

ONEHUNGA

Connecting
to new
spaces.



Waiapu Precinct and Paynes Lane Feedback report

Purpose of this report

This feedback report summarises feedback received during the public consultation period from 12 February 2024 to Sunday 10 March 2024.

The report summarises key feedback themes for consideration by Eke Panuku, as it develops a final concept design for approval by the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board.



A new play space is proposed for the precinct

The project

Onehunga is a growing community in an exceptional location on the edge of the Manukau Harbour, 10km from the city centre and Auckland Airport.

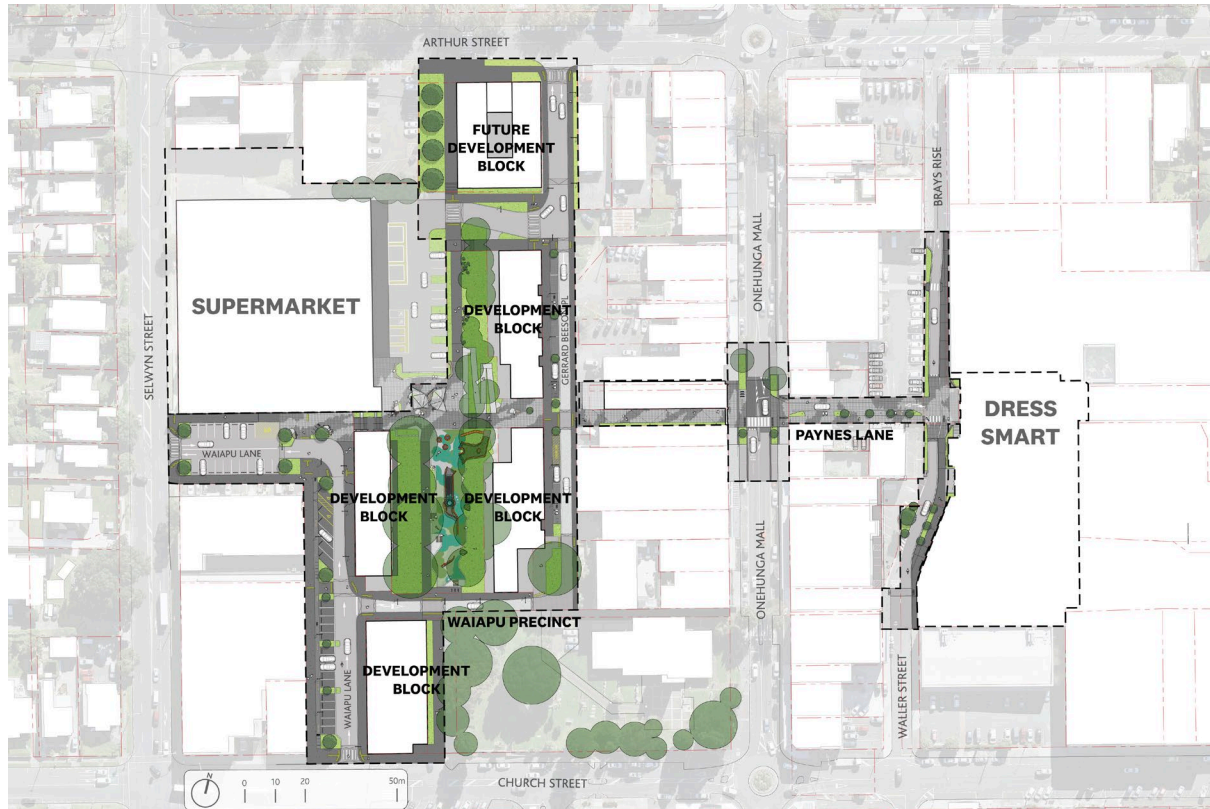
Eke Panuku is committed to embracing Onehunga's character and is working to breathe new life into this neighbourhood through an urban regeneration programme, on behalf of Auckland Council.

A transformation is planned for Waiapu Precinct and Paynes Lane in Onehunga, focussing on future-proofing the town centre by investing in infrastructure, facilitating new homes, creating new public spaces, and improving walking connections.

In partnership with mana whenua and with the support of the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board, through February and March of 2024, Eke Panuku sought community views on the proposed design for the public spaces in the Waiapu Precinct and the upgrade of Paynes Lane.

Waiapu Precinct is the block between Onehunga Mall, Selwyn Street, Arthur Street and Church Street. The plan includes a new public plaza, green spaces, a family play space, and safer walking connections.

