

FEEDBACK FROM ENGAGEMENT ON DRAFT COMMUNITY NEEDS – EARTHQUAKE LEGACY PROJECT

FEEDBACK
<p>Stormwater: new outlets don't function, stopping water getting away. Pipes will be full of sediment.</p> <p>Future: The Council has worked against the community very hard so it's up to the Council to start working with them.</p> <p>Your statement: we need responses that are practicable, feasible and do not compromise the range of options available to the community with considering longer term adaptation planning - to me this means Council has an excuse not to do anything. Did the people from Ferrymead to Sumner have all of this to go through, for their improvements.</p> <p>Have lived in area for over 80 years. The problem with Council has been greater in the last few years, no interest and working against the community.</p>
<p>All looks good, protecting and maintaining a very beautiful and much used area.</p> <p>But I received this over the weekend - am appallingly short time to consider so comprehensive a report to meet your deadline, especially given NZ Post's delivery times.</p>
<p>Since the earthquake there has been an increase of erosion around the estuary edge at Southshore. That was eight years ago! and NOTHING has been done.</p> <p>On 28 August 1992 we had flooding here and around Christchurch. in 1993 a resolution was passed to build a 1m high bund to protect the estuary edge. Again, nothing happened!</p> <p>About 1968 there was concern that the estuary edge was going, so Bob Kirk had markers placed around the the edge to gauge this retreat (about 2m from the edge). These have long gone, washed away in 1987. Since then the trees I planted in 1980 (about 3m from the edge) are now undermined due to erosion.</p> <p>I have walked the estuary edge every day since 1970 and see the erosion as it goes on.</p> <p>You can forgive me if I seem sceptical; this Council is biased on the NATO principal ie. NO ACTION TALK ONLY.</p>
<p>Stopbanks along estuary is a definite MUST. I used to live on St Andrew's Hill and the Council were always up to scratch with any trouble, the same as Sumner. Why are Southshore people regarded with such low esteem? Shame on the Council as it is such a unique area to live in.</p> <p>I've had a rebuild [REDACTED] and our street is not too bad but Rockinghorse Road is a problem. Good luck.</p>
<p>I walk the estuary track most days from Sandra St to the Boardwalk and including the boardwalk. Many people also use this track and I think it's a very good idea to remediate the edge of the estuary. I can see it eroding faster than most can imagine.</p>
<p>The biggest need is for somebody - the Council - to actually DO SOMETHING!!</p> <p>We know what needs to be done - let's get it done. Continual discussion and written reports get us nowhere.</p> <p>The earthquakes were 8 years ago. Please ACT!</p>
<p>Only having a selected group of people having input into the meetings that the "draft needs" list was made up from - one would that that their views would have been prioritised not generalised before asking for community responses.</p> <p>For the wellbeing and security of the community we need to see full estuary edge protection against flooding and erosion to ensure the safety of the residents' lives and security for their assets. Given that the Council will also own the red zone as an asset, shouldn't they agree?</p> <p>This is the only priority - once dealt with all other things mentioned can be put into place.</p> <p>The use of the red zone and estuary edge land from the Spit to Bridge Street would and should be considered as an ideal recreational environment to allow walkways and a cycle path for children and parents to get to school safely.</p>

Erosion: make sure we at Southshore and South Brighton have the same amount of protection from a properly purpose-built flood protection wall as Redcliffs (Beachville) and Sumner, make sure the east is treated the same as the other suburbs.

Stormwater: fix stormwater in Southshore, stop the water back flowing in high tides, we shouldn't have flood water problem from properly installed (at right heights) stormwater outlets. I think when the new outlets were installed you got the technical data wrong.

1. Our response to feedback on community needs relating to earthquake changes to the estuary edge and South Brighton is documented by individual points as below.
2. My wife and I have been residents in Kibblewhite Street for 34 years and have observed major changes as a result of the earthquakes within the street and immediate area.
3. Concerns include the short notice given by Council – upon receiving notification calling for submissions until closing date five days. Bearing in mind it has been 8 years since first quake. The short time for calling of submissions is unreasonable for some residents who may need longer to document their concerns. My submissions have been somewhat hasty and rushed due to the closing date of less than a week.
4. Like many of the homeowners of Kibblewhite Street and Falcon Street we would question why we were not included in red-zoning when all other dwellings next to the Avon River have been cleared. Other areas in the east were cleared 50 to 100m back from the Avon River. Note our property is approximately 15m from the river. Our land is apparently rated TC2?
5. Our land in Kibblewhite Street has apparently dropped / slumped by approximately half a metre and we are still waiting to have this rectified. Latest media releases include rising sea levels of a metre within the next 100 years. We in South Brighton are halfway there because our land has dropped by half a metre. The South Brighton yacht club is proof that the area has dropped as the land where it once sat is now under water upon high tide.
6. Since the quakes our property in Kibblewhite Street now suffers considerable dampness. The ground is always wet. We no longer have to water lawns in summer with ground always moist. Lichen moss and mould covers paving areas and driveways.
7. In Kibblewhite Street previously – a river view pre-earthquakes was sought after. Now being so close to the river is not so desirable and is seen as a risky housing option. Property values have dropped as have our equities.
8. Post-earthquake it was evident that our land had dropped due to the tidal flooding caused through water from the estuary coming up stormwater drains and gutters and flooding on high tides especially spring or king tides. This problem was only controlled upon the Council decommissioning a drain from the estuary at the intersection of Kibblewhite and Falcon Street. However, our land still remains lower than that of the level of the high tide. From our lounge you can look out across the road to the river and clearly see the water level is above that of the floor level. Levels were never like this pre-quakes.
9. Due to lateral ground spreading and land dropping by half a metre post-earthquakes the stopbank were raised to protect the residents in Kibblewhite Street. As a result our river views were reduced although we felt somewhat more protected by possible flooding.
10. Through the Council we have now had our property flagged as in a flood risk zone. Our insurance premiums have increased to reflect this. Our major concern is that if we ever attempt to sell our property will the purchaser be able to obtain flood insurance and in essence this could mean no insurance.

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13. The risk of living so close to the river now that our land has dropped is quite concerning. Especially on a king tide or coupled with heavy continuous rain. The tidal lines often show that the stopbanks are within half a metre of being breached. Taking into account rising sea levels it is inevitable that we will experience flooding in the near future during a perfect storm. If council increases the height of the stopbank – will riverside property / owners receive any compensation due to loss of view.
 14. What guarantees do residents have that raising of the stopbank will be constructed of robust quality likely to protect them in times of flood scenarios and also will the stopbanks continue to be maintained as required by the Council?

