



St Francis of Assisi
OHARIU PARISH

Property Consultation Engagement Summary

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

MARCH – JUNE 2026

Consultation Framework & Approach

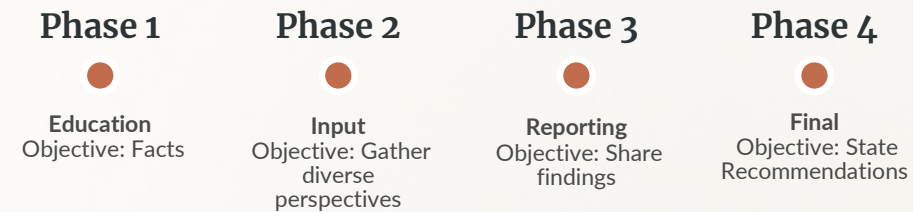
Project Definition & Scope

Purpose: To consult on the future location and design of a new Church for the Ohariu Parish.

-  Consult on key location considerations
-  Capture design vision

IAP2 Spectrum: We work with you to bring the parish on the journey and provide a summary of the decision making

Engagement Timeline



Consolidation & Outreach Overview

10

**Workshops
Conducted**

Over 250 individuals actively
consulted across the community
over a 3-month period.

30

Ministry Groups

Up to 30 different groups involved
in the various church ministries
were fully consulted.

250+

Families Engaged

Over 250 parish families provided
feedback through workshops,
emails, written and online
submissions.

Final Recommendations Summary



Preferred Location

Johnsonville emerged as the clear choice for the community due to its central position and multimodal transport links. Also, because all consulted groups prioritised accessibility for parish schools and elderly parishioners

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT



Design & Liturgy

The community desires a traditional aesthetic with a **dedicated chapel** and **elevated altar**.

Functional requirements include meeting rooms, a children's area, and a **commercial-grade kitchen**.

COMMUNITY FOCUS



Community Mandates



Progress

"Ultimately its about the future, our children's future — we need to move forward we can't keep looking back."



Legacy

"We have to celebrate our past but look to our future — there has been enough pain."



Belonging

"We want our children to see themselves as part of this community."

Themes- Location of the future church



66%

Accessibility to parish is skewed towards Johnsonville with the largest ask of the new location having multimodal transport and access to parish schools



