

Community Forum

Private Bag 4999

Christchurch 8140

Meeting notes for the meeting of the Community Forum**4 December 2014, 6pm****Cambridge Room, Canterbury Club, Christchurch**

Present:	Community Forum members: Richard Ballantyne, Weng Kei Chen , Gill Cox, Tom McBrearty, Deborah McCormick, Lesley Murdoch, Jocelyn Pappriil, Faye Parfitt, John Peet, Emma Twaddell, Ruth Jones, John Wong
Apologies:	Community Forum members: Martin Evans, Maria Godinet-Watts, Brian Vieceli, Rachel Vogan, Darren Wright John Ombler, Acting Chief Executive, CERA Benesia Smith, Deputy Chief Executive, Strategy and Governance, CERA Sheridan Smith, Ministerial and Executive Services Director, CERA
Chair:	Tom McBrearty
In Attendance:	Hon Nicky Wagner, Associate Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Mike Scott, Project Manager, Ministerial and Executive Services, CERA Ian Campbell, General Manager, SCIRT Rod Cameron, Value Manager, SCIRT Annemarie Mora, Communication and Stakeholder Manager, SCIRT Clinton Fisher, Development Director – Anchor Projects, CCDU, CERA s9(2)(a), Communications Advisor, CERA Liam Nolan, Unit Manager, Anchor Projects, CCC Peter Vause, Project Director, CCC s9(2)(a) Advisor, Ministerial and Executive Services, CERA s9(2)(a) Graduate Advisor, Ministerial and Executive Services, CERA
Agenda	
SCIRT Update	
Ian Campbell, Rod Cameron and Annemarie Mora - SCIRT	
Discussion:	

- The presenters explained SCIRT's role as the organisation delivering the rebuild of horizontal infrastructure in Christchurch. The collaborative structure of the organisation was emphasised.
- The Forum asked if the cost allocated to repairs could change depending on what damage was found once works had begun. The presenter responded by explaining active programme management, and that some repairs may be more or less complex than expected, leading to changes in the way repairs are managed.
- The presenters noted that there are benefits of multiple delivery teams being used to undertake the programme of repairs. These benefits include the use of competition to help determine how work is allocated, and the ability to maximise collaborative resources.

- The presenters noted that the provision of value depends on economy, effectiveness and efficiency.
- The Forum asked about the ownership of intellectual property. The presenters answered that intellectual property is owned by the funders (local and central government), and is shared between partners.
- The presenters noted that the budgets for each of the projects within the programme of repairs have been independently verified. This is undertaken by external auditors, and independent estimators.
- The Forum asked what happens if repairs are completed under budget and if the money is removed from the budget or put back. The presenters answered that if the repair is completed under or over budget, the difference is split 50/50 with the funders and the pain/gain spread across all five delivery teams. This gives rise to greater collaboration.
- The Forum asked if the customer service Key Performance Indicator related to a wider audience. The presenters answered that customer service referred to both clients and the general public.
- The Forum asked about the safety record. The presenters explained that SCIRT has set a high benchmark for all employees and contractors. The measures put in place by SCIRT have been picked up by other local and central government agencies. Both service strikes and injury numbers are decreasing, with service strikes reducing from 20 per month to fewer than 5. A main area of concern is the safety of contractors while working near traffic.
- The Forum noted the value of friendly and smiling roading contractors.
- The presenters discussed the rationalisation of funding, and how funding is optimised. The increased demand for resources during the 'ramping up' phase is a challenge. Movement of labour throughout the country as demand increases in other locations combined with attrition may decrease the labour force numbers in Canterbury.
- The Forum asked how the 'ramping down' or transition phase will be managed. The presenters noted that this is under discussion.
- The Forum asked why there were not more works being done at night. The presenters answered that there are a number of reasons, the main ones being safety, worker fatigue, obtaining labour, cost and the fact that many people do not want night works in residential areas. Businesses do not like works during the day, while residents do not like works at night, so finding the right balance is a challenge. In general, works are undertaken when appropriate, with weekend and night works when necessary.
- The Forum asked whether the planning is done with a long-term view, or if repairs are meant to have a 3 – 5 year life. The Forum also asked if the repair program and planning is driven primarily by budget. The presenters answered

that repairs must have an appropriate life, and assessment of this is qualitative. These decisions rest with the client agencies.

- The Forum asked if cost escalation is labour driven, or due to the increasing costs of materials. The presenters answered that while some material costs, such as aggregate, have increased; the main concern is the supply and availability of quality labour.
- The presenters noted that managing the expectations of the public is important. There will be more pipe lining which is a less invasive method of patch and repair and avoids the need for large trenches, There will be a significant amount of 'patching' of roads. Another challenge is that roads continue to deteriorate since the time of the earthquakes, and differentiating earthquake damage from general maintenance is complex. Currently the CCC is planning to undertake normal road maintenance once SCIRT repairs are finished.

