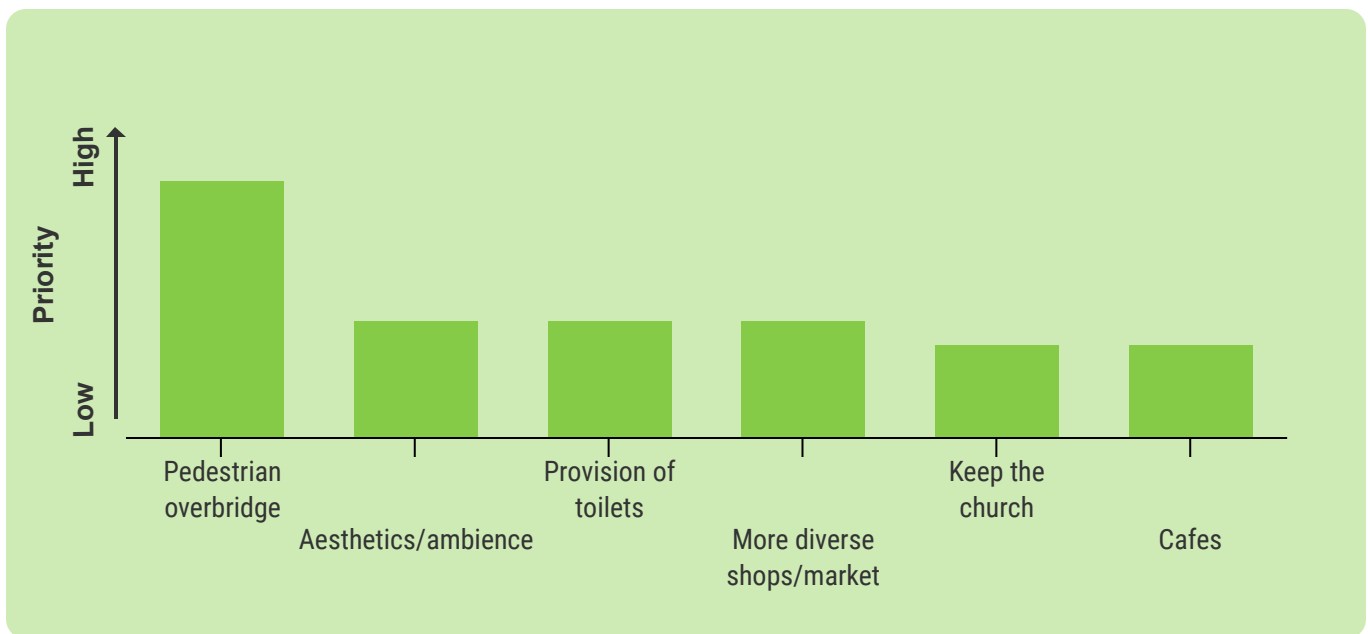
How might a 'turn up and go' service change Church Corner?

If a 'turn up and go' system were introduced to Church Corner, it would likely bring more people into the area and increase the number of commuters using public transport. While this could have many positive impacts, such as reduced traffic congestion and lower emissions, it could also lead to increased congestion around schools and universities, which could lead to issues such as road rage and frustrated drivers.

The layout of roads may also change in response to the new system, as it may be necessary to create new bus lanes or re-route traffic to accommodate the increased number of buses and passengers. This could require land acquisition and development, which could be costly and time-consuming.

To ensure that Church Corner remains an attractive and functional area, it will be important to carefully manage the impacts of the proposed new system. This may include working with schools and universities to develop strategies to manage congestion, ensuring that road changes are carefully planned and designed, and developing policies to support business development and economic growth.

What would be important to ensure Church Corner is a place people want to spend their time?



To ensure that Church Corner is a place people want to spend their time in relation to a 'turn up and go' system, it will be important to focus on creating a welcoming and attractive environment. This could include improvements to the aesthetics and ambience of the area, such as the addition of public art or landscaping.

Provision of basic amenities such as public toilets could also be important, especially for those waiting for buses or using the 'turn up and go' system to travel longer distances. In addition, providing more diverse shops and markets could help to create a more vibrant and interesting atmosphere, encouraging people to spend time in the area.

It will also be important to consider the needs of pedestrians and other non-vehicle users. The installation of a pedestrian overbridge or other safe crossing points could help to improve access and encourage people to explore the area on foot.

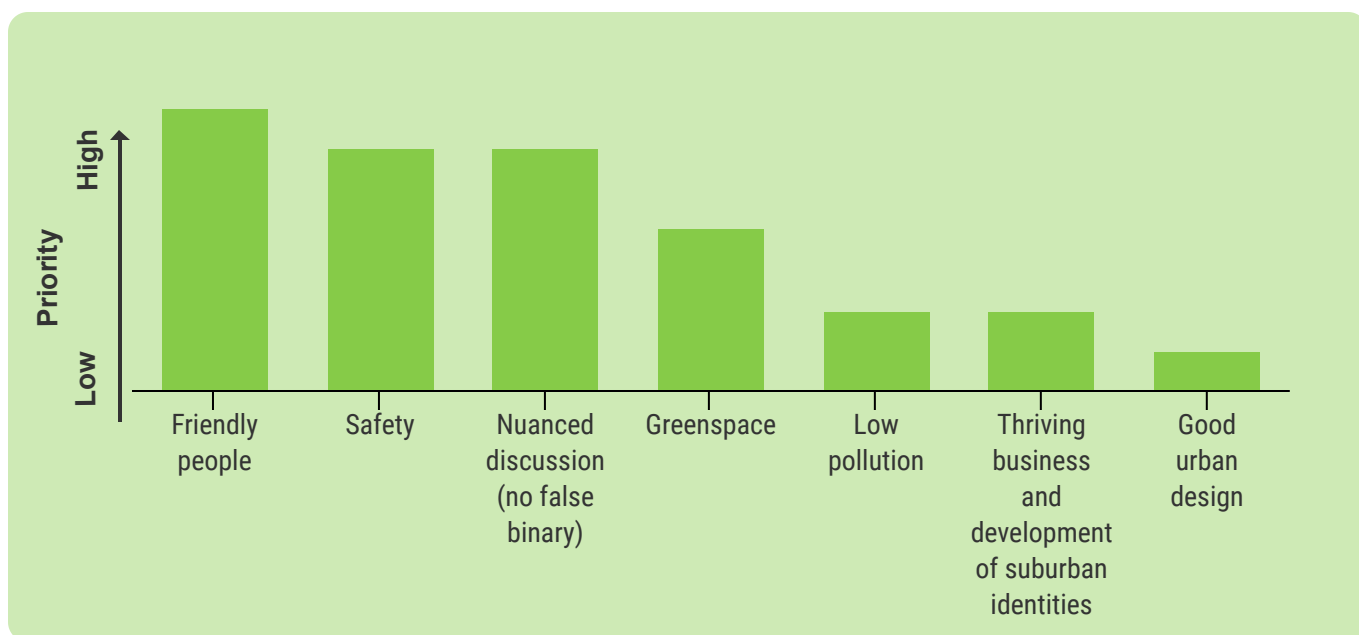
Finally, maintaining the historic church and incorporating it into the design of the area could help to create a sense of identity and history. The addition of cafes or other public gathering spaces could also help to make Church Corner a more welcoming and enjoyable place to spend time.

MERIVALE

How might a 'turn up and go' service change Merivale?

The introduction of a 'turn up and go' service in Merivale may result in several changes, including a potential decrease in the number of 4WD/Utes on the roads. The availability of more transportation options may lead to less car reliance, which could be beneficial for the environment. The increased diversity in the community and the opening up of business opportunities could make Merivale a more modern and vibrant suburb. However, there is also a possibility of some concerned people getting media attention, and the potential for more options or less options in terms of transportation may need to be carefully considered. Overall, the 'turn up and go' service has the potential to improve people's lives and make Merivale a more attractive place to live.

What would be important to ensure Merivale is a place people want to spend their time?



To ensure that Merivale is a desirable location where people want to spend their time, participants cited several key factors that must be considered. One crucial factor is the presence of friendly and welcoming people who foster a sense of community and belonging. Additionally, the provision of safe and secure environments is essential to attract residents and visitors alike. A nuanced approach to discussions and decision-making is also crucial, avoiding false binary choices and ensuring that the diverse needs of the community are met.

The presence of green spaces and low pollution levels are also essential to create an attractive environment for people to live in and visit. The development of thriving businesses and suburban identities can also contribute significantly to the vibrancy and liveliness of the area, which can be supported through the turn-up-and-go system. Finally, good urban design is crucial, ensuring that the layout and infrastructure of the neighborhood are attractive, accessible, and functional. The turn-up-and-go system can be instrumental in facilitating these elements, providing increased accessibility and mobility, making it easier for people to move around and engage with their community.

PAPANUI

How might a 'turn up and go' service change Papanui?

The introduction of a 'turn up and go' service in Papanui is likely to bring several changes to the area. One of the main impacts could be an increase in housing density, as the improved transport links could make it more attractive for people to live in the area. This could lead to more demand for housing and potentially changes to the built environment.

The improved transport links could also lead to more people coming to the Papanui mall, which could benefit local businesses and create a more vibrant atmosphere. However, this could also lead to increased traffic flow and congestion in the area, so it will be important to consider how the transport system can be designed to minimise these effects.

One potential benefit of the 'turn up and go' service is that it could make it easier to get to schools such as St Bedes and St Georges. This could be particularly beneficial for students who live further away from the schools and currently have to rely on private cars or other forms of transport.

It will also be important to consider the impact of the 'turn up and go' service on emergency services, and ensure that the transport system is designed in a way that allows emergency vehicles to easily navigate the area.

What would be important to ensure Papanui is a place people want to spend their time?

