

Harbour Bridge Park

Summary of feedback received during Eke Panuku public consultation on the proposed upgrade of Harbour Bridge Park from 4 July to 31 August 2022



Analysis conducted by Auckland Insights
Democracy and Engagement, Auckland Council

Harbour Bridge Park



Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose of this report

This report summarises the feedback received during the public consultation period from 4 July to 31 August 2022 on the proposal to upgrade Harbour Bridge Park in Westhaven.

This report outlines key themes relating to the views and preferences of those that submitted feedback, rather than detail every point of feedback received.

This report does not include any advice or recommendations for decision making. The feedback will be considered by the design team and we, Eke Panuku Development Auckland, will provide an update with further information later in the year.

Whakarāpopototanga matua

Executive summary

TOTAL SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED: 96

We are committed to leading the revitalisation of the city's waterfront on behalf of Auckland Council and all Aucklanders.

Westhaven's redevelopment is being delivered in a staged approach that was set out in the Westhaven Plan 2012 and Westhaven Plan 2013 (revised in 2015). Projects already delivered from these plans include the Westhaven Promenade and the Marine Village, and the next stage of projects to be delivered include Harbour Bridge Park. As part of this, we sought and received Long-Term Plan funding for the next stage of Westhaven improvements, which once complete, will increase connectivity and improve the public open space of the area.

We sought public feedback to understand how Harbour Bridge Park is being used, if people support the proposed upgrades, and what they like and do not like about the proposed design.

We received 96 submissions in total, with all feedback received via an online feedback form. Not all submitters responded to every question.

Organisations who provided feedback include residents' groups, businesses, and interest groups. Feedback received from each organisation has been counted as a single piece of feedback, as with individuals, though we note it may represent the views of multiple people. As such, feedback from individuals and organisations is presented separately to allow decision-makers to consider it as they see appropriate.

The following is a high-level summary of the results from this consultation:

- People most commonly use Harbour Bridge Park to walk (64), bike (47) or exercise (40).
- Of the 81 individuals who provided feedback, 77 per cent support the proposed park upgrade, 17 per cent do not support it, while six per cent provided an 'other' response.

Of the 13 organisations that provided feedback, 11 support the proposed park upgrade, one did not support it, and one provided another response.

- When asked what they **like** about the proposed upgrade, individuals most commonly mentioned the improvements to pedestrian accessibility and safety (31 comments), improvements to cycling accessibility and safety (22 comments), and traffic improvements to Curran Street such as the separation of cars and parking etc (21 comments).

The most common response from organisations was the improvements to pedestrian accessibility and safety (four comments).

- When asked what they **do not like** about the proposed upgrade, individuals most commonly suggested they feel like the project is a waste of money (12 comments), they want less of a focus on cars and/or for car access to be removed (12 comments), and they want more amenities such as lighting, seating, toilets, etc (10 comments).

The most common response from organisations was they want more amenities such as lighting, seating, toilets, etc (three comments).

- Further feedback from individuals highlights a desire for more improvements to pedestrian and cycling accessibility (13 comments), while organisations emphasise a need for more amenities such as toilets, seating, shaded areas, and more recreation areas (four comments).

Further detail on responses to each question can be found in the body of this report.

This consultation did not ask for any demographic information from submitters, so no further analysis by age or ethnic groups is available.

Horopaki

Context

The following breakdown of feedback summarises ‘top line’ responses and common themes from individuals and organisations.

Feedback received from organisations has been counted as a single piece of feedback, as with individuals, though we note it may represent the views of multiple people. As such, feedback from individuals and organisations is presented separately to allow decision-makers to consider it as they see appropriate.