15. The current stopbank is constructed of pit-run and topsoil. The stopbanks seep water onto the road during and after heavy rainfall.
16. There are drains with fault tidal flaps at the junctions from the estuary running under the stopbanks to Jervois Street gutter/drains. Also from estuary to Tovey Street gutter/drains. Often during the spring tides and high tide surges – flooding occurs both streets down to Union Street. The flaps on the estuary side of the banks are not regularly cleared or maintained from mud/debris which cause the flaps to block open preventing them from closing causing river water to flow through the concerned pipes into the street gutter sumps causing surface flooding. Riverside properties on Owles Terrace are also at risk from flooding due to high tide surges.
17. Our Kibblewhite Street property has been affected since the quakes. The house is now extremely damp under the floor. The house takes longer to heat and appears to be sinking by the feel of the spongy floors and outside cracks that continue to appear.
18. All these issues as outlined are a result of the earthquakes and should not be blamed on climate change.
19. Further to the subject of stopbanks, the Council also needs to consider a properly erected stopbank which should run from New Brighton through to the Spit to protect all residents in Brighton, South Brighton and Southshore for the future.
20. We in Kibblewhite Street have appeared to be left low and damp certainly not high and dry. We are dealing with unresolved earthquake repairs which still need attention and this has an adverse effect on our mental health wellbeing and reduced energy. Stress levels are high due to navigating through this whole process.

This is just a snapshot of what we in Kibblewhite Street and neighbouring properties have had to endure. Our land has dropped we have not had our land remediated or been compensated. A number of residents nearby share the same views.

We want certainty that the stormwater will be fixed in surrounding streets as its unsanitary and 3rd world conditions. The residents suffer as heavy rain falls. We have a \$10k flood excess imposed on our insurance despite no flood events in our street.
 We need certainty around our houses. Ability to be insured and have insurance transferred to new owners. Currently we can't sell due to this if we wanted to.
 There is an ongoing threat to people's mental health and their children's wellbeing. They are growing up in stressful environments which no other CHC children are now suffering. The post EQ damage has not been repaired. It's not good enough!! There needs to be serious consideration to new economic & council funded activity in the area.

The estuary edge through the red zone used to be looked after by the home owners along here. These were red zoned and only 2 remain that did not take the offer (1 residence and 1 empty section) The majority of the edge remains mostly intact and works well.
 There are areas where it needs work to stop erosion.
 Sea walls to prevent erosion are common around the country and other parts of Christchurch.
 There is a risk that soil, contaminants, asbestos and other demolition waste left behind may wash out to the estuary if the edge is not held here.
 This edge is also the documented title position which should be held.
 Further up from the South Shore Red zone is the South Brighton Reserve edge. This was a hard edge pre earthquake that has been damaged and not repaired or maintained in most areas. The places where it has been fixed/replaced are excellent. Here also the documented title position needs to be held and the wall fixed/replaced.
 The erosion would not be that bad if maintenance and repairs were completed. However with the deferred overdue maintenance it looks terrible.
 Sure there may be sea level rise in the future but this is in the future and the reality is we need to deal with the reality now where there is an overdue need to fix up the damaged wall to prevent erosion. This is not trying to counter sea level rise (completely different) but simply, very simply, as we have done for years (apart from the last 7+), preventing erosion and maintaining the wall, protecting the population and council infrastructure on the land.

I think all the issues have been covered regarding community needs in this report and am just adding my name in support of these needs becoming a reality in the near future. This is a particularly spectacular area of Christchurch and it would be very shortsighted to allow it to revert back into swamp. The odd tourist I have run into either on the beach or estuary track is always amazed that much more has not been done to highlight such a beautiful area!

Firstly, there are none of the statements of need or specific areas of need that I disagree with.
 There are however some items I would like to add:
 re: Recreation, access and enjoyment; Please ensure the retention of the mature Pine trees at the Southern end of the South New Brighton reserve. These are great for walking under when it is raining.

Unfortunately, too many were culled in the remainder of the reserve after the quakes without I feel, sufficient justification or consultation. It will take a hundred years or more for natives to replace the amenity that these pines offered.

Theme Erosion: I consider that the estuary shore South of about [REDACTED] does should for now be left to adapt or change according to natures processes in recognition that no properties are threatened and that it should be regarded as part of the dynamic nature of a sandspit. I note there is some erosion along towards the end of the spit (due to increased Westerly winds?) but have also noted much of the erosion is of recently deposited sandy material as it has plastic litter embeded within it.

Theme Information: How about the public having access to the management plan?, concept plan? or whatever plan is used for the management of the Spit Reserve, that I believe now has Scenic Reserve status? I feel the planting regime there has been responsible for the loss of thousands of trees, countless hours of effort over the years due to planting too many trees over too great an area without adequate aftercare or any watering.

Theme stormwater: I believe there is an area [REDACTED] - seems to have problems with stormwater disposal since the earthquakes - and that could benefit from the installation of a small simple publicly funded pumping scheme to get excess stormwater directly to the estuary as there is apparently very little fall via the street stormwater network that discharges at the Estuary end of Tern St. There may be other areas of Southshore that similarly need a helping hand to mitigate land level changes caused by the earthquakes.

General: I am not in favour of any excavation within the red zone on the estuary edge as this may disrupt animal grave sites that were the subject of emotional farewells in earlier days by the residents, some of whom were later forced from their land by the Red Zoning process and had to leave the graves of their beloved pets behind.

Thank you for the opportunity to give Feedback on the draft community needs for the Estuary edge.

Firstly, I would like to say that this community has been "need mined" to the point of exhaustion. We have told you our needs repeatedly for at least the last 5 years. The needs have not changed. The need for action has not changed. The type of action needed has not changed. The conversation has not changed.

What sadly has changed is that so much time has elapsed with shameful inaction and continuous hoop jumping -that residents have passed on, moved out and moved on due to stress and exhaustion and because they have a lack of confidence in a continued life here.

As John Cook so eloquently stated "the earthquake ruptured our village, but it is your decisions that have corroded our soul".

The CCC choice to do nothing has been a conscious and relentless series of wounding decisions. Death by a thousand cuts as they say. No community in CHC has been treated so inequitably, has been so suburb shamed, has fought so hard to be heard, has been bleed dry with so much failed engagement. Even now the CCC decisions to shape the conversation to be limited to provable earthquake repairs serves to stab an already wounded community.

