

## CASHMERE VISION AND VALUES DISCUSSION DOCUMENT

This discussion paper is based on what Cashmere residents have told us about Cashmere and Christchurch.

The discussion paper identifies some of the key priorities and challenges facing our community and city. We would like your feedback: Do you agree with the priorities? How would you change them? What actions should we take?

**Come to a meeting of the Cashmere Residents' Association at 7.30 p.m. Tuesday 18th November at the Church Hall, Cashmere Presbyterian Church, Dyers Pass Road to discuss the priorities.**

### WHAT IS THE VISION AND VALUES PROJECT?

The Cashmere Vision and Values Project is an opportunity for those who live and work in Cashmere to say what is important to them.

The project was initiated by the Cashmere Residents' Association to help it to define and better understand local priorities. Information gathered as part of this project will guide the Associations' future activities and inform the Council's planning and decision-making.

To gain information for this project the Cashmere Residents' Association has:

- Hosted residents meetings and workshops
- Surveyed residents through a questionnaire distributed to each household in Cashmere
- Contacted Community groups and clubs to invite their feedback
- Hosted a photo exhibition by local young people of what they thought was "hot" or "not" about Cashmere
- Visited the Cashmere Primary School and received feedback from the Board of Trustees and students
- Hosted a website with an online response form
- Gathered and reviewed literature on Cashmere
- Analysed data and statistics on Cashmere and our residents.

Further information and background material is available from [www.cashmere.org.nz](http://www.cashmere.org.nz)

### WHAT HAVE WE FOUND OUT ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY?

#### WHO LIVES IN CASHMERE?

- Cashmere community is home to 2454 people living in around 900 households - less than 1% of the city's total population.
- The majority of households (77%) are one-family households and just under half of those families have children.
- Most of us (85%) identify as "European".
- Cashmere has fewer people aged 15 to 44 years and more people aged over 45 years than the rest of the city. We have the same proportion of children aged 15 years and under as the rest of the city.
- We are more likely to be in the labour force and tend to earn significantly more than the city as a whole.
- We are more likely to own our homes and to have other investments and assets.

#### WHAT DID PEOPLE TELL US THEY VALUE?

Residents consistently told us they valued the following aspects of Cashmere:

- Views, including clear skylines and views of the city, river, or mountains
- Parks, reserves and green space, including waterways, walking tracks, the dog park, Victoria Park and Cashmere Green
- Character of the area, including the trees and gardens, character houses, old buildings, churches and stone walls
- Proximity to South library, the central city and other amenities
- Local facilities, including local schools, kindergarten, and churches
- Local shops and businesses, including the local cafes, and shops at the foot of the hill
- Air quality and climate, including being above the frost line and /or above the smog
- Safety and relative lack of crime



# THE FUTURE AS YOU WANT IT

The graph shows what the 160 households responding to the survey told us that they liked.

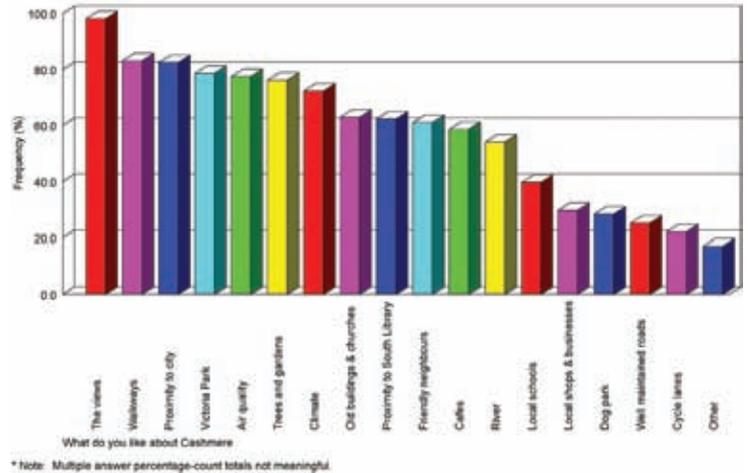
The main things the young people indicated they liked about Cashmere in the photos and the school workshops were the parks, playground, trees, buildings and churches, cafes, river, views, walkways and the snow.

