



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Open Attachments (Under separate cover 1)

Meeting Date: Thursday 1 February 2024

Time: 9.30am

Venue: Large Exhibition Hall
War Memorial Centre
Marine Parade
Napier

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TE AKA

LANDSCAPE REPORT - PRELIMINARY DESIGN

PREPARED FOR NAPIER CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 2024



PROJECT TEAM

a t h f i e l d
a r c h i t e c t s
l i m i t e d
a t h f i e l d
a r c h i t e c t s
l i m i t e d
a t h f i e l d
with Israel Birch



DOCUMENT QUALITY ASSURANCE

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Prepared for NAPIER CITY COUNCIL.

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Cover photograph: Ahuriri © Napier City Council

TE AKA

He hononga tapu a Te Aka i waenga i a Papatūānuku me Ranginui.

Koia ko te hononga i te takiwā hiranga o runga ki te takiwā ōkiko o raro. He mea whakaatu te pae o runga i te moemoeā, te whakaāio wairua, me te mātauranga, ā, hei tā te pae o raro ko te pūahoaho, te kōrerorero, me te auahatanga.

He wāhi e kitea ana ngā tūnekenekēhanga a Ahuriri, i hīia rā e Rūaumoko te whenua i te moana. Ka puta ko te ngahere o Tangaroa, ka whakaarohia he waka huia hei pupuru, hei whakahaumarū hoki i ngā taonga i te pae tiketike rawa.

He wāhi tākarō hoki a Te Aka mā te hinengaro, te tinana, te wairua me te whānau. He whakarite hoki i te whiri i ngā aho rau o te mātauranga i waihangahia mai ai i te wairua o te mahi ngātahi.

Nā ēnei whakaaro me ēnei ariā katoa ka hua mai ai a Te Aka, ā, ka kitea i tana whakahoahoatanga mai.

Te Aka is the sacred connection between Papatūānuku and Ranginui.

It is the link between the space of excellence above and the space of physical manifestation below. The upper level represents dreaming, meditation, and knowledge and the lower level represents clarity, conversation, and creativity.

Ahuriri (Napier) is a site of movement, where Rūaumoko uplifted whenua from the ocean. The forest of Tangaroa appeared and presented a waka huia where taonga are stored and protected at the highest level.

Te Aka is also a playground for the hinengaro (mind), tinana (body), wairua (spirit), and whānau (family). It is a metaphor for weaving together the multiple threads of knowledge that is built on the spirit of collaboration.

Te Aka is based on these concepts and elements and this will be reflected in its design.

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INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

This report builds upon an existing foundation of documents and plans that set the strategic vision for the Precinct. These include:

Napier Libraries Strategy
2018

Civic Precinct Framework
2020

Ahuriri Napier Library and Civic Area Plan
2021

Station Street Facility Design Brief
2022

Napier Library Business Case
2022

Of particular influence to the site design is the *Ahuriri Napier Library and Civic Area Plan 2021*, which established the spatial framework for the public space, including connections to the surrounding context and opportunities for activities/programming. The landscape concept uses this framework as a starting point for the concept design phase.



Extract from the Ahiriri/Napier Library Area Plan 2021
Boffa Miskell + Athfield Architects + Jacob Scott

SCOPE OF THIS REPORT

This report is supplementary to the overall Te Aka Concept Design Report (Athfield Architects) and it is helpful to be read in conjunction. The overall report contains a comprehensive summary background to the project, the design process, the wider site context and the architectural proposal.

This report focuses on the external spaces, in particular:

- Developing and integrating the site layout with the current context and proposed buildings.
- Developing the cultural narrative and expressing how this influences the design of the landscape.
- Progressing the site design in response to considerations brought forward by the wānanga participants, design team and community.
- Adding definition to the scope of the public realm and approach to funding.
- Setting up a strategy for the layers of the landscape design, including planting, water, access, events, materiality and other functional requirements.



Te Aka Concept Design Report 2023
Athfield Architects + Boffa Miskell + Israel Birch + Beca + Dunning Thornton

COLLABORATION

The landscape concept has been developed through a co-design process, based around a series of wānanga hosted by Mana Whenua partners in marae across Ahuriri. Through this process, the name Te Aka was gifted to the project, becoming both the project name and the foundational concept.

The team has worked together to shape the site concept with particular acknowledgement to Napier City Council, Athfield Architects, Israel Birch and the Mana Whenua Design Team.

