

SOUTH DUNEDIN FUTURE UPDATE



Climate change discussions on hold, but we'll be back

Warm greetings from the DCC at this tough, strange time of lockdown. We are grateful for this chance to update you on some of our projects in South Dunedin.

We have had to press pause on our South Dunedin Future climate change discussions because of the COVID-19 outbreak. We will not be able to hold face-to-face meetings for some weeks at least and people need the space to be able to focus on looking after their families, whānau and neighbours.

It's a pity to have to pause because we have made a strong start. More than 30 groups have invited us to meet with them. We have held our first six meetings and all of them were positive. The community certainly seems ready to talk about the climate change challenges and opportunities that are coming, and to start planning some ways forward.

We will reassess the situation after Easter and get back in touch with all groups to make a plan and reschedule our meetings. We will restart the project as soon as we are able. The issues are certainly not going away, so we will be back!

Many of the questions so far have been about the long-term future viability of the area. The honest answer is we know South Dunedin will have to change, and will look different in the decades to come, but we don't yet know how different. There is no plan to abandon South Dunedin. What we want to do is together with the community come up with ways to safeguard its future, and make the area better and stronger. To do this we will need to be brave and creative, and work together as community and council.

There's plenty more information at www.dunedin.govt.nz/southdunedin, or email us at southdunedinfuture@dcc.govt.nz.

Library co-design continues

One exciting project which is spurring some creative thinking is the new South Dunedin library and community complex. Co-design conversations with the community started in February and are helping confirm what is important to have in the building, and how the library and community complex can play a role in the long-term future of South Dunedin. The project is continuing during the lockdown with key project staff working from home and staff are looking into different ways to carry on with co-design while social distancing is in place.

St Clair – St Kilda Coastal Plan goes online

Last month we started talking with the community about the St Clair – St Kilda coast and what makes the area special to them. Workshops for the plan have been cancelled due to the lockdown however, we are currently working in the background to plan for future meetings ahead. We want to make sure your voice is heard for this plan and that everyone has the opportunity to be involved.

Our webpage is up and running now so visit us online at www.dunedin.govt.nz/coastandcommunity. There you can fill out an online survey and read up about the plan. We would like to thank everyone who has been involved so far, we really appreciate your time. If you have any questions about the plan you can drop us a message at Coast&Community@dcc.govt.nz.



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