## DO RESIDENTS FEEL A SENSE OF COMMUNITY?

The majority of residents (82%) who responded to the survey told us they felt a sense of community with others in the neighbourhood. Many reported that having friendly neighbours and maintaining the sense of community in Cashmere was important to them.

Over 60% of those responding to the survey said they would like to know more about groups, clubs and activities in Cashmere. A number of residents identified the type of community activities or events they would attend if they were available, including:

- Concerts / performing arts (53%)
- Community fairs / fun days (50%)
- Street parties or meetings (45%)
- Neighbourhood support groups (38%)
- Seminars and lectures (33%)
- Walking groups (30%).

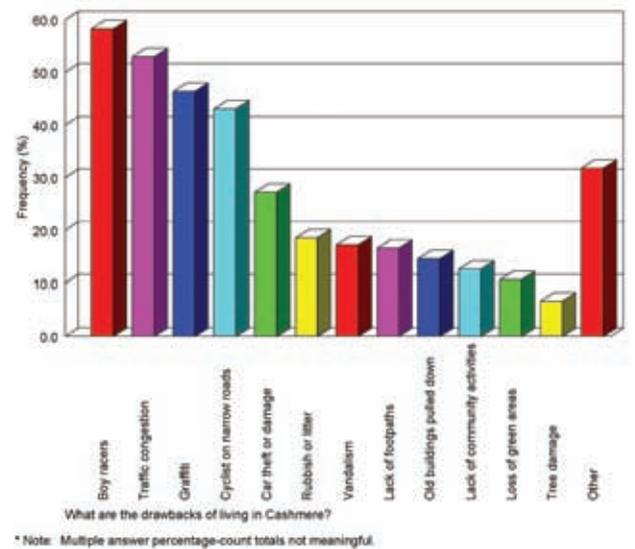


## WHAT ARE THE DRAWBACKS OF LIVING IN CASHMERE?

Residents did not identify many negative aspects of Cashmere. However, they consistently identified the following drawbacks:

- Traffic congestion coming off the hill at peak hours
- Old buildings and houses being pulled down and loss of green areas and trees
- Vandalism, car theft and damage and graffiti
- Lack of community activities
- Boy racers
- Cyclists on narrow roads causing safety concerns
- Lack of footpaths on some streets
- Lack of shops on the hill for example, bakery, deli, dairy or 'fruit and veg' shop
- Poor maintenance of roads, parks and reserves

The graph shows what the 160 households responding to the survey identified as drawbacks. Young people indicated they didn't like graffiti, tourist buses, lack of footpaths, car burn-out marks, tree damage and litter.



## RESIDENTS WANT CASHMERE TO BE A COMMUNITY THAT ....

Residents told us they want Cashmere to become a community that...

- Retains its character and develops a sense of its history and unique identity as one of Christchurch's original hill suburbs, for example in protecting the architecture of older houses, buildings and stone walls and maintaining its gardens and trees
- Has a strong sense of togetherness and attracts community spirited people who care for each other. A community which values its neighbourly qualities and actively supports community events
- Is a safe environment to bring up kids and is still affordable for retired people to live in
- Continues to provide excellent walking, jogging, biking spaces, seats with views, and recreational activities for all



- Is quiet and peaceful, for example is not a thoroughfare over the hill, does not grow rapidly and expand into open areas and remains largely residential with only a few business
- Looks after the natural environment
- Has reliable and sustainable transport, including a better bus link to the bottom of the hill, no congestion and more people preferring active transport options

And is a community which is more vibrant with more activities and community concerts and events.

## RESIDENTS WANT CHRISTCHURCH TO BECOME A CITY THAT ....

Residents told us they want Christchurch to become a city that:

- Develops a viable city centre and has smaller 'village' centres where people connect not just to shop. A city which has limited the growth of malls
- Is renowned for its architecture, including its architectural heritage
- Has good public transport services, including cycle ways on most roads, effective commuter transport, and sustainable public transport
- Is sustainable and environmentally friendly and has pollution controls, water conservation measure, sustainable forms of heating and insulation for all new buildings and houses, maintains clean rivers and streams and is leading the country in air quality and water quality
- Enhances its garden city image and promotes green space, including an increasing number of well maintained parks, walkways and open spaces
- Is safe and therefore free from the problems of boy racers, graffiti and vandalism and from crime and violence
- Is vibrant with publicly funded cultural and festival events for all ages; good public facilities like parks, playgrounds, libraries, and schools; and has a range of leisure and recreation activities
- Retains and builds a strong sense of social responsibility to all people, especially those in need, including looking after its elderly and those less well off
- Retains the large town feel and does not get too big or sprawl and therefore encourages denser inner-city living and retention of green belt; has stricter controls on building styles and developments and has concentrated industrial zones and themed commercial zones
- Values local communities and is friendly and inclusive and celebrates diversity

