



The St Albans Community Strategy

Organised by the St Albans Residents Association (SARA) Inc.

List Selection Information Sheet

BACKGROUND

It is hard to argue against the concept of a community taking more ownership and responsibility for its future. If anything has shown that people have the power to make a significant difference it has been the response to the earthquakes. There is a fresh vigour amongst the residents' of Christchurch, a desire for positive action to improve the quality of life in the city.

The St Albans Residents' Association has engaged consultants Resilience New Zealand Limited to assist in developing a community strategy for the area. The first stage is near completion and we are seeking the help of informed community leaders to assist in the selection of twenty projects to undertake over the next ten years.

A survey was sent to all households in the area and has netted over 700 ideas from citizens, which have resulted in 67 valid projects (many have been grouped together, such as "Develop sense of place").

Twenty projects will be selected and presented to the community of St Albans very shortly. Those projects will form the basis of resilience-based community development that will increase citizen participation, volunteerism, civic pride and the amenity value of the area.

The process is based on the Newlands Model and has a robust underlying methodology. The entire strategy is grounded in the four principles of community resilience:

1. Social Capital
2. Information Sharing
3. Community Competence
4. Equity

WHAT IS SARA?

SARA is the St Albans Residents' Association. St Albans is a large inner city residential area of Christchurch with a population of around 22,000. It is a diverse area with people of many cultures, religions and lifestyles in residence. St Albans encompasses many areas more often known by their postal code designation such as Edgware, Mairehau, Rutland and Merivale.

The St Albans Residents Association (SARA) was formed in 1966 and today is a proactive group with the aim to foster a spirit of community and play a part in the development of a vibrant and healthy area.





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YOUR ROLE AS ARBITERS

We have asked eight people to act as arbiters to assist us in formulating the 'Top Twenty' list; you are one of them. Each arbiter (or 'panellist') is provided a list, divided into four sections, and a set of criteria to help make an informed decision. The criteria are necessary to ensure a good mix of practical and visionary content makes it to the final list.

Making your selection is simple: just tick five circles on each of the four voting papers, attached.

Once all panellists have submitted their choices the final list will be put together and released in the St Albans News and on our website (www.stalbans.gen.nz). Nothing published will enable identification of any panellist's choice.

Some items have been 'distilled' into broad categories to enable you to identify areas of importance to the community. In this case the project will be an aggregate of a number of similar suggestions.

WHAT TO DO NOW

- Read this information sheet carefully.
- Contact Emma Twaddell (communitycentre@stalbans.gen.nz or 027 2886334) if you are unclear on anything.
- Set some time aside this week to work on your list... about one hour is recommended.

SOME RESTRICTIONS

- Your list is your list – it is important you do not contact other panellists. However, we encourage you to use your close family or friends as a sounding board, especially if you are considering something that wouldn't normally affect you.
- Please refer any enquiries from the media to Emma Twaddell.

WRAPPING UP

1. Scan and email your final list once it is completed to communitycentre@stalbans.gen.nz or hand it to Emma or Lorna. Make sure you get it back to us by Sunday 16th September.
2. The final list will be published in late September.
3. We will be launching the St Albans Ten Year Strategy at the SARA AGM on September 25th 2012. As a panellist you will be an honoured guest.



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CRITERIA

- A. Keep in mind the area covered by the plan is currently around 22,000 people (9,500 households) and will be an area of growth over the next ten years.
- B. Don't rule out choosing something if you know it is already in the planning stage: sometimes plans go astray and having the backing of the community can be essential.
- C. There are four categories, each with their own individual criteria to consider:
 - i. **The Built Environment**

Things that have a physical presence. Think about what already exists in the community and what might each built project brings to as wide an array of people as possible. Give equal weight to both public and private projects – SARA can also lobby to bring certain types of businesses to the area if need exists.
 - ii. **Provision of Services**

Consider the value of the services projects not only in terms of their output, but also in the benefits to the community as they are developed. Services often involve volunteerism, which helps boost social capital.
 - iii. **Arts, Culture and Recreation**

Be mindful that the St Albans community is made up of a diverse array of cultures, religions, age and socio-economic status, and that the strategy must reflect this.
 - iv. **Strategic (a vision for the future)**

Even if you feel they are not achievable, it is essential to building a sense of place that the community has a lofty goal to look forward to. When selecting strategic projects consider how inspirational they are to St Albans citizens and business owners.
- D. The order of the projects on the voting forms is alphabetic and does not represent any priority or importance.
- E. Finally, don't worry about how we will achieve what you put on your list... assume that the people of St Albans will find a way!



