

## Central city May 2023 updates - Pōneke Promise

### Courtenay Place clean up

In the ICW February survey, it was clear that Courtenay Place is an area of concern for residents. We heard that it has lost its shine, has dirty streets, graffiti and empty shopfronts. The lack of cleanliness is the number one concern we hear from businesses across the city as well. With the opening of Tākina and the FIFA World Cup on the horizon, now is the time to ensure that our streets are looking as fresh and clean as they can as we head into this busy time.

Over one day and working with businesses, Council will coordinate a community clean-up for Courtenay Place. With a concentrated effort we want to make a visible improvement in the short term, while also recognising longer-term, more transformational change will be delivered through LGWM's Golden Mile programme.

The Courtenay Clean Up is connected to the Pōneke Promise, which is working towards a safe, vibrant and welcoming central city. Key outcomes of this programme include public spaces are clean and well maintained, full of life and that people are proud of their inner-city neighbourhood.

We've identified a range of ways to freshen up Courtenay Place – from cleaning and graffiti removal, to empty shop activations and artwork. We'll be sharing more in coming weeks – including opportunities for volunteers from our communities and across council to be part of the day.

***We'd like to invite Inner city residents to join with the role of a litter clean up organised through Sustainability Trust. We will be in touch with more details soon.***

### Tākina

A residents day is being planned in an upcoming weekend so that people can visit Tākina throughout the day. The date will be announced around the opening media next week. A neighbours visit for immediate neighbouring apartment buildings and businesses is also being planned. This will likely be drop in session one evening. The date for this will be confirmed shortly.

### Victoria St toilets

The Vic St temporary toilets have been delivered Wednesday 24/05. Work is underway to connect it to water, sewer, and power. It will also be made level for accessible access. We expect this process will take approximately 2 weeks, weather depending – then it will be operational. We will be “wrapping” this in a bright and friendly decal in the coming weeks. Signage will be for gender neutral toilets, in english and te reo.

We have confirmed that these toilets will be operational from 6am to 10pm daily and locked overnight, and in the regular public toilet cleaning schedule.

The Victoria St toilets are temporary and we have designed these with Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles in mind, as well as to ensure it looks bright and friendly. We have had an external CPTED report commissioned, ensuring there are good sightlines and layout, to help deter anti-social behaviour, reduce fears and increase perception of safety. We are installing a new CCTV camera on the corner of Victoria St and Ghuznee St, which will cover the toilets and the general area.

## **Pōneke Pulse**

Our monthly economic data report. This month has a focus on Regional Economics. Key messages are:

- It's clear the city is still experiencing an economic hangover with spending in the CBD volatile whilst the suburbs remain stable
- We take a look at the relationship between the city and the region, the headline being that the region relies on Wellington city for jobs, and the city needs the region for liveability factors.

## **Youth Hub – Te Tai Ohinga**

We've been gifted a beautiful name by Kura Moeahu, Chairman Te Rūnanganui o Te Āti Awa, who has been working with supporting the Council to understand the history and narratives of Pōneke, and share this through our names across the city.

The name is Te Tai Ohinga. Te Tai refers to the tides of the sea, and Ohinga is a word referencing youth which is derived from Taranaki and connects the opportunity for youth in Pōneke to make a resurgence now that we have a safe space coming for them to hang out. There will always be young people in Pōneke, just as the tide will always ebb and flow.

You can find out more here: <https://wellington.govt.nz/news-and-events/news-and-information/our-wellington/2023/05/youth-hub>

## **Century City Apartments**

Wellington City Council, Police, and the Wellington City Mission met with the Century City Apartment body corporate. Wellington City Council has recently taken over the majority share of the carparking building. Some issues at this apartment are consistent with those broadly faced by inner city apartments, but it was clear that this block faces some unique challenges due to the carpark. CCA showed us extreme examples of the results of anti-social behaviour and are keen to work collaboratively with WCC to make the place safer for tenants and carpark users. The first steps in an ongoing relationship include a deep clean, encouraged use of FIXIT and reporting to Police, and organising a CPTED audit of the carpark in July. Once we have a report, WCC will work with the Body Corporate on a plan forward.