Te Pūmanawa o Onehunga



Summary of feedback received during the Auckland Urban Development Office's public consultation from 3 August 2026 to 1 September 2026

Analysis by AUDO | Communications and Engagement

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Context

Public consultation is an important part of council decision-making and a requirement under the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA). Our decision-makers are required to carefully consider public feedback to understand community perspectives, priorities, and potential impacts of proposals. Consultation feedback is one source of information that decision-makers must consider. They must also consider other factors, including expert and technical advice, statutory and policy requirements, financial implications, and alignment with council's strategic objectives. Public consultation is not a representative survey of the population. Participation is voluntary, and responses generally come from people or groups that are more directly impacted or interested in the issue(s). Consultation results should not be interpreted as a referendum that requires decision-makers to follow the direction or sentiment of public feedback. Instead, consultation provides valuable feedback into the range and nature of public opinions, which supports more informed, balanced, and transparent decision-making by ensuring community views are heard and considered alongside other relevant factors.

Purpose of the report

The information in this report summarises feedback received during the consultation period of 3 August 2026 to 1 September 2026 regarding the designs for the Te Pūmanawa o Onehunga precinct in Onehunga. It aims to capture key themes regarding views and preferences rather than detailing every point of feedback received.

This report does not include any advice or recommendations for decision making.

Background

The Auckland Urban Development Office (AUDO), previously known as Eke Panuku, are working to enhance Onehunga as a great place to live, work, play, visit, and do business.

Meaning “the heart and essence of Onehunga”, Te Pūmanawa o Onehunga, located between Church Street and Princes Street, looks to create a central community area for Onehunga that builds on and connects to existing community facilities with the addition of new spaces and amenities.

Te Pūmanawa o Onehunga, located between Church Street and Princes Street, will create a well-connected central community area in Onehunga where people of all ages can meet and participate in a wide range of activities and events.

The first stage of the precinct will deliver:

- A new multi-purpose community hall, replacing the Pearce Street Hall, and
- A new town square, providing space for community events and gatherings in Onehunga.

Over the past few years, the AUDO has been working on early concepts for the precinct and gathering feedback from the community to help shape the design and layout. This includes surveying regular users of Pearce Street Hall to understand which facilities they value most and what they would like included in the new hall. Attending community events such as 312 Day, the Onehunga Festival, and Music on the Mall to hear what people would like to see in a town square. It also includes workshops with the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board, and meetings with the Onehunga Business Association, Member of the New Zealand Parliament for Maungakiekie, Bike Onehunga, the Onehunga Enhancement Society, and others, to work through the concept designs that were then shared with the community for public feedback in August 2026.

Summary

We asked the community for feedback on the first stage of the proposal, with designs for the town square and community hall shared. The consultation ran from 4 August - 1 September 2026 and had 250 submissions, that included:

- 190 online survey submissions
- 58 hard-copy submissions
- 2 email submissions

The consultation gave submitters the opportunity to provide feedback on the concept designs for the community hall and town square, along with providing suggestions for the wider area.

Overall, respondents were supportive of investment in Onehunga and the creation of a new town square and community hall, recognising the opportunity to revitalise the town centre and create a stronger community heart.

The most significant issue raised was availability of parking and accessibility, with concerns about parking loss, resulting impacts on local businesses, and access for older people, families and people with mobility needs.

Safety and anti-social behaviour was another dominant theme, with respondents seeking improved lighting, passive surveillance and measures to address rough sleeping. Many submitters requested more trees, shade and greenery, stronger walking and cycling connections, and more opportunities for markets, events, outdoor dining and community activities.

Feedback on the community hall was generally positive, with strong support for a flexible, accessible and multi-purpose facility. Respondents also emphasised the importance of integrating the project with wider town centre developments and ensuring the design reflects Onehunga's unique heritage, identity and community character.

Consultation overview

The consultation ran from 4 August - 1 September 2026 and people could provide their feedback using an online submission form (on the Have Your Say website) or a freepost form included in a project brochure.

Activities delivered to promote the consultation included:

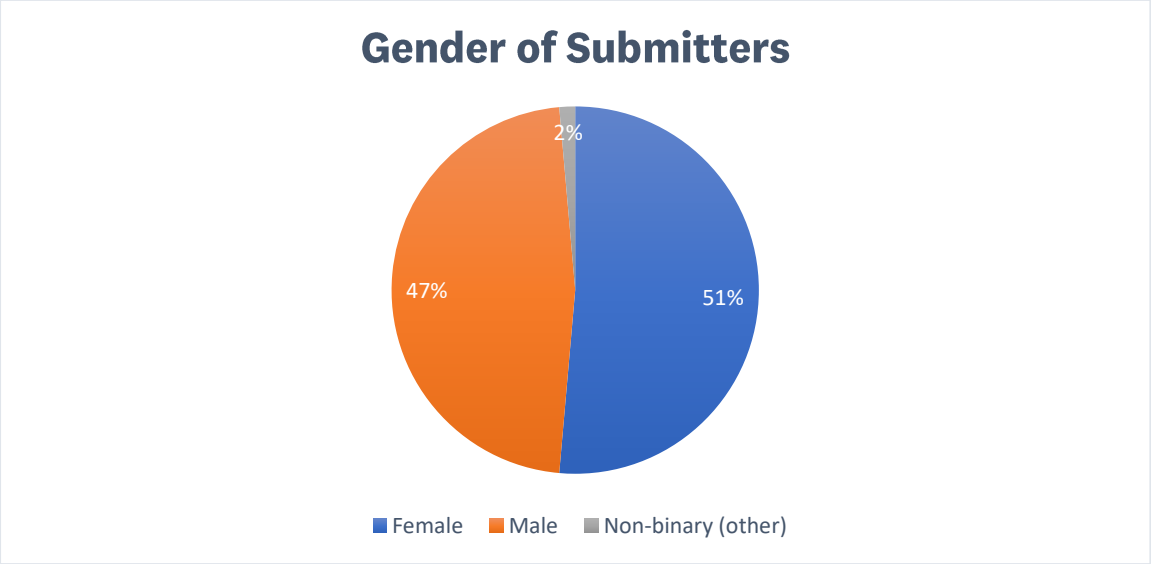
- A project webpage and an online feedback form on the AK Have Your Say website
- A physical project brochure with free post feedback form sent to the Onehunga community
- Brochures distributed to local businesses and the library and community centre
- Social media posts throughout the consultation, along with targeted advertised posts specific to those living in Onehunga
- A double page advert in the Onehunga Community News
- Street posters throughout the Onehunga town centre area
- A drop-in session for Onehunga Business Association members
- Two public drop-in sessions at Onehunga Library and Community Centre
- Information about the consultation shared directly with Pearce Street Hall via Auckland Council's Parks and Community Facilities team

Who we heard from

The following presents an overview of those who submitted feedback and their connections to Onehunga. Along with the questions around the designs of the community hall and town square, questions were also asked around submitters' connection to the area and how they get around the town centre. Not all submitters responded to each question.