I believe we are at an impasse here. It appears apparent that the CCC wants to discuss needs while the community has moved past this and has long been desperate to discuss a full range of options for real action

Having identified the needs long ago and after the continued investigation and engagement (Regenerate, Coastal Futures, How team), the community is looking for a commitment to action now more than ever. The community has long requested CCC staff to work with the community to produce a range of options for action but for various reason there has been no willingness to do this on the CCC part.

So frustrated were the community to have some form of action to consider, the SSRA paid for a concept plan from Ocel to hopefully kick start the action conversation. The community understanding this was only a concept plan, viewing that it could be evolved and improved, asked both the CCC and regenerate for funds to flesh this plan out and explore other options. Again, there was no willingness to assist from either organisation

So I ask - Can you indicate what work the CCC have been done in respect to a full range of options for action. What are they? Not monitoring, not modelling but actual solution-based actions. Has any been developed? Other than the work the community has paid for?

To many who have witnessed the 3 years of repeat engagement, regardless of feedback it has always seems evident that the outcome has been funnelled to achieve the predetermined end of- "planting and wait and see." An option that has long been the favoured option by the CCC. All this, while the community watches every other edge on the estuary being simply protected without drama and fanfare.

While I am hopeful this time that it will result in a process that allows the community to consider and discuss a full range of options for action, I have grave concerns that once again after this round of engagement the outcome will still be what the council favoured 3 years ago - planting and wait and see as the our preferred option. If this is the outcome it will be very disappointing but certainly not a surprise. Confirming to this long existing community once again – It is not of value and it is less deserving than others.

Nevertheless, In the spirit of once again engaging in the "needs "conversation I have listed needs in order of importance to me.

I have listed Future certainty and wellbeing and Information at the top of the list as achieving some of the following needs in the form of action will eventually feed into the repair of wellbeing and require a much better effort in transparent information provision.

Top Needs to address

1. Information

Provision of clear, transparent, timely and easily accessible information about technical reports and decision-making related to current and future hazards. Involving the community in the distribution and formulation of information. Releasing information and reports in Context to the rest of the city or other coastal areas.

<p>2. Future - certainty and wellbeing Build confidence and trust that Council and community can work together to address the earthquake-related and longer-term issues facing the community. Demonstrate the Council's commitment to equitable treatment of the earthquake effects on Southshore and South New Brighton. Equitable treatment with respect other coastal areas when dealing with coastal issues</p> <p>Top Actions to be taken</p> <p>1. Erosion Protect estuary edge from further erosion. Repair of estuary edge erosion protection. Past existing and future Make safe any unstable estuary edge structures. protect people, property environment</p> <p>2. Stormwater Functional stormwater system that provides adequate drainage. Ensure functioning stormwater outlets in Southshore that are fit for purpose. Identify flooding sources correctly as efficient stormwater management. Better local solutions required.</p> <p>3. Ecosystems Under pin decisions with consideration for A healthy, diverse and abundant estuary edge ecosystem. While still achieving the protection of the community from flooding. Recognizing that some areas will need specific solutions. Being open to the most appropriate solution.</p> <p>4. Maintenance and levels of service Well-maintained and cared for parks and public spaces that demonstrate a commitment to the community and allow for safe enjoyment of the area. The repair of the estuary edge and stormwater will contribute to this.</p> <p>5. Recreation, access and enjoyment Use and enjoyment of the natural and built environment. . The repair of the estuary edge and stormwater will contribute to this.</p>
<p>Flooding is not an issue for the Yacht Club. The new buildings are built above the flood level. We are aware that the tennis club has experienced flooding on several different occasions. The Northern end of the park does not flood. Is there an opportunity for the tennis club to relocate to closer to the playground? PPYC strongly supports a secure walking path on the edge of the Estuary, with the edge protected from erosion.</p>
<p>Please reinstate the redzone along estuary edge to the old land height before it was excavated during house removals and then piled up for the berm pathway, and reinstate the estuary edge walls that were damaged in the quakes and during excavation of the rezoned properties these were maintained in good working condition by the previous owners of the redzoned properties.</p>
<p>Theme: Stormwater There is also massive flooding at times outside our house [REDACTED] and opposite. It peters out to the houses either side of us. At our place the flooding is almost knee deep where kerb meets road and the water covers all but the median strip and a little around that. Happens several times a year. Not good. Only started happening after the EQs. Seems to have been worse last few years (or maybe we just had more rain).</p>

Please see attached feedback on community needs from 97 residents surveyed over 2 days within constricted timeframe. 100% of participants agree with the needs of the survey.

The residents expect equity in the robustness of solutions to ensure flood protection to the level provided from Sumner to Heathcote at the estuary edge, including land stabilisation and releveling, groundwater solutions, fit for purpose repair/rebuilding of water management infrastructure and an increase in the height of the stopbank to reduce flood risk to zero from a possible 1m sea level rise from climate change.

The survey stated

The community needs are:

A) that the decisions made by the agencies must be the solutions that best meet the local residents as identified by the people of the community. The process must include the community needs are central to the process, and cannot be removed, voted off, vetoed by agency staff, or people living outside the Southshore South New Brighton community if the process is opened up to public participation.

B) That the community welcomes a solution that provides equity of flood protection as seen throughout the city and the estuarine coastal environment.

1. residents need flood management to use a combination of a natural edge enhancing the ecology of the natural environment with an engineered stopbank solution to the same level of flood protection seen at Beachville Road and the earthquake repair provided to the other estuary edge communities.
2. Need a solution that provides stabilisation of land to the same level as provided to citywide areas of land damage and instability.
3. Need estuary communities provided with solutions that remove the substantial increase in risk of flooding at Southshore South New Brighton caused when the city's flood water is emptied into the estuary at peak storm events.
4. Need the same degree of drawing down, pumping and other solutions to lower ground water as have been used since the beginning of European settlement, and are currently used citywide.

The residents expect equity in the robustness of solutions used citywide to ensure flood protection to the level provided from Sumner to Heathcote at the estuary edge, including land stabilisation and releveling, groundwater solutions, fit for purpose repair/rebuilding of water management infrastructure and an increase in the height of the current or a new stop bank to reduce flood risk to zero from a possible 1m sea level rise from climate change, ensuring insurability of residents properties and protecting the value of people's houses as their financial security.

We agree that the need that must take priority in the current process is ensuring equity in the solution that provides flood protection to the same degree of robustness of flood protection provided to other estuary edge suburbs and communities.