In addition to the potential changes brought by the 'turn up and go' service, creating community spaces such as green spaces, playgrounds, and youth spaces will be crucial to making Papanui a place that people want to spend their time. These types of spaces can provide opportunities for people to socialise, exercise, and relax, and contribute to the overall livability of the area. It will also be important to consider the needs of different age groups and demographics in designing these spaces, and ensure that they are accessible and welcoming to everyone.

Selwyn District Workshop



Selwyn District Workshop

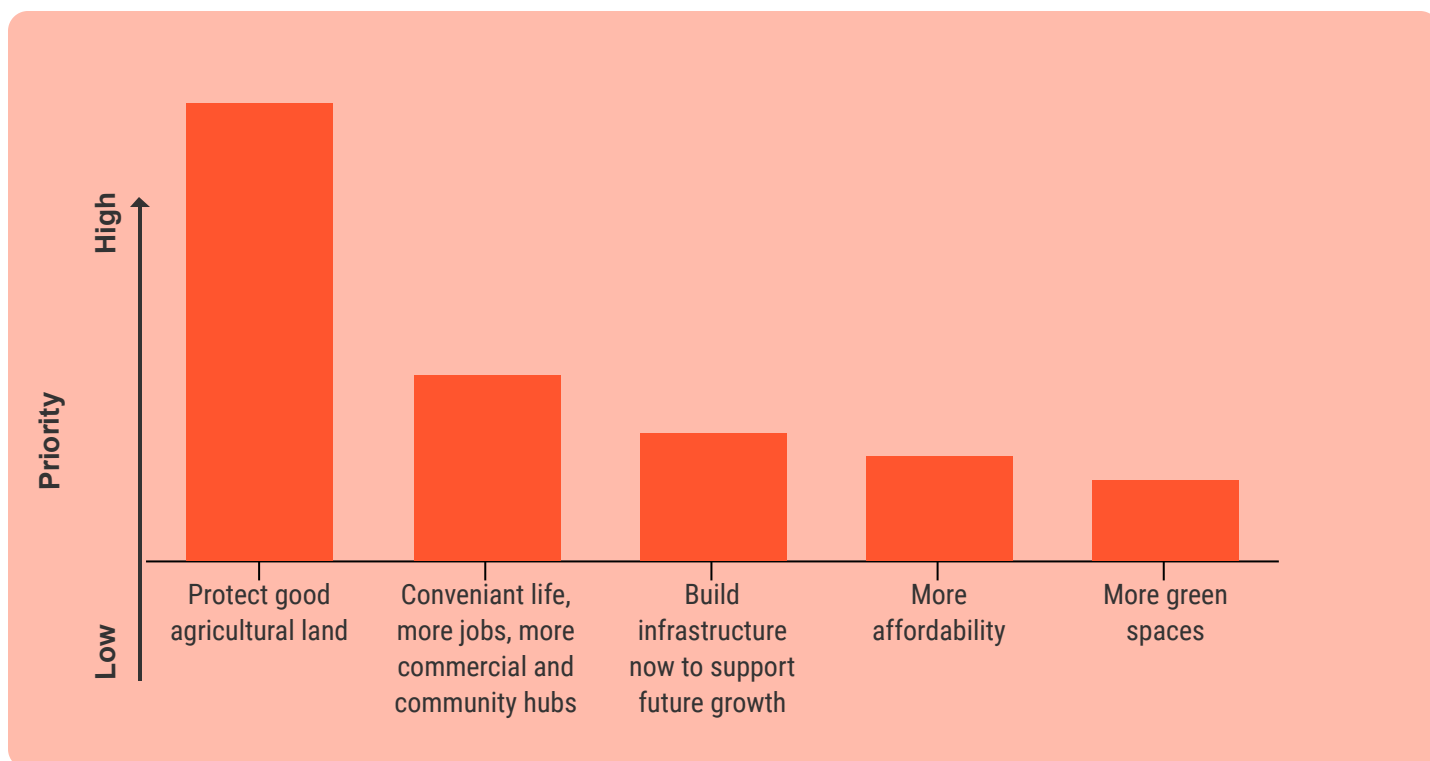
On 8 March 2023, Greater Christchurch Urban Growth Partnership held a workshop in Rolleston with 23 participants to discuss growth across Greater Christchurch, especially Selwyn District. Participants were asked to discuss a series of questions in groups about what they need to continue to live well while accommodating future growth, and how they might see investment in transport options.

At the workshop, participants were also asked to prioritise opportunities and challenges in relation to the questions asked. This was carried out using the ‘dotting method’ where each participant was given a certain amount of dots to ‘spend’ on each issue. This gives an indication of what people’s main concerns and opportunities are. Overleaf is a summary of findings from the workshop in Rolleston.



Accommodating 1 million people

With the proposed pattern of growth, what do you see as the opportunities?



The attendees of a meeting emphasised the need to preserve the fertile land that produces food and recognised the potential to secure the food supply by concentrating the population and creating more open spaces and farmland.

They also highlighted the importance of having essential amenities nearby, such as medical centers, educational institutions, transportation services, businesses, and shops, to accommodate the anticipated growth of Selwyn and foster sustainable development. The participants reached a consensus on the need to invest in and construct necessary infrastructure for future growth, such as three waters and transport infrastructure, and diversify the housing stock to promote inclusivity and provide greater access to housing.

They expressed a desire for the integration of more green spaces and large trees into any proposed developments to create a healthier and more attractive living environment and promote biodiversity and mitigate the impact of climate change.

With the proposed pattern of growth, what do you see as the opportunities?

1

Protecting good agricultural land

The attendees emphasised the importance of safeguarding the fertile land that produces food and viewed it as a chance to shape the proposed growth plan. As a town situated on the periphery of some of the nation's most productive farmland, they recognized the potential to preserve it from further development and thereby secure the food supply. By concentrating the population, they believed that more open spaces and farmland could be created.

2

Availability of community amenities and facilities & employment opportunities

Identifying and ensuring the availability of essential amenities in close proximity as a favorable prospect, the attendees noted the importance of medical centers, educational institutions, transportation services, businesses, and shops in the vicinity. They also recognised that such a setup could lead to other advantages for the community, such as commercial prospects, job creation, and the establishment of community centers.

The attendees highlighted that having these amenities nearby is crucial for accommodating the anticipated growth of Selwyn. By ensuring that essential services and facilities are easily accessible, the town can attract more people and foster sustainable development.

3

Build infrastructure now to support future growth

The participants reached a consensus on the importance of seizing the opportunity to invest in and construct the necessary infrastructure for future growth, starting now. This proactive approach will allow for planning and strategic placement of infrastructure in areas earmarked for expansion. The infrastructure development should encompass not only three waters (water supply, wastewater, and stormwater) but also transport infrastructure.

4

Affordable housing options

In light of the current and anticipated growth in Selwyn district, the participants identified an opportunity to address the issue of housing affordability by diversifying the housing stock. This would entail developing a range of housing options (such as more one or two bedroom apartments) with varying price points to accommodate the needs of individuals from diverse economic backgrounds. By doing so, the district can promote inclusivity and provide greater access to housing, ensuring that all residents can participate in and benefit from the area's growth

5

More green spaces

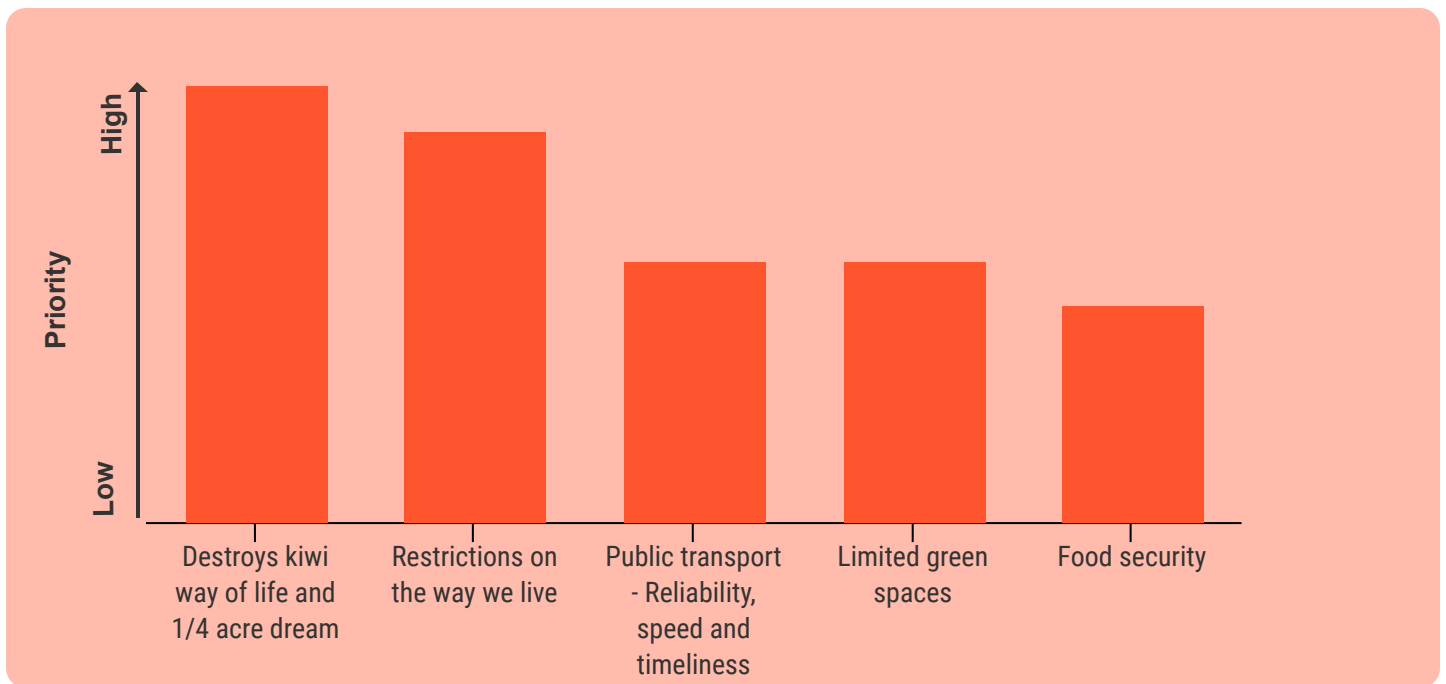
The attendees expressed a desire for the integration of more green spaces and large trees into any proposed developments as the town prepares to expand to accommodate growth. They emphasised the importance of preserving the natural environment and incorporating sustainable practices into future development plans.