Demographic questions

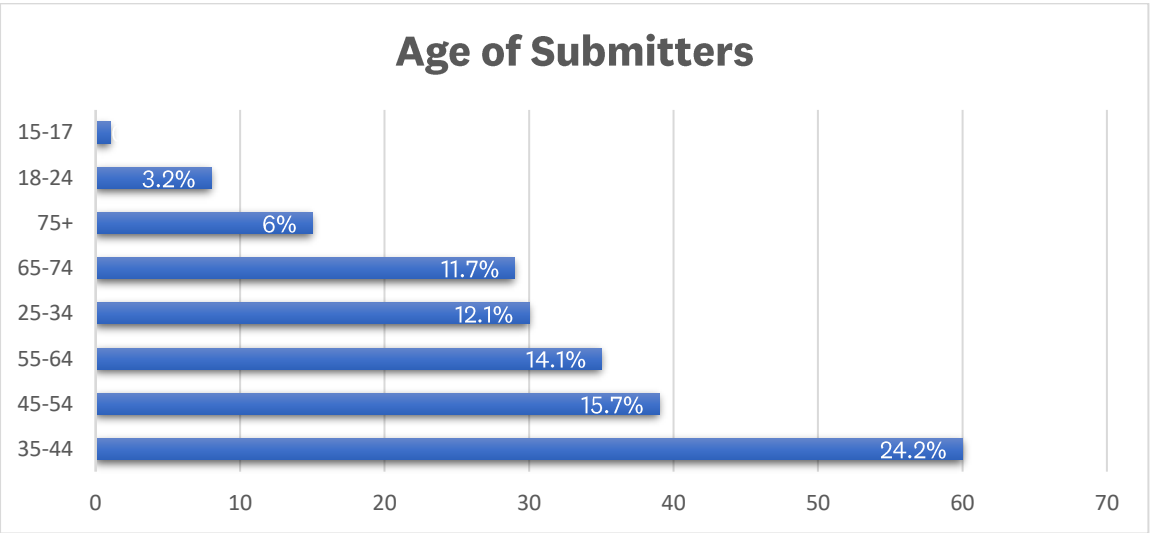
What gender are you?
Options: Male | Female | Other, please specify



Gender	Count	%
Female	111	44.8%
Male	102	41.1%
Non-binary (Other)	3	2%

Stats NZ Census area data from 2023 shows the Onehunga population has a relatively balanced gender profile. Females make up approximately 51.5% of residents, while males account for 48.5%, indicating a near-even gender distribution across the community.

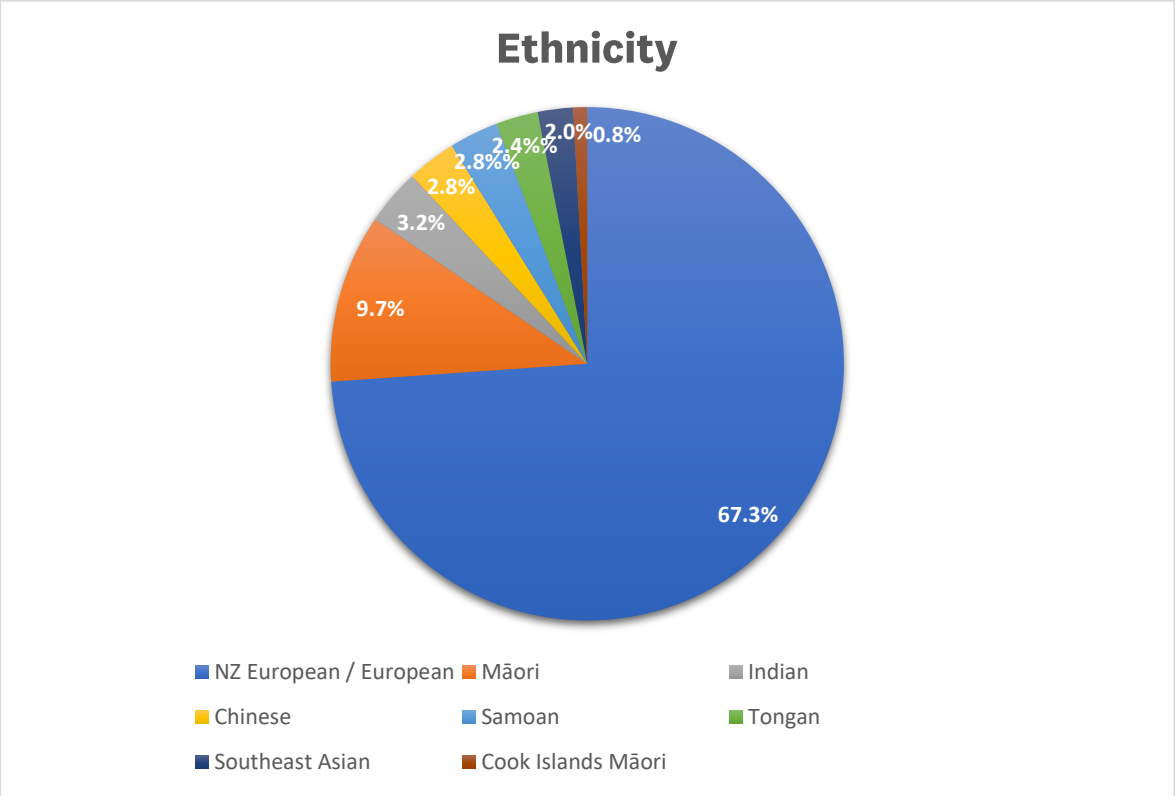
What age group are you?
Options: Under 15 | 15-17 | 18-24 | 25-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65-74 | 75



Age Group	Count	%
35-44	60	24.2%
45-54	39	15.7%
55-64	35	14.1%
25-34	30	12.1%
65-74	29	11.7%
75+	15	6.0%
18-24	8	3.2%
15-17	1	0.4%
Not stated	31	12.5%

The consultation was dominated by people aged 35+, who made up approximately 72% of all respondents. Stats NZ Census area data from 2023 shows Onehunga's largest age group being residents aged 30-39 years (22%), followed by those aged 40-49 years (17%). Young adults aged 20-29 years account for 13% of residents, while those aged 50-59 years also represent 13%. Older adults comprise a smaller but important share of the community, with 10% aged 60-69 years and 6% aged 70 years or older.

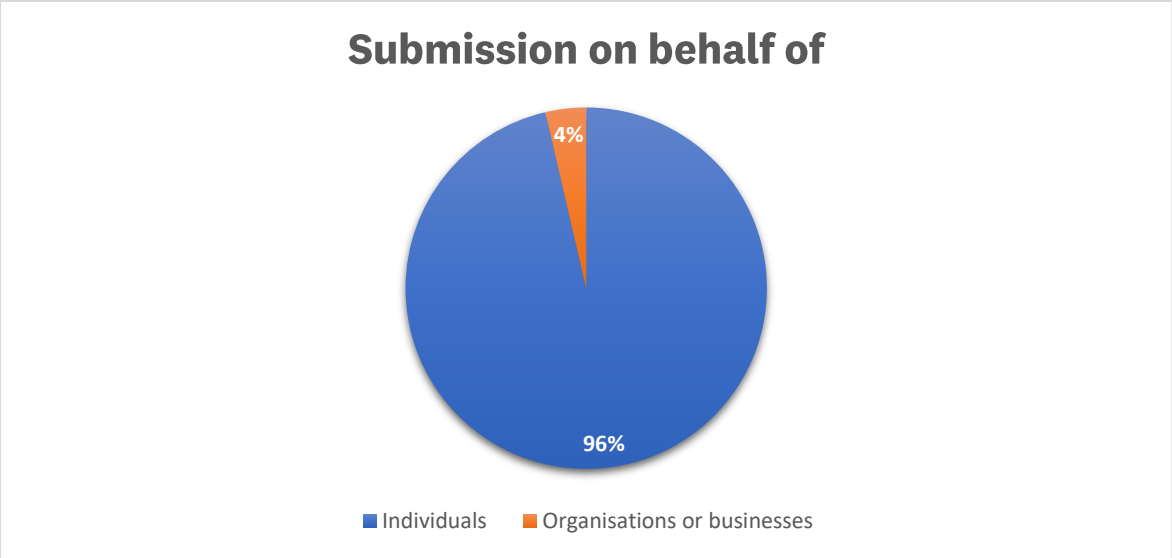
Which ethnicity group(s) do you belong to? (tick all that apply)
Options: NZ European/European | Māori | Cook Island Māori | Samoan | Tongan | Indian | Chinese | Southeast Asian | Korean | Other (please specify)



Ethnicity	Count	% of respondents
NZ European / European	167	67.3%
Māori	24	9.7%
Indian	8	3.2%
Chinese	7	2.8%
Samoan	7	2.8%
Tongan	6	2.4%
Southeast Asian	5	2.0%
Cook Islands Māori	2	0.8%

Stats NZ Census area data from 2023 for Onehunga shows European (55-65%), Asian (20-30%), Māori (10-15%), Pacific Peoples (10-15%), Middle Eastern, Latin American, African and other as (2-5%).

