

Central City Biannual Report

January—June 2020



This reporting reflects the key themes of the current Central City Action Plan (CCAP) identified in the adjacent graphic. It provides an overview of progress towards [long term outcomes](#), relevant statistics and project delivery updates. The reporting also explores the use of various grants that the Council has made available.



City Leadership

Central City Action Plan

The year began with a sense of positivity and bustle surrounding the opening of Riverside and the rolling out of the extended programmes of events in the summer. Unfortunately, the onset and management of the COVID-19 pandemic has dominated the first half of 2020. In January, visitor numbers, especially those from China, began to fall away and by late March the country was in lockdown.



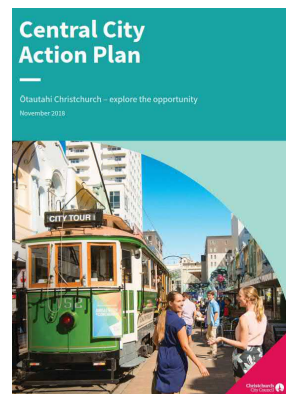
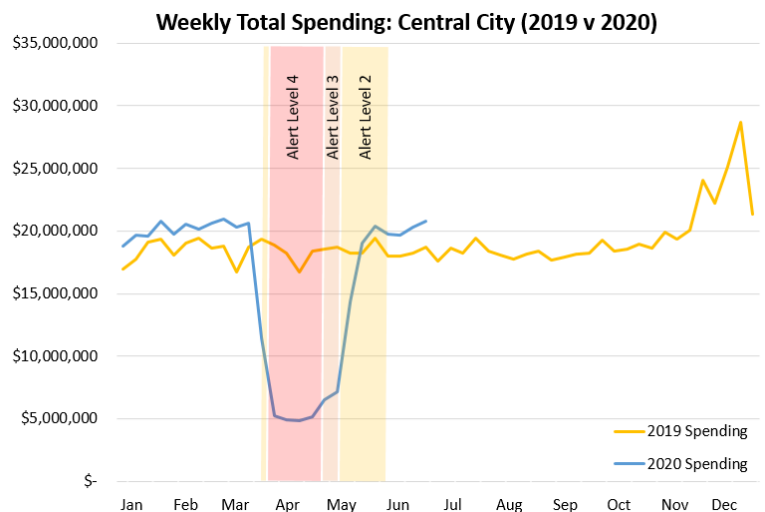
The deserted Terrace (pictured) on the warm Saturday evening after Easter weekend underlines the scale of foregone trading shown in the chart below. While the impact of lockdown has been to halt community transmission of COVID-19 and allow New Zealand life to return to some form of normality, the extended closure of businesses (albeit softened by Government financial interventions) has left the Central City vulnerable.

In response to COVID-19, city leaders have united behind an [Economic Recovery Package](#) for the district and region, aligning with and supplementing government interventions signalled in the Budget. At the Central City level, the review of the Action Plan—in progress at the turn of the year—has provided a palette of activities to feed the recovery phases including:

- Reorganisation of events to attract people into the Central City (e.g. [‘Chch is Lit’](#)).
- Marketing activity focused on [supporting local businesses and supply chains](#).
- Promotion of the city to domestic visitors during 2020.
- One-hour free parking until August 2020 in Council’s Central City Parking Buildings.

The Council and its partner agencies will keep the COVID Recovery situation under review, in particular key data including spending and pedestrian footfall to ensure that appropriate responses are tailored as the months ahead unfold. A summer without international visitors - which currently seems likely - will be a particular challenge for Central City businesses as the extra boost in spending they bring helps build winter reserves for small businesses.

In terms of tracking Central City progress, the **Central City Outcomes Framework** introduced in the last edition of this reporting now has a set of online measures. Some of the headline graphics around, for example, spending and pedestrian flows, are integrated into this reporting. The full feed of data and associated commentary is available on the [Central City Insights](#) webpages.



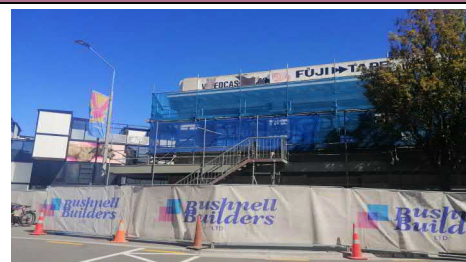
Amenity and Activation

Recovery Coordination and Activation

Barrier Sites

COVID-19 has slowed progress on a number of sites over the last 6 months. However, successes have been achieved on a number of properties.

- **129 High Street (Ace Video)** was removed from the Barrier Sites list with the owners obtaining necessary consent for repair and commencing construction.
- Resource and building consents have been approved to strengthen and convert **79 Cambridge Terrace (Bradley Nuttall Building)** for hotel use.
- A resource consent has been lodged to strengthen and repair the building at **96 Lichfield Street (Sargoods/Living Space)** for student accommodation. Building consents are expected to be lodged in the near future.
- Approval of building consent for repair and strengthening works has been gained for **167-169 Hereford Street (Hereford Chambers)**. Works commenced prior to lockdown, and recommenced quickly in June to ensure that the planned Hereford Street upgrade was not hampered.



Construction has commenced at 129 High Street (above) and resource consent has been lodged to strengthen 96 Lichfield (below)



There are presently 25 sites on the Barrier Sites list. Owners of 14 of the sites have a plan or firm intentions for their future re-use. 11 of the sites remain on the list with no clear intentions. From June 2020, oversight of the Barrier Sites programme moves into Council's Consenting and Compliance group.

More information regarding Barrier Sites is available at ccc.govt.nz/barrier-sites

Central City Activation Coordinator (CCAC):

In the second year of the Central City Activation Programme there was a shift towards community-driven projects. Community driven projects often have uncertain outcomes and take longer to coordinate, but they help to build community capacity and are more meaningful to the groups involved.

Five projects were funded, a total of \$24,817 in the summer season, including a week-long Christmas Market in Hack Circle in late December, a performance and comedy festival in the Salt District between 20—23 February and a series of music and activity based activations.



In partnership with the Yoobee design school, 180 students were taken on a Central City induction walk on 10 February, introducing them to different areas of the city and amenities that students might want to visit again. Faculty staff participated and collateral material was produced that will enable Yoobee to run similar tours in the future independently.

Lockdown significantly impacted the winter activation programme, including work on a Central City Botanic D'Lights programme, Christchurch Food Chase, and several local activations in support of the TRENZ Conference. While Botanic D'Lights was cancelled, work on the Central City programme was transitioned into CHCH IS LIT (led by Council's Events Production Team) which will run during July and support city business recovery. \$32,745 was provided to support activations across seven different locations.

Other Project Updates

Street Upgrades

Hereford Street works were brought forward, commencing in May and are programmed for completion by November.