Wānanga Participants

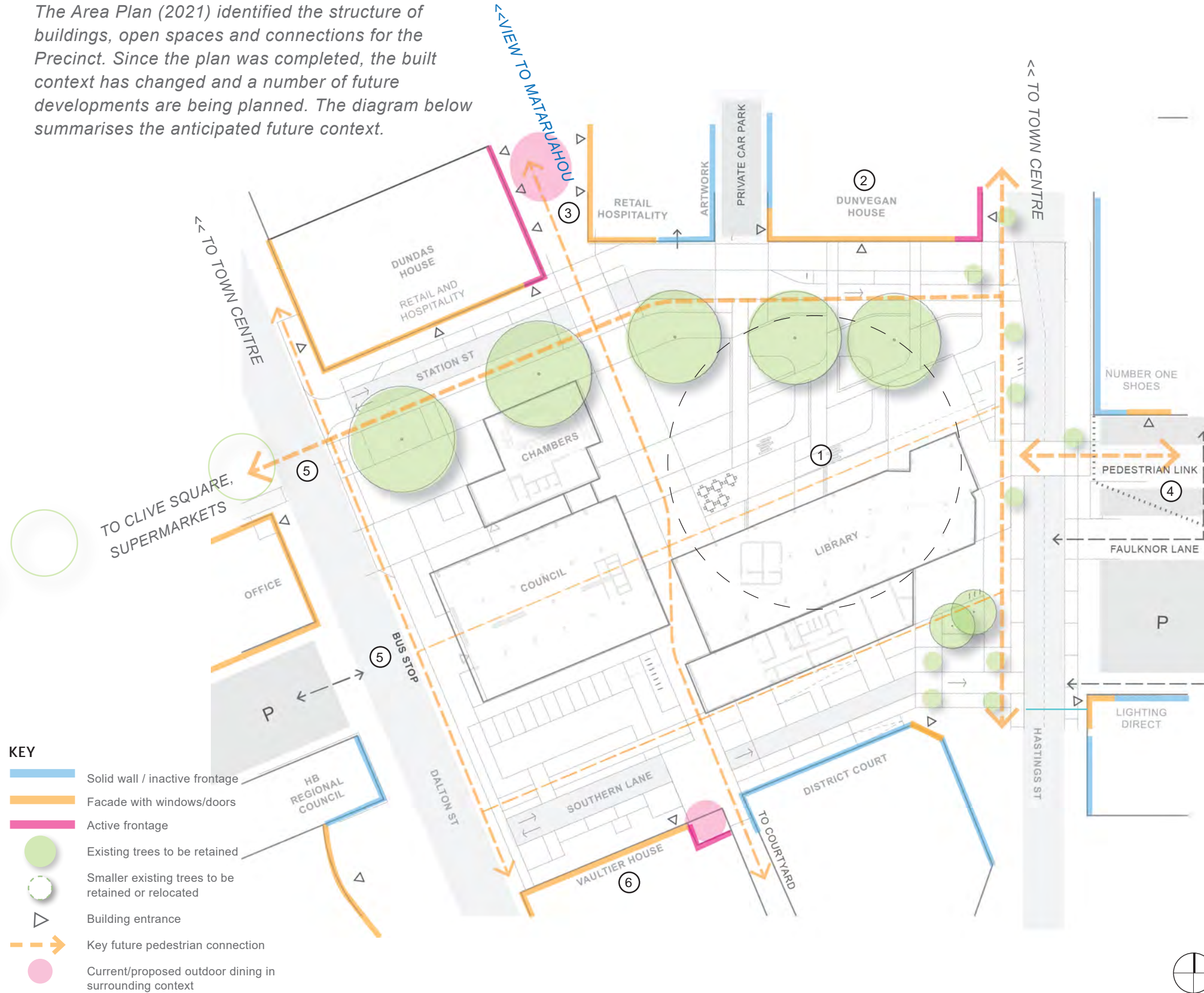
Mayor Kirsten Wise
Deputy Mayor Annette Brosnan
Councillor Ronda Chrystal
Hilary Prentice
Beverly Kemp-Harmer
Tipene Cottrell
Morehu Te Tomo
Te Kaha Hawaikirangi
Alix Burke
Anna Nottage
Anne Bradbury
Caroline Thomson
Chad Tareha
Kate Ivicheva
Nicola Saunders
Keely Nye
Steve Gregory
Jon Rennie
Stuart Lyons
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Jenny Pearce - CAB
Johanna Rogers
Michael Gilbertson
Richard Van Looy
Jessica Ellerm
Janey Sene
Georgina King
Marc Baily
Ethan Duff
Megan Walker
Alister Eady
Sue Sutherland
Councillors
ELT members
(War Memorial Hall workshop)

INTRODUCTION

A CHANGING CONTEXT

The Area Plan (2021) identified the structure of buildings, open spaces and connections for the Precinct. Since the plan was completed, the built context has changed and a number of future developments are being planned. The diagram below summarises the anticipated future context.



RECENT AND POTENTIAL CHANGES TO CONTEXT

- ① The site for the Te Aka Library and public space has been cleared of the previous Council Civic Building.
- ② With the reworking of Station Street there is potential for the redevelopment of Dunvegan House, which would be recommended to include ground floor commercial and active frontage. The ground floor and street levels may be able to enable a more accessible and interactive relationship.
- ③ Works have been completed to improve pedestrian connectivity to Dickens Street.

The potential remains for further upgrades to encourage people to spend time in this space and support outdoor dining.

VIEW TO WATERFRONT >>

- ④ An important linkage to the sea and waterfront has been opened up, widening an otherwise unclear connection. The relationship of future new buildings to the realised open space and lane connection here requires deliberate design responses to gain the significant potential benefits for public life and business vitality.
- ⑤ There is potential for a northbound bus stop on Dalton St and upgrade of bus infrastructure. To be confirmed through future stages.
- ⑥ Redevelopment of Vaultier House has been proposed. Early concepts indicate a more welcoming northern frontage, outdoor dining, balconies, and an upgrade to the central courtyard and pedestrian link.