Just as important as the investment by council to build engineered stopbanks to protect the national road of significance of an alternate road for access to the port, is the need to provide the same degree of confidence in flood protection and building up of the land at Southshore Spit as Christchurch City's natural barrier from the potential of flooding from the Pacific Ocean guaranteeing no further degradation of the Christchurch Estuary as a place of important international environmental significance.

We expect flood protection that provides the same degree of certainty of reduction of risk that will reinstate the land at the estuary edge at Southshore and South New Brighton to the same degree of reduction of flood risk as provided to the land from Sumner to Ferrymead.

We expect any risk of shallow groundwater levels be treated in an equitable manner with the same degree of drawing down and pumping of groundwater as provided to areas citywide with shallow ground water.

We expect stabilisation of the land at the estuary edge to the same degree provided to other areas of land damage citywide.

We expect flood protection that will ensure no further erosion of the land at the estuary edge of the land at Southshore since the residents estuary edge flood protection was removed by Cera when they removed houses at the estuary edge, as well as increasing flood risk at Southshore by lowering the land level of that estuary edge land.

If council are not going to allow sufficient time for their engineering teams to properly investigate best practice 'fit for purpose' flood protection solutions that met the needs identified by the community in ensuring equity in reducing the current levels of risk of flooding at Southshore and South New Brighton we agree that the Gary Tear engineered solution is the best option.

It is long overdue that the Council acknowledges it has reneged its responsibilities for South Brighton and Southshore and played for time by handing over post quake legacy issues to community groups that were never going to have sufficient capacity or structure to be able to respond. An apology would be nice. Can you imagine how angered and dismissed our community feels over the state of roading and footpaths and the insidious but obvious tack taken by the Council of "planned retreat through the process of attrition of services and the local environment" contrasted with the expensive gabian baskets that hold up Redcliffs made by rocks stored in our region?? The trucks carrying them were allowed to destroy our already marginal roads! Appalling. Likewise the negative media coverage.

Feedback requested shows again that the council has reneged on its homework. I have in my hand multiple photos of the pre quake Estuary edge in 2 books that are available for purchase through the CCC. I am happy to hand them over if they do not get intentionally "lost". [REDACTED] The first is: Exploring an Estuary - A Field Guide to the Avon-Heathcote Estuary/Ihutai Christchurch. It is published by Avon-Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust www.estuary.org.nz The second book: "The Estuary Where Our Rivers Meet the Sea". Produced by the Parks Unit of our very own CCC!! There are multiple books like this in our New Brighton Heritage Museum and the Dogwatch Building archives.

The themes so far are good. Protection from flooding still does not address the fact that South New Brighton Tennis Club and South New Brighton Primary School, Pleasant Point Yacht club and the Playcentre, Playground and Community Centre act almost single-handedly as a strong support prop for a number of adjacent lower decile suburbs. The greatest source of positive social capital for the Eastern Zones comes from South New Brighton and Southshore! Their facilities and people are the host of some of the only support structures for adjacent suburbs - the only things preventing the formation of costly urban slums on the Eastern side of the City. This "elephant in the room" must be acknowledged. For instance, the Haeata Community Campus was a poorly thought-out experiment of lumping all the most underresourced communities under one roof - as was the formation of Rawhiti school. Teacher retention as a result will always be an issue in both places. South New Brighton Tennis Club has the greatest number of junior players of any tennis club in Christchurch, and provides fitness, self esteem and community engagement for more "at risk" children than any community organisation I have witnessed. Similarly South new Brighton School and Grace Vineyard in New Brighton are essential to the wellbeing of multiple lower decile families in the Eastern Zones and they must be appropriately resourced.

Lastly, the 2 Themes that have not been covered are: TOURISM and SAFETY. The first is the single greatest underdeveloped link for Christchurch City. The library, pier and beach need to be linked to a mountain bike track that goes all the way from Bottle Lake Forest and around the spit and/or Estuary Edge to the Adventure Park in town. We also need an aquarium as a point of difference, and the fact that the Spit is recognised as a highly significant Australasian and East Asian Flyway for migrating birds has been totally ignored. SAFETY is a human right, (Look at Sustainable Development Goals to which NZ is a signatory). I expect to be able to run and walk through the Estuary paths without breaking an ankle from the unchecked erosion due to the loss of the sea wall, the potholes at the edge of the boardwalk gravel (put some tarseal thanks) without being mugged because of poor access and signage, and without lots of plastic being leeched into the water in which I fish with my son. We could be an environmental zone of worldwide renown! I host multiple international visitors and the first thing we always do is go kayaking in the Avon Estuary, go to the beach for a SUP and walk along the boardwalk. They are constantly amazed the City Council is doing nothing to stop the degradation of these areas. Connection of the Avon Waterways with the City would be possible if you dredged the Estuary which is now very shallow - and at the old City firehouse so you can kayak the entire way through town from the beach to the Boat Shed in town. Please contact me so I know you got this feedback.

'We greatly appreciate the opportunity for community action and engagement, however, due to the very limited discussion time - it appears that opportunity to link critical needs hasn't been articulated (in my view). There are some key themes that have been missed.

One comment further comment is this is a terrible format to give feedback on i.e. this small box to try and provide feedback on eight themes. I cant read my whole document easily and this should be able to take each statement and add comments to each section, instead I have to type out the section I am referring to.

Theme Flooding - agree with all the 'needs' - should read

- Stopbanks - note change wording to Flood Protection (in the needs analysis the community didn't refer to stopbanks they referred to flood protection) - and add

..... as well-constructed and integrated to broad community infrastructure need. Flood protection (previously Stopbanks) are an important function but this should not be a stand alone. Needs are for flood protection and footpaths, cycleway and wheelchair access to be integrated. Flood protection at the estuary edge built to the same level of flood protection provided to other estuary edge suburbs and communities.

Recreation

Point 3 - should read

Create opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to access and enjoy the estuary edge.

Safe access to the school around the estuary

Connected to rest of New Brighton & City

Providing environments enticing the imaginations of the children and give learning experiences

Footpaths are safe – from tree roots – i.e. wheelchair access

Restore the South Brighton Park lost amenity

Erosion

Missing the point two - refers only to structures. Should read

Make safe any unstable estuary edge structures and natural hazards (i.e.dying trees). Personal safety - feeling safe walking in the area.

Ecosystems

Large and diverse ecosystems on the estuary edge.

Environment to retain and enhance – animal life, marshes, jetty, bridge.

