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The objective of this report is to present a method by which a longitudinal study of public life can be carried out in inner city Christchurch. The result was informed by research into a body of international public life studies as well as foundational public life theories. The method has also been created with local context, resources and the Christchurch City Council's (CCC) needs in mind. !

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The optimal approach requires te

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consulted, such as the CCRP (CCC, 2012), to further understand existing plans for

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Behavioural mapping, developed by Ittelson, Rivlin and Proshansky (1976), is a form of observational research that records people's behaviour in relation to an environment. This method requires surveyors to observe and record the movements of people

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Figure 2 shows 18 sites that have been selected based on their current or future significance. Possible sites were collated from three different sources; those studied by Gehl Architects in 2009 (such as Cathedral Square), those earmarked for future development in the CCRP (CCC, 2012) (such as the Terraces and Margaret Mahy Playground), and finally, sites that have been highlighted in discussions with urban geographers and planners (such as the Botanical Gardens and Washington Skate Park). The final 18 sites were selected based on popularity, cultural significance and historical significance, as well as sites expected to have these qualities upon completion within the next five years. It is expected that beyond a five year period these sites will be reviewed and the list adjusted accordingly. !

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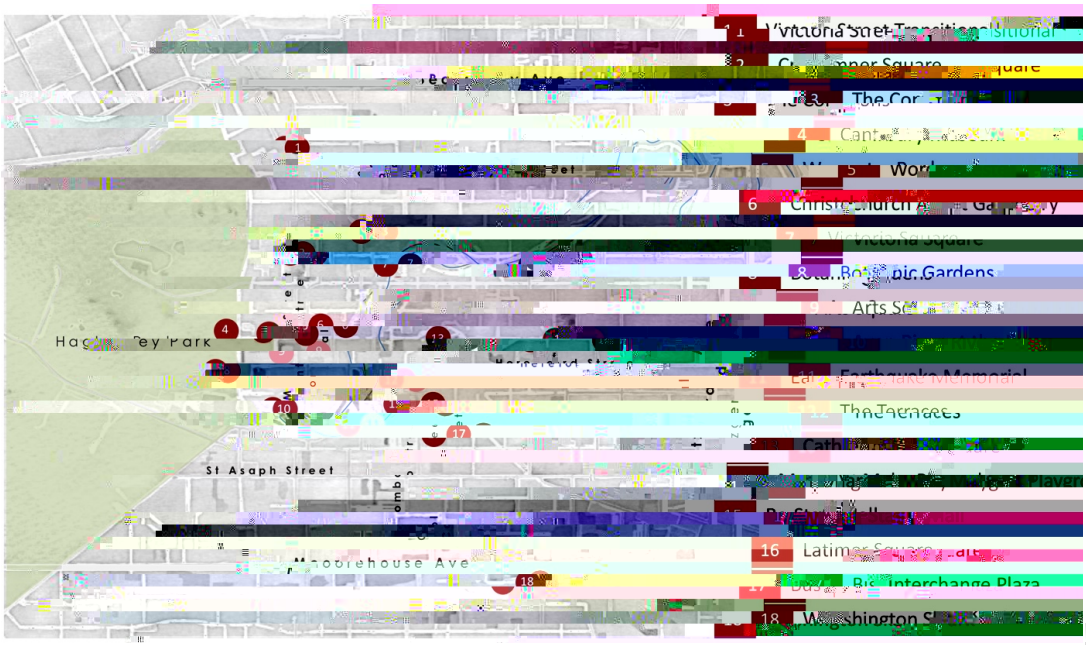

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Selected survey sites in inner city Christchurch !

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The survey employs a mixed method approach. It requires three surveyors to run tasks simultaneously in the space, using formatted survey sheets with instructions. These sheets and instructions can be found in *Appendix A, B* and *C*. The following sections will explain each component in detail as well as outlining the value of the data they produce.!

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The aim of this method is produce a count of all people in the space, as well as gaining important observational information. The surveyor is given a pedestrian clicker along with an observational ‘field notes’ sheet (see *Appendix A*). Surveyors are given instructions outlining key points to be aware of; for example, the surveyor is asked to describe weather conditions, general patterns such as clustering around a focal point, or the pace of movement. These instructions will enable an unstructured task be relatively similar from person to person. There is space on the sheet to either write notes or scribble down diagrams or drawings. This method produces qualitative data, and contributes a level of contextual detail to the study that the other survey methods cannot.

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like, (4) dislike, and (5) what they would change about the space. Some questions ask the participant to select from a list of categories, and some are left open for written answers. A copy of an instruction sheet, information sheet for participants and the questionnaire form is found in *Appendix C*. !

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The frequency and timescale with which the aforementioned technique will be implemented is based on the need to compare the use of sites over different times of the day, different days of the week and across different seasons (as outlined in section two). It is suggested that each site highlighted in red in *Figure 2*, is surveyed within the next 12 months. This will establish base data sets to compare to in the

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are too many restrictions on using drones in public spaces, and concerns as to how they may change individual activity in the space.!
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The research method employs a mixed-method approach to produce a comprehensive study of how people interact with their environment in public spaces in inner-city Christchurch. The selected method differs from Gehl Architects' (2009) for several reasons. This approach takes into account the

Finally, photography was not chosen as a main source of data for the survey as it can be unclear as to what activity people are doing in a photo. It is also difficult to identify important elements such as age and patterns of movement. Ethically, there

Finally, the time available to complete this project reduced the opportunity to pilot the chosen method in full. Ideally, a full pilot would ideally have been completed,

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Angrosino, M. (2007). *Naturalistic observation.* Walnut Creek, California: Left Coast Press.
Beatley, T. (2010). *Biophilic cities: integrating nature into urban design and planning*. Washington D.C: Island Press.
Brown, L. (n.d.). *Observational field r*

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***Figure 2**: Annotated individual observational activity table*

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New Individual

Male / Female	Child – Teenager – Young Adult – Adult – Elderly

Socialising

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The study “Understanding public spaces in Inner City Christchurch – Observational study of pedestrian activity’ is a collaborative research project between University of Canterbury (UC) Geography Department and the Christchurch City Council (CCC). The course GEOG 402 Resilient Cities requires UC students to conduct research in a group with a community partner, in this case the CCC.

In 2009 the CCC commissioned Gehl Architects to study public life in Christchurch city. This project aims to find a way to continue the work Gehl Architects conducted, by finding the best method to study stationary activity in public spaces.

This survey is part of a pilot study.

Questionnaire consent form

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Figure 3:*!"#$‰&'( )) *'+$!, (+ -*

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From these tables, 100% stacked bar graphs were created as seen in *Figure 2*, and infor54526d ati t he)0.2 (t)0.2o ()0.2d ableeopl)0.2 e)0.2(i i)0.2 (()0.2 he)0.2 phs)0.2pd a ce w, ae