



# JADE STADIUM

## CHRISTCHURCH

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Redrafted concept for proposed East Stand**

In response to feedback from neighbours and other key people, Jade Stadium has made some modifications to its initial concept plans to replace the ageing eastern stands and support the city's role in the 2011 Rugby World Cup and the 2015 Cricket World Cup.

The slightly modified concept drawings were recently shown to a meeting of the stadium's immediate neighbours and other interested parties.

"From the feedback that came in after the initial announcement, we could see the opportunity for Jade Stadium to become more connected with its surrounding community and so we have removed some of the barriers to this – the fences on the Wilsons Road, Stevens Street and Lismore Street frontages – and are looking at landscaping and planting the area that is not going to be used for car parking, as well as putting a café with indoor-outdoor seating on the Stevens Street and Wilsons Road corner," said Bryan Pearson, chief executive of Vbase Venue Management Group, managers of Jade Stadium.

"There has also been a bit of feedback about the traffic before and after a game, and we are taking the opportunity to review this, in particular how to create vehicle free pedestrian areas, minimise the effects of vehicles on Wilsons Road residents and how to maximise the use of public transport." he said.

Pearson said the additional 7000 seating would not significantly affect traffic at a major game, but the proposed development was an opportunity to address transport and traffic planning in conjunction with this next stage of development.

Other comments from people included the possibility of shading of properties opposite the proposed stand on Wilsons Road.

"We plan to minimise shading where possible, however recognise that for some local residents, this will increase. However, it is highly likely that both noise and light spill will decrease for nearby residents following completion of the stand," he said.

The overall plan calls for the removal of the No 1, 2 and 3 stands, and their replacement with an East Stand to bring Jade Stadium's permanent seating capacity to 43,000, with flexibility to increase this further for major events like the 2011 Rugby World Cup.

At three levels, the height of the proposed East Stand would be lower than the four-level Paul Kelly Stand.

The new stand also has the potential for 10,000 square metres of commercially leased office space that would have a Stevens Street address, but this is still subject to an on going feasibility study.

“Based on the concept plans, we are estimating the new stand and its services would cost \$60 million, plus an additional privately funded amount if the office complex proves commercially viable,” said Mr Pearson.

There were also several comments, as well as numerous letters to the editor, about how the proposed redevelopment would be funded.

“As was the case with the previous stand development at Jade Stadium, a lot of the East Stand project funding is planned to come from the private sector and stadium partners with the remainder expected from local and central government and a range of charitable and sporting trusts,” he said.

“The concept drawings are available for viewing, but they are by no means finalised and are subject to ongoing modification and change as we discuss these with all concerned. In particular we will work closely with the local Hagley-Ferrymead Community Board and the Charleston Neighbourhood Association to ensure any concerns are taken into consideration.”

“We are planning to lodge the consent application in November in order to meet the overall programme which is ultimately targeted at the 2011 Rugby World Cup,” said Mr Pearson. “We are encouraging this process to be notified in order to continue the consultative process already adopted with the community.”

For further information, please contact:

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For images of the concept plans for the new development please refer to the Jade Stadium website:

[www.jadestadium.co.nz](http://www.jadestadium.co.nz)