

8. CENTRAL CITY RECOVERY PLAN QUARTERLY REPORT – MARCH 2012



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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to update the Council on the implementation of the Central City Recovery Plan for the period December 2011 to February 2012.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. This is the first quarterly report for the Central City Recovery Plan.
3. The Central City Recovery Plan was adopted by the Christchurch City Council on 15 December 2011 and provided to the Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery for his approval on 21 December 2011. While this signalled the completion of plan development as set out in the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Act 2011, it is the start of recovery on the ground. In addition, while the plan has no legal status until it is signed off by the Minister, the work since December 2011 has been progressed on the understanding that recovery is continuing. Much of the focus has been about building dialogue and forming relationships particularly in the absence of ministerial approval.

ACTIVITIES FOR THE QUARTER

4. The key activities for this quarter are set out below. In addition staff have been preparing project briefs for projects which are currently identified for commencement in the 2012/13 financial year and which the Council will consider as part of the amended LTCCP discussions. Stakeholder liaison and ongoing engagement has also been a key activity during the past three months.

In summary the key activities have been:

- (a) **Resource Consents** (from December 2011)

Table 1 sets out the resource consent applications received since December 2011. The table is set out by consent type.

Table 1: Resource Consent Activity

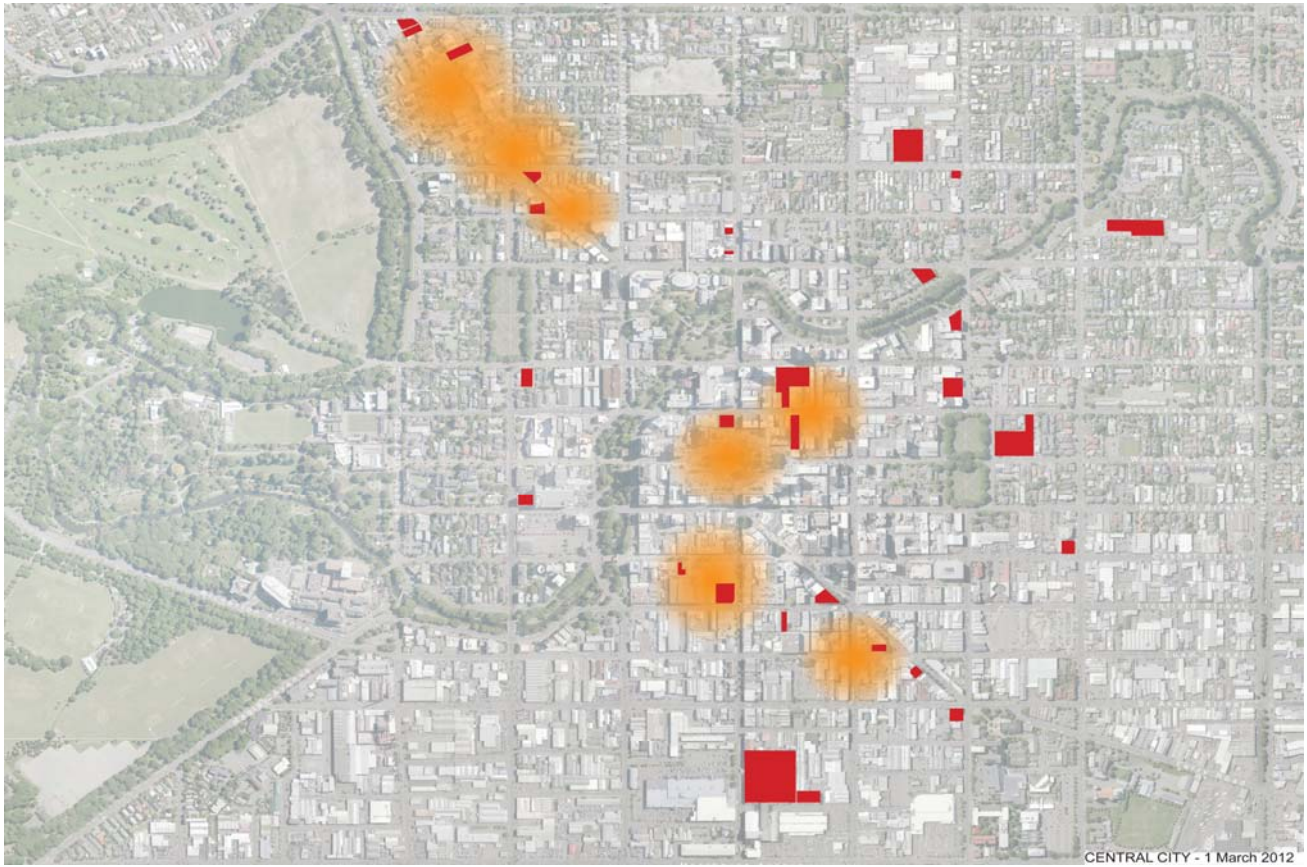
Consent Type	Number
Land Use Consent	26
Subdivision Consent	1
Temporary Activity	19
Existing Use Certificate	3
Certificate of Compliance	1

