

Media Release

50,000th visitor to Future Christchurch Showcase expected

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Thousands of people have taken the opportunity to explore everything that is happening in greater Christchurch at the Future Christchurch Showcase with the 50,000th visitor expected this week.

The Future Christchurch Showcase, located in Re:START Mall, highlights the recovery and rebuild progress throughout greater Christchurch. It features more than 50 videos that document suburban activities and central city progress, as well as a 3D central city flythrough and an exhibition on the Avon River Precinct.

Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority acting Chief Executive John Ombler says that the Showcase has proved to be a great success with an average of 1400 people visiting each week.

"People are telling us they are excited to see the plans for the city and how inspired they are with the city's resilience," says Mr Ombler.

"The display information ranges from community markets to transitional architecture to the anchor projects and covers all areas of the recovery."

"The number of visitors each week has continued to grow. The Showcase is an important space for us to connect with the community and let them know what is happening."

John Suckling, chairman of the Re:START the Heart Trust, says the Future Christchurch Showcase has been a perfect addition to the container mall.

"Re:Start has always been about celebrating the Christchurch CBD and providing a focal point for the inner city until new buildings are complete."

Future Christchurch has also recently launched Chch Story, a brand new mobile app packed full of inspirational stories from real people who're making their mark on the city, as well as anchor project updates and interesting facts and figures about the rebuild and recovery. Stories are geo-tagged, so when the app is opened, viewers will automatically see a map with the stories that are closest to them.

"Initiatives like Chch Story are bringing to life the stories behind the bricks and mortar and giving people the opportunity to see what's happening in the medium they like best," says Mr Ombler.

Chch Story is available for free download for both Apple and Android on the Apple App store or through Google Play, for more details go to <http://www.futurechristchurch.co.nz/ever-evolving/chch-story>. The Future Christchurch Showcase is open from 10am to 5pm daily, and is staffed by Future Christchurch ambassadors to provide people with up to date information and help them navigate the displays.