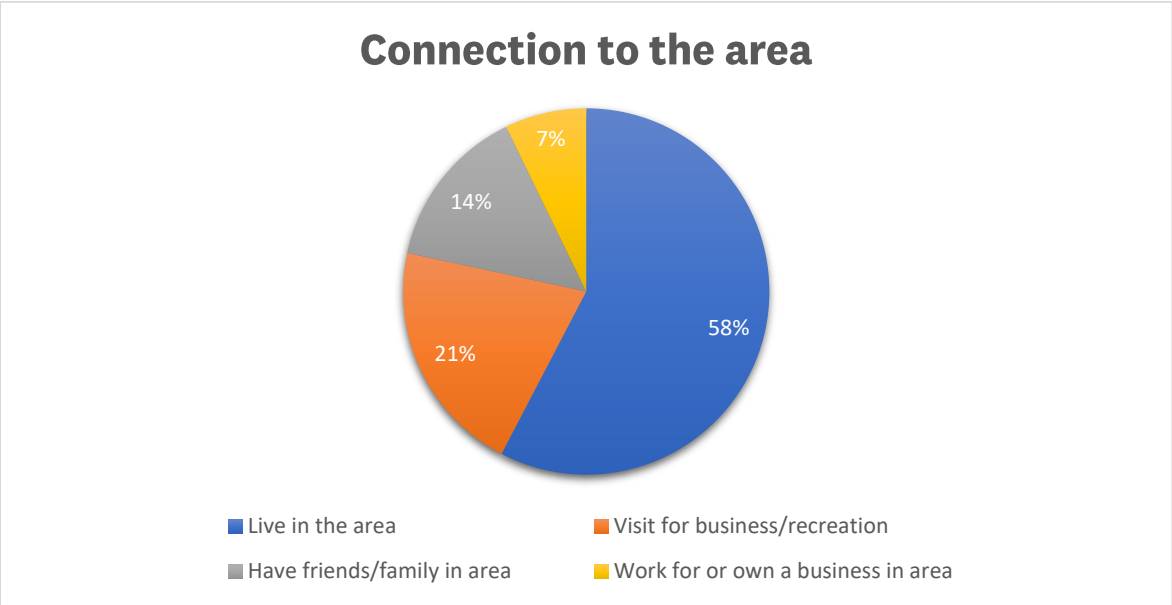
Is your submission as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?
Options: Your individual feedback | Feedback as the representative of an organisation or business



Submission type	Number of submissions	% of respondents
Individuals	239	96.4%
Organisations or businesses	9	3.6%
Total	248	100%

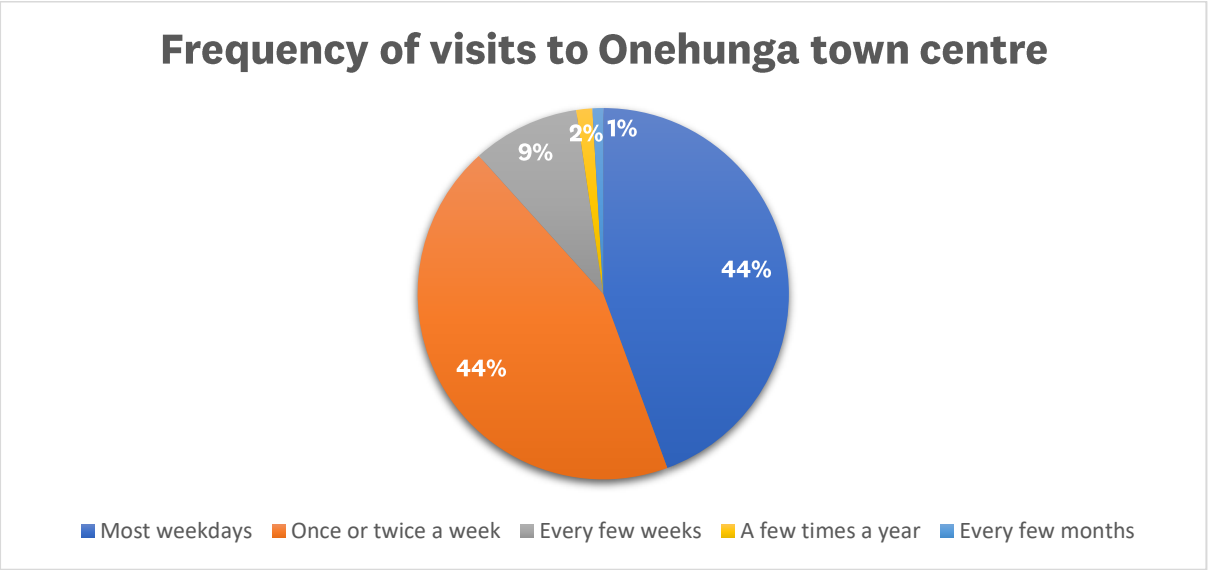
What is your connection to Onehunga? (tick all that apply)

Options: I live in the area | I work for or own a business in the area | I have family or friends in the area | I visit the area for business or recreation | Other, please specify



Connection	Number	% of respondents
Live in the area	192	77.4%
Visit for business/recreation	69	27.8%
Have friends/family in area	48	19.4%
Work for or own a business in area	24	9.7%

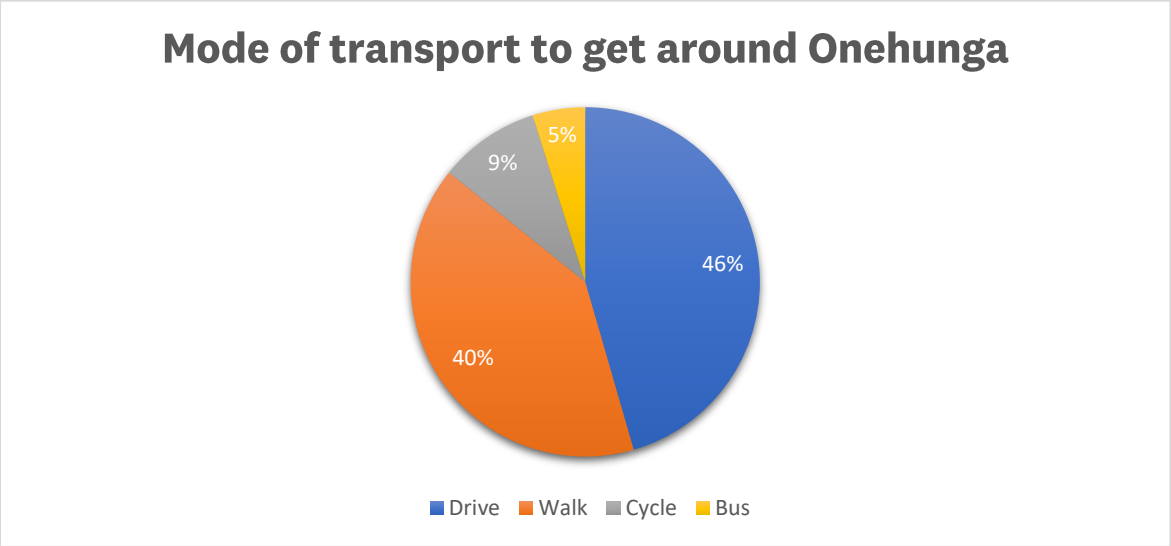
How often do you visit Onehunga town centre?
Options: Most weekdays | Once or twice a week | Every few weeks | Every few months | A few times a year | Other (please specify)



Frequency	Number	% of respondents
Most weekdays	95	38.3%
Once or twice a week	94	37.9%
Every few weeks	20	8.1%
Every few months	2	0.8%
A few times a year	3	1.2%
Not stated	34	13.7%

At least 76% of respondents visit the town centre weekly and on a frequent basis.

Which mode of transport do you use the most to get around Onehunga?
Options: Walk | Drive | Cycle | Bus | Other (please specify)



Mode	Count	%
Drive	112	45.2%
Walk	99	39.9%
Cycle	23	9.3%
Bus	12	4.8%

What we asked for feedback on

We sought feedback from the community on the designs for the town square and community hall, along with any additional feedback around the wider area. The feedback is intended to help shape the next phase of design.