Payne's Lane, opposite Waiapu Precinct on the other side of Onehunga Mall, will be upgraded to provide a safe, wide and improved walking connection to the future expanded Dress Smart retail precinct.



Waiapu Precinct and Paynes Lane

Urban regeneration is a long process and the project is expected to take a number of years to complete from late 2024 through to 2027, with residential development following the upgrade.

Public engagement summary

Eke Panuku undertook a public consultation between Monday 12 February and Sunday 10 March 2024 to seek local views and feedback on the concept design for the public spaces of Waiapu Precinct and Paynes Lane.

A total of 201 people completed the project survey. Individual feedback is not considered in detail within this report, but has been grouped into themes. The feedback from the public 'Have your say' consultation is summarised here to give a snapshot of what's important to the community, along with a selection of quotes to provide context.

Our approach

A three-pronged approach was taken:

1. To create awareness of the consultation within the Onehunga neighbourhood.
2. To engage & educate the wider community on the proposed plans.
3. To create a call to action for locals to participate and contribute feedback on the proposed plans.

Who we engaged with

Engagement with these stakeholders was accompanied by emails and meetings with a variety of local individuals and businesses.

- Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board
- Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Ward Councillor
- Maungakiekie MP
- Aotea Sea Scouts
- Be. Lab
- Bike Auckland
- CCS Disability Action
- Dress Smart
- Living Streets Aotearoa
- Onehunga Business Association
- Onehunga Community House
- Onehunga Community Patrol
- Onehunga District Council of Social Services (ODCOSS)
- Onehunga Primary School and Onehunga High School
- St Peter's Anglican Church
- The Onehunga Enhancement Society (TOES)

How we engaged

Printed and display material

- Flyers were distributed to 6,463 residents/business operators and 890 property owners within the Onehunga area.
- Posters on bus stops, corner dairies, retail stores, library, and Dress Smart.
- Signage within Waiapu Precinct.
- Advertising within Onehunga Community News and Central Leader
- Onehunga Library (display including hard copy info and video).

Online

- Information was made available on the Auckland Council 'Have Your Say' platform and the Eke Panuku website.
- A video was produced to simplify the complex project and was distributed and advertised via Eke Panuku and Local Board channels, the Dress Smart website, stakeholder websites and e-newsletters. It was also displayed on screens within Onehunga Library and Dress Smart.
- Advertising through social media channels, online sites, and through newspapers (Onehunga Community News and Central Leader).

- Promotion within the websites and e-newsletters of schools, Onehunga Business Association, and Dress Smart.

In-person

- On Friday 16 February, 50 town centre businesses located within and around the project area were door-knocked.
- Two drop-in information sessions were held; the first on Saturday 17 February at Onehunga Library and the second on Saturday 24 February at Dress Smart.
 - Around 100 people attended across two event with attendees of different ages, ethnicities, and genders providing feedback. Local Board Chair, Maria Meredith, and Local Board Member, Debbie Burrows visited the sessions.
 - Overall the conversations were positive and showed support for the proposed plans for the public spaces. There was enthusiasm for an upgraded playground that accommodates a range of ages and includes seating, tables, and shaded areas. Walking and cycling infrastructure, improved safety and lighting, and parking were also identified as being key priorities for the community.
- A business-focussed session, organised through the Onehunga Business Association, was held on Wednesday 28 February and was positive and constructive. Around 40 people attended.

Public feedback

A total of 201 people completed the project survey. Individual feedback is not considered in detail within this report, but has been grouped into themes. The feedback from the public ‘Have Your Say’ consultation is summarised here to give a snapshot of what’s important to the community, along with a selection of quotes to provide context.

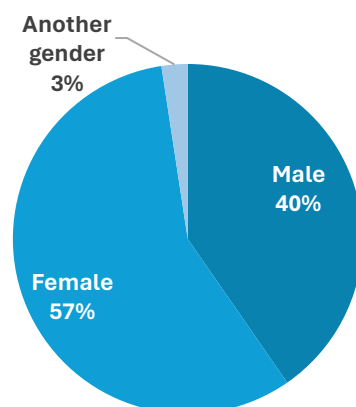
Demographic information

Submitters were asked to provide personal information to help the project understand who had provided feedback.