Figure 2 shows the areas of activity within the four avenues where pre-application discussions have occurred and consent applications have been granted. The red blocks on the map indicate sites where resource consent has been granted and/or buildings are under construction.

Figure 3 is a selection of building designs which have resource consent approval.

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Fig 2 – Map of Pre-application Consent Activity within the Four Avenues



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Figure 3 – Building designs which have resource consent approval



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Christchurch
City Council

112 Cashel Street



SHEPPARD & ROUT ARCHITECTS LTD

Christchurch
City Council

134 Victoria Street

TRANSITIONAL CITY PROJECTS

5. In the draft Central City Plan, the Transitional City chapter recognised that the Central City will be constantly changing as restoration, reconstruction and improvement phases of recovery occur. This recognition provides a series of opportunities for the public, private sector and the community to test new ideas, concepts and to explore ways to bring investment, business and people back.

A small number of projects are being developed within this transitional city mantle. These projects span temporary streetscape design, signage and wayfinding, interpretation of earthquake damaged spaces. A key component of transitional city projects is that they are flexible to support recovery and while each project has a proposed location at this stage the final location may alter. The specific projects are set out in Table 2 below:

Table 2: Transitional City Projects

Project	Objective	Proposed location (s)
Temporary Streetscape Design	Streetscapes for the slow core - focused on supporting existing and new nodes of recovery. Streetscape elements to be relocatable and reuseable as much as possible. See Figure 4 and 5 for examples of streetscape elements which may form part of these temporary treatments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloucester Street between Madras and Colombo to support New Regent St area • Oxford Terrace between Hereford and Cashel streets • Durham Street Bridge to improve safety and attractiveness for pedestrians
Wayfinding and signage	Install interpretation hoardings to provide public information and encourage engagement with the changing built environment, provide ways of remembering what was there and learning the stories of the city, supports a sense of place and navigation throughout the city and supports the visitor experience of the central city.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various locations to support residents and visitors.
Papawai Otakaro temporary enhancements	Interpretation hoardings to demonstrate the vision for the future Papawai Otakaro.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re:Start Cashel and Oxford Tce
Reactivating Worcester Boulevard	Programme of art installations to link the Museum and Botanic Gardens via the River to Cashel Mall. Working with Art Gallery staff on the installations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worcester Boulevard

