Share Your Voice – Parks and open spaces

Thanks to everyone who came along to the “Share Your Voice” sessions about development in eastern Porirua. At these sessions people talked about what was important to them and what they valued – and shared their ideas and concerns, and hopes, dreams and aspirations for the future.

We’ve put together what you said under topic headings: getting around, parks and open spaces, environment (plants and wildlife), town centres, housing, community facilities, hot topics, bright ideas and accessibility.

This document outlines what people said about the parks and open spaces – some of this may also overlap with other topics or belong in more than one place. All of the feedback will be used to inform planning and design and will be added to as more sessions are held.
Cannons Creek

- Safety with public convenience facilities
- Good amount of trees and flower gardens parks and open spaces at Waitangirua where many people live
- Facilities for walking/cycling, not so car-centric roads in new development
- Cycleways clean! Clean water clean spaces. Native trees. Toilets
- Good to see a lot of green areas around, also good to enjoy playing and visiting nice places within parks. Let's put a lot of culture things in parks, so it's good to people for visit
- More parks built close to where the community live so the kids can easily access it, to reduce spending time on watching tv or playing games on phone
- Safe parks for children and families to enjoy. Plenty of seating for parents to watch while interacting with children
- Safer spaces for kids to play. More security aka lighting, restrictions
- Safety? Set in place at a lot of parking and parks. Walking areas matter for safety, especially for young girls
- Parks accessible to people with disabilities. AEG defibrillators on site, plus first aid facilities. Signage to overcome literacy issues. Rest stop seating. Or seating that accommodates wheelchairs, or walking canes. People with chronic conditions cannot climb up many stairs
- Better pathway in Cannons Creek Park, because now the pathway is too wet and not suitable for cycling and walking. Join the Cannons Creek Park and Bothamley Park. Driver Crescent has no lighting!!! Don't like some people. The Porirua College – why do they choose other schools?
- Aotea Lagoon open space. Safe places (access to parks need to be safe) eg dog security
- Connecting groups, community hubs, networking, parks
- Kids and adults need open areas to relax and socialise
- Lots of close green spaces within the housing area. Community gardens. Accessible playgrounds. Socialising areas for families. BBQ etc. Shade. Green corridors
- More weatherproof surfaces on walking tracks everywhere around eastern Porirua
- Cannons Creek lake – safety walking through lake especially elderly – my mom loves to walk there. my dad uses the roadway
- Connecting parks. Walkways. Cannon’s Creek to Bothamley Park
- Champion – petrol station walking into park. Security
- Alternative ways to use the parks, not to reduce the parks for the growth of the city. Green spaces included in the plan. Have opportunities for selling – markets and fairs, coffee and food
- Upgrade facilities in the parks for families, ie toilets, lights, fences Not to reduce open spaces. Create cultural spaces that reflect our different cultures. Performance Sievers Park – BBQ. Utilise the trees; light sculptures or walkway
- Proper parks for children to play, good safe access to recreational equipment
- Integrate cycleways into transport network to link parks and open spaces
- There needs to be a better prevention and solution to stop motorbikes coming through Bothamley Park as they are still avoiding/ignoring the signage that has already been placed at each entrance
- Papakianga-type housing with shared, accessible open spaces
In areas where there's a high concentration of houses, buildings that are attractive green luscious spaces with recreational equipment becomes the central point – it breaks up idea of being "hidden away". Families connection point – responsibility community

More parks maintained for families to use eg vandalism – more protected fenced – open space "safe" for children. More access – more playgrounds for children in the Cannons Creek area, Hampshire

Cannons Creek Park is so wet, bad for cycling /walk

Make Porirua Park a genuinely regional facility. More seats

Multipurpose multi-level Creek festival. Concerts

Driver Cres. No public transport service. Just school bus

Connect Bothamley Park and Cannons Creek Park

Cannons Creek town centre – park behind "deep water dangerous"

Inevitability of earthquakes risk of tsunami

Used to swim in Cannons Creek and get fish and chips with bus money. Good times! Walk home along creek

The good old days living here – Adventure Drive area

Fruit trees especially lemons and apples

Good feeling and apple picking Open steps up from safety perspective by Cannons Creek lakeside reserve

Waitangirua

Athletics fields in Waitangirua

Repainting and broken things need to be repaired faster

800m rule ie all houses must be within 800m of parks etc

Bothamley Park pathway improved for all-year-round connected access to all open spaces

All parks should have community useful gardens eg harakeke and kukau for weaving: flowers for eg, watercress/puha for eating

Can council and the Government share responsibility for school playgrounds? Eg multi-use spaces used more often?

