

Te Ara Tukutuku

Concept Design Summary of Public Feedback

Summary of Engagement

August 2024

850,000

people reached via social media, radio, media and ads

1,231

people visited the AK Have Your Say Te Ara Tukutuku page

7,095

people visited the Eke Panuku Te Ara Tukutuku project webpage

712

comments received

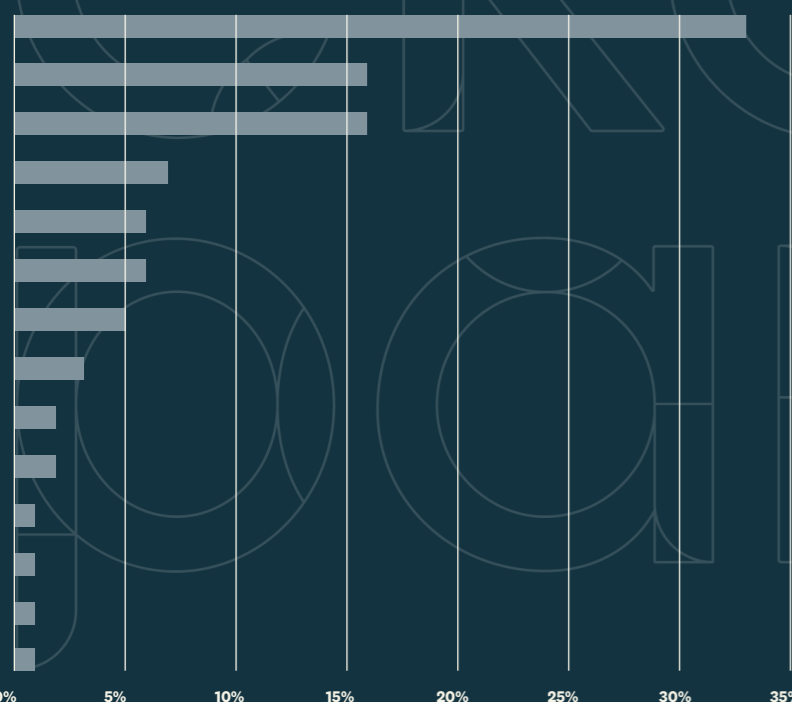
over **3,000**

people came along to engagement events

87%

of comments were aligned with the direction of the draft concept designs

Feedback themes



- General support
- Recreational activities
- Natural environment
- Access
- Built environment
- Guardianship
- Regenerative and Mātauranga Māori approach
- Costs
- Progress updates
- General, not in support
- Safety
- History
- Events
- Other

Thank you for coming on this journey to reconnect people to Te Waitematā.

Te Ara Tukutuku project is regenerating the northern end of Wynyard Quarter to create a beautiful new waterfront destination for the people of Tāmaki Makaurau. The vision for this space is to lift, restore and enhance the mauri (life essence) of the moana (harbour) and whenua (land) so the tangata (people) can return.

The draft concept designs outline how this will happen over the next 10-15 years. We've heard most people are supportive of the direction proposed, and these are the things you're most excited about.

- Getting involved in planting and marine restoration
- Having more green space and native trees in the city centre
- The regenerative and Mātauranga Māori approach to healing the space
- New walking and cycling paths
- Having places to swim and engage with the moana
- Offering support for Te Ara Tukutuku to happen sooner
- All of it!!

Contents

Summary of Public Feedback

1. Developing Te Ara Tukutuku concept designs

2. Overview of Feedback

3. Feedback

Alignment with Direction of Te Ara Tukutuku concept designs
Feedback Themes Summary

4. Analysis of Themes

General support
Natural environment
Recreation
Access
Built environment
Guardianship
Regenerative and Mātauranga Māori approach
Make it happen sooner
General, not in support
Project updates
Events
Costs
Safety
History
Other