## RESIDENTS WANT THE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION TO ....

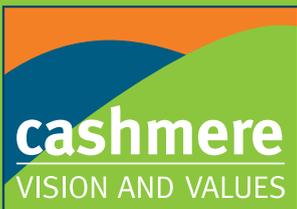
A number of residents supported the Residents' Association and encouraged it to "keep up the good work". Residents wanted the Residents' Association to:

### Promote the sense of community by ...

- Continuing to have regular meetings of residents
- Holding hill events, for example a concert at Victoria Park or summer night concerts
- Encouraging Neighbourhood Support Groups
- Developing a community notice board, either physical or web-based, that lets people know about things happening in Cashmere.

### Advocate to the Community Board and City and Regional Councils regarding...

- Traffic congestion, for example some suggested a roundabout or traffic lights at the intersection of Cashmere Road and Hackthorne Road. Others suggested diverting traffic heading into the city away from Cashmere Road rather than encouraging traffic to converge on the Dyers Pass roundabout
- Efficient and sustainable transport, for example small but more frequent buses in off peak times and more active and public transport options across the city
- Incentives for restoration of older homes/historic homes



- Bylaws and other regulations, for example enforcement of regulations limiting the height of buildings and noise levels; new regulations regarding roofing materials; stricter alcohol restrictions particularly closing times; tougher penalties for boy racers and by-laws to reduce litter and amount of junk mail we receive
- Walkway enhancement, including the ongoing improvement and maintenance of walkways, developing buggy friendly walkways, and finishing the Harry Ell walkway at the bottom
- Cycle and pedestrian initiatives, including more and safer cycle ways, for example off road cycle ways and alternative cycle routes up to the Sign of the Kiwi, and cycle lanes up the hill
- Roading upgrades and maintenance, including sweeping gutters to prevent flooding and blocking of drains and repairing pot holes and curbing
- Maintenance of parks, reserves and waterways, especially the drainage in the Purau Reserve; maintenance of Victoria Park and the dog park; and improved water quality in the Heathcote River
- City issues, such as the preservation of the central business district and the viability of individual suburbs, including restricting the growth of malls.
- Drainage, for example rectifying the problem of underground streams and flooding in the Purau Reserve
- Needs of other communities, for example many residents believed we should support other associations and not act in our own interest at the expense of others. Some suggested advocacy for other areas of the city that do not have the facilities we do
- Consultation with residents, for example new methods such as citizen juries or citizen portals and forums through which residents' associations can better communicate community concerns to the Council

### Encourage residents to ...

- Plant and maintain trees and shrubs - which do not block others' views or sun
- Preserve buildings and structures of the era in which Cashmere was established, including character homes, workers' cottages and stone walls
- Become more environmentally friendly, for example letting people know how to make their homes energy efficient, to use grey water for gardens and improve sustainability
- Support local businesses, for example the local shops
- Join the residents' association and become active members

### Work with other groups, including:

- Summit Road Society
- Neighbourhood Support Groups
- Christchurch City Council and Environment Canterbury
- Other residents' associations
- Local businesses
- Local groups and clubs

## HAVE YOUR SAY

This is only a summary of what we have been told so far and we need your feedback.

Have we heard the correct issues? Have we heard the right priorities? How would you change them? What would you add? How can you, your family, your business or your group contribute to these?

**Come to a meeting of the Cashmere Residents' Association at 7.30 p.m. Tuesday 18th November at the Church Hall, Cashmere Presbyterian Church, Dyers Pass Road to discuss it.**

**Or provide feedback by 30 November 2008 to: [www.cashmere.org.nz](http://www.cashmere.org.nz) or PO Box 12259, Beckenham, Christchurch 8242**

### Or contact a member of the Steering Committee:

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**cashmere**  
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