Estuary edge to be visual pleasing

Information

Missing commentary

- Provide clear information to ensure Insurance providers have confidence their risk is mitigated.

Maintenance - agree

but you haven't acknowledged the clear message that community wants demonstrated commitment at the same level of investment they see in other parts of the city in the west and other coastal suburbs.

The community is seeking equivalence of investment provided by council since 2011 to other parts of the city - not just a demonstrated commitment going forward... i.e. we are on catch up, so investment should be viewed against historic investment by council not just future budget.

Future

The first statement needs refining - understand what is trying to be said but would be better worded per my note above.

Second point - prioritise actions that

Firstly I would like to express thanks for the surge of hopefulness reading this has given me. It feels real and time stamped for accomplishing the task of Earthquake repair. The length of this journey has caused much stress and suffering for so many people and the community has struggled. The (seemingly) lack of understanding the unique and special environment the estuary provides has two edges, two sides - both deserving to be showcased and enjoyed by any of the citizens of Christchurch.

I have several friends that lost their homes to the estuary edge red zone, people that loved - LOVED - where they lived and took care of that precious edge, numbers of methods and ways were sewn together all along the waters edge. When the zone was cleared, higgledy-piggledy and in the rush and press of the situation at large - no consideration was given to or afforded to the edge. It was demolished, run over, rubbled and left to fend. Possibly it feels that with my beginning sentence, and this seeming to be the start of something real, I could have skipped the story telling - but it speaks directly to the well-being of the community, something mentioned in almost every aspect of this report/draft/surmise - almost everywhere. The one place it is not mentioned is in the description of Council's categories of consideration when making decisions on proceeding. I do hope that those involved in the physical, mechanical, engineering, construction and accounting of the options include the very real and important Well-being of the People this community holds. My experience of New Zealand is that you are never far from 3 degrees removed - so these people are, no doubt, your family and friends.

The longer conversation to plan for the future of all coastal inundation effected areas will be complex and I welcome the chance to participate in straight forward, openly discussed and debated-researched strategies that include respecting an individual can/should be allowed to make choices when investing in, choosing to live in areas such as these. Levels of response and agreements to best possible solutions and trigger points will be required. Let's engage the best we can to assist with this, let's open up and listen, learn and then own a way forward.

The draft community needs covers all of our families concerns personally and for the playcenter community that I am part of- thank you :) I would love to add two points to the discussion about the ecosystem theme though. There is a small tidal waterway that ends just at the south east corner of the bridge street structure on ramp that seems to always be full of oil/gas stains from road run off that seems to be worse since the earthquake and quite damaging for the environment there. Secondly we find SO much glass in the mud flats along the estuary section between the bridge and the yacht club- is it possible this was an old dump site that was disturbed in the earthquakes? It's super dangerous for bird life, animals and kids! Thanks :)

Since someone from the city council knocked down the existing protection from the estuary, the bank has been slowly eaten away. I managed to stop the woman who was removing it so there is protection on one side. On the other side is a big walkway and protection for the one house that refused to move when made red. This means the high tide rushes into the middle, unprotected part and this keeps getting more eaten away.

We love the estuary and am keen paddle boarder and kayakers. It would be nice to have some easy access points to reach the water. At the moment we have to clamber over the unstable rubble that is our only protection. This is actually quite dangerous.

We see many many people walking their dogs, cycling with their kids and generally enjoying the estuary, It is a Christchurch treasure which must be protected for future generations. The bird life is prolific and must be protected.

Thank you for your time.

While I fully understand the Councils desire to separate out earthquake legacy issues from the climate change issues, I feel it is misleading to not incorporate the language of climate change and climate change resilience as this is relevant even when dealing with earthquake legacy issues. Research into climate change adaptation and ecology shows environmental and social systems are interconnected and taking a reductionist approach will lead to unexpected and unwanted outcomes My 'need' therefore is that any resolution of earthquake legacy issues intentionally shows how they are linked to climate change adaptation. Logically following on from this, is for mitigation to be incorporated into remedying earthquake legacy issues alongside climate change adaptation. This means addressing earthquakes legacy issues in a way that does not contribute significantly to carbon emissions (so incorporation of tree planting, minimal use of concrete etc).

The theme: 'Future - certainty and wellbeing' needs to include some mention of transparent communication. I believe that transparent communication would also mean that if Council believes that sea level rise is happening quicker than previously thought then it needs to tell the community as quickly as possible so that the parties can jointly plan. From my research into climate change in the pacific I believe the amount of we have to live here may be a lot shorter than many in the community believe. If that is the case, Council needs to be as open and honest as possible. I also think that transparency in communication is critical for all parties, including groups such as CCRU whose members currently use fake social media profiles.

In the theme: 'Ecosystems', there needs to be specific reference to ecosystem resilience and creating ecosystems that are resilient in the face of climate change. This resilience will assist in protection of any work that is done to address earthquake legacy issues. Also specific mention needs to be made of the minimisation of disturbance. Disturbance (through construction, earthworks, recreation, predation) is likely to be a major influence on ecosystem integrity and resilience.

I am delighted to read the results of the meetings and the consequent draft plan. I concur fully with everything expressed. Having this protective and enhancement work done will restore our confidence in living in the area.

I have lived in South New Brighton for 62 years. South New Brighton Domain and Estuary has been a great asset to Christchurch residents. I remember the great days of power boat racing. We even had the N.Z. Masport Cup held on the Estuary.

I know, and you know, the estuary has been silted up over the years. It needs dredging. Even if it was just the channels.

The stopbank, along the estuary, in South Brighton, needs and must be put back to how it was before the earthquakes. We all have seen what the council has done on the other side of the estuary and insist the same attention happens on the Southshore/South Brighton side. Stop delaying and making excuses. We don't need anymore dialogue, just ACTION!!!!!!

I add my thoughts on a few areas:

Ecosystems:

It is incredibly important to protect the estuary habitat and wildlife from human & dog interactions. It's an amazing achievement to have our estuary acknowledged as a Wetland of International Significance by the East-Asian Australasian Flyway network and we must ensure we maintain this status – which can only be good for the habitat and wildlife.

With this in mind, there are some main actions that can be taken.

- Do not open up any more estuary to people & dog contact. The estuary edge from Raupo Bay (Avon River mouth) to parking area near Linwood Ave should remain an area where bird life can live undisturbed. When a bird is disturbed from feeding they stop feeding for 10 minutes! Which affects their food intake and health.
- Make the area dog controlled so all dogs must be on a lead. These areas are not dog parks. Currently, dogs are running all over the red zoned land and many dogs are chasing birds on the estuary flats. People are not understanding the effect this is having on birds feeding. Plus, this can be upsetting to children and adults with dogs running around. Some days there is a constant flow of dogs and people along the red zone area in Southshore with many dogs off leash and bounding all over the place.