Victoria Street works commenced in April and should be complete by October

High Street (incl. Tram Extension): Following the Council decision on 24 September 2019, detailed design has continued on the revitalisation of High Street from Cashel Street to Tuam Street, and the extension of the tram track from its current termination point at the High Street /Manchester Street intersection. The plans for the upgrade can be found [here](#). Council has asked staff to further engage with stakeholders regarding the design for the block of High Street between Tuam Street and St Asaph Street.

Cathedral Square

The first phase of the work has now been completed around the new Spark Building; the next phase will see the remaining area around the south east receive an update and repair. By July 2020 the planning and engagement with the various stakeholders on options will be completed and the team will proceed with final detailing and tender.

Public Wi-Fi

Options continue to be explored on ways to extend the public Wi-Fi by working alongside the completion of new facilities and improvement projects as well as investigating partnership opportunities with other organisations.

Amenity and Activation continued (January – June 2020)

Enliven Places Capital Projects

CCC Led: Welles Lane Mural—Cassandra’s Dream

In February 2020, Enliven Places facilitated and funded a mural at a vacant site between Welles and St Asaph Streets, to improve the amenity of the local area and create a sense of place. The mural was designed and installed by students nearby at Yoobee. The mural named ‘Cassandra’s Dream’ reflects the innovative and downtown character of Central City South. Developers of the Welder Collective (Box112) assisted by surfacing a private pedestrian laneway across the site.



CCC Led: Cathedral Square Interpretation

Twelve information boards detailing the history of Cathedral Square were replaced with solar-lit columns in March. The columns show updated information, improve night-time amenity, and can be shifted as Cathedral Square undergoes changes.



CCC Led: Solar Art Columns

Two solar-lit columns were installed in north Cathedral Square and south of Press Lane in January. The columns assist with lighting and wayfinding. The columns share the creativity of local artist Tahu Robinson, containing imagery of native birds, landscapes, and Christchurch icons.



CCC-Led: Spark Pocket Park

A vacant site that was formerly used as a construction storage area for the new Spark building, has been transformed into a pocket park with seating, planters and bollards. The owner of the site arranged the mural by local artist Wongi Wilson.



Updated Enliven Places Webpages

The Enliven Places web pages were updated to showcase a wider selection of programme achievements. The projects are sorted into three broad categories: [Artworks and beautification](#), [Street improvements and wayfinding](#), and [Placemaking and activation](#).



Street improvements and wayfinding

Pedestrian-friendly projects that support movement and a sense of discovery.

Projects Underway

A collaborative project is currently underway with students from Ara Institute of Canterbury to activate their High Street campus façade to encourage more pedestrian activity.



Maintenance of existing projects

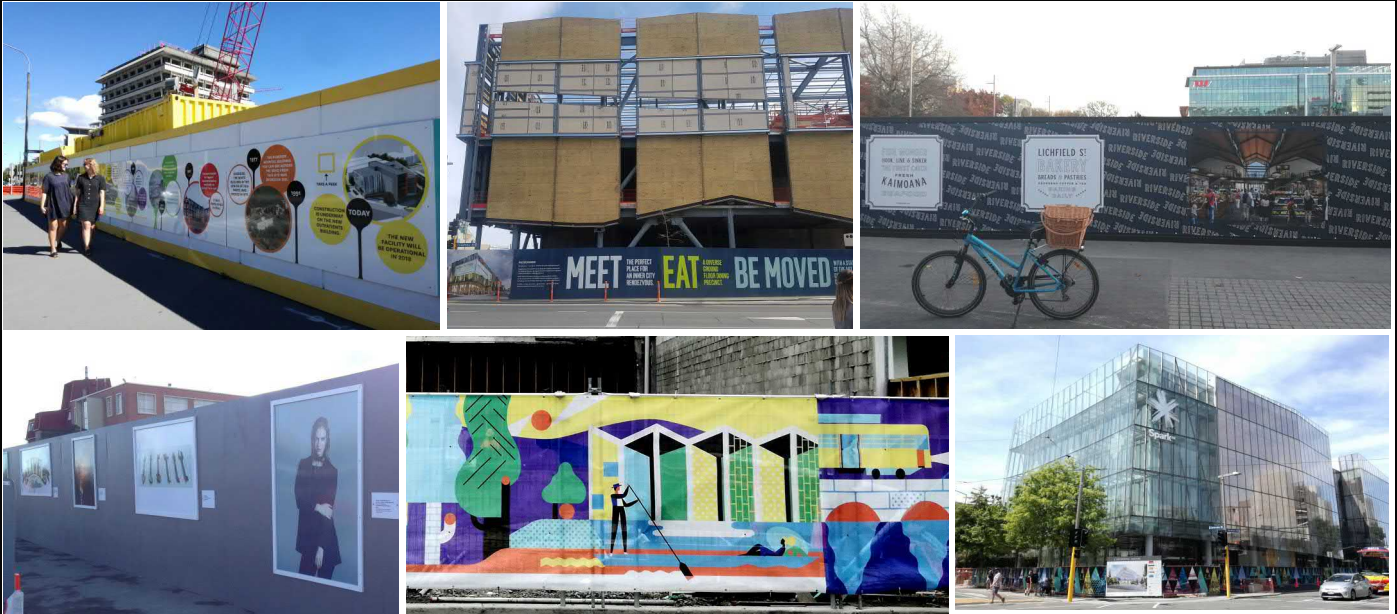
Existing projects such as Dahlias on Colombo Street and planters and seating in Cathedral Square have had ongoing maintenance over the reporting period. Assets that are no longer required have been decommissioned.



Amenity and Activation continued (January – June 2020)

Incentives

Creative Construction Site Hoardings



The Creative Hoardings Incentive was established in July 2015 to encourage creative construction hoardings by waiving fees charged to occupy legal road. The incentive was part of the longer-term strategy of urban regeneration to enliven the city by reducing the negative, visual impact of construction site hoardings. A number of high-profile sites employed the Incentive since 2015, including the outpatients building for the CDHB, Hoyts EntX, Riverside Market, CPIT, Ballantynes and Spark. All creative hoardings in this reporting period have been removed as developments are complete. Within the past year there has been little uptake of the waiver, and the incentive ended 30 June 2020. However design guidance and template designs remain available online: www.ccc.govt.nz/

Applicant	Project	Artwork	Amount waived
Naylor Love	Ballantynes	Pre-designed: Christchurch Life	\$14,696
Naylor Love	SPARK building,	Pre-designed: Aromarea	\$9,876
TOTAL			\$24,572

Rates Incentive for Property Owners



Budget 2019/20 (city-wide): \$40,000	Credited this period: \$18,708	Closing Balance 30 June 2020: \$0
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This incentive can credit up to \$5,000 (per rating unit or interior tenancy) over a 12-month period for sites activated by temporary projects in the Central City and suburban areas. The incentive began in 2015 and is in place until 30 June 2020. There is no change since the previous reporting period. Four sites within the Central City received the Rates Incentive, supporting Cultivate Christchurch as well as initiatives within the Enliven Places Programme—Dahlias and The Green Lab’s Summer Activation. Three sites also continue in New Brighton (Common Ground), Linwood (Tiny Shops) and Lyttelton (Collett’s Corner).