By incorporating green spaces and trees, the town can create a healthier and more attractive living environment for its residents. Additionally, such initiatives can promote biodiversity, improve air quality, and mitigate the impact of climate change.

Other opportunities

As the group discussed planning for the proposed growth pattern, they identified several opportunities that come with accommodating growth. These opportunities include the potential for investment by building companies, developing smaller sections of land, incorporating modern building designs with environmental options, ensuring inclusivity in the design to accommodate people of all abilities, and promoting commercial growth. By embracing these opportunities, the town can not only support its growth but also enhance its economic and social vitality.

With the proposed pattern of growth, what do you see as the challenges?



Participants in Selwyn district acknowledged the challenge of population growth and the need to balance development with preserving the unique cultural values and lifestyles that define the area. They emphasised the importance of planning and careful consideration of the type and location of housing developments to accommodate the anticipated growth in a way that maintains the community's way of life. Participants also expressed concern about transport and the potential lack of green spaces in new developments, highlighting the need to balance the benefits of densification with the practicalities of transportation and infrastructure.

The group highlighted the importance of ensuring food security and preserving productive farmland, as well as addressing the risk of reverse sensitivity as the town continues to grow. This underscores the need for careful planning and collaboration between urban and rural communities to maintain the integrity of farmland while accommodating the growth of urban areas.

With the proposed pattern of growth, what do you see as the challenges?

1

Destroys the 'Kiwi way of life' and the 1/4 acre dream

Participants agreed that the challenge of population growth in Selwyn district, is that it threatens to erode the cherished "kiwi way of life" and the ideal of owning a 1/4 acre section. The traditional notion of the quarter-acre dream may no longer be sustainable in light of the increasing demand for housing, and the district will need to find ways to balance growth and development with preserving the unique cultural values and lifestyles that define the area.

2

Restrictions on the way we live

The participants also highlighted that if urban growth in Selwyn district is not planned properly, it has the potential to restrict the current way of life by limiting the choices available for products and services. Without adequate transport hubs nearby, the accessibility to essential services such as medical and educational facilities could be limited, impacting the overall quality of life for residents. Additionally, the participants suggested that there may not be much interest in high-rise or high-density housing above the second or third floor, as it may not align with the current preferences and lifestyle of the community. Therefore, careful consideration and planning for the type and location of housing developments will be crucial in accommodating the anticipated growth in a way that maintains the community's way of life.

3

Public transport - Reliability, speed and timeliness

Participants expressed concern about the challenge of transport in Selwyn district, particularly regarding the reliability, speed, and timeliness of any public transport option. It was emphasised that public transport options need to be designed to meet the community's needs, with a range of connectivity options such as buses, trains, cycle and walkways. However, participants also raised concerns about the potential lack of parking spaces for visitors as the district moves away from larger sections and dwellings, highlighting the need to balance the benefits of densification with the practicalities of transportation and infrastructure.

4

Limited green spaces

Participants also expressed concern about the potential lack of green spaces in new developments, which could result in a shortage of trees and permeable spaces. This, in turn, could be a missed opportunity to create livable and sustainable communities that prioritise the well-being of both people and the environment.

The importance of incorporating green spaces into new developments was emphasised to ensure that residents have access to outdoor recreational areas and that the district maintains its natural beauty and biodiversity.

5

Food security

Participants in Rolleston expressed their concern about ensuring food security and saving productive farmland. They emphasized the importance of having access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food in a sustainable and long-term manner.

In addition, the group highlighted the risk of reverse sensitivity as the town continues to grow and urban dwellers potentially become upset or take offense with farming practices happening on their newly developed properties. This challenge underscores the need for careful planning and collaboration between urban and rural communities to maintain the integrity of farmland while accommodating the growth of urban areas.

With the proposed pattern of growth, what do you see as the challenges?

Other challenges

During the discussion about accommodating growth, participants also raised a range of challenges that need to be addressed. One of the concerns related to medical facilities and the growing aging population, coupled with the shortage of medical staff in the area. The group highlighted the need for investment in medical facilities to cater for the increasing demand and support the healthcare needs of the community.

Infrastructure was also identified as a challenge, with the need to improve and expand the three waters and transport systems in the area. The participants emphasised the importance of ensuring that these systems can cope with the growing population and that they are well-planned to support the anticipated future growth.

The issue of waste management was also raised, with concerns about the increasing amount of rubbish that will be generated as the population grows. Participants highlighted the importance of ensuring that the waste management systems are effective in managing this increase in waste, and that they are sustainable and environmentally friendly.

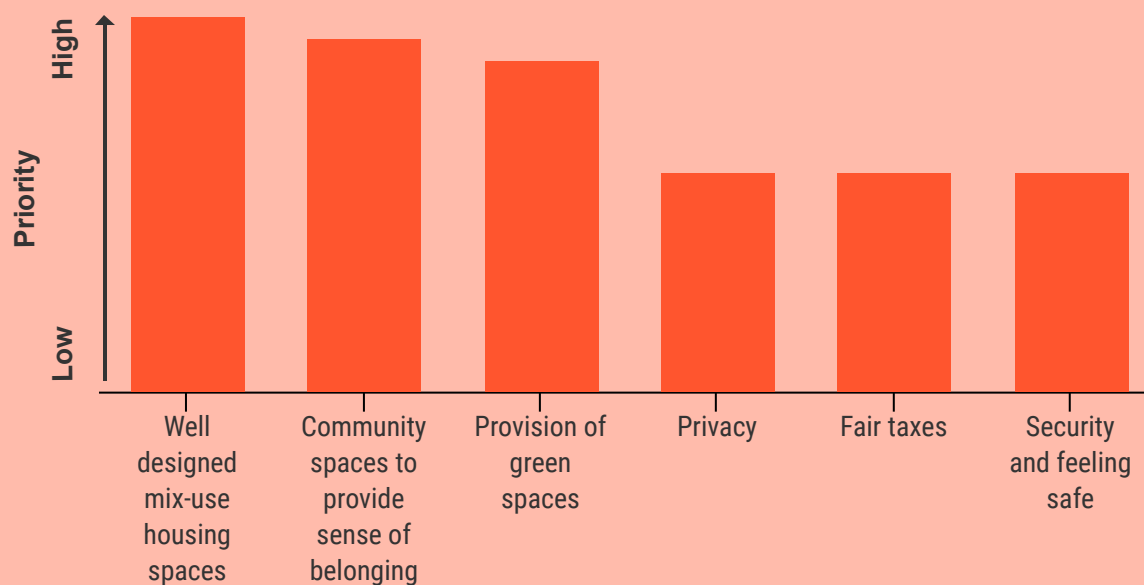
With the higher population density and people living in closer proximity to each other, there is an increased risk of disease transmission. Participants noted the importance of public health measures, such as immunisation and disease prevention, to minimise the spread of disease and maintain community health.

The participants also raised concerns around mental health, with the potential for social isolation and mental health issues to be exacerbated as the population grows. There were also concerns about neighbour issues, including noise and privacy concerns, which can lead to tensions within the community.

Another concern raised by participants was body corporate overreach and neglect, where the needs of the community are not being met by the body corporate. There were also concerns about safety, with the potential for increased criminal activity in denser populations and a need for safe places for children to play.

Finally, participants expressed concerns about the rising real estate prices and the potential for further increases. This can lead to affordability issues, particularly for first home buyers, and limit the ability of individuals to purchase a home in the area.

If we have more people living in higher-density housing, what do we need to do to make sure people live well?



Participants suggested that housing design should accommodate multi-generational and multi-cultural families, with outdoor space and affordable housing being key priorities. They also emphasised the importance of community spaces, including parks and libraries, to foster a sense of connection and inclusivity among residents. Green spaces with large established trees were identified as a priority, providing practical and aesthetic benefits to residents' health and well-being.

The group also identified privacy as an important consideration in high-density housing, suggesting the use of landscaping, soundproofing, good design, and technology to maintain a sense of privacy even as the number of people living in close proximity increases. They viewed fairer taxes as a means of promoting community and ensuring that everyone in the community can live well, as the community expands.

If we have more people living in high-density housing, what do we need to do to make sure people live well?

1

Well-designed neighbourhoods

During the planning discussions, participants considered how housing design could enhance the quality of life for future residents of Selwyn District. The group suggested that homes should be designed to accommodate multi-generational and multi-cultural families, as well as people of all ages and stages, including families and elderly residents.

Participants emphasised the importance of outdoor space, suggesting that balconies on taller buildings could provide residents with a place to enjoy fresh air and greenery. Additionally, the need for affordable housing was highlighted, and participants suggested that mixed-use zoning could provide residents with easy access to amenities such as shopping, entertainment, and medical facilities. Soundproofing in high-density housing was also suggested to ensure a peaceful living environment, while designing homes to avoid shading neighbouring properties was also considered an important aspect of housing design.

2

Community spaces to provide a sense of belonging

When considering living well in Selwyn, participants agreed that the provision of community spaces that provide a sense of belonging is important, especially in relation to the growth of higher-density housing. These spaces allow people to come together and feel a sense of connection and inclusivity.

Community spaces can take various forms, such as parks, libraries, religious institutions, or community hubs. The participants emphasised the importance of creating spaces where people feel welcome, accepted and valued, regardless of their background or circumstances. These spaces could help to foster a strong sense of community and support social cohesion, which could positively impact the overall well-being of the residents.