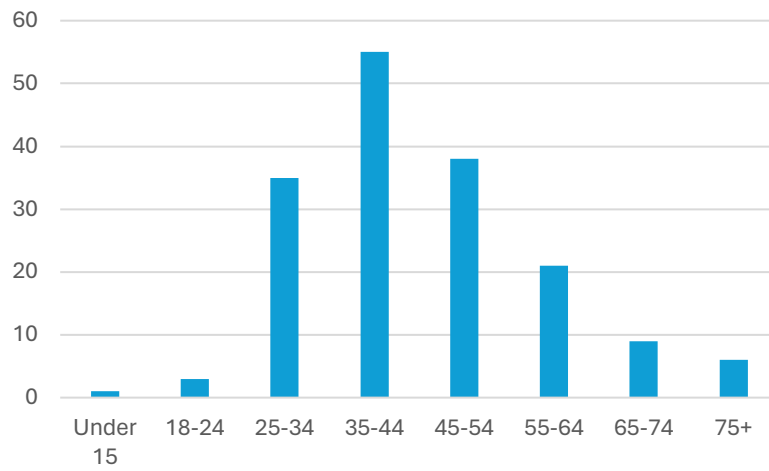
Local Board area

A large majority of feedback was from locals, with 87% of submitters living within the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board area.