The questions that were asked were:

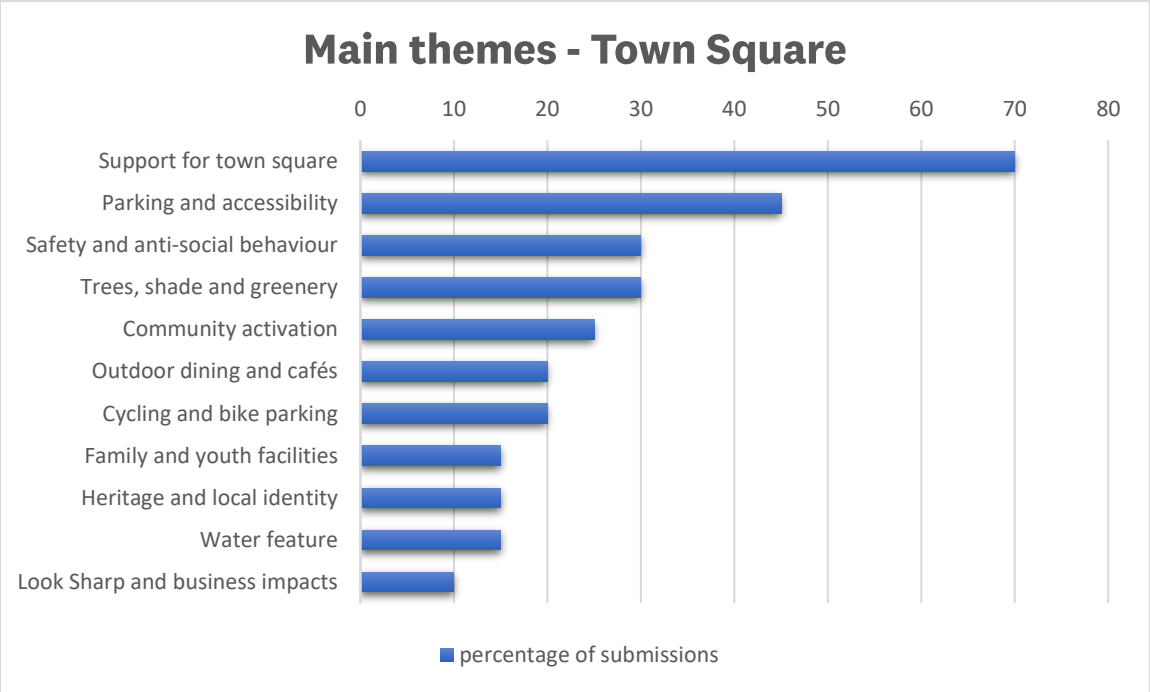
- **Do you have any thoughts or suggestions on the town square design?**
- **Do you have any thoughts or suggestions on the community hall layout?**
- **Do you have any other thoughts or suggestions on the area?**

Consultation feedback

Town square design feedback

Overall, feedback on the town square was generally positive, with most respondents supporting the idea of creating a civic heart for Onehunga. Most suggestions focused on improving the design rather than opposing the concept itself.

Town square - top themes raised



Theme	Relative Strength	Percentage of submissions
Support for town square	Very High	60-70%
Parking and accessibility	Very High	40-45%
Safety and anti-social behaviour	High	25-30%
Trees, shade and greenery	High	25-30%
Community activation	High	20-25%
Outdoor dining and cafés	Moderate	15-20%
Cycling and bike parking	Moderate	15-20%
Family and youth facilities	Moderate	10-15%
Heritage and local identity	Moderate	10-15%
Water feature	Moderate	10-15%
Look Sharp and business impacts	Low	8-10%

Support for the town square
There was strong support (60-70% of submissions) for creating a town square and investing in Onehunga. Many saw the proposal as an opportunity to revitalise the town centre and create a much-needed community gathering space.

"I love the concept of a new town square. I think it will be a real asset for the Onehunga community."

"It's a great idea, Onehunga needs it. The town centre will give it a facelift and provide a space for people to meet."

"A town square is exactly what Onehunga needs. A vibrant place for locals to meet and interact."

Parking and accessibility
Parking was the most frequently raised key issue (40-45%). Submitters were concerned about the loss of parking, impacts on local businesses, and accessibility for older people, families, and people with mobility needs. Many requested additional parking solutions or retention of existing parking.

"There's so much pressure on parking already."

"Please DO NOT remove any more car parking in the shopping area of Onehunga, in fact we need more."

"Where is the car parking? Parking outside Jordan Recreation Centre and behind the library is currently very limited and almost always full."

Safety and anti-social behaviour
Many submitters (25-30%) raised concerns about rough sleeping, public drinking and anti-social behaviour. Common suggestions included improved lighting, CCTV, passive surveillance and active uses around the square.

"Safety is important. It needs to be very well-lit and patrolled."

"The area already experiences antisocial behaviour and can feel unsafe, particularly in the evening."

"I wouldn't feel safe hanging out there, and nor would young families."

Trees, shade and greenery
There was a strong desire for more trees, native planting and shade. Many respondents (25-30%) felt the concept included too much concrete and wanted a greener, more climate-resilient design.

"I want to see more greenery around. It makes spaces so much nicer to use during the hot summer months."

"I think more trees and shade will always be a good idea, particularly as the climate warms."

“Please have lots of trees for shade, plants and greenery and seats for it to be a lovely public space.”

Community activation and events
Many submitters (20-25%) wanted the square to support markets, performances, festivals, community events and everyday activity, rather than functioning as a passive open space.

“Onehunga loves getting together and turns up for public events.”

“I hope that a local market can be created in the space that will entice local market operators and community groups.”

“Markets, festivals and live music would make it a destination.”

Outdoor dining and activation
There was support (15-20%) for cafés, restaurants and outdoor dining areas to create activity, improve safety and support local businesses.

“If we could have more restaurants next to this area, it would increase the use of the outdoor dining and improve the feeling of safety.”

“I think it would be nice to have cafés opening out onto the town square. This will make it feel more alive.”

“We need a space to safely sit outside and drink a cup of coffee.”

Cycling and active transport
Many respondents (15-20%) requested secure bike parking, better cycling connections and delivery of cycling improvements alongside the project.

“Please make sure there is lots of bike parking and seating.”

“It would be great to think about future connections and opportunities for locking your bike up here.”

“Please make sure there is adequate bike parking as part of the design.”

Family and youth facilities
A group of submitters (10-15%) requests included play opportunities, basketball hoops, table tennis, youth spaces and family-friendly amenities.

“I would take my toddler here every day as a space to run around in.”

“Please think of teenagers. Basketball hoops, mini golf, sports areas.”

“The playground wouldn't need to take up the whole space, but it would be nice to have somewhere central and outdoors that parents could bring their children.”

Heritage and local identity

Some submitters (10-15%) wanted the design to reflect Onehunga's history, culture and identity through public art, storytelling, heritage recognition and local design elements.

"I would really like the design motif to pay respect to Onehunga's history and people."
"I really like the design but would be great to include all the cultures that live and work in Onehunga and the history of Māori in Onehunga."

"I think the design or motif should aim to pay respect to Onehunga's history and people."

Water feature
Feedback for the water feature was mixed. Some supported play and cooling features, while others viewed them as unnecessary, expensive or difficult to maintain.

"Could a random parabolic water squirt type water feature be incorporated in the Town Square? It would provide visual interest and be a lot of fun for children of all ages."

"Looks great! Would be great if the water feature could work as water play for kids in the summer."

"Would be nice to see a water feature or fountain and drinking water station as well."

Look Sharp and business impacts
Some submitters (8-10%) were concerned about the potential loss or relocation of Look Sharp and the impact on foot traffic and local businesses.

"Look Sharp is one of the more modern sites in that part of Onehunga Mall and the business brings in a lot of people from surrounding suburbs."