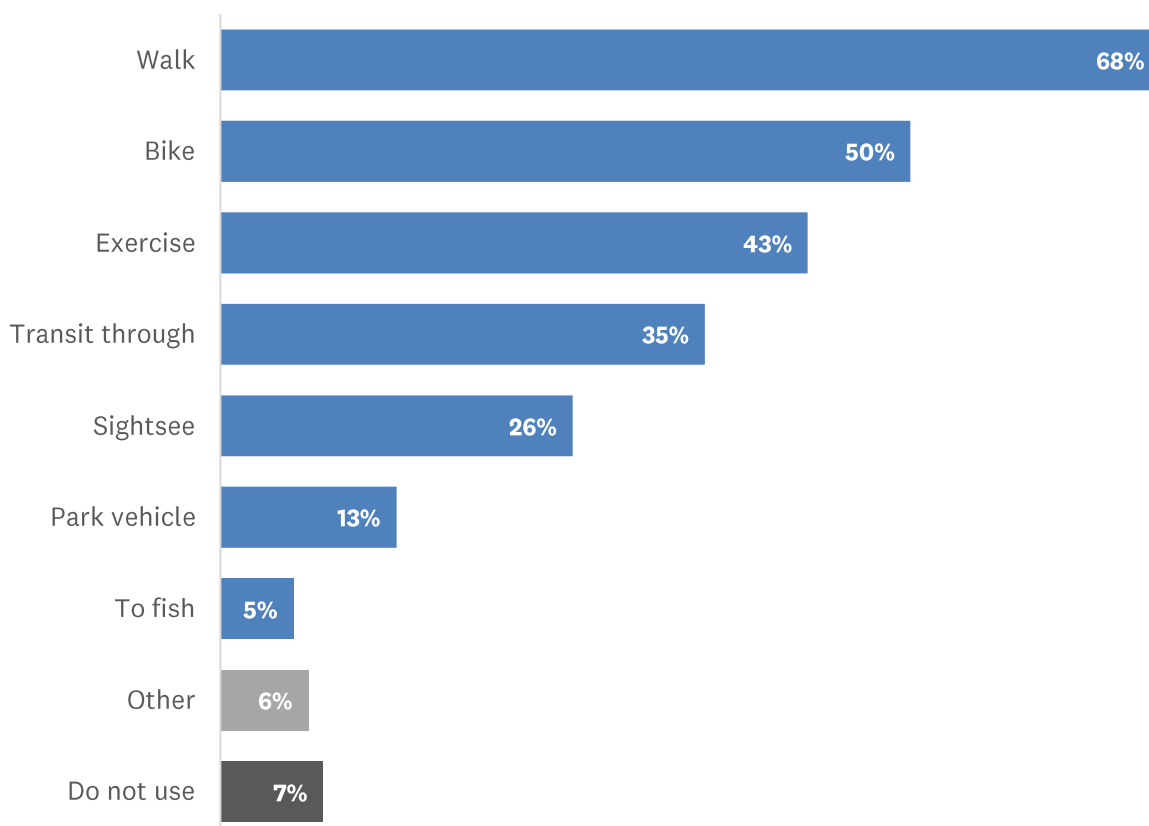
Where comments provided in one question relate to another question, e.g. where a negative comment was provided when asked for what they like about the proposed upgrade, these comments were themed against the relevant question. The number of comments referenced for each question therefore represents the number of comments relevant to that question.

Urupare

Feedback

1.0 How do you currently use Harbour Bridge Park?

Submitters were asked to select all applicable options from the list below (n=94)



People most commonly use Harbour Bridge Park to walk (around two thirds) or bike (around half). Exercise and to transit through were also common uses.