5. What We'll Do with Your Feedback



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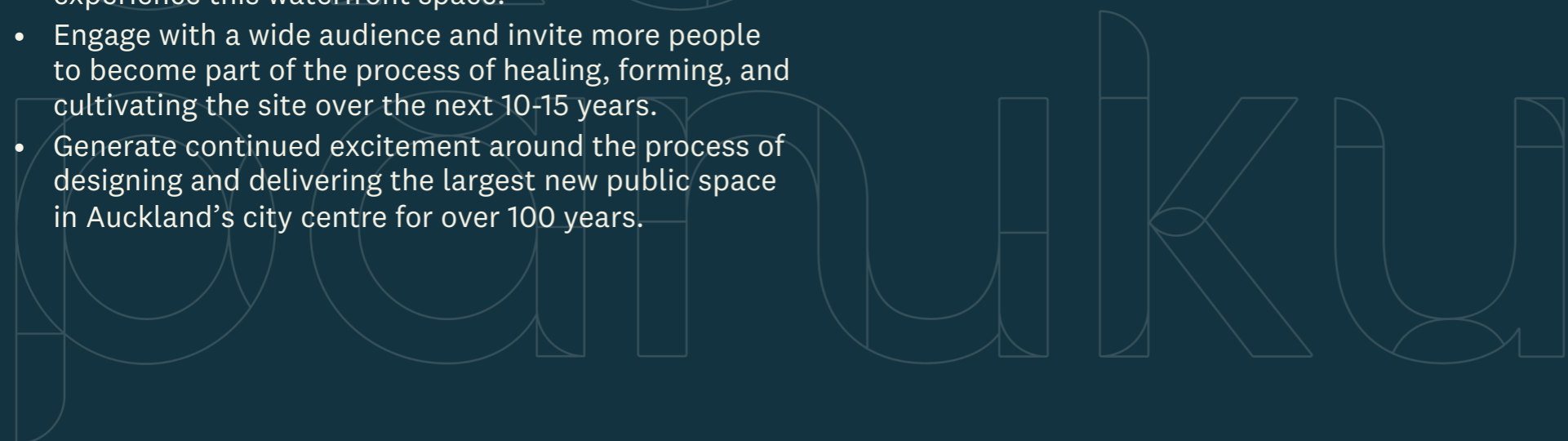
1. Developing Te Ara Tukutuku Concept Designs

From March to September 2023, Eke Panuku, Mana Whenua representatives and design consortium Toi Waihanga continued the co-design mahi of Te Ara Tukutuku - delving deeper into the key issues identified in Te Ara Tukutuku Plan, framing a vision for the future of this space, and commencing the restorative process for the whenua (land) and moana (harbour).

During October and November 2023, we shared the vision for Te Ara Tukutuku Project with the people of Tāmaki Makaurau for feedback during this early design phase. Following endorsement of the vision for Te Ara Tukutuku project in December 2023, the co-design mahi continued. From February to July, the team developed draft concept designs to bring the vision to life.

Throughout August 2024, we shared the draft concept designs and asked for feedback on the direction of Te Ara Tukutuku. The purpose of sharing the draft concept designs and seeking feedback during this design phase was to:

- Understand whether the direction of the project continues to be aligned with how people want to experience this waterfront space.
- Engage with a wide audience and invite more people to become part of the process of healing, forming, and cultivating the site over the next 10-15 years.
- Generate continued excitement around the process of designing and delivering the largest new public space in Auckland's city centre for over 100 years.



2. Overview of Feedback

Channels

Feedback on the draft concept designs was sought via the following channels:

- Two open days at the project hub, 3 and 10 August 2024
- Auckland Conversations, 13 August 2024
- WQ Neighbours' Forum, 14 August 2024
- Unitec seminar, 29 August 2024
- Six engagement pop-ups, 9, 14, 21, 22, 24, 29 August 2024
- AK Have Your Say – online feedback, 1-31 August 2024

An estimated 850,000 people were reached through an extensive advertising campaign that underpinned the engagement period.

- Engagement opportunities and updates were shared via social media (including the Eke Panuku Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram and TikTok accounts).
- Media articles appeared in major news channels, ads featured across five key radio stations, social media and via digital street furniture.
- Information displays were prominent in city centre public spaces for the month of August.
- The project page on the Eke Panuku website was extensively updated, becoming a digital hub for project information.

Engagement Questions

The following questions were posed across the engagement channels:

1. What aspects are you most excited about?
2. How do the concept designs reflect the vision for a thriving foreshore and reconnecting the land and sea?
3. What are you interested in learning more about?
4. How would you like to get involved to help lift the mauri of (life essence) this area?
5. Is there anything else you would like to say about the draft designs?