3

Provision of green spaces

Participants discussed the need to ensure that people live well in high-density housing, and identified large green spaces with room for large established trees as a priority. These green spaces can provide a space for residents to connect with each other and nature, and the trees can provide shade and increase bird life in the area.

In addition to the aesthetic benefits, green spaces also have practical benefits for residents' health and well-being, and can help to create a sustainable and livable environment. Participants emphasised the importance of prioritising green spaces when designing high-density housing, and ensuring that they are accessible and well-maintained. By doing so, they believe that residents can enjoy a high quality of life, even in a denser urban environment.

4

Privacy

Participants in the discussion on the challenges of high-density housing also identified the importance of privacy. As more people live in a smaller space, privacy can become an issue. However, the group suggested several strategies to maintain privacy while living in high-density housing.

Firstly, good landscaping can be used to create a barrier between homes and provide an increased sense of privacy. Secondly, soundproofing can be added to walls to reduce noise transfer between units. Thirdly, good design can help to ensure that units are oriented away from each other, and that windows and balconies do not face directly into each other. Finally, the use of technology, such as smart blinds or curtains, can provide an additional layer of privacy.

By incorporating these strategies, it is possible to maintain a sense of privacy in high-density housing, even as the number of people living in close proximity increases.

If we have more people living in **high-density housing**, what do we need to do to make sure people live well?

5

Fair taxes

To ensure people's well-being, the group believed that it was necessary to broaden their perspective beyond high density housing. This involved taking into account the impact of population growth on the local economy and considering the needs of both existing and new residents. The group viewed fairer taxes as a means of promoting a sense of community and ensuring that everyone in the community is able to live well.

6

Security and feeling safe

In tight-knit communities such as Rolleston, individuals tend to have closer relationships with their neighbours and are familiar with those they frequently encounter. This shared familiarity often fosters a sense of camaraderie and belonging. However, as the community expands, there is a possibility that these ties may weaken, prompting concerns about safety, security, and a loss of community control among participants of the workshop.

Other suggestions

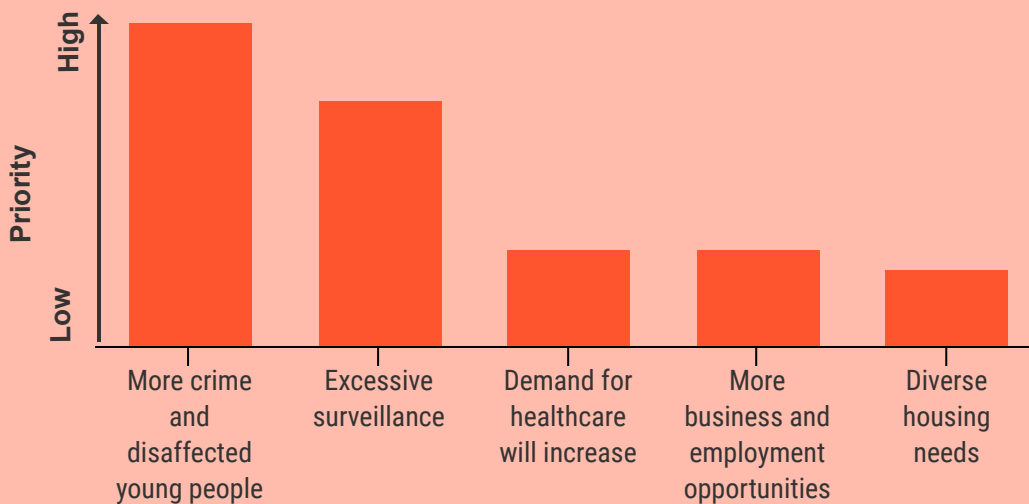
During a workshop, participants discussed the factors that they believed would contribute to their well-being. Alongside issues related to housing density and taxation, they identified a number of other concerns that they felt were important.

These included practical considerations, such as the need for car parks and the importance of pet-friendly policies, as many New Zealanders have cats and dogs. Participants also emphasised the value of access to sporting activities and a range of housing options that are affordable, including expenses such as rates, water charges, and body corp fees.

They highlighted the concept of 15-minute cities, which prioritise walking and cycling as modes of transportation, as well as the need for social services to help resolve disputes. The group raised concerns about challenges related to mobility and safety for those living in high-rise buildings. Overall, the group's discussion highlighted the many different factors that can contribute to individual and community well-being, emphasising the need for a comprehensive approach to community development.

Future function of our town centre

How will Rolleston **change** as the population grows?



The participants in the workshop expressed concern about potential crime rates increasing as the population grows in Rolleston, but they also expressed apprehension about being constantly monitored through surveillance. The group acknowledged the need for increased community policing to address safety concerns. They also recognised that as the population grows and ages, there will be an increased demand for healthcare services, which will require suitable infrastructure and a diverse range of industries and services within the town.

In addition to healthcare, the group expressed a desire for a diverse mix of shops and services, beyond food and beverage, to create a well-rounded community. They also highlighted the need for diverse housing options, including smaller townhouses or apartments, larger multi-generational homes, and accessible local amenities that can be reached by walking or cycling.

How will Rolleston **change** as the population grows??

1

More crime and disaffected young people

The participants expressed concern that as the population in the area grows and new residents move in, there could be a rise in crime rates within the community. This issue was already on their radar, as they had previously suggested that an increase in community policing would be necessary to address potential safety concerns. It is clear that the participants view this as a pressing issue as they contemplate the future growth of the town.

2

Excessive surveillance

Although safety and security were deemed important, participants also expressed apprehension about being constantly monitored through surveillance. Balancing these two concerns will be crucial in ensuring that the community feels secure in both their indoor and outdoor spaces, without feeling like they are under constant surveillance by an omnipresent "big brother."

3

Increased demand for healthcare

The growth and aging of the population in Rolleston will result in an increased demand for healthcare services, ranging from primary care to emergency services and hospital beds. Participants recognised that this demand, combined with a worldwide shortage of qualified medical personnel and the need for suitable infrastructure to support healthcare delivery, is an important factor to consider as Rolleston expands.

4

More business and employment opportunities

The expansion of Rolleston will necessitate a wider range of industries and services within the town, resulting in job opportunities and the opening of new businesses. The group expressed a desire for a diverse mix of shops and services beyond those in the food and beverage industry, in order to create a well-rounded community.

5

Diverse housing options

As Rolleston expands, participants recognised that the demand for diverse housing options will increase. Currently, the majority of available housing consists of single-level homes on large, family-sized sections. However, as the population becomes more diverse, not everyone will want to live in this type of housing. Some may prefer smaller townhouse or apartment-style living with shared garden spaces and accessible local amenities that can be reached by walking or cycling.

Additionally, larger multi-generational homes may be needed as the population ages and multiple generations choose to live together.

Other changes

As the population of Rolleston grows, participants identified several other changes that are likely to occur. One concern raised was the potential increase in pollution due to more vehicles on the roads. In addition, there may be a rise in the amount of rubbish generated, as well as an increase in the number of trucks required to transport goods and services. With a more diverse population, there may be social implications that need to be addressed, as different cultures may have different needs and expectations. Finally, as the town expands, there may be greater demand for food, which will need to be met by local suppliers and retailers.

Future function of Selwyn

What would be important to ensure that Rolleston is somewhere that people want to spend their time?



Participants in the workshop stressed the importance of having entertainment options, such as cinemas and live music venues, to improve the quality of life in the community. They also emphasised the benefits of mixed-use zoning, including increasing access to amenities, promoting social interaction, and stimulating the local economy. Trees were also highlighted as an important feature in the community, providing both aesthetic and practical benefits, such as reducing noise levels and air pollution.

The workshop participants also discussed the importance of sporting opportunities and designated playing fields for children to play in, which promote physical fitness and social interaction. The participants also emphasized the need to consider the spiritual and cultural needs of the growing population, including providing spaces for reflection and opportunities to celebrate different traditions. Creating such opportunities can help to build a stronger and more connected community.

What would be important to ensure that Rolleston is somewhere that people want to spend their time?

1

More entertainment

During the workshop, participants highlighted the importance of having entertainment options available in order to enhance the community's quality of life. Examples given included live music venues, cinemas, and indoor bowling. Having access to these types of amenities can contribute to a more lively and connected community, promoting a healthier lifestyle for residents.

2

Mixed-use zoning

The workshop participants agreed that mixed-use zoning can be beneficial for communities in a variety of ways. By allowing for multiple uses within a single area, this type of zoning can make amenities more accessible, stimulate the local economy, and increase the supply of affordable housing. Additionally, it can make more efficient use of land, while promoting social interaction, reducing isolation, and fostering a sense of community.

3

Mature trees

Throughout the workshop, the importance of large mature trees in the community has been consistently emphasised. Participants have pointed out that these trees not only enhance the aesthetic appeal of the landscape, but also provide practical benefits such as shade and shelter. In addition, trees can help to reduce noise levels and air pollution, and provide habitat for wildlife. The benefits of trees are numerous and far-reaching, from reducing stress levels to improving overall well-being. As Rolleston grows, preserving and planting large mature trees will be an essential component in creating a sustainable and vibrant community.

4

Recreational opportunities

The importance of a variety of sporting opportunities in Rolleston was emphasized by the workshop participants. They pointed out that having options such as mountain biking, hiking, horse riding, hunting and fishing can attract people to the area and encourage them to spend more time in the community. In addition, the participants highlighted the importance of having designated playing fields and parks for children to play in. Having access to sports and recreational activities not only promotes physical fitness and wellbeing, but also fosters a sense of community and encourages social interaction.