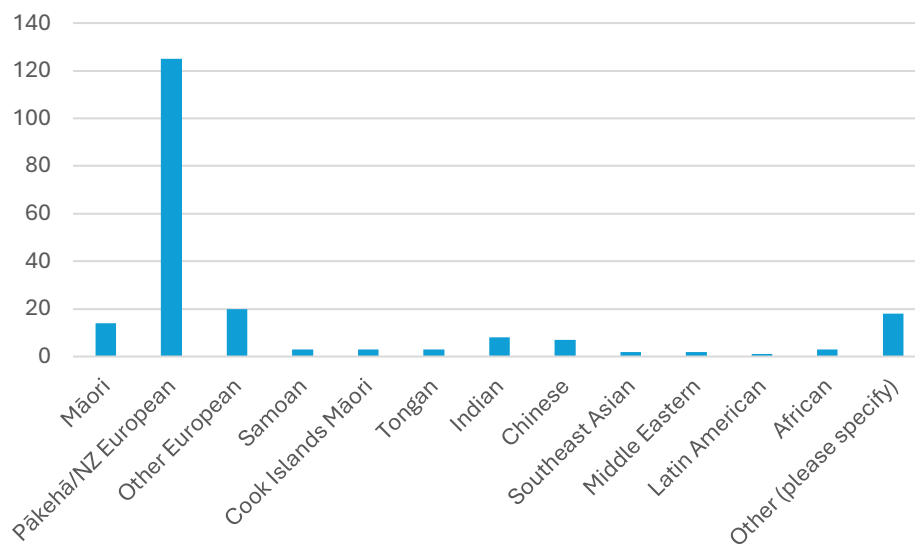
Gender



Age group

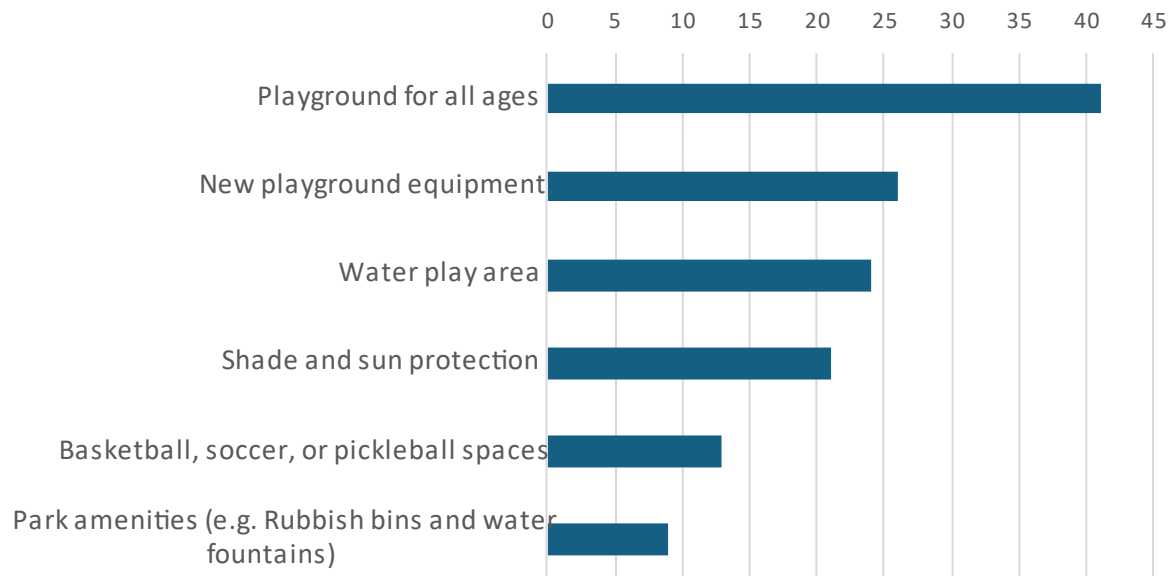


Ethnicity



Q1. Is there any type of play that you and your whānau would like to see included in the family play space?

A total of 171 people responded to this question.



A total of 41 submitters made comments relating to the need for playground spaces that caters to all age grounds and not just younger children.

Some submitters made specific suggestions for the type of play equipment they would like to see. Suggestions included large board games, play areas with a lookout tower and connecting bridge, and exercise equipment. The inclusion of a water play area was suggested by 24 submitters.

There were six submissions relating to the inclusion of Te Ao Māori incorporation in the design and including mana whenua in the consultation of the play structures.

Some quotes received from this question

“A basketball court would be great, situated in a location to encourage active observation from all who will be using the space.”

“There are many older kids in the area so please cater to them too.”

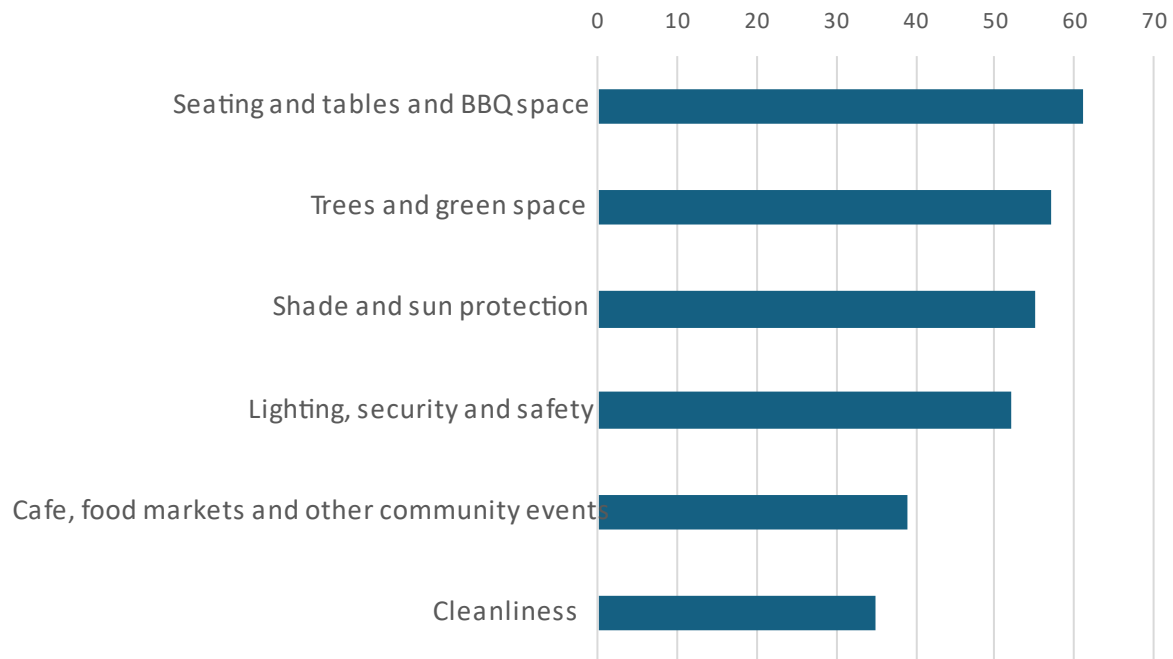
“I would love to see equipment for calisthenics exercises. Parallel bars, monkey bars, bars for pull ups.”

“A walk-through fountain representing Onehunga’s own spring water supply...”

“The playground built at Māngere Bridge with Te Ao Māori inspiration is fantastic.”

Q2. We want to create spaces for people to meet, gather and spend time in Onehunga. What would encourage you to spend time in these outdoor spaces?

A total of 182 people responded to this question.