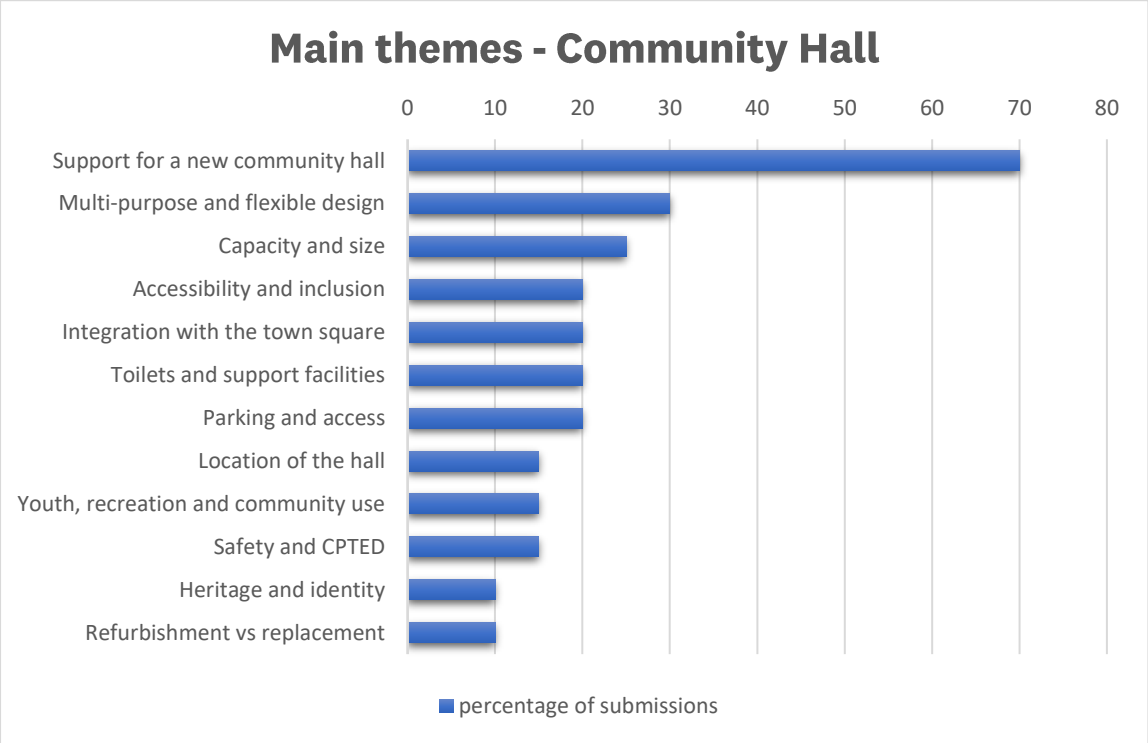
"The Look Sharp store is a very popular and well used store both by locals and businesses."

"DO NOT REMOVE LOOKSHARP! It's the best thing to happen for Onehunga."

Community hall feedback

Feedback on the community hall was generally positive, with most submitters supporting a new, modern and flexible facility capable of accommodating a wide range of community activities. Key areas for further consideration included accessibility, parking, the relationship between the hall and the town square, hall capacity, and ensuring the facility can support diverse community, cultural, recreational and performance uses.

Community hall - Top themes raised



Theme	Relative Strength	Percentage of submissions
Support for a new community hall	Very High	60-70%
Multi-purpose and flexible design	High	25-30%
Capacity and size	High	20-25%
Accessibility and inclusion	High	15-20%
Integration with the town square	High	15-20%
Toilets and support facilities	Moderate-High	15-20%
Parking and access	Moderate-High	15-20%
Location of the hall	Moderate	10-15%
Youth, recreation and community use	Moderate	10-15%
Safety and CPTED	Moderate	10-15%
Heritage and identity	Moderate	5-10%
Refurbishment vs replacement	Moderate	5-10%

Support for a new community hall
Most submitters supported a new community hall and saw it as an opportunity to provide a more modern, flexible and functional community facility. Many comments focused on improving the proposal rather than opposing the hall itself.

“I love the concept of a new community hall. It sounds like it will be a great asset to the community.”

“It’s a great use of the space, and the externally accessible toilets are great for the community.”

“Certainly needed, as there is a significant lack of facilities for community groups.”

Multi-purpose and flexible use
Strong support for a hall that can accommodate a wide range of activities including community meetings, performances, cultural events, markets, school functions, sports and exhibitions. Several submitters suggested designing for future adaptability.

“It should also be designed as somewhere where large groups or performances can occur.”

“A larger, more flexible venue could help bring together different communities, support a wider range of events and activities.”

“The space needs to be more flexible... to fit for multi-purpose use beyond just large group gathering.”

Hall Capacity and Size
Many respondents wanted the hall to be larger than the existing facility and capable of hosting bigger community events, performances and gatherings. Some suggested facilities such as badminton, basketball, indoor sports or conference-style events.

“Any new community hall should have the same capacity if not more than the current hall on Pearce St.”

“The hall needs to be larger than the existing premises with the ability to host large events such as schools and performances.”

“Will the main auditorium space be sized to accommodate a competition-grade doubles badminton court?”

Accessibility and Inclusion
Accessibility was a recurring theme. Submitters requested accessible toilets, ramps, mobility parking, generous circulation space, parent rooms and design features that cater for people of all ages and abilities.

“Good mobility access is a priority.”

“The stage is fine, but there needs to be a ramp on at least one side for safety and accessibility reasons.”

“Designed for the disability community too/elderly and very functional.”

Hall and town square Integration
One of the most common design concerns was the road separating the hall from the square. Submitters questioned how events would flow between the two spaces and sought a stronger visual and physical connection.

"Why is the new town hall cut off from the new square by Upper Municipal Street?"

"The hall and the square are separated by a street. This will lead to conflict between pedestrians and motorists."

"It would make sense to think about the flow between and if things could be opened up to increase the space."

Toilets, kitchen and supporting facilities
Frequent requests for more toilet facilities, public-access toilets, external access toilets, kitchen facilities, storage space and support spaces for events and performers.

"I also think there should be toilets built into the building but accessible to the public from the outside during the day."

"There needs to be more toilets."

"It would be great if there could be a dedicated parent's room."

Parking and access
Many respondents raised concerns about how hall users would access the facility given existing parking pressures and proposed parking reductions. This was particularly important for older people, families and community groups.

"Where will people attending larger events or evening activities park?"

"Most are looking for available parking numbers before booking a venue."

"There should be a public carpark for ease of access to the Community Hall."

Location of the hall
Several submitters supported the hall but questioned its proposed location. Concerns focused on bus movements, infrastructure constraints, parking impacts and whether the existing hall should instead be refurbished.

"I do not think the proposed position of the Community Hall is in the best place for it. It would be good for it to open directly onto the Town Square and not be separated by a road that is mostly used by buses."

"I am particularly concerned about placing a new hall, which is intended to attract more people and activities, in an area that is already heavily used for bus operations and parking."

"I am also concerned about the proposed location. It introduces a higher-use community facility into an already constrained area with significant bus movements and parking demand."

Safety and CPTED
Several respondents sought good lighting, passive surveillance, visibility and design measures that would make the facility feel safe and welcoming.

"The youth space is important... as the waterfront is quite disconnected from the community centre."

"Needs to be well maintained and good lighting in the evening."

"Light, breezy and mobility-accessible for differently abled people."

"Good lighting all hours and CCTV."

Youth, recreation and community uses
Submitters identified opportunities for youth spaces, sports, recreation facilities, cultural activities, art exhibitions and dedicated community programmes.

"If possible, thought should be given to an upstairs level that could become a youth hang out area."

"Would it be possible to consider building another indoor basketball court?"

"Please think of teenagers. Basketball hoops, mini golf, sports areas."

"Would support going bigger and more ambitious."

Refurbish vs replace
A smaller but notable group questioned whether a new hall was required and suggested investigating refurbishment or modernisation of the existing Pearce Street Hall before committing to replacement.

"I would like Council to fully consider whether the existing hall could be refurbished and modernised rather than demolished and replaced."

