

This document provide a summary of the feedback received for the Rakaia Salmon Site enhancement project.

The survey used to obtain feedback was run until 4 October 2019. There were 106 responses were received through survey monkey (100 online and 6 on paper form).

Question One – What do you think about the enhancements to the Rakaia Salmon Site we are proposing?

In general, most respondents supported the proposed plan. Concerns were raised regarding access to the site for those parking on the opposite side of State Highway One.

See Appendix One for details of the comments received.

Comments were received on the following topics:

Common themes	Number of respondents which commented
General support	69
Surrounding roads, bus drop off, parking	17
General opposition	10
Toilets	6
Seating	6
Planting	6
Other	5
Dump station	4
Playground	4
Lighting	3
Signage	2
Drinking fountain	1
Information centre	1
Shelter	1

Question Two - We plan on adding some new playground equipment at the site. Do you have any suggestions for the type of equipment you would like to see at the site? Have you seen any playground equipment at other sites which we should consider?

The most commonly mentioned features were a flying fox, age-specific equipment and climbing structures. The Margaret Mahy playground was most commonly mentioned as a playground Council should consider.

Suggested feature	Number of submitters
Flying fox	15
Age specific equipment	13
Climbing structures	13
Swings	11
Slide	10
Outdoor gym/ sporting equipment	7
Farm equipment	6
Paddling pool/water play area/feature	6
Hampster wheel	3
Trampoline	3
Cricket nets	2
Merry go rounds	2
Monkey bars	2
Fort	1
Hydro slide	1
Seesaw	1
Skate park/bowl	1
Scooter parks	1
Tree walk	1

Other playgrounds quoted for inspiration	Number of submitters
Margaret Mahy Playground, Christchurch	6
Foster Park Playground, Rolleston	5
Pegasus Playground	1

Appendix one – comments received on Question One:

Question One - What do you think about the enhancements to the Rakaia Salmon Site we are proposing?

Theme	Comment
General support	35 comments stating 'good', 'very good', 'great'
	Living locally we often use the park and toilet facilities when we shop in Rakaia. I agree with all the proposed improvements for the salmon site.
	I think it is fabulous for Rakaia and I support this project going forward
	I really like it. I just hope we don't lose any of the playground that we have already
	Looks good! It's a stop for many people so to have it looking good would be great
	It is nice but is it necessary?
	Like the changes, the space is due for a freshen up.
	Seems very simple but well layed out
	I understand spending money on a toilet upgrade and additional signage. It's exciting
	It looks good, its well overdue for a revamp and the toilets have been pretty terrible for quite some time.
	Excellent for the region
	Appears inviting and user-friendly
	Well overdue, Rakaia township is on SH 1 and often the first stop for visitors to our district.
	Enhancements sound very promising can't wait to see the final results. I feel the current space is underutilised and will be enhanced once done
	Anything to make something that the local kids can use as well as people passing buy is great.
	If it can be achieved it will be loved
	I think it's a great idea, the park needed some attention for a while. I think this will definitely attract more people to the park while being able to learn more about the big fish and buildings!
	Looks really nice and inviting
	Fantastic for Rakaia
	Good you're doing something, but it's a little boring
	Looks great as long as fish stays!
	I think it does not need a lot of enhancements.
	It's a step in the right direction
	I think it's a good idea because at the moment if we drive past the park we could not see the Salmon site clearly from the road because of so many bushes near it.
	Very much needed with the amount of people stopping here.
	Just a bigger area for tourists to wait for the toilet, that's all.
	I think it's a good idea because at the moment if we drive past the park we could not see the Salmon site clearly from the road because of so many bushes near it.
	I like the path loop around the site
	Love the trees. Love that the toilets will be upgraded. Love that playground will be updated and improved. Looks great
	Definitely an amazing playground. Heaps of picnic tables. Shade sails for summer over picnic tables and play equipment. And far nicer toilets!!!!
	Love the trees. Love that the toilets will be upgraded. Love that playground will be updated and improved. Looks great
	I think they will be a real asset
	Great long needed work as a lot of people stop there
Looks alright, although haven't visited the current site so don't know what it is like.	
General opposition	A bit over the top. No need to shift swings.
	Difficult to see and understand plan, font very small, picture or schematic be useful
	Rakaia is trash
	More important things need to happen than this