And recreation or erosion work done must have the considerations of the estuary ecosystem at the fore.

Flooding

Building flood mitigation would be a great help – a dyke which also acts as walkway could be efficient on time and resources. It would also match with the one along the Avon River in Brighton to the estuary at Ebbtide Street.

Information

CCC providing easy access to tsunami evacuation plan.

Recreation, access and enjoyment

- The feedback notes identify a need to “Create opportunities for people of all ages to access and enjoy the estuary edge.”- this needs to be done cautiously and taking priority consideration of the ecosystem over human access in planning and decision making. Otherwise there will not be a living & diverse estuary ecosystem to enjoy – please refer to my feedback under the heading Ecosystem.

Here are my key points for south brighton/ southshore recovery:

- protection & maintenance of existing deciduous shelter trees in south brighton domain
- native-tree planting plan for open areas where there are weeds and meadow grass
- natural control of invasive weeds including gorse, broom & tree lupins (extensive native plantings will help achieve this)
- permanent protection of estuary edge from tides, storms & flooding, this includes protecting existing paths, playing fields and existing vegetation
- enhance and protect estuary edge link between south brighton jetty and boardwalk
- provide permanent flood protection for south brighton domain and therefore protect tennis club, holiday park & playing fields
- enhance & maintain existing pathways and create new pathways for walking & biking (link new planted areas with new pathways)

To help reduce pressure on stop banks and the estuary edge north of Bridge St, and to assist in the reduction of flooding onto roads (stormwater issues/salt water on roads), could the area once known as Bexley, including Pacific Park, be dug out - or large water channels (for want of a better word) created. They could relieve pressure on SB especially by giving water alternative places to go, reducing the risk to people's homes and special places.

It's my understanding that part of Bexley was a former dump site (rubbish) so digging it out could also help mitigate potential contamination risks to our river and estuary should the rubbish start leaching into these areas in the future due to predicted coastal issues.

Hi, I would like flood protection, I would like have the bare minimum like Sumner. I would like the estuary wall to incorporate a walkway/cycle way like Sumner the to be a usable space for all.

I agree with the draft statement of need for the community. We must receive a similar level of protection as the other side of the estuary (Sumner, Ferrymead). Anything less is inequitable and unfair.

The Southshore Residents Association represents the needs of approximately 500 households. Our key aim has been to gain buy in from the CCC to repair earthquake damage of the Estuary Edge ie to deal with Legacy Earthquake issues, thus providing flood protection and addressing stomwater issues. We see this as a matter of equity with what has been provided with virtually no prompting for the other side of the estuary.

We promoted the OCEL report to address these issues in 2016 and have more recently supported the CCRU adaption paper as a possible option. Our understanding is that these options will be looked at in the Coastal Futures process and we do not have to present them again.

Any work carried out will need to be sympathetic to, and enhance the health and diversity of the estuary ecosystems and wildlife. As a community our wellbeing is tied to the enjoyment of living by the Estuary and beach and being able to use the area for safe family recreation.

To have repairs and protection, with provision for future work carried out meets our needs to have a future and the certainty of being able to safely live in our homes for the next 50 years.

We are discussing Southshore only but also agree that the same principles apply to South New Brighton, the repairs or improvements will be different for each area but we also fully support the need for estuary edge and flooding protection for the whole area. Again the Estuary environment is the base for our health and wellbeing particularly for our children and grandchildren and we need to be in a position to continue that use, enjoyment and enhancement. Uncertainty has been devastating for our communities preventing us moving forward, and now is the time for all parties to actively work together to achieve a solution.

Protection from flooding and protecting the estuary edge are the most important needs to address. Recreation access and enjoyment can be incorporated into the flood protection measures. Future certainty and wellbeing will become a by-product of sorting these issues.

The ecosystem if left alone will take care of itself.

Information is good as long as it not used as a stalling technique.

Stormwater, maintenance and levels of service are part of what we pay our rates for and should therefore not be considered a statement of need.

Can we please have a hard edge to prevent further erosion. Soft edges aren't doing it.

We need a hard edge along the estuary to prevent further erosion.

Firstly I wish to address the way you have chosen to engage our community. Surely after all the engagement we have already done over the 5 plus past years, there is no need to start at the beginning again.

Let us please move on to at least the point we reached with Regenerate. (ie: the community has submitted their needs and the Council is also well aware of our needs and what we want to see instigated).

Newsletter:

- * It is totally unacceptable to give the community less than 4 working days (2 if you include postage time) to come up with costed options to the community needs.
 - you are aware that our community is already under stress from CCC inaction and yet you choose to add to this stress by imposing an unobtainable timeframe.
- * Over the past 5 years our community has repeatedly been asked what we want/need to the point of absolute frustration that we feel that nobody is actually listening to our concerns.
- * It is unacceptable to ask the community for feedback on the back page of a newsletter. Most people would treat a newsletter as junk mail – not an important document (and I might add that I did not receive a 'newsletter' in my post box).
- * Please come back to our frustrated, angry, untrusting community by implementing the **SOLUTIONS** that we have repeatedly asked for (in fact we have already done this for you by commissioning an engineered protection plan in the OCEL report
 - please read this report). Possibly try holding another community meeting, however be mindful that people are feeling stressed, exhausted, frustrated and apathetic to this constant consultation without ever achieving any solution.

I think the most important factor that you have missed is the budget allocation & this needs to be included, as without a significant budget you won't be able to achieve the most important item that we have asked for, which is an engineered hard edge for protection.

Many items which are problematic at the moment would be alleviated with the implementation of an engineered edge such as insurance uncertainty, community certainty, inequitable treatment with other suburbs (Sumner & Redcliffs) & rebuilding confidence in Council if the community saw that they were willing to invest in our area.

I feel that the themes should be prioritised into two categories – urgent & non-urgent as follows:-

URGENT	NON URGENT
Budget Allocation	Recreation, access & enjoyment
Protection from flooding	Stormwater – maintenance
Stormwater – urgent repairs to faulty drains	Ecosystems & planting
Community wellbeing & certainty	

Please refer to the attachment for my comments on the themes listed in the newsletter.