A forthcoming staff report to Council will review the incentive and provide a recommendation on whether to continue and how this may be focused to support economic recovery. www.ccc.govt.nz/rates-incentive

Amenity and Activation continued (January – June 2020)

Enliven Places Programme contestable grant funding

Enliven Places Projects Fund (EPPF)

Funding supports a range of community-led projects that temporarily activate Christchurch's vacant spaces in suburban areas and the Central City.

In this reporting period, one project was funded pre COVID-19. The fund then paused due to COVID-19 and reopened in June to consider projects that support recovery. Five further projects were funded. A number of projects well into development were cancelled or paused due to COVID-19, and did not eventuate into applications to the Fund. These projects may be revisited in the new financial year. Prior to COVID-19 100% allocation was forecast.

The FY17/18 funded project Lyttelton Plinths did not progress, and the full funded amount was returned to the Council and added to the FY19/20 budget.

Suburban projects have been funded: **Community Mural—paint by numbers** (location TBC), **Foragers' Whare** (Red Zone) and **Summer Night's Dream** (Waltham). These will be reported in the Suburban biannual report 2020. The tally below does not include suburban projects.

Funds available in 2019/20 (Year 8) :

- \$150,000

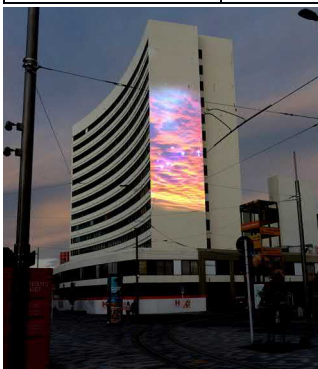
Available balance at 1 January 2020

- \$109,250.50
- \$14,999 returned funding

Closing balance at 30 June 2020

- \$53,724.68

Applicant	Project	Location	Delivery	Funded
Abstract Interactive Ltd	Assembly of Matariki. Interactive lighting display on the former Rydges building showcasing clouds and the Matariki star cluster.	Oxford Tce	July 2020	\$8,825
Watch This Space	Ōtautahi Christchurch Street Art Lighting Project. Solar light illumination of ten street art murals.	Various Central City	July 2020— July 2021	\$13,475
Amiria Kiddle	Ōtautahi Art Factory. A two-day, day to night event at the BOXed Quarter that creates a journey of discovery through the space with a range of installations, artists, market stalls and existing businesses.	BOXed Quarter	Oct 2020	\$14,967.85
Lemuria Ltd & Audrey Baldwin	Shared Lines: Pūtahitanga. Collaborative art installation by 60 New Zealand artists, 35 of whom are Cantabrian.	SPARK ground floor	Sept 2020	\$10,210
The Arts Centre	The Sonic Room. Eight free public concerts in the vacant, unfinished Old Engineers School. Two local sound musicians will compose and perform work that responds to the history of the space as the former Cloisters Cinema.	Arts Centre	Sept—Oct 2020	\$5,000
Jane Maloney	Zine Christchurch Workshop Series. Twelve zine making workshops and a zine library event in the temporary gallery space run by Fiksate Gallery. The event lead-ups to Zinefest at Tūranga in September.	Gloucester St	July—Sept 2020	\$5,196.52



Amenity and Activation continued (January – June 2020)

Grant funding city-making partners

Gap Filler (GF), The Green Lab (TGL, formally Greening the Rubble) and Life in Vacant Spaces (LiVS) are supported with grant funding of \$100,000 for each organisation per year as part of the Enliven Places Programme. The organisations work across the Central City and suburban areas.

Each organisation presented to the Sustainability and Community Resilience Committee on 27 February 2020, to build awareness of their organisation and outline their work and the Council's support. Each organisation has specific skills and focus to support the current economic recovery.

Gap Filler (GF)

GF pivoted their programme during alert level four lockdown. The organisation paused one project well into development to deliver two digital projects. In video game **Lockdown Logistics**, players become a driver delivering essentials during level four. Event series **Chinwag** connected strangers when interactions outside one's bubble were scarce. By the end of July GF's final project for F19/20, **ChchChanges**, will install six large steel frames highlighting various sites undergoing change in Christchurch. GF's final F18/19 project, **Buzzwire**, will be delivered in the next reporting period.

GF is regularly called upon by researchers, agencies, media and publications to advocate for the role of communities in a post disaster context and to promote Christchurch and the wider placemaking movement. This has increased considerably since COVID, with about thirty-five engagements in this reporting period including presentations, supporting projects, tours, webinars, and participating in forums.

In addition to grant funded work, GF continues consultancy and commercial work, including **Placemaking at One Central** (Christchurch, East Frame), supporting **Invercargill City Centre Master Plan**, sitting on the **Tactical Urbanism Panel** for Nelson City Council, acting as **Placemaking Strategy Consultant** to Panuku Development Auckland.



The Green Lab (TGL, formally Greening the Rubble)

TGL fulfilled their grant funding agreement requirements this financial year by wrapping up ongoing projects. **Cashel St Summer Activation** (110 Cashel Street) hosted their Mobile Workshop and a workshop with Qtopia. The **Workshop Series** included two Central City workshops, as well as a planting workshop at the Phillipstown Hub. Hornby Community Centre Courtyard (Goulding Ave) commenced and was completed in this reporting period. The project involved co-design and delivery to re-enliven a public courtyard with the Hornby Community Centre Trust. Around the city and suburban areas, ongoing programming and support includes **Riverlution** and **Riverbend Refuge** and the **Phillipstown Community Hub**.

Outside their GFA, TGL received Rātā funding to build a second **Green Connection Pod** to host at Christchurch Community House and Christchurch City Mission; completed the John Taylor Memorial with the Avon Ōtakaro Network; and a commercial greening project at Rollickin' Gelato on Cashel Street.