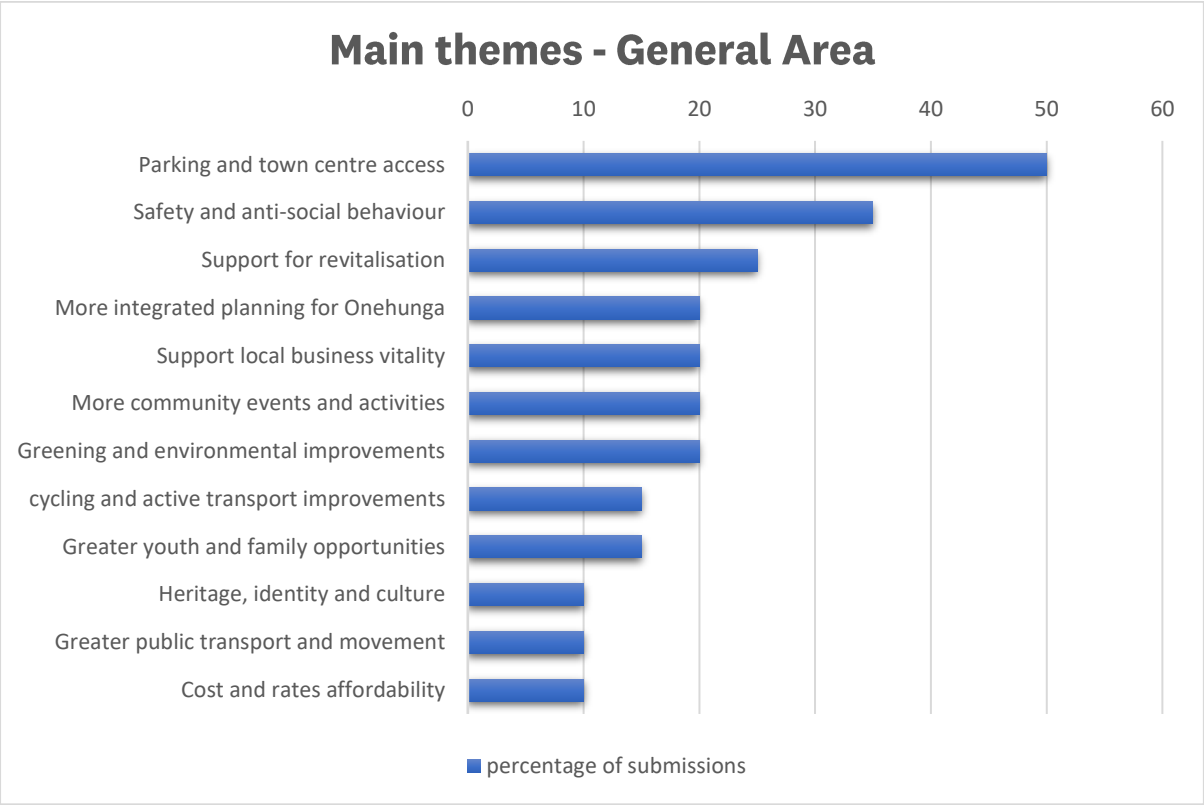
"I like the idea of a town square but why a community hall? There are lots of spaces for halls, the community house, church halls, bowling club, etc."

"Why is there a requirement for a new community hall, when the library/community centre already has these facilities?"

General area feedback

Feedback on the wider area focused primarily on parking availability, safety and anti-social behaviour, and support for revitalisation and investment in the town centre. Submitters also highlighted the importance of coordinated planning across multiple redevelopment

projects, supporting local businesses, increasing community events and activity, improving walking and cycling connections, and enhancing greenery and environmental outcomes.



General area - Top themes raised

Theme	Relative Strength	Percentage of submissions
Parking and town centre access	Very High	45-50%
Safety and anti-social behaviour	Very High	30-35%
Support for revitalisation	High	20-25%
Integrated planning for Onehunga	High	15-20%
Local business vitality	High	15-20%
Community events and activity	Moderate-High	15-20%
Greening and environmental improvements	Moderate-High	15-20%
Cycling and active transport	Moderate	10-15%
Youth and family opportunities	Moderate	10-15%
Heritage, identity and culture	Moderate	5-10%
Public transport and movement	Moderate	5-10%
Cost and rates affordability	Moderate	5-10%

Parking and town centre access
There were concerns about parking availability across Onehunga, cumulative parking losses from multiple developments, time limits, accessibility for older people and families, and supporting local businesses. Requests included additional parking, longer time limits, multi-level parking and park-and-ride solutions.

"Please DO NOT remove any more car parking in the shopping area of Onehunga, in fact we need more."

Safety and anti-social behaviour
Concerns about rough sleeping, public drinking, intimidating behaviour, crime and safety around the transport hub and town centre, particularly at night. Respondents sought better lighting, CCTV, security presence and stronger enforcement.

"The priority really needs to be on the increase of rough sleepers, criminal activity and general level of threatening behaviour in the area."

Support for revitalisation
General support for investment in Onehunga, beautification, town centre renewal and enhancing community pride.

"I'm absolutely delighted to see Onehunga being revitalised. These changes have the potential to make the area more connected, vibrant and liveable."

Integrated planning for Onehunga
Requests for Te Pūmanawa, Waiapu Precinct, Woolworths redevelopment, train station, bus interchange and town centre improvements to be planned as a coordinated programme rather than separate projects.

"Council should assess Onehunga as an integrated system."

Local Business vitality
Maintaining foot traffic, supporting local businesses, minimising disruption during construction and ensuring investment strengthens the local economy.

"The priority needs to be how design supports local businesses."

Community events and Activity
Desire for markets, festivals, cultural events, performances and activities that attract people into the town centre and create vibrancy.

"Onehunga needs a weekly market."

Greening and environmental improvements
Requests for more trees, shade, native planting, biodiversity and greener public spaces throughout Onehunga, not just within the project area.

"More planting and bush around the footpaths in Onehunga."

Cycling and active transport
Better cycle connections, safer routes, more bike parking and stronger integration with the wider cycling network.

“Better cycle ways and bike parking please.”

Youth and family opportunities
More facilities and activities for children, teenagers and families, including recreation, sports and informal gathering spaces.

“A safe, free area for young people to hang out.”

Heritage, identity and culture
Recognition of Onehunga's heritage, local stories, cultural diversity, arts community and unique identity.

“More artwork that represents the history of Onehunga.”

Public transport and movement
Feedback on bus operations, train connections, transport integration and wider movement around the town centre.

“Move the bus station to the train station and combine the two would really maximise space as well as making Onehunga an attractive transport interchange.”

Cost and rates affordability
Questions around value for money, timing of investment and cumulative spending in Onehunga.

“Give Onehunga ratepayers a breather from all the spending that has been going on in Onehunga.”

Other submissions

In addition to public feedback, we also received official submissions from:

Onehunga Business Association

We asked our members for their thoughts on the proposed Te Pumanawa o Onehunga development, particularly the proposed town square and what the changes could mean for businesses and the wider town centre.

Overall, the feedback was positive about investment in Onehunga and the opportunity to continue improving and revitalising our town centre. Around two-thirds of respondents support the development in its current form, with a similar number believing that a town square could provide commercial benefits for Onehunga.

Our members are excited to see investment in our town centre. They want Onehunga to grow and evolve, and they can see the potential benefits of creating a new civic space that brings more people into the area and gives them more reasons to stay, shop, eat and explore.

At the same time, they want us to get the details right. In particular, members want to see enough customer and employee parking, careful consideration of vehicle access around Pearce Street, protection and growth of retail foot traffic, support for existing businesses, strong connections between the train station, town square and Onehunga Mall, appropriate

lighting, CCTV and security, and a clear plan for the ongoing cleaning, maintenance and activation of the space.

Investment in the future of Onehunga

One of the strongest positive themes was the opportunity that this level of investment could bring to Onehunga. Members could see the potential for a well-designed town square to create a new destination, attract more visitors, provide a space for markets and events, increase foot traffic and create a stronger connection between Onehunga Mall, the train station and the surrounding area.

One respondent described the proposal as having the potential to be "the envy of many, many suburbs across Auckland", while another was "really excited to see the markets and the huge investment in the town centre."

