

Media Release: Avon-Ōtākaro river trail taking shape

For immediate release

What's it going to look like? The [new transitional cycle and walk trail](#) along the banks of the Avon-Ōtākaro River will be marked with - a footprint....or is it if you take a look again?

Avon-Ōtākaro Network's logo competition for the trail just closed. With great excitement, the judges pored over more than 50 wonderful creative entries that came in from all ages.

The winning entry by Woody Lee, a recent Landscape Architecture graduate from Lincoln University- now Lead Designer and Coordinator at Landscape DesignLab, has been chosen to be front and centre on all trail signage which will be installed in coming months.

"The winning design reflects all the trail's key themes and reflects the old Native American saying 'Take only memories, leave only footprints'" explains Evan Smith, spokesperson for the Avon-Ōtākaro Network.

"It cleverly includes a number of elements: a tuna (eel), the river, the sea, and water all interconnected and incorporated into a footprint."

In Woody's own words, he states "ultimately, it allows everyone to find their meaning in it, like the Avon River [itself]..."

When Avon-Ōtākaro Network tracked Woody down overseas, where he is currently scoping a project with Lincoln University, he said he was "honoured" to have won.

Evan Smith describes the river trail as "a great transitional initiative to bring easy access for everyone to the amenity of the lower Avon and the surrounding red zone." The majority of the trail will be a fine grit path, suitable for a wide range of uses such as runners, walkers, and cyclists.

"We've had an enthusiastic response to the creation of the transitional trail. There's a definite feeling of let's get stuck in to make this happen."

The river trail project is supported by Regenerate Christchurch, Christchurch City Council, City Care Ltd and sponsored by the Ministry of Social Development.