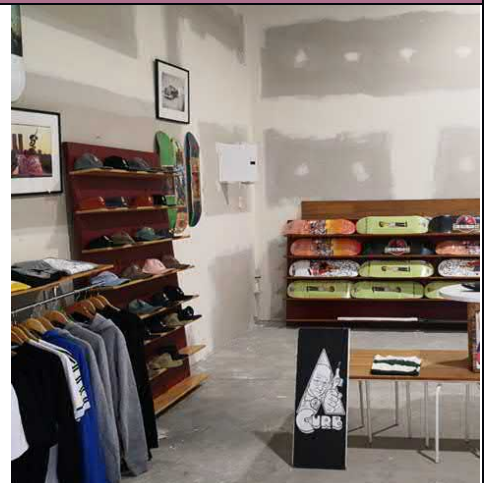


Life in Vacant Spaces (LiVS)

A continued focus on the Central City saw LiVS take on 5 additional licensees and participants in new-build spaces within the Central City, at the Guthrey Centre and 110 Cashel Street, as well as 2 sites in Cathedral Junction and 1 site at the Arts Centre. LiVS supported two new pop-up shops **That Retro Store** and **Curb**, and extended the license with **Kowhai Collective** in the Guthrey Centre. LiVS supported 4 sites for the installation of **Locky Docks** in the Central City.

More than 20 other sites continue from previous periods with projects around the city and suburban areas including **Salt Lane Studios**, **Hassals Lane**, **Tiny Shops** and the **Old School in New Brighton**.

In suburban areas, LiVS brokered a new site in New Brighton for the Pump Track and one at the shared container makerspace **Te Puna Auaha**, in Lyttelton. During the period of lockdown, LiVS provided 3 spaces for essential services in Waltham and New Brighton. As part of their license agreement with LINZ, LiVS coordinated 4 new projects in **EastXEast**.



Grant funding Central City Business Association (CCBA)

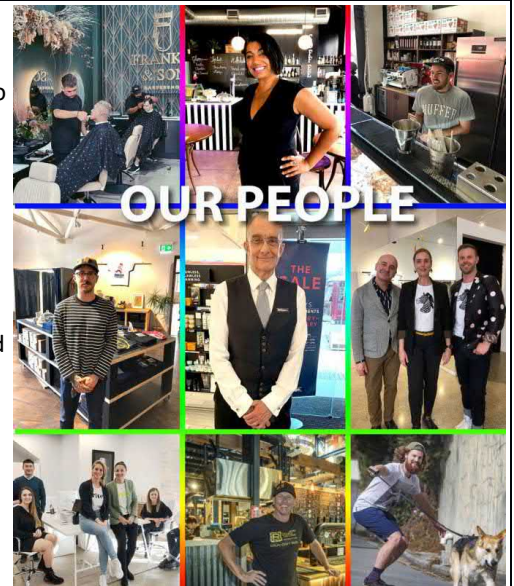
The CCBA Board agreed to work through rebranding of the Association to improve inclusivity, particularly to those in the wider Central City community. This will flow through into a full review of the CCBA's strategic direction, which will also respond to impacts and change arising from COVID-19. To date, the CCBA has completed a rebrand and is now working on the communication strategy to members. The new brand will be presented to members at the CCBA AGM in October for agreement.

The CCBA continued to work through the Alert Level 4 lockdown, providing advice and support to members. Upon the reopening of the Central City, they conducted a full face-to-face survey of members to gauge the financial temperature of the city. The CCBA has continued to work closely with strategic partners, providing advice and support on behalf of members. Over the coming months, the CCBA will advocate for the health of the business community as it gears up for a summer of uncertainty about the return of international visitors (which will likely influence business confidence and resilience).

COVID-19 delayed planning for the winter festival promotion. A range of activities are now being lined up, in association with business community partners, for delivery at the end of July. This will dovetail with the end of the CHCH IS LIT activation.

The CCBA's future direction will respond to decisions of the Council's current Annual Plan and 2021-31 Long Term Plan processes. The board remains committed to a self-funded future, but in building up to that, a transformational proposal for funding over the next 4 years is looking at taking a more proactive role in marketing, precinct identity building and legacy projects.

The CCBA continues to grow its membership as new businesses move back into the city, climbing from 419 members to 452 members over the last year. The CCBA is also continuing to develop new partnerships and in particular citywide partnerships to assist in finding new ways to attract visitation not only to the Central City but to our unique citywide offering.

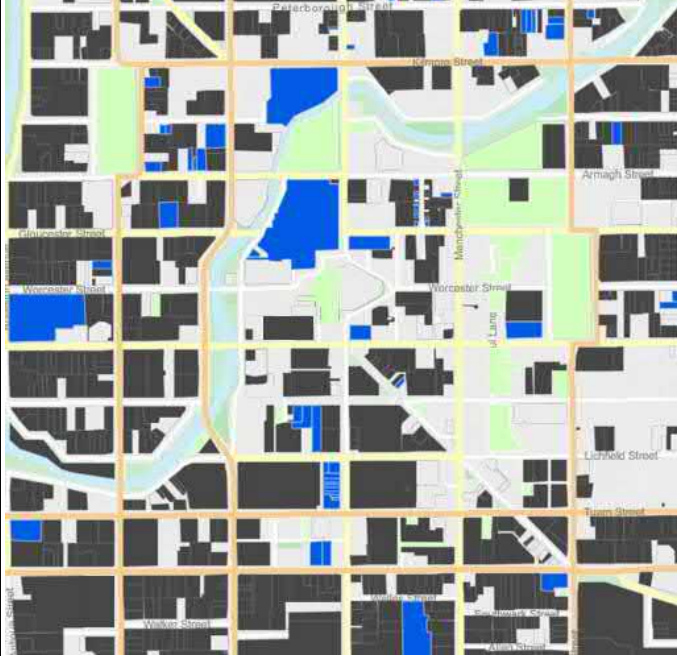


Growth

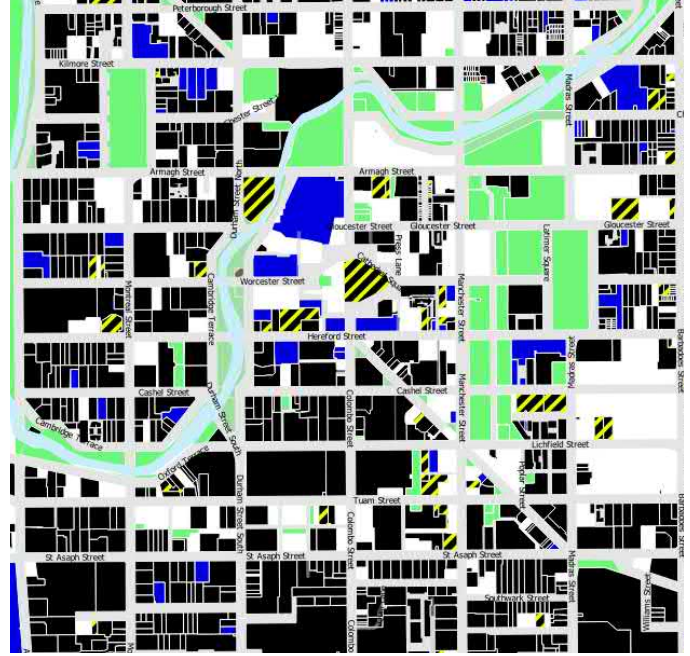
Central City Land Use Survey (January 2020)

Central City land use change has been tracked since 2016. The two yearly survey provides an overview of the status of Central City sites. The latest survey in January 2020 provides a new snapshot shown below alongside the previous 2018 picture. A vacant sites programme will start to track the development and use of undeveloped land and temporary uses.