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THE LIST – Part One... The Built Environment

Choose only five projects by placing a tick ✓ in the relevant circle.

<input type="radio"/>	Artesian well water feature
<input type="radio"/>	Attract professional services to the area
<input type="radio"/>	Better parking
<input type="radio"/>	Build better bus shelters
<input type="radio"/>	Build larger St Albans skate park
<input type="radio"/>	Café/restaurant/dining businesses
<input type="radio"/>	Community facilities for citizens
<input type="radio"/>	Edgeware Village beautification
<input type="radio"/>	Family picnic/BBQ area at St Albans Park
<input type="radio"/>	Improve Warrington shopping area
<input type="radio"/>	Improved banking services
<input type="radio"/>	Make the area more accessible
<input type="radio"/>	Places to go for entertainment
<input type="radio"/>	Police kiosk
<input type="radio"/>	Public swimming pool
<input type="radio"/>	Public toilets at Edgeware Village
<input type="radio"/>	Renovate/improve parks
<input type="radio"/>	Safer roads and footpaths
<input type="radio"/>	Tavern/Pub
<input type="radio"/>	Upgrade council facilities

Great! Now vote on the next section...



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THE LIST – Part Two... Provision of Services

Choose only five projects by placing a tick ✓ in the relevant circle.

<input type="radio"/>	BBQ trailer
<input type="radio"/>	Bike hire
<input type="radio"/>	Budgeting advice
<input type="radio"/>	Civil Defence/Resilience
<input type="radio"/>	Cleaner community environment
<input type="radio"/>	Community facility brokerage
<input type="radio"/>	Community information
<input type="radio"/>	Community Patrol
<input type="radio"/>	Community-based education
<input type="radio"/>	Council services provided in area
<input type="radio"/>	Enhanced library services
<input type="radio"/>	Free Wi-Fi
<input type="radio"/>	Improved public transport
<input type="radio"/>	More local events
<input type="radio"/>	Programmes for elderly
<input type="radio"/>	Promotion of local clubs
<input type="radio"/>	Street garage sales
<input type="radio"/>	Timebank
<input type="radio"/>	Toy library
<input type="radio"/>	Walking school bus service

Awesome! Now vote on the next section...



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THE LIST – Part Three... Arts, Culture and Recreation

Choose only five projects by placing a tick ✓ in the relevant circle.

<input type="radio"/>	All weather sports area
<input type="radio"/>	Atakaro/Avon River park
<input type="radio"/>	Community arts and culture initiative
<input type="radio"/>	Community food production programme
<input type="radio"/>	Concert venue
<input type="radio"/>	Craft circle
<input type="radio"/>	Cultural events
<input type="radio"/>	Improve playgrounds
<input type="radio"/>	Malvern Park fitness trail
<input type="radio"/>	Open space dance classes
<input type="radio"/>	Sensory garden
<input type="radio"/>	Table tennis
<input type="radio"/>	Urban A&P Show
<input type="radio"/>	Village/farmers market
<input type="radio"/>	Youth arts, recreation and cultural events

Marvellous! Now vote on the last section...



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THE LIST – Part Four... Strategic (Long Term) Projects

Choose only five projects by placing a tick ✓ in the relevant circle.

<input type="radio"/>	Better quality housing
<input type="radio"/>	Child friendly community (UNICEF)
<input type="radio"/>	Co-ed secondary school
<input type="radio"/>	Crime reduction programme
<input type="radio"/>	Develop sense of place
<input type="radio"/>	Enhance community spirit
<input type="radio"/>	Expand St Albans School zone
<input type="radio"/>	NeighbourNet
<input type="radio"/>	Sustainable living
<input type="radio"/>	Take back the streets
<input type="radio"/>	Tram link to central city
<input type="radio"/>	Underground power lines

Wonderful! Now get these voting forms back real quick!

- 1) Scan and email to communitycentre@stalbens.gen.nz
- 2) Hand to Emma or Lorna

Before the sun goes down on Sunday 16th of September