5

Meeting spiritual & cultural needs of the community

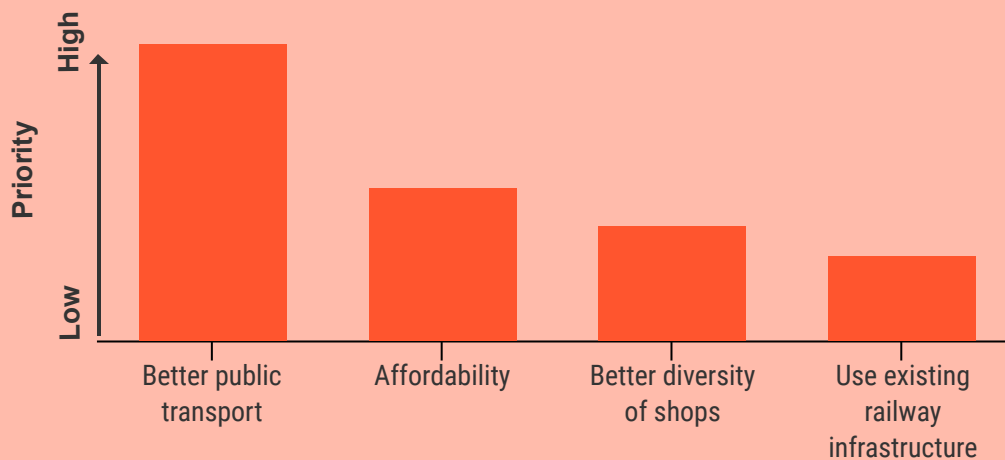
As the population grows, it's important to consider the spiritual and cultural needs of the community. Participants in the workshop highlighted the desire for spiritual spaces and opportunities for reflection, such as meditation gardens or community centers that offer yoga or other mindfulness practices. Additionally, the growing diversity in the population means that there may be a need for cultural spaces and events that celebrate different traditions and promote understanding and inclusion. Creating opportunities for people to come together and share their cultural and spiritual experiences can help to build a stronger, more connected community.

Other suggestions

Participants had several other suggestions to make Rolleston a welcoming and inclusive place to live and spend their time, including a bottom-up approach to community building where neighbours take the initiative to organize social events and gatherings. They also emphasised the need for community gardens, affordability, transportation options, industrial and business opportunities, work opportunities with fair wages and support for entrepreneurs, and low crime rates.

Transport options

What would make the biggest difference in getting around without your car, or **using your car less?**



The participants in the workshop emphasised the importance of having reliable and frequent transportation options that are easily accessible from where they live, work, and play. They also expressed a desire for a variety of transportation choices and the importance of free transport to encourage usage and accessibility for everyone in the community. Affordability was also a key consideration, with suggestions such as making car hire services available at affordable rates, free parking at park 'n rides, and not excessively charging for car parks in the town centre.

Another important theme was the need for a more diverse shops in Rolleston, with one of the groups highlighting the lack of craft or specialist stores within the town. The addition of these stores could provide more options for residents to support local businesses and reduce the need to travel to neighbouring towns, ultimately saving time and money. Additionally, the group expressed a priority for utilising the existing infrastructure, such as the railway from Rolleston to Tower Junction, to improve transport options.

What would make the biggest difference in getting around without your car, or using your car less?

1

Better public transport

The participants emphasised the importance of having reliable and frequent transportation options that are easily accessible from where they live, work, and play. They also expressed a desire for a variety of transportation choices, such as trains, buses, cycle paths, and walkways. Additionally, the group highlighted the importance of free transport to encourage usage and accessibility for everyone in the community.

2

Affordability of transport

The group's suggestions on affordability encompassed a variety of ideas, such as making car hire services available at affordable rates for those who require occasional transportation. They also emphasised the importance of free parking at park 'n rides to encourage the use of public transport, and not excessively charging for car parks in the town centre. These measures could help alleviate financial pressure for residents and visitors, making it easier for them to access and enjoy the various amenities and facilities in Rolleston.

3

Increase diversity of shops in Rolleston

One of the groups emphasised that although there are 43 places to eat in Rolleston, there is a lack of craft or specialist stores within the town. This means that residents who are interested in these types of stores would need to travel to another center to access them. The group suggested that the addition of craft and specialty stores in Rolleston could provide more options for residents to support local businesses and create a more diverse and vibrant community. This could also reduce the need for residents to travel to neighbouring towns, ultimately saving time and money.

4

Utilise existing railway infrastructure

The group expressed a priority for utilising the existing infrastructure, such as the railway from Rolleston to Tower Junction, to improve transport options. A direct link to the railway, without the need for a middle bus exchange, was suggested, along with a feeder bus service to Hornby to connect to the 'Turn up and go' service. The group believed that this could help reduce reliance on cars and make public transport a more viable option for commuting and traveling between centers.

Other suggestions

Participants also provided a variety of other suggestions to improve the transport system, such as having lock-up facilities and charging stations for bikes and scooters, increasing capacity and providing shelter at stations, offering services and facilities at bus stops, incorporating travelators, and covered walkways. Other ideas included accepting cash or eftpos on buses, and ensuring enough solar power to offset energy usage.

Waimakariri District Workshop



Waimakariri District Workshop

On 14 March 2023, Greater Christchurch Urban Growth Partnership held a workshop in Rangiora with 35 participants to discuss growth across Greater Christchurch, especially Waimakariri District. Participants were asked to discuss a series of questions in groups about what they need to continue to live well while accommodating future growth, and how they might see investment in transport options.

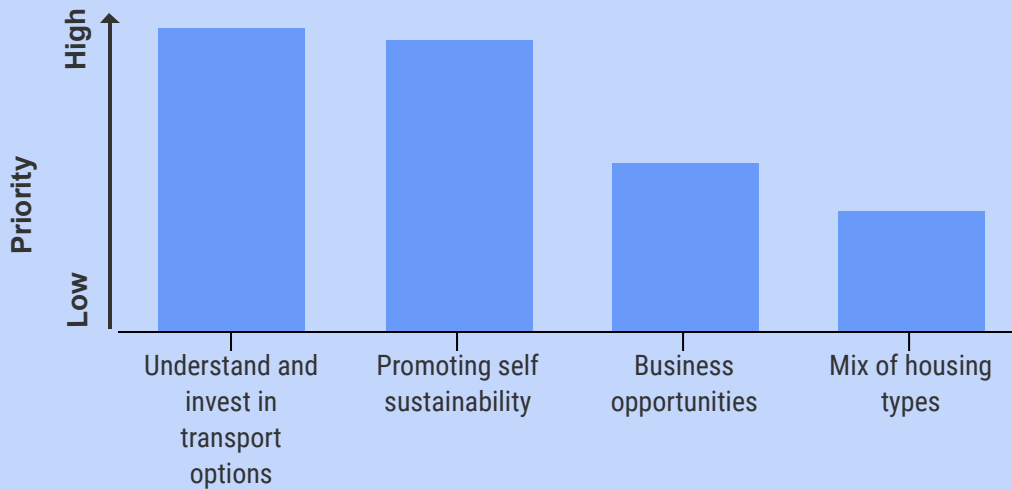
At the workshop, participants were also asked to prioritise opportunities and challenges in relation to the questions asked. This was carried out using the 'dotting method' where each participant was given a certain amount of dots to 'spend' on each issue. This gives an indication of what people's main concerns and opportunities are.

Overleaf is a summary of findings from the workshop in Rangiora.



Accommodating 1 million people

With the proposed pattern of growth, what do you see as the opportunities?



The group prioritised transport, specifically rail options and car sharing, as opportunities due to the proposed growth. They also identified becoming a more self-sustainable community through the use of energy resources and cultivating trees for construction purposes as a priority.

The group saw the potential for the growth of local businesses and suggested the need for a diverse range of housing options, including 'tiny homes', as a way to address the need for more housing. They recognised that 'tiny homes' offer a sustainable and cost-effective housing option, allowing for more efficient use of resources, including land and energy.

With the proposed pattern of growth, what do you see as the opportunities?

1

Understanding and investing in transport

When thinking about some of the opportunities for growth, this group prioritised transport. Rail options were one of the biggest priorities, along with car sharing, particularly via technology (e.g. car ride apps) and there was also the suggestion of a new airport at Rangiora.

2

Self-sustainability

The participants expressed that population growth presented opportunities for their community. The group believed that this included becoming a more self-sustainable community by utilising their own energy resources and cultivating trees for construction purposes instead of solely for carbon reduction. The potential barriers around farming were mentioned, and the participants suggested that they should be removed to allow for a more self-sustaining community.

3

Business opportunities

As the community grows, it presents a variety of opportunities for local businesses to thrive. The expansion of the community can lead to an increase in demand for goods and services, creating openings for new businesses to establish themselves and for existing businesses to expand their operations. The community can support these businesses by prioritising local commerce, promoting a strong sense of community and encouraging the growth of the local economy.

Having a diverse range of businesses in the area can also encourage residents to shop locally and help to keep money circulating within the community.

In addition to providing shopping opportunities, the community can also support the growth of local businesses by encouraging the employment of both local and external staff. This can help to attract talented individuals to the area. By providing employment opportunities, the community can also help to reduce the need for residents to commute to other areas for work, which can help to strengthen the local economy and reduce the environmental impact of commuting.

4

A mix of housing types

As the community grows, the need for a diverse range of housing options becomes increasingly important. Participants identified that a mix of housing types, including 'tiny homes', presents an opportunity to address this need. 'Tiny homes' offer a sustainable and cost-effective housing option for individuals and families who are looking for a simpler way of life, with less space and fewer possessions. In addition, the compact size of 'tiny homes' allows for more efficient use of resources, including land and energy, and can therefore be an environmentally friendly housing option.