A total of 61 submitters commented on the need for adequate seating, tables, and other facilities to enable them to have a picnic or catch-up with their friends in this area.

Submitters also want to see trees and green space prioritised, along with shade and sun protection. Often this was linked to comments on the need for seating and tables.

Submitters want public areas that are well lit and feel secure.

Some quotes received from this question

“As a young mum of two, places I can let my kids play independently and sit with a coffee or picnic with friends is great. Shade is a must and access to a toilet helps too.”

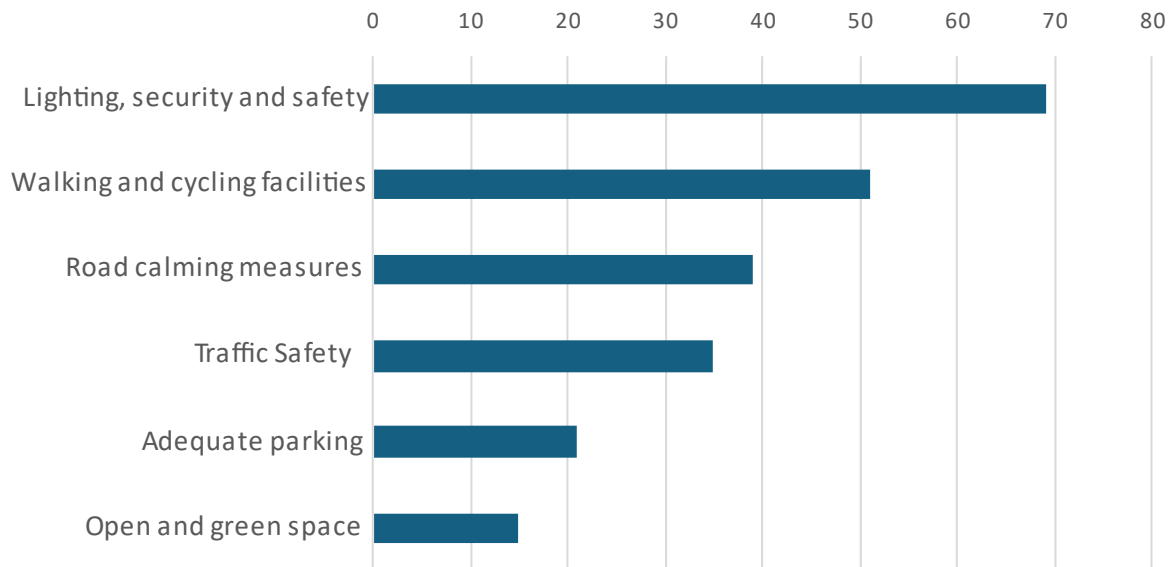
“A few picnic tables and some grass area is sufficient, most families will have a picnic mat.”

“Being well-lit with good sightlines for safety...”

“Absolutely essential to create shade in these open spaces... Preserving existing trees on site is the most effective way to do this: they provide aesthetic amenity, ecological benefit and shade.”

Q3. We want to make it easier and safer to walk between the school, library, supermarket and town centre. What are the main challenges you want addressed to make it safer and easier to access the town centre?

A total of 178 people responded to this question.



Lighting, security, and safety was the biggest theme, mentioned by 69 submitters. Nine comments related to increased CCTV and seven comments related to patrols of the area by police or security.

People also want to see improved walking and cycling within this area, along with road calming measures such as raised tables.

Traffic safety was often linked within feedback to road calming measures, with submitters seeking more pedestrian-friendly spaces.

Some quotes received from this question

“Safety is the number one issue for us. We live in walking distance of this area but avoid shopping there and prefer to drive to Royal Oak.”

“If you are going to invest so much into the transforming the space please make sure it is an area that everyone (especially kids) can access safely on their own.”

“Prioritise people on foot (and wheelchairs/prams) first. Means all crossings of the path and roads it should be clear that pedestrians have priority.”