	Crap! Can't see on mobile phone screen!!!! Use a few calls n make it laptop/desktop only!!
	It's a bit boring, not that different to what is already there and costing so much money
	Pretty extensive redesign, a bit intensive for one block, would be nice to pave the road between salmon tales and the salmon with continuing the planting design along the front of the restaurant
	Waste of money
	Shit
	not sure how it is going to cost \$1m plus. more picnic tables needed. Plenty of light to stop vandals
Toilets	More toilets are definitely required. The existing toilet pans are too low for older people to use. You can only wash one hand at a time in the hand basins as you need to hold the tap down with the other hand and there are no plugs. The hot water is also far too hot.
	After discussions with two Council officers and fellow Lions club members on site I would suggest revisiting the 10 pan public toilets.
	Suggest moving it a 1/4 turn and as far south west in that place as possible thus providing more parking space.
	Any upgrade on the toilets will be most welcomed they are always used in high demand with tourist buses.
	Regards the new Toilet Block I think there should be charge for usage . Mostly using them are tourists who only stop there and do not spend money locally
	Utilise the existing toilet building enhance the area and if it can be gutted and used for another purpose that would be great.
	The toilets need to be clearly marked possibly enlarged to allow for more access for the disabled. There is currently only one toilet for wheelchair access. There is no facility for changing a baby. A mother with a baby and other young children has nowhere to safely change the baby and toilet other children other than the one disabled facility.
Drinking fountain	Drinking fountain would be a great addition to the park. A fountain would be a great addition to the park. A fountain with a dog water bowl attachment would also be good. I have seen them in Christchurch parks.
Seating	Additional seating would be good as sometimes all the picnic tables are in use. The wind can be cold in the park so placement of the tables needs to be thought through.
	Nice but didn't see much in the way of seating
	Think there needs to be more seating options closer to playground
	Would like to see a few more seating areas and picnic tables please.
	I like the idea of the picnic tables as I find there is very limited seating and places to relax in the park
	More picnic tables
Signage	Rakaia History Signage. I enjoy reading this and have seen a lot of visitors to the park reading the placards.
	There needs to be signage about the salmon and why it's there. Also about the links to the buildings that were once on the site of the rail line to the village.
Dump station	I look after the camp area at South Rakaia Huts and I am continually told of the problems that campervans and especially buses have in gaining access to the existing dump area mainly due to tourist buses, parking over the entrance way and refusing to move. I have witnessed this myself several times when in Rakaia. A separate dump station site away from the toilet block and salmon tales building would be a good idea. It is essential for Rakaia to have a dump station, especially as the Templeton Christchurch site has now shut and I have been told that people with large buses towing a vehicle find access difficult at the new Ashburton site in East Street. Please design the new dump station site with plenty of room for access.
	Looks good. But many vehicles find the dump station not suitable for anything larger than a van. Has this been addressed?
	Can't see motorhome grey or black waste dump station, would like to see it included.
	Hopefully the dump station will be shifted.
Information centre	I would strongly suggest that the existing toilet building be converted to an information centre with seating etc, the existing building to be extended to complete the hexagonal

	shape on the n/w side, skylights and windows installed for lighting and viewing the salmon.
Planting	I would also question the inclusion of cabbage trees in the plan. They look the part, smell good but are very messy.
	Love the native planting and swings being in the shade.
	The hydrangeas around that building also need saving they are fantastic
	Please keep the blossoms but maybe some of the really big trees are covering the fish.
	Looks great! Good to see proposed shrubs will be kept to a low level so you can see small children
	Planting is a good idea but should not be dense enough to encourage people to hide in it
Surrounding roads, bus drop off, parking	Also a drop off and pick up for buses to relieve congestion. Block off entrance to State Highway at Salmon Tales.
	Only thing about playground have council thought of putting the underpass that Rakaia has permission to do in at the same time so the children in the east side of main road be able to cross safely to use the playground.
	Consider reducing road speed limits through Rakaia
	More car parking to allow visitors to access the site.
	Lastly a lights controlled crossing across the motorway like they have for a main walk path/cycle way outside Hagley Park. Safety is a big concern when crossing that road and young kids need to cross this road daily to get to school/shops and play areas some children are only escorted by older siblings really garden areas in the playground is not a priority but children's safety is.
	A safer crossing for pedestrians living on the East side of State Highway One to cross State Highway One and enjoy the site
	Also before you go ahead and do anything... the speed limit needs to be dropped through Rakaia to 50km... at 70km most people still do 80km or 75km. THIS MAIN ROAD IS RIDICULOUSLY BUSY COMPARED TO A FEW YEARS AGO!! We also need a crossing. Half of Rakaia has kids who cannot get across the main road to this playground. MAKE RAKAIA MORE FAMILY FRIENDLY!
	I think improving the parking needs to be prioritised as I have witnessed small crashes between slow moving vehicles and parked cars.
	Needs underpass to other side of main road
	Yes it looks lovely shame one half have to cross the state highway and risk their lives to utilise it
	Fix the first join on the Rakaia bridge when heading south
	I think Rakaia needs a pedestrian crossing. The road is a death trap for family's
	Wondering if there is a plan for the road crossing. There are many family's that need to cross the road and having a 50k an hour speed limit would make a massive difference to the 1/2 of Rakaia that live the other side. The traffic has increase dramatically in the 6 years we have lived here and slowing the traffic so all of Rakaia and it's visitors could use this park facility would be essential to gain full benefit from the money spent in the area.
	Once again - you need to consider a safe way for the children living on the East side to get across State Highway One to enjoy the facility
	A safe way to cross the main highway to reach it from the east side would be smart thinking.
	A crossing is the most important thing before anything in the park easy access to site and safety from highway is also important
Lighting	Improve lighting at the salmon.
	it seems maintenance is required around the fish lighting and other water feature.
	it's a good start. lighting at night would be good
Playground	I'd love to see some type of paddling pool or child friendly water feature where they can push buttons and water comes out of different holes in ground or nozzles / fountains in the air. What kid (& adult) doesn't love water!!
	The playground needs to be fully fenced properly as right now (LITTLE ONES CAN EASILY SLIP AWAY) it's not and it's too close to a VERY busy road for this not to be an issue!
	Paths joining the playground