July 2018 Survey



January 2020 Survey



Open Spaces
 Operative Buildings/Sites
 Inoperative sites
 Under Construction
 Needs repair work

A number of significant blocks are nearing completion. In the retail precinct, the completion of The Terrace parking building will fill one of the largest remaining gaps. A number of sites around Cathedral Square are making progress including the Old Post Office and Te Pae although its completion has been put back into 2021 as a result of COVID-19. Sections of the East Frame residential area are taking shape generally from a south to north direction. Within the north west of the core of the inner city a range of residential projects have been commenced. The new 2020 mapping shows buildings, mainly vacant, that still need repairs of some kind.

Central City Development Contributions Rebate Funds

A rebate of development contributions is offered as an incentive for residential development within the Four Avenues, and commercial development in the Central City Business Zone. With both schemes scheduled to expire on 30 June 2020, and COVID-19 changing Christchurch's financial landscape, the Council voted to end the commercial rebate scheme but extend the residential rebate scheme until such time as the fund is exhausted. The residential scheme will be however be refreshed to ensure that rebates are targeted at supporting genuine residential developments, and not residential units used for commercial purposes, including short term guest accommodation. Information about the process, FAQ's and qualifying criteria are on the Council website: <http://www.ccc.govt.nz/consents-and-licences/development-contributions/development-contributions-rebate-schemes/>

Residential Rebates January—June 2020	Total
Number of residential developments assessed within the four Avenues	14
Number of residential units provisionally approved for the rebate	183
Total Fund approved for qualifying developments during this period	\$2,133,606.57
Total fund remaining	\$5,449,349.83
Non-Residential (Business Zone) Rebates January—June 2020	Total
Number of non-residential developments assessed within the Central City Business Zone	3
Total fund approved for qualifying developments during this period	\$233,294.70
Total Fund remaining	Scheme ceased 30 June 2020

Growth continued (January – June 2020)

Central City Growth Statistics

Between January and June 2020 the growth of spending, pedestrian, cycle and scooter activity were tracked to build a picture of how we are tracking against our ambitions in the Central City Outcomes Framework. More charts, statistics and commentary are available on the [Central City Insights and Monitoring Webpage](#).

Central City Spending

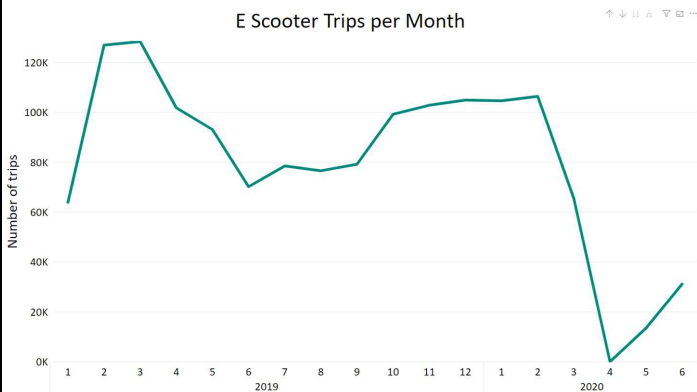
Spending in the Central City between January and June 2020 was severely impacted by COVID-19. The chart on page 1 of this report provides a finer grained week by week comparison with 2019. The adjacent chart shows the long term trend back to 2015 using quarterly data. The only equivalent precedent to the drop in spending seen here was in the immediate months following the February 2011 earthquake.

Post lockdown spending has shown a strong recovery with retail and hospitality spending exceeding 2019 levels but there are concerns that this may not be sustained.

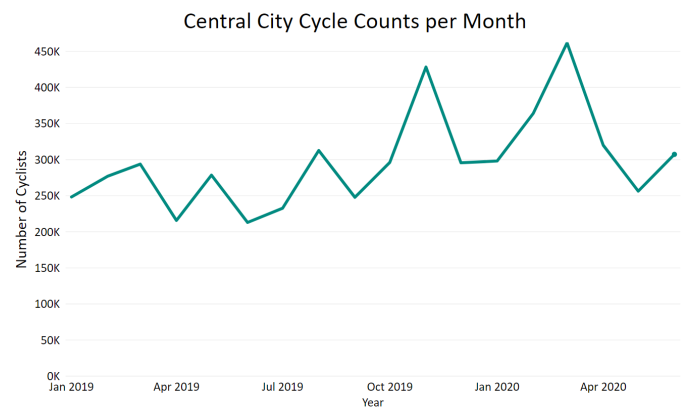


Scooter and Cycle Activity

Lime Scooters were removed from the Central City in April in response to the COVID-19 lockdown. Usage has recovered a little but levels of use are still significantly down on the 80,000 trips per month seen at the same time last year.



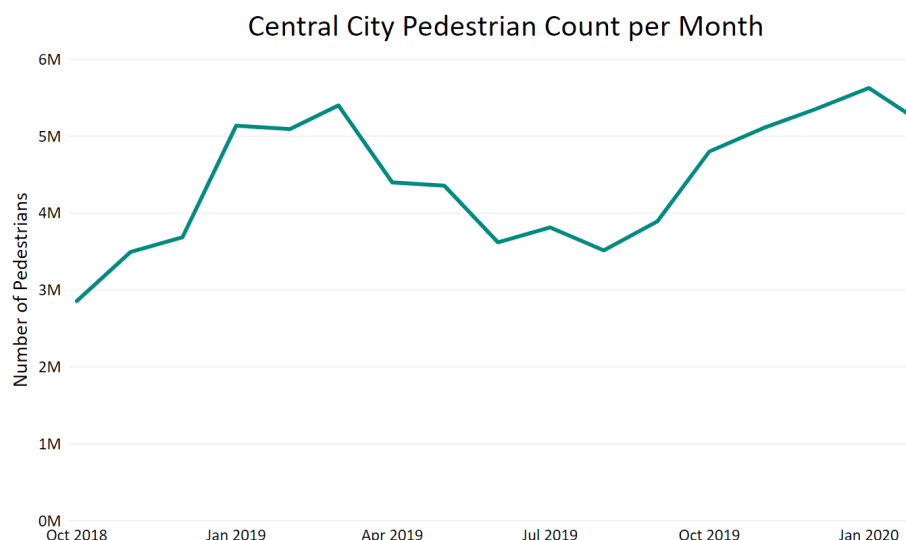
Cycling activity has grown steadily in recent years. Cycle counters have been installed in a range of Central City locations. Cycle counters between January and June 2020 were 32% higher than the same period in 2019.