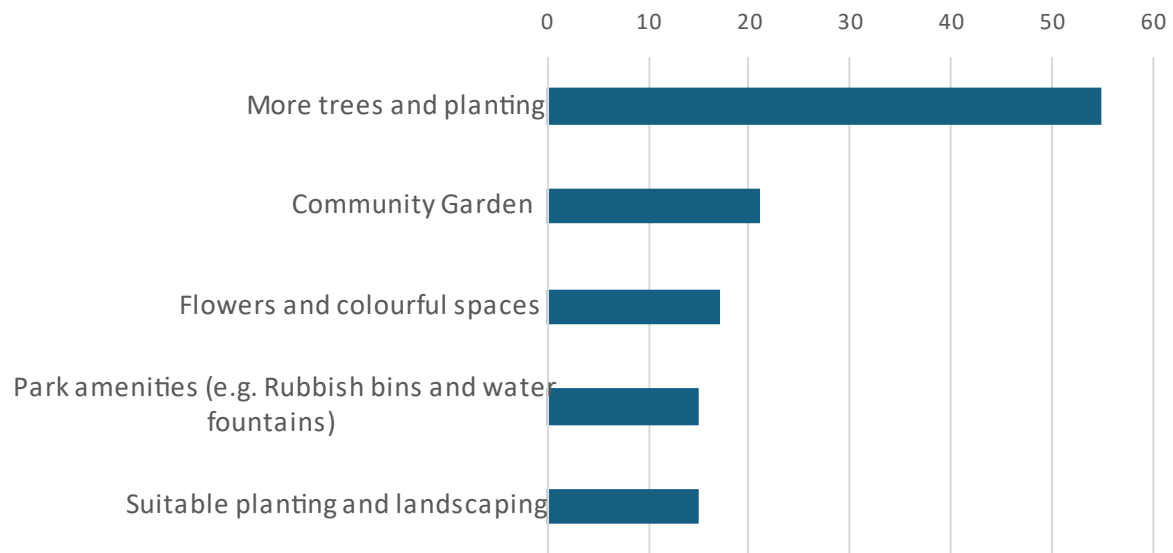
“I use Paynes Lane walkthrough at the moment. It is very convenient. But it isn’t always the nicest experience. I believe what is proposed will work well.”

““Slow down the cars!”

“If there is more space for outdoor dining and pedestrian space then the mall would become a really great hospitality space.”

Q4. We want to keep many of the current trees and add new native plants. Is there anything else you would like to see in these green spaces?

A total of 158 people responded to this question.



Most responses to this question can be summed up as support for planting more trees, with 55 submitters commenting in line with this theme.

Amongst the feedback was a mix of support for native trees and exotics, and the retention of existing trees.

Fifteen submitters' feedback can be summarised as highlighting the need for suitable planting and landscaping, such as avoiding creating that could be used to dump rubbish.

Some quotes received from this question

"More green space!!"

"Good seating, and perhaps tables for eating and reading outside. It's nice to have flowering plants for colour too."

"Pohutakawa for the shade value. They are also very popular with children for climbing..."

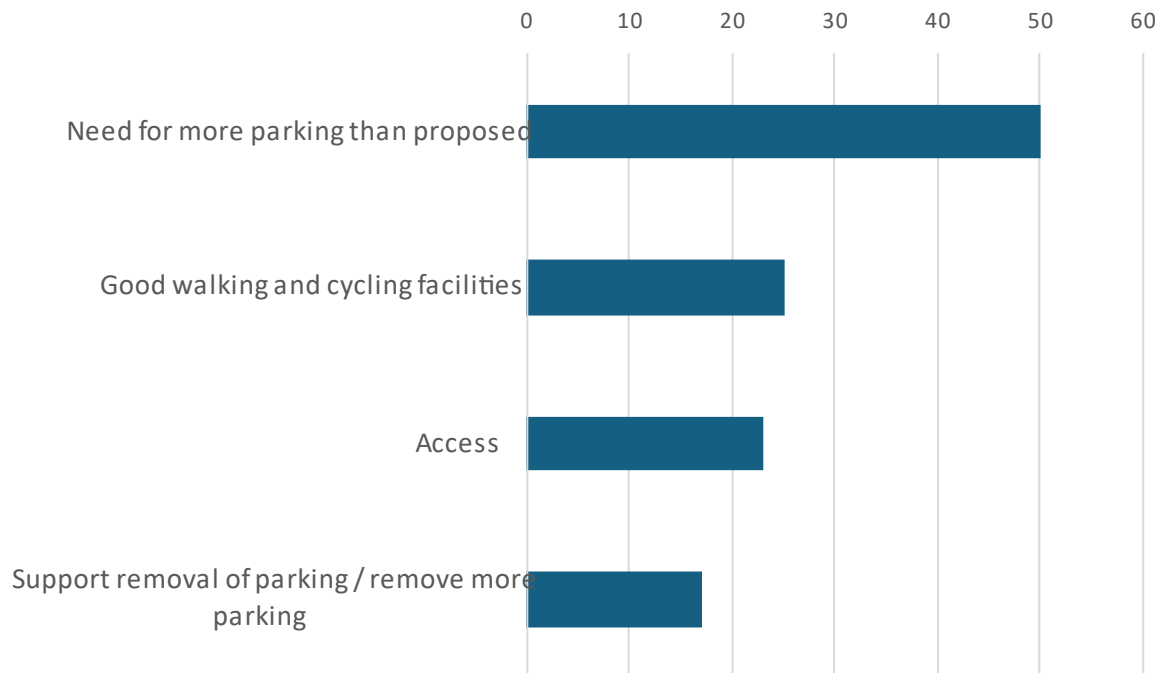
"It would be good to have grass to sit on (under shaded trees)."