	It's o, but it needs to be a destination that will keep people stopping every time. Make the playground people will travel to visit like Margaret Mary or Foster park. Some shade on the playground. good fencing..BBQ's to make people want to stay.. Water splash areas etc. that will make families stop. Trees and gardens are pretty but that's not what you stop for
Shelter	Would like to see a covered area that would provide shelter to tourists who stop on a rainy day
Other	Have you thought about a photo platform so people have somewhere to stand to get a picture in front of the fish? For the photographer and the poser. Is there enough distance either side of the fish to get a good photo that wouldn't put anyone in danger?
	It would be spectacular if the fish slowly rotated
	Paths joining the playground, the toilets and the salmon. This would assist wheelchairs and pushchairs alike
	You have gone down the wrong track here. What Rakaia and Mid-Canterbury needs, is a statue of the greatest living Rakaiaresian, A.H.A Smith in full flight, perhaps completing one of his famous place kicks or something similar.
	Who is going to continuously maintain the gardens especially the large garden bed? I like the idea of park like setting which requires some garden but the kids will want to climb stomp and run through the plants and it ends up looking terrible very quickly and to me a waste of the improvement budget. Historical stuff is good for tourists and worth spending the money on however the residents need to be catered for and I think I'm not alone in thinking it would be good to see some more playground activities possibly even some aimed at adults/teens when currently there is not a lot on offer for teens outdoor gym style equipment would be great. Keep the gardens free of grasses/small shrubs easily crushed or damaged by children. Use fruit trees or shrubs that grow like green hedges and plant around the edges to provide a little more of a barrier between motorway and play areas and also works as wind barrier at lower levels. I see nothing about shelter from sun for summer use. Summer are play areas busiest period and in nz is definitely required.

Question Two - We plan on adding some new playground equipment at the site. Do you have any suggestions for the type of equipment you would you like to see at the site? Have you seen any playground equipment at other sites which we should consider?

Suggested feature	Number of submitters	Comments
Flying fox	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Massive flying fox like the one in Ashburton domain • A flying fox like at Hinds
Age specific equipment	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just equipment suitable for various age groups; such as a dedicated area and equipment for under 5yr olds and some more challenging equipment for older children • Toddler area that has some developmentally appropriate challenge but not too easy it's boring. Then more challenging area for primary aged children • It needs a mix aged playground, for the over 6/7 yr olds not just infants
Climbing structures	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climbing rope like Methven • A climbing net pyramid
Swings	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More of the swings for children 3 and under. • Bird nest swing • The baby swings with the seat swing in front so you can face your baby
Slide	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Big wide slide like at Timaru • A better large slide that won't heat up and burn legs • A better slide • Toddler sized slides
Outdoor gym/ sporting equipment	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise equipment for the adults. Rolleston and cairns is where I have seen them • I wondered about a volleyball net. I have seen groups use the green space near the "jail" for playing volleyball. Or a basketball hoop and key
Farm equipment	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping with the farming, country theme would be good! • The drum thingy that rolls around is popular so think it should stay. • The tractor that's there now is a great hit • Fixed tractor and motorcycles
Paddling pool/water play area/feature	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A water play area with water type ground equipment for summer months. Then locals will travel • Water features for children to play with like Margaret Mahy but smaller scale. Or paddling pool
Hampster wheel	3	
Trampoline	3	
Cricket nets	2	
Merry go rounds	2	
Monkey bars	2	
Fort	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larger more engaging fort
Hydro slide	1	
Seesaw	1	
Skate park/bowl	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skate park/bowl. It would keeps the kids off the footpaths around the town so the older people on there scooters don't have to worry about kids on scooters or skate boards •

Scooter parks	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A scooter park would be awesome for the kiids of rakaia
Tree walk	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treewalk - pretty cool. Have them in Australia caged/netting walks up in air. Ladder at beginning. Slide at end.

General comments

- No ideas on what to add but more is always nice so there is something for everyone as it gets busy down there sometimes
- Don't believe needs new play equipment
- Robust equipment that will stand up to the foreign tourists
- Nothing much is needed
- Not really what is there is pretty good
- Grassed bank with tunnels
- I'm a camper owner. And it's always great to have a great playground for kids to play when we use the dump station. I hope the Rakaia dump station is included in the plans
- A lot of new playgrounds have weird equipment kids don't know how to use and aren't challenging enough - too safe
- The existing ones are ok but with some additional like tables and seats with shades.
- Nope, ADC make great playgrounds, I'm sure this one will be the same.
- Children can make games from anything if let to. So no suggestions for playground equipment.
- I think just the standard equipment would be fine
- Yes Safe Recycled Rubber soft fall arresting mats
- Something to climb and then slide down.