It is encouraging to see that many of our members are excited about Onehunga's future and recognise the opportunity we have to create a more vibrant and welcoming town centre.

Commercial benefits of the town square

63% of respondents believe a town square would provide commercial benefits, with a further 19% responding "Maybe". Those supporting the square see the potential for more events, markets and activity to bring additional people into Onehunga and, importantly, create more foot traffic for local businesses.

The connection between the train station, the proposed square and Onehunga Mall was also highlighted as a positive. For our businesses, the important part will be making sure that this additional activity flows through the whole town centre. We want to see a development that complements and strengthens our existing businesses and encourages people to explore more of Onehunga, rather than simply moving activity from one part of the town centre to another.

Parking and vehicle access

Parking was one of the most common concerns raised by members, and this is something Business Onehunga will continue to advocate strongly around. Members are conscious that parking has already changed within the town centre, and there is concern about ensuring we have enough convenient short-term parking for customers as well as realistic long-term options for people who work in Onehunga.

One member commented that the reduction in all-day parking is already having a "material impact" on their staff, who are spending additional time looking for parking. There was also more uncertainty around the proposed change to vehicle access on Pearce Street. While 44% supported the proposed change, 31% responded "Maybe" and 25% did not support it.

This tells us that accessibility and vehicle movement are areas where members would like to better understand the impact before the plans are finalised.

Existing retail and foot traffic

There were mixed views about the proposed removal of a retail building to create the town square.

63% supported this part of the proposal, while others were understandably concerned about the potential impact on an existing retailer and whether moving a business could affect foot traffic along Onehunga Mall.

Other members felt the opportunity to open the area towards the train station and create a new civic space could provide a much greater long-term benefit.

For me, the important consideration is making sure the development strengthens our existing retail area. We want people moving between the town square, train station and Onehunga Mall, creating more activity and opportunities for businesses throughout the town centre.

Safety, cleanliness and looking after the space

Members also raised some practical points about what happens after a town square is built. Lighting, CCTV, security, cleanliness, maintenance and the management of antisocial behaviour were all mentioned in the feedback. Members want to know that if we invest in a beautiful new public space, there will also be an ongoing commitment to keeping it safe, clean, welcoming and active.

This is an important point. A successful town square is about much more than its physical design. It needs regular activity, good management and ongoing investment so that people want to spend time there and businesses benefit from that increased activity.

Bike Onehunga

We strongly urge you to put the construction of the cycle lane into phase 1 rather than phase 2. This is essential infrastructure in the middle of town and essential for local businesses who will have many cyclists visiting them.

Please introduce as many cycle paths as possible to connect every cyclist safely with this wonderful project. Please start cycling infrastructure as soon as possible so that we can all start enjoying the benefits earlier.

Please make sure there's sufficient bike parking such as Locky Docks.

Feedback themes and formal responses

Feedback	Item	Response
Parking and Accessibility	Town square	We are looking at options for how to stage the development of Te Pūmanawa o Onehunga precinct to create the least amount of disruption to parking. Once the new community hall has been constructed, the Pearce Street Hall will then be deconstructed with that site to be used for additional parking. This will offset the reduction of parking numbers from the development of the town square and community hall. There is also parking directly behind the new community hall that is currently used for the library and community centre that also will serve the new town square in future. In relation to accessibility, the square has been designed to cater for older people and people with mobility needs. There will be

		provision for a drop off/pick up zone for those less abled on Onehunga Mall.
Safety and anti-social behaviour	Town square	The design and location of the square is intended to make the area as safe and welcoming as possible. The square will have features that look to address safety and/or prevent anti-social behaviour issues, including active lighting, passive surveillance and CCTV. A Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) review is being undertaken to help inform the next phase of design.
Trees, shade and greenery	Town square	As a result of the feedback, we are looking to increase the level of planting and greenery in the area. There is planned to be a mix of amenity, rain garden and native tree species planting in the area to increase biodiversity and provide natural shade and canopy cover for the town square and wider precinct area. The design includes at least 13 new trees and plenty of new planting. The existing mature oak tree will be retained and highlighted. The planting design needs to create a balance that also allows enough flexibility for events and activations in the space.
Community activation	Town square	The square has been designed with flexibility for hosting a variety of events and activities this includes space for regular markets, adequate seating, a stage, and water and power supply. The design will also allow for the space to host events such as movies or music in the square, dance performances, yoga classes etc.
Outdoor dining and cafés	Town square	The square includes a range of seating opportunities for people to bring their own food to enjoy in the space and any events and activities being held there. We are also working with the adjacent landowners to work towards activating the southern side of the square with covered outdoor seating and dining.
Cycling and bike parking	Town square	Cycle parking will be included for both the town square and community hall. The cycling and walking connection that was originally planned will occur in phase two of the project. This is due to the many bus services for Onehunga that are currently in Upper Municipal Place. Investigations are underway into moving these services to a more fit-for-purpose location, though this will take time to occur. After the relocation of these services, the walking and cycling connection plans will be able to occur as a second phase of the precinct development.
Family and youth facilities	Town square	The area under construction to north of the Library and Community Centre, Waiapu Precinct, will feature a large new all-ages playground. This is designed as a feature to connect the school and library. In the future, the area where Te Pumanawa o Onehunga is planned will include a dedicated outdoor youth space. This will happen in a later stage of development for the area. Basketball / ball activities have been a popular request for this future space. However, ball activities so close to the road create a safety risk. It

		was deemed unsafe to deliver a recreation space now due to this risk, so it will come as part of a second stage of development once the buses have been relocated to a more fit-for purpose facility.
Heritage and local identity	Town square	The water feature and other design elements of the square will include artistic and local identity elements embedded into them. The existing Elizabeth Yates mural will also be retained and highlighted as part of the design. We have taken feedback from the community in relation to ensuring local identity and heritage is maximised in the space. The artistic and local identity designs are still being developed and will be shared after the next stage of design.
Water feature	Town square	We are reviewing and working through the water feature design. The design requires a careful balance, with the maintenance and function of it needing to be considered. We have taken feedback from the community on the desire for the water feature to be playful. There will be a separate drinking fountain included in the square.
Maintenance of the space	Town square	We have been working with council's Parks and Community Facilities team on the design of the square to ensure that it meets their standards and is able to be regularly maintained. This will see a regular schedule for cleaning, emptying of bins, collection of rubbish, maintenance of plants, garden beds etc.
Look Sharp and business impacts	Town square	The building at 140 Onehunga Mall, currently occupied by Look Sharp, is required for the town square development. The site has been selected for its size and proximity to existing and future community facilities. The rear of the Look Sharp is an underutilised reserve space, and Onehunga Mall is on the front. Auckland Council is working with the property and business owners to achieve beneficial outcomes for all parties with the community desires for the business to remain local in mind.
Multi-purpose and flexible design	Community hall	The new hall will be able to accommodate a wide array of different events, meetings, performances and other general uses. The facilities include the hall with a spring-loaded floor and stage, a foyer area, kitchen, meeting room space, public and accessible toilets, storage areas, green rooms and connected outdoor deck area.
Capacity and size	Community hall	The new hall will be larger than the existing hall, with more floor space, a bigger stage and more dedicated storage rooms. Overall, the capacity for the facility sees an increase from accommodating 170 people in the current hall to 240 people in the new hall. These elements mean the new hall will be able to accommodate a wider array of different events, meetings, performances and other general uses.
Accessibility and inclusion	Community hall	The design of the community hall has ensured accessibility is a priority. The building will be accessible by two separate ramped entries into the hall, as well as having a mechanical lift. The toilets

