

The Ōtākaro Avon River (Red Zone) Corridor – Where to from here?

Sponsored by Avon-Ōtākaro Network and Eastern Vision

The draft Regeneration Plan for the Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor (OARC) was published on 14 November. However, it is essentially a spatial plan that says little about governance, ownership, funding or implementation, despite these being key to its success. It is important that options for this are fully explored and debated, and that your views are heard, otherwise by default these roles are all likely to transfer to Christchurch City Council.

But it already has its hands full with significant anchor projects and does not have the singular focus to take this on effectively. International experience shows that urban regeneration is most successful when undertaken by an agency INDEPENDENT of the municipal authority and political and bureaucratic interference. It is also much easier to attract international investment when such independence is established.

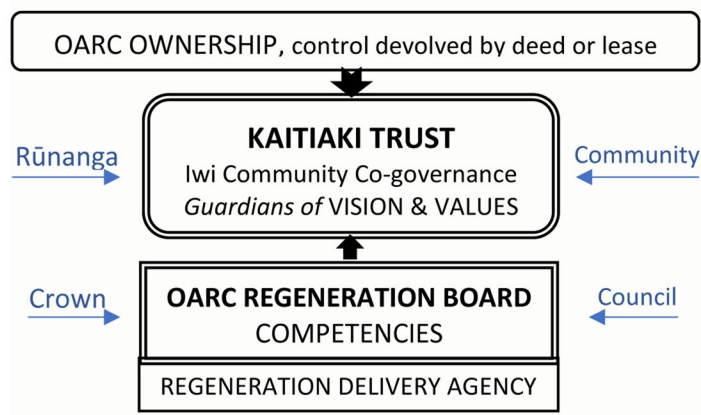
We need a robust public debate on these matters with full exploration of options! There are many questions to consider.
Make sure you ask for all options for OARC governance and ownership to be fully explored in your submission on the draft Regeneration Plan

Governance: Who should govern the corridor and its regeneration?
Ownership: Who should own the lands?

Funding: Who funds regeneration?
Implementation: Who delivers the plan?

Option: Here's what one option might look like ... What do you think? Let Regenerate Christchurch know!

- Establish an independent KAIATIAKI TRUST with a guardianship/kaitiaki role based on the Vision, Values and Objectives of the OARC Plan with provision for Iwi/Community co-governance, informed by advisory groups.
- To ensure the appropriate set of competencies are included in governance of the *delivery* of regeneration, we propose a REGENERATION BOARD, based on a Statement of Competencies, to deliver the Plan with provision for a representative from Crown and Council. This would be accountable to the Trust.
- Members of the Trust could be jointly APPOINTED AND ELECTED, but the Regeneration Board members need to be appointed according to the competency criteria, by Crown, Council and Trust Chair.
- Consolidate the OARC Regeneration Area under SINGLE TITLE as one integral entity by Act of Parliament and transfer it to one public owner for \$1.



An Option we like – what do you want to see?

- Options for OWNERSHIP include Council, Crown, the Kaitiaki Trust, or invoke Legal Personality on the OARC lands / waterways so the corridor owns itself.
- Whoever the owner, transfer all CONTROL and responsibilities for the OARC (including waterways) to the Trust via lease or deed.
- Long-term FUNDING AGREEMENTS need to be secured with Crown/CCC before any land is transferred, committing public funding at specified times for specific elements eg infrastructure, greenspace and operational maintenance budgets.
- PRIVATE and PHILANTHROPIC investment needs to be secured.
- A new lean, non-bureaucratic AGENCY accountable to the Regeneration Board is established to secure, finance and manage a programme of contracts and subleases to deliver regeneration according to an agreed implementation plan Including short, medium and long term uses.