A waterpark with musical instruments. We want to see lots of caterpillars and butterflies on the plants

Parks clean of rubbish and yucky stuff

Design a dedicated place for trail bikes to keep them out of Bothamley Park

More exercise equipment at parks

More walking tracks with easy access

Sign post with signs in multiple languages

Good lighting

Waitangirua playground is too narrow and too close to the road
• Flood lights that can be switched on (like at Aotea Lagoon) at Ascot Park concert and playground areas because I’d rather see kids/teens playing outside even in the evenings, than sitting inside or doing undesirable activities
• Walkway to be better up to Ascot Park water tank / trig station from Papakōwhai side and signage of pathway route with the distances etc
• Full size trampolines in every new playground
• Big parks – don’t make them smaller
• Close parking for less able, elderly, young parents include covered areas with toilets
• Places where elderly can do indoor seated activities while more able can enjoy open spaces
• Picnic spaces for families
• There are parks that need BBQ areas in Cannons Creek and more fun stuff for families like a little splash pad for toddlers with community fundraisers in mind
• Allotments to support food growing for families without land, and how to manage them
• Cultural importance of outdoor spaces for gatherings
• A Waitangirua CBD type of chill-out space with good lighting. Tend to be a concert or sport/rec areas, need more relaxing areas
• Heaps of fruit and nut trees in all of the parks. It will reduce hunger among children in eastern Porirua #foodsoverignty
• Aotea block needs one or two roads to link with Rānui, Cannons Creek east so children can walk to school, creates better walking and biking links
• Pathways within parks that don’t get mucky/wet. More suitable for the elderly
• Smaller playground equipment and resources at parks for under 5s
• Beautiful botanical scented flowers trees vegetables, waterfall featuring, amazing table seating for youth children natural play
• Provide shade areas
• Safety for families using our children’s parks. More lighting up of areas to prevent vandalism and antisocial activities
• Community space within neighbourhoods
• For families not to be able to attend these hui, enlist church and sports group leaders to engage them in their homes for their input on ideas in their own neighbourhoods
• Clean rivers from Waitangirua to Bothamley Park
• Access for fire trucks into the park to put out fires
• Need better parks and open spaces. Nothing there for me with disabilities
• No seating areas for disabilities
• All the parks and sport fields around Waitangirua don’t accommodate for wheelchairs and mobility scooters. No hard surfaces to park mobility scooter
• Cannons Creek Pool – no access for please with disabilities

Rānui
• Memorial spaces, forests, chairs, plaques, rongoa forest, planting as communities, bird sanctuary. Belmont + Zealandia
• I want more trampolines and flying foxes
• Another Zealandia in lower Cannons Creek valley (bird sanctuary) guided bush walk up the valley
• Mungavin park RRA has been trying to get this upgraded for years. Mungavin house make it a feature like Gear Homestead with history plaques. Mungavin stream need help planting/walkway sealing
• Cleaning out the sediment in the bottom lake at Cannons Creek lakes reserve
• It is important to have more playgrounds for kids around city. Not many in Rānui centre will be great as I am trying to spend time with family and my children
• Family friendly multi-purpose intergenerational spaces – picnic areas/BBQ + seating (covered) – sports + recreational facilities – well maintained – fruit trees
• Because it’s fun! slides and swings!
• Public toilet at Calliope Park
• 85% of Creek under 25 they need to harbour somewhere safely & have stuff to do hub/fale/marae/more shelter to hang.
• Adrenalin Park or pines being culled on Creek Park. Green spaces are so important. Less rubbish trees more natives more orchards/community gardens (markets)
• Multi-use tracks that are safe & easily accessible (running, cycling, walking, dog walking)
• Accessible spaces/parks/walkways.
• Outdoor swimming pools flying foxes! swings! slides. Natural playgrounds. Rock walls. BBQ, picnic areas. Speakers.
• Protect nature reserves
• Make Cannons Creek lakes actual lakes – beautiful area make easier to access & more inviting & safe – enjoy boardwalks seats – gateway up to hill easier access, family friendly – promote/signpost eateries, education
• Develop the Cannons Creek lakes.
• Bike tracks for recreation – Belmont hills – preserve the current green spaces. Cannons Creek park, Belmont Hills, Bothamley Park, Thompsons Gully make accessible but preserve wilderness
• Zip line, luge, Calliope Park toilets electric bike/scooter parks + road. Bike pump at parks for bikes & prams
• More plays areas. More BBQ & picnic areas. Better paths through Bothamley Park
• Clean up Cannons Creek lakes reserve. Lots of rubbish to go – could be nice for lunch or picnic
• Safe walkways between school & shops
• Swings and playground at Waihora Park
• Aotea Lagoon maintenance (cleaning out)
• BBQ & seating in Calliope Park use photos of Porirua (Cannons Creek & Waitangirua) on consultation cards to reinforce genuine desire to connect with local community
• Where is Ngāti Toa? Their trees their whenua their thoughts
• Defibrillator and wheel chair charger on Bothamley Park. Bike pump (on Coutts street Kilbirnie under airport good example)
• Bring the lake (creek) back to original state of wellbeing.
• Belmont hills need more support, with planting (friends of Moara Poa) between Waihora/
- Driver Cres in desperate need of upgrade of look, stream needs to be celebrated community
- Fire pit, places for all diversities to sit and anyone.
- More festivals celebrating nature eg silent discos (headphones)
- Art, heaps of art. Bomb walls for future artists more access to Belmont Park, tours up & over to korokoro etc. need to be spiritually cleared from history eg old pa up Sievers leaves unsettled houses in the present recycled energy like suicide etc
- Parks that fit ages – old, teen, preschool
- Easier access to Bothamley Park. Biking in Bothamley Park with rough track in places. Passive bike and walking areas along Warspite Avenue. Encourage village feel but people can easily work in the area & develop business sustainability
- Sports fields we have are good and well maintained – reasonable amount, high quality