In summary:-

Estuary edge protection should be your main focus at the moment and worry about planting etc at a later stage. You need to procure a suitable budget to ensure this work can be carried out and this should be your one job, because without the backing of an adequate budget, Coastal Future's involvement will become yet another waste of time & resources.

By giving the same protection as afforded to other suburbs (ie Sumner & Redcliffs) will help with residents' mental wellbeing & insurance concerns, and may go a little way to rebuild some trust back for the Council.

You probably have a limited budget – we would prefer it wasn't spent on salt marshes & consultants fees.

The Council has this rare opportunity lead the way and show the rest of New Zealand (and the world) how they can restore this community from the EQ damage & future proof it by adaptation, so let's work together on this

Draft community needs – let us know your feedback (more info at coastalfutures.nz)

Theme: Flooding (needs to be called Protection not flooding & this is the most important theme)

Statement of need: Protection from flooding from the estuary.

Specific areas of need:

- Address increased risk of flooding caused by changes in land or estuary levels in South New Brighton and Southshore. (man-made risk caused by taking away foundations & not replacing fill, but simply scraping existing land into the hole. Also protection which was already in place ie resident fences have been removed & not replaced).
- Protect the South New Brighton Domain and playground, South New Brighton School, Pleasant Point Yacht Club, South New Brighton Tennis Club, South Brighton Playcentre and the South Brighton Holiday Park from any increased flooding risk as a result of earthquake-related changes. (Agree)
- Protect houses from any increased flooding risk as a result of earthquake-related changes. (Also should be as a result of man-made changes)
- Ensure that stopbanks are well-constructed and do their job of keeping people safe from flooding. (Agree)

Theme: Recreation, access and enjoyment

Statement of need: Use and enjoyment of natural and built environment.

Specific areas of need:

- Repair, maintain and develop cycling and walking paths along the estuary edge. (Agree)
- Create opportunities for people of all ages to access and enjoy the estuary edge. (Agree)
- Maintain the unique natural values of the area. (Agree but this is very obscure wording – ie residents need to come first, but the people who live here are very in-tune with the environment already).

Theme: Erosion

Statement of need: Protect estuary edge from further erosion. (Yes – should be up the top with protection and should have been done years ago – instigate OCEL recommendations for an engineered edge)

Specific areas of need:

- Repair of estuary edge erosion protection. (Again obscure wording – the community has called for Gary Teear's OCEL engineered edge to be carried out).
- Make safe any unstable estuary edge structures. (agree)

Theme: Ecosystems

Statement of need: A healthy, diverse and abundant estuary edge ecosystem.

Specific areas of need:

- Protect the existing natural environment. (Agree, but this should be secondary to rebuilding our community)
- Maintain and enhance salt marsh. (Totally disagree – the salt marsh is not suitable for this area as it collects rubbish & sea lettuce which rots causing stench & midges – it is unsightly & I'm sure the budget could be spent on better plants which are not dead looking. Leave the salt marsh to the Bexley wetland area).
- Support appropriate estuary edge planting. (Planting MUST be decided by the SSRA. SSRA & residents (not the CCC) are the ones who have regularly maintained & cleaned all the rubbish – needles, dead cats, condoms nappies etc which get caught in the salt marsh so we should have the end say as to what gets planted)

Theme: Information

Statement of need: Provision of clear, transparent, timely and easily-accessible information about technical reports and decision-making related to current and future hazards. (Agree)

- Enable residents to make informed decisions about their properties and businesses. (Agree)
- Provide clear information on Council decisions since the earthquakes. (Agree)

Theme: Stormwater

Statement of need: Functional stormwater system that provides adequate drainage.

Specific areas of need:

- Address street flooding on Jervois and Tovey Streets (and other areas? Let us know.) We have been asking for years.
- Prevent stormwater from Halsey Street flooding the South Brighton Campground and South Brighton Tennis Club. We have been asking for years.
- Ensure functioning stormwater outlets in Southshore. Again have been asking for years – outlets were put in upside down & have never been repaired!

Theme: Maintenance and levels of service

Statement of need: Well-maintained and cared - for parks and public spaces that demonstrate a commitment to the

community, and allow for safe enjoyment of the area. This has not been done for years – please walk along the estuary edge & see all the rubble left since the EQs – maybe try get a maintenance budget put in place.

Specific areas of needs:

- Address boardwalk, tracks, parks and tree maintenance in the South New Brighton Reserves.
- Walk along the estuary edge by the camping ground – we have been asking the CCC for years to do something about the dangerous state of the trees there – once again nothing has been done.

Theme: Future – certainty and wellbeing

Other issues

A range of other issues were raised by the community. The loss of shops and businesses in the area and the state of footpaths and roads inland from the estuary are outside the scope of the Earthquake Legacy Project as they do not relate specifically to the estuary edge. Insurance, insurability of the area and property equity are things that will be considered as part of the climate change adaptation strategy conversation coming up. And remediating earthquake-related land damage is something that's handled by EQC. While these issues are outside the scope of the immediate focus of this project, we will continue to explore what options there are to address them.

Estuary edge protection should be the ONLY focus at the moment and worry about planting etc at a later stage.

By giving the same protection as afforded to other suburbs (ie Sumner & Redcliffs) will help with residents' mental wellbeing & insurance concerns.

You obviously have a limited budget – we DON'T want it spent on salt marshes & consultants fees.

Statement of need: Build confidence that Council and community can work together to address the earthquake-related and longer-term issues facing the community. The confidence our community has in the Council has been severely damaged, we just want to see some action to restore our faith.

Specific areas of need:

- Demonstrate the Council's commitment to equitable treatment of the earthquake effects on Southshore and South New Brighton. Equitable treatment should be between Southshore/South Brighton & Sumner/Redcliffs.
- Prioritise actions and activities that improve individual, family and community wellbeing. Agree

This is a sample of photos attached of how we've been flooded and affected by the successive weather events. As the estuary edge has eroded despite the temporary bund being put in place, a heavy rain event will cause water to lie around for days. This has deteriorated now that we are watch each time heavy rain is forecast.

We've had regular events where the stormwater is unable to cope so has overflowed back into the courts and camp. At times this has a very unpleasant sewerage odour as we are very close to the dump station within the camp.

We've lost the treeline protection which used to block some of wind due to saltwater intrusion resulting in the falling/falling of dead trees.