Feedback Summary

Feedback was consistent across all channels and positive, with 87% of comments expressing support for the draft concept designs and direction of Te Ara Tukutuku. These supporting comments included a mix of general support for the project, support for the open space and natural environment, support for recreational activities and the regenerative and Mātauranga Māori approach to healing the space.

Ten per cent of comments were not in alignment with the project. These included a mix of people saying there should be more public space or other features (e.g. sports fields, playgrounds or car parking), and people saying the project was too expensive. The remaining 3% of comments were either neutral or a request for further information.

The aspects people expressed interest and excitement about are summarised below, listed in the order of most mentions.

- Everything!
- More green space in the city
- Places to swim and connect with the sea
- New paths to walk, run and cycle along
- The opportunity to learn more about the environment and get involved in planting and marine restoration
- The regenerative approach, integration of Mātauranga Māori principles and the connection between land and sea
- Spending time here in the future
- Getting involved in advocating for the project
- Receiving project updates.

3. Feedback

Feedback was analysed firstly by alignment with the direction of the draft concept designs for Te Ara Tukutuku, and secondly by theme. A qualitative interpretation of each comment was made for both parts of the analysis and verified by an independent party.

Alignment with the design direction of Te Ara Tukutuku

87% of comments were in alignment with the draft concept designs for Te Ara Tukutuku (79% were highly aligned and 8% were somewhat aligned). 10% of the comments were not in alignment with the draft concept designs. 3% of the comments were either neutral or a request for further information.

Table 1: Alignment with Te Ara Tukutuku draft concept designs

Assessment of alignment	Total	% of Total
Highly aligned	560	79%
Somewhat aligned	55	8%
Neutral	25	3%
Not aligned	72	10%
Total	712	100%

Feedback Themes Summary

A total of 712 comments and ideas were submitted online via AK Have Your Say and in person at 11 engagement events. All comments and ideas fell within 14 broad themes.

A more detailed analysis of themes is noted in Section 4.

- General support: 33%
- Recreational activities: 16%
- Natural environment: 16%
- Access: 7%
- Built environment: 6%
- Guardianship: 6%
- Regenerative and Mātauranga Māori approach: 5%
- Costs: 3%
- Progress updates: 2%
- General, not in support: 2%
- Safety: 1%
- History: 1%
- Events: 1%
- Other: 1%



4. Analysis of Themes

As outlined in Section 3, comments and ideas fell into 14 broad themes. The most commonly mentioned theme was 'general support' and the next two most frequently mentioned themes were recreational activities and the natural environment. Those three themes account for 65% of all comments.



General Support

A third of all comments (237) were highly positive and short, without additional details. They included the following direct quotes:

- “This exceeds all my expectations for this space”
- “Oh my God! Jumping for joy for this!”
- “This is the antithesis to a stadium and the right thing to do on this site”
- “Great! The city needs it. We need to pay for quality spaces”
- “It looks awesome, such a gift.”
- “Auckland needs an inner city park - this looks really good!”
- “Wonderful! Can we do this to the rest of the waterfront?”
- “Wish it would happen sooner”
- “It'll take a long time but it will be worth it”
- “Keep up this seriously awesome mahi!”
- “This is a beautiful, thoughtful design that has clearly been well-research and consulted.”

Recreational Activities

112 comments related to recreational activities that people would like to be involved in. Passive and unprogrammed recreation activities are more highly preferred, with just three comments noting a preference for sports fields and programmed sport. The list below starts with the activities mentioned the most and ends with those mentioned infrequently.

- Swimming and engaging with the sea, especially in the saltwater pools
- Walking and cycling around new paths
- Enjoying lots of different spaces within Te Ara Tukutuku
- Playing, especially on playgrounds and basketball courts
- Making use of the waka area
- Being part of a community garden group
- Spending quiet time with shade and shelter available
- Playing sport on a sports field
- Kayaking
- Launching a boat
- Fishing
- Using a running track

Natural Environment

The 111 comments related to the natural environment were predominantly about support for a significant new green space in the city and the connection to the sea.