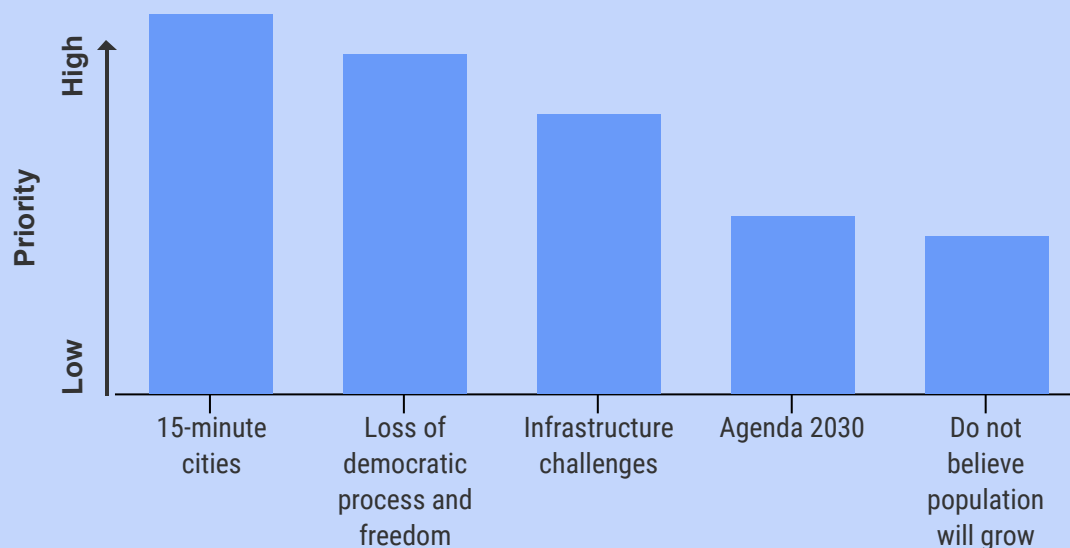
Other opportunities

Participants also put forward several other suggestions to help manage the town's development. Increasing transparency was identified to ensure accountability and clarity in decision-making. Developing a master plan for growth would help to guide and coordinate infrastructure and community development.

Participants also emphasised the importance of creating green and public spaces to support a healthy and attractive community, as well as business areas to promote economic growth.

Learning from other large cities in New Zealand was also seen as valuable, as was embracing diversity to create a welcoming and inclusive environment. Improving infrastructure, such as roads and public transport, and providing essential services, such as hospitals, were also seen as important. Finally, participants noted the importance of politicians addressing community needs and advocating for their constituents.

With the proposed pattern of growth, what do you see as the challenges?



The concept of 15-minute cities was raised in discussions. The concept has been identified in urban planning to promote sustainable living by having necessary goods and services within a 15-minute walk or bike ride from homes. However, some individuals in the group expressed concerns that the implementation of this concept could lead to social credits being used to monitor their movements and control their access to goods and services. Additionally, there were concerns about the potential loss of the democratic process and centralised decision-making as the population grows. The group emphasised the need to preserve democratic processes and ensure that local communities have a voice in decisions that affect them.

The group also acknowledged the infrastructure challenges that come with population growth, including the need for more transportation options and upgraded utilities.

With the proposed pattern of growth, what do you see as the challenges?

1

15-minute cities

The concept of 15-minute cities has been gaining traction in urban planning and development as a way to promote sustainable living and reduce the carbon footprint of cities. The idea is that all necessary goods and services, such as grocery stores, healthcare facilities, and schools, are located within a 15-minute walk or bike ride from one's home. This can reduce the need for cars and other modes of transportation, leading to a more environmentally friendly and healthier lifestyle.

However, some participants expressed notable resistance towards this concept. Their apprehensions appear to stem from their concerns about the potential application of social credits (citing China), to negatively impact their lives.

The group may be concerned that the implementation of 15-minute cities could lead to the monitoring of their movements and activities, and the potential for social credits to be used as a means of controlling their access to goods and services. This apprehension may be influenced by a lack of trust in government and technology, as well as a desire for privacy and personal autonomy.

2

Agenda 2030

While population growth presents several challenges, it is important to consider the broader context of sustainable development. During discussions, some participants expressed skepticism towards Agenda 2030, a global plan developed by the United Nations to promote sustainable development goals by 2030.

While some participants may have legitimate concerns about the implementation and impact of Agenda 2030, it is essential to understand their specific reservations. To address their skepticism, it may be helpful to gather more information and engage in constructive dialogue. This can clarify any misunderstandings or misconceptions they may have and provide more in-depth knowledge about the plan and its goals.

Engaging in a respectful and open conversation with the participants can also help to address their concerns and identify potential areas of collaboration. This approach can foster a better understanding of the challenges associated with population growth, and help to develop sustainable strategies that are equitable and effective.

3

Loss of democratic processes and freedom

During discussions about the region's projected population growth to one million people, the group expressed concerns about the potential loss of the democratic process and the risk of a land grab in the guise of climate change. The group felt that with such a significant increase in population, there may be a shift towards centralised decision-making and less involvement of local communities in the decision-making process.

To mitigate these concerns, the group emphasised the importance of preserving democratic processes and ensuring that local communities have a voice in decisions that affect them. There was support for continued freedom of movement and freedom of choice within the community. The group recognised the value of maintaining a sense of community identity and cohesion, even as the region grows.

4

Infrastructure challenges

The group recognised that population growth poses a challenge in terms of requiring additional infrastructure to sustain it. This includes addressing the need for more housing, schools, and medical facilities, as well as enhancing the road and rail network.

With the proposed pattern of growth, what do you see as the challenges?

5

Where are all the people coming from?

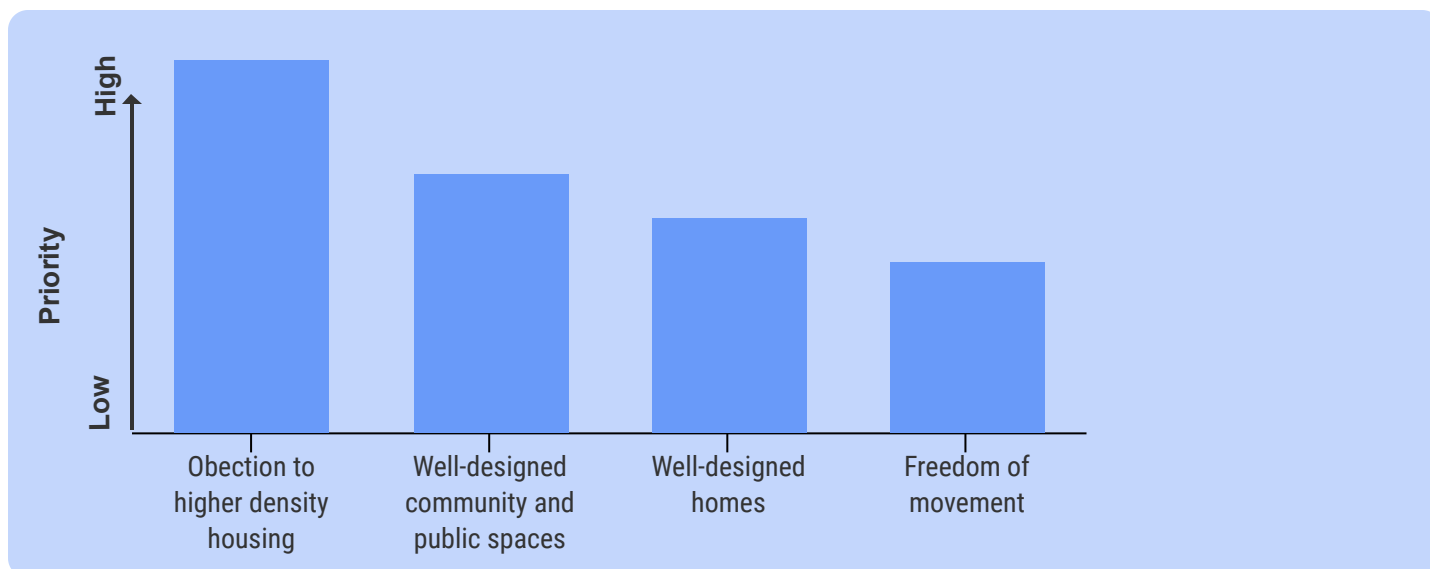
The origin of the statistics for projected growth to one million individuals, coupled with the present growth rate was doubted by the participants, who expressed skepticism. A few members of the group pointed out that the declining fertility rates and the rise in the aging population indicate that the region's growth prospects are bleak.

Other challenges

During a discussion on the challenges of population growth, participants identified several further issues that could arise. One of these was the need for adequate parking spaces to accommodate the growing population. Another concern was the provision of facilities and services to support the elderly, who may require more assistance in a denser living environment.

Immigration was also identified as a challenge as was the need to cater for electric cars and address affordability concerns. In the context of higher density living, participants emphasised the importance of providing facilities for pet ownership, as this is likely to become more popular with smaller living spaces. Participants also discussed the need to cater for people with disabilities and to ensure that infrastructure keeps up with the pace of growth to avoid congestion. Finally, there was a focus on maintaining the quality of life and avoiding wasteful spending on consultants.

If we have more people living in higher-density housing, what do we need to do to make sure people live well?



During a discussion on population growth, concerns were raised about the concept of higher-density housing in the region. Some participants argued that there is ample land available and questioned the need for higher-density housing. They also suggested that high-density living is not conducive to living well, as it may lead to issues such as reduced privacy and lack of outdoor space. Some participants raised concerns about social issues that may arise in high-density living environments, such as increased noise, disputes over shared spaces, and a lack of community cohesion.

However, participants agreed that it is essential to design high-density housing that meets the varying needs of the community, including seniors, families, and people with disabilities. Design elements such as good soundproofing, appropriate sizing, and suitable landscaping, including public and community spaces, were identified as crucial factors for the success of high-density living. In addition to landscaping, it is essential to consider appropriate amenities and infrastructure that meet the needs of the community, such as parking, water, and other utilities. Finally, community space is an important factor to consider when designing high-density housing, including a mixture of people grouping/habitats and open spaces to encourage interaction and socialisation, as well as the provision of appropriate amenities, services, and transportation options.

If we have more people living in **high-density housing**, what do we need to do to make sure people live well?