		will include accessibility options as well as changing / parents' room.
Integration with the town square	Community hall	Currently Upper Municipal Place is a busy street, home to many bus services for Onehunga. Investigations are underway into moving these services to a more fit-for-purpose location, though this will take time to occur. Stage 1 of the development will see a new raised pedestrian crossing added to improve safety and create better connectivity between the square and the community hall. Stage 2 of the precinct would include a more substantial upgrade to Upper Municipal Place, including greater connectivity between the square and community hall.
Toilets and support facilities	Community hall	There will be two accessible public toilets located in the town square that will be available for public use 24 hours a day. There will also be toilets located inside the hall that will be available during hall opening hours for users of the space including baby changing facilities.
Parking and access	Community hall	Following construction of the new community hall, the existing Pearce Street Hall will be deconstructed and used as a site for parking. There is also parking directly behind the new community hall that is currently used for the library and community centre that will also serve the new community hall in future.
Location of the hall	Community hall	The location of the new hall was selected due to the close proximately of it to the current library, the community centre, the reserve space on the back of Look Sharp and future town square, along with keeping the hall in a central location, close to Onehunga Mall.
Youth, recreation and community use	Community hall	The Waiapu Precinct, the area north of the Library and Community Centre, will feature an all-ages playground. An outdoor youth space is proposed for the second phase of Te Pumanawa o Onehunga. Basketball / ball activities have been a popular request for this future space. However, ball activities in such proximity to the road and to the existing bus operations create a major conflict. It was deemed unsafe to deliver this space now, instead it will come as part of a second stage of development once the buses have been relocated to a more fit-for purpose facility closer towards the train station.
Safety and CPTED	Community hall	The hall will feature exterior lighting, passive surveillance and CCTV. A Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) review is being undertaken to help inform the next phase of design.
Heritage and identity	Community hall	We are drawing on the cultural narrative of the area for the design of exterior of the hall. These designs are still being developed as part of the next phase of development and will be shared in the future.
Refurbishment vs replacement	Community hall	The cost of ongoing refurbishment to the current hall would create a larger cost long-term than the cost to replace the hall. Built in the 1970s, the current Pearce

		Street Hall received mixed feedback during council's recent facilities assessment. Users highlighted concerns about the building's overall condition, which is poor due to its age and level of use over 50 years. Pearce Street Hall has the highest usage levels of council owned community venues in Onehunga. However, it does not currently provide adequate space or facilities to support the needs of the community currently or in future.
Parking and town centre access	Area wide	The Maungakiekie-Tamaki Local Board has been working with Auckland Transport on plans to improve the parking experience in the area. There has also been a significant level of investment in upgrading a number of transport features that connect the town centre, including roundabouts and road features along Onehunga Mall.
Safety and anti-social behaviour	Area wide	Auckland Council and the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board do not directly provide housing or homelessness services. Those responsibilities largely sit with central government agencies such as Kāinga Ora, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, Ministry of Social Development (MSD), and NZ Police, along with other support providers. However, the council and local board do support the regional strategy to reduce homelessness through partnerships with local agencies, housing providers, and community organisations. To address antisocial behaviour in Onehunga, they support safety programmes, work with NZ Police, business associations and security providers, fund crime prevention initiatives, support CCTV, and invest in safer, more active and better-connected public spaces.
Integrated planning for Onehunga	Area wide	The Auckland Urban Development Office, previously known as Eke Panuku, have been working to develop Onehunga since 2018. The plan for the area looks to make the most of the neighbourhood's cultural diversity and history, natural features, excellent location, and transport connections. The plan includes focused work across several key areas Waiapu Precinct, Te Pumanawa o Onehunga and the Wharf. The planning is collaborative with other agencies such as Auckland Transport, Healthy Waters and Watercare. As certain transport responsibilities that were previously part of Auckland Transport have now moved into Auckland Council, greater integrated planning and delivery will occur and create more synergies.
Local business vitality	Area wide	Auckland Council and the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board support business vitality in Onehunga by investing in safe and attractive town centres, supporting the Onehunga Business Association through the Business Improvement District programme, funding placemaking and community events, advocating for transport and infrastructure

		improvements, and delivering community safety initiatives that help make the town centre a more attractive place to visit, work and invest.
Community events and activity	Area wide	Auckland Council and the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board support community events and activities in Onehunga by funding local organisations and community groups, activate public spaces, invest in community facilities, and work with local partners to create vibrant, inclusive community events and activities that bring people together.
Greening and environmental improvements	Area wide	Auckland Council and the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board are committed to improving Onehunga's environment through planting and restoration programmes, protection of the Manukau Harbour, biodiversity and climate action initiatives, environmental education, and ongoing investment in local parks, reserves and open spaces. These efforts aim to enhance local biodiversity, improve water quality, increase community resilience to climate change and flooding, and create greener, healthier neighbourhoods for residents.
Cycling and active transport	Area wide	The transport team, previously Auckland Transport, are working to make it safer and easier to bike and scoot around Onehunga and Royal Oak by planning cycle facilities and initiatives to encourage cycling. Auckland Council's Climate Action Transport Targeted Rate (CATTR) includes funding to build about 3km of safe cycling facilities between Onehunga and Royal Oak. The project will address other barriers to cycling through initiatives such as cycle skills training, secure bike parking and better wayfinding. There will also be activities, services and events that encourage and support more cycling in the community.
Youth and family opportunities	Area wide	Auckland Council and the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board are committed to creating opportunities for young people and young families in Onehunga through investment in play and recreation spaces, youth empowerment initiatives, community facilities, cultural and educational programmes, local events, and partnerships with community organisations. Their focus is on ensuring children and young people have safe places to learn, play and connect, while supporting families to participate in a healthy, vibrant and inclusive community.
Heritage, identity and culture	Area wide	Auckland Council and the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board are committed to preserving and celebrating Onehunga's distinctive heritage and cultural identity. This includes working with mana whenua on environmental and cultural projects, supporting arts, cultural and community programmes, recognising the area's historical significance, and creating public spaces, facilities and events that reflect the stories, diversity and aspirations of local communities. The board also seeks to improve outcomes for Māori and

		Pasifika communities while fostering a strong sense of belonging and local pride.
Public transport and movement	Area wide	Onehunga's future transport improvements focus on creating safer walking and cycling routes, better connections to Onehunga Train Station, a more pedestrian-friendly town centre, new public spaces and community facilities, and improved links between key destinations across the town centre.
Cost and rates affordability	Area wide	Auckland Council is working to manage rates affordability by driving efficiency across the organisation, reducing operational costs, improving value for money, and carefully prioritising investment in critical services and infrastructure such as transport, water, flood resilience, parks and community facilities. The council has committed to significant cost savings while maintaining the services Aucklanders rely on every day.

Attachments

Feedback form



Feedback form

Your details

Your feedback will be included in public documents. Your personal details will remain confidential.

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Email or postal address: _____

_____

Your local board area or suburb: _____

_____

Are you providing:

- ☐ Your **individual** feedback
- ☐ Feedback as the representative of an **organisation or business** _____
- ☐ Organisation/business name:

Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at **aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy** and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 2020.

Your feedback

Do you have any thoughts or suggestions on the town square design?

Do you have any thoughts or suggestions on the community hall layout?

Do you have any other thoughts or suggestions for the area?

What is your connection to Onehunga (tick all that apply)

- ☐ I live in the area
- ☐ I work for or own a business in the area
- ☐ I have family or friends in the area
- ☐ I visit the area for business or recreation
- ☐ Other, please specify: _____

How often do you visit the Onehunga town centre?

- ☐ Most weekdays
- ☐ Once or twice a week
- ☐ Every few weeks
- ☐ Every few months
- ☐ A few times a year
- ☐ Other, please specify: _____

What mode of transport do you use the most to get around Onehunga?

- ☐ Walk
- ☐ Drive
- ☐ Cycle
- ☐ Bus
- ☐ Other, please specify: _____

Demographic questions

These questions are optional but will help us understand which groups of the community are engaging with us.

What gender are you?

☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Other, please specify _____

What age group are you?

☐ Under 15	☐ 15-17	☐ 18-24
☐ 25-34	☐ 35-44	☐ 45-54
☐ 55-64	☐ 65-74	☐ 75+

Which ethnic group(s) do you belong to? (tick all that apply)

☐ NZ European/European	☐ Māori
☐ Cook Island Māori	☐ Samoan
☐ Tongan	☐ Indian
☐ Chinese	☐ Southeast Asian
☐ Korean	☐ Other (please specify):

_____

Need more room? You can attach extra pages.