26%

Felt parking was a priority including disabled and underground parking

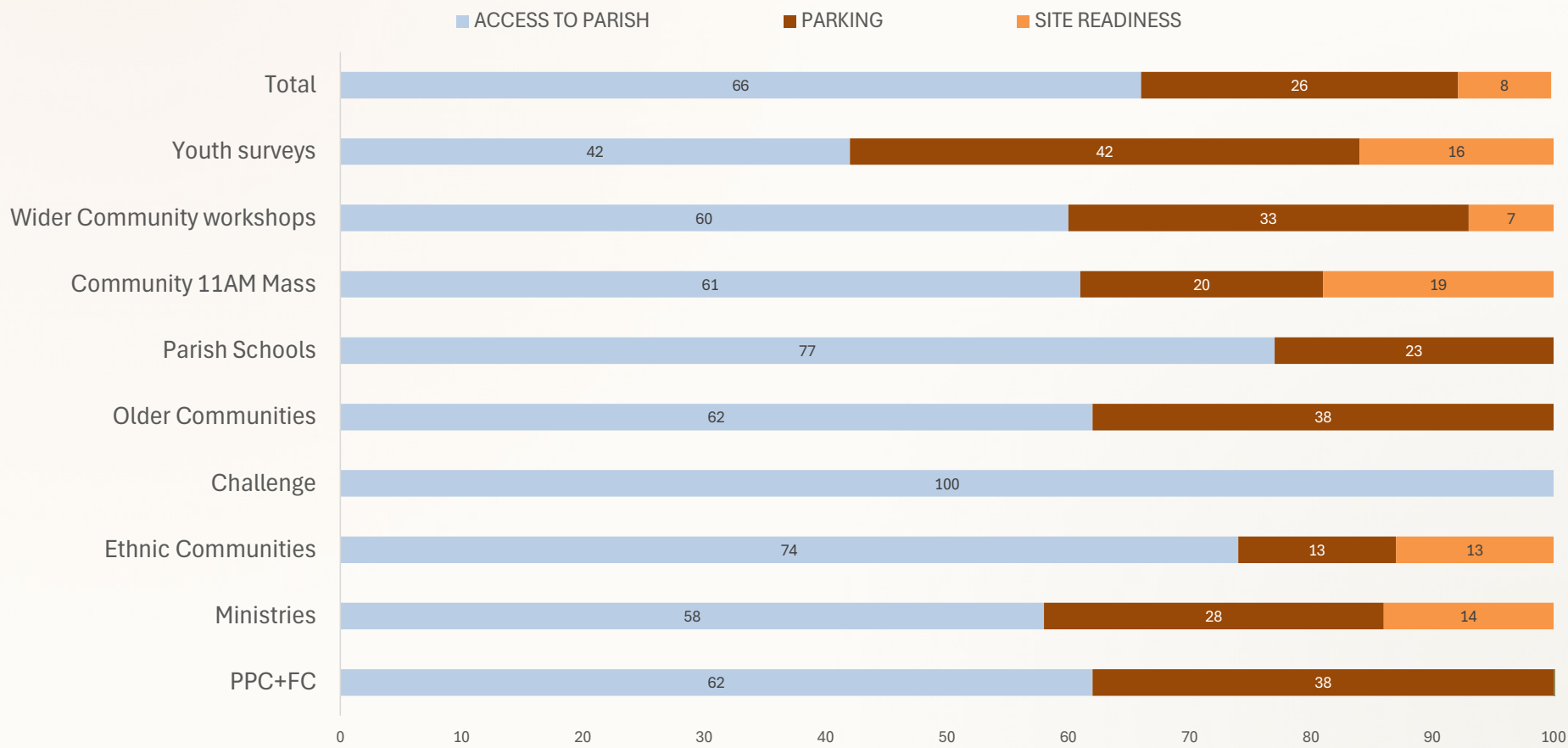


8%

Felt site readiness was key, including readiness costs (demolition, rates), land availability, vacancy, flat space and size



Location considerations by Workshop Group (in %)



Themes- Design of the future church



31%

Called out Sacred and liturgical spaces as the primary concern for the church's design- mainly the need for a chapel and an elevated altar



28%

Wanted Community spaces to be a key consideration to allow for child and youth friendly spaces, large hall, meeting rooms and a modern kitchen



22%

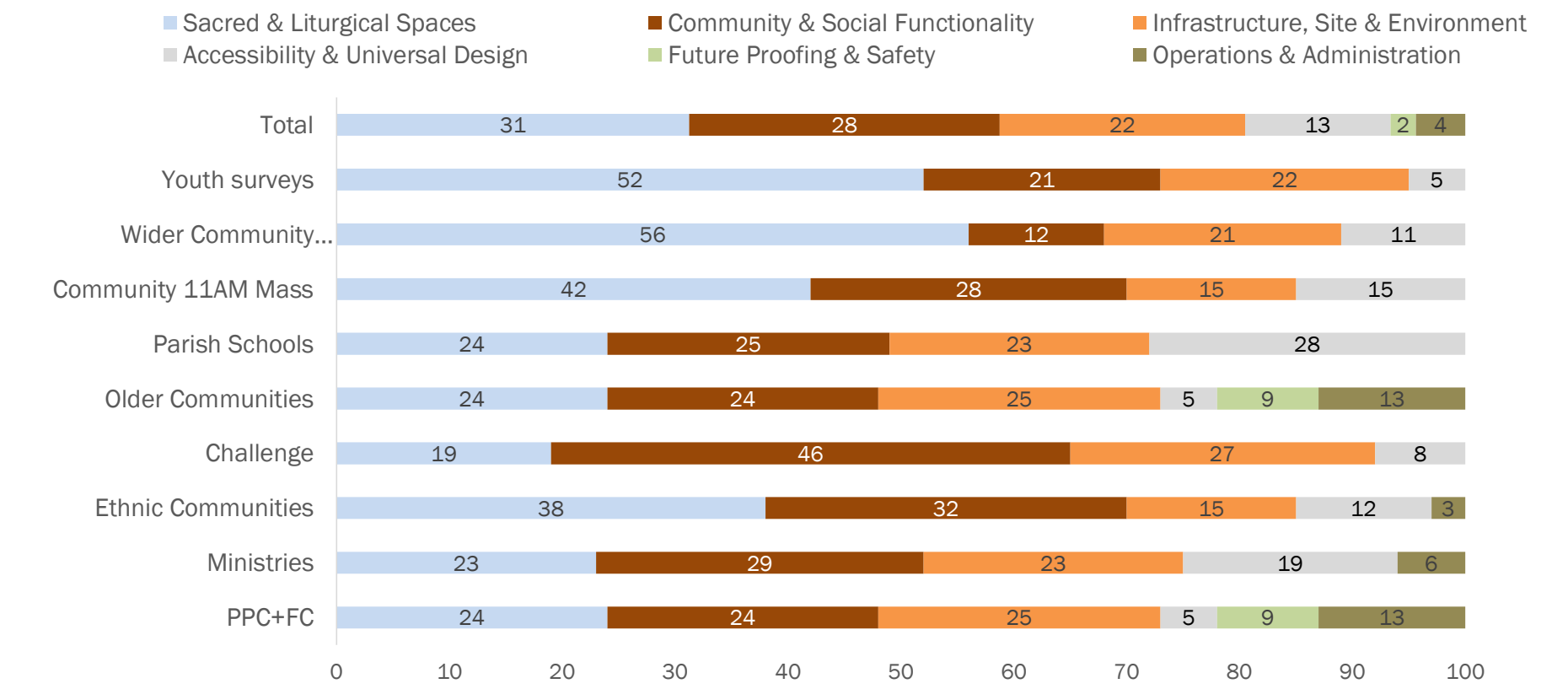
Felt Infrastructure and environment was important calling out the need for green spaces, modern AV facilities and a playground area