1

Objection to higher density housing

During the discussion on population growth, some participants expressed concerns about the concept of higher-density housing in the region. These individuals argued that there is ample land available and questioned the need for higher-density housing. They also suggested that high-density living is not conducive to living well, as it may lead to issues such as reduced privacy and lack of outdoor space. Some participants also raised concerns about social issues that may arise in high-density living environments, such as increased noise, disputes over shared spaces, and a lack of community cohesion.

Moreover, some participants cited that higher-density living has been proven to be more dangerous, citing lockdowns during the COVID-19 pandemic as an example.

2

Well-designed homes

The concept of high-density housing has been a topic of debate in the context of population growth, with some expressing concerns about the potential negative impact on well-being. However, other participants believe that well-designed housing can address these concerns and provide a comfortable living environment.

Participants agreed that it is essential to design high-density housing that meets the varying needs of the community, including seniors, families, and people with disabilities. Design elements such as triple glazing, good soundproofing, and appropriate sizing can create a comfortable living environment that promotes well-being.

3

Well-designed community and public spaces

Participants prioritised the provision of suitable landscaping, including public and community spaces that promote health and well-being, as a crucial factor for the success of high-density living.

Creating healthy spaces through landscaping can be challenging, especially in urban environments where concrete dominates the landscape.

In addition to landscaping, it is essential to consider appropriate amenities and infrastructure that meet the needs of the community, such as parking, water, and other utilities. High-density housing areas should also be designed to accommodate different types of people, including families, the elderly, and mixed demographics.

Finally, community space is an important factor to consider when designing high-density housing. The space should be a mixture of people grouping/habitats and open spaces to encourage interaction and socialization. The inclusion of nature and green spaces can also enhance the well-being of residents.

4

Freedom of movement

In relation to freedom of movement, participants highlighted the need for appropriate space and accessibility within high-density housing to allow people to move around and interact with their environment comfortably. This includes not only physical space but also the provision of appropriate amenities, services, and transportation options. The aim is to ensure that residents can move around freely and easily, without feeling confined or restricted by their living situation.

Other suggestions

During the discussion on how to ensure that people live well in higher-density housing, several suggestions were proposed, which were also considered as priorities. These included allowing pets, access to recreational activities such as hiking, biking, beaches, mountains, and holidays. Participants also emphasised the importance of considering natural disasters and risk management such as earthquakes and flooding and taking appropriate measures to ensure disease control. Additionally, providing adequate infrastructure for electric cars and bikes was also highlighted as an essential factor in promoting sustainable living in high-density housing.

Participants were asked how towns might change as the population grows and what would be important to ensure each town is a place where people want to spend their time.

RANGIORA

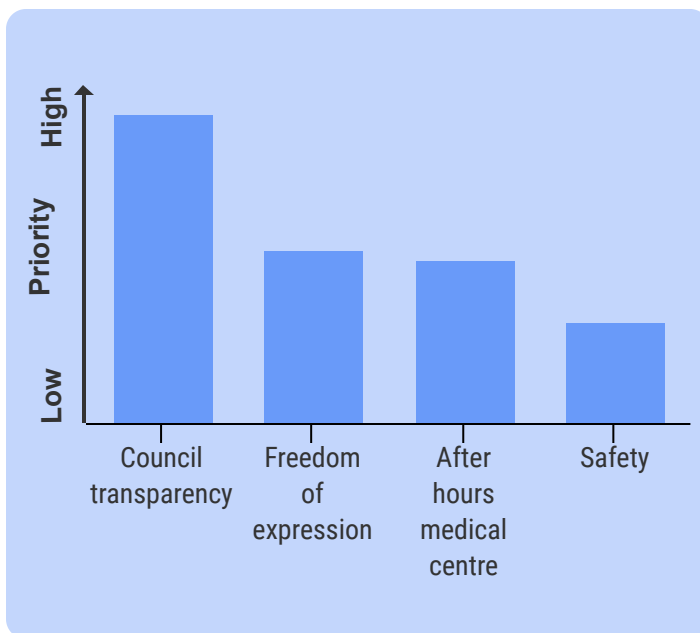
How will Rangiora change as the population grows?

Participants discussed how Rangiora will change as the population grows, and raised concerns regarding the impact of such growth. Some participants questioned the evidence of the population growth and noted a decline in births and an aging population. Participants also expressed concern about the potential increase in crime, with some citing the current under-policing in the area. Youth issues were also highlighted, with a need for practical skill-building opportunities for young people.

The importance of maintaining green spaces and the rural culture of Rangiora was also emphasised. Some participants felt that the introduction of three-story buildings had already negatively impacted the topography, reducing light and views. Additionally, some participants stressed that Rangiora is a village, not a city, and urged for maintaining the character and atmosphere of the town. Some participants also expressed concerns about the possibility of the council wasting money without proper consultation with ratepayers, and noted the need for improved employment opportunities, medical facilities, education, natural health access, and infrastructure.

Furthermore, participants predicted that rates would increase as the population grows. Lastly, participants anticipated an increase in congestion along Southbrook Road and expressed concerns about the potential addition of fluoride and chlorine to the water supply.

What would be important to ensure Rangiora is a place people want to spend their time?



When it comes to creating a town that people want to spend their time in, there are several factors that participants suggested as being important.

One of the most significant factors is ensuring council transparency, which means that people can have trust in local decision-making and feel involved in the process. Promoting freedom of expression is also important to create a sense of community ownership and inclusivity. Additionally, providing essential amenities like an after-hours medical centre and safety measures can help people feel secure in their surroundings.

Other suggestions included improving air quality and having a good network of parks, reserves, and playgrounds, including dog parks. Encouraging activities like hiking, walking, sports, and art can also contribute to a vibrant town centre. Finally, participants emphasised the importance of maintaining a strong sense of community, as people love living in the town and its unique atmosphere.

KAIAPOI

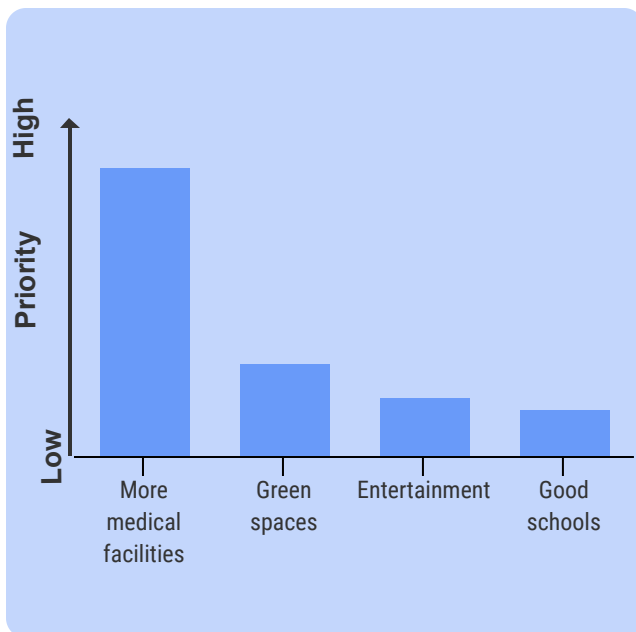
How will Kaiapoi change as the population grows?

Kaiapoi, with its plenty of room for growth, is likely to see changes as its population increases. Participants in discussions on this topic highlighted various factors that could shape the town's future.

One of the key concerns is making use of the "red zones" that resulted from the earthquakes. Suggestions included developing recreational bike trails, food forests, green spaces, and dog parks in these areas.

Creating a diverse community with facilities like churches, temples, and mosques was also highlighted as an important factor. However, participants also acknowledged that the town is likely to get busier with the population growth, which could result in more crime.

What would be important to ensure Kaiapoi is a place people want to spend their time?



To ensure that Kaiapoi is a place people want to spend their time, several factors were highlighted by participants. The provision of essential health services was regarded as a top priority, with the need for 24-hour health services and more doctors, x-ray facilities and allied health services being emphasised.

Employment opportunities in the area were also important, with a history of woollen mills and freezing works supporting the local community.

Good schools were also identified as a key factor, along with a range of entertainment options. Green spaces and sensible infrastructure were seen as essential for ensuring the town is an attractive and pleasant place to live.

Participants also expressed the desire to protect Norm Kirk's house and make it an attraction. Finally, it was suggested that the town should embrace diversity by providing places of worship for different religions such as churches, mosques, and temples.

PEGASUS/WOODEND/RAVENSWOOD

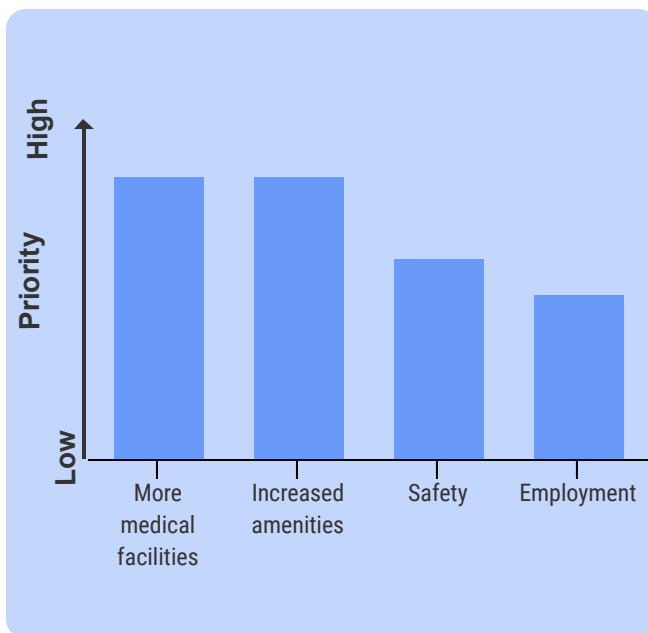
How will Pegasus/Woodend/Ravenswood change as the population grows?

As the population in Pegasus, Woodend, and Ravenswood grows, participants have raised concerns about various factors. They have stressed the need for a clean lake, more competition in supermarkets and service stations, retail outlets, youth facilities, and a picture theatre.