"I strongly support keeping the existing trees, and adding natives."

"A community garden could be really nice and increase the connections between people."

Q5. Is there anything about the proposed layout of parking and streets that you want to tell us?

A total of 161 people responded to this question.



A total of 50 submitters gave feedback reflecting their view that the proposed amount of car parking is inadequate.

A total of 17 submitters indicated support for the removal of some parking to enable the upgrade, or proposed more should be removed.

Other feedback reflected the submitters views on the importance of providing good walking and cycling facilities.

Submitters also had comments about the accessibility of streets. Narrow, slower speed streets were commented on from both a positive and negative perspective. Five comments related to submitters wanting to see vehicle speeds reduced.

Some quotes received from this question

“My biggest concern is the removal of the carparks in Gerrard Beeson Place... These carparks are best for my parents who cannot walk for long distances.”

“The significant reduction in parking will have an impact on local businesses.”

“Fully support the removal of parking. There is a massive oversupply of parking at the moment.”

“Make the streets as people friendly as possible, with wide areas to walk and narrow areas to drive.”

“There needs to be more parking as this is one of the main car parks for Onehunga town and it already reaches capacity some days.”

“Just a consideration of people, adults and children on bikes. How will they access the space? Is it safe? Is there bike parking in a visible area?”

Q6. Is there anything else you would like to tell us?

A total of 172 people who responded to this question.



Generally supportive of the project

55 comments.



Need for sufficient parking

25 comments



Prevention of anti-social behaviour

20 comments



Lighting, security and safety

14 comments



Trees and green space

12 comments



Walking and cycling facilities

12 comments

Submitter comments in response to this question can be summarised as generally supportive, with 55 submissions consistent with this theme.

The view that there should be more parking also came through strongly, with 25 submitters providing feedback along these lines.

Other themes also expressed in response to earlier questions were present, such as the need for better security, trees and green space, and walking and cycling facilities.

Some quotes received from this question

“Overall, I think that the redevelopment is great and overdue. Having more green spaces, laneways, etc. will make Onehunga and more attractive place to live and work.”

“Love the idea of an improved space for the community. Please do make sure we still have sufficient carparks, it’s hard enough now to get a park.”

“Good plan, but would benefit from more bike paths...”

“...this must be a safe green space that is accessible and 'friendly' to the elderly, children, and disabled people... it needs to be a beautiful, welcoming space.”

“ There needs to be much better safety in this area for it to be improved.”

“Auckland Council doesn’t have money for this sort of development, how about getting the books into shape first before wasting money on this type of thing.”

“Bloody fantastic! Let’s get on with it. The area is well overdue for urban renewal.”



Paynes Lane is proposed to be upgraded to provide an improved walking connection

What else?

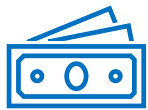
Some feedback was not widely expressed but of note, or outside the project scope. Topics are drawn from responses to all questions and noted below.



Comments express concern about intersection safety, with seven comments relating to the intersection of Selwyn Street and Arthur Street.



Comments expressed concern about traffic flow, traffic increase, and access. Comments particularly related to the planned supermarket's effect on Selwyn Street.



Eight comments indicated a belief that the project is a waste of money.



Eight comments expressed concern about an increase in housing density and its perceived negative impacts such as anti-social behaviour. However, three comments expressed support for increased housing density.



Fifteen comments asked for the mini golf operation to be retained or relocated locally.



Skate parks or skateboard-friendly areas split submitters. Six comments were in favour, while five indicated concerns about anti-social behaviour and suitability for younger children.