- The Forum noted that the level of communication and willingness to engage with the public by SCIRT has helped the levels of tolerance by the community.
- The Forum noted that there are opportunities for people with disabilities to work on projects, and both positive and negative lessons to be learnt from work that has been done so far.
- The Forum noted the recent article in 'The Press' about sewerage discharge into the Avon and Heathcote rivers. The presenters noted that the information was largely historical, and that there has been an agreement not to discharge water into the rivers. There are consents for occasional overflows into the rivers, but these are not managed by SCIRT. There have been issues with vandalism of pumps; this is now being managed by increased security and surveillance.
- The presenters noted that when the repairs are complete, the Christchurch City Council will have a database of camera footage of a large proportion of the underground network.
- The Forum noted that SCIRT are doing an amazing job at dealing with a very high level of complexity.

Performing Arts Precinct Update

Clinton Fisher and Fiona Ensor – CERA

Peter Vause and Liam Nolan – CCC

Discussion:

- The Forum asked how public art will be commissioned within buildings in the Precinct. The presenters answered that one option being explored is that developers could pay a percentage of the development total cost for public art, and this would be a contractual agreement. This is a best practise model, and was successfully used in the Melbourne Docklands. This received a positive response from members of the forum.
- The Forum asked about the status of Victoria Square. The presenters noted that the Square is critically important, as it is adjacent to both the Convention Centre and Performing Arts Precincts.
- The Forum asked about the changes made to the Performing Arts Precinct as it was outlined in the original Blueprint. The presenters discussed the Town Hall repair decision, and how this meant an auditorium was no longer needed in the Performing Arts Precinct. This led to the Precinct being reduced to its current form.
- The Forum asked about public transport availability to the Performing Arts

Precinct. The presenters noted that there will be 'super stops' on Manchester Street, and ideally close to the Precinct.

- The presenters noted that the timeframe for the Town Hall repair will be better understood in early February 2015. A scoping exercise is currently underway, but it was estimated by the presenters that the repair could be a 2-3 year exercise depending on findings. The presenters noted that initial reports have suggested that it will be more economical to repair the Town Hall auditorium than it would to build a new one.
- The Forum asked if there is the capacity in Christchurch for the proposed number of Arts venues, considering that the Arts Centre is undergoing its own repair programme. The presenters noted that they have taken a broad view of what facilities are needed, and have had advice from the Christchurch City Council Arts Advisors, and the Joint Advisory Group. The presenters noted that a hierarchy of facilities is needed. The Forum suggested that a cluster of smaller spaces for individuals and smaller groups, such as those at the Arts Centre, are missing from the current plan.

- The Forum asked how the Court Theatre and Christchurch Symphony Orchestra buildings will be funded. The presenters answered that the Council is contributing \$30 million. Taking an integrated approach to development will provide space for additional activities contributing to the financial viability of the Precinct. For example, the Music Centre of Christchurch intends to lease out space on the upper levels at commercial rates to assist with funding operating costs.
- The Forum asked about the number of car parks to be provided in the Precinct. The presenters answered that in the area east of the Avon River, there is long term demand for approximately 1,300 car parks in the wider area, and CERA is looking at further parking for the Precinct. The presenters discussed the concept of mixed use facilities in the car parking area, and there was discussion about architectural setbacks, and the importance of master planning. The presenters noted that the master plan will be coming to the market shortly, and is critical to ensure vibrancy and financial viability of the Precinct.
- The Forum noted that the Forsyth Barr building significantly altered the wind patterns in the area when built, and asked if these had been taken into consideration. The presenters answered that climatic factors will be part of the Master plan process.
- The Forum noted that key stakeholders such as the community, Tourism New Zealand, Christchurch and Canterbury Tourism and Ngāi Tahu will be critical. In particular, the Forum asked where the Cultural Precinct for Ngāi Tahu is to be situated. The presenters noted that Ngāi Tahu are key stakeholders in all Anchor Projects, and will be consulted with accordingly.
- The Forum asked about the status of agreement with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra and the Court Theatre. The presenters answered that while there were no leases signed yet, both groups embrace the project and plan. There was discussion from the Forum about whether the Precinct is financially viable for the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra.
- The Forum noted that it is important to involve the Arts Community prior to, and during the master planning process.

Decisions taken:

- To invite the presenters back to present again to provide a further update about the Performing Arts Precinct, prior to the end of March 2015.

Meeting closed:	8:00pm
Next meeting:	18 December 2014 – Christmas function 5 February 2015 – first meeting of 2015

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