Pedestrian Activity

Comparable pedestrian data in the Central City is available up until March 2020. Since April 2020 a new data feed using actual counts (rather than modelled samples) has been brought into use.

Based on the pre-COVID-19 period (Jan-March), there was a 7% increase in pedestrian activity from the same time last year. This continues a trend that commenced in the last part of 2019 which coincided with the opening of the Riverside complex.



Growth continued (January – June 2020)

Central City Building & Resource Consents

Resource consent applications approved (Jan-Dec)	Number	Building consent applications approved (Jan-June)	Net New Housing (units)	Floorspace (sqm)
Land use & subdivision consents received within 4-Aves (excl. core)	27	Central City (South Frame)	0	1357
Land use and subdivision consents received within Core	3	Central City Business	8	9714
		Central City Mixed Use	47	2414
		Central City Residential	47	3512
TOTAL	30	TOTAL	102	16997

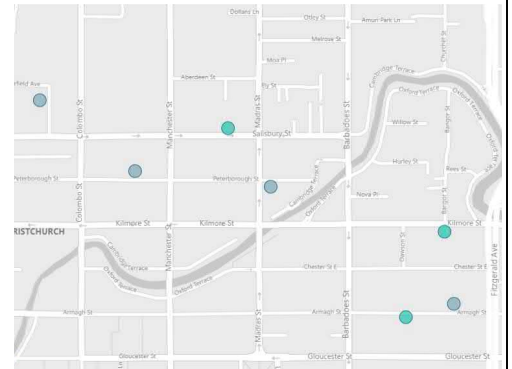
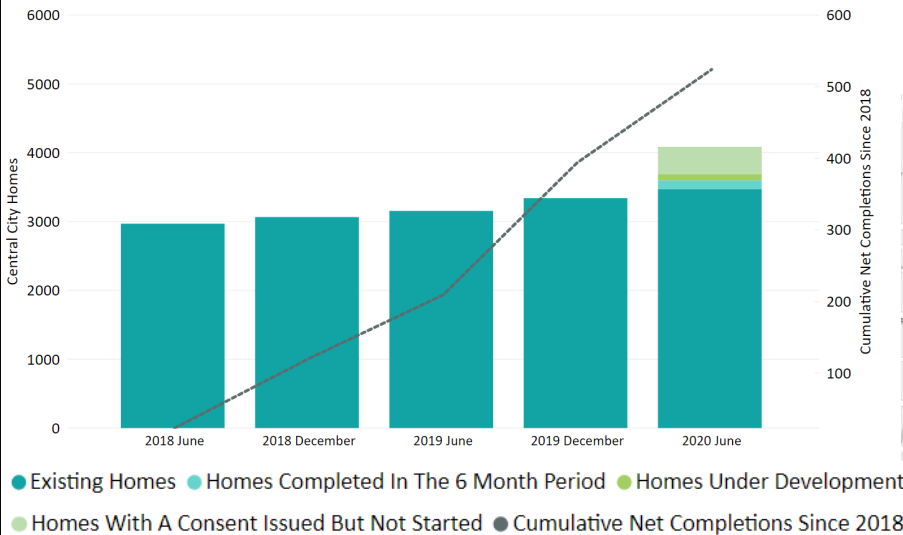
Key features during this time period

Within the January to June period, several large scale resource consent applications were received. Key applications include a proposal to develop 243 Cambridge Terrace into 17 attached terraced units, a proposal to strengthen and repair the existing Barrier Site building at 96 Lichfield Street for student accommodation and a proposal from the Baptist Church to construct 11 residential units on Oxford Terrace.

Over the January to June period, building consents have also been received for a number of multi-unit developments. Large applications include two 17 unit residential developments on Armagh Street, an 18 unit apartment block on Madras Street and a 28 unit residential development on Salisbury Street.

Residential Building consents (includes as part of mixed-use developments)

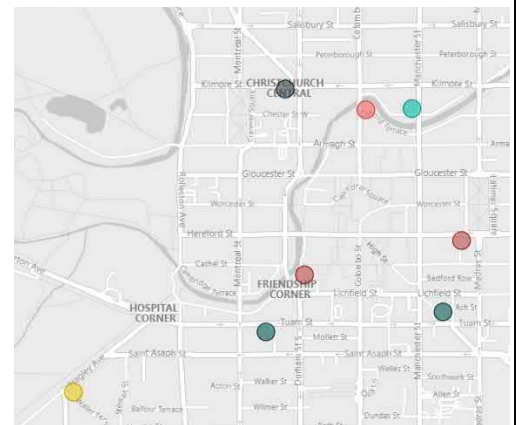
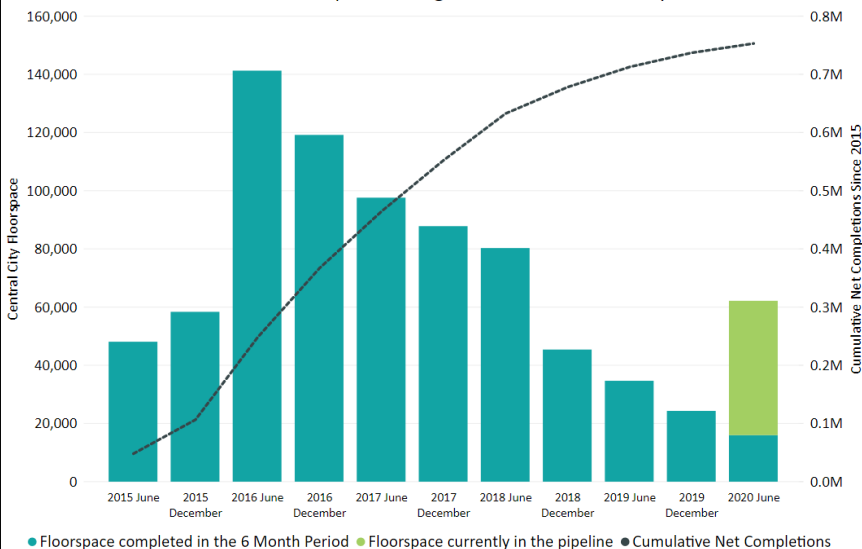
How many houses are being built in the Central City?



Intended Use ● Apartment Block ● Dwelling

Commercial Building consents (includes as part of mixed-use developments)

How much floorspace is being created in the Central City?



Intended Use ● Apartment Block ● Hotel ● Office & Administration ● Other Commercial Buid... ● Restaurant, Bar, T... ● School Facility

People

Central City Residential Programme (Project 8011)

The Central City Residential Programme was adopted by the Council in September, 2018. Its goal is to promote housing development and grow the Central City population over the next 10 years. The overall aspiration is to achieve a population of 20,000 people by 2028. The programme is a series of inter-related projects. Recent progress on some of these is set-out below.

Neighbourhood planning

Early engagement with residents living in the Central City has helped to shape neighbourhood level planning. A series of *Conversation Walks* have provided the project team with insights from residents about places, strengths and opportunities in Central City neighbourhoods.

Walks completed to date include the Central City South, Inner City East, Moa and Chester/Avon neighbourhoods. A summary of the walks' findings can be viewed [here](#).



A neighbourhood page has also been added to the existing Central City webpages. This includes a neighbourhood map where users can click on an area to learn more about the neighbourhood —view [here](#).

Early scoping of the potential impacts and opportunities of the multi-use arena on Central City neighbourhoods has also commenced.

Central City information resources

Development of the dedicated Central City webpages continues. The prototype *Central City map* is transitioning to a new version which has added more detail to building models and allows for a greater range of information to be presented. The functionality and uses for the map continue to be expanded. The new map will be accessible from July 2020 on the Central City webpages.

<https://centralcitymap.ccc.govt.nz/>



Central City housing market research

A Real Estate Institute of New Zealand (REINZ) report on Central City property sales was completed at the end of 2019. This reported on sales trends for different types of development in the Central City and compared these with trends for surrounding suburbs. Full report can be found [here](#):

Research on the drivers of demand for homes in the Central City was completed in early 2020. This included in-depth discussions with potential home buyers and with developers. The findings of this work are being considered alongside the REINZ report (and other previously reported work) to inform recommendations on incentives and other interventions that may be considered for the Central City (to be reported to Council later in 2020).

Support alternative housing approaches and projects

Engagement with alternative housing stakeholders has continued. Recently advice has been provided to a number of faith-based organisations developing housing, supporting them through the consent process.

A [case study](#) to determine how the barriers to providing alternative housing projects have been overcome elsewhere in NZ and overseas has been completed. The findings of the report will ultimately help inform recommendations to the Council as to which alternative housing approaches are best supported and how.

With the Council having approved a staged loan, pre-application consenting and project promotion advice has been provided to support the Ōtāutahi Urban Guild's alternative housing project on Madras Street (formerly the BREATHE housing demonstrator site).



People continued (January – June 2020)

Events Programme

Within the January to March period a number of major and community events were held in the Central City. Key Council-produced events include the Lazy Sundays, attracting just over 14,000 attendees, and Yes Power Sparks which attracted 40,000 attendees.

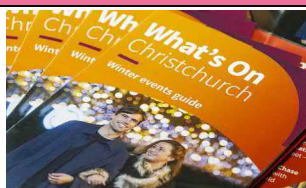
COVID-19 restrictions impacted events from late March onwards including the customary ANZAC day gathering. Some events have been reimagined like Botanic D’Lights (scheduled for August) being converted into Christchurch is Lit (to be reported in the July to December biannual report), but others such as the Canterbury Agricultural Show (in November) have already been cancelled.

Note: this report does not include the events run by other agencies such as Christchurch NZ, events outside the Central City or those that are reported elsewhere. For Christchurch NZ events refer to <https://www.christchurchnz.com/explore/whats-on>



Event Name	Event Date	Anticipated Attendance	Event Attendance	Funded or Produced
Lazy Sundays	12/01/20 - 23/02/20	14,000	14,150	Produced
Ziggy Starlet and the RDY Micro Sound System	17/01/20	300	300	Funded
Summer Theatre	29/01/20—16/02/20	6,000-10,000	7,128	Produced
Waitangi Day Festival	6/02/20	5,000-10,000	12,000	Funded
Yes Power, Sparks	15/02/20	40,000-60,000	40,000	Produced
SALTY Buskers Club	20/02/20—23/02/20	500-2,000	2200	Funded
Canterbury Earthquake National Memorial	22/02/2020	500 -2,000	700	Produced
Summertimes Brass in the City	23/02/2020	300 -500	500 -1,000	Produced
Holi Festival of Colours 2020	28/02/2020	12,000-15,000	12,000-15,000	Funded
ANZAC Day Dawn Service	25/04/2020	3,000	Cancelled: COVID-19	Produced

Marketing and Promotions



The cross-agency **Central City Promotions Group** continues to meet to look at joint projects, sharing resources, and aligning campaigns with the timing of key Central City events.

Council-led 'Explore' marketing campaign initiated in 2018/19 has been extended through to summer 2020. Drawing on the ChristchurchNZ city brand it offers helpful information about getting in and around the Central City.

What's On Christchurch and Summertimes – Summer events guide and social media promotion of Central City events with options for travelling into the Central City. The promotion ran through December 2019 to March 2020.

KidsFest— Family friendly events in the Central City are promoted through social media and [KidsFest webpage](#). Over 210 events occurred over 15 days between 4—19 July 2020 in popular destinations such as the Christchurch Art Gallery and Tūranga.

CHCH IS LIT celebrates our local light artists and creative minds with a series of light installations, interactive displays and projections around the Central City. Promotion launched in June for this event which ran throughout July.



People continued (January – June 2020)

Smart Christchurch Programme

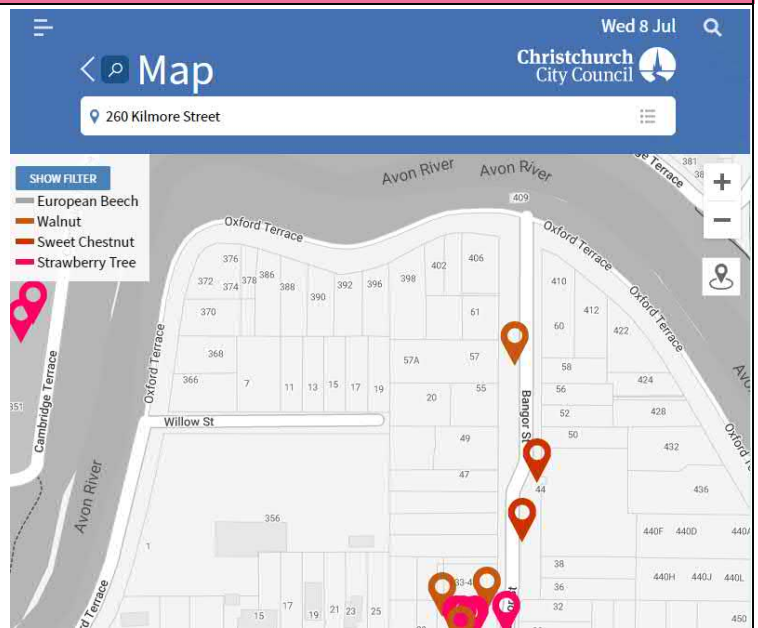
Within the January to June 2020 period, key updates for the Smart Christchurch Programme in the Central City includes the development of a graffiti recognition tool that uses artificial intelligence and machine learning to identify and track recidivist graffiti offenders across the city and also the trialling of auto pothole recognition software developed in partnership with the University of Canterbury that uses video footage, LIDAR and machine learning to automatically identify potholes, cracking and other road imperfections.

The Smart Christchurch programme won the Public Safety – Disaster Response/Emergency Management category at the IDC Smart City Asia/Pacific Awards (SCAPA) with the Council's earthquake response network, EQNet, at the start of June. EQNet is a network of more than 150 ground-based accelerometers which measures earthquake intensity and delivers immediate information on the likely building and infrastructure response.

Smart View

Smart View pulls together real-time data from a range of public and private organisations, making information easy for locals and visitors to access. The web app includes easy access to information about water and air quality data, the location of water fountains and public toilets and cycle routes. This is an important resource for visitors to find information about the Central City.

The web app has had an average number of 277 users per day and a total of 298,906 page views over the 6 month period. This represents an increase of 240% over the previous 6 month period. This increase was mainly due to the release of a new data set at the start of the year that showed fruit and nut trees on public land. This proved very popular with the public and this interest resulted in segments on 1 News at 6pm, Radio New Zealand and a number of other media outlets.



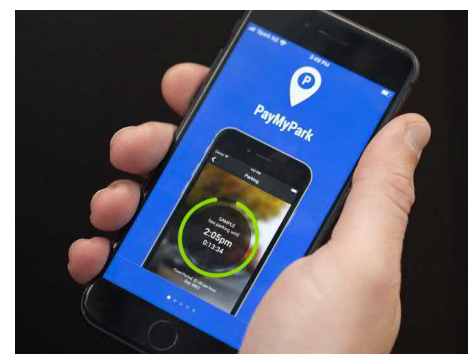
Transport

Parking payment app: A pay by mobile app called PayMyPark was launched at the start of the year. The app enables people to pay for on-street parking both on-site and remotely. This is a 12 month trial and a decision will be made on a longer term solution at the conclusion of the trial. More information on our webpage: <https://ccc.govt.nz/transport/parking/parkingmeters>

Parking sensors: A number of options to measure parking occupancy are being trialled across the Central City. 50 parking sensors were installed on St Asaph and Lichfield Streets at the end of 2019 allowing visitors to view real-time carpark occupancy on these streets.

A further 35 are scheduled to be installed on electric vehicle parks throughout the Central City during July which will enable drivers to find available EV parking bays as well as giving Council valuable utilisation data. The Smart Christchurch program is in discussion with two vendors on trialling camera based occupancy technology.

Pedestrian cameras: A number of cameras are measuring pedestrian numbers across the Central City. This information is able to be used to show pedestrian flows and peaks over seasons and events. Page 9 of this report features some of the pedestrian data which is also available on the [Central City Insights and Monitoring](#) webpage.



Getting it Done

Delivery of Major Projects

Despite disruption caused by the COVID-19 lockdown, a number of significant Central City developments were delivered over the January to June period.

In February, Ōtākaro completed works on the Avon Loop pathway which runs along Oxford Terrace between Kilmore Street and Fitzgerald Avenue. The redevelopment includes a cycle and pedestrian route, new lighting, boardwalks and a kayak launching ramp. The pathway provides an important connection between the completed City Promenade and the Residential Red Zone. Around 17,000 new plants will be added to the Avon Loop later in the year.

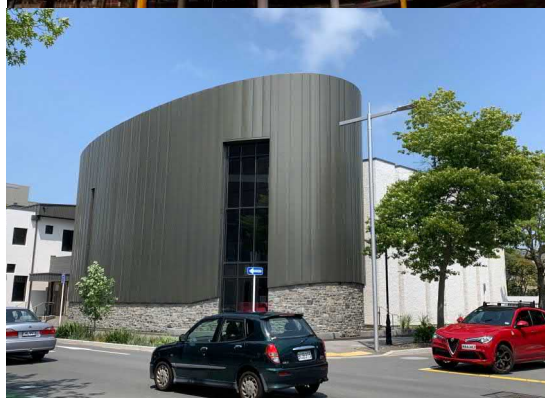
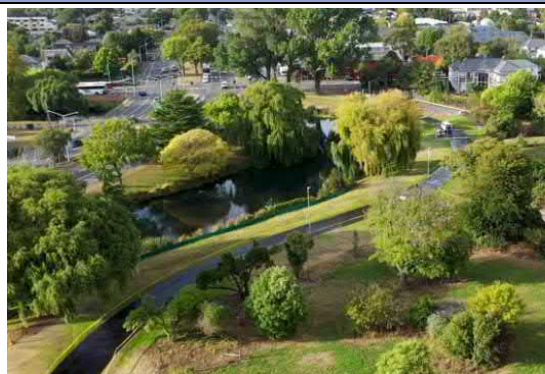
The Durham Street Methodist Church opened in late February. The new building was designed by Christchurch architects Wilkie and Bruce and further enhances the city's cultural offering.

The Spark Building, overlooking Cathedral Square, opened in early March. The completion of this building has seen a significant boost to the city-based work force, who in-turn help to support the Central City retail and hospitality sectors. Work also commenced in March to rebuild the earthquake-damaged Edmonds Bank Rotunda and restore it to its original use as a performance venue.

Progress on major Anchor projects was disrupted by COVID-19

- Halted construction work means that the expected completion of Te Pae by October has now been pushed back to some time in 2021.
- No announcement has yet been made about the impact of COVID-19 delays on the opening date of the Metro Sports facility.

Over the COVID-19 lockdown period, the Council submitted the Canterbury Multi-Use Arena as a 'Shovel Ready Project' for potential inclusion in a list of major capital projects that could stimulate the economy and generate jobs.



Activity	Who	When
Major Public Facilities and Buildings		
Durham Street Methodist Church	Methodist Church	Opened February 2020
Edmonds Band Rotunda	CCC	2020
Te Pae Convention Centre	Otakaro Ltd	2021 (COVID delayed)
Metro Sports Facility	Otakaro Ltd	2021/22 (COVID delayed)
Canterbury Multi Use Arena	TBC	Winter 2023
Selected Commercial/Attraction Projects		
Ballantynes Redevelopment	Ballantynes	Completed May 2020
Spark Building	Nexus Point Ltd	Opened March 2020
The Muse Boutique Hotel (Manchester St)	Box112	Opened May 2020
The Terrace Multi Story Car Park	The Terrace	Winter 2020
Public Trust Building (Welder)	Box112	Winter 2020
Braided Rivers (Aotea Gifts)	Redson Corp	Summer 2020/21
Old Post Office	G Chamberlain	On Hold
Ravenscar House Museum	Canterbury Museum	2020
Public Realm		
Avon River Precinct – Avon Loop	Ōtākaro Ltd	Opened February 2020
South Frame	Ōtākaro Ltd	Winter 2020

(Dates above are based on direct or best available sources.)