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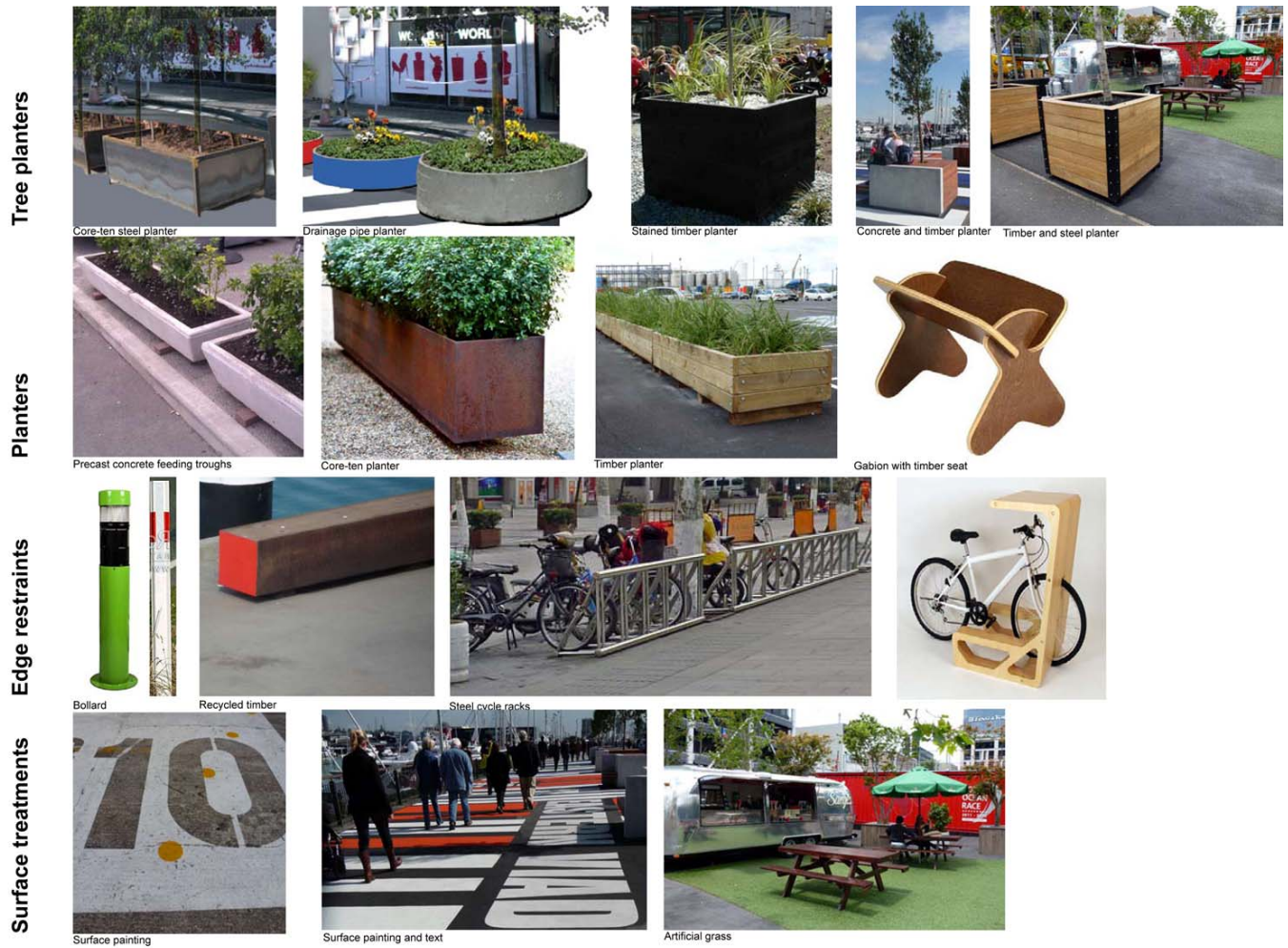


Figure 4 - Examples of Streetscape elements for temporary treatments



Figure 5 - Example of a Temporary Streetscape

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6. In addition a plan for the Life in Vacant Spaces programme has been completed. This includes ongoing support of Gap Filler and Greening the Rubble. Gap Filler projects in the Central City during the past three months include the Cycling Cinema (corner Dundas and Manchester Street), the Think Differently Book Exchange (corner Kilmore and Madras Street) and the Dance-O-Mat (St Asaph Street).

CORDON REDUCTION COORDINATION

7. Staff have been working across Christchurch City Council and liaising with CERA to ensure cordon reduction is coordinated and managed. This means planning for the infrastructure repair, managing safety and assessing the risk around the removal/reduction of the cordon. This was not a role initially envisaged for the team to fill, but has become a crucial part of planning this early phase of recovery.

CATHEDRAL SQUARE

8. Staff have been working with the Cathedral Square land owners group on a short-term design for the Square to provide more certainty for tenants and prepare for public occupation of the Square following a reduction of the Red Zone cordon. The landowners have engaged London-based consultants, Exterior Architecture (Sam Martin) and LDA Design (designers of London Olympic Park) to assist with this. Council staff have been working with these consultants to progress their initial design ideas.

INFRASTRUCTURE RECOVERY

9. Discussions have commenced with SCIRT staff regarding rebuilding central city infrastructure. The initial assessment of the state of the infrastructure is expected to be completed by the end of April.

CENTRAL CITY PLAN RECOVERY PROJECTS

10. The following activities have occurred during the last three months. These activities are reported by chapter from the draft Central City Recovery Plan and set out in Table 3:

Table 3: Central City Recovery Plan project activity

Plan Chapter	Project	Activity
Remembering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earthquake Memorial Earthquake Interpretation Operational management of sensitive sites 	<p>Liaison with CERA and Ministry for Culture & Heritage. Scoping in progress.</p> <p>Protocol developed; partnership with Canterbury Museum for archiving material.</p>
Green City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Heating Green Roofs BASE tool (green building standard) 	<p>CAFÉ progressing feasibility study including potential investment and operational partners. Advocacy with private sector. Liaison with New Zealand Green Building Council regarding trialling tool.</p>
Distinctive City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retention and reuse of materials 	<p>Guidelines on reuse of materials and on conceptual history for site redevelopment developed.</p>
City Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community performance and rehearsal facilities Housing showcase 	<p>Liaison with Arts Circus and Christchurch Music centre.</p> <p>Liaison with funding partners on project. Current partners are NZ Steel, Concrete NZ, BRANZ, EECA, NZILA, NZIA.</p>
Transport Choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Transport choice projects 	<p>Additional traffic modelling to understand impacts on transport network.</p>

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Market City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered market • Shared business campus 	Investigating business case. Ongoing liaison and facilitation with EPIC on Manchester Street site.
Facilities Rebuild Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convention Centre • Metro Sports • Central Library • Carparking Buildings 	}Staff have been providing advice and }input into the Central City Facilities }rebuild project } }

ENABLING CENTRAL CITY RECOVERY

11. A small team of Recovery Coordinators have been established to focus on central city recovery. These staff, along with urban design, transport, landscape and planning staff have met with individual landowners and several commercial groups to interface with these groups and Council.

CENTRAL CITY RECOVERY PLAN MINISTERIAL APPROVAL

12. Staff have met with CERA officials when requested to discuss the draft central city plan. These meetings were to provide CERA staff with information regarding various aspects of the plan to facilitate their understanding of the document. Subsequently CERA have engaged consultants to undertake reviews of some of the components of the plan – transport and the regulatory framework in particular. When requested by CERA, staff have also provided advice to these consultants.

COMMUNICATIONS

13. Following Council adoption of the draft for Ministerial approval the plan was provided to the Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery, CERA, Environment Canterbury and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. A web-based version of the plan was publicly available. An internal briefing for Council Senior Managers on the draft central city recovery plan has occurred. Staff also made a presentation to Lincoln Landscape Architecture students who are intending to apply for the British Council Christchurch Scholarship for emerging leaders from the fields of architecture, engineering, industrial design, landscape architecture, planning, spatial design, transport design or urban design.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council receives this report for information.