**Ascot Park**
- Don’t seal the walkways, roads and tracks within Bothamley Park but perhaps kept with fine gravel instead. Because families & all ages/abilities use this park – please we don't want more speed from bikes bicycles etc keep it safe for everyone!!!
- Better play spaces for the kids. Good: Mungavin Park – Calliope Park. Bad: Sievers Reserve
- Managing the stormwater. Lots of stormwater goes into Bothamley Park and can cause problems – wash out paths.
- Clear out the stream of rubbish.
- Connectivity to the regional park
- Encouraging Bothamley Park as a destination because it’s our local shared 'backyard'. Support for more community initiated events that draw people into the park who live within walking distance
- Investing money and time into Cannons Creek lake. Opening up more family friendly spaces eg Adventure Park (Margaret Mahy Park in Christchurch).
- Parks and spaces near our waterways.
- Network of connected cycle ways that are safe eg underpass on Warspite between Bothamley Park & the Kura
- I want to improve the pool
- Pedestrian & cycle friendly no-car zones.
- Good access to Bothamley Park especially from the East.
- Parks with more activity. Creating stations of sports/athletic fun/exercise. Think big :)
- Cannons Creek make the cage amazing: flat surface to play B’ball on. Upgrade the playground integrate whānau space. BBQ
- Taking time to ensure new basketball hoops are decent hoops. Hoops that are too high or hard aren’t enjoyable to play on
- In central Cannons Creek activity spaces for youth (other than the cage!) i.e. skateboard park – exercise machines (like at the lagoon/Jasmine Underhill. Adding more equipment to the new Bedford playground which only has 3 pieces of play equipment
- Lots of lighting so people feel safe moving through parks
- Bothamley Park – more exits from Bothamley Park – safety. Castor Crescent etc. A 'third place' – communal space where people enjoy outdoors.
- Decent seating & fruit trees, blackberries valuable. 'getting into nature'
- 1. More lights in open spaces especially corners of parks and gateway/entry to laneways and alleys.
- 2. Rubbish bins along Bothamley Park
3. Adequate seating in open spaces – nice to sit down and enjoy the view and environment – promoting use of space (adequately spaced out)
   • Green room! Indoor sports facility with astroturf grass for kids to be able to train indoor during wet weather

**Lao community**
   • More space – looking after our people is extremely important
   • Community land where people can hold allotments to grow their own food

**Parks and open spaces**
   • Family friendly parks for the family – BBQs and kids play areas
   • Improved access to protected areas, make more use of them for everyone
   • More local facilities – picnic tables
   • Sealed pathway through to Bothamley Park with lights and more access
   • Fruit trees in Bothamley Park, on berms
   • Transform Cannons Creek lake like Aotea Lagoon

**New migrants**
   • Good for exercise and rest
   • More plants and open spaces would be good
   • Parks that will be good for children’s holidays and get cleaned often
   • Need more public toilets and needs to be clean
   • More play parks for little ones and bigger children – make it more good or them
   • More picnic and barbeque spots
   • Outdoor space for exercise e.g. outdoor exercise machines
   • Places to play basketball and volleyball, football pitches etc
   • I want sport equipment’s for all sports in the park and gym in Cannons Creek – free park for training with the team
   • A park for athletics – running track, high jump and marathon runner
   • Playground, sports venues, water zones and ponds
   • Need more bike parks, skate parks and riding tracks
   • More parks near houses