19%

Prioritise other factors such as accessibility for elder parishioners, better clergy and office spaces and a sustainable safe design

Design considerations by Workshop Group (in %)



Sacred & Liturgical Spaces



Sacramental Focus

- Elevated/Raised Altar visible from the church entrance
- Sloping floors to improve sightlines for all ages.
- Central Tabernacle as a prominent focal point
- Walk-in baptismal font as a key structural symbol.
- Reconciliation-friendly, transparent sacred spaces.



Dedicated Prayer Spaces

- Accessible adoration Chapel for private, quiet reflection, funerals and weekday mass
- Outdoor grotto and accessible Stations of the Cross.
- Front-row seating dedicated to youth involvement.
- Spaces designed specifically for children's liturgy.



Music & Heritage

- Large choir space (15-20+) located near the front
- Preservation of pipe organs from closed churches.
- Dedicated storage for music and floral resources
- Integration of "Taonga" and imagery from legacy parishes.
- Design inspiration: Our Lady of Kāpiti, .

Community & Social Functionality



Community First Approach

- Soundproof children's rooms and family lounges.
- Breakout rooms and spaces for rent/meetings.
- Reconciliation-friendly, transparent sacred spaces.
- Hospitality space with commercial kitchen separate from sacred areas.



Accessible & Inclusive

- Representation of various cultures that form the church community within design
- Accessibility-first design for older parishioners.
- Ethnic-specific design needs.
- Dedicated spaces for youth including Community veggie garden and interaction zones.



Sacred/Community zoning

- Clear separation between sacred worship and social areas.
- Movable boundaries to facilitate social setting conversion.
- Adaptable capacity for Sunday vs. weekday use.
- Multi-purpose hall with removable/movable seating
- Meeting rooms for counseling, therapy, and safeguarding

Infrastructure, Site & Environment



Capacity & Scaling

- Designed to comfortably house 500 to 700 people.
- Wide seating plan avoiding crowding in corridors.
- Flat entrance or low-incline transitions for walker use.
- Amphitheater architectural layout
- Advanced AV systems- professional acoustic, live streaming technology, multimedia screens etc



Sustainable by Design

- Insulated, renewable energy-powered building utilising passive solar design for efficient heating
- Outdoor landscape with green spaces, fruit trees, and water features.
- Franciscan oasis designs featuring interior garden/nature views
- Safe, secure outdoor play spaces for young children.



Accessibility and Parking

- Ample dedicated parking for smooth parishioner arrival.
- Dedicated taxi/pickup waiting zones for elderly safety.
- Integration of EV charging ports and monetised parking options.
- Separate gender-specific toilets

Accessibility & Universal Design



Mobility Support

- Ramps & Entryways for easy access to the church for wheelchair users, seniors,
- An intuitive building flow that is easy to navigate, visually accessible, and features adaptable seating
- Accommodating the specific needs of older parishioners and those utilizing walking aids.



Welcoming to All

- Recreational areas for youth- with art and library services
- School Integration: Displaying school banners and school signage within the church so local children feel at home and using the space for school assemblies/gatherings.



Inclusive Facilities

- Emphasis on restrooms—specifically gender-separate toilets, alongside dedicated independent disability toilets.
- Cultural & General Inclusivity: Ensuring the church is a warm, welcoming environment that represents a diverse, rich cultural community where everyone feels included.



Thank You

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish