



Parakiore Recreation and Sport Centre

Progress Update

December 2022



In light of what have been some challenging conditions in the construction sector for a prolonged period, we have been reviewing the expected completion date for Parakiore.

Regrettably, construction of New Zealand's largest indoor sports and aquatics facility is now not expected to be completed until the spring of 2024, with construction sector constraints, challenging ground conditions and regular changes to the construction programme continuing to hamper progress.

We know people are incredibly eager to ride the hydroslides, play on the indoor courts and move their sport's HQ into Parakiore, but the contractor hasn't made enough progress during this challenging period to have the work completed late next year as planned, and has revised its timetable accordingly.

As the owner of Parakiore, Christchurch City Council will need time to commission the facility. If the build is finished towards the end of 2024 an early 2025 opening would be likely.

At the start of the project, CPB was forecasting having more than 300 workers on site for this main phase of the build. However, with reduced access to labour for a prolonged period and significant demand for construction workers across the sector, there have been periods when getting half that number on the tools has been a challenge.

As an example, it has been a struggle at times to get more than a quarter of the blocklayers needed on site to build the dozens of changing, storage and control rooms in the facility. Worker numbers are now increasing, which gives us greater confidence in the road ahead.

As we mentioned in the last update, there has been a small amount of subsidence around one of the dewatering wells. It's an area that's about 0.6% of the building's 19,000m² footprint but it needs to be remediated with jet grouting. This will also take some additional time and delay some work at the southern end of the pools building

While construction will take longer to complete, we have a fixed-price contract with the contractor and any variations beyond the \$317m already allocated will be worked through and agreed on with the contractor at a later date, but these won't prevent us completing this outstanding facility

We will continue to keep you updated on the completion date as construction progresses.



Over the past few weeks Melbourne-based Environmental Technology Solutions has been installing Parakiore's unique Waste Water Heat Recovery System in a separate plant room on St Asaph Street.

With a useful temperature of about 17 degrees, the flow from the major wastewater pipe that runs along St Asaph Street will be diverted into the plant room where the contents will be macerated, then run through the giant heat exchangers above. This heat will then be transferred to fresh water that will be used by the facility's heat pumps.

This is the first such system to be installed in New Zealand and will help keep heating costs down and lower greenhouse gas emissions.





Up above the pools, on the scaffolding you can see from Moorhouse Ave, some of the final interior finishes are coming to life.



In the photos above you can see the lining going on the five large 13m x 7m skylights over the pools. These diffuse the incoming natural light, so it won't disturb the swimmers or tv cameras below during events. The use of natural light also reduces the number of lights that need to be switched on during the day.

In the photo below you can see the first of 149 fabric ceiling panels being lifted into place, the largest of which are 9m x 5m in size. The ceiling creates a sealed cavity above the pools through which air can be circulated to ensure the windows around the pool remain free of condensaiton.



Thank you for your continued interest in the Parakiore Recreation and Sport Centre. Please get in touch if you have any questions.

We look forward to updating you again in February.

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For more information and updates on the Parakiore Recreation and Sport Centre and other Crown-led Anchor Projects in Central Christchurch please visit www.otakaroltd.co.nz or follow us on







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