The club committee have been put under considerable pressure as we deal with these flooding issues both at our homes and at the club.
 Our insurance for these events is voided so we are not covered for a flood event.
 The club rooms have water damage issues which we are not financially able to repair as each event just makes it worse. It is unsanitary and repressive for the CCC to have not actioned repairs to the stormwater system.
 We are unable to finalize our final court repairs until we have a solution as these courts are often flooded.
 On a regular basis we are required to mop the courts and then wash the salt water residue to avoid further damage. This has been in the 1000s of hours from our voluntary members.
 We also now have an unsafe access route along the estuary pathway which many of our younger club members use to avoid the roadway.
 Our tennis club is growing despite our physical issues that we work around but our resilience and patience is getting thin.
 We emphatically require a hard edge/wall solution to stop the water incursion and subsequent damage.
 Given that the reserve land was gifted to the CCC from Ngai Tahu for recreation and wellbeing we suggest you act quickly and decisively to avoid further damage to our clubrooms, courts and wellbeing.
 We are happy to have an opportunity to speak at any upcoming forum.

I am sorry that I have had to correspond via email, but I have only just received the letter from CCC, and would not be able to file a submission on time.
 I have been resident in South Brighton for over 40 years, and over recent years, I have sent numerous letters and pictures to CCC, regarding these issues, as I am sure many others have also.
 In light of the complete lack of either response or activity, as a result of this, I have decide to send you two pictures. As they say, “a picture tells a thousand words”?
 In my own mind, these pictures demonstrate two fundamental things:

- The ongoing, and alarming rate of erosion along the coastal pathway adjoining the Estuary, and all this without any serious flooding events, bar last year.
- The complete lack of attention paid to the restoration of the area. The old bund that can be seen in these pictures, has all but disappeared, and is virtually useless. I recall when this was installed, and was almost adjacent to the pathway.

Therefore I am hopeful that THIS time, people stop the ongoing talk and “tut tutting”, and finally do something about it.

Additional feedback:

Last Thursday I sent you a short email submission, and I would be grateful if you could attach this letter etc, to it.
 Basically it is a picture of the same area, as described in my earlier email, but what it shows is the result of an appalling decision by Parks Dept., going back a couple of years ago. The Council Parks Centre Nth, contracted Treotech to cut down a number of dead and dying trees on the frontage, adjoining the Estuary. This was not so bad, but for some obscure reason, Treotech then began to remove the huge stumps from the base of the edging. I happened to “catch” them at this, and made an effort to halt this work, trying to explain to them, that the stumps were critical to prevention of the erosion that was ongoing.

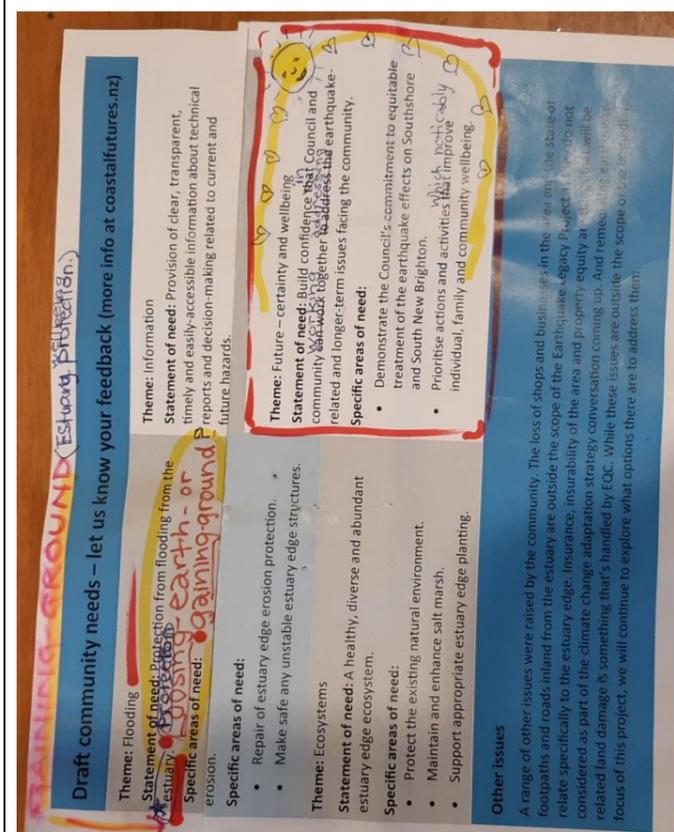
Needless to say, an unpleasant altercation ensued, and I had to leave the site, through threat of prosecution.
 The contractors had their way, and now the results of this bad decision is very evident, as shown in the picture. The section of edging, from where the stumps have been removed has eroded at a severe rate, in comparison to the rest of the edge. If you also look to the far right hand of the picture, (zoom in), just over the fence, you will see the stumps that were taken out. They did not even bother to take them from the site!

The damage has obviously been done in this regard, but the point of my submission, is to highlight the need for careful thought from all concerned, before any works such as this, are undertaken.

Thank you for the Newsletter 21.6.2019 containing the Draft Community Needs.
 Obviously this brings together information/opinions gained from previous forms/surveys. Now that you have all those options together you will be able to move forward. I feel that a call for 'New Options' is therefore not necessary.

As you now have the needs of the community, I would assume now that there would be a focused effort to make the needs happen asap.
 My wife and I have lived on Rocking Horse Road for 34 years.
 Since the earthquakes, we have seen the failure of the storm water structure, loss of the estuary edge protection and the lowering of land due to demolition result in more and larger inundation events.
 In my opinion, the wellbeing of the Community it very important, therefore these long standing issues need to have a high priority.

Theme: Future - certainty and wellbeing
 Thank you for the Newsletter - the Draft was useful. The very small window for feedback ridiculous. This is our future we're talking about. What comes of this Project shapes that future and will have its lasting effect on what are described in the Newsletter as "Other Issues".
 As a South Shore Resident and along with many others I have already lost significant equity through devaluation of land since the earthquake - there has not been 'certainty' and 'wellbeing' is often elusive.
 In order to respond positively to climate change conversations further down the line the Legacy Project must provide us with a measure of security, it needs to buy us time, it's as if we've been holding our breath for eight years.
 The community needs have been outlined - would be great to see them coloured in.



Why can't we have something similar to Sumner with all their rocks on the foreshore. It looks amazing. Now if we had an estuary walkway, with rocks or a good tidy up.
 It would look great being able to see our lovely mountains with our new background. Tourists would love it!!

Water levels, land sinking, mould, lichen, damp rising along house. Left on the water front, [REDACTED] This land should be red zoned as were all the other homes along the river were taken back by 100 metres. We should be as well. This is unjust and wrong. Water leaking under existing stopbank on to road.