- Support for more plants, trees and green space
- Support for the design enabling people to connect to sea
- Support for improving the health of the natural environment by assisting with tree planting and marine restoration
- Support for the positive connection between land and sea
- Other comments note support for increased birdlife and the need to relocate the nesting colony of red-billed gulls, support for interaction with the environment through development of the headland and coves and concern about sea level rise.

Access

52 comments related to access by pedestrians and vehicles which ranged in topics, including:

- Consider access via public transport, both buses and ferries
- Provide more car parking in the neighbourhood
- Good to see reduced provision for vehicles in the design
- Ensure good walking and cycling connections to the rest of the city centre
- Provide access for boats, small and large, in Jellicoe Harbour
- Bring back and extend the tram line
- Provide safe access for heavy wheelchairs and sight impaired people
- Fix the bridge (Wynyard Crossing)
- How will we get there?
- Is there conflict between users on Hamer Street?
- Ensure access for emergency services
- Provide access for food trucks
- Access to Hamer Street looks uninviting
- Underground the access to Hamer Street

Built Environment

There were 46 comments relating to the built environment. 25 were about the four development sites proposed for Te Ara Tukutuku, including 13 that said to reduce or remove the development sites. Other comments were varied.

- Reduce the scale of the development sites or remove them completely
- Include mixed use; include social housing
- I want to learn more about the development sites and strategy
- Ensure the public space has plenty of bench seats, toilets, wayfinding signage
- Include other features including an iconic building, a fountain, a gallery, a Māori Pasifika Museum, a community library

Guardianship

The 45 comments relating to guardianship covered a range of topics, including:

- Offers of assistance with tree planting and marine restoration
- Offers of assistance with advocacy and positive communication about the project
- Requests to be involved in activations during the development phase of Te Ara Tukutuku
- Support for educational activities
- Support for documenting risks and learnings
- Support for a community garden
- Thanks for involving people on the journey
- Make sure this space is taken care of

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Regenerative and Mātauranga Māori Approach

38 comments were received about the inclusion of Te Ao Māori values and the integration of Mātauranga Māori and a regenerative design approach that underpins the project.

- Support for the inclusion of Te Ao Māori values and the mauri framework
- Support for healing and returning life to the space
- Interest in learning more about the regenerative and Mātauranga Māori approach
- Support for the regenerative approach
- Support for working with Mana Whenua on this project

Costs

Twenty comments were received about costs. Ten comments noted the project is too expensive, seven comments noted a request for more information about costs, and three comments noted that costs to ratepayers could be reduced through development partnerships.

Progress Updates

Twelve comments were a request to receive progress updates as the project develops.

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General, not in Support

Twelve comments expressed a general lack of support for the project. The reasons are varied and noted below, including three direct quotes:

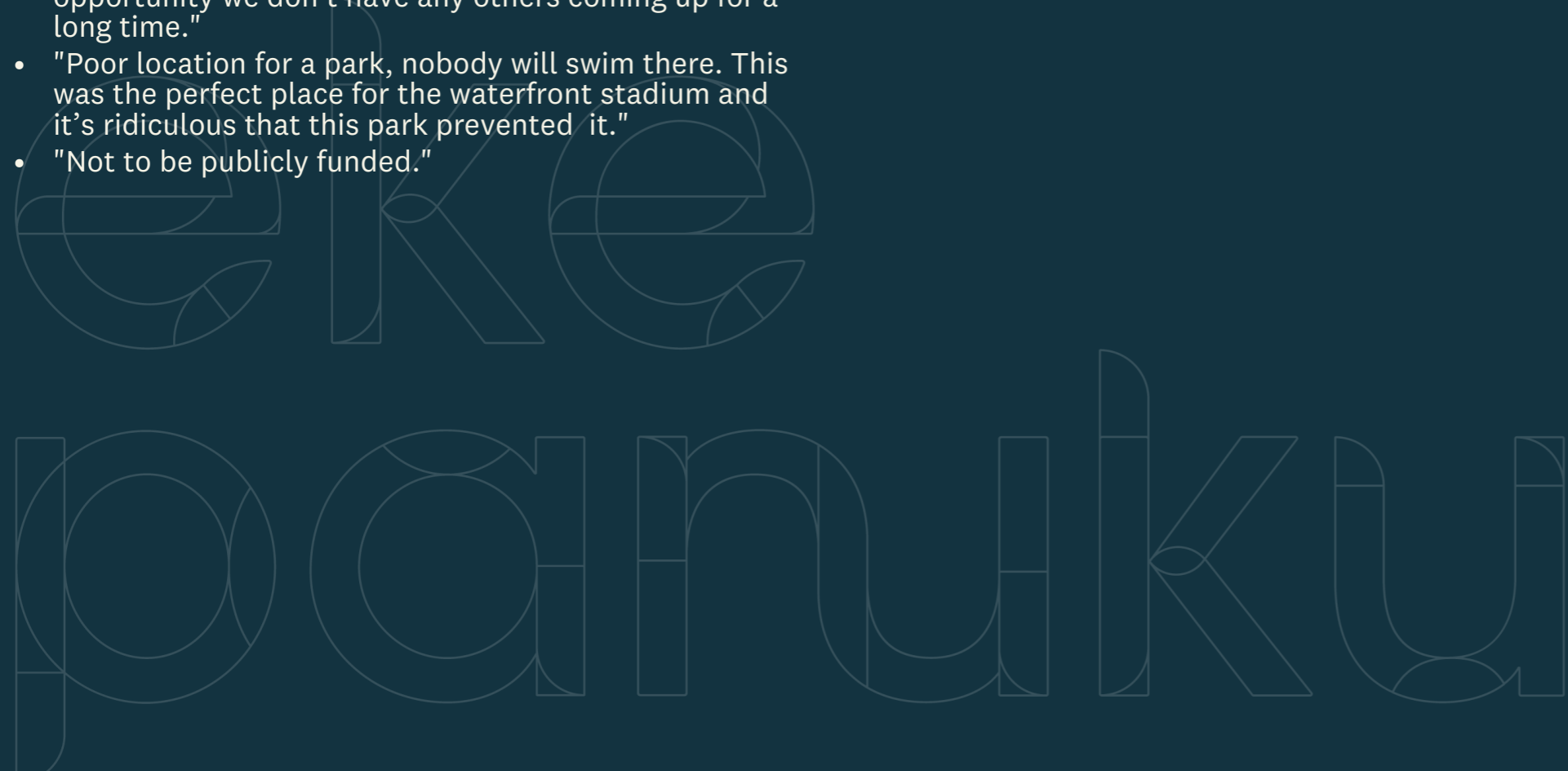
- The project is not a priority
- Support for a stadium instead
- There's nothing exciting, it has no wow, there are significant areas for improvement
- It's artificial, will be under water soon, the site is too windy
- "I'm interested in learning how this space will be wow. It's our perfect opportunity and the location and site is screaming for something big. If we miss this opportunity we don't have any others coming up for a long time."
- "Poor location for a park, nobody will swim there. This was the perfect place for the waterfront stadium and it's ridiculous that this park prevented it."
- "Not to be publicly funded."

Safety

The nine comments related to safety were about water safety, security, lighting and CCTV cameras.

History

Seven comments were received about history. Four requested the inclusion of historical references in the design and signage. Two people would like to learn more about the Māori history of the area and one person would like to learn about the history of the area.



Events

Of the six comments about events, three noted it would be a good place for events, one noted activations must be meaningful, one suggested having waka on the shore on Waitangi Day and one person requested information about the types of events that could be held here.

Other

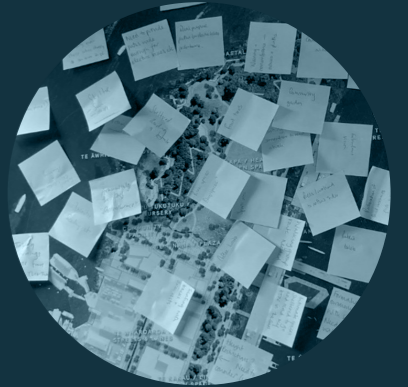
Five comments were made on topics other than those discussed above, including a question about a liquor ban and comments about the vision for Te Ara Tukutuku and the political risk for Auckland.



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5. What We'll Do with Your Feedback

Your feedback has been shared with the project team and minor updates to the designs have been made. The updated designs will be presented to the Eke Panuku Board for approval in October. If approval to continue design is given, the project team will further refine this beautiful space during the developed design phase and we will continue to keep you updated on progress.



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