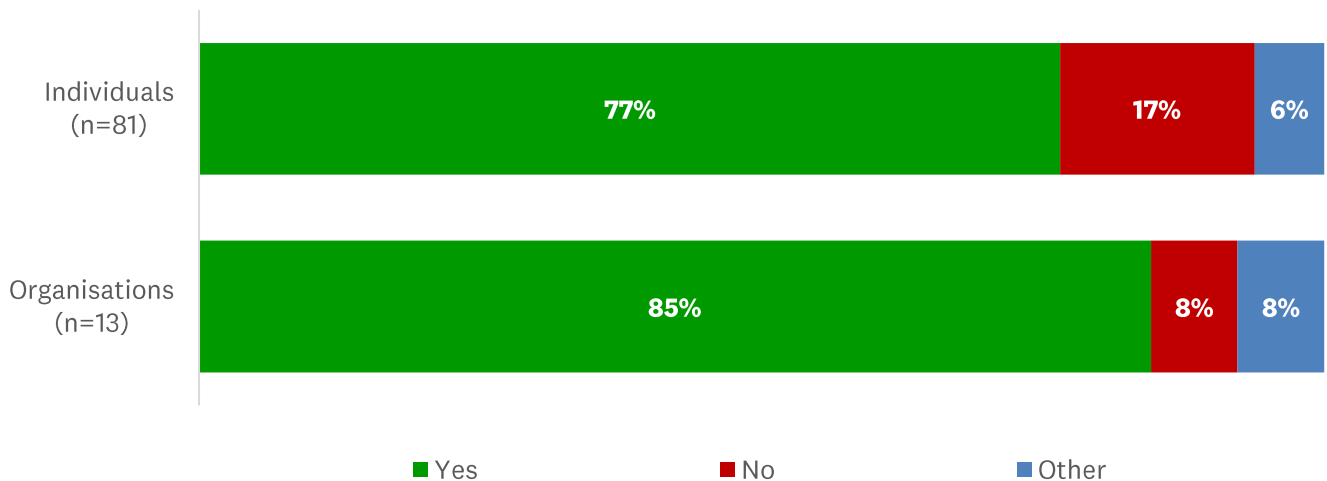
Response	Comments
Walk	64
Bike	47
Exercise	40
Transit through	33
Sightsee	24
Park vehicle	12
To fish	5
Other reason	6
Do not use	7

Of the six individuals who provided an 'other reason' for how they currently use the park, those reasons included:

- Walking their dog
- Using a scooter
- Getting coffee from the local café
- Picnicing
- Watching the sun set

2.0 Do you support the Harbour Bridge Park upgrade?

Submitters were asked to select one of the following options (n=94)



Response	Individuals	Organisations
Yes	62	11
No	14	1

Other	5	1
TOTAL	81	13

Overall, 77 per cent of individual submitters **support** the Harbour Bridge Park upgrade, and 17 per cent **do not support** the upgrade. A further six per cent provided an ‘other’ response, including support for the idea but requesting more information about costs, or would like to get rid of the road all together.

Overall, 11 organisations **support** the Harbour Bridge Park upgrade, one organisation **does not support** the upgrade, and one organisation provided an ‘other’ response – suggesting a greater focus on aquatic activities.

3.0 What do you like about the Harbour Bridge Park upgrade?

Submitters were asked to comment in an open text box (n=78)

Individuals

Of the 68 individuals who commented on this question, the most common themes include:



Improvements to pedestrian accessibility and safety

31 comments



Improvements to cycling accessibility and safety

22 comments



Traffic improvements (including Curran Street, and the separation of cars and parking)

21 comments



Recreational improvements (including seating, sightseeing and amenities)

18 comments

Organisations

Of the 10 organisations that commented on this question, the most common themes include:



Improvements to pedestrian accessibility and safety

Four comments

In addition:

- Two like the improvements to cycling accessibility and safety
- Two like the improvements to recreational activities (including seating, sightseeing and amenities)
- Two like the traffic improvements (on Curran Street such as the separation of cars and parking)
- Two like that there is less priority for cars
- Two like the improvements to the Wāhi tapu site (site of significance).

4.0 What do you not like about the Harbour Bridge Park upgrade?

Submitters were asked to comment in an open text box (n=63)

Individuals

Of the 52 individuals who commented on this question, the most common themes include:



Feel like the project is a waste of money

12 comments



Want more improvements so there is less priority on cars and/or to remove car access

12 comments



Want more amenities (including lighting, seating, toilets)

10 comments

Organisations

Of the 11 organisations that commented on this question, the most common themes include:



Want more amenities (including lighting, seating, toilets)

10 comments

In addition:

- Two want more improvements for pedestrians
- Two want more safety improvements
- Two want more priority for cars (more parking, more access)
- Two want less priority for cars and/or to remove car access
- Two want to see better accessibility

5.0 Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the Harbour Bridge Park upgrade?

Submitters were asked to comment in an open text box (n=62)

Individuals

Of the 53 individuals who commented on this question, 10 generally support the Harbour Bridge Park upgrades, while eight do not support the improvements. Other feedback raised a desire for further improvements to pedestrian and cycling accessibility (13 comments).

Organisations

Of the nine organisations that commented on this question, four want more amenities to be included (such as toilets, seating, shaded areas, and other recreational areas), and two would like further improvements to pedestrian and cycling accessibility.