The demand for facilities is also expected to increase, which may lead to a strain on existing resources. Safety is another issue that may arise with the increase in population.

Moreover, participants have expressed concerns about the potential loss of a sense of community and the impact on the environment due to increased development and subdivisions.

What would be important to ensure Pegasus/Woodend/Ravenswood is a place people want to spend their time?



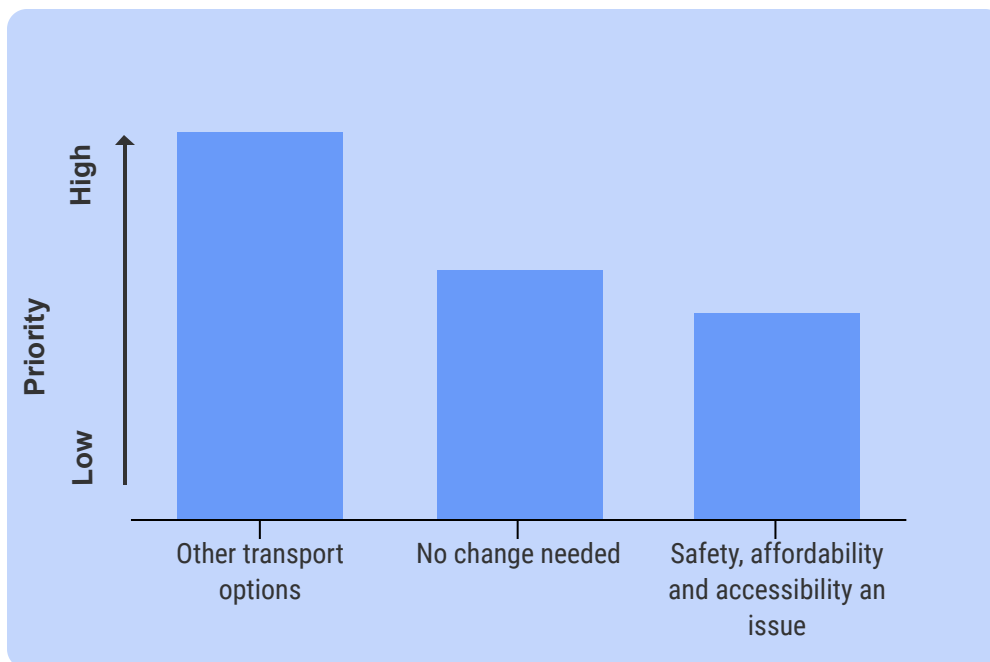
Participants in the survey identified several key factors that would be important to ensure that Pegasus/Woodend/Ravenswood is a place where people want to spend their time.

The top priority was the provision of adequate medical facilities. Other important factors included the upkeep of beaches, bike and pedestrian safety, the availability of a library, employment opportunities, an Olympic swimming pool, the establishment of community facilities in Ravenswood, hairdressers, frequent and reliable public transport to cover new residential areas, policing, community events, and the protection of the environment.

Overall, the participants emphasised the need for a balanced approach to growth that ensures the provision of essential services and facilities while maintaining the natural environment and sense of community

Transport options

What would make the biggest difference in getting around without your car, or **using your car less?**



Participants in a transportation discussion highlighted the need for a range of accessible, affordable, and sustainable options, including free mopeds, frequent door-to-door minibusses, dedicated cycleways, high-speed links, and rail systems.

While some participants saw cars as essential for their mobility and freedom, others recognised the need to rely on cars, particularly for families, elderly individuals, and those living in rural areas. Participants suggested solutions such as incentives for alternative modes of transportation, better cycling infrastructure, and park-and-ride facilities.

What would make the biggest difference in getting around without your car, or using your car less?

1

Other transport options

Participants highlighted a need for a variety of transport options. One suggestion was the implementation of free mopeds, which have been successful in Vietnam and are much cheaper than cars.

Another popular suggestion was the introduction of frequent, door-to-door minibus services and delivery services to provide more convenient transportation options. Participants also suggested the use of small buses with frequent stops in towns and rural areas, including Ohoka, Swannanoa, Sefton, and Balcairn, along with appropriate routes and frequency of public transport services that are reliable and affordable.

The development of dedicated cycleways was another suggestion, with the need for more of them to encourage cycling as a viable alternative to driving. High-speed links and routes were also considered, along with the promotion of carpooling and subsidies for electric bikes.

Finally, participants also highlighted the importance of rail systems, such as tram networks, that use existing rail lines to reduce pollution and provide a more efficient means of transportation. Overall, these suggestions demonstrate the need for a range of transportation options that are accessible, affordable, and sustainable.

2

No change needed - Do not want to use my car less

When considering getting around without using a car, opinions varied among participants. Some stated that they didn't see the need for change as they only used their car when they wanted to go somewhere. On the other hand, some believed that it was impossible to do a weekly grocery shop without a car, and they didn't want to use it less.

Others argued that there should always be a choice of cars as a means of transport and objected to any limitations on their options. The common justification for this perspective was that cars represented freedom, allowing individuals to go wherever they want, whenever they want, without having to rely on public transportation or other people. Overall, it appears that the biggest factor in reducing car usage will be finding alternatives that can provide comparable convenience and freedom of mobility.

3

Safety, affordability, and accessibility is an issue

Participants agreed that there are several further challenges to getting around without using a car or using it less. One of the biggest concerns was that cycling is difficult for families and children who need to transport groceries and other bulky items. Elderly individuals may also have difficulty getting around without a car. In terms of affordability, participants highlighted the need for support from the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) to cover accidents that may occur while using bikes, scooters, or electric bikes. Safety was another significant concern, particularly regarding public transportation services and road safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists alike.

These issues demonstrate the need for comprehensive solutions that take into account the unique needs and challenges of different groups of people when it comes to transportation.

What would make the biggest difference in getting around without your car, or using your car less?

Other suggestions

Participants shared a range of opinions and suggestions for what could make the biggest difference in getting around without a car or using it less. Some participants were skeptical about the need to reduce carbon emissions, suggesting that the science behind it was unclear and proposing that cars could be run on water instead. Others expressed concerns about the potential health risks associated with electric vehicles due to EMFs and fire risks. Some participants argued against restrictions on car usage, such as carless days and T2 lanes, which they viewed as ineffective and a waste of space.

The need for better cycling infrastructure was another common suggestion, with participants highlighting the importance of safe and well-designed cycling lanes. However, some participants expressed concern that current infrastructure is extremely dangerous for cyclists. The challenges of living in rural areas were also raised, with some participants arguing that many people who live outside of cities have no choice but to rely on cars, as public transportation is not a viable option.

To encourage alternative modes of transportation, some participants suggested incentives, such as credits towards registration or rates for those who use alternative modes of transportation. Working from home was also suggested as a viable option, although some participants expressed concerns about the potential for loneliness and isolation.

Finally, participants also discussed the need for park and ride facilities and highlighted the challenges of implementing light rail systems in New Zealand, citing the example of Auckland where plans were ultimately scrapped. Overall, these suggestions demonstrate the need for a comprehensive and nuanced approach to transportation policy that takes into account the unique needs and challenges of different communities and individuals.

Future functions of our centres and towns

RANGIORA

The participants discussed how Rangiora will change as the population grows, raising concerns about the impact of growth, such as crime and loss of green spaces. They also highlighted the need for practical skill-building opportunities for young people, maintaining the town's rural culture and character, and improving employment, medical facilities, education, natural health access, and infrastructure. Participants suggested that ensuring council transparency, promoting freedom of expression, providing essential amenities, improving air quality, having a good network of parks and playgrounds, and encouraging activities like hiking, walking, sports, and art are essential factors to create a town where people want to spend their time. Lastly, participants emphasised the importance of maintaining a strong sense of community.

KAIAPOI

Participants discussed the potential changes to Kaiapoi as its population grows and highlighted the need to make use of the "red zones" resulting from the earthquakes by developing recreational bike trails, green spaces, and dog parks. Creating a diverse community with various facilities, good schools, and employment opportunities were also regarded as important factors. To ensure Kaiapoi is a place people want to spend time, essential health services, sensible infrastructure, entertainment options, and protecting Norm Kirk's house were also mentioned. Embracing diversity through providing places of worship for different religions such as churches, mosques, and temples was also suggested.

PEGASUS / WOODEND / RAVENSWOOD

Participants in the workshop discussed how the population growth in Pegasus, Woodend, and Ravenswood could lead to various concerns, such as strain on existing resources, safety, loss of community, and impact on the environment. To ensure that the towns remain a place where people want to spend their time, participants highlighted the need for adequate medical facilities, upkeep of beaches, bike and pedestrian safety, community facilities, employment opportunities, policing, protection of the environment, and other factors such as public transport, community events, and access to essential services. They emphasised the importance of a balanced approach to growth that meets the needs of the community while maintaining the natural environment and sense of community.

Common themes across all towns include concerns about population growth leading to strain on existing resources, crime rates, and impact on the environment. Participants also emphasised the importance of maintaining a sense of community and providing essential services such as healthcare, education, and employment opportunities.

In Rolleston, participants suggested that amenities such as cinemas and live music venues, mixed-use zoning, and preserving large mature trees are necessary to enhance the community's quality of life.

In Rangiora, maintaining the town's rural culture and character, providing practical skill-building opportunities for young people, and improving essential services such as medical facilities, education, and infrastructure were highlighted as important factors.

In Kaiapoi, creating a diverse community with various facilities, good schools, employment opportunities, and embracing diversity through providing places of worship for different religions were suggested. The use of "red zones" for recreational bike trails, green spaces, and dog parks was also mentioned.

In Pegasus, Woodend, and Ravenswood, participants emphasised the need for a balanced approach to growth that ensures the provision of essential services and facilities while maintaining the natural environment and sense of community. Factors such as adequate medical facilities, upkeep of beaches, bike and pedestrian safety, community facilities, and employment opportunities were highlighted as important.